

The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew
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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1956

The Causeway Survey

Let us hope that investigation of the Northumberland Strait causeway project will not be held up for political or other reasons. The project itself would be a long-term one and no government could be expected to commit itself, one way or the other, without a full-scale survey such as the Charlottetown Board of Trade has suggested as an immediate measure. It is difficult to understand why there should be opposition to this proposal, but apparently there is.

We have suffered in the past from a plague of self-constituted critics who have found fault with every move in the interests of progress and development. In the old days they were against the railway because it would injure the horse-carriage trade, and anti-railroad meetings were held in several parts of the Province ridiculing the whole scheme. The controversy was revived on a more successful scale when automobiles were introduced, and we lagged far behind the rest of Canada in restricting motor traffic on our roads. Even the car ferry service established under the Borden Government had to face a barrage of criticism; some said it was only political talk and others that it wasn't feasible and that the old winter route was better anyway.

In recent times the Federal Building project in Charlottetown was retarded and almost killed completely by pressure groups. Kings County suffered in its mail delivery service from the same class of retrogressive thinkers; and when the railway proposed to operate modern passenger buses the Legislature was stampeded into turning down the offer. Today we have lost our local passenger trains for a large part of the year, with no compensating advantage and little hope of obtaining improved service of any kind. Every major move in our transportation history has encountered this kind of opposition, from classes or individuals who feel that they might be affected adversely, and whose political or other motives had nothing whatever to do with the general welfare of the Province. We have gone forward in spite of them, but their obstruction tactics have been a constant handicap.

As we stated previously when the causeway was broached in Parliament by Mr. Neil Matheson, we are not in a position to say whether it is feasible or fantastic. But we do think that if it could be built it would be of tremendous value and importance to this Province and to the Maritimes as a whole. Therefore we urged that all our Members, federal and provincial, press for a full survey of the possibilities from every standpoint, and at the earliest moment. This is precisely what the Charlottetown Board of Trade is asking, and what we think our Agriculture Federation and every other public organization ought to be asking for as well. It does not commit the government to further action of any kind. It is merely the necessary first step in determining whether or not any action can reasonably be expected to be taken.

It has been intimated by Premier Matheson that the Provincial Government would have something to say on this subject when the Legislature meets. Until then we are as much in the dark as our readers. But we think the scheme is far too important to discourage those who are trying to shape it into something concrete and practical. We are not at all worried about the political capital that may accrue to them if they can succeed. But it is facts and figures that are required at this stage, and the best experts on the continent should be obtained to gather them at first hand, and as soon as possible. If this reasonable proposal is blocked for any reason whatever, it may affect the course of our progress for the next half century. And our farmers would be the worse sufferers, through continuance of transportation handicaps

which nature has imposed upon them but which—conceivably—may be removed permanently by modern engineering skill. Surely we all want to know whether this is a pipe-dream or a true vision of the shape of things to come! And there is only one way of finding out.

Lifting Of The Ban

It is a little difficult to understand the reasoning behind the Canadian Government's lifting of the embargo on arms to Middle East countries, after its being in effect only two weeks. The Prime Minister's statement that future shipments will be of a type and quantity "which could not provoke an arms race or provide an incentive to aggression" has been challenged by Mr. Angus MacLean, member for Queen's, on the ground that it is equivalent to saying "we're tossing only small sparks in the powder keg". And that appears to be a reasonable comment. After all, the aim of all Western governments—so we are told—is to keep war from breaking out in the Middle East and to bring about a peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute.

If it were established that the Arab states are, in fact, receiving arms from Communist countries in such quantity that the State of Israel is being put into a position of helplessness, there would be, one might suppose, good reason for sending the Israelis all the arms available, in an effort to ward off Arab aggression, or check it, should it be set in motion. But this, apparently, is not the Government's view or purpose. The fact seems to be that little drib-drib-drib of arms are to be sent to any of the States asking for them and willing to pay for them; not enough to do any great harm, so the Prime Minister says, but enough, as Mr. MacLean suggests, to throw a few small sparks in the powder keg. Surely, if the sending of arms at all is likely to add, even minutely, to the prevailing unrest and tension, the fact that the shipments will be kept small is nothing to be happy about. In such circumstances, it would seem that even one gun or one plane would be too much to send to the Middle East. We feel that Mr. MacLean was right in saying that Canadians do not want this country to contribute in even the slightest degree to the suffering of people whose homes might be ravaged by even small-scale war.

EDITORIAL NOTES

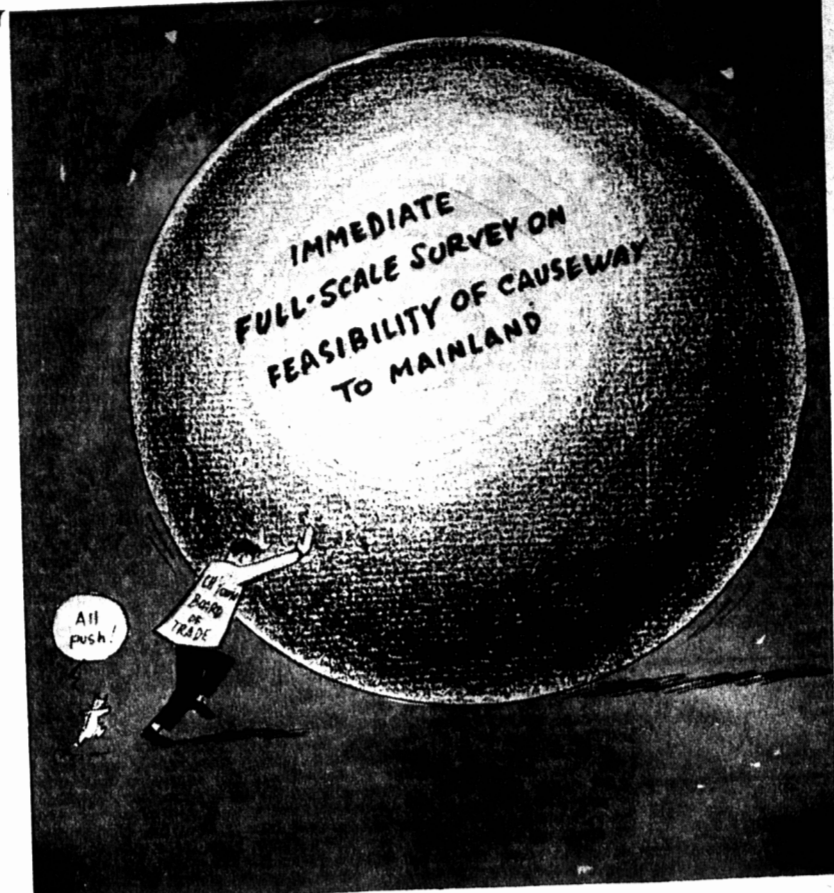
A Newfoundland wag—a Conservative, no doubt—says that the big news item of 1955, as far as his country is concerned, was that Premier Smallwood, the mighty traveller, actually was seen in St. John's on at least two occasions.

There is rejoicing at London's Wellington Barracks, headquarters of the Brigade of Guards, following the purchase for £480 of a Victoria Cross won at Sebastopol in 1855. This brings the number of Crimean VC's in possession of the three Guards Regiments which took part in the campaign up to a total of seven—out of a possible 11.

Here are some of the "rules for smoking in bed" issued by a Chatham hotel to its guests: "Inform the management where you wish your remains sent. Be fully prepared to foot the bill for damage to blankets, linens, spreads, mattresses, etc. Business is good but we do not have clients to burn so please do not make an ash of yourself."

Whatever else may be said about United States Congressmen, their attention to business cannot be questioned. Since the 84th Congress convened 13 months ago, more than 9000 bills have been introduced and debated. In addition, 1000 House resolutions have been submitted. So far, the President has signed 880 bills into law.

Evangelist Billy Graham has had a 30 minute social chat with Prime Minister Nehru of India. This is not particularly strange, since Mr. Nehru, although not a Christian, has acknowledged many times the fine cultural and social service Christian missionaries have brought to India. Christian missions have not been hurt in any way under Mr. Nehru's regime. What the situation would be should a less sympathetic man acquire political power no one is in a position to say. It must be remembered, however, that most Asians look upon Christianity as a western product with definite roots in the old colonial system.



HOW TO GET THE BALL ROLLING

Planning Ultra-Modern London

By Stephen Scott
Canadian Press, London

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.

THE CAUSEWAY

Sir,—The proposed building of a causeway across the Northumberland Strait is not new. In a series of letters which I addressed to The Guardian some years ago I made reference to this subject in the following words:

When some years ago the question of a new ferry to replace the "Charlottetown" was raised, a delegation of which I formed, part waited on Mr. Hungerford, then President of the C.N.R., at his home in Montreal. After considerable discussion regarding a matter which would you say to a Causeway across the Strait?

The delegates asked if such a causeway was possible. Mr. Hungerford replied that he had his engineers work on the problem and they could be assured that if a causeway could not be built immediately steps would be taken to build a new car ferry.

Subsequently Mr. Hungerford wrote that although his engineers were still of the same opinion as to the feasibility of such a causeway, that there was no stone for this purpose available at hand and that the cost of transporting stone from a distance would be prohibitive. The new ferry was then built.

I am, Sir, etc.,
A.E. ARSENAULT
Charlottetown.

PERSONAL TRIBUTE

Sir,—Thousands of friends and admirers of the late Hon. W.F.A. Stewart, Minister of Health and Labor in our Provincial Government, learned with deep sorrow of the death of a great man.

For a quarter of a century he was my colleague in the Provincial Legislature and it was my privilege to know him as my great friend. He served this Province well as a private member of the Legislature, as Speaker of the House and as a Minister of the Crown.

No high office changed Alan Stewart. He was a warm-hearted friend, a friendly, genial companion, and a generally favorite. A firm believer in Agriculture and highly trained in that great profession he was a leading and successful farmer and no doubt the splendid example of his illustrious father-in-law, the late Hon. Premier Leaspirid him to lofty levels.

I admired him for his Scotch independence. He had his own opinions and stuck to them. He was never a blind party follower. He was qualified for Edmund Burke's ideal "Too fond of the right to pursue the expedient."

I am sure he will be greatly missed in the Legislature and I know countless friends in this Province will deeply regret his untimely death which has removed from our earthly midst a true man who was a great credit to his great Scottish ancestry.

I extend most sincere sympathy to his sorrowing widow and his three daughters.
I am, Sir, etc.,
W.J.P. MACMILLAN.

SEEKING INFORMATION

Sir,—I am doing some delving into Prince Edward Island genealogy and am desirous of corresponding with members of several families. The lines that I am concerned with are Mr. Eugene Bessac's mother's family: Beer, Bagnall, Bremner and Simpson.

Mr. Bessac's grandmother, Grace Beer (with a twin sister, Jane) was born in Barnstaple, Devon, England in 1828. She came to Charlottetown in the 1850's along with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Beer and a number of brothers.

I will answer all communications and shall be most happy to correspond with present-day members of these families.
I am, Sir, etc.,
FLORENCE WILSON BESSAC
PO Box 887,
Riverbank, California, U.S.A.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
(February 13, 1931)

Monsignor Joseph A. O'Sullivan, Rector of St. Augustine Seminary at Toronto, today was named Bishop of Charlottetown, succeeding the late Right Rev. Louis J. O'Leary. Monsignor O'Sullivan possesses brilliant scholastic attainments, exceptional administrative ability and is highly qualified for his new duties.

Mr. Ward Fisher of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, now in the city, said that a great improvement is noticeable in the quality of island fish, fresh, smoked, pickled and wet fish prepared in the Province. For some time the improvements were confined to the eastern section of the Island, but fishermen and dealers throughout the Province are finding it pays to market a first class article.

Many countryroads are blocked and travel by road in all sections is heavy. Farmers state that there is a greater amount of snow on the level now than there has been for many years. Due to their having been no thaws or rainstorms of note, all snow that has fallen so far this winter has remained.

Previously all telephones in Cornwall and vicinity were connected on the Cornwall Exchange, thus making it necessary to call long distance to contact Charlottetown. This system has now been abolished and the village will be included in the Charlottetown Exchange.

It was learned last night that the former Y.M.C.A. building at the airport is to be moved to the Dominion Experimental Station, as soon as moving arrangements can be made.

The task of building new lobster traps for the spring season is going ahead full swing at St. Peter's Harbour. With many of the good fishers back from the war and three packing plants to handle the catch, everything points to a big season, with prices reported high.

A shorthorn bull—Supreme Champion Pittodrig Upright—today brought the record price of \$61,335 at Perth, Scotland. This is a record for any breed of cattle, and was bid by Ralph L. Smith of Snyder, Mo.

er it up.
The liberties taken by the Minister are so flagrant that they have drawn from criticism from people who have historically been friendly to him. The Canadian Federation of Agriculture in annual meeting in Hamilton, on Thursday passed a resolution criticizing the speech; their resolution pointed out that 1951 to 1955 the cash income of farmers has declined by \$480 million, their net income by \$700 million. And they charge Mr. Gardiner with leaving an "entirely erroneous impression with the public" from this source will be that Mr. Gardiner that he is beating his head on a brick wall.

NAMED AECL SECRETARY
OTTAWA (CP)—Donald Watson has been appointed secretary of Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd., it was announced Wednesday. He has been on the government company's staff since 1950.

The Age Old Story
Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time.

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Sundesen, M. D.

DOES BABY HAVE TROUBLE AT HIS FEEDING TIME?

New mothers sometimes mistake "spitting up" for vomiting. They are not the same.
Many times a baby will spit up without anything being wrong. By this I mean that a little milk will roll out of his mouth after feeding. This is especially noticeable during the first few weeks or months of his life. Generally, it will stop as he gets older and gains weight. Sometimes, though, spitting up is caused by feeding him too often or too much or by jostling him after a feeding. On the other hand the source of the trouble may be the baby himself.

RAPID SUCKING

He may suck too rapidly and swallow too much air. Burping or belching him during and after his feeding probably will cure this. Lifting him against your shoulder and patting his back causes the air bubbles to rise to the top of his stomach, making him belch.
Usually, a baby who spits up frequently will be better off sleeping on his stomach. He can get rid of the milk more easily in this position.
As long as your lot doesn't seem uncomfortable and he doesn't spit up large amounts, there probably is nothing to worry about. Vomiting, on the other hand, usually means something is wrong. Although common during infancy, vomiting shouldn't be passed off as "just an upset stomach."

ACUTE INFECTION

You may be feeding him too much or too often or he may have a bowel infection or some acute infection such as sore throat, tonsillitis, pneumonia or one of the "Catching" diseases. It is a sign to stop regular feedings and to give him half an ounce to an ounce of lukewarm boiled or specially prepared nursery water every half hour or hour for three or four hours until he stops.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

N. G.: What are the symptoms of mucous colitis and is there a cure for the condition?
Answer: Mucous colitis is a chronic disease in which there is constipation and the passage of mucus in the bowel movement. A person with this disease usually is thin, anemic, very nervous and has poor appetite.

The treatment consists in sufficient rest, a simple diet without food too roughage, regular living and moderate exercise.

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Notes By The Way

The man who can spot a golf ball hundreds of yards away, can't find a pair of clean socks in time to reach church on Sundays.—Brandon Sun.
Now they are making refrigerators that can be opened from the inside. We hope this won't lead to children climbing in to see if the little light goes out when the door is closed.—Hamilton Spectator.

A little help needed from the medical profession. It always used to be "anesthetist", unless we are mistaken. Now they seem to be using "anaesthesiologist" which we are barely able to spell, let alone pronounce.—St. Catherine's Standard.

Liquor gets too big a part in Alberta. It plays too much attention, is exaggerated out of proportion, and therefore it is too much abused. Much of the blame must lie with the Government's liquor administration. Liquor consumption is not restricted in any way, but it is surrounded by a tendency to over-indulge to get one's money's worth, or to make it worth all the trouble and bother.—Calgary Albertan.

Readers who skip the sports pages of the newspapers miss all sorts of fascinating bits of information. Here, for example, is a report from the Winter Olympics in Italy about that mad sport the bobbed races. Weight is a factor in this form of competition, because the heavier the team the greater the acceleration possible on the icy slopes of the bobbed run, and the correspondent tells us it is likely "the only sport in the world in which the participants eat themselves into condition".—Ottawa Journal.

In the summertime baseball fans live by the boxscore, in winter by the calendar. And February 1 marks a date as much as a harbinger of better times as the approach of the first robin or the stirring of the first bud. For February 1 signifies that there is only one month to go before Spring training, before the season of the mitt and the bat, the time of the tossing of the ball.—New York Herald-Tribune

A farmer was compelled to place his mother in a home for the aged in the city. Each time he visited her he brought delicacies from his farm. Always he included, on the advice of the family doctor, a container of milk into which he slipped a shot of brandy. The old lady was greatly pleased with all her gifts, and invariably she sipped the milk, she would say very earnestly, "Son, don't ever sell that there cow."—Louisville Courier Journal.

So now we have the vanishing bed. At the touch of a button set in the wall, it floats up to the ceiling and hides itself behind a panel. At night, it descends to the floor again on its four cables. The inventors think this will be just the thing for the seldom-used guest room, for small apartments and hotels and we must admit there is some logic to the idea. We do hope, though, that the patent office men who approved it made a thorough check of its brakes and controls. What a sensation it would be to wake up just as the bed was neatly inserting itself into the ceiling.—Minneapolis Tribune.

Recently a resident of Teddington received a fine turkey as a gift from a friend in Ireland. To insure safe delivery, it had been brought over by an obliging acquaintance, who had struggled through the customs with the bird among his baggage. The turkey was very large, very heavy, and it was prominently labeled "Ready stuffed". Later the grateful recipient saw the bird committed to the oven, watched the heat adjusted, and left it to cook. Then a tremendous explosion in the kitchen blew the oven door off its hinges and scattered turkey, bones and glass over the room. Lodging in the smoldering remains was all that was left of an Irish whisky bottle.—Sunday Times.

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