

MONDAY, DEC 22, 1957

Time For A Report

The people of this Province understand very well that a decision on whether a causeway linking the Island with the mainland is feasible is not one to be arrived at in haste.

Everybody knows that a causeway of the proposed dimensions would cost a great deal of money. If the surveys show that the cost would be prohibitive or that the project is not feasible from an engineering standpoint, the people should be told exactly what the situation is. They do not expect the impossible. The one thing they will not approve is the use of the proposal as a political football to be kicked around during election campaigns by one party or the other.

The Housing Plan

The Federal Government's new housing program is a very good one indeed, as far as it goes. It will help in the construction of some 25,000 units during the slack winter months, thus providing much needed employment and stimulating the building industry in many ways.

At the same time, as several members of Parliament have pointed out, the plan is helpful only to those making at least \$3,500 annually. For the many thousands whose incomes are less than that the plan has no value. This is something which sooner or later will have to be corrected.

It would seem, too, that the 6 per cent interest rate on loans is a bit too steep. There was some expectation that it would be reduced in the new formula to about 5 1/2 per cent. The view held by Works Minister Green that "if the Government were to indicate it is considering such a reduction, it might disrupt the building program" is valid only if it were a matter of "indicating" the reduction for some future date.

Every little counts, and the provision for winter work in the P.E.I. National Park will be welcomed. There are things which can be done in winter as well as in summer. It is good to know that the Federal Government recognizes this fact. Now if industry will follow the good example, winter employment will not be quite as serious a matter as it would be otherwise. If the season happens to be a relatively mild one, that, too, will help.

All sorts of new discoveries are showing up in Communist China these days. If one may believe reports from Peiping, one says that in the Northwest part of the country rich mineral deposits have been found. They include 54 different kinds of ore. Another report says that stone knives, axes and many kinds of tiles were unearthed on the site of a 4500-year old city. It was supposed to have been the seat of the legendary ruler, Huang Ti—the "yellow ruler".

"Intercontinental" device would have to be capable of carrying a warhead at least 5000 miles. Still, it did what it was expected to do; and, no doubt, the bigger achievement will not be only a matter of time.

This does not mean that the Americans have caught up with the Russians in this pastime of the Powers; but it does mean that the despair of the last several weeks has been replaced by a measure of hope and confidence. It would be better if neither Russia nor any other nation had any such fiendish weapon in its possession. But since the Russians already have a 5000-mile one ready for use, or almost ready for use, it is some comfort to know that the free world is not destined to be left entirely helpless in the event of war, as it certainly would be if the Russians had a monopoly in the field.

International Problem

One of these days Canada and the United States will have to get down to serious discussion about rivers in which each country claims certain rights. Word from General MacNaughton, chairman of the Canadian section of the International Joint Commission, is that American power interests are exacting "long eyes" on the Canadian part of the Columbia River in British Columbia. They think that they need the water for power plants in the United States, Pacific Northwest, Canada, on the other hand, claims legal right under the 1909 Canada-United States Boundary Waters Treaty to divert the Columbia into the Fraser. This diverting would, it is estimated, provide enough power to supply Vancouver for several decades, as much as 17 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity a year.

So far, although various committees have been set up to study the problem, nothing has been done towards solving it. General MacNaughton seems to be of the opinion that nothing will be done, or can be, until the United States is prepared to recognize Canada's claim. Meanwhile, British Columbia wants to go ahead with the development but is hindered from doing so until the Federal Government gives the word. This is because the water system runs into American territory. Actually the dispute will probably have to go to the World Court for adjudication, a long and tedious process.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Provincial Ministers of Health are within their rights in trying to obtain clarification of the proposed Hospital Insurance Plan before it goes into operation. It is to be hoped, however, that emphasis on minutiae will be avoided in order that the plan's early implementation be not hindered.

According to Fisheries Minister MacLean, the \$10 a ton bounty on dog-fish caught on the West coast will be discontinued, there being no longer "any point" in renewing it in view of the small number of claims for payment last season. The Minister's statement does not say whether any such bounty is paid in this region. But fishermen reported a good deal of damage by the marauders this past summer.

After 1932, when most of the Germans were released and sent home, the Russians obtained their own, the Germans on their own. The scientists who served in Russia were Gerhard Sigmund.

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To the Family of the drinking HOLIDAY DRIVER. An advertisement for a car with a steering wheel that turns right and left.

NO PLACE AMID THE CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

OTTAWA REPORT

An Oshawa Philanthropist

By Patrick Nicholson Special Correspondent to The Guardian

NO decorations are awarded except in wartime. Grants of land or money are not made to deserving servants of the state, nor are honours conferred on those who perform distinguished services for the nation.

Collaborated In The Dark

By Reinhold Ernst Associated Press, Frankfurt

When the Russians smashed into Germany in 1945, they captured a number of Nazi scientists and put them to work on rocket research. Among the most intriguing questions to come back about the war time, and Ferdinand Brantner, an expert on Soviet turbine projects which put Russia ahead in the missile race.

Winter's Big Sleep

A small shy bird of the west aids in the winter's big sleep. A small shy bird of the west aids in the winter's big sleep. A small shy bird of the west aids in the winter's big sleep.

Ignore Old Wives Tales

By Herman N. Boudens, M.D. BARNUM said there was one very convincing argument for ignoring old wives tales for many years to the superstitious beliefs about health and medicine.

CAUSE ELIMINATED The fact is that medical science has now overcome rickets and a host of other conditions which caused bowlegs.

STONG ORGAN Your heart is the strongest and hardest working organ in your body. Still the heart persists in making its case sleeping on the left side damages the heart.

TRUST DOCTOR R.W. I have had a recurrent pain in my shoulder which is muscular, nerves or joints, some circulatory disorder, a distinct nervous system.

THE Poet's Corner

Here for a thousand sun-baked The carving of the feathered serpent in the rock. Has faded like an ancient reptilian fire.

OUR YESTERDAYS

Mr. R. W. Clary, Secretary of the Canadian Bee Breeders Association announces that the mail ballot election for directors for 1958.

THE AGE Old Story

For this, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plentiful in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.

MENT'S RESTAURANT

Will be serving A SPECIAL DINNER Christmas Day Featuring Roast Turkey, Goose and Chicken. Also Baked Ham and Roast Beef with all the trimmings.

NOTICE

TO: PACKERS, LOADER & SHIPPERS OF TABLE STOCK POTATOES As a result of the increasing number of destination inspections for short weight, Fruit and Vegetable Inspectors are being instructed to check the weight of bags of potatoes during their routine inspections at shipping point.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

A Canadian church dignitary is responsible for the story of a bit shop who engaged a former defence department employee as his secretary. Hunting through the files of the department, he discovered a cross one drawer labelled "sacred" and another "top secret."

One trouble about being premier of France is that you can't change the name of your country, because the chances are he was not in office long enough to form any name.—Hamilton Spectator

A scientist has reportedly checked the speed of a squirrel at 19 miles per hour—no doubt because the squirrel was chasing one of his mice on our highways.—Lanbridge Herald

Many drivers can pass a test with flying colors, yet be unsafe on the road. They are technically skilled, and they can answer correctly any written questions on the rules of the road. While driving, however, they are no longer under the same test.

The defence department discloses that it has some "top secret" documents dating back to the Revolutionary war. They will be declassified, along with millions of other old records long wrapped up in secrecy.

From Stretch Lake, Nova Scotia, the news came the other day that Mrs. Jack Macdonald had stepped on her 103rd birthday. The same lady, distinguished in clothes, centre pieces and other needlework work has done recently. More remarkable, she seems to us, was that fact that three years ago Mrs. Macdonald, then 98 or close to it, walked five miles to North Sydney to be examined by doctors making a laboratory study. Sherbrooke Record.

MUSICIANS

Music demands of us men and women that we attain a composed and law-abiding that will enable us to raise up the real leaders of the deep spirit that lies within it.

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