

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

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A Gloomy Picture

The UN General Assembly was described as opening its 21st session yesterday in an atmosphere of gloom, with East-West relations seriously impaired by the Viet Nam war and with little prospect of progress on major issues.

Never in the two decades of the UN under three secretaries-general has there been such a scarifying annual report as that delivered by U Thant. "The international situation has not improved. The cloud over Viet Nam has grown larger and more ominous. Nuclear as well as conventional armaments have developed apace. Comparatively little has happened to brighten the prospects of those who occupy two-thirds of the world where poverty, disease, ignorance and lack of opportunity are the most conspicuous facts of daily life."

The powerful nations have not during this period shown themselves able to rise above the suspicions, fears and misgivings that spring from their different ideologies and from their different conceptions of the best interests of the rest of the world; nor the rich nations above their concern for the continuation of their own prosperity.

And so on, and on. A jeremiad over the appalling results of power politics, of selfish nationalism, and failure to meet the most urgent problems of human concern. One of these problems—that of food scarcity—is actually becoming worse as time goes on, despite all the progress in scientific techniques. Quite recently, the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture had occasion to issue the following warning: "Mass famine in the 1980's cannot be prevented unless the less-developed countries do more in the next five years to feed themselves. By then, because of world population growth, the United States, Canada and other developed agricultural countries will no longer have the food potential to prevent such a disaster."

At about the same time, in Paris, a special assistant to the U.S. State Secretary had this to say: "Food reserves in the world's 'bread basket' are getting so low that a single year of drought in Canada and the United States would cause worldwide deaths through starvation." And closer home, the Ontario Department of Agriculture announced: "Canada's role is to increase the production of goods having high nutritional value in sufficient volume to feed its own growing population. Unless steps are taken now to bring this about, Canada and Canadians could join the 'hungry' countries." The department has called a special conference on agriculture for next month to discuss the problem.

But its worldwide implications must be evident to all. It should have top billing on the agenda of the UN Assembly at this time. Unfortunately there is little chance of that in the circumstances.

From Bad To Worse?

In Toronto, civic politics have gotten into such a state that serious consideration is being given to adopting the political party system. At present, it is complained, each candidate for civic office runs alone; he can make any proposal or promise he feels like, but he has no real responsibility for carrying them out; he can always say in excuse that he was frustrated by his fellow-aldermen. Even the mayor cannot depend on the support he requires to put through the program on which he was elected, he can only

try to cajole enough council members into voting for specific measures. Progress is accomplished, if at all, only by immense log-rolling and trading of favors, and nobody can be held responsible when things go wrong.

It is argued that the introduction of political parties would bring an immediate improvement in the system. It would afford some guarantee that a candidate would be called to account for his promises, would furnish a loyal and coherent opposition to any existing municipal regime and would offer an alternative when the regime in power lost popular confidence.

The Toronto Star appears to be sold on this idea, as the only way of providing the "discipline and cohesion" necessary for effective government on the municipal level. That may be so in the big Ontario metropolises, though we venture to say that it's a solution likely to raise more problems than it will solve. Certainly we find no reason for wanting to get rid of what The Star calls the "non-partisan fetish" in our municipalities in this part of the country. We get quite enough partisanship in provincial and federal affairs. Indeed, the past few years have provided spectacles on Parliament Hill that have brought the whole party system into widespread disrepute. Nor does a week pass, we notice, without several editorial blasts from Toronto papers on this very subject.

Excuse Our Cynicism!

New Brunswick set a fine example at last week's federal-provincial conference, says the Moncton Transcript. It commends the province's finance and industry minister, Mr. DesBrisay, for having "hailed the new equalization formula proposed by the federal government." Lest the cynical should say this was to be expected since it provides substantially higher payments, the Moncton paper goes on to point out that while an addition of \$15,700,000 "will help matters considerably," many times this sum would be required for the gap between New Brunswick and the "have" provinces to be closed.

It adds that "if selfish determination to gouge more and more out of Ottawa were this province's aim—as it appears to be the aim of some other provinces, the New Brunswick delegation would have been far less receptive to the proposals." But Mr. DesBrisay was careful to make clear that it was New Brunswick's "loyalty to a united Canada" that caused him to hail the new formula with such enthusiasm.

Far be it from us to disparage such laudable motives. But when our Moncton contemporary goes on to say that "if all provinces held similar views this nation would be strong and united as never before," we confess that we find the moral far fetched. What sentiments, we wonder would Mr. DesBrisay—or The Transcript either—be voicing if instead of \$15,700,000 he was offered a beggarly \$200,000 increase, or the equivalent on a per capita basis?

New Plant For Borden

The announcement that the Maritime Cement Company Limited will build a \$200,000 cement storage and distribution plant near Borden, and that construction will begin immediately with the plant scheduled to be in operation early in 1967, is good news. Not only will the plant be in a position to serve the needs of the new causeway construction but it will be a permanent source of supply for building programs throughout the province, as well as of employment on a steady basis. It should serve, also, as an inducement to other industries to locate in the Borden area, thus offsetting any disadvantage that may accrue when the current car ferry traffic is routed via the causeway.

Both our provincial and federal authorities have given assurance that help in establishing new industries will be forthcoming in this area, and there is no reason why it should not become, in time, one of the busiest industrial areas of the province. In this case, however, credit is due to a Charlottetown corporation, Industrial Enterprise Inc., for negotiating with the cement company, and thus setting an example of "enterprise" in the best tradition of public service.

EDITORIAL NOTE

Editors of Farm Index, a U.S. department of agriculture publication, think people will continue to turn their backs on their kitchens and dine out increasingly. They predict a 75 per cent increase in the nation's annual restaurant bill in a decade. Causes: more working wives, more snacking teenagers, more old people living alone and not wanting to cook, and just more people.



THOUGHT FOR INDIAN SUMMER

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

All Four Parties Have Their Troubles

Even the denizens of Parliament Hill find it hard to follow the devious and shifting patterns of the leadership struggle within each of the four parties in federal politics. A map of the routes to the top, a chart of the social welfare shoals on the political spectrum, horoscopes of all the rivals, and a close check on the lunch-time dates of each — these would help one to understand each move.

And I mean all four parties. Personal rivalry between Alberta's Bob Thompson and Quebec's Real Caouette is the chief obstacle to the desirable reunion of the Western and Quebec wings of the Social Credit party. New Democrat leader Tom Douglas needs a hearing aid, if he cannot detect behind him the heavy breathing of his deputy, David Lewis, who appears to be Parliament Hill's most eager leadership aspirant.

At least nine present or past figures in federal or provincial politics have their eyes on — or are hoped to be eyeing — the leadership of Canada's Conservatives (which is not the same thing as "the mantle of John Diefenbaker").

SCRIMMAGE AT THE TOP Among the Liberal cabinet, every speech and spat, every policy and promise, is motivated by personal or promoted ambition. For we are already seeing the dog-eat-dog struggle to succeed to the only leader who seems anxious to be succeeded as soon as possible (though presumably not before his "pension day", April 22 next, worth \$16,667 per year for life to him).

The Liberals are going through a power struggle between Quebec, which has no present candidate, and the rest of Canada, which has too many; an ideological struggle between the true Liberals and the Big-State socialists; a flag struggle between those who support the Liberal Maple Leaf and those who would be happier beneath the Stars and Stripes; and — a 20th Century leader being taken for granted — a battle between the older wiser generation and the impatient young innovators.

The Liberal divergences will be argued in smoke-filled hotel rooms when the Liberal party tells its national convention here in Ottawa next month. It is possible that Prime Minister Pearson will drop a hint about his intentions, he may even suggest October 1967 as the appropriate time for a Liberal leadership convention.

It is unlikely that the Conservatives' national convention, in Ottawa in the following month, will hear anything definite, although many ears will be attuned to catch such a hint.

But the plans of politicians.

Our Yesterdays (From The Guardian Files)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (September 21, 1941) The abandonment of Kiev, bitterly defended capital of the Ukraine and Russia's third largest city, was announced by the Russians.

Qualified London observers, studying Bulgaria's declaration of a state of emergency, termed it a forerunner of a new German diplomatic offensive against Turkey with attack on the Dardanelles to follow shortly if persuasion fails.

TEN YEARS AGO (September 21, 1956)

Snow fell in Toronto — the earliest it has fallen during the 156 years that weather records have been kept.

Hon. George Drew ailing for two months, relinquished the leadership of the Progressive Conservative party to make way for a new leader before the federal election next year.

Human Bites Infectious

By Theodore R. Van Dellen, MD Human bites are a common cause of infections of the hand. Some persons are bitten when fighting. Others nibble away on their own nails and cuticle, especially when reading books or viewing TV. An open wound occurs and infection ensues when the germs in the mouth enter the injured part. This is understandable because the mouth teems with some of the most virulent microbes.

A more serious injury occurs when one person strikes another in the mouth during a brawl. The fist is usually closed and the teeth may break through the skin and into the tendon. The extent of the damage is not appreciated because the wound appears small when the fingers are extended. Now and then the bones are broken. At any rate, the winner often finishes the loser especially when the bacteria are sealed deeply in the tissues or within the tendon sheath.

Surgeons from Jackson Memorial hospital in Miami recently reported their experiences with 50 persons suffering from human bites. Thirty-six bites were self-inflicted or done by someone else; the remainder stemmed from blows to the mouth. The most common wound, a single or multiple puncture wound, in addition there were 11 fractures and two dislocations. Serious infections followed in 50 per cent of these individuals. There also were five instances in which the end of the finger was bitten off, demonstrating that the human jaw has not "lost its ability to defend and destroy." The Miami surgeons were able to isolate a variety of microorganisms from these wounds.

Human bites should be treated promptly even though the injury is trivial. The bitten area is opened and cleaned thoroughly and one of the broad-spectrum antibiotics is administered. This study also demonstrated that complications, including infections of the bones and tendons, are more likely to occur when the initial treatment was delayed.

OFF THE TEAMS

Mrs. L. writes: My 15-year-old son, who played football and basketball for two years, has been suspended from athletics because of high blood pressure. Will he have hypertension the rest of his life?

REPLY The tendency will remain, but he should be able to control it with medicine and by living a life free from strain, worry, and overexertion.

ACUTE TUBERCULOSIS

C. J. writes: Is military tuberculosis curable?

REPLY In the past the outlook was generally poor; but it has improved considerably since the advent of streptomycin, PAS, and the isoniazids. In this type of tuberculosis, there are many small lesions scattered throughout the lungs.

OVERDOSAGE OF VITAMINS

Mrs. E. writes: Is there a limit to the amount of vitamins the body can absorb?

REPLY Yes, and when the saturation point is reached the excess is excreted along with other waste material. Too much A and D, however, will produce symptoms and a few fatalities have resulted from overdosage.

SHOCK TREATMENTS

N. K. writes: Are shock treatments for nervous breakdown as restful as many people say they are?

REPLY They are restful only by comparison with the turmoil suffered by most persons who need shock therapy. An anesthetic is given to minimize the physical distress.

Tension Over U.S. Buildup

By Arch MacKenzie Canadian Press Staff, Washington

WASHINGTON (CP)—On the eve of the 21st session of the General Assembly, President Johnson has been presented with urgent appeals to restrain the American military buildup in Viet Nam.

Pope Paul and UN Secretary-General U Thant have spoken for the world community. Two domestic voices—significant in their recent association with the president's staff—have combined their sharpest criticism yet of the American position with arguments for fighting a holding war.

These coincide with the state department's acknowledgment Monday that American plans may have violated Chinese air space twice this month—the type of possibility regarded as most likely to trigger direct Chinese involvement.

They also coincide with a general assumption that President Johnson, heartened by the recent high civilian vote in South Viet Nam and troubled by signs of public impatience with the war, plans a steady increase in military forces before or after the Nov. 8 congressional elections—or both.

APPEALED TO WORLD

Pope Paul called Monday for prayers during October for peace in Viet Nam and action to "prevent the further spread of the conflagration and even to extinguish it entirely."

U Thant made another implied attack on the U.S. position in Viet Nam when he said he sees "nothing but danger in the idea, so assiduously fostered outside Viet Nam, that the conflict is a kind of holy war between two powerful political ideologies."

At home, Arthur Schlesinger Jr. gave his most critical appraisal yet of the war. Writing in the current New York Times magazine, he echoes some of the criticisms made in Washington Saturday by Richard Goodwin, like Schlesinger a former special assistant to both President Johnson and President Kennedy.

Schlesinger, author of A Thousand Days which records

the Kennedy administration, says: "Everything in recent weeks—the actions of the administration, the intimations of actions to come, even a certain harshness in the presidential rhetoric—suggests that President Johnson has made his choice and that his choice is the careful enlargement of the war."

WRECKED PLANS

The war, he writes, has badly harmed East-West relations, made U Thant resign, wrecked Johnson's plans for a Great Society and damaged Allied relations.

Goodwin said in a speech Saturday that bombing North Viet Nam "has been a failure and perhaps a disaster." But he suggested only that it be restrained.

He said there has been some "deliberate lie and distortion" in the official U.S. stand on the war and there is mounting danger of war with China.

FRANCE ORDERS BOEING

PARIS (AP)—Air France has announced it has ordered four Boeing-747 planes to be delivered early in 1970. The American planes are designed to carry up to 450 passengers at subsonic speeds. A number of European and U.S. airlines had previously ordered the planes.

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