The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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Warming Up In Britain

The latest public opinion polls in Britain show the Macmillan government at its lowest ebb since it won the 1959 general election. Labor has a 14 point lead in popularity. This underlines the question of the nationalization of industry which has already loomed as in issue in the coming electoral contest. Last weekend the Conservative party organizers issued a booklet warning that more than 100 of Britain's key industries would be in danger of being taken over by the state if Harold Wilson and his Labor party won out.

Mr. Wilson and his followers have hit back by describing the Conservative pamphlet as "childish" and "meaningless". They contend that the Tories are falling back on their old tricks of trying to scare the nation into believing that Labor would indulge in sweeping interference with the business and private lives of the British people.

Mr. Wilson, however, has already pledged himself to renationalize the steel industry and road haulage He has advocated nationalization of industries which are largely dependent on state purchasing programs, and he has repeatedly said that defense industries should be nationalized. In 1961 it became official Labor policy to gain control of investment for pension funds and other private insurance companies.

The new Labor leader has emphasized that he will continue the Gaitskell policies, but it is widely felt that his pronouncements so far suggest he is veering considerably left of the Gaitskell line. This is the gist of the Conservative contention. The greater part of British industry, it is claimed, will be threatened with take-over by the state if he is returned to power.

While Labor maintains that this is an old Conservative bogey, it is finding the charge embarrassing and it will have to come up with something more concrete than the counter-charge that its opponents have no positive policies of their own to meet the challenges confronting Britain today. On both sides, at present, "positive policies" are only beginning to emerge.

We shouldn't wonder at that in Canada. Our own election campaign is already on, and how many Canadian electors can say what the major issues are and where, precisely, the parties stand on them?

Quebec Battleground

How far will Mr. Pearson's favorable reception in Quebec carry him at the polls on April 8? This question may prove a vital one in the campaign, for it is in Quebec that the Liberal leader hopes to make the gains that will carry him decisively to power at Ottawa. The election of 1958 saw Liberal representation in Quebec shrink from 63 to 25. This was understandable, since the tide was moving unmistakably in Mr. Diefenbaker's favor at that time. More serious was the fact that in last June's election the tide failed to reverse itself. The total gain made by Mr. Pearson in Quebec in 1962 over 1958 was only ten seats.

This was due to the emergence of Social Credit in Quebec, and explains why Mr. Pearson, in his opening speeches in the present campaign, has devoted so much attention to castigating the record and policies of that party. What the federal Liberal leader needs, most of all, is strong support from the Quebec Liberal regime under Premier Lesage. His prospects look more favorable now than they did last year in this regard, but will the support go far enough?

One difficulty, as the Montreal Gazette sees it, is that the primary basis of disagreement between Quebec Liberals, federal and provincial, is over fields of taxation. At the federal-provincial fiscal conference in 1960 Mr. Lesage defined Quebec's needs as being 25 per cent of the fields of personal and corporation income taxes, and the whole of the field of succession duties. He then estimated that this would cost the federal treasury half a billion dollars a year, if applied nationally.

Though the demand was made to Mr. Diefenbaker, it would be the same demand to Mr. Pearson. And it is very doubtful whether Mr. Pearson, faced with federal debts and deficits and with the obligations of election promises made across the country, could or would give up half a billion annually in federal revenue.

This creates difficulties for Mr. Lesage in the present federal election. If he gives wholehearted support to Mr. Pearson, he may later find himself quarrelling openly with the man he openly supported. And he may be saddled by his provincial opponents with the responsibility of having elected him. On the other hand, he is faced with the possibility that if Social Credit does well in the province in this April election it may turn to the provincial field and become a disturbing rival.

Peaceful Penetration

One of President Kennedy's pre-election pledges was to establish a Peace Corps for goodwill service abroad. Volunteers of this corps have been doing very good work of late, particularly in isolated areas throughout Latin America. But a far more remarkable movement is taking place on university campuses in Venezuela, where the corps has provided teachers. Equally conversant in English and Spanish, these workers are teaching nonpolitical subjects and clearing away political myths about their country as they develop friendships with students and other teachers.

Many Latin American universities have been breeding grounds of hate for the United States. Their political autonomy makes them useful to leftwing troublemakers. Even students without political motivations get involved in anti-United States demonstrations, fixing erroneous and usually lasting impressions. Now a more friendly climate is being created.

Teaching is only one phase of the work being carried out by 90 Peace Corps volunteers in Venezuela, but the teachers are among the most popular. Their popularity could spread to other university campuses in Latin America. Incidentally it is noted that since the universities provide room and board, the volunteers take a proportionate cut in the modest living allowance provided by the corps. None gets more than $130 a month, while Venezuelan professors in the same universities earn up to $15,000 annually.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Budgeting for even a modest surplus without an increase in the tax rate is an ambitious venture these days, but the City Council has undertaken this feat; and the good showing it made last year is a promising augury for success.

* * *

How times change! It is not so very long ago that The Guardian, for exposing the hypocrisy under the Prohibition Act, was denounced as a "rum organ" by stalwart moralists in the Legislature who subsequently scrapped the Act in the interests, as they said, of "true temperance." The Temperance Act they substituted has become more and more "temperate" with the years; but there are those who still find it restrictive and hypocritical in its operations, and would replace it with something still farther removed from the obnoxious shadow of Prohibition. They are fortunate in that Prohibition's reputation, like that of old Joe Stalin in Russia, has gone from bad to worse since its demise, and they can scorn it now without the slightest fear of incurring political odium.

WOULD LOOK BETTER WITH A SHAVE

600,000 BOOKS IN BRAILLE

U.S. Library Service For The Blind

National Geographic News Bulletin

Tucked away in an obscure corner of Washington's Library of Congress is a small Government unit whose job is to brighten a darkened world.

This unit, the Division for the Blind, was set up under a 1931 act of Congress. Its staff selects books and magazines for transcription into braille, talking-book records, or magnetic tape. The material is mailed to eligible persons throughout the United States and outlying territories. Even American citizens temporarily living abroad are entitled to the service if they meet requirements.

To be eligible, an applicant need only submit proof of having no more than 20-200 vision, with correction. The reading matter is free. If needed, a machine will be lent to play the discs or tapes.

IN BRAILLE

The Division distributes its reading materials through 31 regional libraries. Of these, 27 are now sending out braille publications regularly to some 12,000 blind or partially blind persons. In addition, nearly 65,000 people receive the "talking books."

Recipients range in age from 5 to 100. Since the interests of the blind are much the same as those of the sighted, the libraries offer mysteries, poetry and Westerns, Shakespearean plays and the Bible, natural history, biography, archeology, animal stories, fairy tales, and Space Age fact and fiction. Latest addition to the list of periodicals transcribed into braille is the National Geographic Magazine.

STOCKPILE GROWS

In all, some 600,000 volumes in braille added each year. Selection is made after careful consideration of book reviews, best - seller lists, recommendations from advisory groups, and suggestions from the blind themselves.

In one recent letter, a regular reader explained that he was an outdoor person and would appreciate more Zane Grey. Another pointed out that many books are published on George Washington, Jefferson, and Lincoln, but that he would appreciate biographies of lesser - known Presidents such as Pierce, Garfield, or Fillmore.

Because of the relatively high cost of transcribing books and magazines, most titles are selected with an eye to majority interests, though provision also is made for individual needs.

Scattered over the country are groups of volunteers, working in co-operation with the Division, who stand ready to hand-print in braille material needed for any reasonable purpose. Recently, for instance, a blind man in a small New Jersey town was offered a job of selling by telephone. Local volunteers transcribed the town's telephone directory for his use.

Requests for books by the blind often exceed supply. In one regional library, 170 people are waiting their turns for the four copies of a best-seller.

But research is fast developing new techniques to increase the number of available copies by cutting over - all costs. From now on, talking books will be voiced on ten-inch records spinning 16 revolutions per minute, instead of on the old 12-inch, 33 rpm records. The smaller, slower - turning discs contain more words per disc, with consequent savings both in money and in space required on library shelves.

Improved tape recordings, too, offer opportunities for streamlined production. Already, taped books are more compact and lasting than the old, and, when demand slows, their surfaces can be erased and used again.

For those who read braille—the touch system of raised dots devised by Louis Braille of France — modern electronics promises other economies. Though the process is not yet perfected, "mechanical - brain" computers may eventually be able to punch plates of dot combinations at lightning speeds.

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.

HUMANE KILLING?

Sir,—Your editorial in The Guardian about the most humane way of killing lobsters has prompted me to approach your paper regarding seal hunting.

Would it be possible to print the following excerpt taken from an article written by Ed Godlewski for June 2, 1962 issue of MacLean's Magazine? Mr. Godlewski was pilot of a helicopter which flew in the seal hunt over P.E.Island. The following are his introductory remarks:

"This was my first seal hunt, and my last. Not because some of our furs were hijacked, and not because the job was too rough — though flying a helicopter from the pitching deck of a sealing ship in a March blizzard is a hair-raising operation. But I don't think I could take even a passive part in that kind of butchery again. I was told that I'd get over the spectacle of men clubbing baby seals, with their mothers trying vainly to protect their young, but I didn't. What I hadn't realized is that because seals are hard to kill, the hunters just beat them senseless and then SKIN THEM ALIVE. A man can stun and skin a seal in three minutes—"

I think you will agree that, if the above remarks are true, the public should be made aware of the situation.

I am, Sir., etc.,

READER

Souris P.E.I.

Cold War Rules Changing

By Carman Cumming
Canadian Press Staff Writer

In Moscow Wednesday, Soviet Premier Khrushchev said certain "wild men" in the United States are trying to push the United States government into an invasion of Cuba.

In Oslo, Khrushchev's foreign minister, Andrei Gromyko, spoke on the same day of the "moderation" shown by both the United States and Russia in solving last October's Cuban crisis without war.

The two statements point up a trend on both sides of the cold war to choose targets for criticism with care; to avoid the sweeping bombast of a few years ago that condemned the other side wholesale.

In Soviet statements the habit has been to attack "certain war - mongering elements" rather than the administration itself.

In the United States the whole tenor of anti-Communist statements has altered — at least from the government sector. It is clear that from the government point of view there are Communists and Communists; Yugoslavia and Poland qualify for U.S. foreign aid; it is possible to do business with Russia; China and Cuba are regarded as intolerable.

This differentiation reflects perhaps a more careful approach to propaganda by the Kennedy administration than by previous governments. For one thing, statements of the military are closely screened. There was a time when a rousing blast at the whole eastern bloc was an essential part of any general's text for the evening.

Or take the case of Viet Nam. Only in rare instances does an American official attack the North Vietnamese for backing the Communist revolt in South Viet Nam. This appears to be part of the larger government policy of soft-pedalling U.S. involvement in the civil war—a policy that has been remarkably effective.

Just as strange is the fact that Moscow appears to close its eyes to the U.S. presence in South Viet Nam while American correspondents there—complaining constantly of censorship restrictions — report that U.S. special force "advisers" are playing a bigger and bigger part in the actual fighting.

It is almost as though Moscow and Washington had tacitly agreed to pretend the South Vietnamese war isn't happening while they talk more or less politely about disarmament and Berlin.

This probably doesn't portend any radical reorientation of the East-West power struggle, although it is obvious that the character of the cold war has changed considerably in the decade since Stalin's death.

But it may reflect a subtle change in the rules; a different attitude arising from the divisions within each bloc and the knowledge—based on clear evidence of the Cuban crisis—that both sides want to get their own way without war.

No Easier In London

Cape Breton Post

A prime minister's lot is no easier in London than in Ottawa. In politics, nothing succeeds more brilliantly than success, nor fails more dismally than the failure of an honest endeavor.

Prime Minister Macmillan's attempt to take the United Kingdom into the European Common Market came to naught through no fault of his own. It's generally understood that French President de Gaulle was the sole stumbling block. Under the Treaty of Rome only one veto is required to keep a country out and the other five countries of the six-nation compact wanted Britain in.

Notwithstanding that he is blameless in this instance, London reports a growing dissatisfaction with the leadership of Harold Macmillan among the Conservative majority of Britain's Parliament.

Five of London's daily newspapers report that discontent has become more audible in the corridors of Westminster since Mr. Macmillan's speech last Monday on the Common Market failure. It was not the rousing speech, with plans for the future that his supporters had expected, and when he sat down the applause from the back benches was only polite, not enthusiastic.

Moments come in politics when everybody is weary, a state of mind and body which is conceded to be the right of everybody except a party leader. It's the same as in sports; when the team doesn't win, the players and the fans blame the coach.

Isoniazid Used To Prevent TB

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

SEVERAL weeks ago we answered a letter from a reader who wanted to know whether PAS or isoniazid were used in preventing tuberculosis. We assumed the question concerned a community project, in which everyone is given a few tablets daily to wipe out the infection.

This use of ephylaxis has been used to bring streptococcal infections under control with penicillin or a sulfonamide. Such plans are applicable when there is no vaccine to control a contagious disease.

Our answer reflects this assumption: "These drugs are used in the treatment of tuberculosis but not in prevention." The next day I learned this was not the full answer. Community -wide isoniazid prophylaxis is being employed in a large area of Alaska. The tuberculosis death rate was reduced 70 per cent during the year the plan was in operation.

The Bethel area of Alaska was selected by the United States public health service because it has a tuberculosis infection rate 10 times as high as the estimate for the rest of the country. The study was well controled in that half the residents took isoniazid and the other half received an inert placebo.

The drug did not prevent tuberculosis from developing in some users, but the incidence of the disease was lower in the control group. The true evaluation of the method will require several more years of trial.

Prior to discovery of the modern antituberculosis drugs, the afflicted person spent months or years in sanatoriums before the disease was arrested. After this he had a 50-50 chance of remaining well. One out of two victims suffered a recurrence.

The suburban Cook county division of the tuberculosis Institute made an attempt to contact all its former patients who had not received isoniazid during the active stage of the disease. According to Dr. Edward Piszczek, these people were given this drug to kill any of the bacilli hibernating in the healed lesions.

The plan paid off because the recurrence rate dropped from 50 to 5 per cent. Here is another example of prevention via the use of isoniazid.

ASPIRIN AND CIRRHOSIS

R.O. writes: Could taking six aspirin tablets a day (for arthritis) have a bad effect on a person with cirrhosis of the liver?

REPLY

Yes, because it might initiate bleeding in the lower part of the esophagus. A cirrhotic liver not only interferes with blood circulation but encourages veins in the esophagus to enlarge. Aspirin also irritates the membranes and may effect blood coagulation also.

EXCESS FATIGUE

S.P. writes: Why is a person with neurasthenia tired all the time?

REPLY

We don't know, but many neurasthenics have an inherent weakness which is so marked they cannot compete with others. They also may have low metabolism, blood pressure, and muscle strength.

CURIOUS FRIEND

J.F. writes: A patient was told by his doctor he must eat two eggs and drink a quart of milk. Please tell me what this is for?

REPLY

In my opinion, a physician should not tell the diagnosis to a friend of a patient. Ask your chum, or forget it.

OFFICE TEST

E.M.P. writes: Can the Pap test for cancer be done in the office or must the woman go to the hospital?

REPLY

In the office.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT—

Eat less dietary fat.

Our Yesterday's

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
March 2, 1938

Lewis M. Murray and John C. King, senior students at Pine Hill Divinity Hall, Halifax preached their trial sermons in Halifax last Sunday. Mr. Murray of Vernon, P.E.I. is a graduate of Mount Allison. Mr. King is from England and a graduate of Dalhousie.

Ottawa, Mar. 3 — Transport Minister Howe said tonight the Government intended to extend Trans-Canada Airlines to "All the large centres of the Maritimes".

TEN YEARS AGO
March 2, 1953

The promotion of Lieut W.F. H. (Herbie) Hughes to Captain was announced yesterday by the P.E.I.A.R. Regiment. Lt. Hughes took his qualifying course at the Artillery school in Ontario.

A brilliant young New Zealand pianist, Mr. Farrell, drew a warm ovation from Community Concert goers last evening at the Prince of Wales College, for a magnificent concert, which was thoroughly enjoyed from beginning to end.

THREE DIE IN FIRE

SARNIA, Ont. (CP) — Mrs. Donald Strevel and her two children were burned to death Friday in their farm home 24 miles southeast of here. Mr. Strevel was at work in Sarnia when fire destroyed his family and his home.

The
FLYING DUTCHMAN RESTAURANT
"Where Cooking Is A Work of Art"

Speaking for Myself

When in Doubt, Just Slurp an Egg

It would be pointless for me to try to dispute the view that I became something of a spoiled brat in the long ago days of my childhood, or that I have never quite recovered.

Only in the past week, however, has it become clear to me that the reason for whatever pampering took place did not lie in my being the youngest child, much less a favorite child. It happened, rather because I was a clumsy child, a blundering child, and, in a great many senses, a stupid child.

It was not generosity upon the part of my brothers that caused them to do the tasks which ordinarily should have fallen to me. On the contrary, it was their preference to do them in the first place, instead of having to do them over again, as was almost certain to happen otherwise, after they had been fouled up by my fumbling.

BARELY HOUSEBROKEN

They acted in the realization that I was the kid who could be counted on to pull up the flowers rather than the weeds — to smash the lawnmower rather than to cut the grass — to drop a jar of fruit ahead of managing to unscrew its cap — a kid who couldn't persuade a seed to grow, train a dog, simulate a horse, or be trusted to master such mechanical marvels as a canopener, screwdriver, wrench, or even a hammer.

It happened, thus, that my childhood was kept virtually chore-free — that I learned but even the simplest of the jobs that are supposed to be done around a house — because my brothers and parents preferred to have me out of the way, and viewed me as more of a nuisance than a help, when any such labors had to be tackled.

Perhaps the resulting situation was best summed up when mother said of me: "He's housebroken all right, but that's as far as I've ever been able to get in the direction of domesticating him."

VERDICT UNCHANGED

As of today, almost 40 years later, I'm afraid that verdict still is appropriate, on the basis of evidence accumulated in a wifeless week which is just drawing to an end.

Why, if my brothers once found it hard to keep me from becoming a nuisance to them, I'm finding it even harder chore to avoid being a nuisance to myself, even though I'm all alone.

At our house, the evidence is clear right now why that woman, who ordinarily shares it with me, would prefer doing almost anything for me rather than face the consequences produced by whatever I do for myself. About Monday, I'll be hearing about it, when that woman gets back from a brief visit with our daughter and her family.

SPREADING DISARRAY

And, be darned if I know just what has gone wrong or what should have been done differently. Somehow there doesn't seem to be a single thing in the house, apart from a few pieces of furniture which are heavy enough to have stayed anchored, that is located in whatever place it ordinarily occupied.

This is true even of many of the things which I don't recall ever having moved or even touched. And there is no hope of restoring order for I haven't a hint of a recollection of where most of the items in question usually were located before they started wandering to their present inappropriate locations.

Everywhere there is that bereft, discouraged, distraught look, so usual in places which have seldom if ever fallen under the influence of females, even though it is less than 10 days since that woman left it in what appeared to be its normal state.

UNATTAINABLE GOODIES

As a gesture toward tidiness, I've kept papers I've read neatly piled around the chair I use most. By now they have nearly engulfed me. Where are they supposed to go next? What should I do in an effort to dig out from under them? Who knows? I don't.

Even the boons of modernity have failed me. The trouble is that all inanimate objects, no matter what their vintage, still resist me just as they always have done.

As a child, it was my difficulty that canopeners preferred cutting me to performing the function for which they were intended. Now, with a modern one which is supposed to operate by turning a crank, I have not been able to persuade the little monster to close its jaws on any of the cans I have tried to bring to its attention. As usual, I remain denied access to available goodies.

SIMPLE RECIPE

In a way, though, this may be a good thing, for it certainly has kept my diet simple and tended to limit the amount of mess, if not the extent of the disarray, in the kitchen.

When I run into problems of feeding myself, on the rare occasions when I am left to grass widowerhood, I always solve them by resort to what I describe as "drinkin' eggs."

The recipe is simple: boil 'em for a minute or less; break 'em in a glass; season slightly and stir; then swallow in one sudden slurp.

Mind you, this is not a diet I'd recommend for pleasure, but when you gulp eggs fast enough, you can't taste the things and they do keep you nourished.

Just for variety, I also occasionally slap together a cold meat sandwich, when I remember to buy the makings.

EGG-SUCKING TIME

If nothing more can be said for them, I can testify that eggs and sandwiches will maintain life for an indefinite period. They offer the further advantage that preparing them involves dirtying virtually no dishes.

But now, if you'll pardon me, I must cut short this rather aimless essay on my own futility. After all, the time has come for me to go suck an egg, and to make just one more fainthearted attempt to smooth down the top of the debris at our house ahead of the return of that woman on Monday.

Of course she'll say that she is glad to get home, but, the way things look right now, I have to doubt if she'll mean it.

Burton Lewis

Just Like Home

P.S. If any prayers were uttered asking that I should be returned unsullied from what I described last week as a "safari into darkest Ontario," they did not go unanswered. Far from being trapped by Toronto Tycoons, overwhelmed by Ontario Oligarchs, or consumed by Cannibalistic Conservatives, I failed even to find representatives of any of these species.

As for the news executives I met at the Canadian Managing Editors Conference, in London, Ont., all of them seemed much too busy seeking ways to improve their newspapers to devote any time to forwarding conspiracies.

FAMILIAR CHATTER

The chief excitement I found among them seemed to centre around plans for the 1964 session at Charlottetown, rather than the political situation in Canada. Always they kept me talking about the Island, no matter how hard I tried to direct conversations into other areas.

Indeed, so far as chatter went, including quite a bit of it with Elmer Murphy, of Summerside, who attended the annual conference for the first time this year, it often seemed that I might just as well never have left home, so frequently did we find ourselves talking about the Island and find its way into the discussions. — B.L.

Exceptions To The Rule

Montreal Gazette

The decision of Volvo, the Swedish car manufacturer, to establish a plant in Nova Scotia is significant for many reasons.

This is the first European automobile manufacturing company to begin assembling cars in Canada. And it has chosen a province where industrial expansion of this type is much needed. If Volvo has chosen Nova Scotia partly because of its convenience from the point of view of sea communications, this could apply to other European firms as well.

But especially significant is the willingness of the governments, both federal and provincial, to go out of their way to provide special conditions for Volvo that will help its Canadian subsidiary to get a firm start.

The special tariff and duty arrangements that have been made reflect a flexible attitude on the part of the federal government that is very necessary for any country that is in the position of Canada. In matters of foreign investment, and also in international trade and the seeking out of export markets, Canada needs to overcome the disadvantages of its small population by flexible and imaginative policies.

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