

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew... W. J. Hancock, Publisher

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over the 1963 figures. The lowest average in 1964, \$91, was in the Yukon and Northwest Territories; Alberta averaged \$97; British Columbia \$103; Saskatchewan \$105 and Manitoba \$123.

In the Atlantic provinces, the average for Prince Edward Island was lowest at \$121; Nova Scotia averaged \$131; New Brunswick \$148 and Newfoundland \$147. Quebec was highest in the country at \$154 and Ontario was \$136. All areas except Newfoundland showed an increase over the 1963 level.

Better At Ottawa

Trade Minister Bob Winters is a smart gentleman. His success as a Bay Street tycoon proves it. But he appears to have led with his chin in the House of Commons last week when he told of going back to Toronto the other day and feeling like a man from the outposts.

We didn't think the Ottawa Journal would stand for this kind of fiddle-faddle, and it hasn't. It asks, drily, whether Mr. Pearson's new minister thinks that Washington feels remote from the economic emirs of New York, or whether Mr. Johnson misses having a better liaison with Wall Street.

"Mr. Winters," it says, "has been away only nine years but he sounds Rip Van Winklish. Has he forgotten so soon the Toronto business men who appear in briefcases whenever they fear the Ottawa government is planning legislation affecting them? Has he no recollection of showers of chamber of commerce briefs and board of trade resolutions? Does he think Ottawa 'decision makers' forget that 21 per cent of the government's budgetary revenue comes from corporation income tax?"

Good questions, which shouldn't have had to be asked. There are, as The Journal points out, merits to a capital that isn't an economic centre, isn't a wheat field, isn't a mining town, isn't a seaport or a fishing area. There is such a thing as perspective in such matters, and by and large most Canadians will feel that one can see farther and more clearly from Parliament Hill than from the canyons of Bay Street or St. James.

Worse Than Medicare

It is claimed by the Ontario Medical Association that under the federal government's national health plan, the doctors would become virtually employees of the government, and that their visits to patients would become shorter and shorter because more and more people would be demanding more and more service even for trivial conditions.

Without going into the merits of these arguments, which were threshed out bitterly in Saskatchewan a few years ago, may we call attention to another news item pertaining to the dangers that may lie in wait for the status of the medical profession. Perhaps there's nothing in it; perhaps we shan't live to see it in any case. But it's in line with the so-called march of science we've been hearing so much about nowadays, and we feel compelled to break the bad news.

Briefly, it's about the claim of Japanese scientists to have invented what could be the world's first electronic doctor. Think of that, now! Using the electronic doctor, a patient simply "outlines" his symptoms to the machine and it produces a diagnosis. When the correct key—the one corresponding to the set of symptoms—is placed in position, the diagnosis is indicated.

The diagnosis for each set of symptoms is previously programmed into the machine by medical experts. Oh yes, there'll have to be a few doctors around, for that purpose. So far, only skilled medical men operate the machine. But—you've guessed the sequel—the day may come, say the Japanese, when the patient will push his own symptom switches.

EDITORIAL NOTE

Madrid, Spain, is to be the headquarters of the World Forestry Congress to be held this year. One of the problems to be studied is that of reforestation, and delegates will tour the seeded areas of the country.



FEARLESS FOSDICK

OTTAWA REPORT By Patrick Nicholson

Spate Of Questions On Order Paper

The Order Paper of the House of Commons is the happy hunting ground for the private member, especially the opposition member. There party discipline is felt at its lightest, and full scope is given for the originality and industry of the individual. The written questions addressed to the Ministry, the notices of motion and the private members bills all offer the private MP the chance to pursue the topics which interest him and concern his constituents the most.

The spate of questions placed in the opening days of this session revealed a widespread anxiety that the taxpayer's dollar should be husbanded with care. Many MPs posed enquiries seeking to know how much is being spent in various fields, and implying that the most economical course is not always chosen.

For instance Bob Costello, a Conservative from Nova Scotia asked: "What is the total amount of expenditure of the federal government, made or undertaken or planned, in connection with Expo '67?" Independent Conservative Maurice Allard from Quebec found an off-beat angle in asking: "In 1964-65 how much did it cost Canada to keep nuclear warheads, including expenses for storage, men and dogs?"

EXECUTION COSTS

With a debate looming on whether capital punishment should be retained or abolished, Credit Lippin from Quebec asked: "What is the estimated cost to the federal government of each death sentence commuted to life imprisonment during the past ten years?" and "What was the cost of each of the death sentences carried out during the past ten years, including the cost of trial and execution?"

SENTIMENTALISM

Addressing the Quebec Union of Liberal Students he suggested that he would like to delay the transfer of Canada's Constitution to this country until our Government had a different complexion.

THOSE "COLONIALS"

Sentimental cord bind with uncommon strength as Privy Council President Guy Favreau demonstrated in a speech the other day.

PARTISAN BENEFITS

Many MPs are questioning the expenditure of the taxpayer's dollar in manners which appear to benefit the political party, in power.

MUST TRUST EACH OTHER

Canada's overlords of crime, if they actually exist, must be chucking to themselves as they see the leading law enforcement officers engaging in a bitter wrangle over who should or should not operate the central intelligence bureau on criminal affairs which it is hoped to create.

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Advertisement for J.W. Skinner Fuel Stove Oils Burner Service, Dial 4-4044.

Contact Lenses

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen Contact lenses are worn by eight million Americans. Many users see well with conventional glasses but prefer contacts because they do not detract from their appearance or interfere with swimming or other sport activities.

Contact lenses were not practical until 1938, when plastic resins became available. The polymethylmethacrylate lens could be fabricated to duplicate the moulded contour of each individual's eye. This created a problem because the cornea needs oxygen that it usually gets from the air or from oxygen-saturated tears.

Contact lenses also are used by persons with distorted corneas that cannot be neutralized with glasses. Keratoconus is a type in which the cornea is cone shaped and occasionally pointed. Other examples include corneas that are misshapen by infections or by injuries.

SALT AND WEIGHT

H. M. writes: Will taking extra salt at the table help a person to gain weight? Yes, but the gain would be due to the accumulation of water rather than to actual flesh.

BLOOD TYPES

Mrs. F. writes: I'm AB blood type. Can I give to O? No. A's can donate only to their own group. They can receive blood from all types.

EMOTIONAL RHEUMATISM

B. T. writes: What is psychogenic rheumatism? Pain in and about the joints and in the muscles and tendons without visible or laboratory evidence of arthritis.

PRESSURE AND WEIGHT

K. D. writes: Does low blood pressure cause overweight? No, there is no relationship between the two conditions.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT

Children's scissors should be blunt-pointed. (NOTE: All correspondence to Dr. Van Dellen should be addressed to: Dr. Theodore Van Dellen, c/o Chicago Tribune, Chicago, Illinois.)

NOTES BY THE WAY

The Post Office says it has to destroy all the letters it receives for Santa Claus. Who not deliver them to Parliament Buildings, Ottawa? — Peterborough Examiner.

Come to think of it: the old log cabin builder probably would cuss at anyone who called his work "a functional split-level." — Windsor Star.

We were just speculating, but we looked over a new house this week-end. It had everything. Well to wall carpeting. Wall to wall windows. Back to wall financing. — Sparta Herald.

With college football players signing \$50,000 professional contracts in the U.S., can there be any doubt about the value of a university education? — Ottawa Journal.

"Is this a healthy town?" inquired the home seeker of a local resident. "Yes, certainly," was the answer. "When I came here I hadn't the strength to utter a word; I had scarcely a hair on my head; I couldn't walk across the room, and had to be lifted from my bed." "You give me hope!" cried the home seeker with enthusiasm. "How long have you lived here?" "I was born here," replied the native. — Iron County Miner.

Statisticians say there are more than 300 kinds of games played with balls. We presume they have seen more than 300 kinds of games played with golf balls. — Montreal Star.

The theatrical tradition that "the show must go on" unfortunately is followed by many shows in which the rehearsal should have gone on instead. — Ottawa Journal.

A rugged individualist is often very muscular, particularly between the ears. — Hamilton Spectator.

"Do you go to school, my little man?" inquired the caller. "Now," replied the little man, "I'm sent." — Toronto Star.

Looks Taller In The Saddle

Suddenly Harold Wilson, 49, looks tall in the saddle. Labor's Hull-North by-election victory has added dramatically to the stature of the pragmatic prime minister and transformed the British political landscape.

Transformed? Actually, Wilson now has a majority of only four in the 630-member House of Commons. But he has been living on the razor's edge so long that four seems almost a comfortable margin.

So sensational was the socialist win that most observers see it as significant in international as well as national affairs, giving Wilson his biggest boost since he came to power in October, 1964, with a majority of four.

Labour increased its vote five-fold in holding the hitherto marginal constituency in Thursday's by-election, described by the Tory Evening News of London as "one of the most extraordinary results in the history of all by-elections."

Everything was going against Labor Thursday — the government's prices and incomes policy seemed to be falling apart and a fuel-gas and power shortage resulted in industrial layoffs. On every side there were scornful remarks about Wilson, the "juggler" and tightrope walker.

PROSPECTS BRIGHT Today it seems sure that Wilson—barring unforeseen and disastrous setbacks—would be a walkaway winner in a spring general election.

While this must present a powerful temptation, Wilson has frequently said he intends to soldier on without an election so long as he is able to carry out his policies.

Amid the welter of speculation about a March poll, it is possible Wilson means exactly what he says and there will be no election before October at the earliest.

Labour's by-election victory should enhance Wilson's position, at least psychologically, on his official trip to the Soviet Union, scheduled for next month. The Russians will be less likely to feel they are seeing him for the last time.

International bankers, too, may feel a bit more confidence in the pound sterling. They

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