

"Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew"
Published every week-day morning at 165 Prince Street,
Charlottetown, P. E. I., by the Thomson Company Ltd.
45 King St. W., Toronto.
Montreal Office, 225 University Tower Bldg.
Editor, Frank Walker
General Manager, Ian Burnett
Member Canadian Daily Newspaper
Publishers Association
Member of The Canadian Press
Member Audit Bureau of Circulations
Branch offices at Summerside, Montserrat and Alberton
Authorized as Second Class Mail by the Post Office
Department, Ottawa.
By Carrier Charlottetown, Summerside \$13.00 per annum.
Elsewhere in P.E.I. \$9.00. Other Provinces and
U.S. \$12.00 per annum.

"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1956

Youthful Talents

It may be true after all—as some educators have been arguing all along—that, in general, young persons in their teens are not given enough responsibility in community life; and it is just possible that this overlooking of youthful talents is one of the causes for much of the restiveness which appears to be on the increase in the ranks of the young.

In an article in a recent issue of the National Parent-Teacher Magazine, published in Chicago, Mr. Charles W. Ferguson, a specialist in youth psychology, discussed this subject at some length. His main thesis is that all normal young persons are made up of idealism, inquisitiveness, and extraordinary mental and physical energy. In about equal proportions. If these qualities are channeled into creative directions, well and good; if not, they are almost certain to be diverted to less desirable, and perhaps mischievous, activities. In short, young people want to feel that they are really needed to fill roles that demand courage, good sense, and a measure of self-discipline. There can be no question on this point; witness the ready and eager manner in which so many thousands of young Canadians voluntarily took up military service immediately after the outbreak of war in 1939. It was a challenge to shoulder big responsibilities. How well most of them carried out their duties is a matter of proud record.

In the course of his article Mr. Ferguson gives instance after instance of youthful participation in big events, once the need was made clear and the mobilization of talents carried out effectively. One group of teenagers landscaped the school grounds, with only occasional supervision by an expert. Another raised money to pave the main streets of their home town. Still another replanted a large woodland which had been ravaged by fire. In one fairly large town, high school students, entirely on their own, conducted a public opinion poll to find out what kind of local government would best suit requirements. In another town they made an exhaustive study of traffic conditions and placed their recommendations before the City Council which accepted them just as they were. In one small Southern community, ridden by racial antagonisms, young persons of both races got together and drew up a memorial on human rights, which, since then, has been publicized widely for its sane approach to a distressing problem.

There probably is not a town or community anywhere which could not find some creative outlet for the talents and drive of its young citizens, to the benefit of the entire social structure. At all events, it is worth trying—anywhere.

T. B. Survey

A recently concluded survey covering fifteen countries for the 1947-53 period shows a very rapid decline in tuberculosis mortality rates and a somewhat less rapid decline in new cases reported. This is due largely to the three drugs, streptomycin, paramino-salicylic-acid, and isoniazid, all of which came into use during that seven year period. There was a significant drop in the death rate in all fifteen countries, ranging from 53% in France to 83% in Iceland. The figures show that in the United States, Canada, France, and Germany, the number of deaths from the disease in 1953 was 47,323, a decrease of 59% from 1949, although of course the populations of all four countries had increased considerably in the interim.

As a specific instance of the good effect of the new drugs, the report shows that in the ten year period from 1930 to 1940, the t.b. death rate in the United States declined on an average about 3.5% annually, while between 1947 and 1953 the decline was more than doubled, about 9% being the figure. At the same

time, the report emphasizes, it would be a serious mistake to believe that tuberculosis is no longer a major health problem. One specialist attached to the International Tuberculosis Campaign, a division of the World Health Organization, has declared that many fundamental questions about the disease are still unanswered. In the United States, for instance, about 100,000 new cases are still being reported annually; and in some Asiatic and African areas, up to 80% of boys and girls in their teens have been found to be infected. The net result of the survey indicates that while medical science has won many brilliant victories against tuberculosis, the war against it will have to go on for many years. There is cause for satisfaction in what has been achieved, but none for over-optimism.

A Sorry Plight

It is a matter of common knowledge that Canada's merchant fleet is in a sorry plight. It is doubtful, however, that the rapidly declining strength in available tonnage is receiving the consideration it deserves. According to a recent report from the Canadian Shipowners Association, this country now ranks 21st among the world's shipping nations, as against the 4th place it occupied as recently as 1948. In that year, following a post-war expansion, there were 157 ocean-going ships of Canadian registry, totaling 1,035,430 gross tons. The figure has been going down ever since; and at the present time there are only 18 ships, totaling 89,000 tons. By contrast, Switzerland, which is far removed from salt water, has more than three times as many.

One reason, of course, for this unfortunate state of affairs is the high cost of operation. For example, British ships can be operated for less than half what it costs Canadian carriers. Another reason, and a less excusable one, is that Canada is about the only shipping country in the world where government subsidies of one kind or another are not available to merchant shipping. Just why this should be is not clear. Certainly, no maritime nation can expect to maintain an adequate seagoing commerce, to say nothing of an efficient defense system, without having its own fleet of cargo ships available at all times. It is obvious that, if nothing is done soon to remedy the situation, the Canadian merchant flag will disappear from the seas.

EDITORIAL NOTES

It has been revealed that, despite the great power of organized labor in the United States, only one of every three wage earners belongs to a union.

In urging an increase in postal rates this year President Eisenhower reported that the mail service is losing "\$1000 every minute." That is unfortunate. However, there will be no increase this year, Congressional leaders say. The election is much too near for that.

European demand for American coal is rising steadily. This year the United States expects to ship more than 30 million tons of it. The increase is due to accelerated industrial activity. What is to prevent Canadian coal producers from sharing in the new business?

The Valley of Sorek near Jerusalem, prominently mentioned in the Books of Joshua and Judges, has a brand new lake, the first in history. It was created for irrigation purposes at a cost of approximately \$1 million. The dam is 600 feet long and 78 feet high; the lake is spread over 50 acres. Not far from the spot is Zorah, where Samson lived; a little further along is Timnah, the home of Delilah who betrayed the strong man to his enemies.

It isn't true that old soldiers never die. It is true, though, that some of them live unusually long. Take Albert Woolson of Duluth, Minn. for instance. He was a drummer boy in the Union forces in the American Civil War. Just the other day he celebrated his 109th birthday, hale and hearty. Among numerous messages of congratulations was this one from President Eisenhower: "This anniversary will, I am certain, be rich, like its predecessors, in memories and in warm wishes from friends in many parts of the nation. With them I am proud to join once again in saluting you."



SOMETHING FOR THE OTHER FOOT?

OTTAWA REPORT

The Wheat Problem

By Patrick Nicholson

When you spread butter and jam on your next slice of toast, just pause to think that your bread is of the dynamite which could wreck Canada's economy and destroy the peace of the world.

Our last harvest yielded 490 million bushels of wheat. That is enough to supply the food needs of our population for nearly eight years. But we did not need that crop at all really, because we had 560 million bushels, or nine years supply, carried over from previous crops.

These figures suggest that we are overproducing. Should our wheat acreage be controlled? As it is in the States, or as our tobacco acreage is controlled in Ontario?

If so, what will farmers do? Go into livestock too, and feed their grain to animals and to produce meat market prices? Grow other crops? Or move their families into towns and themselves work in industry?

These are the points being mulled over by our anxious western M.P.s.

PUBLIC FORUM

"PETER EMBERLY"
Sir,—A request has been received from the McCarthy family of Boyestown (Miramichi), N. B., as to the birthplace and genealogy of the subject of the famous "lament" called "Peter Emberly". It appears that the McCarthy family have performed the self-imposed duty of looking after Peter's grave for over fifty years. The music and sentiment expressed in the song called "Peter Emberly" gives it a high place in the category of songs. A few years ago a theatrical impresario of Saint John, N. B. announced his intention of integrating it into an operatic production, claiming that the music was derived from an ancient Greek or Phoenician rhapsody. It was generally known that the song was made by a resident of the Miramichi in collaboration with an Islander from the vicinity of St. Theresa's. Persons having knowledge (personal or traditional) of the subject, please be kind enough to write the undersigned.

I am, Sir, etc.,
JAMES PENDERGAST,
171 Dorchester Street,
Charlottetown.

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OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
(February 17, 1931)

A brief submitted by the National Dairy Council of Canada to the Dominion Government asks for higher tariffs on cheese, powdered whole milk, skim milk, casein, milk, sugar and whey powder. The brief was signed by Mr. Robinson, President.

At the British Empire Trade Fair which is being opened by the Prince of Wales at Buenos Aires, Canada will be represented by specimens from P. E. I. taken by J. Edgar Milligan of Northam.

Mail couriers have been having difficulty in making their rounds during the last few days, due to the bad road conditions. Several of the couriers from the Charlottetown Post Office have had to remain in the country overnight before being able to finish their routes.

TEN YEARS AGO
(February 17, 1946)

The Douglas D. C. 3, 26 passenger plane recently acquired by Maritime Central Airways arrived at the local airport Saturday from Montreal, piloted by Captain H.S. Jones. The flight from the metropolitan took two hours and thirty-five minutes. This aircraft will inaugurate the new large plane service between this city and Moncton within the next few days.

After fifty-five years of service at sea Captain Archibald J. Campbell, master of the CGS Brant, has been superannuated. He is being succeeded by Captain Allan Arsenault of Dartmouth, N. S.

Completing her thirtieth and final voyage as a mercy ship, the hospital ship Lady Nelson docked at Halifax last Saturday carrying 48 Canadian overseas casualties and three babies.

News of the elevation of the Archbishop of Toronto to the Sacred College of Cardinals was received with joy by people of his native parish of Rustico. His Eminence James Cardinal McGuigan is the first English speaking Canadian to be exalted to the Cardinalate. Honour of membership was conferred upon him on December 23, and on February 18 he will receive the Cardinal's red hat from the Holy Father at Rome.

The Age Old Story

Let us go forth therefore unto Him without the camp, bearing His reproach. For here have we no continuing city.

Notes By The Way

The impaired driver is a greater menace than the impaired car.—Lethbridge Herald.

A Detroit driver who has served 237 days in jail on six convictions of driving without a licence has just drawn another 90 days for his seventh offence. Hasn't anyone thought of a mental examination?—Windsor Star.

A British Army colonel who forcibly removed a lawyer's pants in a dispute over a will, has been sentenced to six months in jail. Egad, Sir, this welfare state business has gone too far when a man can take his revenge on his own lawyer.—Windsor Star.

A New Zealand grandfather daily gulps a couple of raw eggs mixed with orange juice at 3 a.m., before setting out on a 25-mile run. We wonder what he would accomplish with a breakfast of some supercharged, jet-roasted, energized poppy cereal?—Hamilton Spectator.

The Canadian taxpayer is paying for commercially-sponsored television programs. The sponsors don't pay the full price. So the citizens do it for them. And the CBS accepts it with a shrug. The country would do better—or at least no worse—to spend some of this money on a national sports program to develop our athletes.—North Bay Nugget.

Now three New York doctors report that lack of exercise increases a man's chances of getting heart trouble, diabetes, backaches, stiff neck and other sundry ailments. "It is imperative," they told an American Medical Association audience, "to increase physical activity from early childhood through old age." There is no escape. The treadmill never stops. It's either a backache from exercise or from lack of it. Anyone for tiddlywinks?—Nanaimo Free Press.

Dr. John McNab, editor of the Presbyterian Record, writing editorially under the brisk caption "Sweetshops in the Sanctuary," says the typical salary for church organists in all denominations in Canada is \$300 a year. Some organists are choir directors as well. This, he says, calls for immediate salary increases. "Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands; sing forth the glory of His name: make His praise glorious," says the Psalmist. It must be hard for an organist with a salary of \$300 a year to make the sort of joyful noise that David indicated as part of the service of God.—London Free Press.

William Henry Harrison was the only president to bring a cow of his own to the White House. On the Saturday following his inauguration, President Harrison and the farmer from whom he had bought the animal drove a Durham cow through the streets of Washington to the home of our presidents. In Harrison's time, the nation's capital was little more than a frontier village with dirt roads and no sidewalks. President Harrison found that there was no such thing as a daily supply of fresh milk furnished in the White House. Nor was there such a thing as daily milk deliveries in those days. So Harrison went out and bought a cow.—Our Dumb Animals.

56th Annual Report

The figures shown below—condensed from our Annual Report for 1955—represent a new milestone in our growth. The steady expansion of our business reflects ever widening appreciation of the value and quality of our services. Through our nineteen offices across Canada and in London, England, we are now serving more individuals and corporations than ever before in our history.

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|------------|-------------|
| EARNINGS | \$7,071,000 |
| EXPENSES | 5,359,000 |
| PROFIT | 1,712,000 |
| TAXES | 687,000 |
| NET PROFIT | 1,025,000 |
| DIVIDENDS | 522,000 |

CAPITAL, RESERVE AND SURPLUS
\$10,631,000

ASSETS UNDER ADMINISTRATION
\$1,447,000,000

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