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Published every week day morning (except Sun days and statutory holidays) at 165 Prince Street Charlottetown, P.E.I., by Thomson Newspapers Ltd. Branch offices at Summerside, Montserrat, Alberton and Souris.

Expressed nationally by Thomson Newspapers Advertising Service Toronto, 25 University Ave. (Phone 3-8974), Montreal, 640 Calcutt Street, University 6-9242, Western office, 1030 West Georgia Street, Vancouver (Area 7037).

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\$14.00 a year off island and U.K. \$20.00 per year, in E.S. and elsewhere outside British Commonwealth.
Not over 7¢ per single copy.
Member Audit Bureau of Circulation.

"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink"

PAGE 6 MONDAY, APRIL 22, 1963

Unimely Salary Grab

"Budgetary expenditures have been controlled, and deficit financing resorted to only in the interests of our people as well as materially adding capital works and projects that can best serve and expand our economy." Thus declared the Provincial Treasurer in his budget speech last Tuesday. On Friday evening, estimates calling for a fat increase in Government members' salaries and Legislative indemnities went through with little discussion and no objection by members on either side of the House.

This was putting the cart before the horse, however. On Saturday an operative amendment to the Legislative Assembly Act, increasing the indemnities, was brought into committee, and Opposition Leader Matheson rightly pointed out that the bill should have been brought in prior to the introduction of the estimates, and not afterwards. In any case, he maintained that it was inopportune at this time. After acrimonious discussion, the amendment passed on a straight party vote.

The whole procedure was as extraordinary, in its way, as were the major amendments grafted onto the new Election Act which were adopted on the same division earlier in the week. In this case, however, even a regular course of procedure would hardly have excused the introduction of such a measure at this session.

"Deficit financing resorted to only in the interests of our people" is going to mean another huge debt increase, plus higher gasoline and sales taxes. Surely, in the circumstances, this jacking up of emoluments could have waited. Such a raid on a depleted treasury is not what the taxpayers had a right to expect. It was conducted hastily to coincide with the first session of the present Assembly, so that by the time the next election comes round the taxpayers will have forgotten it. Well, perhaps they won't! The memory will rankle, we predict, for a good long while.

The Fight Goes On

Two reports of encouragement to those who have fought the good fight for fluoridation in this community have come to hand, one from the Health League of Canada, the other from a Washington news bureau. They show how solidly the movement is establishing itself in other countries, on both sides of the Atlantic.

Voting Electronically

The electronic age has caught up with the time honored procedure of voting. At least it has in Omaha, where a card becomes the ballot and the computer will replace the counting boards when the electors go to the polls on April 23. The purpose of the experiment is to find out if there is a swifter, more accurate and less expensive method of handling elections than manual counting. It was necessary for the Omaha legislature to pass a law making it possible the test. The issue before the voters will be an easy-to-handle one—namely, should the ceiling of the state university fee be doubled by four mills. The voters will mark an X in either the "yes" or "no" squares on a postcard size card on which the proposal is printed.

The computers will process the cards to determine how many "yes" and "no" votes have been cast and what questionable cards should be flipped out for a manual check. Then a printer will turn out the results of 800 cards a minute. Subtotal counts will be handed to the press every 30 minutes. After the count the 35,000 to 40,000 ballots will be locked in a vault for a year, so that if a dispute develops a manual recount can be made.

phased the safety, simplicity and cheapness of fluoridation and the dramatic improvement it effected in the dental health of children. From 60 to 70 local authorities have already expressed interest in this preventive health measure, and he believed the scheme would now go ahead quickly.

From Washington the report is that a new unit has been set up by the United States Public Health Service to help promote fluoridation of public drinking water. No pressure is to be exerted on the local authorities—but the Service is taking the initiative "to the extent of fulfilling its responsibility to let it be known throughout the country that it is in favor of fluoridation."

Toward this end, the Service has created a fluoridation section of the disease control branch of its division of dental public health and resources. The section is designed "to bring together in one place existing fluoridation activities" and provides for technical assistance to states and regions on "fluoridation education". That is, the dissemination of information and reports with respect to fluoridation projects in various parts of the country.

As at Dec. 31, 1962, preliminary figures show 2,317 communities in the United States using fluoridated water supplies, serving a population of 43,757,874—a gain during the last two years of 349 communities and of 5,280,000 people. In addition, there are over 1,900 communities with seven million people using water supplies having fluoride present in protective quantities since the beginning of time.

Music Festival Week

Music festivals are one of the most popular features of the entertainment year, so far as Prince Edward Islanders are concerned. This week's will be the 18th annual festival of this kind, and we can recall that from the very start the movement was a big success. Much credit for this, of course, went to the devoted people who organized it; their enthusiasm was catching; but there was something about the idea itself that fired the imagination of our people. The program was a modest one at first, but it has been expanded and developed and it can now be claimed, with justice, that we have the largest provincial music festival, per capita, in all Canada.

The performances open this morning in Summerside, Montague and at four different locations in Charlottetown and will continue throughout the week, with morning, afternoon and evening sessions. A busy week for all concerned! The services of top-ranking adjudicators have been obtained. There is a large list of competitors, and there is no doubt that the audiences will be large and appreciative.

Festivals of this kind have important cultural as well as entertainment value. They give music students the kind of encouragement that is needed, and provide an outlet for community activity of the highest order.



NOW FOR ONE TO OTTAWA

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Canada's Servicemen And Their Votes

Where do our servicemen come from, and what are their politics? From Brasshat to back-packer, we can get some interesting sidelights on them by studying the services vote in the election. The latest count shows a total of 124,166 Canadians under arms. Of these, 32,497 are in the R.C.A.F., "C.A.B.C." as it is known in the Army; and 21,414 in the Royal Canadian Navy. These servicemen are, and the wives of those who are married, were entitled to vote at the Service polls, from April 1 to April 6. Veterans in hospitals operated by the Department of Veterans Affairs could also vote in those polls. The rest of us, of course, voted on Election Day, April 8, unless we chose to take advantage of the advance polls a week or so earlier.

U.K. Pushes Nuclear Power

Visiting England's West Country, the Duke of Edinburgh officially opened the first nuclear power station at Berkeley, Gloucestershire, while through a closed-circuit television network, a second nuclear power station was a simultaneously opened at Bradwell, on the Thames estuary, in Essex. Although both have been in commission since last year, these will make people realize that Britain is really in the nuclear age of the domestic front. In Britain the position is this: There is an atomic energy authority largely concerned with research, or getting research done; there is also the Central Electricity Generating Board which is responsible for supplies. Between these two govern-

Most Epileptics Are Discovered Before Age 20

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen
THIS FORMERLY neglected disease develops the cause before the age of 20. The cause is elusive, but thanks to modern drugs, most victims of the disease can lead a normal life. Under good medical care, 50 per cent are entirely free of seizures and in 30 to 35 per cent convulsions are fairly well controlled.

But the situation may be different with later age 25. The disease in adulthood. The convulsions may be the first warning of a brain tumor, malformation of a blood vessel, or other serious disorder of the brain. The seizure may be a symptom of a cerebral disease and treating the symptom without trying to find the cause represents a captive taker. The anti-convulsant drugs may work for a short time but if the tumor is responsible, the condition is likely to get worse. Furthermore, the victim may be damaged by the drugs and possible death if the lesion is removed in time.

But when an exhaustive examination fails to uncover a cause, the individual is treated with one of the same remedies used in childhood epilepsy. A group of 51 such men and women were studied by two English physicians. All had developed epilepsy before the age of 20. In 14 cases, low-up examinations showed that 14 had residual brain damage or scars from previous infections or injuries. There was indirect evidence of probable damage in 30 others, but in the majority the cause was not known.

One of the 20 had experienced a severe emotional disturbance before the first seizure. One woman had a convulsion half an hour after learning that her mother-in-law had developed a serious illness; another, eight weeks after the death of her husband; and still another on the day she was arrested by the Gestapo. Many had become depressed prior to a seizure. In two, the episodes followed the death of a loved one; in one, a man had his first convulsion on the day of his retirement, after working 45 years with the same firm.

There is no way to prove whether these emotional upsets triggered the attacks of epilepsy; but we know the emotionally disturbed epileptic is difficult to treat.

CARRYING SCHOOLBOOKS

Jane writes: Every school day I lug four textbooks, my purse, and other supplies 1 1/2 miles each way to and from school. The total weight is 22 pounds. I'm 15 years old, 5 feet 1 inch tall. My arms and back feel this is too heavy a load. Have you any suggestions?

REPLY

I always have understood this is why high school girls have boy friends.

ASPIRIN AND BLEEDING

M.B. writes: I've heard that taking aspirin causes bleeding in the stomach of some people. Can the drug also cause bleeding in the nose and other areas?

REPLY

Yes, especially if aspirin affects the blood coagulation. I know several instances of nosebleed caused by taking this drug.

GRADUAL REDUCTION

Mrs. R. writes: I have a project in mind which involves losing 50 pounds in six months. Do you think this is possible and safe?

REPLY

Yes—and sensible. But don't get discouraged if the weight is not shed as planned.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Women are mysterious except in fiction. There they are solved in the last chapter.—Stratford Beacon-Herald.
The citizen who doesn't vote has no right to criticize "what would you do if you could live your life all over again?" There was a long silence during which the nonagenarian appeared to be deep in thought. "Well," he said finally, "I think I would put my hair in the middle.—Hamilton Spectator.
Wife: "Honey, you look awfully weary." Husband: "I'll say. The electronic brain broke down on me all had to think.—Sarlita Osborn.
It's exceedingly difficult for a person to maintain his equilibrium when he's sitting on top of the world.—Port Arthur News-Chronicle.
The world never will be what-if-ful as long as a person pushes himself away from the table after first servings.—Shebrook Record.
Middle age isn't as likely to be a period of a person pushing himself away from the table after first servings.—Shebrook Record.

Kennedy Policy Snags

By Harold Morrison
Canadian Press Staff Writer

Cuba has turned into a political setback for President Kennedy. Fear of nuclear war is likely to force him to remain a captive taker of political snags. The way in which the sensitive alliance between Kennedy and the Cuban exile leaders was allowed to collapse is an indication the president's willingness to sacrifice some political advantage for the sake of preventing further in the Caribbean that could bring a nuclear exchange with Russia. The claim of Jose Miró Cardona, former leader of the exiles, that Kennedy's policies give Cuban Premier Castro "absolute immunity" in the execution of Soviet Premier Khrushchev's designs in the western hemisphere likely will provide ammunition against the administration. Because Miró is a foreigner, it is not likely his claims would be themselves cut much ice with most Americans—who usually rally to the side of the president when he is under foreign attack. But there is a lot of uneasiness in the United States about Kennedy's foreign policies as reflected in news editorials and opinions and Kennedy is aware his political action will exploit every charge.

AVOID BLOODSHED

The president talks of his responsibilities to the people, shed in the western hemisphere, his responsibilities in Berlin and other trouble spots and the urgent need to control actions that could lead to new trouble. "What he doesn't talk about is that Cuba has been equipped defensively, fortified by a circle of coastal rockets and straddled by rocket-firing Soviet jets and patrol boats. The military risk of attempting to conquer Cuba by open invasion would be great. The easier course would be to watch and control Cuba via radio on the wire.

Our Yesterday's

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

April 22, 1938

The April issue of "College Times", organ of the Prince of Wales College students, has made its appearance. In addition to the customary features, editorial, poetical, etc., there are some amusing sketches in dramatic form. The issue reflects credit on Miss Jean MacDonald, editor-in-chief, and her competent staff.

ADMIRAL'S DOUBTS

Two Maritime men have been appointed to command a steamship operating in southern waters. Claude Martin, former superintendent of the Halifax Tug and Boat Company, and E. M. Macdonald, son of Rev. Canon Malone of Charlottetown, P. E. I., have been appointed as Master and First Officer respectively, of the steamer Southern Lady.

TEN YEARS AGO

April 22, 1953

Kiwans and Kiddies combined effectively last evening at Prince of Wales College auditorium in a well-balanced variety show which had for its objective the raising of funds for the "kiddies wading pool" in Victoria Park.

THE NECESSITY OF CONTINUING

the supply of free medicine to needy people was emphasized in the report of Mrs. Goldie, R.N., at the annual meeting last night of the Free Dispensary. The vital need of medicine for a large number of people who are unable to provide adequately for themselves or their family when sickness strikes, was stressed by Dr. W. J. P. MacMillan and Dr. C. H. Black.

THE FLYING DUTCHMAN RESTAURANT

"Your Island Steak House"

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The editor does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents. The public forum is subject to editing and condensation where necessary. The editor reserves the right to delete any material which is defamatory or otherwise objectionable.

CAR LICENSE FEE

Sir,—I received yesterday, (April 17) my operating license to drive a motor car until March 31st, 1964. For this I paid two dollars, although I understand a number of Island citizens are licensed to drive for half this amount. I am naturally very much interested in this matter and would be glad to hear from you if you can advise me as to why this is so. I am, Sir, etc.

I received on March 26th, a temporary license good for two weeks, which expires on April 9th. According to this I would have to operate a motor car until the end of the month and yesterday, Come to think of it, I couldn't as my road has been impounded since the 9th.

I am, Sir, etc.

NEIL C. MACDONALD, Kensington, P.E.I.

FORWARDED LETTER

Sir,—Kindly permit me to refer to a letter appearing in the Public Forum of your newspaper dated April 20th, 1963, in which the writer expressed surprise that the Royal Canadian Legion was unable to obtain the help of Mr. William Brown relative to the re-location of the Legion in Summerside. For the information of the writer of this letter and Legion members, the help of Mr. Brown was obtained by the Charlottetown Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion did forward a letter to the Mayor of Charlottetown and the members of the City Council on March 14, 1963.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BROWN, MILES, President Charlottetown Branch No.

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