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PAGE 4 THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 1964.

Mr. MacLean's Appeal

The Commons has given final approval to the new tax sharing arrangements under which the fiscal needs of this province are brushed aside as a matter of no consequence. A last-minute appeal was made by Hon. J. Angus MacLean, who confessed that he was not strong enough to believe that anything he said would bring about any material change in the legislation. But he appealed to Finance Minister Gordon to "once more consider the position of Prince Edward Island to bring about some improvement in the payments to the province."

All the provinces are getting something extra under the new arrangements, and Mr. Gordon seems to think that on a population basis we are doing pretty well. He is fully aware that this basis of calculation was thrown out years ago in fiscal negotiations with the provinces, and that it doesn't make sense at all. Nor does the allocation of an extra 4 per cent of personal income taxes do anything to redress the balance between the wealthy and the less prosperous provinces. Rather, it widens the gulf between them.

And, as Mr. MacLean pointed out on Tuesday, there are the shared-cost programs, which may be very good for provinces that have a good taxation base and can reasonably raise their share of the costs involved. It is otherwise with such provinces as Prince Edward Island, where the tax base has been exploited to the limit and where it has become almost ruinous for us to pay our share of these fixed charges.

Mr. MacLean's contention was that the percentage of a shared-cost program to be paid by a province should be in proportion to the province's ability to pay. "In other words," he said, "the share of the federal government should be in proportion to the equalization payments made to each province; otherwise a proportionately greater load is placed on the poorer provinces, thus throwing their future budgeting completely out of balance."

Surely this is a reasonable statement. And it should be within the competence of the Finance Minister of Canada to do something about it, even at this late date.

The Cyprus Crisis

Canada will participate in a meeting today to discuss the obtaining of wider powers for the United Nations peace-keeping force in Cyprus. At present, this force has no power to disarm either Greek or Turkish Cypriots, nor to prevent the landing of arms or men on the island.

Unfortunately, any agreement for wider powers must have the approval of Cyprus, the "sovereign power" and host countries of the UN force. Its government headed by Archbishop Makarios has shown no inclination of yielding ground on this point.

How limited the role of the United Nations has become was seen when Makarios prohibited the troops of the UN from even moving freely about the island in their duties of supervision. Once the United Nations had ceased to act effectively even as observers, the way was open for the outbreak of hostilities.

It seems plain now, as the Montreal Gazette says, that the danger of war will never be removed so long as the matter is left in Arch-

bishop Makarios' hands. His reputation for plotting and scheming, long on record, has only been confirmed by his latest manoeuvres. Unless the matter can be adjusted by world opinion coming to bear its weight on the governments of Greece and Turkey, hope must dwindle.

In this connection we note that the British government is supporting plans for a ministerial meeting in Geneva of Britain, the United States, Greece and Turkey—all NATO partners—to discuss the Cyprus problem. Such a meeting would bypass Makarios, and there-in may lie the best chance of easing the present tension.

Quoddy Scheme Again

From Washington comes news that the Passamaquoddy bay tidal power scheme is in the limelight again. Hearings on the scheme are being held this week before the U.S. senate rivers and harbors subcommittee, and from the favorable reports we may expect that there will be a stirring of interest on this side of the boundary line as well. Certainly the Maritimes would have a big stake in the project.

An American exchange recalls that Franklin Roosevelt became interested in Passamaquoddy long before he became president. The idea was to build a series of dams between islands in the Bay of Fundy—where tides rise 40 to 60 feet and have reached 62 feet at the bay's head—to hold tidal waters which would flow in. The water would be released to generate electricity. But the U.S. senate killed the plan in 1936.

In 1954, however, the Eisenhower administration sought funds for a feasibility study which the senate approved two years later. The idea was to build a series of dams between islands in the Bay of Fundy—where tides rise 40 to 60 feet and have reached 62 feet at the bay's head—to hold tidal waters which would flow in. The water would be released to generate electricity. But the U.S. senate killed the plan in 1936.

Perhaps this time the scheme will really begin to materialize. In any case, it serves to recall the optimistic predictions of the late Premier James Maclean about it in our news legislature, two decades ago. He was not down as a visionary at that time, even by his own colleagues. But it may be that his predictions will yet come to pass.

Why The Secrecy?

The studies conducted by North-umbria Consultants for the federal government on our cause-way project have become so hush-hush that even the provincial authorities are not allowed to see a report prepared several weeks ago of "the various types of crossing that might be used." At least, Mr. Heath Macquarrie could not reply in Parliament on Tuesday to his query whether the provincial government had received a copy.

An answer is "expected soon," and it is expected to state, according to an Ottawa story in yesterday's Guardian, that the federal government regards the report as simply "a working paper for the use of the department of public works, and hence not a document that will be made public."

This is a strange state of affairs indeed. Why should there be this secrecy about a project, the feasibility of which was established two years ago? Amounts have since been included in the parliamentary estimates for continuing the engineering studies, and it has been maintained by the present government at Ottawa that these studies are going forward uninterrupted. Why, then, can't we have a progress report that will show what is being done?

It is time, surely, that we heard from Transport Minister Pickersgill on the subject. He was our most vocal causeway champion when in Opposition, and we have thanked him many occasions for pressing the government of that day for information about the progress that was being made. We are yearning for a chance to thank him again, in the same connection!



SMOKE RINGS

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Still Leaves Much To Be Desired

The journalists and broadcasters, whose job it is to report the performance of Parliament to the people of Canada, have been exposed to some healthy and welcome and sharply criticized.

In effect, it has been alleged that members of the Parliamentary Press Gallery in Ottawa paid members of the House of Commons collectively in an inexcusable derogatory light. It is of course true that many comments, my own among them, have been less than complimentary on the subject of Parliament's performance during 1964. But even MPs will I agree that there has been plenty to be complimentary about. On the other hand, the House is not alone in this. Many of those who deserve criticism are those who deserve praise.

Down To Mere Billion

St. Thomas Times-Journal

It has been announced that U.S. government aid to Europe, once as high as \$15 billion a year during its heyday, is now down to barely \$1 billion a year. This seems a paltry enough sum when the Americans throw their money around. It is less than one per cent of last year's budget. But when we recall that the total aid to Europe from the beginning of the Marshall Plan in 1947 until 1963 was \$4.8 billion, this is slightly more than all government expenditures in the first 135 years of the nation's existence— from 1789 to 1924.

Not Hoax, But Murder

Milwaukee Journal

Philadelphia is an honorable name, linked in greatness to the birth of a nation. But Philadelphia, Miss., is less so. An ugly phrase, tied in blood to lynch law and brutish anarchy. Near Philadelphia, three bodies have been found in crude graves and have been identified as those of the civil rights workers who vanished six weeks ago.

If Doesn't Last

Winnipeg Tribune

The records of mankind are littered with the wreckage of people don't scare easily. Threats of punishment over the millennia have failed to turn men into angels; threats of death or physical injury do not deter men from being bold. It is the threat of a nuclear war, however, that has made men more fearful than ever before. The Greater Winnipeg Safety Council is trying to make city streets safer for motorists and pedestrians. One of the main items on the council's current campaign is to honor the hope that is vivid presentations of the effects of highway accidents on life and limb will make motorists drive more safely. This is a laudable purpose. Unfortunately there are serious grounds for questioning its effectiveness. Statistics show that a slow down of motorist temptations, such as alcohol consumption, does not last.

Some Origins Of Bad Breath

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen many people are surprised about breath odors that sargies and other halitosis r-e-m-e-dies are popular. It is not surprising. Some users have a complex along this line, even though they do not have a bad odor. Overuse of certain preparations damages the membranes of the nose and throat.

Food breath may be a serious handicap, especially in those who work in close contact with the public, such as beauticians, bartenders and waitresses. For those individuals, it could make the difference between success and failure. Many are aware of this factor and do everything to ward off halitosis. They avoid foods such as onions and garlic, as well as medicines that produce unpleasant odors. They also know the penalty for smoking too much and eating an alcohol are out of the question. Mints, chewing gum and toothpastes also contribute to the odor, but they are not a cure. A more marked odor appears because inflammation is present.

Other infections of the gums and oral cavity must be investigated. Some people have a small indentation in the back of the tongue. This cleft acts as a food trap and may harbor bacteria after eating. Food particles also collect in the crypts of the tonsils. Infections of the nose and sinuses should be treated. Discomfort in the nose may be off field odors but cough, weakness, and shortness of breath are more prominent symptoms. Some of the worst examples of offensive breath occur in those suffering from digestive and liver disorders. In such instances, the bacteria are absorbed by the blood and excreted into the air from the lungs. Anxiety after a meal and indigestion also affect the breath but the mechanism is not known.

There is no better test for halitosis than your best friend—if you can get him to test. BAZARDS OF OBESITY I. S. writes: Is overweight serious by a health hazard? It does not have diabetes, high blood pressure, or heart disease. REPLY Time will tell. Overweight is not the cause of these conditions but it aggravates diabetes and high blood pressure when they are present. The added blubber also creates a strain on the heart which is helped to pull with increasing ease.

BRONCHIAL DAMAGE

P. E. writes: What is the relationship between chronic bronchitis and emphysema? Emphysema usually is preceded by chronic bronchitis, often caused by smoking. Bronchitis persists and in time shortness of breath occurs—the two most common symptoms of emphysema.

THE DUMB DON'T CRACK UP

E. A. J. writes: You don't think this question silly but I'll ask it anyway. Are undated people more prone to mental breakdowns than educated people?

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT—

Arteriosclerosis is a lifetime process.

NOTES BY THE WAY

What an extraordinary chain of events was set off by the Brownie who gave a \$10 bill in the gutter, she took it home. Her family called the police. The officer was surprised at such unkindness of heart. The news editor played it on the front page. Thank you, Gladys Forster, aged 9, not just for being a good Brownie, but also for showing us the realization that in our curious society honesty is new.—Vancouver Sun.

Shaw Stands Is Lauded

An eloquent and reasoned case for broad Canadianism has come from Walter Shaw, the 77-year-old poet and the author of the new book, "Shaw Stands." In the presence of Premier Jean Lesage of Quebec and four other provincial heads, P. E. Miller said: "This is a need of importance in friendliness and goodwill, to visit each other, to open our doors to our neighbors, to sit down together. This is not a time to talk of separatism. It is a time for reasoned exchange of opinions, understanding and compromise." Equal opportunity for all Canadians is more than a slogan. It is a goal. It is to be placed and kept before the eyes of all Canadians. It is to be a reality, as well as a motto.

Babel Puts Out To Sea

Winnipeg Tribune If Charlie Chaplin is looking for one great story line to wrap up his satirical commentary of the peculiar world, he could hardly expect to find any better than the multilingual confusion that West Germany and the United States are attempting to foist on NATO.

The first experimental landing of the old ferry sailed into New York harbor last week to begin a year of trials. This guided missile destroyer has the bland name Biddle, an ironic touch one might expect in depicting the end of the world. Sort of nothing spectacular.

Tomorrow, it's the Turks' turn in the galaxy, and that's a good sign for the poppycock much longer.

Napoleon might have a lid that an army marches on its stomach, but from now on sailors must eat at a gastrostome. The force never equalled, since the Sixth Crusade.

The small matter of pay was not the only one. The British and the United States Americans are rationed off to various chores.

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