The Guardian

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

PAGE 4 SATURDAY, SEPT. 8, 1956

Deadlock At Cairo

The net result of the Cairo conference, it would seem, will be to leave Egypt in possession and effective control of the Suez Canal, with some kind of international arrangement about dues and maintenance. This would represent a diplomatic defeat for France and Britain with all its consequences on their world position, but it is not necessarily the last move in the game.

One card Britain and France do have, suggests the London Spectator, which they have so far shown a strange reluctance to play. This is the Egyptian blockade of Israeli shipping and goods shipped to Israel through the canal. For here is an instance of denial of free navigation to the shipping of a state with which Egypt has a political quarrel. Article 10 of the Constantinople Convention is specifically stated not to be intended to interfere with "free use of the canal." In this matter Colonel Nasser has not a leg to stand on. It is the one point on which the Western powers could force him to yield without being accused of "colonialism", and also the one point on which his yielding would do most to disable him for the post of uncrowned king of Arab nationalism. British reluctance to use this issue has been hardly comprehensible up to now. It is a point which entirely discredits Nasser's assurances and justifies British and French alarm at this international waterway being in his hands.

The Spectator suggests, too, that if Nasser's position now appears unassailable, this will not always be so. The inexorable logic of Pan-Arab nationalism must lead him to further action against the "colonialists" or against Israel, if he wishes to maintain his prestige. Whatever happens to the Suez, it is certain that it is only one round in the fight between Egypt and the powers on whose interests she is encroaching. Britain and France should concentrate on weakening Egypt's diplomatic position rather than, by an ineffective display of toughness, wreck their chance of halting the march of Nasser's future ambitions.

Plight Of Small Farmers

President Eisenhower's message on agriculture of two years ago noted that the production of 3,500,000 of the nation's 5,500,000 farms is so small (they account for but 15 per cent of the whole) that these farmers individually derive little benefit from crop supports. And the Secretary of Agriculture, in cooperation with the National Agricultural Advisory Commission, was directed to give "special attention to the problems peculiar to small farmers."

The U.S. Department of Agriculture now announces it has begun its "Rural Development Program" in 55 counties showing especially low farm incomes. (Congress provided no money for this project for last year.) The program, a cooperative one with states and counties, includes technical assistance, emergency loans, and a line of credit for farmers who present sound plans.

Political pronouncements aside, notes the Christian Science Monitor, all farm-aid measures eventually must take account of the fact that agriculture is midstream in the transition from a handicraft to a mechanized industry. The new kind of farming calls for less manpower than the old. Viewed cold-bloodedly in this light, what the Department of Agriculture is undertaking could be seen as interfering with an inevitable readjustment where the readjustment is longest overdue — encouraging "marginal" farmers to hold on to "jobs" much less promising than those in factories.

But farming is not only a way of making a living. It is also a way of life. Some people prefer a Spartan existence near to nature on land they can call their own to more comforts in the city. Should these people be forced to leave if they wish to stay? Marginal farmers, particularly the older ones, are often the ones least fitted to learn new skills. Any farm-aid program in the long run, can do little more than minimize the hardships of the great transition. One should hardly question directing a relatively inexpensive project toward aiding those whose personal needs are the greatest to help themselves.

Insurance Safeguards

From a Royal Bank of Canada news letter we learn that there are more than 300 competing companies in the fire and casualty insurance business in Canada, registered with the Federal Government, and several hundred incorporated in the provinces. All of them operate subject to government supervision, and all are required to maintain reserves calculated to be sufficient to protect their policy-holders. The fire and casualty business has more than $300 million in compulsory reserves with the Federal Government.

The prevention of loss is closely associated with insurance. The life insurance companies are energetic in promoting health measures and movements. Fire insurance companies co-operate with fire departments and safety associations in urging the removal of fire hazards and the inspection of factory, home, school and public hall fire protection. Many communities enforce building laws that tend to prevent conflagrations. The steam-boiler insurance companies have succeeded admirably in their effort to prevent by inspection service every boiler explosion that could possibly be prevented.

Education by the insurance companies, by community organizations, and through other means, can do much in two areas of the unhappy tendency of human beings to get into disastrous trouble. We may learn to prevent what we can prevent by thoughtfulness and carefulness, and we may learn about insurance, so as to protect ourselves against the perils that are beyond our control.

The Three C's

Many do's and don't's for motorists have been formulated, but they are too long to remember when one goes holidaying. They might, suggests an exchange, be reduced to the following "Three C's":

Be Careful: This includes putting to use the knowledge and skill a safe driver must have on today's crowded highways.

Be Courteous: This points to everything implicit in the Golden Rule that should be applied to piloting a car—including acceptance of the other fellow's right to the right of way as well as of your own.

Keep Cool: This means resisting every temptation to feel frustrated, irritated, angry, or pressed.

A real contribution to highway safety could be made by remembering these simple rules and putting them into practice.

EDITORIAL NOTES

In Red Deer, Alberta, a 95 pound woman was fined $10 for assaulting a 200 pound police officer. Next time, no doubt, she will pick on someone her own size.

• • •

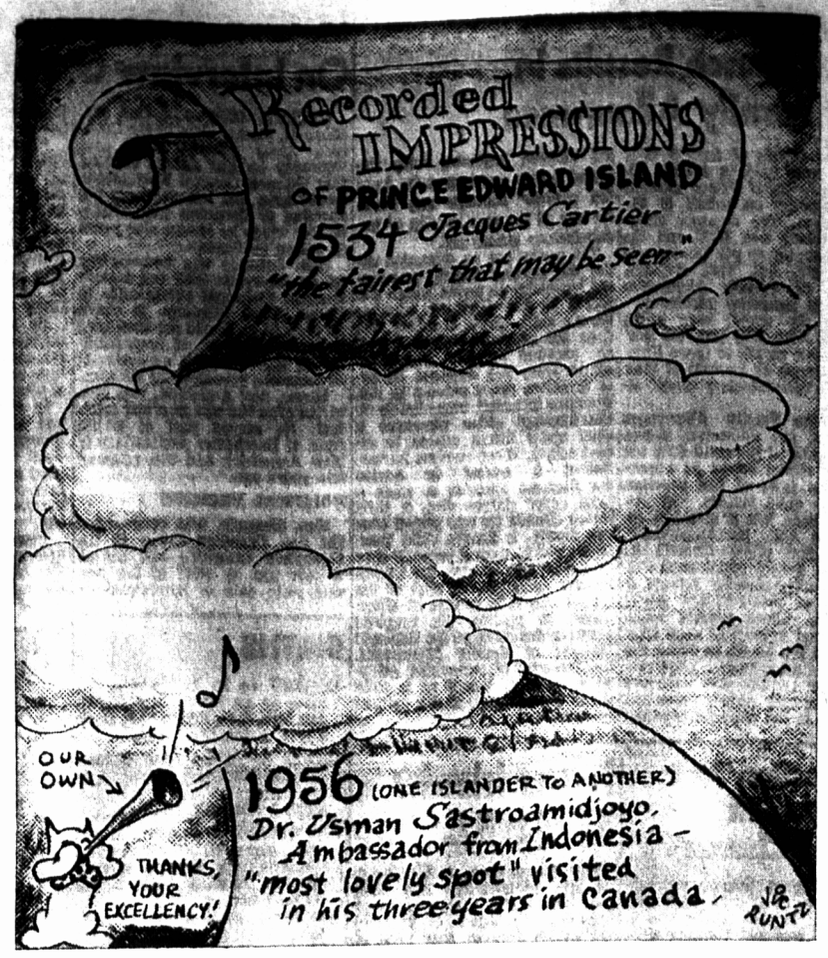
A traffic expert says "we have a lot to learn about the physical and mental conditions of drivers, which may cause accidents." Yes, and as far as the mental conditions are concerned there will always be something new cropping up.

• • •

According to the annual report of the Bible Society of India, Pakistan and Ceylon, the Scriptures have now been translated into languages used by 98% of the Indian population. It is a remarkable achievement, considering the difficulties that were involved.

• • •

A 100-year-old woman, on being asked the inevitable question: "to what do you attribute . . .," replied, "I always ate whatever they put before me." Whatever may be said about the recipe on dietary grounds, it certainly has the merit of originality.



BEGINNING WITH CARTIER

Impressions Of P.E.I.

Lotta Dempsey in the Toronto Globe and Mail

The sea is a forever thing.

The sea is a poet, writing and erasing the rhythm of the universe forever day after day on a long scroll of pale sand.

And when the sea is blue wine and the wind is salty and the tide whitens up toward earth-cliffs as red as the beard of Jonathan, the old fisherman working at his nets, this is Prince Edward Island.

"Where men and women may find peace of mind and tranquillity of soul," Premier Mathieson says, in welcoming visitors to the 140-mile long, four-to-forty-mile wide smallest and gentlest province.

Perhaps peace lies in the sense of verities, strong always in sturdy people who meet the dawn in high-prowed fishing boats and match the will of wind and water to bring home sustenance from the sea.

And in those who work in sun and storm and the benficient rain to make this little land vivid with flowers and rich in the products of the soil.

CULT OF THE SEA

Until I visited The Island, I did not, I realize, know my country. You cannot put Canada together properly with such a vital segment missing. You cannot experience Canadianism without some awareness of these 100,000 Canadians, their ways, thier lives, their white-steepled churches and small neat farms, their Puritan-tinged cities, their stubborn sense of identification in the face of a rising tide of national progress in the industrial heartland.

And their immersion in the cult of the sea, which rings them with some of the most beautiful beaches in the world, and throbs and beats and vitalizes their beings, through bone and vein and sinew.

The Premier's promise was not false.

There were days of the deepest peace of mind and tranquillity of soul in the lovely big old residence that is Dalvay by the Sea, and on the long, almost lonely sands and waves of Tracadie Bay, which is Canada's easternmost national park.

Everyone who made one comfortable at Dalvay lives, before and after the tourist season of July and August, on farms or in villages and cities of the Island.

PARTY-LINE PHONE

Major and Mrs. F.W. Worth, who lease the resort from the Government, are native Islanders. When I suggested to Major Worth that I hoped to make arrangements to see the Lieutenant-Governor and the Premier, 25 miles away in Charlottetown, before I left, he went to the party-line front office phone which is heaven be praised, the only one in the residence, and called Charlottetown.

"Bill," he said to Lieut-Gov. Prowse, "will you be around your place tomorrow?"

"Alex" he asked the Premier in the next call, "lady from Toronto want to drop in on you in the morning."

So I drove the Worth's car in for leisurely interviews with two of the men who are most concerned about the social and economic welfare of their native health.

When I arrived at Government House—a beautiful white Georgian residence overlooking gardens and green lawns and then Charlottetown's blue harbor, a delightful woman, her gray hair, tied with a blue ribbon, was just going indoors with a basket of freshly cut flowers.

QUEEN LIKED DECOR

She couldn't have been more gracious, as we walked from one lovely high-ceilinged room to another, and I admired the tall-pillared hallway, all white with crimson rugs, and its swerving two-prong stairway.

It wasn't until much later that I discovered the Lieutenant Governor had forgotten to tell Mrs. Prowse I would be calling, and, so far as she was concerned, an unknown had dropped in from the street.

The Queen—then Princess Elizabeth— had admired the colonial wallpaper in the drawing room when she stayed there. The former Governor-General, Lord Alexander, had come here often when he painted and holidayed at the little cottage near Dalvay to which the Alexander family went for unpretentious vacations.

Charlottetown's Government House is the centre of the small city's pleasant social life, and formal balls, dinner parties and receptions are held throughout the winter.

But I met a lot of young people in Prince Edward Island do not attend the comingout balls and the garden parties at Government House.

I'd like to tell you about some of them later.

Canada And The Suez Crisis

By Patrick Nicholson

OTTAWA: Our booming development may get a sensational fillip from such an unlikely booster as Egypt's dictator, Gamal Abdel Nasser.

Worry rather than optimism characterises the deep thinking given here to the Suez Canal crisis. Yet although we are only on the sidelines of this big international fray, we may find a silver lining to the dark cloud which threatens European prosperity and even world peace.

U.S. Foreign Secretary Dulles, a self-confessed flirter on the brink of war, is the nigger in this trouble-pile. First, he precipitated Egypt's seizure of the canal by withdrawing his country's offer of financial help in building the Aswan dam in Egypt. Then he exerted pressure on Britain and France not to use military force to preserve the international trusteeship of the vital waterway. In this, he was more cautious in the face of the Democrats' threats in 1956 than in the face of the Kremlin's threats in the three previous years.

The "national socialization" of the canal is shaping up as a bloodless victory for Nasser. Its success will make other and lesser Arab governments feel safe similarly to "nationalise" propeties in their territory. If Nasser can with impunity steal the canal from the powerful Western interests which developed and own it, those other Arabs will reason - then they likewise could steal the oilfields and oil pipelines which Western interests have developed in their lands.

BACKED BY THE KREMLIN

Prompting and encouraging such a step, needless to say, will be the masters of the Kremlin. Cmmunism, they have always believed, can conquer other countries better through one fifth than through four columns attacking from within, than attacking from without. And communist fifth columns find the ground most fertile when economic prosperity fades. And how better could it be made to fade in Western Europe than by cutting off the vital flow of oil which keeps that industrialized economy booming?

Last year, the whole of Western Europe consumed 117 millions tons of oil. In contrast, the United States alone consumed 406 million tons.Of Europe's supply, 80 per cent came through the Suez Canal on the Arabian pipelines.

If Nasser should raise the canal tolls, the high cost of living in Europe would skyrocket; if he should close the canal, the standard of living in Europe will tumble, is the other Arabian leaders should cut off the oil, economic calamity could overtake Europe. Nothing would suit the Kremlin better. The resulting unemployment, poverty and hunger would create a tailor-made opportunity for communist agitators.

POLICY OF NON-RESISTANCE

As the West has rejected the use of force, even in that extreme we would be barred from resistance. The alternative would be war against a united Arab world, with the cetainty that it would lead to an atomic world war.

How then could the West retrieve the situation, if events should detericrate to the point where Europe's supply of Middle East oil were diverted elsewhere - perhaps to Russia?

The Mideast today produces only one-fifth of the world's yearly suply by oil.But its reserves are sufficient to last 120 years, or ten times as long as the reserves in the world's other producing oilfields.

This is where Canada might glimpse the silver lining to the black clouds. Enormous unmeasured reserves of oil are known to lie in our North, on the banks of the Athabaska River. There, the tar sands are estimated to contain as much oil as is now known to exist in all producing oilfields in the whole world. The only problem is how to separate it from the sand, and how to ship it to distant markets at competitive prices.

If the competition of the Middle East were removed, Canada would become Europe's filling station. A huge new industry would be born. Pipelines would be built - without parliamentary crises - to carry the Athabaskan oil to ports in B.C., on Hudson Bay, and on the St. Lawrence Seaway.

The answer of the riddle of the Sphinx may prove to be the one word "Canada."

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

(September 8, 1931)

There are over fifty boats fishing lobsters this season from West Point. The season so far has been successful, with large catches reported. The largest catch thus far being made by W. T. McIsaac - 2400 pounds.

In Ayrshire cattle Ings and Son, Charlottetown, led in the aged bull class with their imported bull Netherton Ambition. The Inges also led in the 3 year old milk class with Bucklea Primrose, the Aged Herd class and the Get of Sire class.

TEN YEARS AGO

(September 8, 1946)

Throngs of people, well wishers of the Salvation Army representing all sections of the Province, watched Premier J. Walter Jones as he officially turned the key which opened "Sunset Lodge" Saturday afternoon.

From May 1 to August 31, 3,673 more cars entered the Province via the Tormentine-Borden route than for the same period last year. In the reverse direction there was an increase of 3,033 cars crossing to the mainland.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

COVERED BRIDGES

Sir:—My wife and I wish to express appreciation of our motor trip to the Maritime Provinces. We enjoyed the trip along the Saint John River in New Brunswick, in Nova Scotia and in Prince Edward Island very much and look forward to repeating it.

The highways were wonderful, much better than we were lead to believe. There could be a few more direction signs as twice I took a wrong turn, but that was not serious in almost four thousand miles.

When on the ferry 'Abegweit' they showed movies of the longest covered bridge in New Brunswick, which we drove over, stating they were covered to provide shelter from snow in winter and prevent thawing and wet from rotting the timbers.

Now that might be the reason the bridges were covered down east, or they have no old people residing, or have faulty memories. For the snow would drift in anyway and the covering would retard thawing and actually make it worse.

I suspect the real reason is the same as in Ontario and parts of the U.S.A. Before the days of the auto any old farmer can tell you how difficult it was to drive a horse over a long bridge. Cows and pigs were impossible over even small short bridges. By completely covering the bridges the task was greatly simplified. And livestock did travel long distances on foot only in the old days.

Perhaps this will catch the eye of the responsible party and serve either as a correction or to pin my own ears back.

I am, Sir, etc.,
E.C. LANTZ
Kitchener, Ont.

The Age Old Story

The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations.

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Bundesen, M. D.

COFFEE BREAK CAN BE A HEALTHY PLEASURE

That old American standby, the coffee break, might be a health help if it is just taken in moderation.

While most of us drink coffee simply because we enjoy it, there are other reasons for consuming this beverage.

For instance, two cups of heavily roasted coffee contain your daily requirement of the vitamin niacin.

KEY DEFECT

Niacin is one of the B vitamins A deficiency of it is the key nutritional defect in the human disease pellagra, once a serious problem.

Chemical and bacterial tests, conducted about ten years ago, shoowed that an average cup of coffee contained about one-tenth of the minimum daily requirement of niacin.

Recently, Dr. L. J. Teply, of the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation, revealed that heavy roasting, as practiced to some extent commercially, brings the niacin level to nearly .05 per cent. That's about five times the niacin content of the roasted coffees most widely used in the United States.

GOOD REMEDY

Caffeine — which is found in coffee — is a good remedy for relieving several varieties of headaches, according to Dr. Arnold P. Friedman of Columbia University's New York Headache Clinic.

He says caffeine taken alone or in combination with other drugs may be better than the new tranquilizers for tension and migraine headaches. He calls caffeine combined with aspirin "the sovereign remedy" for the garden variety of headache that troubles many.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

D. C.: What causes night sweats?

Answer: There are many causes for night sweats. The most common one, of course, is sleeping with too many covers. It may also be due to the presence of a chronic infection in the body.

Tuberculosis is another common cause, but the other symptoms of this disease are more pronounced, such as loss of weight, coughing, and fever.

MAXIMS

Discretion is not so much indicated by never making a mistake as by never repeating it.

The Poets Corner

THIS PORTICO OF GODS

Theme seekers, pause upon this desert floor
And look across this range of rim-rock land:
There let your wit flow as the drifting sand,
For you have found a theme forevermore:
Rest then, and drink a draught of alien wine,
Mellowed an age in caverns of the soul:
Look in its ruby depths and tip the bowl,
Dreaming the fragrant vineyard and the vine:
For such a scene as this must move the pen
Or cause a Phidias in awe to stare
And ponder chiseled line and cryptic shade—
Recordings in red marble for all men,
On some dim Parthenon, not yet aware
This portico of Gods will never fade.

—Cullen Jones,
in the New York Times.

NOTES BY THE WAY

For the next two months the seat of government in the United States will be wherever the President happens to be making a political speech.—Ottawa Journal

Tit-for-tat is fair play we are told. For example, should not the guaranteed wage be offset by a guaranteed work effort?—Oshawa Gazette

It's probably just as well for his sake that George Bernard Shaw is no longer with us. Otherwise, every one of those guys who claim to have been his intimate pal would be bothering him for tickets for his Broadway hit "My Fair Lady"" —Brandon Sun

The best protection against unfriendly dogs, declares the postmaster of Sacramento, Calif., is a bigger dog. The Sacramento postmen—victims of 96 biting cases last year—are taking his advice. They make friends with the biggest dog in the neighborhood where they deliver mail, and get the pooch to go along with them on the route.—Sydney Post Record

A great deal of the grief that the Liberal Government has found itself in of recent years could have been avoided by honoring the resolution passed unanimously at its 1948 convention—when it made Mr. St. Laurent its leader. That resolution called for conventions every four years. But it has been forgotten.—Vancouver Sun

President Eisenhower says he will have another complete physical examination before the November elections and let the people know 'If anything causes him to think he is not fit to serve a second term." And what a scene of political confusion that would create if say a week or two before the election he is compelled to withdraw!—Ottawa Journal

A monster of some kind lurks around Brantford, according to three boys who discovered enormous tracks—22 inches long and spaced 12 feet apart—coming from the Grand River. Informed of the evidence, Brantford police remained calm. They took the view that monsters are no concern of theirs unless they disturb the peace. This is a very proper and sensible attitude, especially since a well-behaved monster can be a great attraction to any community.—Ottawa Citizen

From Manila comes an item to remind us that there are countless ways for the grim reaper to strike us down, and some of them surprising. A Manila man shot a hawk that has been preying on his chickens. When he picked up the wounded bird, it revived and clawed his face. He struck back at the fierce bird, using his rifle as a club. The weapon discharged. The man who had south to protect his chickens, died of a bullet wound. Aesop would have written a fable with a moral you wouldn't forget about this tragic incident.—Cape Breton Post

Notice on wall of waitresses' dressing room in a California cafe: "Remember good service—Money doesn't grow on trays."—Coronet

Still, the long-winded preacher has nothing on some after-dinner speakers, who are often long and never winded.—Stratford Beacon-Herald

Hon. C.D. Howe plans to visit Russia after the general election, it is reported. Whether as a minister of the Crown or as private citizen remains to be seen.—Ottawa Journal

The nomination convention we are waiting to hear from is that of the U.S. Vegetarian Party. And don't smirk; there really is one —Peterborough Examiner

These new sprays are wonderful for controlling insect pests, but they don't bring the solid emotional satisfaction that you get out of swatting a mosquto bare-handed. —Hamilton Spectator

Just how wrong you can be is revealed in the old statement that promoters were refused a $1,000 loan in 1827 by bankers to start a town in Chicago on the grounds that it would never develop.— Stratford Beacon-Herald

A New Zealand hospital announces that it has demonstrated that an infant kept in the same room as its mother during its first few days, thrives better than one kept in a nursery. And thus we toil panting behind Mother Nature, who knew that 5,000 years ago.— Peterborough Examiner

A so-called 'figure expert' warns men that women are prone to what he ungallantly calls 'middle-aged dumpiness'. And a doctor says that a man who is going to develop a paunch often shows signs of it by the time he is 22. Wouldn't it be simpler to declare fat fashionable and spare all this shame and agony?—Peterborough Examiner

Because of a drop in attendance, the Toronto Symphony Orchestra's "Pop" concerts, held in Massey Hall during the last 11 years, are to be discontinued. Television parking problems and a trend to Friday night shopping are blamed for a drop in concert attendance. What's all that stuff we've been hearing lately about the birth of a Canadian "culture?"— Brantford Expositor

Morarji Desai, chief minister of Bombay State, has gone on an "indefinite fast" because no one showed up at a meeting at which he was to explain the setup of the new bilingual state of Bombay. Such tactics sound strange to us, but they became a part of Indian politics through the example of Gandhi. Some of our politicians might try out the hunger-strike technique. Among us the only ones who stop eating when there is no audience are the actors.—London Free Press

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RURAL ELECTRIFICATION NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the proposed rural electrical extension to serve the Rose Valley-Springton-Shamrock area has been approved for construction.

Residents in this area, who have completed contracts with the Maritime Electric Company Limited, are hereby advised to wire their premises.

Any complaints or disputes regarding the placing of poles on private property or otherwise, or the cutting of trees necessary for line construction, must be referred to this Commission through the local committee at the earliest possible date.

The committee representing this area comprises the following members:

Ralph Gillis Gordon MacKenzie D. Lester Cairns

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
CHARLOTTETOWN
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND