

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew
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Wallace Ward, Managing Editor
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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink"
PAGE 4 MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1966

A Poor Excuse

The reason given by Labor Minister Nicholson for boosting the interest rate on National Housing Act mortgages to 7 1/4 per cent was that this would divert more lending money into housing. But the Toronto Star, a traditionally Liberal paper, challenges this statement, pointing out that on the minister's own showing, interest rates on conventional first mortgages are already running from 7 1/2 to 8 1/2 per cent. How then can the 7 1/4 rate attract more lenders? What it will do is impose a needless additional burden on home builders, at a time when prices and rents of new housing have already soared beyond the reach of all but high-income people in many areas of Canada.

The government, it is maintained, should offset this iniquitous effect of its own tight-money policy by lending money directly for housing at a rate which average Canadians can afford, say five per cent. This would involve a subsidy of two or three per cent until such time as interest rates generally come back to normal. The cost would be modest compared to other governmental expenditures, and would be fully as justifiable as the public subsidies to grain growers, coal miners and others which have been going on for decades.

Ottawa could help in the present emergency by restoring the \$500-per-unit bonus for housing started in the winter months. Both federal and provincial governments could take the lead in promoting cheaper and more efficient methods of home construction. Modern technology provides an ample scope for this, which has hardly begun to be exploited. In short, there must be a many-sided attack on the problem aimed at ensuring that low and middle income Canadians will have access to adequate housing at prices and rents they can afford.

But the first hurdle, insists the Toronto paper, "is to get over a mental one, the persistence of which is shown by Mr. Nicholson's announcement on NHA mortgage rates. We shall just have to banish the idea that something so vital to the well-being of hundreds of thousands of Canadians can be left to the mercy of market forces and profit-seeking as usual."

Sound advice—to which, unfortunately, our policy makers do not seem to be tuned in.

Old Idea Revived

Speaking recently in Montreal, Bryce Mackay, MP for Verdun, Que., who is also parliamentary secretary to Labor Minister Nicholson, suggested that the time has come to establish a National Capital District in Canada, one that would reflect the bilingual nature of the country, that could be "a test-tube" for education problems and produce the ideal climate for Canadians to get acquainted. A week later, Forestry Minister Sauve told the Montreal Chambre de Commerce that this was one of the steps Canada should be taking to provide a congenial cultural environment, with educational and cultural facilities plentifully available to both French and English speaking Canadians.

The proposal would seem to have many advantages, but it would involve the ceding by Ontario and Quebec to the federal government of the national capital area and its environs on both sides of the Ottawa river, and neither of the big provinces has shown any enthusiasm for the idea. In effect, it would create the counterpart of the District of Columbia in the United States, and being exclusively under federal control its development as a national capital could be greatly facilitated.

But Ontario and Quebec would lose

not only territory, but also tax revenues from the excised areas. And there are municipal as well as provincial politicians whose views would have to be taken into account. They represent residents of the area who would be disfranchised, and would be deprived of their rights of local self government.

But so far as Ottawa is concerned, the Montreal Star advises its citizens sternly that it owes its place, its wealth and its importance as the federal capital of a state which professes a recognized dual culture. "Without its position of the national capital," it says, "Ottawa would still be Bytown, a neglected, decaying community built on a lumber trade whose halcyon years are long past. It would be a town like Arnprior and Renfrew, desperately fighting to maintain themselves on a modest basis. Ottawa's importance is due wholly to Queen Victoria's decision to resolve other rivalries by creating a new city, a new capital without perpetuating administrative feuds between such centres as Montreal, Quebec, Toronto and Kingston."

Actually, it has been many years since the proposal of a National Capital District was first mooted. Nothing has ever happened, but the fact that two ranking federal Liberals from Quebec have resurrected it is regarded as significant at this time. Perhaps it's the Centennial spirit that is beginning to work!

Soviet Competition

Recently President Johnson signed into a law a bill establishing a 12-mile exclusive fisheries zone off the coast of the United States. The limit, before the passage of the bill, was three miles. It does not apply to Canadian fishermen, who have traditional fishing rights within the limit. But it would prevent Soviet vessels from fishing too close for comfort. And it has served to focus world attention on the fact that the Soviet Union is outfishing the United States off its own New England coast.

"It's a sad commentary on world economics," says Dr. Herbert W. Graham, director of the United States Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, "that foreign fishermen catch fish off our shores, frequently fishing alongside our own fleet, and process the fish in their own countries, and export it to the United States in direct competition with our own product."

The United States does not import or even unload fish from the Soviet Union. When vessels attempted to land purportedly "Red cod" in Boston and New York in 1965, they were promptly stopped. But the time conceivably could come when the country would be faced with Soviet imports or doing without.

Among the 13 nations in the International Commission for the North Atlantic Fisheries, the United States once ranked second only to Canada in tonnage caught. Now it has given this place to the Soviet Union, while Canada still maintains the lead by only a slight margin. The commission members have agreed to "maintain fisheries for the maximum sustainable yield" in an area of the Atlantic running from Rhode Island to the west coast of Greenland. This stretch is known as the ICAF convention area. The total catch from the area has skyrocketed from 1,800,000 metric tons of fish in 1955 to 3,200,000 metric tons in 1965. But the United States' percentage of this catch dropped from 27.3 per cent of this total in 1955, to 10.3 per cent in 1965.

In other words, almost 90 per cent of this total catch is being taken by nations other than the United States, predominantly Canada and the Soviet Union. One can understand why the U.S. authorities are so concerned. But surely the key to the problem lies in greater efficiency by American operators. The idea of Uncle Sam being beaten in a race of this kind what is really surprising.

EDITORIAL NOTES

For the first time revenue from Canada's booming oil and gas industry will top the \$1,000 million mark this year. This is an increase of 8 per cent. The problem of where to sell all that oil is what is bothering the industry now.

Of the 2,616 fatal accidents which occurred on Canadian roads in 1965 over 1,800, a whopping 70 per cent, took place in daylight on clear dry roads in vehicles which were in good mechanical condition. It would seem that when driving is hazardous, the usually self-confident driver becomes more careful, thus creating the paradoxical situation—borne out by the record—that for a reduction in fatal motor accidents, we should have bad weather and bad roads all the time.



ARCROSS THE CHANNEL BY MOTORBOAT
OTTAWA REPORT By Patrick Nicholson

Serious Drain On National Productivity

This year is shaping up as the most disastrous since the second world war for the Canadian economy, from the point of view of productivity lost through labour disputes.

Statistics which I have just assembled show that, in the first eight months of this year, no less than 423 strikes were called. These caused the loss of 3,675,910 man-days of work in that period. This contrasts with 226 strikes costing 4,515,090 man-days of work in the whole of 1966 which was statistically the worst year up to now.

The pattern of strikes this year has two distinct features.

In the first place, they seem to have been aimed specifically at industries where they would cause the greatest public inconvenience and national loss. Such include many strikes against essential public utilities: the railways, Air Canada, the St. Lawrence Seaway, Quebec Hydro, the Quebec hospitals and the Ontario trucking industry. Also strikes hurtful to consumers, such as a large nationwide meat packing business. And also aimed against important export industries, such as that against International Nickel.

This has predictably caused a widespread wave of public impatience, perhaps even a predominant belief that the strike should be outlawed as a bargaining weapon—at least in fields where the public interest is at stake.

Secondly, as the recent annual review of the Economic Council of Canada points out, age demands have been unusual high this year. The peak rate of wage increases over the past fourteen years was reached in the spring of this year. The Economic Council criticizes large highly-publicized settlements by which governments are parties, as inevitably having an impact on the climate of collective bargaining across the country. But while blame must attach to the Pearson government for establishing a 30 per cent guideline for wage settlements, there are two overriding factors now being debated.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondence 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.

THOSE SCHOOL BOOKS

Sir,—I was greatly interested in Mrs. Gameter's letter which appeared in the November 23rd issue of The Guardian. I wholeheartedly agree with what she wrote regarding school books for school children. When I was a youngster going to school, my books were purchased for me by my foster parents, and they became my property. Of course, I was supposed to take good care of them. If they got torn or soiled, especially if they got soiled, I was not called to task about it; for that was to be expected of the average child. A way with that nonsense, and let the parents of their children buy their books for them and let those books be the property of the children. Let the parents teach their children to take good care of their books.

More power to your pen, Mrs. Gameter.
I am, Sir, etc.,
W. D. JOHNSTON,
Montague, P.E.I.

fairly stiff demand" for machinery to prevent strikes injurious to the public interest. He perhaps had in mind the suggestion that permanent compulsory arbitration boards of a quasi-judicial nature be set up.

The second is the realization that unrealistic wage demands like the Pearson pattern—in effect are blatant economic civil war. The workers concerned may get their huge increases, but only at the expense of the rest of the community—including those same workers wives—who will shortly after face higher prices necessary to absorb those wage increases.

Richest Fossil Museum

National Geographic Society

Tanzania, only two years old as a nation, is nearly two million years old in the history of humankind.

At Olduvai Gorge, on the edge of the great Serengeti Plain, Dr. Louis S.B. Leakey has discovered the fossil remains of Homo habilis, a new species of prehistoric creature that seems to have been heading toward modern man.

Extraordinary discoveries at Olduvai are the subject of a television special, "Dr. Leakey and the Dawn of Man," that will be shown in color Saturday, November 5, on CBS Television Network. The program inaugurates the National Geographic Society's 1966-67 season of four real-life adventure films produced in association with David L. Wolper.

GUARDED BY KILIMANJARO

If future discoveries should bear out Charles Darwin's prediction—and Dr. Leakey's belief—that Africa will turn out to be the cradle of man, then nature could hardly have provided a more dramatic Eden than Tanzania.

The East African nation, combining Tanganyika and Zanzibar, stretches north to south from the shining white dome of Mount Kilimanjaro to the deep valley of a river border with Mozambique, and eastward from the African continent's immense central lakes to the Indian Ocean.

Our Yesterdays

(From The Guardian Files)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (November 28, 1941)

The Russians acknowledged that massive German assaults are gravely imperiling Moscow's outer defences, but said Hitler's timetable had been knocked badly out of line by Russian blows.

TEN YEARS AGO (November 28, 1956)

Jordan's Premier Suleiman Nabulsi announced he was proceeding to cut his nation free from its long alliance with Britain and to liquidate her military bases there.

CHURCH HAS CAPITAL

The Church of England owns property and investments yielding about \$60,000,000 a year.

Seven out of ten Canadians feel no sympathy for unions demanding massive wage increases of 30 per cent. 65 per cent of the people consider that unions destroy individual initiative and a slightly larger group blames the government for failing to hold the cost-price line against union demands, to curb inflation.

Three quarters of the people think that organized labourists too concerned with feather-bedding such as artificially preserving jobs made redundant by automation.

Beating The Flu

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

There is no cure for influenza but most physicians can prescribe medicines to help the victim feel better. A salicylate, such as aspirin, is a time-honored remedy because it believes aching and lowers fever. Beyond this, the treatment depends upon symptoms. The antibiotic is of no value unless complications develop.

Bed rest is needed when there is fever. Load up on liquids, especially fruit juices. Many commercial products contain mixtures of cough suppressants and drugs that liquefy the secretions and relax the bronchi. In contrast codeine is hard to beat. This old-timer relieves the incapacitating cough and, being a narcotic, is more effective for headache and muscle aching than aspirin.

Hyocyan, a derivative of codeine, also is a popular cough remedy. Dover's powder, another prescription item, contains opium and is valuable in relieving the hacking and distress of influenza. An ice collar eases the sore throat and inhalation steam relieves the bronchitis. Nose drops alleviate nasal congestion.

Recently Dr. Leo J. Hallay of Fort Blackmore, Va., told his experiences with hundreds of victims of the influenza epidemics of 1939 and 1957. He found that a pinch of tannic acid by mouth was therapeutic and also a preventive. Tests were not done to prove whether the causative organisms were flu viruses but in Dr. Hallay's opinion this was not necessary. In his article, which appeared in the Delaware Medical Journal, he found recent evidence to show that tannic acid might be helpful.

We should concentrate on prevention because we lack specific remedies. Influenza vaccine still is recommended for older, those with chronic diseases, pregnant women and persons most likely to come into contact with the victims of influenza.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

Special clinics in France where people can learn to relax have taxi drivers comprising the majority of the patients. Those who have ridden in taxis in France will agree that the taxi drivers need the relaxing treatment after weeks of dodging other cars.—St. Catharines Standard.

Teens are a fine time of growth and change for most children, for example, from peanut butter to pizzas.—Calgary Herald.

A baby-sitter's success in minding the children depends on how well they mind her.—Stratford Beacon-Herald.

It would be fun to recline in one's fireside chair and dial a friend in Kamchatka or Katmandu. Now the telephone companies are preparing to make it possible.

They have divided the world into regions, each with a code number. This figure, plus the number assigned each nation, plus the area code and local telephone number will do the trick. All the subscriber will have to do is to dial those 16 or more digits and presto! he has his friend. (Provided he hasn't slipped in a wrong figure somewhere along the line so that he wakes a slumbering lady in Valencia.)

The prospect is exciting. But there may be problems. As the quantity of telephones in the world increases, so may the length of numbers. Even when buttons replace dials, as they eventually will, telephone users may find it difficult to punch them accurately. Technology, however, will surely come up with a solution. Perhaps the answer may be a computerized calling system needing only a signal to go into action.

We would be the last to disparage the value of any development in communication, and especially one of this scope. But we cannot help but give a sigh of regret for the almost obsolete

The lady wished her servant to be pleased with her new place. "You'll have a very easy time of it here," she said sweetly. "as we have no children to annoy you." "Oh," said the colored girl generously, "I've worked of chiluns, so don't restrict yo'self on my account, miss."—Montreal Star.

His wife awoke in the small hours to hear him stealthily moving things about in the kitchen. "What might ye be lookin' for, darlin'?" she asked. "Nothin', just nothin'." "Oh! said his wife, helpfully. "Then ye'll find it in the bottle where the whisky used to be."—Montreal Star.

Dialing The World

human telephone operator. After many years we still fondly recall hearing the soft Southern voice of a telephone girl in Louisiana explaining, when there was no answer to our call to an elderly friend, "Ah just can't get Miss Julie. You know she goes to bed early and ah guess she doesn't hear the ring."

Of course the language difficulty would rule out such personal service on the overseas circuits. We shall happily settle for the coming number system.

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CONDENSED STATEMENT AS AT OCTOBER 31, 1966	
ASSETS	
CASH RESOURCES (INCLUDING ITEMS IN TRANSIT).....	\$ 749,951,497
GOVERNMENT AND OTHER SECURITIES.....	1,708,359,563
CALL LOANS.....	382,153,334
TOTAL QUICK ASSETS.....	2,840,364,394
LOANS AND DISCOUNTS.....	3,237,825,205
MORTGAGES AND HYPOTHECS INSURED UNDER THE N.H.A., 1954	180,182,528
CUSTOMERS' LIABILITY UNDER ACCEPTANCES, GUARANTEES AND LETTERS OF CREDIT, AS PER CONTRA.....	228,923,657
BANK PREMISES.....	75,217,508
OTHER ASSETS.....	32,354,195
TOTAL ASSETS.....	\$4,594,867,487
LIABILITIES	
DEPOSITS.....	\$4,024,672,474
ACCEPTANCES, GUARANTEES AND LETTERS OF CREDIT.....	228,923,657
OTHER LIABILITIES.....	21,868,092
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY	
CAPITAL PAID UP.....	\$ 69,680,000
RESERVE ACCOUNT.....	245,000,000
UNDIVIDED PROFITS.....	4,723,264
TOTAL LIABILITIES.....	\$4,594,867,487
STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENSES AND UNDIVIDED PROFITS	
YEAR ENDED OCTOBER 31, 1966	
REVENUE:	
INCOME FROM LOANS.....	\$ 208,890,023
INCOME FROM SECURITIES.....	70,909,584
OTHER OPERATING REVENUE.....	42,539,525
TOTAL REVENUE.....	\$322,339,134
EXPENSES:	
INTEREST ON DEPOSITS.....	146,216,019
SALARIES, PENSION FUND AND OTHER PERSONNEL BENEFITS.....	85,299,350
PROPERTY EXPENSES, INCLUDING DEPRECIATION.....	24,142,927
OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES.....	19,807,099
TOTAL EXPENSES.....	275,465,395
BALANCE OF REVENUE.....	50,873,739
PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES.....	26,400,000
BALANCE OF PROFITS FOR THE YEAR.....	24,473,739
DIVIDENDS.....	17,071,600
AMOUNT CARRIED FORWARD.....	7,402,139
UNDIVIDED PROFITS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR.....	2,321,125
UNDIVIDED PROFITS AT END OF YEAR.....	\$ 4,723,264
*After making transfers to inner reserves (i.e. provisions for bad debts and/or other losses) out of which full provision has been made for diminution in value of loans and investments.	
STATEMENT OF REST ACCOUNT	
YEAR ENDED OCTOBER 31, 1966	
BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR.....	\$ 240,000,000
TRANSFERRED FROM UNDIVIDED PROFITS.....	5,000,000
BALANCE AT END OF YEAR.....	\$ 245,000,000
WILLIAM B. CURRIE PRESIDENT	L. G. GREENWOOD CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER