

The Guardian

"Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew"
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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1956

Legislature Opens

According to the Parliamentary Guide, this will be the twenty-third General Assembly of Prince Edward Island which opens in the Legislative Building today. But the Parliamentary Guide only covers the period since Confederation and according to our own more accurate provincial records the Assembly will be the forty-eighth. This in itself is sufficient to underline the long history of legislative activities in this Province since the first Legislature met in 1773, reportedly in the Cross Keys tavern on the corner of Queen and Dorchester Streets. It is one hundred and nine years since the House first met in the present building, then known as the Colonial Building, during a stormy period punctuated by the Belfast election riots. History has been made in the venerable chamber in which the new Speaker, Mr. J. A. Gallant, will be enthroned today and in which His Honour the Lieutenant Governor will read the Throne Speech.

While the Speech will be read by His Honour as head of the Government, it will be a political document prepared by his Cabinet outlining government policies and measures to be introduced in the course of the session. Usually these are dealt with in general terms, but there will be some specific matters which the members will be expected to discuss in the course of the subsequent debate. As there are only three Opposition members in the House, it is not likely that this debate will be prolonged unduly.

While small in numbers the Opposition represents a large body of the electorate and it has an important duty to discharge under our parliamentary system. It must scrutinize every piece of legislation and keep its guns trained unrelentingly on governmental sins of omission and commission. This does not mean that Opposition members should be partisan in all their speeches, or pettifogging in any of their criticisms. But they should be aggressive and vigilant, and every means should be afforded of enabling them to discharge their duties conscientiously.

The House meets under the shadow of the death of one of its veteran members, the Hon. W. F. A. Stewart, who held the portfolio of Welfare and Labour which doubtless will be filled at an early date. Mr. Stewart will be missed on both sides, for few members were held in higher esteem, or more deservedly rated the tributes which will doubtless be paid to him.

It is always a pleasure for our citizens to welcome the legislative members and make their stay pleasant during the session. Their labours should not be unduly arduous, but there will be enough to keep them occupied for some weeks and it is to be hoped, in the words traditionally used in concluding His Honour's Speech, that Providence will bless their deliberations and that they will build, if not "better than they knew", at least as wisely as they know.

A Sensible Approach

Premier Smallwood's announcement of new uranium discoveries in Labrador is, of course, of great interest to all Canadians. Mr. Smallwood is a man given to superlatives when discussing industrial development in his province and its dependency. Consequently, his description of the new mining possibilities as "the most stupendous in the history of North America" should, perhaps, be taken with a little mental reservation. All the same, it is not too much to say that, at the moment, Labrador is the most promising area, mineral-wise, in Canada. Its possibilities are almost limitless.

The thing that really stirs one's imagination about this Labrador business is not so much the discovery of uranium in several localities as Premier Smallwood's initiative in sailing together a representative

group to discuss the implications and the potentialities of the new situation that inevitably will arise from big industrial development. Missionaries, doctors, teachers, and others whose work and inclinations keep them in Labrador, met with government officials to talk about almost every phase of Labrador life and business, including education, welfare services, forestry, construction work, fisheries, and law enforcement. These are the people who know Labrador well. Many of them have been there for years. They must have a vast amount of information with which to guide government officials in their efforts to make social advances keep pace with industrial expansion. The willingness to take advantage of this knowledge gained from experience might be followed with benefit by Federal authorities in their approach to the many problems involved in the opening up of Canada's vast northland.

Potato Monument

The New Hampshire State Planning and Development Commission is going ahead with plans to build some sort of memorial on the site where the first white—or Irish—potato was planted in North America in the spring of 1719. Actually, the "Irish" potato was not Irish at all in origin. It had been in use in South America before the year 1492. It found its way to Ireland about the end of the 16th century and was brought to America by a Scotch Presbyterian, the Rev. James McGregor, who came to the section now known as Derry in New Hampshire with a number of emigrant families and a package of seed potatoes. Tradition has it that the crop which that package produced kept Mr. McGregor and his flock from starvation the following winter. Potato growing is not one of the biggest industries of New Hampshire at the present time. Even so, last year's production amounted to nearly 1 million bushels.

The field on which the proposed memorial is to be erected belongs to a Mrs. White, whose maternal forebears came out with the McGregor expedition. Latest suggestions call for a large granite boulder atop a stone pedestal with a bronze plaque depicting a farmer and his wife in colonial costumes looking at a patch of growing potatoes. The sponsors anticipate "national and international participation in establishing a fitting monument"—the first to be erected anywhere in the world in honour of the potato.

EDITORIAL NOTES

If our present car ferry service had waited for the knockers to give it their blessing, we would still be crossing to Tormentine in ice boats. Perhaps it will be the same way with the causeway project.

At a meeting of a Home and School Association some time was spent in discussing the question: "Should homework be given children?" Now, among a group of youngsters a question like that would be given quick and decisive answer, and it wouldn't be in the affirmative.

A coffee break for farmers is proposed in some quarters. And why not, say the Ottawa Citizen; except that no farmer's wife likes to have her routine shot to pieces in the middle of the forenoon, with dinner to prepare for father, six hungry sons and a hired man twice as hungry as any of them!

The drama festival plays were of a high order, and the winning Little Theatre Group rated very warm praise indeed from the adjudicator. There is a good prospect of them participating in the Dominion finals and competing with the best that Canada has to offer in the way of amateur theatricals. We'll all be cheering for them.

What's new in fish stories? Well, according to the International Oceanographic Foundation, there is a species of fish in deep southern Pacific waters that angle for other fish. The "rod" is a fin which extends some distance from the body. On its tip is a fleshy lump resembling a big angle worm. The fish lies perfectly still with its big mouth closed while the rod bobs up and down. This lures the victim within striking range—and that's the end.



CENTRE OF INTEREST

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

SCHOOL UNIT ISSUE

Sir.—In your paper of February 14, I see where Parkdale asked for a release from School Unit Number One. Did we not have a plebiscite and the unit was voted out of existence? When Unit No. 1 was formed Parkdale was well represented, in fact I think you could safely say their representation dominated the School Board. So what are they complaining about now? After the finding of the Commission you would think they would consider it to be their duty to pay five thousand dollars to the rest of the unit. At the time of formation they were in favour of the unit; now they want out and perhaps in five years they will want in again.

Since the unit started East Royalty had its property taxes raised three times in all amounting to eight dollars on the thousand, while the six dollar man has been left at six dollars. Perhaps the Minister of Education would be good enough to tell the property owners why. Could it be the six dollar man controls the setting of the rate of taxation?

I have nothing to say about the man who is paying six dollars and paying rent, but I have a lot to say about the men who are living in houses built by the tax payers and are exempted, not to the rest of the unit. Why should a widow living across the road who owns her own house, have to pay eight to ten times as much as our six dollar man, just because he is living in a government exempted house? If our school rates for every person on the Island to see that legislation be passed so that he will be compelled to pay his fair share for the running of the schools. If legislation is not passed then the government should provide a free house for everybody. Should a man paying six dollars a year be allowed to serve on the School Board? If allowed should he be permitted to vote on the question of capital expenditure? I have lived in East Royalty for the past forty-five years, and the people of the Royalty have always been able to run and pay their way without outside interference. Now return the school that was taken from us as I think we still have men with ability enough to run the school on the present rate of taxation, pay the teachers as much as they are receiving now, supplement and government salary, running expenses, and still have enough to do some remodeling without expecting any charity from Parkdale. If our district should receive compensation.

I would like to hear the opinion of the farmers on whether they should pay taxes on their land and barns or just on the house the same as the urban dwellers.

I am, Sir, etc., T. H. LOVE

Good Example

(Frederick Gleaser)

The session of the New Brunswick legislature opens at a time of unparalleled optimism in the province.

The progress of the development of the New Brunswick mineral deposits and the construction of Camp Gagetown have combined to provide an impetus and momentum to provincial life.

Unemployment is at a low ebb and the general standard of living is on the upgrade. The per capita income of the province will show an increase this year.

Past experience has meant that if conditions were better in New Brunswick they were still better elsewhere.

This year of 1956 should show that New Brunswick is able to improve its status in comparison to other provinces and we shall start the session with hopeful hearts and spirits high.

HISTORIC PIPES

Bagpipes are mentioned in Irish records as early as the 5th century.

Japan's Reclamation Program

National Geographic Society

Mountain-tumbled Japan is carrying out an ambitious, long-term program to reclaim soil from its coastal swamps and inlets.

Latest project is at Ariake Bay on the southeast shore of Kyushu, southernmost of the four main islands. There, it is hoped, some 185,000 acres can be dried out and conditioned for rice and wheat cultivation.

Japan's acute need for food-yielding soil can be measured in statistics of population, more than 88 million, versus about 15 million acres of arable land, says the National Geographic Society. Although agriculture provides the nation's chief support, the roughly six and a half million Japanese farm families average less than two and a half acres each.

JAPAN'S ZUIDER ZEE

The Ariake Bay undertaking has been called "Japan's Zuider Zee" from the Netherlands' famous Zuider Zee lowlands recovering its value from the North Sea arm. A six-mile dike is to be built around the Japanese bay. Salt water will be pumped and drained out of the area, and a network of canals cut for irrigation.

These large-scale operations call for modern methods and equipment, but wresting tillable soil from river mouths and bays is by no means new to Japan. At Kojima Bay, for instance, which cuts a shallow, jagged indentation into southern Honshu Island from the Inland Sea, land reclamation has been going on since the 16th century.

The first bay project was started in 1585 by a feudal lord who held the adjacent Okayama Plain. Seeing possibilities of enlarging his domain and increasing its value, he had a rock dike built across a narrow neck of Kojima Bay to block off encroaching sea water. In time the dike, with the hills that surrounded the other three sides of the tract, enclosed a tidal

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (February 21, 1931)

The genial barber of New Arcadia, Mr. Joseph J. Gallant, is still doing business at the same old stand, but he reports a great depression owing to the fact that bobbed hair is going out of style.

One of many successful Islanders is William B. MacInnis of Concord, New Hampshire, formerly a native of Roseneath, P.E.I., who was recently nominated for Council in the State Republican Primary elections, with a majority of two to one. This is his second term of office having been elected Senator for the town previously.

TEN YEARS AGO (February 21, 1946)

One person was killed and three injured seriously here last night, when a British Overseas Airways Corporation four-motored Liberator aircraft with 15 aboard crashed and burned at the Charlottetown airport. All eight passengers escaped serious injury. The crash occurred when the plane was forced to land in a severe snowstorm. Eyewitnesses said fire broke out immediately after the aircraft touched the runway.

Co-operation between the Maritime Provinces with Newfoundland for the purpose of forming a unit large enough to justify the institution of an electrical development similar to that of the Tennessee Valley Authority, was suggested last night by His Excellency the Bishop Boyle, in an address to the P. E. Island Dairymen's Association.

At the annual meeting of the Sheep Breeders Association held here yesterday at Queen Square School, the secretary, Mr. W. H. Shaw, noted that one of the most encouraging developments during the year was the improvement of marketing practices. Lambs were now sold on the basis of rail grade, and he said there was no doubt that this practice had added a large number of dollars to the pockets of Island producers.

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Sundesen, M. D.

CEREBRAL PALSY VICTIM PREPARES FOR SCHOOL

Home training is extremely important in preparing young cerebral palsy victims for school. With proper care and treatment many of these youngsters are able to enter classes.

About 60 per cent of cerebral palsy cases are associated with unfavorable environmental conditions between conception and birth. The malady is commonly associated with premature birth, but it can be caused by some infectious diseases striking in infancy.

SEVERE AFFLICTION

The younger the infant, in cases of disease, the more severe the affliction will be.

Probably the most important single phase of the training is the social aspect, although education in controlling emotions and for group living should be undertaken simultaneously.

If your child is a victim, you will probably find that such activities as picture identification and storytelling help greatly to improve tongue and lip movements. Everyone who comes in contact with the youngster should encourage him to speak.

NORMAL FLOW

His language should have a natural flow before a rigid therapy program is adopted to make his speech intelligible.

Exercises, of course, are essential to strengthen his muscles and reflexes. But in addition to specific exercises advised by your doctor, you can stress natural development activities such as learning to sit, stand, walk and climb.

Standing on his hands and knees, crawling and standing upright help strengthen numerous muscles. Just playing about the floor is good for him too.

USEFUL TOYS

As for toys, you can use everyday kitchen utensils as well as regular educational items. These are useful in helping him control his hands.

Rhythm training is also important. Your doctor might advise use of records, hand clapping or may be marching about the home. There are other things you can do to help him, too, such as showing him how to copy pictures, match colors and the like.

Even though he is a victim of this malady, you probably can do a lot to help him toward a useful life.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

J. C. M.: Would sinus trouble be responsible for pain and a crawling sensation in an eye or could nerves cause this?

Answer: Sinus infection might be responsible for pain in the eye. However, this difficulty could come from other causes. Careful examination by a nose and throat specialist would help to determine whether or not sinus infection is present. Nerves might be a contributing cause for this disorder. Perhaps you should have your oculist check, too.

The Poet's Corner

SPACE TRAVEL

If we could search the plains of fiery space

And watch 10 billion planets whirl in night,

Though many living forms were keen of sight

And great-brained as the Platons of our race,

Still we might never see a smiling face.

Nor feel warm fingers twine, nor catch a light

Of love or welcome where a hearth was bright.

Nor know a woman's laugh, a child's embrace.

Strangers in lands that could not share our tongue,

Nor plumb our alien modes of thought or deed.

We could not find, where starry lamps are hung,

The answer even the doughtiest crave to read.

Which most may gain where loving arms have clung

And in one face are all the worlds we need.

—Santon A. Coblenz in the New York Times.

The Age Old Story

Open to me the gates of righteousness: I will go into them, and I will praise the Lord.

Save... and Invest

The importance of saving, from the national as well as the individual point of view, cannot be over-emphasized. Obviously, saving depends upon spending habits. If everything produced in a given period was consumed in that period, there would be no investment and no progress.

The road to financial success and security is clearly marked. Save what you can and then invest your savings in sound securities. To help you make sure that you are on the right road... and that you keep on the right road... consult us regularly.

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Notes By The Way

It is to be hoped that some English language newspapers outside Quebec have noted that Quebec has just had presented to it a budget with a substantial surplus and one which shows that on a per capita basis Quebec's debt is the lowest of any of our provinces except Newfoundland, which started with no debt at all at the time of union.—Ottawa Journal.

Modern armed forces need lads of at least average intelligence and impeccable behavior. Living conditions and pay are excellent, and we are inclined to think that a delinquent youth transferred from a bad home environment to a new environment of that kind is more likely to undergo a complete reformation, for his own good and the good of society, than to contaminate any youth who is of good character.—St. Thomas Times-Journal.

Those girls who carry hatpins have the right idea and those who want to learn judo to ward off molesters have the wrong idea of how to protect themselves. Hatpins, like guns, are great equalizers. Any girl who gets into a wrestling match with a male attacker will be asking for more trouble than she bargains for. But it takes no skill and no strength to jab a hatpin, and a poke anywhere in the anatomy of the molester should bring quick and satisfactory results.—London Free Press.

The Canadian taxpayer, if he has any imagination—and imagination is almost the only untaxed possession that he is likely to have—may picture himself in these days of Dominion-Provincial conferences as the captive of two rival bands of cannibals. His fate is decided as he sits shivering in the glow of the cooking fire, but the decision is not between cooking him and letting him go free. The chiefs are merely debating about which one is to receive the most succulent parts of his carcass.—The Printed Word.

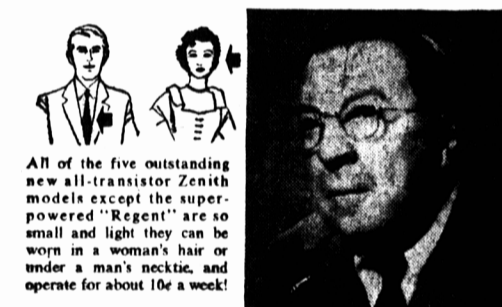
Seaweed is pretty enough to look at, whether its long fronds are floating in the tidal wash or resting like black lace on salt white rocks. But seaweed in bread? Here's news that bakers in Flenburg, a staid German city, are making bread from seaweed flour. And the product is labelled rich in albumen, fats and minerals. The Germans, in an historic switch are supposed to be copying the Japanese. In Japan, so the story goes, "seacorn" is cultivated in bread in "gardens" of shallow bays.—Providence (R.I.) Bulletin.

If the conclusions of Toronto Dr. Gordon Bell are valid, a large number of North Americans are damaging their health by the voluntary intake of certain poisons. These he classified as depressants (alcohol, ether, barbiturates and the general run of sedatives) and stimulants (caffeine, benzadrine, dextrine and methedrine). The alcohol poisoning led all the rest. The fluorine in naturally or artificially fluoridated water was not mentioned, which may come as something of a shock to poison-conscious anti-fluoridationists who tinkle a bit in liquor and a familiar caffeine-bearing beverage.—Ottawa Citizen.

Can there be some psychological encouragement to juvenile delinquency in the word "cop"? We are inclined to believe there is, and feel that Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, director of the FBI, though perhaps, crying in the wilderness, was on the beat when he flayed the use of the word as destroying respect for authority. Whether used as a term of make-believe bravado by youngsters, or in a thoughtless, disdainful way by the ordinary law-abiding citizen, "cop" is degrading to law enforcement, and hardly conducive to an atmosphere of co-operation between police and public. It is the derisive invective of a hunted underworld. Nothing more.—Hamilton Spectator.

RUPERT HUGHES HAILS NEW 4- AND 5-TRANSISTOR ZENITH HEARING AIDS!

Famous author-playwright praises performance of Zenith's five great new models engineered to meet every type and degree of correctable hearing loss, for as low as \$50



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