The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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The Government Falls

Having succeeded in combining long enough to defeat the Diefenbaker Government last night, the Opposition parties will now be asking themselves: "Where do we go from here?" Different ways, of course, but which ways?

So far as the overshadowing issue of defense is concerned, only the NDP leader, Mr. Douglas, seems to have set a definite course. He is against the acquisition of nuclear arms, period. Mr. Pearson claims we have commitments that must be honored, but he would immediately begin to negotiate for their abrogation. He hasn't attempted to say how he would do this, in the face of Washington's rigid attitude on the subject. As for Mr. Thompson, the Social Credit leader, he would straddle the fence by having warheads for our NATO weapons in Europe, but not for NORAD in Canada.

Since Defense Minister Harkness' resignation, rumors of a bigger cabinet split were rife. Certainly Mr. Diefenbaker appeared like a lonely stag at bay in the Commons last night. His speech was a spirited defense, but it wasn't enough. His reminder of the Government's unfinished legislative program wasn't enough. Nothing was enough. His hour had struck, and down he went. His followers with him, of course. But how many of them were truly his followers in this hour of crisis, we shall probably never know.

Whatever Mr. Pearson may say to the contrary, it was Washington's finger that tipped the scales. The coincidence in the chain of events was too striking. All over the world this fact will be noted, and taken stock of.

The big question now is what the next election holds in store. Our best hope is for a return to stable majority government, and a chance to get the country back on an even keel in more ways than one.

Hospital Rebates

The Hospital Association has indicated its intention to promote a campaign to have the $600,000 rebate of insurance premiums, which is about to be made by the Hospital Services Commission, assigned to the association, which will in turn distribute the fund to each hospital in the province on the basis of the number of patient days' care each provided in 1962. The reason given is the urgent need of funds for maintaining hospital services and for retiring existing hospital deficits since the inauguration of the Hospital Insurance plan.

It is well to understand that the proposed campaign is of the same nature as any other public appeal for funds, except that the appeal is being made to each subscriber who is qualified for a rebate on prepaid insurance premiums, who will be asked to assign his rebate to the Hospital Association.

This rebate was pledged to the subscribers by the Government in the last provincial campaign. In view of the financial straits in which the hospitals find themselves under the Insurance plan, it is questionable whether either of the political parties acted very responsibly when they offered pledges of this kind in return for the electors' votes. However, that's how the game of politics is played and that was the way the issue was presented, with no concern at all expressed about the need for more generously reimbursing the hospitals.

NOW IT IS plain that the hospitals cannot carry on without more financial aid, and they are appealing, through their association, to the subscribers to whom the rebates have been pledged. There is no compulsion in the matter, so far as the subscribers are concerned; but hope is expressed that the Government will see fit to lead off the campaign by offering to pay the premiums, on the subscribers' behalf, to the Hospital Association. It is suggested that this would give "an equal opportunity to the public to respond to their responsibility without further contribution of monies."

Each subscriber will be contacted, in this connection, for what amounts to a free will offering. On this basis we trust the response will be favorable and that the emergency in hospital deficits will be met. The Government must, however, tread warily lest it give the impression that it is reneging on a pledge which was featured so prominently in its campaign promises.

Civic Finances

We recall, not so many years ago, the storm that would have been raised in the Legislature had it been revealed that the Province's net debt had reached the alarming amount of $6,928,993. That, at Dec. 31 last, was the net debt of the City of Charlottetown. It increased by $1,135,265 last year alone. But before uttering a loud and piercing cry about the extravagance of our civic administration we looked at the other side of the ledger, as shown last evening in the report of the finance committee chairman, Coun. Hyndman, and were reassured. Extravagance, if there was any, we couldn't find.

As for the debt increase last year, it is noted that three new schools were completed in 1962 at a cost of $1,300,000. Streets, sidewalks and parking areas accounted for $160,000, sewer and water provision $190,000, and procurement of lands for playgrounds and parking areas $56,000. And as against the total net debt we have assets of over ten and a half million dollars, and our standing last year was reflected by a favorable $1,150,000 bond sale at 5 per cent.

In current account, where expenditures are controllable, the City had a surplus of $16,722 last year, which exceeded by $6,091 the amount budgeted for. This surplus was achieved after allocating $25,000 to help defray expenses in the coming 1964 Centennial celebrations and placing an additional $10,000 to the Employees' Pension Fund.

Emphasis was placed in the committee report on the need of maintaining tax collections at a high level. Continued efforts will be made to collect outstanding taxes and fair warning is given to all and sundry, that after due notification, tax delinquents will be dealt with by the courts. That is as it should be, for there is no reason why anyone should evade this prime obligation of citizenship.

The committee was commended by Mayor Gaudet on its excellent report, and the various other committees on keeping within their estimates. This always calls for commendation, and deservedly so.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Congratulations to Dr. Orville H. Phillips, MP for Prince, on his call to the Senate in the dying hours of the Government last night. He has earned his appointment politically, and there is no doubt that he will represent us well and faithfully in the upper chamber, as he has done in the lower house.

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One of the choice specimens of bureaucratic hair-splitting in the Auditor General's report to Parliament is about an RCAF officer who died of natural causes while serving in the United States. Shortly before his death his wife obtained an American divorce and remarried. But because her divorce was technically not recognized as legal in Canada the RCAF considered her a "widow", paying her the officer's cash termination allowance and supplementary death benefit. The Auditor General concedes that the payments may have been legally correct but suggests, with characteristic understatement, that "they appear to be unrealistic." They resulted, at any rate, in $8,428 being paid over to the "widow".

THE FAITHFUL ST. BERNARD COULDN'T MAKE IT

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

The Plight Of Canada's Lawmakers

The plight of Canada's lawmakers is like the dilemma posed by that oldtime song: "Who takes care of the caretaker's daughter when the caretaker is busy taking care?"

Our lawmakers are so incompetent in taking care of their own problems that they and they alone are second-class citizens in one important respect—their payment of income tax.

Men and women elected to our House of Commons devote long hours, far longer than any working week tolerated by any union, to the affairs of Canada. They face considerable expenses in battling for election to that assembly; they meet substantial costs year after year whilst members of that assembly. In return, the taxpayers pay them each $8,000 per year, which is subject to income tax, plus a tax-free expense allowance of $2,000 per year.

For some years it has been truthfully reported that M.Ps have to live very frugally, or else enjoy some independent source of income, to avoid going into debt. Now a literal blizzard of criticism greets the suggestion that their remuneration should be doubled.

Typically, the "Times" of Oshawa and the "Examiner" of Barrie suggest that $6,000 would be unreasonable and that anyhow they are falling to do the work for which they are paid $10,000 a year.

Our constitution says that "It shall be lawful for the Queen, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate and House of Commons, to make Laws for the Peace, Order and good Government of Canada."

Even the best friend of our 25th Parliament must admit that it is offering little advice or consent, and even less good government. Its squalid and sordid record to date makes it seem less a legislative assembly than a cockpit of partisan politics, intent not on governing Canada but on continuing the election campaign of last Spring. On these indisputable grounds, Conservative, Liberal, Social Credit and New Democratic MPs all equally must plead guilty to the charge that they are failing to provide the good government for which they are paid.

Nevertheless, the present temporary criticism of our legislators does not excuse the fact that they have permitted a law to make them second-class citizens in the eyes of the income tax collector.

ALLOW TRUE EXPENSES

Each M.P. has a tax-free expense allowance of $2,000 per year. But the brutal dollar and cent fact is that the average M.P. has expenses, unavoidable and directly attributable to his job as an M.P., amounting to perhaps $5,000 a year. On the excess of $3,000 expenses over and above his allowance, he must pay income tax.

No other Canadian worker is thus penalized. Nor, I can say for the guidance of our foolish M.Ps, is their British counterpart.

The British High Commissioner's office here informs me that the remuneration of a British M.P. is $5,250 per year. With deductions for allowable expenses identical to those available to every other citizen." Note those words carefully.

If our M.Ps were to deduct expenses identical to those available to every other citizen, they could for example, claim the cost of telephone calls between their constituents at home and their office in Ottawa, the cost of office space and secretarial and organisation staff at home, the cost of bed and board when away from home and namely in Ottawa on business, the cost of taxis, subscriptions to clubs and organisations, etc, etc and again etc.

A British M.P. whose constituency is outside London may, for example, deduct all expenses in connection with maintaining a second home adjacent to the Parliament Buildings.

If our M.Ps would give a little thought to this obvious injustice inflicted upon them, they would not be paying their banks interest on the sums they now borrow to keep going. And whereas an increase in pay is questioned, this could not be.

The Poets Corner

MARY LOU

Our furniture seemed old and
scuffed and tired
And no one complimented or
admired
A single piece. Sometimes our
friends would shrug
And wonder why we kept the
same old rug.
One day we had a call from
Mary Lou
And everything we owned
seemed bright and new.
Her movements and her eager
eyes gave spice
To her unspoken words: Your
home is nice.
She climbed up in the creaky
rocking chair
And settled back with that
contented air
Reserved for little folk. She
said: I'd give
A lot to have this chair back
where I live.
We bowed before the little Miss
who draws
Our thoughts away from folk
who look for flaws.
When we remarked the daffodils
were beat,
A little voice announced: "The
vase is sweet.
My Mommy says, in almos' any
nook
There is a rose— you'll find it
if you look.
She glanced among the books
along the wall
And smiled: Someday, when
Daddy comes to call,
He'll read about the blind man
in the way
And then he'll slowly close the
Book — and pray.
With folded hands, she told us
in detail,
The story of poor Jonah and the
whale.
I wish you could have seen the
way she smiled
As she sang of the lowly manger Child.
Our happiness knew neither
want nor lack
When she said: Bye for now—
but I'll be back.

—S. Barlow Bird

Freetown, P.E.I.

PUBLIC FORUM

IN COMMENDATION

Sir,— We thank you for your courageous and well-considered editorial on the nuclear arms question, which we saw quoted in the "Vancouver Sun".

Canada's "physical aid" is generally acknowledged to be relatively neglible in the nuclear field and is certainly not required by the U.S.A. which now has the potential to destroy half the world. But they require to exhibit us to the world as their "allies", or, to put it more bluntly, as under their control in our foreign and our defence policy. The only "national dishonour" for Canada would consist in complying with this kind of pressure, against what the majority of our people believe to be right.

We believe that, as Canadians, we have a special and distinctive point of view which the U.S. does not have, and we believe it is our duty to try to use it for the benefit of others.

In spite of Napoleon's cynical dictum, God is NOT on the side of the biggest battalions. He is certainly on the side of the people who are honestly and soul-searchingly trying to do what is right.

Again thanking you on behalf of my husband, myself and many friends.

I am, Sir, etc.,
MRS. DOROTHEA EDMOND,
Vancouver, B.C.

O TEMPORA! O MORES!

Sir, — The old library which really was not old has now been destroyed and carted away. It was really a fine edifice and served the public well. Another building, the old Post Office later called the Cabot Building, has been demolished and also carted away. This building was somewhat venerable. I remember very well when its predecessor was burned down in the winter of 1885.

It was a sad sight which I shall never forget. Very little effort was made to save it, apparently because it was a Federal Building and therefore would have to be replaced by money provided by the Dominion Government.

Those were the days when knighthood was in flower and when Sir John A. Macdonald piloted the Ship of State. And now in the space formerly occupied by these buildings it is intended to erect a building of magnificent proportions to bear the name Confederation Memorial Building, to commemorate the first steps leading to the establishment of the Dominion of Canada. These initial steps were taken in the old Provincial Building in 1864.

Now this project will be a very costly undertaking and many people are in great doubt about the wisdom and value of the plan, but there seems to be no complaint on the part of the Government or the Opposition, because both parties know quite well that the Dominion Government will supply a large part of the expenses involved.

Now what I suggest may sound foolish but I do believe that a great University should be erected in order to give the young people of this Island an opportunity to complete their education and thus acquire degrees in the Arts, Medicine and Philosophy.

I am, Sir, etc.,
C. S. MACDONALD,
Wood Islands, P.E.I.

Varicose Veins Cause Ulcers

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

VARICOSE ulcer on a leg is caused by a varicose vein that is not working properly. It makes sense to have the offending vein removed, if cure is to follow. But it is surprising how many persons will try salves and antibiotics, year after year, just because the ulcer closes for a few months. But the lesion returns, as a rule.

Most varicose ulcers will heal if the individual remains in bed or while wearing a firm compression bandage that extends from toes to knee. An antiseptic ointment, including those containing an antibiotic, may be applied to the open sore.

Some authorities cover this with an ordinary piece of gauze. Others utilize a foam rubber pad which is flexible and tends to "milk" the raw surface. This in turn promotes healing.

But the elastic compression bandage or stocking is the most important factor. It collapses the varicose vein so the blood no longer flows in the wrong direction and creates the unwanted stagnation in the tissues surrounding the ulcer. A British physician prescribes a combination of a diuretic and an antibiotic to reduce the swelling.

The ulcer is likely to remain healed so long as the bandage is worn. As stated previously, surgical elimination of the varicose vein leads to permanent results. This procedure is never recommended when the lesion is open; consequently, the more conservative approach must be tried first.

Not every leg ulcer is a varicose ulcer. Some stem from poor circulation, usually from hardening of the arteries. This cause is suspected when a crater- like opening develops in the skin of an older person who has no varicose veins. Healing often follows improvement in the circulation, along with removal of the ulcer and replacement of the area with a skin graft.

Some ulcers are most resistant to treatment. Skin cancer does not heal and must be removed as a life saving measure. The ulcer that comes after an electrical burn also resists treatment and so does the open sore that follows inflammation of a deep vein in a leg. Elastic stockings must be worn for many months before the lesion closes.

SPINAL CYST

E. A. writes: Should a pilonidal cyst, present since birth but giving no trouble until recently, be removed by surgery?

REPLY

Yes, but there is no hurry because this is not an emergency operation. Once these cysts at the base of the spine become active, they are likely to cause more and more trouble.

EFFECT OF DEFORMITY

G. G. writes: Can a physical deformity lead to a psychosis?

REPLY

Yes, provided the abnormality so disturbs or depresses the individual, he reaches the breaking point. I assume the person in question does not have a brain lesion.

HEART DEFECT

A. P. writes: Is leakage of the heart serious in a man of 77?

REPLY

The answer depends upon what the defect is doing to the heart and whether it has existed for years or developed as a result of the aging process.

BRAN FOR CONSTIPATION

S. C. writes: Why are doctors eagey about recommending bran for constipation?

REPLY

Bran is a good form of roughage and there is no reason why it cannot be recommended except for those with an irritable bowel.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT—

Overweight overworks the heart.

RESTORES RIGHTS

LIMA, Peru (Reuters)—The Peruvian government has restored constitutional guarantees suspended Jan. 5 when a country-wide roundup of alleged pro-Communists was staged. A government announcement added Tuesday that 211 ringleaders of an alleged pro-Communist plot had been put down for trial before civil and military courts. Another seven defendants are fugitives.

NOTES BY THE WAY

"My uncle is going to be in the hospital for a long, long time." "Why?" Have you seen the doctor?" "No, but I've seen the nurse." — Hamilton Spectator.

Another reason a man ought to drive carefully is that black might not be becoming to his wife. — Galt Reporter..

A man never knows how wonderful life was until he has a cold. — Ottawa Journal.

Just as a good many goldfish in Victoria died as a result of chlorination of the water some years ago — although oddly enough their deaths were announced several days before the chlorination process was actually begun so in Toronto, which recently voted for fluoridation but hasn't yet healed its water supply, people are complaing of tooth trouble. — Victoria Times.

Keeping a secret from some people is more difficult than trying to smuggle daylight past a rooster. — Chatham News.

Farming On Gibraltar

BBC London Letter

Gibraltar is only two miles long and three-quarters of a mile wide, but 25,000 people, largely British Army personnel, live on this giant rock that juts up 1,200 feet from the sea. For meat and many other foods they are largely dependent on frozen and tinned supplies from Britain, Australia and New Zeland.

As in any camp or other institution catering for numbers of men, there is a considerable amount of waste food, and in 1957 the Army decided to try to put it to productive use by encouraging a pig farming scheme. They called for tenders and Laurence Dowling, an Air Ministry clerk, put in the successful one.

The area he was given was the site of an old gun battery used in the first world war. The battery had been cemented into rock on a slope of 60 degrees. But Mr. Dowling got to work with a pick and shovel chipping out the cement. It took him three years to clear a surface of a quarter of an acre for his "farm" and build a safety wall and sties, using stone taken out of the rock. Since there was no one on the spot with any farming experience, he relied on books, and plans sent him by the Department of Fisheries and Food in London.

In 1960 he killed his first two pigs, and provided some of the people of Gibraltar with the first fresh, unfrozen meat they had had since supplies from Spain were cut off in 1939. By the end of 1962 he was supplying pigs at the rate of 160 a year.

Longevity

Windsor Daily Star

It is something of a cliche that the best way to keep healthy is to have healthy parents.

Certain families have traditions of longevity, and being comparatively free of illness during lengthy lives.

We note a letter in an English newspaper wherein the writer states that his parents celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary on Christmas Day, and his wife's parents had a similar observance in 1961: also that his wife's grandparents had their 60th anniversary back in 1932.

The youngest member of this family connection has four great grandparents still living.

These now elderly people, however, spent a large part of their lives when the pace of life was somewhat easier and more relaxed.

We wonder how the pace of modern living will affect the longevity, even of those fortunate enough to come of healthy stock.

At any rate, they still will have an advantage over their fellowmen of being endowed with natural good health.

Height Of Generosity

Guelph Mercury

The President received about $162,000 a year, but gives most of it away in charities. How does he do it? You will ask. He has a very wealthy father, Joseph P. Kennedy acclimed as one of the richest men in the world with a fortune estimated at amounts of $300,000,000 and $500,000,000. Nobody knows for sure, and Joseph P. Kennedy is very close-mouthed about what he is worth.

CAME FROM ENGLAND

His father came from England and started his immense fortune in the traditional way by selling newspapers in Boston, where he lived. At 25 he became a bank manager and then a stock broker on the New York Stock Exchange. He made vast sums also in real estate, oils, and in the motion picture industry. Joseph Kennedy seemed to have the midas touch — because everything he handled turned into gold.

Finally, out of his enormous accumulation Joseph P. Kennedy put aside $8,000,000 as a trust fund for his seven children. The money was invested in real estate, oil, and other gilt edged securities.

Each child is to receive one quarter of his share on reaching 40, and the rest at given intervals. President Kennedy is now 45, and has already been paid $5,400,000 of the sum due him and will ultimately receive a total of about $16,200,000 when paid in full.

WITHOUT A DIME

The President carries little money about him, and once in landing at New York's La Guardia airport, he was without a dime and borrowed from a passing workman to make a telephone call home.

President Kennedy gives most of his salary to charities and is forced to draw on his personal fortune quite heavily. It is costing him a lot of money from his own pocket but he gives generously, and is the richest president to be ever elected to the great office he holds. His style of living in the White House is very generous and the President and his wife do much entertaining.

Our Yesterday's

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
(February 6, 1938)

The need of provision for recreational training as well as treatment of physical handicaps in the case of crippled children, was emphasized by Hon. W.J.P. MacMillan, newly elected president of the Prince Edward Island Division of the Red Cross Society, at the annual meeting of the organization. Dr. MacMillan commended this suggestion advanced in an address given earlier by Miss Mona Wilson.

Miss Kathleen A.M. Fairchild, a native of Georgetown, Prince Edward Island has taken the oath in supreme court at Boston to become a full-fledged attorney, and the first Canadian woman to become a member of the Massachusetts bar. Miss Fairchild worked as secretary prior to studying law.

TEN YEARS AGO
(February 6, 1953)

The Rainbow Club held a highly successful white elephant sale at the YMCA Monday evening in aid of the Sunset Lodge. The large crowd attending enjoyed the fun of the auction, and a canteen service provided coffee and doughnuts.

J.H. Sturdy, who for some time has been manager of the Metropolitan Store here, has been transferred to the Halifax branch of his firm, and is scheduled to leave for his new location today. John Deap, formerly of Fredericton, N.B., will take over the Charlottetown branch in succession to Mr. Sturdy.

TRAVEL BARGAINS

Charlottetown to:
Sackville, $2.10
Moncton, $2.80
Truro, $3.80
Saint John, $4.80
Halifax, $5.20
Antigonish, $5.60
Sydney, $9.20
Quebec, $11.25
Montreal, $12.50

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