The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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PAGE 4 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1964

A Good Investment

The architect's sketch of the civic bandshell to be constructed in Victoria Park, which appeared in our issue of yesterday, unavoidably did not do justice to the lovely setting in which it is to be placed, and which will enhance its value tenfold as a centre of entertainment and cultural activities during the summer months.

The City Council, we are convinced, made no mistake in approving this project as a centennial undertaking. The cost to the city will be $13,500, the balance of some $9,500 being met by a grant from the provincial centennial committee. These figures seem high; but what isn't high these days in the way of construction expenditures? There is no likelihood of them coming down in the immediate future. The trend will probably be the other way; and, of course, if this opportunity were lost, the project would have to be financed entirely by the civic administration. One doesn't need to be a prophet to foresee that in that case it would never materialize at all.

"What of it?" some may say. "It's not a necessity. There are more urgent problems, such as housing accommodation, water pollution, and other matters that need attention, and should be given priority." We quite agree that these requirements should and must receive consideration. It will be disgraceful if the housing problem, especially, is not grappled with this year. But not all community needs are of a utilitarian nature. Are flowers of less value because we can't convert them into vegetables, or song birds because we can't market their eggs, or the shade trees of Victoria Park because they don't supply us with plums and apples? The whole Park area could be written off as a dead loss, if we were to assess its value in terms of dollars and cents.

But of course we don't do that. Nor did our civic forebears, who were harder pressed than we were to provide for the necessities of life; who saw the unique possibilities of this beauty spot for Charlottetown, preserved it in its natural setting, and left it to our citizens of today. We value it in the same way, but it is regrettable that in late years more use has not been made of its facilities, especially in the way of outdoor concerts and other midsummer attractions.

The new bandshell, with its attractive design and provision for many forms of entertainment of this kind, should prove a boon to all our citizens.

A Queer World

Life, comments the Ottawa Journal, is becoming peculiar. Our armories have been successfully invaded by armed hooligans or worse; they have stolen arms and ammunition, and got away. But the Defense Minister has a plan to confound their knavish tricks. He's going to remove the guns and ammunition from the armories. "If they're not there how can they be stolen, dear Watson?"

Watson might reply by asking what the arms were doing in the armories in the first place. As a matter of fact they were there to be used in the training of our reserve forces, on the theory that a soldier is a better soldier if he knows how to carry a gun and even to fire it.

But that's very old hat, and irrelevant, continues our Ottawa contemporary. The question of this hour is not how shall we use our armories or how shall we train our reserve soldiers. It is how can we keep the soldiers from being kidnapped and their firearms stolen! The answer had the clarity of genius to Mr. Hellyer: don't leave them in unprotected places, such as armories.

Watson might suggest (if this were a Sherlock Holmes case) that perhaps a more orthodox way might be to guard the armories. The old maxim about keeping your powder dry presumably also meant to keep your powder where you need it. But in today's world that's silly. Group Captain Lee spoke for Mr. Hellyer to prove it: "How many armed men would you have to have on guard to handle a band of six or seven who struck an armory?"

"We'd have thought, a year ago," retorts The Journal, "that the proper answer would be 'enough', and that if several of this overwhelming force of 'six or seven' got a bullet in the leg for their pains that would prove only that our defenses were adequate. But that's a year ago. The order of the day from Defense HQ now is to withdraw quietly and above all leave no provocation—not even plum and apple jam—that would unfairly tempt some band of six or seven. Should there be any untoward disorder the forces are to rally at the nearest drive-in suburban theatre, but to leave their arms at home."

This, of course, is editorial spoofing, not without provocation. But Justice Minister Favreau appeared to have been speaking quite seriously when he told Parliament the other day, anent Dr. Marcel Chaput's statement that the Queen would meet with trouble on her visit to Quebec, and how his department proposed to deal with such threats: "The House can be assured, and I believe the question need not even be asked, that in relation to any statements made by any person or group, action is always taken, and is being taken by the responsible officials and officers to ascertain whether any measure ought to be taken, and to take those measures if necessary."

That, dear Watson, should settle everything!

Foregoing The Debate

At its last two openings the New Brunswick Legislature has foregone the customary lengthy debate on the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne. Instead, the passage of the Address has been treated as a mere procedural motion, a routine feature of the mechanism of convening the House.

This, notes the Fredericton Gleaner, carries a step farther the current British custom which limits the Address debate to speeches by the party leaders. It is too early yet to know if dispensing with the Address debate is to become a New Brunswick legislative tradition. The test will come as another election nears.

"If it does become a tradition,' says the Fredericton paper, "it may be a good one. Criticism of parliamentary bodies for dilatoriness and long-windedness is widespread. If New Brunswick foregoes two or three weeks of Address debate on topics to be gone over again in the Budget debate, it will go far to meet the criticism. If the corresponding debate in the Canadian Parliament drags on, the Ottawa legislators may be advised to look at New Brunswick."

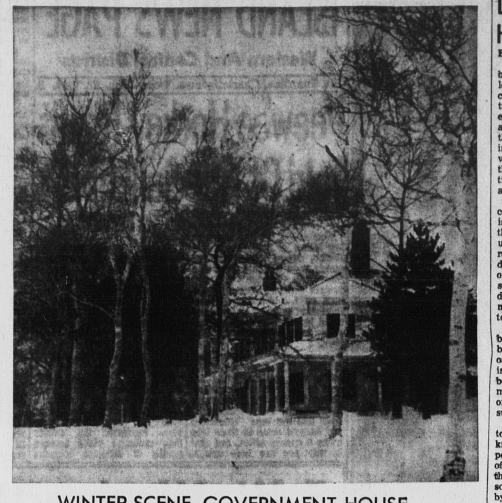
It is a consummation to be desired. And if it did away with a lot of inconsequential non-confidence motions as well, the gain from the public point of view would be all the greater.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Pearson Government intends to launch an inquiry into ways and means of limiting campaign expenditures in federal elections. An excellent move, deserving of the fullest public support.

* * *

An allowance of $10 every two years towards the cost of new eyeglasses is an unusual feature of a new contract signed by the union representing 1,800 Toronto garment makers and a group of sportswear manufacturers in that city. The justification for this fringe benefit is that it takes into account possible eye-strain because of close work.



WINTER SCENE, GOVERNMENT HOUSE

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Back At Their Parliamentary Chores

The Members are back at work on Parliament Hill, after an eight-week change of pace—during which some worked in their constituencies while others travelled abroad for their country, some did both and most managed to squeeze in a short holiday.

Wally Nesbitt, the well - liked and hard - working bachelor M.P. from Woodstock, Ontario, told me of the six - day Canada-UK-USA meeting of parliamentarians he had attended in Bermuda — where it was "cold, raining and windy" — and the week - long Canada - USA parliamentarians conference he had attended in Washington and Cape Canaveral — in Florida, where it was also "cold, raining and windy."

Back in Ottawa, his first job for his constituents was to hasten the issue of passports for Ken Orton and his wife, of Tillsonburg. Ken, an immigrant from UK, has worked as programme director of the local radio station for about ten years. But took up photography as a hobby. His first attempt at making a film in colour and with sound, won him a prize at the Venice Film Festival. So in response to a cabled invitation, he and his wife were flying to Italy to receive the award.

THE DISTAFF SIDE

Some of Parliament's ladies were occupied with woman's work as well as political work. Judy LaMarsh, back from her official visit to the Olympic Winter Sports in Austria, Tirol, and all set to launch her universal portable pension plan, was shopping for green felt. A chess buff "when I can find an opponent", she had brought home a decorative set with tournament-size carved figures in pale brown and pale blue - green onyx. The big heavy board needed a felt bottom to save the furniture in her Ottawa apartment from onyx scratches.

Mrs. Marg Konantz, the new yet already well - known member from Winnipeg, was busy decorating her Parliament Hill office in a Manitoba motif. A miniature Red River Cart and a sheaf of wheat were the first ornaments; a duck is being mounted; and pictures are being framed.

Social Credit leader Bob Thompson had as guests two of his constituents, Alvin Hand, who farms at Innisfail, Alberta, and Garry Jespersen, who works in Red Deer. They had topped a contest for selling memberships in the Social Credit Association and for selling subscriptions to the Social Credit periodical "Focus". Their prize was a visit to the opening ceremonies of the new session of Parliament.

TOAST BEFORE PABLUM

Many MPs and Senators accepted the Governor General's invitation to his traditional reception on the evening before he performed the opening ritual of reading the speech from the throne. Over 100 guests sat down to the banquet at Government House, including Cabinet Ministers, Party Leaders, ambassadors from the Commonwealth countries, religious leaders and military brass; another 500 were individually welcomed after dinner by General Vanier, and crowded into the ballroom to toast their reassembled friends and foes. The drab black and white uniform of men's evening tails was enlivened by the gay dresses of wives and guests.

One of the most - travelled visitors to this gala occasion was pretty Mrs. J. B. "Pat" Boulding from Nanaimo, the guest of her M.P. Colin Cameron. Oakville's Dr. Harry Harley took his attractive wife, happily recovered from her recent illness: Dave Pugh, from the Okanagan, tantalized Ottawa's snow - hungry skiers with tales of B.C.'s good sport; and Moose Jaw's George McClellan was resplendent in his scarlet uniform as Commissioner of the RCMP.

Reward "Good" Drivers

Guelph Mercury

Dominion Automobile Association, one of Canada's organizations devoted to the welfare of the Canadian motorist, recently invited comment from members relative to suggestions for improvement in the Canadian Motoring safety picture.

Among the replies was a constructive suggestion from a member in Western Canada. It would make public acknowledgement of the safety record of Canada's good drivers, as opposed to the publicity given the "demerit" systems now in force publicizing Canada's "Bad" drivers.

W.S. Chalmers, manager, Members' Services, of the association, has suggested a plan whereby the accident-free driver could be awarded a "merit" sticker, year after year, by his own insurance company. The color and type of the sticker would change progressively, year after year. After a 10 year accident free record a Gold Merit sticker would be awarded. It would be reissued year after year as long as the driver's record remained unblemished by accident.

A system of this type would be comparatively simple to operate due to the Insurance Company's awareness of any change in the status of the driver from year to year. Issuance of a duplicate sticker for a car purchased during a policy year would be made only on the surrender of the sticker issued previously to that driver.

Accident - free drivers are proud of their records, and public acknowledgement of such record makes an added incentive to keep them clean and unblemished.

The "Good" Driver is more or less taken for granted, possibly on the theory that virtue of this type is its own reward. But it's only human to strive for recognition in any field of endeavor and safe driving is indeed an important field of endeavor in 1964, in a country which has an automobile for every three inhabitants.

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.

BRIEF OBJECTED TO

Sir,— With reference to the brief recently presented to the Government from the Prince Edward Island Tourist Association requesting the permission of licensing bars and cocktail lounges in motels and hotels, may we say that this brief was not circulated among all hotels and motels—we never heard of such a brief until news of it was published in your paper.

Having been in the tourist business for many years, may we say that the tourists DO NOT come here to drink liquor, and those who want it can procure all they wish. What they come here for is to relax on our uncrowded beaches and to enjoy the beauty and simple charm of our Island— a charm which will be spoiled by the opening of bars and cocktail lounges.

Because other provinces have cocktail lounges, is that any reason why we should have them? They also have much more crime and juvenile delinquency than we have, but do we want them too? We will have them when we have more liquor outlets.

In closing, we would like to say that while we are in the tourist business there will be no bar or cocktail lounge in any hotel or unit which we operate.

We are, Sir, etc.,

M.K. MacFADYEN

D.L. DOUGLAS

Charlottetown.

Justice Warren's Remark

Detroit Free Press

Chief Justice Earl Warren, who heads the commission sifting the assassination of President Kennedy, has made a statement which calls for clarification—and probably amendment. Answering a reporter's question about release of testimony, Mr. Warren said:

"Yes, there will come a time. But it might not be in your lifetime. I am not referring to anything especially, but there might be something that would involve security. This would be preserved but not made public."

There should not be a releasing of commission testimony piecemeal.

But the life expectancy of a reporter interviewing the Chief Justice is ample to make it likely that he will still be around when the commission has heard every available fact and statement.

When that time comes, America is entitled to know everything that had been learned concerning the murder of its president. Moreover, security considerations (legitimate ones) have a relatively short life.

Conceivably Mr. Warren is foreseeing the possibility that a conspiracy may become apparent, and that Lee Oswald was not the bereft loner which circumstances make him appear to have been. Or even less likely, the possibility that Lee Oswald wasn't President Kennedy's slayer after all, and that he was craftily saddled with overwhelming circumstantial evidence.

But even if such an improbability proved to be the case, it still would not take a lifetime to solve the plot as well as it could ever be solved.

It was, in all, an inept remark by the Chief Justice. He implied that conceivably there could be aspects of the assassination so complicated and ramified that it would be necessary to deeply to reveal them—what kind of policy being left to suspicious imagination.

Also, he gave those who want to believe that Mr. Kennedy could only have been killed as the result of an international conspiracy words, which many of them will choose to regard as confirmation.

Our Yesterdays

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY - FIVE YEARS AGO
(February 27, 1939)

A mild type of influenza continues to keep up to one third of Charlottetown's school age population on the sick list it was learned today from Dr. B. C. Keeping, Deputy Minister of Health. However, the epidemic was thought to have reached its peak.

Dr. J.C. Houston, speaking at the Rotary luncheon today stated that is is expected to have a deficit of $2,000 at the Prince Edward Hospital this year, this will be the first time in more than ten years that there has been a deficit at the hospital.

PLANS NIGERIA VISIT

LONDON (Reuters) — British Prime Minister Sir Alec Douglas - Home is to pay a "short working visit" to Nigeria from March 16 to 21, it was announced here Wednesday. Authoritative sources said the talks will centre on Commonwealth topics and the role of the Commonwealth in the new situation developing in international affairs.

Don't Neglect Hoarseness

By Dr. Theodore R. VanDellen

Cancer of the larynx can be treated successfully. Small localized tumours on one vocal cord are eliminated via radiation or simple surgery. A more extensive operation is needed after cancer cells have invaded the entire larynx and spread into neighboring tissues. The voice box must be removed and the nearby glands and lymphatic passage ways dissected away.

Complete removal of the larynx creates emotional problems. It is natural to be concerned about this type of operation and the ultimate outcome. But other worries can be minimized if the individual is briefed in advance on what to expect. Following surgery, breathing must be done through a small hole in the neck; this eliminates the ability to sneeze, swim, and smoke.

The appearance is affected but the opening in the neck can be covered with a small piece of gauze. Since normal talking is impossible after the voice box is taken out, the patient must learn esophageal speech or use an electronic gadget as a substitute.

The majority of laryngectomees prefer to master the knack of swallowing air and expelling it through the opening of the esophagus into the throat. At this point, they make sounds that are then modulated by the palate, tongue, and lips, in much the same way as with normal vocal cords. Speech delivery will not be as pleasant as a broadcaster's but it will permit communication with family, friends, and others.

Group instruction and practice at a rehabilitation center are valuable adjuncts to training. In addition, there are a number of laryngectomy clubs in the country where members get together to learn esophageal speech and swap experiences.

Various conditions cause a change in voice but thorough examination of the larynx is in order when huskiness or hoarseness persists longer than three weeks. Not every physician has the equipment to make this examination or knows how to use it, but these men usually suggest a consultation with a specialist, if necessary. Take this advice. It may save your voice and your life.

DEVELOPMENT PREVENTION

Mrs. M. writes: Does a premature baby catch up with other children in development?

REPLY

Yes. One center conducted a followup study of the development of 100 prematures over a period of 11 years. Some in this group were too young to evaluate but, by age 8, 80 per cent had caught up in height.

PRESSURE FROM GOUT

J. G. writes: Could a gout cause pressure on the sciatic nerve, resulting in pain and spasm down one leg?

REPLY

Now and then gout involves the spine. But the disease process would have to be well localized to cause pressure on the sciatic nerve as it leaves the spine.

THYROID NODLE

E. A. W. writes: Once you get a nodule in your thyroid, does it grow larger or remain stationary?

REPLY

Some grow. This is the reason physicians check the lesion at frequent intervals and recommend surgery if it has enlarged.

CANCER AND EGGSHELL

E. E. A. writes: Could the accidental swallowing of a piece of eggshell cause cancer of the esophagus?

REPLY

No. The worst the eggshell could do would be to scratch or obstruct the esophagus.

Today's Health Hint—

Never block fire doors.

SWEDES COOL TO CYPRUS

STOCKHOLM (Reuters) —The Swedish government said Wednesday it expressed reservations to United Nations Secretary-General U Thant about contributing troops to a UN peace force in Cyprus. It was unofficially reported to consider the the country already has too many UN commitments.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Bill was out with the boys one evening and before he realized it it was the next day. He was a bit frightened to call home but after considerable thought, he phoned. When his wife answered he shouted, "Don't pay the ransom, Honey. I escaped!" — Galt Reporter.

Johnny, enamored of his blonde kindergarten classmate, told his mother about this romance. "Mary spoke to me!" he said. "What did she say?" asked Mom. "I hit her and she said, 'stop that'."— Montreal Star.

Bows To Union Pressure

By Harold Morrison
Canadian Press Staff Writer

Powerful United States waterfront unions have finally agreed to lift a boycott on the loading of wheat to the Soviet Union in return for a firm government pledge that at least 50 per cent of all future shipments will be carried in U.S. ships.

This is a promise the government had made in the past and which the unions claimed never had been carried out. But now President Johnson has pledged to the unions there will be no more waivers from the 50-per-cent quota.

While this would appear to settle the immediate problem of resuming American shipments to the Soviet Union, it does not settle the question of whether the Russians will agree to pay higher shipping charges that would be involved in strict observance of the 50-per-cent rule.

HIGHER PRICE

While the U.S. government raised a lot of arguments why the 50-50 deal could not be met in the past, one of the main reasons was price. The Russians objected to paying high prices for American shipping when lower-priced ships were available elsewhere.

Burdened by heavy wheat surpluses, the U.S. government was faced with the prospect of either easing the shipping price problem for Russia or losing the opportunity of making big dollar sales abroad.

The objection from Thomas Gleason's International Longshoremen Association (AFL-CIO) came not because the longshoremen would be hurt but because Gleason is a strong supporter of Paul Hall, head of the Seafarers' International Union which mans American-flag ships.

Hall and Joe Curran, president of the National Maritime Union, had opposed each other in the past, but this prospect of foreign flags taking business away from them helped unify them.

With the pressure of these union men on his back, AFL-CIO President George Meany had no alternative but to give them full support, even though he is a strong supporter of Democratic forces in the White House.

JOHNSON GAVE IN

Johnson tried all sorts of ways of getting the unions to lift the boycott while bargaining continued, but Gleason refused and in the end, Johnson finally had to give in.

In doing so, he may have jeopardized future wheat sales to Russia. When the spring thaw hits the Great Lakes, it is a good bet Russia will concentrate heavily on getting as much wheat from Canada as she can.

At one time, the Soviet Union indicated it would take as much as 150,000,000 bushels of wheat from the U.S., providing the price was right. Now, it appears part of the need will be channelled into the pockets of Canadian exporters.

The British Role

Milwaukee Journal

If the British periodically heave a collective sigh of exhausted patience and exasperation it is understandable. Take the current case of Tanganyika.

When the British gave Tanganyika its freedom—obviously before it was ready for it in spite of the demands for independence by native ares — they were made to understand that there wasn't much gratitude for past favors. The Tanganyikans were rebels in Zanzibar. The government couldn't maintain order. A frantic call was sent to the British. They rushed in a relatively small number of British soldiers and order was restored. The government's security was bolstered. President Nyerere— who for some days gave the appearance of a man frightened almost to death—began to regain his confidence.

Now Nyerere is taking a second look at his saviors— and seems astonished to find them British. He has called for other African states to join in forming an army which can come in and take the place of the British. After all, he says, the British are parties to the "cold war" and Tanganyika is neutral. It can't have British soldiers around involving it in world politics. Continued presence of the British in Tanganyika will compromise the country, says Nyerere. To have the British there is "national humiliation."

Well, a few days ago it was national salvation. Nyerere might well have gone the way of the government of Zanzibar if he hadn't been able to get the British to intervene—and he knew it. He wasn't humiliated a bit when they prevented a coup. He may be humiliated one day, however, if, when he again needs British help, the British tell him and others that they are sick of alternating as saviors and rogues as the African whim chooses.

But, then, maybe the British are used to it, especially the British soldier. You'll remember Kipling:

"It's Tommy this, an' Tommy that, an' 'Chuck 'em out, the brute.'

"But it's 'Savior of 'is country,' when the guns begin to shoot."

BURSTING PIPES

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