

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew
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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink"

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Another Debate Looming

Parliament reassembles today with the flag issue finally disposed of, but with another controversial debate looming on the report of the committee which has been hard at work, during recess, on the Canada Pension Plan.

As noted previously in these columns, one of the most disturbing criticisms of the present scheme is to be found in the brief submitted to the committee by the government of Ontario.

It can be argued that any national scheme which seeks to relate meaningful pensions to contributions is almost bound to cause some discrimination.

On this basis, Parliament is about to find itself in a highly unsatisfactory position. For the plan will generate unknown costs which obviously cannot be taken into consideration in the present accounting.

Unless something is done to lessen these inequities, Parliament in approving the scheme will in effect be writing a blank cheque to be filled in later according to the unknown political calculations of that time.

Reckoning Deferred

An Associated Press despatch from Johannesburg reports that factories are humming in South Africa. Gold and diamond production zooms; more people have cars than ever before.

Country clubs, delectable beaches, pleasure resorts, swimming pools, race tracks and golf courses are crowded, mostly with whites.

Premier Verwoerd's white nationalist government has been entrenched since 1948 and all seems well with the white South Africans' world.

A case in point is that of Nobel Peace-Prize winner Albert Luthuli, who is confined to a small area around his little trading store in Natal province.

The government, says this report, seems immune to all protests. It apparently has the backing of most of the country's whites.

How long will the reckoning be deferred for this dominant minority which chooses to live unto itself alone, lording it-over the "lesser breeds" in luxury and complacency, and as indifferent to the winds of change blowing across the continent as to the warring voices of its own Cassandras?

Cluttering Up Space

We talk about being in the space age, but few of us realize how literally this is true. Tabulations prepared by the Goddard Space Flight Centre in Maryland show that more than a thousand man-made objects—satellites, spacecraft, capsules and assorted bits and pieces of them—have been placed in orbit since October, 1957.

A total of 183 U.S.-sponsored satellites are still in orbit, along with 16 made in Russia. Those no longer in orbit number 14 of United States and 78 of Soviet origin.

The Soviet Union has orbited and recovered five manned spacecraft, the United States four. Like their American counterparts, Soviet scientists have hit the moon with two vehicles.

The Goddard compilation does not take into account another space-cluttering achievement—the 400 million hair-thin dipoles or wires, called Project West Ford space needles, launched by the United States in 1962 and still presumably orbiting in a continuous band, about five miles thick, round the earth.

Impaired Vehicles

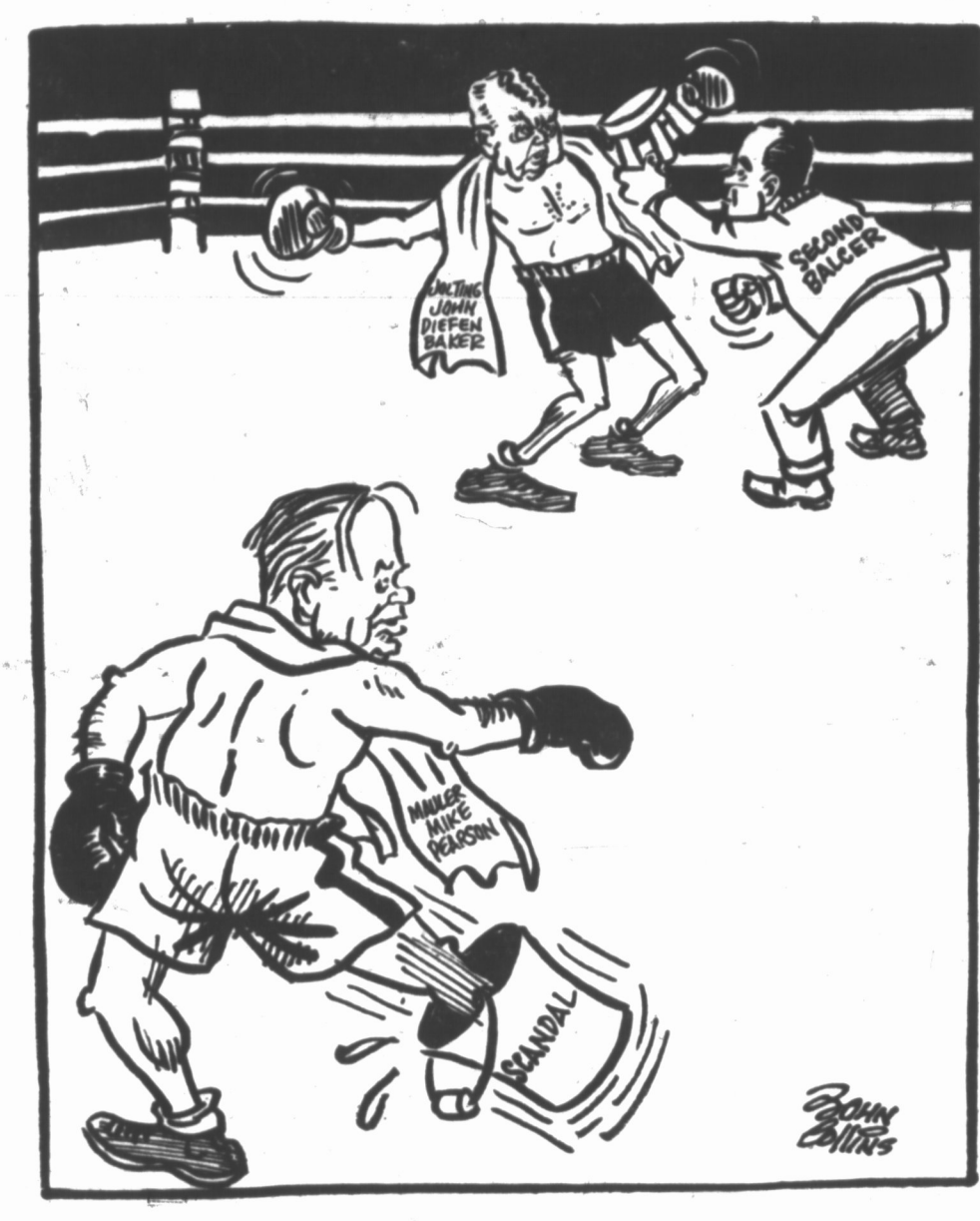
The Toronto Globe and Mail notes that while the law is severe, and properly so, with automobile drivers found to be impaired by alcohol or drugs, it is strangely tolerant of the vehicle impaired by age or deteriorated condition.

A number of authoritative voices have spoken against this inconsistency, the most recent being that of E. K. Brownridge, president of American Motors (Canada) Ltd.

Mr. Brownridge went on to say that efforts had been made to induce motorists to look after their cars by the provision of long-term warranties on parts but had failed to have the desired effect.

EDITORIAL NOTE

One thing about which our parliamentarians can be expected to be in perfect agreement is the government's decision to issue, this summer, a special 5-cent postage stamp in honor of the late Sir Winston Churchill.



THE FIGHTERS ENTER THE RING OTTAWA REPORT By Patrick Nicholson

Senate Needs More Work And Scope

How many Senators are there? What do they do? Is the Senate a "Good Thing"? A reader poses these questions.

There are 102 senators: 24 each from our two large provinces, 24 from the West, and six added as a postscript when Newfoundland joined Confederation.

Canadian men and women are appointed to the Senate by the prime minister, to fill vacancies as they occur.

The Senate typically met 91 days, contrasted to the 214 sittings of the House of Commons, during the mammoth 1964 session.

There is a provision, used only once I believe, whereby a member of the Commons may speak in the Senate to introduce a bill.

There are 15 permanent committees of the Senate. Some of these are very active and effective. Last year for instance, the

Our Yesterdays

Twenty-five years ago (February 18, 1940) The newly-elected Charlotte-town City Council consists of Mayor B. Roy Holman and Councillors Dr. J.E. Blanchard, Lieut. Col. R.C. Chandler, Mr. J.T. McKee, Dr. F.C. Douglas, Mr. Henry Laphorn and Mr. J. E. Sterns.

Returning officers for the Dominion general elections on March 26 have been named for Prince Edward Island—Kings-Howlan Mullally, farmer, Souris River; Prince—Charles R. Rogers, manufacturer's agent, Summerside; Queens—John F. Connolly, accountant, Charlottetown.

Mr. A.H. Hubley of Summerside was re-elected Director for P.E.I. for the Dairy Farmers of Canada at a meeting held in Charlottetown on Friday.

powerful 50-member Banking and Commerce committee met more than 40 times, probing three applications to form new banks and combing clause by clause through bills amending tax acts.

The 25-member Divorce Committee for many years split into as many as four sub-committees, each serving as a divorce court for Quebec and Newfoundland, processing perhaps 500 divorces a year.

Some senators, especially the senior and older men, are very experienced and competent in committee: they do yeoman work, generally non-partisan,

examining private bills, probing technical bills such as the recent revisions to the Companies Act and the Canada Shipping Act, and combing over the estimates of government spending.

Senators such as Liberals Tom Crerar, Satter Hayden and D'Arcy Leonard, and Conservatives Wallace McCutcheon and Lionel Choquette, are infinitely superior to any group of five MPs in committee work, on account of their more extensive worldly and political experience and ability.

University student conferences can usually be depended on to bring up something that is controversial, and this year's annual meeting of the Canadian University Liberal Federation has been no exception.

Nearly 1200 librarians have been in Washington recently attending the annual midwinter meeting of the American Library Association.

To solve it determined librarians and a continuing public awareness of the dangers of censorship are necessary. The ALA has provided leadership on both fronts and is in a position to strengthen its efforts.

Librarians' Conference

The intent is to pinpoint the dollar value of the gap between existing library services—numbers of books and librarians for example—and accepted minimum standard.

The study will show administrators where libraries suffer most and alert the public to the extent of the gap, which Mr. Castagna expects to be in the billions of dollars.

There were 27 gold mines operating in Ontario in the latter part of 1964, two less than in 1963.

Circulation Treatment

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen A new technique for opening up hardened leg arteries was described by Drs. Charles T. Dotter and Melvin P. Judkins of the University of Oregon.

The method does not require the talents of specialized vascular surgeon. It is recommended only for overcoming arteriosclerotic narrowing and occlusions in the arteries of the leg.

Dr. Dotter and Judkins go a step further on reaching the obstruction. They pass a larger or dilating catheter over the guide catheter and advance it until it traverses the blocked part.

One patient was an 82-year-old woman whose left lower extremity was cold and pulseless, with gangrene of the toes. Amputation was advised when the gangrene progressed up the foot.

ON A PLATEAU Mrs. J.M. writes: I went on a diet 14 weeks ago. I lost weight at first but not in recent weeks.

REPLY This is not unusual, especially when the original weight loss was caused by the elimination of water from the tissues.

REPLY E.K. writes: Are there any eating habits which would afford a second attack of gout?

REPLY There is more to gout than the type of food eaten. Our leaflet on this disease offers some dietary suggestions.

REPLY L.L. writes: Is there a drug to shrink an ovarian cyst in a 20-year-old girl?

REPLY Not to my knowledge. There are several types of ovarian cysts and additional information would be needed to answer your question intelligently.

REPLY K.W. writes: How is ordinary meningitis contracted?

REPLY Like the common cold it begins in the throat but we then select the membrane covering the brain and spinal cord.

REPLY Mr. S. writes: Does the term "babies by appointment" refer to caesarean deliveries?

REPLY Not necessarily, because physicians can induce labor at any time it is deemed necessary.

REPLY A scroll from the collection discovered near the Dead Sea in 1947 says King David wrote 4,050 psalms and songs for temple services.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Mr. Pearson, coining no phrase, says the times are out of joint. Are they ever in joint for a politician? — Ottawa Journal.

A new record containing excerpts of Winston Churchill's famous phrases has jumped into the "top ten" in Britain. That is a gratifying commentary on public taste, marred only by the fact that just above it in popularity is the Beale record A Hard Day's Night. — Fort William Times — Journal.

A teacher asked her classroom, "Who can tell me what George Washington was noted for?" There was a moment of silence among her young charges and then a little boy in the rear piped up, "His memory."

Don't tell the tired-looking person he needs a vacation; chances are that he just returned from one. — Florida Arcadia Journal.

People with their first camera are to be pitied, for theirs is usually a dim view of things — St. Catherine's Standard.

It's fortunate that we have free speech, but it's deplorable that the supply of it always exceeds the demand. — Woodstock Sentinel Review.

Longer Prison Sentences?

Mr. T. George Street, chairman of the National Parole Board, has said that a hardened criminal can do a two-year prison sentence "standing on his head."

He says that 52 per cent of serious crime is committed by only 28 per cent of the criminals, but that 90 per cent of the sentences in this country are for less than two years.

AN INCENTIVE A long sentence is thus an incentive to reform; a short one, a brief rest from the outside world—and more crime.

Another impressive statistic from Mr. Street is that the cost of parole is about one-tenth the cost of imprisonment, which, including possible public support of the prisoner's family, can reach \$4,500 a year.

By discouraging crime longer sentences ultimately could ease the space problem in prisons. But Mr. Street emphasizes that parole is not lightly granted—only one in four who apply are successful.

Of the 7,400 men in our federal prisons, more than 80 per cent of them have been there before, says Mr. Street. His conclusion: in spite of the best efforts of dedicated prison authorities, "imprisonment is not beneficial for the majority of inmates."

CRIME PROBLEM Mr. Street relates his call for longer prison sentences to the Canadian crime problem. He notes a recent five-year rise of 27 per cent in the rate of indictable offences—from 260 per 100,000 population in 1956 to 330 in 1961.

The quality of mercy plays its part in the hesitancy of courts to impose longer sentences. But Mr. Street reminds magistrates that the National Parole Board reviews such cases regularly. Thus a prisoner under long sentence has a practical incentive for parole and the chance to receive it.

National Approach Needed

The need for some kind of national planning co-ordination, or at least consultation in Canadian education, is becoming steadily more emphatic.

Like the common cold it begins in the throat but we then select the membrane covering the brain and spinal cord.

Some progress has been made especially in the field of technical training where even Quebec is prepared to accept a large measure of federal government participation.

For more general discussions, provincial ministers of education now meet regularly as a standing committee of the Canadian Education Association. One of their objectives is to work toward a degree of equivalence in primary and secondary school curricula, so that it will be easier for a child to move from one school system to another.

puts forward the much-discussed idea of a "national office" of education to carry on research and maintain regular liaison with the provinces.

The association points out that nine departments of the federal Government are already engaged in certain aspects of this work. A national office might begin by co-ordinating their efforts.

It would be better, however, if such a national office were to emerge from a federal-provincial agreement, rather than as a federal initiative in the field of education in the past, federal intervention has been resented, and not only by Quebec, because it tends to impose uniform policy on provinces that are at different stages of preparation for it and that sometimes cannot afford their share of the cost.

SECURITY NEEDED A national office whose basic policies were determined at periodic federal-provincial education conferences could operate free from the political hazards that affect other approaches to the problem of achieving national standards. With this security, it would have the permanent staff to carry out the research program that is the necessary first step to interprovincial co-ordination and eventually to a national education policy.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT WE WISH TO PUBLICLY OFFER SINCERE APPRECIATION— To the Charlottetown Fire Dept. who did their best in a losing battle. To Mr. Klark Cantwell and the staff of Cantwell's Pharmacy whose assistance was immeasurable. To Mr. Hugh Simpson of H. M. Simpson Ltd., who has placed his entire service quarters at our disposal and to his service staff who worked many hours on our equipment. To Harold White and our many friends who assisted so much. To my staff for their loyal support and efforts on my behalf. And to the many friends who called with offers of quarters and assistance to help us back into business. To our former tenants we express sincere sorrow for the loss of furniture and personal possessions and hope they find new apartments immediately. To our customers we wish to say how much we appreciated your patronage in the past and look forward to seeing you in the future. New stock is already on the way. We are temporarily located at 100 Queen St. (next to Island Radio Centre) same phone 894-5631. R. IVO CUDMORE, CUDMORE BUSINESS EQUIPMENT