The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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Historic Pilgrimage

Pope Paul VI, now on his three-day pilgrimage to the Holy Land, is truly making history. His warm reception by Moslem King Hussein of Jordan was indicative of the reaction of the non-Christian world to this act of piety, performed without ostentation but rich in symbolism and significance for the troubled world of today. And, certainly, no better occasion for so unique a gesture could be chosen in furthering the goals of Christian unity.

There is no doubt that much will be achieved by the Pope's meeting with Patriarch Athenagoras I of the Greek Orthodox Church. Not that it will end the long-standing schism between the two churches, which caused so much bitterness in the past. That will be the work of time, tolerance and patience—work already begun by the Ecumenical Council launched by the late Pope John and carried forward by Pope Paul. But it is felt that the meeting will prove a decisive step forward in co-operation and common endeavor.

Of deep significance, too, is the Pope's meeting with Israeli officials, in underlining the connection between Judaism and Christianity, and the values they have in common.

Pope Paul has emphasized the religious aspect of his trip, which he described as "a pilgrimage of prayer and penance." But it is also being made in the cause of world peace, and of rededication to ideals to which all men of good will subscribe. As such it can be regarded as one of the most memorable, and most promising, events of our time.

France At The Crossroads

In Europe, notes a Paris correspondent for the North American Newspaper Alliance, 1963 was President de Gaulle's year, if it was anybody's. Yet he—and France—have entered 1964 with astonishingly little to show for it. De Gaulle's successes, stunning as they were, have proved sterile. He destroyed other men's visionary hopes, but never came close to imposing his own.

His aim in 1963 was to put France firmly on the road to the leadership of Europe, and moreover, a Europe moulded to his specifications. He failed. The year 1964 is likely to be full of the repercussions of that failure.

A year ago, united Europe appeared well on the way to being a living reality. Then came the splitting blow of de Gaulle's rejection of the British bid for membership in the Common Market. Last month Europe again was under the shadow of a de Gaulle ultimatum, threatened with breakup of the Common Market unless French agricultural policy demands were met. This rift was hastily patched up, but the mend does not look very durable. If united Europe meets extinction before it becomes real, the responsibility must rest largely with de Gaulle for his intransigent attitude.

The mainstay of de Gaulle's political scheme—his alliance with West Germany—has been cracked. France's nuclear force, well on its way to being operational, has not proved enough to draw the Germans away from reliance on the United States. It has not led to fresh political concessions from Washington. Nor has it had Premier Khrushchev beating a path to de Gaulle's door. At enormous cost, it has not yet proved an effective bargaining counter.

De Gaulle continues to have no political rivals in France, only critics. But for the first time since he came to power, the nation's economic outlook for the year isn't rosy. Inflationary pressure hasn't yet been eased by the government's price stabilization campaign; costs are rising and exports are falling. The Common Market's unsteady prospects have not improved the picture.

The coming months will be the decisive time when France will sink further into psychological isolation or begin the slow, painful but wholly necessary process of rejoining the main stream of western politics. Which will it be? The pessimistic expectation is that de Gaulle will create new tensions in the western alliance by pressing his nationalist policies more strongly than ever. But he is a remarkable man, and an unpredictable one. As he looks around him, it must be quite clear to his keen intelligence that new policies are required.

"Lay On, Macduff . . ."

Our esteemed contemporary, the Moncton Transcript, is still harping on the advantages it professes to see in the pre-Confederation idea of a union of the Maritime Provinces. Now it has taken another esteemed contemporary, the Halifax Chronicle-Herald, to task for supporting our own views on the subject, which are to the effect that the issue is as dead as a doornail.

But whereas it treated our rebuttal of its arguments with a generous measure of courtesy, it has harsh things to say about the Halifax paper's "defeatist, apathetic attitude." It concedes that the Chronicle-Herald has long been regarded as the editorial voice of Nova Scotia, but it wonders "how many of their readers will agree with them that Maritime Union is neither practical nor desirable."

Our own view on this point is that Nova Scotia readers haven't given it a thought since the idea was quashed by the Rowell-Sirois Commission over a quarter of a century ago. They never were keen on it, as we recall. The Herald-Chronicle, in its "defeatism", goes so far as to say: "The best possible evidence that the attitude of Maritimers has not changed in this regard is the fact that only newspaper writers in search of a subject ever talk about it. Besides, how could Nova Scotia even consider such a thing when it has trouble enough at the present time keeping its Cape Breton separatists under control?"

Into that controversial area we shall not attempt to venture. Nor, indeed, is there need for reviewing all the arguments Prince Edward Islanders could marshal against a scheme which would strip us of our hard-won provincial status, and leave us with probably one federal constituency and a back seat in running our affairs at home.

This is a free country, however, and our Moncton contemporary is welcome to keep arguing, as it does, that Maritime Union "is something that should be exhumed and re-examined most carefully in the light of current circumstances."

Exhuming it and re-examining it may at least serve the purpose of proving that it was a wise thing to have buried it when it died.

EDITORIAL NOTES

There are sceptics around, reports an exchange, who fear that the mountainous volume of words attending discussions of plans for the Dominion's centennial celebration is apt to make the actual celebrations look like a mole hill by comparison.

* * *

The Chinese treasure their country's heritage as a cradle of Oriental civilization just as the Egyptians treasure theirs as a cradle of Western civilization. So, reports the New York Times, there was a note of antiquarian rivalry when Chinese Communist Premier Chou En-lai arrived in Cairo recently to visit United Arab Republic President Nasser. Premier Chou, who tourned the Pyramids, the Sphinx and the Egyptain Museum, was a gracious guest. "We have dug up treasures in China as old as yours," he said diplomatically, "but after my visit I see you were more advanced than we were 4,000 years ago."

RAIDING THE CARCASS

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

"Be Canadians" The Best Exhortation

The French-Canadian extremist stream of a "Republic of Laurentia" was very familiar with. A new nightmare is being publicised by match booklets now circulating in this national capital. Printed on the cover are the words "Edmundston, New Brunswick, capitale de la 'Republique du Madawaska'." Does this signify that the French Canadian overspill into northern New Brunswick is now also launching a secession movement?

Sad though the temporary, we hope, misunderstanding is between the two founding races, it would be deplorable if this were to be seized upon by irresponsible opportunists in politics, and be fashioned into a partisan issue. Yet there are obvious signs that this is a possibility in the minds of certain of the earlier performers on Parliament Hill. These would do well to ponder on the words of their distinguished predecessor, Louis Honore Frechette, who said this in Parliament 89 years ago:

"We will no longer be French, English, Scotch or Irish; we will be Canadians. We will form but one great nation with deep-rooted patriotism and noble aspirations, working as one to common prosperity and advancing together towards a great future."

This M.P., who was also a famed poet, more succinctly exhorted his countrymen with the words: "Be Canadians, and the future is yours!"

Our famous men are justifiably proud of the titles which their achievements have earned for them. Why do we so often insult prominent Canadians by not bothering to express their titles correctly? For instance, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, which surely cannot plead that it is too short-staffed to check basic facts, introduced the Governor General on New Year's Eve as "Major General the Right Honourable Georges Vanier." Why downgrade him? His promotion to full General had been announced some days earlier. Similarly, when officials of the Liberal Party organized their annual Christmas Party, invitations were sent out in the name of "The Honourable Lester B. Pearson, But in fact the Prime Minister alone among his party in the House of Commons has been granted by the Queen the higher title of "The Right Honourable," as was the Governor General.

POSTAL BOUQUET

Our post office has been showered with brickbats recently because of varied deplorable patronage practices. But it merits a bouquet for one excellent service which I have just experienced. I received a printed postcard saying that I had unders amped a letter sent by airmail to Mr. x. "This is less than the amount needed for air mail," said the postcard. "Since you marked the item for air service, we are sure you would not wish to have it delayed or to make it necessary for your correspondent to pay the postage due. We have therefore advanced the necessary postage and sent it on by air." A request to place stamps to the appropriate value on the card, and return it through the mail, followed.

This is a courteous and considerate practice by the post office and the machinery for collecting the amount due is clever and convenient. It is certainly preferable to having the recipient of the understamped letter pay double costs. The maligned, sometimes deservedly, post office deserves high marks for this service. As indeed it does for the expeditious way in which this Christmas it handled the swollen mails without unreasonable delay.

Farewell To The Arsenal

The Times, London

There is an impressive historical symmetry about the decision, announced by the Secretary of State for War, to close the Royal Ordnance Factory at Woolwich 250 years after the foundations of the original gunfoundary were laid at Woolwich Warren.

It was in 1716 that the first superintendent, described with faintly disguised disapproval in one of the accounts of the day as "a foreigner by the name of Schalch", came from the French foundry at Douai to set up an arsenal after a military disaster of quite spectacular proportions had taken place at the government's ordnance establishment in London—then directed by Matthew Bagley, a bell-founder.

The Duke of Richmond, the Master General of the Ordnance, had decided to have recast for the use of the British Army some French guns captured in Marlborough's campaigns. Seeking wide-spread notice for this act of martial husbandry, and possibly with some idea of keeping the Army in the public eye, he arranged to have the operation performed in the presence of a large concourse of spectators.

This imaginative stroke of public relations won him, in the event, very few recruits, since the mould exploded, severely injuring several of the spectators and, even worse, killing Matthew Bagley.

Fortunately, according to some contemporary reports, the sinister M. Schalch was among those present; having noticed that the mould had not been properly dried, he warned the bystanders and withdrew to a safe distance, so acquiring a reputation as an ordnance expert, and Matthew Bagley's job.

He selected Woolwich as the site for his new foundry and received as Chief Organizer for fifty years. The arsenal that he founded has been more than just a place for making guns and storing shells. Around it have grown up barracks, depots, and schools familiar to thousands of officers and men.

Outside the Army Woolwich Arsenal gave the name to a great football club,still called The Gunners, although they have long moved their home from Woolwich. It has been the centre of bitter political quarrels about private armaments manufacturers.

Although no one at Woolwich has ever achieved anything quite as dramatic as Bagley's fiasco of 1716, the arsenal came into the headlines once more with a mysterious fire in 1925.

No great damage was done — fortunately for Woolwich, as The Times reported with a nice regard for the correct priorities, the wind fanned the flames towards London.

Steam Up For '64

Ottawa Journal

Mr. Gordon and Mr. Crump, the railway presidents, face 1964 with a stimulating zest for the fray.

In year-end statements both emphasize improvements made in equipment and operations and Mr. Crump looks forward to Parliament implementing recommendations of the MacPherson Commission on Transportation.

If the Government does that, the railways will have to be on their toes.

Both the presidents have the understandable conviction that it is unfair to saddle the railways with the cost of national policy. This policy, Mr. Gordon said in 1962, required the railways to operate uneconomic branch lines and passenger services, endure "a rigid and unrealistic freight rate structure" and be denied the freedom to diversify services in the interest of economy and improved service.

MORE INVOLVED

But there is far more in the MacPherson report than the easement of railway burdens.

The commission would expose the railways to the full force of competition from airplanes, pipelines, canals and trucks and let them sink or swim. In the world of open competition the success of railway operations would depend to a large degree on the ability of management to adjust railway plant and service to changes in demand.

That was the commission view and the presidents will have to rise to the challenge to show their skill. Part of that skill, of course, will be displayed in working out suitable wage agreements with their employees. In both the year-end statements the presidents increased wages and other benefits on which there will be negotiations in 1964. Mr. Crump hoped the unions would be realistic in their demands and allow the railways to meet competition effectively.

REPORT COMMENDED

Beside these statements we would put one made by Mr. William Smith, president of the Canadian Brotherhood of Railway, Transport and General Workers, who felt the MacPherson report "far-sighted and objective."

The three presidents make it sound as if the railways simply await the sunrise of implementing legislation in the Commons. Whether all the consequences of the railways being put on their own have been considered by the presidents and their customers will become known only when the Government's legislation is produced and examined. But well begun may be half done in railway reorganization.

Movies Aid In Diagnosis

By Dr. Theodore R. VanDellen

Cinefluorography is one of the outstanding advances in X-ray technics in the last 50 years. It is a safe way to take motion pictures of various conditions that up to now could not be diagnosed in this fashion.

Most of us are familiar with the conventional fluoroscope. This machine allows the physician to see the shadows of the X-ray as they pass through the body. This image could be photographed with a movie camera but it is impracticable and dangerous because excessive radiation is required for continuous exposure.

The discovery of an intensifier to brighten the image 2,000 to 3,000 times changed the situation. Now the picture can be photographed on movie film directly from the intensifier or from the intensifier from a television monitor screen. Safety also enters the picture as the patient absorbes only one or two rads of radiation, in contrast to 25 or 30 from the regular fluoroscope as it runs continuously.

The films can be shot in daylight. This means many more diagnostic technics can be employed because the physician sees what he is doing at the moment. The motion picture X-ray film can be studied later. The flow of barium through a particular part of the intestine, for example, can be followed from by frame. In this way the diseased part can be investigated in great detail.

Cine is well suited to the diagnosis of cardiovascular disorders. A special, thin-walled catheter may be inserted into an artery in an arm and threaded gently into the aorta and to one of the coronary arteries.

The technician watches the TV screen while performing the maneuver. He presses one button when he wants to inject a special solution to visualize the artery and another button to start the camera. The result is a moving picture that reveals certain abnormalities in the artery, including narrowed or obstructed segments.

HIP DISORDER IN BOY

P. H. K. writes: A year ago my grandson started limping and the doctor says he has Perthes' disease. His leg will have to stay in a brace for another year. He is 5½ years old. Is this disorder curable?

REPLY

Yes. The hip is a ball-and-socket joint and, in this condition, the rounded ball part is flattened slightly due to temporary changes in the underlying bone. If the joint is rested for a long time, the outcome is excellent.

REJUVENATING DRUGS

W. H. P. writes: Why don't American doctors give more attention to pills or injections for rejuvenating older men? I understand those in Europe have had successful results.

REPLY

We have various pills and injections for rejuvenation but they seldom work. When they do, we usually give credit to suggestion or imagination. The situation is the same in Europe.

ST. VITUS' DANCE

Mrs. E. G. writes: What is the cause of Sydenham's chorea?

REPLY

This disorder (St. Vitus' Dance) was first described by Sydenham in 1685. The actual cause remains a mystery although the condition usually is associated with rheumatic fever.

HIGH WHITE COUNT

A. D. writes: Would a white blood count of 14,000 mean an infection of some kind?

REPLY

Not necessarily, as an increased white cell count appears often in certain noninfectious diseases.

Today's Health Hint—

Life is for living at any age.

ELIMINATES TUGS

TORONTO (CP)—A new all-weather ferry that can plow through more than seven inches of ice will go into service Friday in Toronto Harbor. The Ongiara, built in Owen Sound and purchased by Toronto for $145,000, makes it possible to scrap all other winter tug service in the harbor. A system of underwater fans installed at the winter docks to keep breaking the ice by water turbulence will go into service at the same time.

NOTES BY THE WAY

"Every time I'm down in the dumps, I buy a new hat," said the wife. "So that's where you get them," the husband replied —Montreal Star.

In San Jose, Calif., a gunman robbed a service station of $78.50 and then demanded trading stamps. He got them, indicating that the stamps finally have attained some of the status of legal tender. One gets a wistful picture of the bandit patiently pasting the stamps in their little books and turning the collection in on, say, a nickel plated revolver or a blackjack.—Milwaukee Journal.

Diner: You advertised that this restaurant is under new management, but I see the same manager is still here. Waiter: Yes, sir, but he got married yesterday.—Windsor Star.

Some of the birds stay with us the year round. They need food to survive. Winter has drawn its icy mantle over the ground and around the trees, and food is hard. The birds are our friends. Let us treat them as such and leave them something to eat. Scraps from the table or a few crusts of bread are all they require.—Fredericton Gleaner.

Uneasy Truce In Cyprus

By Doug Marshall
Canadian Press Staff Writer

Greeks and Turks have been at odds with each other since Greece threw off the shackles of the Ottoman empire in the early 19th century.

The trouble in Cyprus now seems to be that the separate communities cannot forget ancient quarrels and settle down to the business of being just plain Cypriots.

In the wake of terror and bloodshed there are high hopes for some sort of permanent settlement at the four-country conference in London. Sources in Nicosia say it will probably convene in two or three weeks time.

Meanwhile, thanks to the diplomatic efforts of Commonwealth Secretary Duncan Sandys and the cooling presence of some 12,000 British troops, tension in Cyprus is relaxing and an uneasy truce reigns.

Observers in London note with satisfaction that Turkey has ceased her hostile feints. Open war between Greece and Turkey, which seemed incredibly possible in the heat of the moment, now is highly improbable.

ANXIOUS FOR SOLUTION

Neither the caretaker government in Athens nor the minority government in Ankara really wants to add to its troubles and will be anxious for a solution in London.

That just leaves the Cypriots themselves.

The Island's 1960 constitution is in ashes. It was at best an unwieldy compromise, designed to protect the Turkish minority. It avoided the two extreme demands — union with Greece or the Turkish demand for partition.

There are signs that President Makarios now may be willing to accept partition as the only way out. Vice-President Kuchuk has long maintained that this is the only feasible solution.

But it is clear that Britain will do everything in her power to prevent her former colony being divided into two opposing factions, ever ready to settle marketplace disputes with the squeeze of a trigger.

More likely Sandys and his cabinet colleagues will work for a reformed, more practical constitution with elaborate verbal guarantees for the Turkish-Cypriots. Nobody at this stage pretends agreement will be easy and it may be necessary for a Commonwealth or United Nations force to occupy the island for some time.

The Robeson Tragedy

Milwaukee Journal

Paul Robeson is back again, still thinking that communism "is terrific." He says that he intends to take a role in the civil rights fight. That won't be pleasant news for the serious leaders of his people. And in many ways it is a pathetic announcement. He has long forfeited his right to leadership. He destroyed what could have been a brilliant career in the cause of the Negro race.

Robeson's early years promised greatness. He was a Phi Beta Kappa and twice an all-American football player at Rutgers, where he won letters in four sports. His marvelous voice brought him success and fame on the dramatic and concert stage. He was admitted to the bar.

He developed extreme bitterness over discrimination suffered by Negroes in this country. That is easy to understand and accept. But he reacted by taking up with extremists. He began to idolize Russia, and 10 years ago was awarded the Stalin peace prize for it. He left this country five years ago and has stayed away in exile—in London and behind the iron curtain.

In the years of his absence other Negroes were here at home fighting for their rights. They were not diverted by communism or anything else. They risked their careers, their properties and even their lives in the cause. Paul Robeson, who could have been a giant in that fight, instead flew from it. His joining it now, when legitimate leaders have been making so much progress, would be a hindrance, not a help. That is the tragedy of Paul Robeson—and, because he did not guard his great talents for them, a tragedy for the members of his race.

Our Yesterdays

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

January 6, 1939

John Duffy, genial and silver-thatched who has been butler at Government House for more than half a century is looking forward with pleasure to the visit next spring of King George and Queen Elizabeth, — the event will have a special significance for him, as he had met King George here in 1913. Among all the famous people who have visited Government House, he would rather see "Prince Albert" again.

London, Jan. 1 — King George today distributed his New Year's honors over a wide field, ranging from men who drove rivets into the hull of the Queen Mary to those renowned for achievements in public service, philanthropy, the arts, the sciences and commerce.

TEN YEARS AGO

January 6, 1954

"The Association of Incorporated Village Commissioners" was organized yesterday afternoon following a large and enthusiastic meeting of members of the governing bodies in the ten incorporated villages throughout the Province. The meeting took place in the Court House in Charlottetown. Incorporated villages are Crapaud, Victoria, Parkdale, O'Leary, Tignish, St. Peter's, Spring Park, Murray Harbor, Morell and Mt. Stewart.

The first exhibition of work by children who have been attending classes held at the Art Centre this season is now on display at the centre and will remain on view until the end of this week. The present exhibition is by children from five to eight years of age.

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URGES ARMS FREEZE

WARSAW, Poland (Reuters) Communist Leader Wladyslaw Gomulka has proposed the freezing of nuclear arms in central Europe under suitable controls as the first step toward other international agreements. Gomulka listed a five-point peace plan in a speech Saturday at a ceremony inaugurating the Polish section of an international oil pipeline linking five Communist bloc nations.