

Covers Prime Minister's Island Like The Dew
W. J. Hanson, Publisher
Published every week day morning...

Paging Mr. Sharp

Along with a new tax bill to cover at least part of the cost of the supplementary old age pension, Canadians will presumably get a state-of-the-nation message from Finance Minister Sharp in his budget presentation this evening.

But the issue is a live one in the Prairie provinces as well. The policy of shared-cost programs is cited by the Winnipeg Free Press in this connection, and it points out that in practical politics a provincial government can hardly resist the lure of a federal subsidy for some new public service whether it fits the actual needs of the province or not.

The target date for the national medicare scheme has been set back a year, to suit Ottawa's convenience, but when it comes into effect it will involve heavy expenditures by all participating provinces at the cost of other local plans.

If the federal government itself were following some known set of priorities, and matching its social ambitions with the nation's physical means, it could argue that it was giving sound leadership to the provinces and not merely distorting their business.

If Mr Sharp has discussed with other finance ministers the budgetary prospects for next year, he should be well aware of this problem and of the urgent need for coping with it.

Change Overdue

There are said to be more than 20,000 insurance policy holders affected by the collapse of the Prudential Finance Corporation of Toronto, and the federal government, though warned last January that something was amiss, felt that it had no responsibility except in the case of one of the Prudential subsidiaries that joined the parent company in bankruptcy a few weeks ago, and was a federally incorporated firm.

After 42 deaths in the first nine months of this year, 3,221 accidents and 3,475 injuries, authorities in Ontario have decided that there is more to driving a motorcycle than meets the eye. What is more to the point, they propose to do something about it.

Evidently a change is overdue in our federal regulations in this respect. It is the view of the Financial Post, which is in a position to speak authoritatively on the matter, that the assets of all Canadian insurance companies should be held in trust for the Minister of Finance, either in Ottawa or in a trust company elsewhere.

do this. They obviously find the rule no real hardship because they have successfully won nearly two-thirds of all Canadian general insurance business written.

The Post maintains that innocent third parties should be protected in this manner. In the automobile end of the business, those awarded damages for personal injury in an auto-accident do not go unpaid. If the motorist responsible is not insured (or his insurer fails), the claim is paid up to specified limits, usually by the provincial motor vehicle accident claims funds.

Some insurers in Toronto are quoted as believing that the industry in Canada should move quickly to establish a fund that will guarantee the rights of innocent third parties, in all types of general insurance claims, and at all times. Otherwise, demands for compulsory government insurance will strengthen, and there will be no business left for any of them.

The charges proposed would cost extra money and effort, at a time when the insurers are already confronted with increased costs and are being criticised for raising premium rates. On the other hand, the whole affair could win for them great public acceptance if it leads to tighter industry and government supervision of insurance practices, and if it renews customer confidence that claims will be paid when due.

Cheese In Demand

Despite the bumper rice crops that have enabled Japan to attain self-sufficiency in its staple food, the consumption of rice has dropped in striking contrast with a sharp rise in demand for dairy products and pulverized food with high protein and fat substance. This should be of interest to Canadian farm exporters, for the market there has promising features. Changes in the national dietary habits have been in progress, actually, since World War II.

In 1965, Australia and New Zealand supplied about 60 per cent of Japan's total cheese imports. The 40 per cent remaining was provided by eight European and Scandinavian countries, and the United States. Natural cheeses imported include such varieties as Cheddar, Edam, Camembert and Blue cheese. To protect local dairy farming, controls are maintained on processed cheeses, which are made by blending a wide variety of the import and home-made natural products.

To promote the sales as well as to spread knowledge of cheeses among the Japanese people, the Japan Dairy Products Association has held every year a six-day exhibition of cheeses of the world in eight major cities. A wide variety of natural cheese-exporting countries and Japanese processed cheeses were exhibited. Visitors to the exhibition were offered chances to sample the products. The exhibition also included demonstrations of cooking various cheese dishes, ranging from the American cheeseburger to French onion soup.

The significant feature of this new trend is that it is only beginning to gather momentum. It is part of the Westernization of the Japanese way of life, which has accompanied the elevation and stabilization of the people's livelihood in recent years.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Quebec government is setting up a commission which will be charged with ensuring that visitors to the 1967 Montreal world's fair are not charged exaggerated lodging prices. This is a good move, and will be widely appreciated.

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FINALLY MADE A CHANGE IN STYLE U.S. EXPEDITION

To Scale Antarctica's Highest Peak

Eleven American mountaineers will attempt the first ascent of Vinson Massif, highest peak in Antarctica. Antarctica, locked in perpetual ice, is the last continent whose great mountains are still unclimbed by man. The Vinson Massif, 19,560 feet high, is largely covered by ice and snow. The American Antarctic Mountaineering Expedition also will carry out research in the area. It is sponsored by the National Geographic Society and the American Alpine Club.

Now we have an expert who tells us we should have our sleep in bits and pieces. Discussing "Man and his environment," a University of Toronto psychiatrist offered his opinion that man should break his sleep into three or four periods over the 24 hours. Dr. Daniel Capon said that a couple of hours sleep are sufficient to sustain four hours of activity. This was better than maintaining 12 or 14 hours of activity and then break it off with eight or more hours of sleep.

The University professor was not unloading a new idea. Thomas Edison pursued his suggested routine in the late years of the last century. Edison performed a prodigious program of work and thought, becoming one of the world's most prolific inventors, by taking cat naps throughout the hours of the day and night in which he worked.

Air Canada Cuts Rates

While the considerable reductions in group rates for excursion travel to London announced by Air Canada are welcome as are any reductions in the costs of travel, questions nevertheless are being asked in regard to domestic fares. Under the new deal the fare from Toronto to London by economy round-trip ticket will cost \$39 to \$255 from \$345.

Air Canada is not only making these cuts, which go into effect January 1, for practical competitive reasons but also to encourage overseas travellers to come to Canada during centennial year. As the air fare from London to Montreal and return has been cut to \$234, many Europeans will now be able to consider paying a visit to Expo '67.

Our Yesterdays

Twenty-five years ago (December 15, 1941) Soviet commanders were urged to take the risk of throwing out many long spearheads to trap and destroy the retreating Germans as the Red Army reported continuing advances had broken off invasion salients on both flanks of the great front of Moscow.

The shattered German and Italian armies in Eastern Circassia were announced to be in full retreat, pursued by British tanks and blasted by Royal Air Force bombers.

Ten years ago (December 15, 1956) The possibility of Nato Armed forces in Europe, including Canadian units, being equipped with tactical atomic weapons is "under consideration," said Eberhard Affairs Minister Pearson.

Dr. J. H. Herbert O'Hanley of Charlottetown has received his Certificate as a Specialist in Pediatrics. Dr. O'Hanley is the only specialist in children's diseases in the Province.

Put a team of engineers to work on library problems and they are bound to come up with ideas to increase efficiency. We are fascinated by the possibilities of those presented by a professional team at Purdue University's engineering school.

Working with a grant they made a study of the height of books. Much space is wasted, they observed, by grouping books by subject instead of by height. Short books now take up as much library shelf space as tall ones. They figured that by rearranging all books in 10 preselected height groups, 56 percent of the present shelf space could be saved.

It sounds reasonable. Roughly, this is the system used by our cleaning woman who once rearranged all our books by height after a shelf-dusting bout. She didn't measure thousands of volumes as the engineers did and work from scientific data. But our experience with her system of classification makes us

Allergic To Wife

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen Animal dander is a common cause of asthma, hay fever, and some skin diseases. Since man is an animal, can he be allergic to the emanations of the skin of another individual, even his own? A Brooklynite is positive he is allergic to his wife.

"Every night when I come home from work and kiss the mistress my eyes water and I start to sneeze. This began about three months ago and I am sure that I have developed a sensitivity to my wife. My father developed asthma when he came close to horses and I know people who are allergic to dogs and cats. My problem is really getting to be serious. A man can get rid of dogs and cats, but not a wife. Are there any medicines to control this type of allergy or is there an ointment or salve that my wife can apply to her skin?"

"We never know when a writer is trying to pull our leg, but stories about a husband who is allergic to his wife, or vice versa, are fairly common. To my knowledge, there is no such allergy and supposed anecdotes are imaginary or false interpretation of the facts. Most of these people become sensitive to their spouses' face powder, perfume, hair spray, fur coat, mustache wax, or cigar smoke. Tests conducted on one woman, who claimed to be allergic to her husband, revealed that she was sensitive to an industrial dust that was on his face and clothing. He changed his job, sent his suits to the cleaner, and his wife was cured.

Our writer should ask his wife about any new cosmetics she may have started to use three months ago. Meanwhile, he should make an appointment with an allergist for skin tests to detect the cause and medicines that will control the symptoms. The relationship between the emotions and allergy is well known. Could this be the exception?"

BLOCKED NOSE T. Z. writes: Since birth, my nose has been blocked most of the time, and it is very difficult for me to breathe. Why is my mouth dry, and why does it have an unpleasant taste? I also get plenty of sore throats.

REPLY The dryness results from breathing through the mouth. You should consult a nose specialist because a blockage from birth may be due to a congenital defect, deviated septum or enlarged adenoids.

STRAWBERRY ALLERGY L. W. writes: I enjoy fresh strawberries but after two or three meals of same I suffer from sore gums and cannot chew foods like celery. Have you any recommendations?

REPLY Your story suggests an allergy to berries. Apparently you need two or three berries to develop enough allergens to produce the mouth lesion. Avoid berries for the time being and next year, eat smaller amounts and less often.

SPINAL CYST G. V. writes: I thought only males were affected by pilonidal cyst, but our doctor tells me my daughter has this condition. Please explain.

REPLY Pilonidal cysts affect both sexes but usually go unrecognized until the lower spine is injured. Men are more susceptible because they are more active than women and subject to more trauma.

NERVE DISTURBANCE D. M. G. writes: What causes a pins and needles sensation in the right arm from elbow to fingertips?

REPLY These sensations usually follow pressure upon a nerve, neuritis, or a neurological disorder. TODAY'S HEALTH HINT--

Safety regulations and rules are reasonable and important. (NOTE: All correspondence to Dr. Van Dellen should be addressed to: Dr. Theodore Van Dellen, c/o Chicago Tribune, Chicago, Illinois.)

DUVALIER MARRIES PORT AU PRINCE (Reuters) Marie Duvalier, 33-year-old daughter of Haiti's President Francois Duvalier, was married Saturday to Luc Albert Foucart, a local agricultural expert.

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Syria's Latest Gambits

Syria's capacity for creating contagious political crises is emphasized anew by its latest gambits in the dispute with the Iraq Petroleum Co. West started three months ago apparently as a routine Arab move to get more money out of foreign oil interests now appears to be motivated as much as Syrian political aims as by economic desires.

The Iraqi government tried three weeks ago to dissuade the Syrians from forcing a showdown over transit dues with the Western-owned company. But Syria persisted, and the flow of two-thirds of Iraq's oil production in IPC pipelines through Syria has been halted.

Syria's offer Thursday night to help Iraq sell the oil independent of IPC amounts to heavy pressure on the Iraqi government to nationalize the oil industry and sell to Eastern Europe. The offer included a Syrian pledge to waive the claim to higher transit dues that has forced the crisis, "because such rates do not apply among brothers."

The 11-month-old Syrian regime, Russia's closest Arab ally, is thus encouraging a political left turn in Iraq by challenging President Abdel Aref to invoke the popular nationalist doctrine that demands an end to foreign exploitation of the Arabs.

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Literacy By Radio

An experimental scheme of radio schools to bring literacy to remote Indian communities in the Andes has been started by a group of Maryknoll Fathers based on the City of Puno in the southeast corner of Peru.

The immediate aim of the scheme is to overcome the language barrier caused by the fact that practically no one in the countryside speaks or understands Spanish: 50 per cent speak only Aymara, and the rest speak only Quechua.

The scheme's great advantage is that a maximum number of people can be taught by a minimum of qualified bilingual teachers (who are naturally scarce). It is also relatively cheap, and remoteness is no obstacle. After two years planning and preparation, the project is now well under way, although it is not expected to be financed completely and in full operation until 1968.

Each village or hamlet has to provide a place for the school, which is equipped with a fixed frequency transistor radio, a blackboard, wall charts and text books, and can take up to 15 students a session. There are two programs for Peru, one in Aymara and one in Quechua, and a third in Aymara is transmitted to Bolivia.

The qualified bilingual teachers (one in each language) have been supplied by "auxiliaries" who must be able to read, write and speak Spanish as well as be proficient in their mother tongue, but who need not have had much formal education.

The programs, of 45 minutes each, are broadcast at seven intervals during the day so that the student can choose the hour that best fits in with his daily work. There are five classes a week and at present only adults over 16 are accepted as students.

SANTA'S PACK LIGHT HAVANA (Reuters) - Cubans are facing a more austere Christmas this year than last, with less food and poorer quality toys. A bad sugar harvest last season and low prices on the world sugar market forced the government to cut back on both imports and local production of traditional Christmas articles. The Communist government has removed all public religious significance from the festivities.

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