

Covers Prince Edward Island like the... Published every week-day morning at 165 Prince Street...

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er sacks are over, and growers may as well face it. The modern method—the way householders prefer to buy potatoes—is perfectly clean...

“Finally, and most important, we should eat more potatoes. In doing so, we make an important contribution to the prosperity of a major industry and, at the same time, we invest in our own health.”

Commendable Policy

Washington has announced that it will make available to other countries all weather data gained by its weather satellites, the first of which is now orbiting the earth.

But there is still a question to be resolved. Satellites can spy out more than weather. With infrared “eyes” they can even pierce darkness.

Consistency may be—as Emerson said—“the hobgoblin of little minds”; but he was referring to philosophical ideas, not political pledges.

Quoting The Record

Commenting on the current activities in Parliament, the Ottawa Journal complains that the session is being marred by too much appeal to the record of the past.

We are afraid the Journal will have a hard job convincing our politicians on this point. Human nature being what it is, who can refrain—in politics—from pointing out some glaring inconsistency in an opponent's statements, especially if the opponent happens to have won his election on a policy on which he or his party is now hedging, or has changed it out of all recognition into something different?

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Making Potatoes Pay

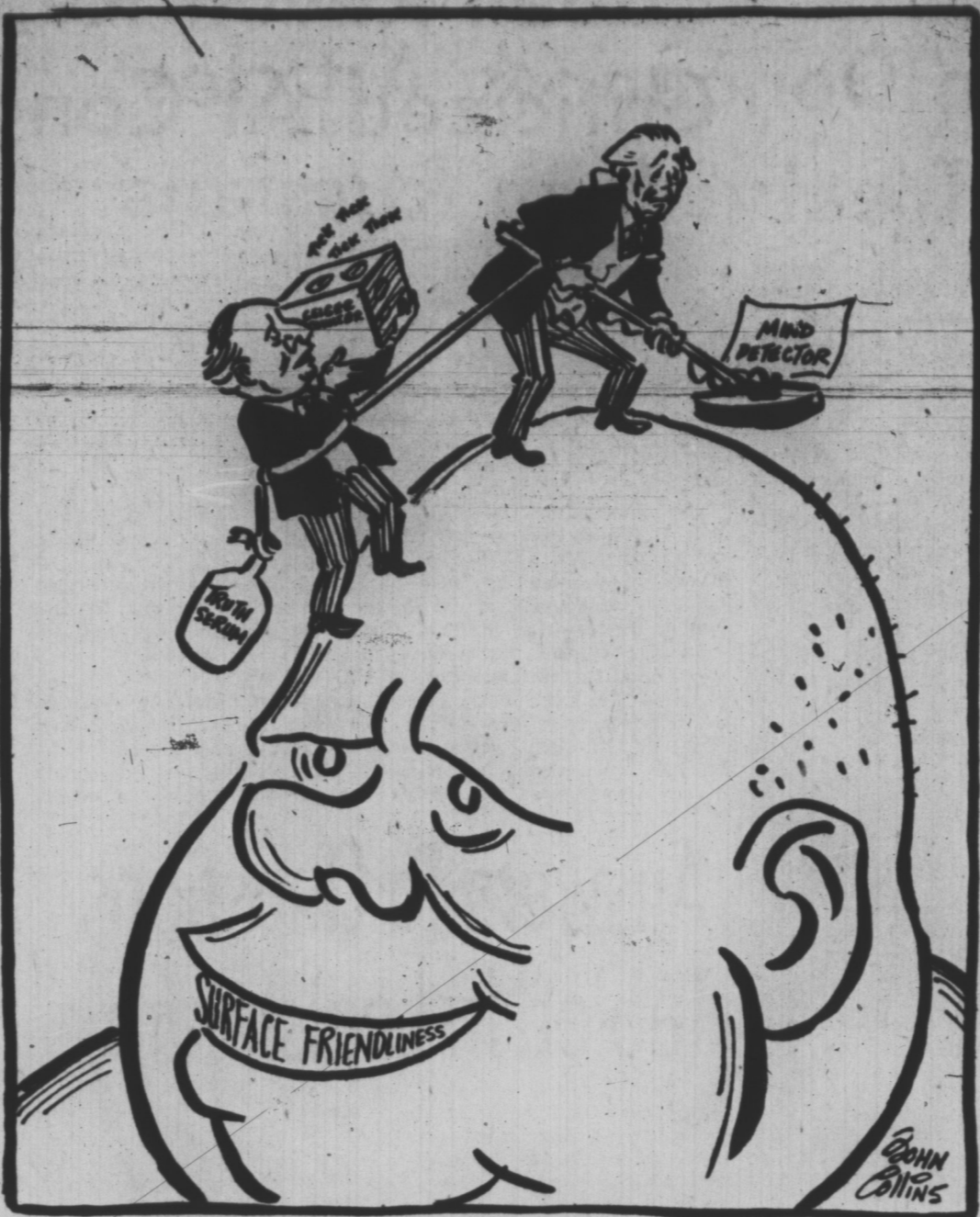
Here is something for Prince Edward Island potato growers to ponder. We quote it in full from the Frederickton Gleaner, bearing out, as it does, the comments offered in these columns yesterday:

“New Brunswick potato growers are being urged in paid advertisements in provincial publications to ‘pull up stakes’ and to take their skilled knowledge of potato raising to northern Ontario.

“Unfortunately, the report of the Gordon Royal Commission gave pseudo-official status to this pessimistic doctrine that the Atlantic Provinces exist principally to produce and export citizens to other parts of the country.

“Part of the answer must come from new national policies so devised as to give the produce of the Atlantic Provinces a fair chance to compete in the markets of the rest of the country.

“Still another avenue of approach is in the development of new types of packaging for potatoes, with which some New Brunswick growers are already experimenting successfully.



HUNTING FOR THE BOOBY TRAPS

Gas Export Prospects

By Patrick Nicholson

The Diefenbaker Government has a friendly eye on a little commercial “vision” which could turn our northern development into a “VISION” spelled with a dollar sign.

The big gamble of the hunt for oil and natural gas in our Arctic Islands is going to set our northern afire, (and some of our aviation companies might well have had a little vision there themselves, to create “work-horse” planes for use in our Arctic, instead of belly-aching because the guardians of our tax dollars called a halt to the construction of an obsolescent war plane.)

But the prospect of huge new oilfields and gas wells, especially at a time when we already have gas coming out of our ears further south, has also raised the question: “Who will buy our gas?”

That in turn depends upon the answer to the question: “How will we deliver our gas?” And the answer to that one should come easily to any Canadian, for it is simply “by freezing it.”

TRIAL SHIPMENT It has been discovered that natural gas when cooled to two hundred and fifty degrees below zero, turns into liquid form and shrinks to one six-hundredth of its normal gaseous volume. This appears to be the way in which we can deliver our gas to any market anywhere in the world.

A trial shipment of this super-cooled liquefied gas, or methane, has been despatched from a U.S. port to London, England. It can be extracted from the earth, processed and shipped to England for something less than 50 cents per thousand cubic feet. That is

approximately one-third of the cost of artificial gas currently available in England. And it is slightly less than the 35 cents per thousand cubic feet which large industries would pay for Alberta natural gas supplied by Trans-Canada Pipe Line.

This it appears that our abundant natural fuel can be delivered almost anywhere in the world at a truly competitive price.

Some idea of what this might mean to our economy can be gleaned from the estimate that Japan, whose present population is 90,000,000 souls, might quickly build up to a consumption of 900 billion cubic feet of gas per year. That is four times Canada's current consumption; it is sixty times our total exports of gas piped to the United States during 1957.

That export to the U.S. earned us a paltry \$2,000,000. In contrast, the export of gas to satisfy Japan's estimated demand would yield about \$450,000,000 to Canada's gas fields and pipelines and shippers.

WORK FOR SHIPYARDS And that raises another very attractive side to this picture. Special ships would probably be built to transport gas in its chilled form. Just as these big Greek shipping interests recently had the world's largest oil tanker built in Japan's shipyards, so we would hope that whoever undertook the shipment of Canada's natural gas overseas, would place orders for the special gas tankers in Canadian shipyards.

Bearing in mind the likely source of much of our exportable gas—namely deep inside our Arctic Circle—another exciting picture is conjured up. Last summer, during a visit in

side our Arctic Circle, I heard our government shipping experts talking about atomic-fuelled icebreakers and atomic submarine tankers. Such “Jules Verne” fantasy—for so it seemed at the time—did not make sense to my 1958 mind. But now it is 1959, and big international companies are ready to spend millions of dollars looking for gas in our Arctic; so it must make sense for them to spend millions of dollars to get it out of our arctic too. And that leads us straight to the reality of atomic-powered submarines towing strings of submarine barges in the only navigable waters in our Arctic, namely the waters beneath the frozen surface of the Arctic Ocean, where navigation is cheaper and easier than on the surface of any ice-free ocean.

Well, that is the dream. And the idea of Canadian natural gas being sold in Europe and Asia and Africa—to our great financial benefit—does not seem too crazy to some of the imaginative trade and shipping officials in our Government. Such development is no more than part of “The Vision,” which did not seem too crazy to millions of Canadian voters a year ago.

Another factor which plays a big part in success, in any classroom, is good discipline. By this I do not mean a corporal sort of discipline, or demerit punishment. We all know that pupils have great respect for a teacher who can maintain discipline and do it in such a way as to make a happy atmosphere in the classroom. Under those conditions a teacher does her best teaching, and the pupils receive the benefit.

Lastly, but by no means the least factor which contributes to success is the close co-operation between parents, pupils and teacher. My most successful pupils have always come from homes where the teacher was held in high respect, and where parents were deeply interested in the welfare of their children. The pupils, too, who like their teacher will respond with their best efforts. The teacher has been given the incentive to rise to his or her best, and the result, of this three-some is success.

The second part of my letter will be summed up in a few personal ideas as to some of the causes of failures in Provincial Grade X (Entrance) examinations. There may be causes of which I am totally unaware, but I will cite some that are quite obvious.

I believe the most glaring cause is premature grading, or should I say automatic grading of pupils from one grade to the next each year. I am afraid I still have some teachers, who react to the pressure of parents who insist on having their children advanced, even though the teacher tries to point out to them that these children will not be able to cope with the work of the next grade. It is only fair to say that, in some cases, the parents are not to blame for the mistakes in grading. If a teacher finds himself or herself in a dilemma over grading, would it not be a good idea to call in his or her Supervisor for advice and support? Perhaps if a firm stand were taken on this matter, the situation which prevails today would very soon cease to exist.

Another reason for low marks in Grade X examinations is poor grounding in English. How many children have we who

Effective In Combination

By Herman N. Bundesen, M. D. RECENTLY I wrote a column in which I said that many of the so-called wonder drugs aren't so wonderful any more and pointed out that many of them are becoming less effective for more and more persons.

Through the years many of us apparently have built up a resistance to some of the effects of some of the antibiotics. WHAT TO DO?

What can medical science do to improve the effectiveness of antibiotics?

More new drugs are being developed and I will tell you about some of them in the near future.

A different method of administering some of the antibiotics apparently increases effectiveness, too. For example, using a combination of some of the antibiotics instead of a single drug gives increasing evidence of being at least a partial answer to the problem.

RECOMMENDATION

In fact, just recently a Scottish physician flatly recommended such procedure, particularly in acute illnesses where treatment must be given without delay.

This same doctor described as “impracticable” the opinion of some scientists who believe that the organism causing a disease should be isolated and tested for its sensitivity to various antibiotics before antibiotic medication is administered.

Such a procedure sometimes takes quite a while. An acute infection generally demands immediate treatment.

But, of course, the attending physician must decide each case on an individual basis. BLEND OF DRUGS

Thus far, no single antibiotic we have found is comprehensive in range. Thus, it seems a natural step to blend two or more drugs with similar action. Some

have a fair knowledge of a subject yet find great difficulty in getting that knowledge down on paper? As we know, this training begins in Grades II and III, and I admire the teacher who insists on good English (spelling, punctuation, capital letters, etc.) right up through the grades.

Then, as I mentioned in the first section of my letter, too high marks tend to mislead both pupils and parents. It is a known fact, that some parents just cannot understand why their child failed his Grade X when his percentage throughout the year was approximately 80 per cent. It would be difficult to understand. Let us be honest with ourselves and with our pupils. Let the parents just know by marks or otherwise, just where their children stand; then perhaps we can point to one of the major causes for failures, that most of our teachers have too much work to cover.

Let us take a look at the one-roomed school, with every grade from one to ten in it. How could a teacher accomplish what he or she would like to do with so much work staring him or her in the face each morning? I tried it, and I know what it is like. Not one day did I do all the work I should have done, even though I worked after school with Grade X. It is impossible to do justice to the teaching profession under such conditions.

Our Department of Education is not only willing, but anxious to remedy this situation, by assisting in every way possible, the removal of Grades IX and X from these schools. Certainly this would be a wonderful help, both to the one-roomed school teacher and the senior pupils. Might I be allowed to make a suggestion here? Knowing that a teacher with eight grades will not have time to do justice to all subjects, would it not be a good idea to put more emphasis on English Literature, and English Language, along with a good grounding in the fundamentals of arithmetic? It must be very frustrating when a pupil goes to a larger school where children have had a better chance to find that he or she is not quite ready for High School subjects. We must realize, too, that new surroundings do not help matters any.

In closing this article, may I say, lest I have led anyone astray, that all my Grade X pupils do not pass their Grade X examinations. I have merely outlined some of the things I try to accomplish but, as everyone knows, even a teacher's best is not quite good enough to cope

NOTES BY THE WAY

“Don't worry any more about fish in the sea.” “I know,” said the jilted one, “but he was a goldfish.”—Hamilton Spectator

pharmaceutical firms are doing this now. The result is sort of a shotgun treatment instead of a specific rifle shot at a definite bull's-eye. It is easy to see that such a

widespread blast of drugs is often likely to overcome resistance more quickly and easily than the attack of a single antibiotic.

This, at least, is the theory on which scientists are now working.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Mrs. G. E.: Is there any home remedy for calcium deposits on heel bones and what causes this deficiency in diet?

Answer: Calcium deposits in the heel are not caused by diet. They are usually due to chronic irritation, rheumatic conditions, infections in the system and may be aggravated by overweight.

With all the problems which confront us in the teaching profession, hence some failures are bound to occur each year. I am, Sir, etc. MRS. IRENE EASTON

Warden, P. E. I.

TEACHING METHODS

Sir.—When parents in Manitoba complain that their children are unable to read print at first sight and can only recite from the school reader, educators frequently say “The same methods of teaching reading are used all across Canada.” Many of us here would like to know whether parents and teachers in other provinces are as dissatisfied with the results of “modern” methods as we are here in Manitoba.

We would be extremely interested to hear from parents whose children have been taught to read by the sight method (with incidental phonics). Can these children read unfamiliar print at first sight, at their level of understanding? Were they drilled on the isolated sounds of letters in conjunction with the sight method? We hope interested parents and teachers will write to the undersigned.

I am, Sir, etc. MRS. I. LEWINGTON, 26 Arundel Street, Boniface, Manitoba.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

Sir.—We have not heard anything about our request for Daylight Time since early winter. At that time we understood a request had gone to the Government for a time change for summer months, but to date nothing has been whispered about the proposal. Maybe we could get a week-end like the members and that would be better. Close the stores about noon on Thursday and till Monday afternoon. That's about the set-up at the House now in session.

We have heard the Premier has said there will be only one time whatever it is. Last year we had two times, C.F.C.Y.-TV was on Daylight Time while radio was Standard Time. No doubt T.V. will again do the same. Summer time air station, we are informed, will be Daylight Time. Therefore if those places located on this island can change their time, why can't the Towns and this City do likewise?

We have every respect for the farmers and all country people, and it is said we can't live without them. We think also they

can't live without us in the City. We eat and drink their products. Some—say the store-hours—don't suit farmers. What about their country stores? They are not open day and night; their staff like us, get tired at day's end and like a little time off in the evening as well as farmers and city folks.

The day of the sloven is gone forever, Indians no longer carry scalp on their belts and men with long whiskers no longer work in the fields with a hoe. Time marches on. Those who blocked the advent of the automobile have long since gone, and those who block Daylight Time will follow the line to the field of white stones. So I say, let us live with the times. It's not 1922, now, is it 1959. Surely we can all agree on a time change for only a few months in the bright summer-time. We only have a few summers here, so let us all agree and have Daylight Time the set time for everyone in the summer months. It's time to keep up with the time every other place. I am, Sir, etc. W.A. O'BRIEN, Charlottetown

HISTORIC BUILDING

Sir.—With the demolition this week of the old Dominion House on Great George Street, much of the former history of Victorian days will go with it. Without doubt it is one of the best preserved buildings of its kind in the city. It shows what care and attention does for the preservation of a building down the years. I am, Sir, etc. KENNETH BRUCE STEWART, Charlottetown.

OUR YESTERDAYS

(From the Guardian Files) TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (March 2, 1934)

A decided improvement in business conditions in Charlottetown during the past few months, amounting to an increase over last year of from 10 to 25 per cent, with prospects of still further betterment as weather conditions modify and money circulates more freely between city and country, is reported by a number of leading business and financial firms this week.

Potato shipments this winter have been much larger than in other years, when the movement of seed did not begin until March. It was officially stated yesterday. Considerable demand is anticipated from the United States, particularly from Maine. Where they want the Island potatoes for foundation stock.

TEN YEARS AGO (March 3, 1949)

Mr. R. C. Parent, Superintendent of the Charlottetown Experimental Farm, leaves this morning for Fredericton, N.B., to take part in the Citizens Forum. Mr. Parent will also attend a meeting of the Agricultural Institute and will probably visit the Experimental Farm at Fredericton. He hopes to return to the Province Monday next.

At a meeting of the berry growers of Prince County held in the Town Hall, Summerside, a Prince County Berry Growers Association was formed. The officers are President, George Smith; vice-president, Louis Moase; secretary-treasurer, Allison MacLean.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Mr. Mikoyan, Soviet Deputy Premier, complains that Prime Minister Macmillan took a “tough line” in talks with Premier Khrushchev on the German question. Right in the Kremlin, too, with his host fursing a toothache. The idea of him browbeating poor Mr. Khrushchev in that manner!

The “Wood, Field and Stream” columnist of the New York Times stated in a recent article that he understood that “heavy shipments of stripers” (striped bass) were being sent from Prince Edward Island to the American market. It's news to us. We didn't even know that striped bass visited our shores in any quantity.

Prime Minister Macmillan's visit to Russia has had at least one good result. Shortly after he arrived in Moscow a Russian General broadcast a speech in which he praised British, American and French soldiers “for their part in defeating Hitler Germany”. Usually, Soviet officials talk as though they won the war with little or no help from anyone.

A longer school day, a longer school year and more homework. These are among the “musts” listed in an article by Dr. Lawrence G. Derthick, U.S. Commissioner of Education, published in Parents' magazine. Dr. Derthick believes children need more time in school because there is so much more to learn in many fields than there was 25 years ago. He bases his recommendation for more homework on a survey of more than 1,000 high school principals.

A master shoemaker of the old school, the late Mr. Frank S. Currie made an outstanding success of his shoe repair business in which his son, Mr. Vernon Currie, has been associated in recent years. The Currie Block on Queen Street is a substantial memorial to a lifetime of industry and enterprise, pursued without fanfare but with integrity, thrift and fair dealing. The world has been trying hard to find substitutes for these old-fashioned virtues, but they are still the hallmark of solid achievement.

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.

GRADE X EXAMINATIONS Keys to Success and Reasons for Failure

Sir.—As we are all aware, we are again in the month of March, the month in which we seriously consider the problems of education, and in which we set aside a week which is called Education Week. This is a splendid idea, but if, by any chance, all the endeavours of those who faithfully work on the various projects of this particular week are quickly forgotten and set aside, then I think the value of Education Week has been lost.

Be that as it may, I have been asked to write on a very interesting, and perhaps, at times, a very controversial subject, namely: The Key to Success in Preparing Pupils for the Provincial Grade X Examinations, and Reasons for the High Failure Rate. I do not expect unanimous agreement on my observations and suggestions, but I shall honestly express myself as I feel I should. I shall deal with the topic in two sections: firstly, some keys to success, and secondly, some reasons for failure.

As to the key to success in preparing pupils for their grade X examinations, (or Entrance, as those examinations are still called by most people), I want to make it very plain that I do not possess any such key. I will try, however, to convince my readers that there are certain things which I stress, and without which I would not expect my pupils to pass.

The first thing that should be established is whether the pupil has the desire to pass, or if he or she is just coming to school because mom and dad insist on his coming. Someone may say, “Well, that is not the teacher's responsibility.” Perhaps not but very often, a friendly talk (a motherly talk in my case) will do a great deal to arouse in

that pupil a desire to gather himself up and really make a success of himself.

My second thought is that there is no substitute for hard work, and that goes for both teacher and pupil. This may sound old-fashioned, but I think, most of our educators are coming to see that, if our teen-agers are going to have so many outside activities (and I agree that they should have some), then those same teen-agers will have to budget their time making sure that first things come first. I admire the boy or girl who can play a good game of hockey and come to school the next day with his lessons well prepared, and an eagerness to learn.

Sometimes I wonder if the desire to work is contagious. I do know that if a teacher is energetic most of the pupils will react. Did any teacher ever experience a day in which he or she didn't feel quite up to the mark? If so, did the pupils work so well that day? We cannot go along with the commercial “It's so easy when you use Less Toll.”

Next, insist on regular attendance. Point out that even one day lost is a step backward. No teacher ever puts in a whole day without teaching something important. This is especially true where one must do so much teaching in High School subjects. Perhaps, in some of our rural schools, where travelling is sometimes difficult, this could be quite a problem for teacher and pupil alike.

Another idea I try to instill into my pupils, is that they should not be satisfied with anything less than their best. I point out that a bare pass (50 per cent) is not much of an accomplishment, unless a pupil is a victim of circumstances, over which he has no control. A pupil who has a good chance should make more than 50 per cent if he expects to do well in Grades XI and XII. I feel that a good foundation in the work of IX and X is the secret of success in XI and XII.

For that reason set examinations which are quite difficult, mark them without fear or favour. Mark everything that is wrong, not just the glaring mistakes. Incorrect spelling, lack of

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