The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew

Published every week-day morning at 165 Prince Street Charlottetown P.E.I., by Thomson Newspapers Ltd.
Ian A. Burnett, Publisher and General Manager
Frank Walker, Editor
Member Canadian Daily Newspaper Publishers Association
Member of The Canadian Press
Member Audit Bureau of Circulations
Branch offices at Summerside, Montague and Alberton
Represented Nationally by Thomson Newspapers Advertising Service
44 King Street West Toronto, Ont.
640 Cathcart St., Montreal
1030 West Georgia St., Vancouver
By Carrier Charlottetown, Summerside 30c per week
By Mail elsewhere in P.E.I. $9.00 per annum. Other Provinces and United States $12.00 per annum

"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."

"Why Pick On Them?"

The Windsor Daily Star is published in a large industrial centre of Ontario, and this adds point to a leading editorial which appeared in its issue of November 14. It deals with the current criticism of price supports for farm products, and with the hypocrisy of those indulging in it who have themselves been the beneficiaries of price supports for years in their own industries. It is a timely and—considering its source—a courageous editorial which we trust will be widely read and pondered.

Most Canadian manufacturing industries, notes the Star, developed under price supports which they still enjoy. The main difference between them and farm price supports is that they have been called tariffs. This device to enable industries to operate profitably in a protected market costs the Canadian consumer plenty—from $610,000,000 to $763,000,000 annually, according to a report prepared by Prof. J.H. Young for the Gordon Economic Commission. The economist used 1954 figures in his calculation. In 1956, if the tariff factor in government expenditures were included, the estimate would be $1,000,000,000. Most of the products the farmer has to buy are price-supported by these tariffs. Many others have been privately price-supported by illegal price-fixing combines.

"It is all very well," concludes the Star, "to argue farmers should be rugged individualists, to stand or fall under the competitive system. But why pick on them? . . . Amounts spent on agricultural price supports are a mere pittance compared to the billion dollars Canadians pay annually for tariff price supports. People who live in price-supported glass houses should be the last to throw stones."

Added to this burden on farmers in the outlying provinces there is, of course, the inequitable freight rate system which penalizes long haul traffic. According to a computation made by Mr. J. Lincoln Dewar, secretary of the P.E. Island Federation of Agriculture, the latest freight rates boost of 17 percent imposed by the Transport Commission will cost this predominantly agricultural province $2,000,000 annually. This is another form of "price support" for the big, centrally located industries of the country which threatens to ruin us altogether unless the Federal Government steps in and demands a complete reappraisal of the freight rate structure and its impact on regional economies.

New Marketing System

An Ottawa report reveals that the Federal Government has set up an inter-departmental committee to study the marketing of Atlantic salted groundfish after July next year. On that date, the report says, the franchise of Newfoundland Associated Fish Exporters Limited (NAFEL) to market Newfoundland salt cod will expire. The committee will look into market possibilities and make recommendations for a new marketing system.

The export of salt cod is mainly a Newfoundland business, although lesser amounts go from Nova Scotia. There have been complaints in the West Indies area, the chief importer of salt cod, about the quality of the product. Some importers have even threatened to bring all their supplies from Iceland. NAFEL, rightly or wrongly, has been blamed for most of the ills connected with the business, especially for the high prices charged in the West Indies area.

In fairness to NAFEL, however, it must be said that the organization is composed of merchants with long experience in the fish export business. It is open to question whether a marketing organization controlled by the Federal Government or one of its agencies could do much better than NAFEL has done. Some 30 years ago or more the Newfoundland Government undertook to market salt cod or, at any rate, made restrictive rules and regulations which amounted to the same thing. The result was that for a few years, while the regulations were in force, the whole fishing industry came very near to ruin. The regulations were than repealed and the export business went back to the fish merchants where it has stayed ever since.

The present Federal government may be able to devise a better system than that under which NAFEL has worked; but certainly extreme caution should be taken to insure that the last state of the business does not become worse than the first. On the whole, with some exception, interference by Government into the normal course of business has not succeeded particularly well.

British Investments

From Edmonton comes word that an increased flow of British capital is expected in Alberta this year. British money is already invested heavily in the pending development of the MacMurray oil sands area, 300 miles North of Edmonton. Estimates of this oil resource run as high as 300 billion barrels.

Last summer a trade delegation of 12 men, representing 450 British firms, employing a quarter of a million persons, visited Alberta seeking orders for oil equipment. The industrialists said that British capital was eager to invest in Alberta on a large scale, provided that it had "proper encouragement" and reasonable prospects for success. They felt that the transfer of funds would not be difficult, if the money is used for sound industrial development.

British capital was represented in the 126 domestic companies incorporated in Alberta in September with an authorized capitalization of about $24 million. These companies represented a wide range of industrial and business enterprises.

Meanwhile, Alberta is reciprocating by urging people to "buy British" in preference to other imported goods. This, it is believed, will make more dollars available for British investment.

In this Atlantic area doing everything possible to attract British investors? It has nothing, of course, comparable to the prospects in Alberta. But the British have a genius for starting small industries in underdeveloped areas, and it is possible that, given some encouragement, they would be willing to put it to work here.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The fight against tuberculosis is by no means ended. The Christmas seal campaign is now under way. Let everyone buy stamps with the double--barred cross and use them. The money is urgently needed.

* * *

The U.N. General Assembly's political committee has recommended continuance of the Emergency Force in the Gaza strip. No doubt, the Secretary-General would be pleased if he were given enough money to pay the costs of the force so far. Only about half of the member nations have paid their commitments in full; some have paid nothing at all.

* * *

For the second time in two weeks, the ferry "William Carson", that cost $14 million to build, was unable to dock at Port Aux Basques because of "high" winds—18 to 30 miles per hour, according to navigation officials. It is becoming more and more apparent that the costly vessel is just about useless, as far as the service for which she was built is concerned.

* * *

The British Columbia Government seems to be having more than its share of trouble these days. No sooner does one flurry of excitement peter out than another begins. The latest is a charge by the former general manager of the publicly-owned Power Commission that the Government "is shifting Commission debts around to fulfill political promises to have the Province free of debt by 1960". No doubt, the truth will be established in due course.,

THAT GUY'S AROUND AGAIN

FRANCO-BRITISH TALKS

European Free Trade

By Joseph MacSween
Canadian Press Staff Writer

Britain and France have collided head-on as the leaders of opposing blocs in negotiations for European free trade.

Talks that have been going on intermittently for more than a year have ended in deadlock, although both sides still insist some sort of compromise is possible.

The complicated project has been compared — loosely — to outer - space rockets. The common market, the first - stage rocket, has been successfully launched and will go into orbit Jan. 1, but the second stage, the free trade area, has misfired.

GOING CONCERN

This analogy is not precisely accurate but it illustrates one facet of the European dream of union that aroused such hope after the Second World War.

What has happened so far is that the six-nation common market — comprising France, Italy, West Germany and the Benelux countries — now is a going concern in the formative stage although it will not begin actual operations until Jan. 1.

The provisions of the common market—embracing a population of 170,000,000 — are to come into force gradually. By 1970 or 1973 there are to be no barriers to trade among the six countries, no restrictions on the movement of capital and labor, a common tariff against the rest of the world, joint action against monopolies, harmonized social policies and a common development fund.

INDUSTRIAL GIANT

Britain sees in the common market a discriminatory "little Europe" that would cause economic hardship and create harmful divisions. It has long advocated a larger free trade area, under the Organization of European Economic Co - operation, to include the common market countries and also the United Kingdom, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Iceland, Ireland, Switzerland, Austria, Portugal, Greece and Turkey.

Basically the common market is an economic approach to the dream of European federation. But its immediate effect has been to arouse fears among its neighbors of an industrial giant in the heart of continental Europe.

The free trade area, on the other hand, would be a system by which Britain and the smaller nations could link themselves with the six - country union in mutual freeing of trade without economic integration.

SINCERITY DOUBTED

Britain, with its traditional worldwide outlook, refuses to scuttle imperial preferences, having regard to its commitments with Canada and other Commonwealth countries.

The French, particularly, have been adamant against the British stand, the government coming under heavy pressure from French manufacturers. It is said that the British are moving closer to continental Europe only because they have to — not through a sincere desire to take part in European co-operation.

Britain is generally supported by the "outside" countries. The Scandinavian nations have met separately on the question and served notice they will set up their own common market if necessary.

Mr. King's Other Worldliness

Arthur Blakely in the Montreal Gazette

A short time after the death of William Lyon Mackenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada for a longer period than any who have held that office before or since, many Canadians were staggered by the revelation that when in times of decision, Mr. King had placed a surprising reliance on omens of various sorts and on contacts which he was convinced that he had established with the spirit world.

When Punch, the great magazine of English humor, reviewed Bruce Hutchison's controversial book on King, "The Incredible Canadian" years ago, the anonymous reviewer received such disclosures with utter incredulity.

"All through his enormously long life," he wrote, "Mr. King, Mr. Hutchison would have us believe, though in public a shrewd and unscrupulous politician, was leading a private life that was hardly at all removed from lunacy. In constant communication, with departed spirits, when it was suggested that he should resign he consulted the spirit of Franklin Roosevelt, and received from the spirit the reassuring advice that he should not dream of it. At the same time, he also consulted the spirit of his fox terrier, Pat."

REVIEWER AMAZED

The reviewer made no secret of his earnest conviction that this sort of thing could not happen in the United Kingdom and of his amazement that it could be suggested seriously as a possibility here.

It is doubtful if any aspect of the private life of William Lyon Mackenzie King aroused quite as much interest. here or abroad as the disclosure that he had dabbled in spiritualism.

A few of King's closest friends and associates, though not many had been aware during his lifetime of his unusual interest in this field. But, as one writer put it later, they regarded his activities in this intriguing area "as an amiable weakness or hobby, like stamp-collecting or pigeon-breeding." Even after his death, his executors are reported to have made strong and impassioned attempts to keep the secret a secret.

But the secret, nevertheless, leaked out in dribs and drabs.

The official biography of Mr. King, begun by the late macGregor Dawson, was eagerly awaited for the light which it could shed on this aspect of the great politician's life and interests. As official biographer, he had access to King's journals and diaries, which were known to contain many references to his alert interest in signs and portents.

In this respect, Vol. 1 of the three-volume work on the life of King, published by the University of Toronto Press, is something of a disappointment.

Dawson has remarkably little to report on the subject of Mr. King's interest in the spirit world and touches, in fact, on none of the facts alleged earlier.

LITTLE TO ADD

He relates, in fact, but one incident to be added to the sum total of those reported earlier. It occurred on Sept. 16, 1918, as King finished writing his "Industry and Humanity."

Mr. King's own diary tells the story: "I had concluded this part, which was the last of the book proper, and was reflecting that the book meant a dividing line in my life, that it was my life and work up to date so to speak, that hereafter I begin life anew under the conception of the presence of God in all things—when I looked up at the little clock on the cottage shelf and to my surprise saw both hands exactly over the hour twelve, I exclaimed aloud at the significance of the fact, then went to my little room and knelt by the side of the little bed in which dear mother suffered so patiently and so long, and prayed God that he would accept my life consecrated anew to his work and give me strength to do and to reveal his work."

QUAINT FANCY

Dr. Dawson adds: "It was some quaint fancy of King's part that moved him to 'exclaim' when the hands of the clock came into certain positions (together, opposite, or at right angles) at the moment certain 'facts' of importance made their appearance. The reference in the above paragraph is apparently the first entry in the diary in which attention is called to such a phenomenon.

"In later diaries, particularly in the thirties and forties, the frequency of these references suggest that the idiosyncrasy was becoming something in the nature of a fixed obsession.

"What signifance he attached to the occurances is difficult to determine; there is no key to his interpretation. The hands of the clock seem to have had as much signifance in one position as in another. It may be that he interpreted such tcoincidences as confirmation of the decision reached or the action taken at the particular moment.

NEVER EXPLAINED

Or he may have taken them, for reasons only he could understand and never explained, as a grand indication that he was in tune with the infinite. They comforted him. Certainly none of these outward manifestations ever conveyed messages of disapproval of his won conduct. One is impressed by the seriousness with which he records them they were never treated in a spirit of fun; the religious tones were always apparents."

A footnote points out that in a diary entry written only four years earlier, King had scoffed at the suggestion of an acquaintance that Friday the 13th was unlucky for him and had confided to his own diary "what a tyranny superstition would be come if one permitted it, one has to force oneself out of all such beliefs."

But Mr. King's preoccupation with omens, tokens and spirits, became, in later years, an obsession. This was not the case during the period of King's life covered by Vol. 1, released today. More information in this respect will presumably, be provided by volumns 2 and 3.

MAXIMS

Man is the only animal that laughs and weeps, for he is the only animal that is struck with the difference between what things are and what they ought to be.

SHORT TERM

The president of Switzerland, selected from a federal council of seven members, serves a one-

Watch Out For Heart Attack

By Herman N. Bundesen, M. D.

YOU MAY ASK: Am I going to have a heart attack?

I can't tell for sure, of course, but I do know the type of individual who is most apt to have one.

It is a man past the age of 45, probably somewhere in his early 50s.

OFFICE WORKER

He works in an office either as an executive or as an employee with some responsibilities.

He is ambitious and because he is, he works hard, too hard. He drives himself almost constantly, and he sacrifices sleep and rest in favor of business and business-related social functions.

He worries at the office and he worries at home— about the office.

UNHAPPY HOME LIFE

He is restless and often has a rather unhappy home life. Because he permits his business to dominate his life, his wife probably complains frequently. To him, it seems as though she is griping about something all the time.

The children, too, seem to be quarrelsome and sassy far too often.

In addition to all this, our friend may be overweight, probably by 15 pounds or maybe even more. As a rule, he likes to eat, drink and smoke.

GOOD LOOK

Do you fit this description? If you do, it is time to sit down and take a good look backward —and a good look ahead.

I realize that there are millions of American men who fit the picture and that only a very small percentage will have heart attacks. But why not readjust your life, if you may be a candidate for a heart attack?

You don't have to give up everything for which you have been striving. Simply work less strenuously, leave your business and business worries at the office, give your home and family the attention they deserve, and get more rest and sleep.

CONSULT DOCTOR

Get your doctor's advice about your weight problem, and whether you can continue drinking and smoking at the same rate.

Don't put this off for any length of time. And if recently you have been feeling sort of tired and h notied a sensation of pressure in your chest every now and then, see your doctor today.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

A.L.: Can saccharin be harmful in any way?

Answer: No harmful results have been known to result from the use of saccharin. You need have no fear of bad effects.

OUR YESTERDAYS

(From The Guardian Files)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
(Nov. 20, 1933)

The relief work project at the Exhibition Grounds is progressing in a most satisfactory manner. On Sunday hundreds of motorists and visitors out walking went to view the work being carried on. Over ninety carters and 250 pick and shovel men are in working on the project, and since the money is being directed to the labourer, it is considered a most worthy relief undertaking.

Mr. Harry Barret has been advised from Ottawa that he was successful in obtaining his private pilot's license for operating an aeroplane. Mr. Barret had had over twenty hours solo. He is a member of the Charlottetown Aero Club, and is the first and only person in the province to secure such a license.

TEN YEARS AGO
(Nov. 20, 1948)

Two well-known Summerside businesses have been sold involving a financial transaction of upwards of a quarter million dollars, it was learned yesterday The Summerside Fertilizer Co. Ltd., and the International Fox and Animal Foods, Ltd., manufacturers of Sunglo products, have been purchased by Canada Packers Limited.

The appointment by the Provincial Government of J.O.C. Campbell, K.C., as Counsel to the Department of the Provincial Treasurer, was announced yesterday by Premier Jones. Mr. Campbell also becomes Deputy Minister of the new Department, that of Industry and Natural Resources. Both appointments became effective November 22.

NOTES BY THE WAY

In a recent election, a voter was asked what he thought of the two candidates for one office and replied: "Well, when I look at them, I'm thankful that only one can be elected."Cumberland Advocate

The London Daily Sketch hints that the Russians may buy the Island of Stroma with a population of 18, off the Scottish coast. This is the isle which recently was unsuccessfully nominated as an American quiz show prize. The owner of the island, J.C. Hoyland, Yorkshire umbrella manufacturer, says bluntly that if he can't sell the place to the Yankees then "we will let the Russians have it." — London Free Press.

Beards will re-establish men as the dominant sex, a psych... asserts. Yes but, when doing the dishes, do you tuck it under or leave it outside the apron?—Winnipeg Tribune

If a person likes trees, he ... never be lonely. Through the bracing briskness of Autumn, the cold of Winter, the heart-lift of Spring, and Summer's lush... they stand serene—an example ... impatient man bound in ... subservience to this self-m... web of activity.—Ottawa Jou...

The classrooms of Canadian schools are no place for bench warmers and trouble-makers. ... as every teacher knows to his ... her sorrow, the great trek back to school in the fall brings w... it a goodly number of headaches in the form of teenagers of ... years or more who come to warm benches in the classroom just be... cause their parents haven't the gumption to send them to work. —Galt Reported.

The Age Old Story

Thou shalt not go up and down as a tale-bearer among thy people.

New African State

National Geographic Society

When French Guinea's independence receives international recognition, the West African banana-growing land will become the world's 103rd nation.

The French territory recently rejected the Constitution of Premier Charles de Gaulle. In consequence the French Government informed Sekou Toure, head of the Guinea Government, that Guinea was separated from the other territories of French West Africa and could expect no more French assistance, either administrative or financial.

Confirmation of Guinea's independence would bring the total number of independent states back to a previous level. The world reached the 103-mark in 1957 following the admission of Ghana and the Federation of Malaya, but the total slipped when Syria and Egypt joined to form the United Arab Republic.

POTENTIALLY WEALTHY

Oregon-size French Guinea nestles between Portuguese Guinea and Sierra Leone, a British colony, on Africa's west coast. Guinea's interior extends southward to touch the Republic of Liberia.

Guinea has enormous undeveloped riches. Gold, diamonds, iron ore, and bauxite lie under its jungle and plains. French, German, American, Canadian, and Swiss interests have invested in the development of these resources.

Some day Guinea hopes to be a world force in aluminum production. Even today, its industrial expansion is described as phenomenal. Under several four-year plans, France has modernized the country along a wide economic front ranging from hospitals and schools to roads and mines.

But the country remains primarily agricultural. Bananas and coffee lead among exports. Guinea has a wide diversity of terrain and climate. Fertile swamps along the torrid coast contrast with high and relatively cool plateaux in the interior. Rice and bananas flourish near the coast, while cattle thrive in the interior.

Despite its potential, Guinea has had to depend on French aid to maintain its economy, and remains backward in many respects. A single railroad runs from Conakry, capital, to Kankan in the interior. Many roads disappear in mud during the rainy season.

France's interest in Guinea goes far back into history. Sailors from Dieppe supposedly visited the land in the 14th cdntury. But the Guineans saw few Europeans—except slave traders—until the middle of the 19th century. In the early 19th century, France began to conclude treaties with local chiefs, and Guinea became a colony in 1881. In 1904 Great Britain ceded the Los Islands of Guinea's coast to France in part return for France's abandonment of its fishing rights in Newfoundland waters.

Little by little, the port of Conakry has grown, but it still has only 50,000 inhabitants. Guinea's economic readiness for independence may be questioned, but the descendants of men who fought slave-traders have developed a taste for freedom. Toure, mayor of Conakry, declared recently that his people prefer "poverty in liberty to wealth in slavery."