The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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Disturbing Proposal

It is to be hoped that after full consideration, the Defense Department will abandon any idea it may have of closing down the RCAF Station at Summerside. It is important to note that no decision to this effect has yet been made, and that government policy is apparently in abeyance pending full consideration of all the factors involved.

To the people of this Province, it seems strange that there should be any question of writing off this big investment in Canada's air defense system. It has proven its value in the past, and the expectation was that it would continue to be kept in active operation.

Our Island representative in the Cabinet, Hon. J. Watson MacNaught, says he will fight this issue if necessary, and we can depend upon him doing so to the best of his ability. Meanwhile, it would be well to have all our members at Ottawa, and those from other Maritime districts as well, thoroughly briefed on the program of activities at the air station, on the great contribution it has made to our defense system and the need for retaining it, and indeed of expanding its operations, in keeping with present and future requirements.

Had To Be Cancelled

Defense Minister Hellyer's announcement of the cancellation of the Navy's eight-ship frigate program has naturally caused concern to Canadian shipyards, where skills in the building of these ships have been developed in the last few years. To ease the situation Transport Minister McIlraith has announced a $110,000,000, three-year program for the Canadian Coast Guard and transport department.

This program will include the building of a $14,000,000 car ferry for the Borden-Tormentine service, in implementation of a Liberal pre-election pledge and not, of course, as a substitute for the projected causeway which is now in the planning stage, and to which both the major parties in Parliament are committed.

The new program will fall far short of providing the employment which the frigate program would have done, and it will be the Government's responsibility to come up with further alternative projects. In the meantime, however, the fact must be faced that the frigates, as anti-submarine equipment, would probably be obsolete before they could get into service in 1970. They would be a quite unjustified expenditure in the circumstances.

Many senior officers of the RCN are said to be of this opinion. These boats were to cost about $33,000,000 apiece; but just last week Vice-Admiral H.S. Rayner, chief of Naval Staff, told the Commons special defense committee that they would cost a total of $452,000,000 with all support services, stores, etc. That comes to $56,500,000 per ship—about the same cost as a nuclear submarine.

Besides, if the Navy needed a helicopter carrier, a frigate would carry only one, while a merchant ship could carry a dozen. If the need was a troopship, the frigate would carry only 200 soldiers without equipment, while a proper transport could carry thousands with equipment. The frigate would need 200 sailors to man it, while a nuclear submarine requires only 85. Again, the frigate's maximum speed is 27 knots—slower than Tribal class destroyers of World War II vintage, and far slower than the 40 to 50 knots of a nuclear submarine.

It has been suggested that if submarines are to be provided for the Canadian Navy as a partial alternative to the cancellation of the frigate program, they should be built in Canada. This is a point worth considering, if the technical requirements can be met.

First Of Its Kind

One of the advantages of getting our fishery brief before the Federal Government on this occasion is that it will allow time for full consideration before the federal-provincial conference of fisheries ministers and their advisers, which is scheduled to be held at Ottawa in January. This is to be a one-week conference, and will be the first national fisheries conference ever held in Canada.

Fisheries Minister Robichaud has expressed hope that at this important gathering the two levels of government will be able to work out a national fisheries development program. For that reason he invited the provinces last April to make proposals for such a program and conference. All have now been heard from, through correspondence or personal interviews.

The minister gave no hint of the specific proposals that might be discussed in referring to the subject in the House of Commons on Thursday night. One matter to which his attention was directed by his predecessor in the Diefenbaker government, Mr. J. Angus MacLean, was the need for establishing a special branch within the department to deal solely with Canada's international obligations. Canada now is involved in seven different fishing treaties, and this places an unreasonable load on administrators.

Mr. MacLean also expressed hope that when Canada extends her territorial fishing limits to 12 miles next May, it will proclaim such waters as the Gulf of St. Lawrence, Bay of Fundy, Dixon Entrence and Hecate Strait as exclusively Canadian.

Mr. Robichaud could reasonably reply that the Conservatives had been slow in doing anything along these lines when they were in power. But it is with present and future policy that our fishermen are concerned, and on this ground every suggestion put forward is deserving of consideration on its merits.

Certainly, fishery problems will be much in the limelight when the big conference opens on January 20. If it results in establishing this primary industry on a basis more profitable to our fishermen than at present prevails, it will have achieved something really worth while.

Korean Elections

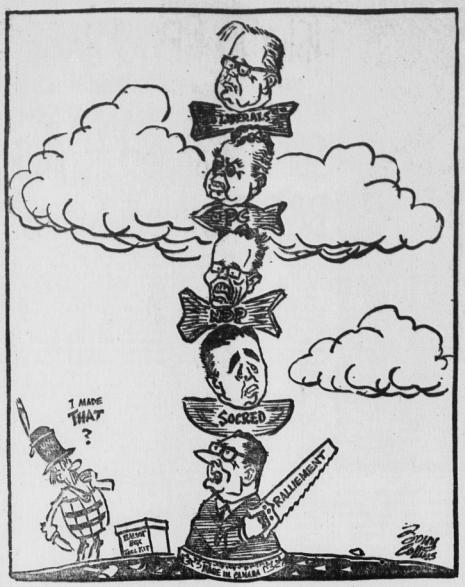
One of the assurances given by General Chun Hee Park, who came to power in Korea in a coup in 1961, was that he would carry out national elections that would permit a transition from military to civilian rule.

Earlier this month 11,000,000 South Koreans went to the polls to elect a president. General Park got 4,702,640 votes and his principal opponent, civilian ex-President Posun Yun, 4,564,614. Three candidates of minority parties on the ballot polled a total of 831,614. Thus the victory was far from a personal triumph for General Park since he won less than 45 per cent of the votes cast.

This election will be followed by elections on November 26 for the 175-member National Assembly. But under the new constitution, approved by a national referendum last December, power is concentrated in the presidency.

The United States has 50,000 troops still in Korea and has given the country more than $5 billion in military and economic aid. It was never too happy about Park's authoritarian regime; it would like to see it transformed into a more broadly-based instrument of democracy.

According to the New York Times, American officials in Seoul still have doubts in this regard. The balloting on election day seemed to be carried out with a minimum of irregularities, but they are maintaining a wait-and-see attitude as to whether the General will initiate the concrete steps they regard as necessary. One strong leverage Washington has is its aid program, which is likely to come up for review following the November elections.



LOW MAN ON THE TOTEM POLE

BRITISH COMMENTARY

Myth Dispelled By U.N. Inquiry

United Kingdom Information Service

In the last two or three years the words "colonial" and "colonialism" have come to be widely used as terms of general abuse. The British — naturally enough in view of their record both as colonizers and as "decolonizers" — think that this is unfair, inaccurate and harmful. It is particularly harmful in the United Nations where it dangerously distorts debate and invalidates judgment.

One recent example of this misuse has been over the "Question of Oman". Last year, as in earlier years, this item—which is not properly a matter for the United Nations since no such question really exists— was handled by the special political committee of the United Nations Assembly. This year the Arab countries asked that the item should be transferred to the trusteeship committee of the Assembly on the ground that Britain had failed to end its "colonial rule" and that it was essentially a "colonial problem."

In view of the emotional overtones with which the word is so unfortunately charged, this move was calculated to create strong prejudice against Britain from the start. In fact the assertion that there is a colonial problem in Oman is a complete misrepresentation.

Neither the Sultanate of Muscat and Oman nor any part of it is, or has ever been, a British colony. The Sultanate, including the area of Oman in question, is a fully integrated and independent state. As such it is in treaty relations with Britain, the United States, France and India. There is no British rule.

The small number of British officers and non-commissioned officers in the country are there at the Sultan's request. It is therefore impossible to have a useful discussion of the question of Oman if it is to be treated as a colonial problem.

INVITATION TO U.N.

At last year's meeting of the General Assembly, many of the members, including African states, very sensibly determined to use their reason and refused to make any judgment about the "Question of Oman" until they knew more about the facts. They therefore saw a great deal of sense in the Sultan's invitation to the UN Secretary- General to send someone to look at the situation on the spot. With equal good sense, the Assembly rejected an extremist resolution denouncing alleged British interference and oppression in Oman.

Unfortunately, the propaganda organs of some Arab states, instead of waiting until the full facts could be impartially presented, have kept up a stream of fabrications about supposed large- scale warfare waged by the British against the people of Oman— usually, of course, with disastrous results for the British. Categorical British denials that any such operations were taking place were ignored or swept aside.

Now, however, a full and fair report on the situation has been presented by U Thant's representative, the Swedish diplomat Mr. De Ribbing, and this has been circulated as an Assembly document. This should supply, from an unimpeachable source, the facts needed by members to form a sound judgment. It should finally dispel one of the many myths about British "colonialism" or "neo-colonialism".

FOUND NO EVIDENCE

The mission found no evidence to support the view of some Arab states that Oman should be separated from the rest of the Sultanate. Tribal strife seems at an end; even if there is some discontent and criticism, most people deny that there is political oppression; many stress that there is security and safety.

As for British "intervention" Mr. De Ribbing reports that he asked the Sultan about the British officers and non-commissioned officers in his forces. The Sultan replied that they had nothing to do with policy-making —"We make all the decisions ourselves." The Sultanate is in no way a British puppet state.

There is as little foundation, therefore, for the myth of British colonial rule in Oman as for the myth of Malaysia's origin as a creation of British "neo-colonialism" —or for the myth of a British plan to arm the white "colonialists" of Southern Rhodesia against the neighbouring African peoples. The sooner these myths are blown away by the wind of truth, the better able will the United Nations be to tackle its real job of preserving and strengthening peace and promoting prosperity.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents. All letters published are subject to editing and condensation where necessary. The Guardian is unable to enter into any correspondence regarding letters submitted.

A BRILLIANT CAREER

Sir,—In a recent issue of your paper, in the column directed by Mr. Neil Matheson, farm editor, I read an interesting sketch of the life and work of the late Dr. Donald A. MacRae, a native of Canoe Cove and dean of Osgoode Law School, Toronto, for 20 years previous to his death. Mr. Matheson states in his sketch that he procured the facts concerning Dr. MacRae's early education from an obituary written by me shortly after the Doctor's death, and he quotes correctly from the obituary.

Mr. Matheson, however, is in error in respect to my own age which he refers to as being "in the nineties." This report, as Mark Twain once wrote in regard to a premature report of his own death, is somewhat exaggerated. I am in my eighty-fifth year, but I still have a vivid recollection of my early schooldays in Canoe Cove School where my cousin, Don MacRae, eight years my senior, attended until his sixteenth year,—the only school, in fact, that he ever attended, till he entered on his brilliant career at Dalhousie, Cornell, and Princeton universities, as fully and accurately described in the sketch to which I here refer.

I am, Sir, etc.,

M. MacKENZIE

Canoe Cove, P.E.I.

(P.S. In regard to Don MacRae's high school studies, it is true that although he did not attend a high school, he did receive considerable knowledge of the advanced subjects—Latin, Geometry and Algebra—in Canoe Cove School.—M. MacK.)

Our Yesterdays

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

October 26, 1938

Arthur Mollins, of the Bank of Montreal staff in Charlottetown, has been transferred to the Lunenburg branch. Mr. Mollins leaves shortly to take up his duties in the Nova Scotia town.

The Philathea Class of the Charlottetown Baptist Church met in the new Sunday School room. After the worship and business period, badminton was played.

TEN YEARS AGO

October 26, 1953

The Charlottetown Camera Club held its first meeting of the season Thursday evening at the YMCA. Chuck Walper is the Club's new president. The club is planning a full season's program of lectures, instructional films, print competitions and social activities.

Queen Square Gardens are now being prepared for the winter by caretaker A. Curley who has done an excellent job all summer. The Gardens this year attracted a great deal of attention.

HOLD ELECTIONS

WINNIPEG (CP) — Upsets were rare and voting generally was light Wednesday as municipal administrations were elected in most of Manitoba. It was an off year for mayoralty contests in the two largest cities, Winnipeg and St. Boniface. There were acclamations in many centres and interest focussed on bylaws. Plebiscites favoring increased liquor outlets were approved in all six communities where they were held.

True Tongue-Tie A Rare Condition

By Dr. Theodore R. VanDellen

True tongue-tie is rare yet many physicians are consulted by parents of toddlers who believe the condition exists and that the band beneath the tongue should be snipped. Mothers of youngsters under two fear the child's speech will be faulty unless this is done. The same idea prevails when Johnny is three or four and is slow to talk or fails to speak distinctly. These ideas have been handed down from the past.

By definition, tongue-tie is a condition in which the tip of the tongue cannot be protruded beyond the lower incisor teeth. When protrusion is attempted, the end of the tongue becomes notched as it is held back by a short band of tissue (frenulum) under the tongue. In true tongue-tie the frenulum is absent at birth or contains scar tissue. This abnormality may interfere with the pronunciation of some consonants and with the playing of wind instruments.

But many of the young children mentioned previously do not have the disorder even though they cannot stick out the tongue beyond the lips. Spontaneous cure occurs when the tongue is used more frequently in normal speech. An otherwise healthy, intelligent boy or girl with persistant tongue-tie is most unusual.

On the other hand, when a speech defect persists after age four, the cause may be traced to weak, incomplete, or uncoordinated tongue movements. These children may have cerebral palsy or congenital brain defect including mental retardation.

Here the frenulum may be snipped when it appears to be too short because it does not move properly. But surgery does not improve the condition because something is wrong with the speech mechanism. Children with an underdeveloped lower jaw and those who stammer may go through a similar ordeal. The modern physician is aware of these pitfalls and seldom recommends surgery unless these other possibilities are considered first.

ENTIRELY DIFFERENT

Mrs. K. writes: My 16-year-old daughter has a heart murmur. Her father died of coronary thrombosis. Is there a relationship between these two disorders?

REPLY

No. Coronary thrombosis is commoner after age 50 and is caused by hardening of the coronary arteries. Your daughter's murmur may be due to a congenital defect of the heart or to a scarred valve. It also may be a harmless sound and not a sign of cardiac disease.

Today's Health Hint—

Lack of sleep drains your physical and emotional reserves.

NOTES BY THE WAY

A Red Cross swimming instructor was explaining the buddy system to a group of beginning swimmers. She asked: "Does anyone know what a buddy is?" Answered an eight-year-old boy: "That's some one who drowns with you."—Oakville Journal.

There is a simple way in which election costs not only can be reduced but efficiency increased. The only conceivable reason that every level of government insists on preparing its own voters' lists and manning its own electoral machinery is that elections are a traditional medium of petty patronage. With major elections occurring at the rate of almost one a year, isn't it reasonable to expect our government to pool their electoral machinery, prepare one master voters' list and keep it constantly up to date? — Vancouver Sun

"The human skeleton has no wishbone," says an anatomist. He's mistaken. Many a person has a wishbone where he should have a backbone.— Chatham News.

In the posh subdivisions that are springing up across Canada there is a very conscious trend toward housing variety. It's commendable, but sometimes we can't help suspecting its chief purpose is to allow Canadians to tell one another apart. Must the houses differ because the people are the same?—Toronto Star.

A piano work performed in New York by five pianists in succession lasts nearly 19 hours. The scales practised by the seven-year-old at home only seem to go on that long.— Calgary Herald.

A Host Of U.N. Problems

By Jim Peacock
Canadian Press Staff Writer

The United Nations enters its 19th year facing a host of problems for which no easy solutions are in sight.

Questions of world disarmament, apartheid in South Africa, international conflicts, internal financial woes, arguments over representation—these are but a few of the problems facing a world body.

Yet, UN and world leaders have said that the 18th birthday of the UN is probably the brightest in its history. Perhaps the principal reason is the fact that the UN is so heavily burdened as more and more nations turn to it.

OPTIMISM TODAY

The 18th session of the General Assembly, now in progress at New York, has proceeded amid stress on relaxation of international tensions and a spirit of optimism arising largely from the signing of the partial nuclear test-ban treaty.

There is general agreement among those who have observed the UN during these 18 stormy cold war years that there has never been a more cordial East-West relationship. There is agreement too, however, that so far the change has been mainly in climate, but this has been sufficient to give encouragement.

There have been other changes over the years which also have given encouragement as the UN grew from its original 51 members in 1945 to today's 111, including 33 from Africa which had only four members among the original 51.

One of these is the decline of the role played by the 11-member Security Council, where the Soviet Union has often wielded its power of veto with paralysing effect, and the increase in the prestige of the General Assembly, where no veto power exists.

Another is the broadening role of the secretary-general from that of administrator to that of executive who not only carries out peace-keeping missions but sometimes initiates them.

And another is the expansion of the UN peace-keeping role to include the use of UN military forces—a step first taken under initiative of Canada in 1956 during the Suez crisis and repeated in 1960 in The Congo.

UN TEETH

The latter has given the UN its teeth, although it has also given the UN its main reason for financial crisis as the Soviet bloc, France and other states have refused to pay their share of the cost of such forces.

In UN Day messages, leaders of the UN and its member nations said they find cause for hope in the future in spite of the many problems. Much of this hope is based on the UN playing a bigger and more effective role in settling disputes between nations.

External Affairs Minister Martin of Canada said in a UN Day message:

"We in Canada have full confidence that the UN will play an effective and leading role in the search for solutions to these complex problems. We believe that (the United Nations) has the capacity to respond to these challenges, and that it should be provided with the means to do so."

Confidence in the UN, such as that expressed by Martin, is essential to increase its effectiveness as an instrument for promoting world peace.

The fact that more nations are bringing their problems before the UN for settlement indicates such confidence is growing.

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