

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew... Publisher every weekday morning at 165 Prince Street...

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

PAGE 4 TUESDAY, JAN. 14, 1958

Railway Rates & Layoffs

The layoff of twenty-one section men by the Canadian National Railways in this Province is a matter of serious concern.

If this is an "economy" move it comes at a very poor time. The Provinces have appealed to the Government against the 3.6 per cent freight rate increase allowed by the Board.

In any case, the big issue from our point of view is not the railways' need for extra revenue but the granting of more flat percentage increases in freight rates under any circumstances.

The Transport Board's recent judgment deals with this point. It proves that the flat percentage increase has become a device for loading increased railway costs upon two areas of the country—the Maritime area and the West—containing about one-third of the country's population.

Further than that, the traffic which is least open to competition and therefore most exposed to percentage increases, is the long haul traffic from the Atlantic Provinces and from the West to and from the Central Provinces.

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Mr. Dexter recalls that the Turgeon Royal Commission, in 1951, after a two year investigation condemned the flat percentage increases without qualification. It said the rates should be dealt with on an individual basis.

It's a pity that this Province will not be ready to participate in the National Hospital Insurance plan by July 1st, the date it becomes effective in those Provinces which are in a position to take advantage of it.

Where Inflation Pinches

In his address at the annual meeting of the Royal Bank of Canada last week, Mr. James Muir, chairman and president, made an arresting statement. "If we were to read in tonight's paper," he said, "that a part of all old pensioners' cheques had been stolen; that someone had picked the pockets of all those drawing superannuation payments; that widows and children had been robbed of some of the meagre income which a hard working man had striven to create for them; if we read all this, would there not be a tremendous hue and cry throughout the land and would not almost superhuman efforts be made to apprehend the marauder? Well, he is still around. His name is 'inflation'."

Bringing the human consequences of inflation thus sharply into focus, Mr. Muir also took note of the confusions and contradictions that enter into the methods used to combat the evil. The progressive income tax structure makes revenues rise faster than the overall rise in the national money economy, and they fall faster than the national money income on the down swing.

Properly handled, a readjustment period may lead to an even greater and healthier prosperity and expansion in the future. But it is Mr. Muir's conviction that the handling must be largely that of human nature itself, through the understanding of its motives and attitudes.

EDITORIAL NOTES

"Every business", says the general manager of Dunn and Bradstreet, "is big business to the man who owns it." Yes, and every business is a big money making one to the man who doesn't own it.

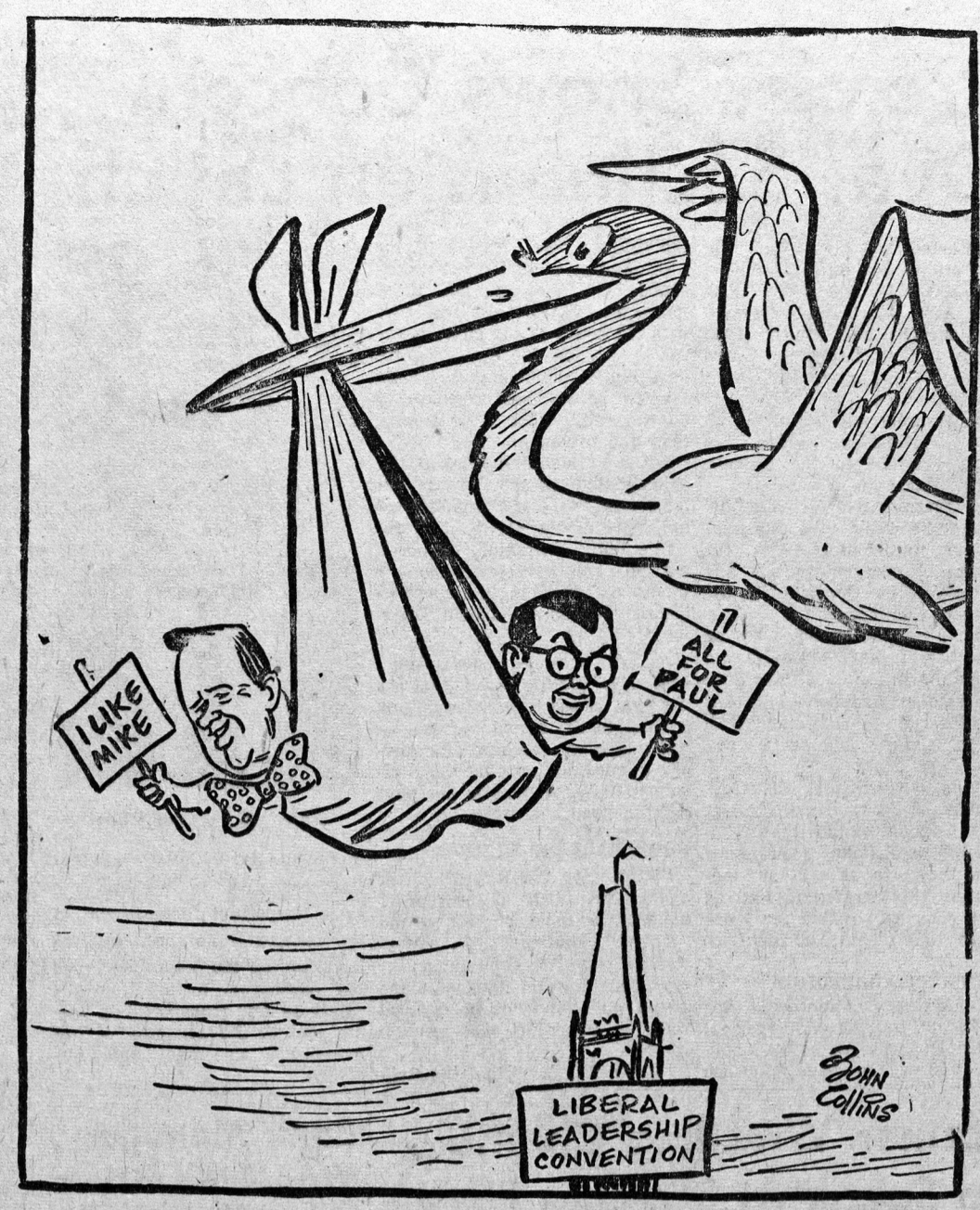
Switzerland is the place to be these days. A report from Zurich says that there is very little inflation and no unemployment. In fact, in most segments of the economy there is a labour shortage.

Mr. Paul Martin says that the Government should have removed the 10 per cent excise tax on automobiles instead of reducing it to 7 1/2 per cent. Coming from one who was high in the councils of a government which refused to reduce the tax at all, the plea is a little on the comical side.

A statistician has figured that the Soviet Sputnik launching was the most expensive single deed yet performed by mankind. It cost the Russians the life earnings of 20 millions of its working-class citizens.

Scientists have found a new explosive for highway construction purposes. It is a fertilizer compound, ammonium nitrates (which resembles dry tapioca) mixed with diesel oil and detonated by dynamite. The explosive has been used experimentally in Western Canada for blasting in open pits and quarries.

It is possible to see the complete elimination of poverty in the world by the year 2008. It is possible to see a new economic freedom for all men. It is possible to see a political and spiritual freedom growing out of the maturing of economic freedom.



TWIN ARRIVALS

OTTAWA REPORT

Transcending Other Issues

By Patrick Nicholson, Special Correspondent for The Guardian

Ottawa: Members of Parliament seem to be going through the motions of domestic politics, while their minds are far away on a paramount topic which has hardly been mentioned.

This is the impression one gets, in the few days of sessions since the Christmas holiday.

On the day Prime Minister Diefenbaker reported to Parliament the sterile achievements of the opportunity-laden NATO conference in Paris last month, Mr. St. Laurent made one of his rare and brief participations in the affairs of the House; observers remarked that it was one of most persuasive and powerful speeches he had ever made in that chamber.

He urged that the western nations should make some attempt to negotiate with Russia to the end of disarmament. This is essential, he declared, to enable us "to reach decisions that would be kept, and which would permit us to protect our own and future generations against the catastrophic consequences that will be inevitable if we cannot reach some satisfactory arrangements."

Symbol Of High Fashion

National Geographic Society

In a world on wheels, the walking stick may seem a quaint symbol of the past. Yet here and there this accessory of elegant tradition is showing signs of revival.

From Sydney, Australia, comes word of a 10 per cent increase, over the past four months, in sales of canes to well-dressed young men.

In United States, a speaker at a meeting of orthopedic surgeons has urged a return to walking sticks for health and looks. The support, he said, is needed not only by patients with bone and joint injury; it would modify waddles and encourage walking, thus helping to reduce weight.

Some veteran manufacturers of walking sticks are still doing business at the old stand in Europe and shipping their products around the world.

For more than a century, successive generations of one family have carried on the craft in a woodland southwest of London.

The sticks, cut from ash, silver birch, chestnut, oak, and sycamore, are seasoned for a year in open barns. They are then boiled in gleaming old copper vats, shaped, sandpapered, varnished, and sometimes carved. Among finished products are stout hiking sticks, slender dress models, white canes to distinguish the blind, riding crops, and shepherd crooks.

Into The New Era

Nate White in the Christian Science Monitor

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Hazard For Many Children

By Herman N. Bundesen, M.D. ECZEMA is a constant winter hazard for many children. While it may develop at any time of the year, of course, the sudden changes of temperature, harsh winds, and the tight, heavy clothing worn in cold weather make it more prevalent now.

Teething sometimes aggravates an attack, too. The first thing to do, even before your physician attempts to determine the cause of the eczema, is to prevent the youngster from scratching the affected areas. Scratching in an eczema attack can do untold harm.

As a rule the doctor will caution against using soap and water to bathe the affected areas. Instead, try patting on olive oil with a piece of absorbent cotton.

Oil and powder. If the eczema is located in the diaper region, be sure to change soiled diapers promptly. Use a mineral oil to clean the area and then powder it with cornstarch.

QUESTION AND ANSWER A.C.: My legs swell from the knees down and are sore to the touch. What would cause this?

Answer: This may be due to an infection or to a blood clot in one of the veins of your leg. This latter condition is known as thrombophlebitis.

OUR YESTERDAYS

(From The Guardian Files)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (Jan. 14, 1933)

The inaugural air mail flight from Charlottetown to the Magdalen Islands has been postponed for three weeks owing to unfavorable weather conditions.

TEN YEARS AGO (Jan. 14, 1948)

His Honour Lieut. Governor J. A. Bernard delivered the first "rock" at the official opening ceremony of the Charlottetown Curling Club's new four rink artificial ice plant last night.

Mr. T. Roy Cudmore was yesterday elected President of the Charlottetown Playgrounds Commission at the annual meeting held at the Travel Bureau.

governments and cultures think of their peoples as numberless, nameless heads they cannot win. The first riches of a nation are its people. More than natural resources, more than industrial empires, more than the gold and silver, the steel, and the uranium, more than the riches of rivers and mountains are the riches of the human race.

How can this wealth be discovered? How can this victory be won? The answer, is, of course, in overcoming ignorance, fear and superstition.

EDUCATION THE KEY Education is required. It is the key to the era of plenty, the "open sesame" of Asia and all of the underdeveloped lands anywhere. But unless this education is based on the spiritual qualities of the individual man — upon his dignity, his innate capacities, his wealth of ideas — it can only lead to further enslavement.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

Now what about doing something to get drivers up to the standards of the cars? —Moose Jaw Times-Herald.

A fortune awaits the first man to breed a turkey like the ones in the magazines, with dotted lines indicating where to carve. —Brandon Sun

A teacher is astonished by all the agitation to have mathematics taught in schools. "What do they think the students have been flunking all these years?" he asks. —Edmonton Journal

A problem of education, a drag on the talented pupil, and the despair of the teacher today are the agard individuals who have no pride in their work or interest in their own progress. These young people increase the burden of the taxpayer and aggravate the school overcrowding problem. They are to be found in schools all over the country. —Port Arthur News-Chronicle

The town council of Mount Pearl Park-Gundale have unanimously agreed to ask the government to change the name of their township to Parkdale.

It is hard to imagine any Canadian newspaper referring to the queen as "Liz," even though a little headline space could be saved. The abbreviation would not be considered in keeping with the dignity of the Crown.

TOKYO (Reuters) — Blizzards raging in northern Japan Friday sank a freighter, wrecked a radio relay station and stopped trains and ferry boats. A 236-ft. coastal freighter with a crew of 12 was damaged by choppy seas off Aomori, northern Honshu, and sank before it made port. Nine seamen were rescued but three others were reported missing.

NEW YORK (AP) — An American tugboat Friday took in tow the Norwegian motor vessel Branderanger, disabled by engine trouble in the Atlantic Jan. 2. The tug Joseph H. Moran II planned to take the 7,392-ton Branderanger to Antwerp, Belgium. The vessel had been en route from Vancouver, B.C., to Antwerp when the trouble developed.

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