The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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PAGE 6 TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 1963.

Blood Donors Needed

This is blood donors week for eight rural clinics throughout the Province, and it is to be hoped that the appeal which is being made will meet with satisfactory response. 1080 donors are required to meet the demand. Facilities for testing and classifying will be available at all clinics, so that even those who have not previously given their blood may do so without undue delay.

The present rate of donations provides no surplus and it is very important to maintain our quota. New Brunswick Division reports that a shortage of blood is interfering with normal treatment of hospitalized patients, and we don't want that to happen here. Actually, the June clinic in Prince County was some 60 donors short of quota, which means that it reached only 94 percent of the objective.

It is well to remember that modern medical techniques require the use of a greater amount of blood derivatives than in the past. The donating of blood is therefore a most necessary public service. That is why six of the eight clinics in operation this week are being sponsored by Royal Canadian Legion branches. The Provincial Command of the Legion has donated a trophy for competition between the branches, and all communities will be competing for the Manning Trophy.

It is a contest in which everyone is concerned—for who can tell where the next pint of blood will be most desperately needed?

Standing Order 5

Scarcely mentioned in the brief debate on the parliamentary pay increase at Ottawa was the problem of Parliamentary absenteeism. The two subjects are closely related from the taxpayers' point of view; but then the taxpayers only sit by proxy in Parliament, and their proxies appear to have been more concerned about other matters. But the fact is that absenteeism is becoming more, not less, of a problem in the House of Commons, and throughout the latter part of the session now adjourned the attendance—bad enough on any day of the week—was appallingly low on Fridays and Mondays.

Arthur Blakely devotes a trenchant article to this subject in the Montreal Gazette, and we make no apology for quoting the gist of it here though we have dealt with it on other occasions.

Under a quaint honor system, each MP is the sole judge of whether he has—or has not—been absent from his duties. And in any event, the penalty provision has so many built-in loopholes and escape hatches that it is rarely applicable. Chiefly it encourages absenteeism on the part of Quebec and Ontario MPs whose homes are within easy striking distance of Ottawa.

Members feel that they should come and go as they please. Yet there is nothing in the rules sanctioning such free and easy procedure. On the contrary, as Mr. Blakely points out, Standing Order 5 of the Commons—unchanged since Confederation—provides that "every member is bound to attend the services of the House, unless leave of absence has been given him by the House." It is only a question of enforcing this rule to bring the recalcitrant Members to heel.

During the first decade after Confederation, Standing Order 5 was rigidly enforced. Any MP who wished to leave Ottawa requested leave from the House through a colleague. Reasons for the desired absence had to be given, and offenders were dealt with severely.

Sir John A. Macdonald himself was once summoned to the Bar of the Commons for having been absent without leave from a meeting of an elections committee. He duly appeared in the custody of the Sergeant-at-Arms, and presented a defence in the form of a medical certificate.

Not since 1906, however, has the Canadian Commons given serious consideration to a daily record of attendance. The project was backed by Laurier and Borden, but each was promptly faced with a revolt from restless backbenchers anxious to preserve their lax attendance system. The project collapsed and the system, with few changes, is still in effect.

Now that all the Members are on full-time pay, wouldn't this be a good time to have Standing Order 5 dusted off?

Down The Drain

We hadn't heard about it before, but a debate has been going on in learned circles about the direction in which bath water spirals as it flows down the drain. This is something like coming in at the tail end of a show, because the issue has now been decided according to the Christian Science Monitor, which went to the trouble of consulting Professor Ascher H. Shapiro of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology on the subject. Presumably he's an authority, for the Monitor accepts his verdict without question.

Those who maintained that bath water tends to swirl counterclockwise in the Western Hemisphere and clockwise in the Southern due to the earth's rotation are basically right, it seems. But theirs is a hollow victory, as Prof. Shapiro proceeds to show.

He says that forces of friction and turbulence in ordniary sinks and bathtubs overwhelm the minute influence of the earth's spinning. The direction of swirling drainwater, he finds, "seems to vary in an unpredictable manner" under household conditions. But under carefully controlled laboratory conditions that suppress the influence of more powerful forces, the turning force of the earth's rotation—over a million times weaker than gravity—will make itself evident.

How does he know? While other scientists have been wasting their time in perfecting ballistic missiles, space capsules, nuclear submarines and whatnot, Prof. Shapiro has been studying vorticity. He has demonstrated the effects of the earth's rotation on drainwater many times with equipment built for an educational film he is preparing, and thus procured himself a niche in the hall of fame without putting the taxpayers to any burdensome expense.

And, as the Monitor says, he has diplomatically resolved this ancient puzzle in a way that leaves both sides of the argument with some glory. It wonders, nevertheless, who is to be praised the more—those who stuck with their realization that basic physical force must be operating in spite of no direct evidence, or those who stood by their own observation that no preferred direction of swirl could be seen regardless of what the theorists claimed.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Londoners didn't have to go to Venice this year for a ride in a gondola. They plied up and down the canal at Paddington's "Little Venice" this month with a genuine Italian gondolier singing romantic Venetian ballads. The gondola and the gondolier were imported for the Island Waterways Association's 10th national rally which was held, Aug. 15-19, for the first time in London. About 150 boats came from all over Britain for the event.

* * *

A requirement for membership in several California skin diving clubs is that you ride a shark or at least grab one by the tail. The trick is said to be less difficult than it might sound to a landlubber. Most sharks are unwary and so lackadaisical that it's easy to sneak up and steal a short ride. The catch, of course, is that every now and then, instead of turning tail, the shark whips free and snaps big chunks out of its tormenter.

STILL FINDING IT HARD TO RELAX

ISOLATED NOURUANS

Migrating From Lonely Habitation

National Geographic News Bulliten

Moving day is approaching on Nauru, whose 2,800 people must soon leave their lonely Pacific island near the Equator for a new home off the Australian coast.

Behind them, Nauruans will leave an impoverished, pock-marked, palm-fringed little speck, once called the richest island in the South Seas. The wealth came from Nauru's phosphate deposits which have helped fertilize millions of farm acres in Great Britain, Australia, and New Zealand.

Intensive mining has almost exhausted the phosphate. Nauruans, who flourished under the mining boom, will not be able to make a living once the mineral is gone. They have been thinking of migrating for a decade.

SHUNNED MAINLAND

When talk of a move began, the Australian Government offered to bring the Nauruans from their isle west of the Gilberts across Melanesia to the Australian mainland. But Nauruans, proud of their culture, language, and traditions, feared they would lose their identity on a vast continent and sought, instead, another island of their own.

The Nauruans specified that the new island must meet certain requirements: pleasant climate, fertile soil, and sheltered fishing waters with a deep-sea fishing port.

Several islands were rejected before the Nauruans decided on Curtis, just off the coast of Queensland between the Fitzroy River and the port city of Gladstone.

Curtis Island comprises about 180 square miles, compared with Nauru's 8.2 square miles. The climate is pleasanter: Nauru is just 34.5 miles south of the Equator, while Curtis is on the Tropic of Capricorn. There is a port, and the sheltered waters between the island and the mainland will provide easy fishing.

U.N. TRUST TERRITORY

Discovered in 1798, Nauru first was named Pleasant Island. It was annexed by Germany in 1888, occupied by Australia in 1914, and mandated to the United Kingdom, Australia, and New Zealand by the League of Nations in 1919. By consent of the three Commonwealth nations, Nauru was administered by the Australians first under the League and now under the United Nations.

Phosphate mining began in 1906. Because Nauru has no deep-water port, huge cantilevers were constructed to extend over the surrounding coral reef. Conveyors carry the phosphate directly to the anchored vessels. To render phosphate useful as a fertilizer, it must be treated with sulphuric acid. The result in superphosphate.

The British Phosphate Commissioners, who control mining operations, pay both leases and royalties to the individual Nauruans on whose land the phosphate is mined. A royalty trust fund and a long-term investment fund have been established for the resettlement of the community off Australia.

The move to Curtis Island is expected to begin in about five years. Although the exact status of the island's government has not been negotiated, it is expected that Nauruans will have considerable autonomy without full independence.

PUBLIC FORUM

AN APPRECIATION

Harry Morgan has passed away.

To the man on the street, he was just an ordinary person possessing neither power nor wealth, but his wealth was in his friends, who were legion. He had been a courageous soldier, a fine athlete, a great competitor in his work and in his sport activities. Above all, he was a fair competitor: he never took undue advantage, and he always met the other fellow half way.

Perhaps considering his fine war record, his ability as a newspaper man and his very great contribution to sport, he could be considered a model citizen.

His outstanding characteristic was his friendliness and the way in which he made and held friendships. In the true sense of the word he was a gentleman.

He will be missed in the daily routine of Charlottetown where hundreds knew him in his early days as "Stonewall" Morgan, the great goal tender of the old Abegweits, and by those hundreds of Canadian Legionnaires who will remember his wise counsel and his friendly smile.

I am Sir, etc.,

JOHN (BULLER) MURLEY

Charlottetown.

ARCHAIC LIQUOR LAW

Sir,—In recent days a number of letters have appeared in this column advocating the continuance of the archaic liquor law now in force, and using the tourists as props for their argument.

In the first place, tourists generally couldn't care less one way or the other about our liquor laws, as any motel operator who does not keep a supply of liquor or beer or both, for his customers is some kind of nut. In the second and last place, liquor outlets are in abundance over the whole Island; the only difference is here they are called "bootleggers" because they have no license and are not allowed to buy one. So, saying that tourists do not come to the Island to drink is entirely true, but does not imply that they come here for the cure, or come here to get away from the "ravages of drink".

One writer said that recently one couple decided in their drunken argument to leave our Island, and blamed this on LIQUOR, in capital letters. Perhaps if there had been a nice place handy where they could have had a glass of cold beer, and a talk, they would have decided to stay.

What "this fair isle" needs is more and better retail outlets, licensed and well managed. When a man living in Rustico for example, has to drive to Charlottetown to buy some legal liquor, there is something wrong, and not with him but with the powers that be. One hears a lot of talk about bootlegging liquor, and what a blight on the community bootleggers are, etc. Why not license them? Make them furnish a modern, clean establishment for the sale of beer and liquor and this way, their present patrons would not have to gulp and hurry, or sneak and hide, and people would have a place to meet their neighbour and have a glass of beer. There they could refresh themselves from the heat of the day, and be free of the obligation to buy more than they wish, as is now the case when you want a drink of liquor, you have to buy a bottle. Put it to a vote at least, so that those communities that wish it can have a licensed place where one can meet his fellow man to growl and grumble over the price of beef per pound on the hoof, the price of lobsters, or meet the new tourists and enlighten them on the best places to catch trout, buy new potatoes or sweet corn and where he can get a glass of beer for twenty-five or thirty cents and then leave if he wishes, instead of paying six forty for a case, when all he wanted was a drink.

I am, Sir, etc.,

K.F. DOUCETTE

MARKETS AND TOURISM

Sir,—Prices farmers receive are mostly set in Montreal or Toronto. We are in a difficult area for everything here except potatoes and fish, therefore there is no shortage of marketers. In Denmark and Holland about 90 per cent of farm products are marketed through marketing boards and co-operatives.

They get about 65 per cent of the consumer's dollar. Here in the Maritimes we are only getting about 40 per cent and going down all the time, simply because we are not organized. The Federation of Agriculture, after years of hard knocking, has got the price of livestock up to nearly the Montreal price. If we had more members we could do much more. Membership expresses public opinion.

Free government campsites and parks are costly because they are in competition with privately owned accommodation for tourists. If the Government wants to really do something to attract tourists they should provide better fishing and hunting. About 90 per cent want to go where they can get fish.

I am, Sir, etc.,

ELDON DRUMMOND

P.E.I.

Our Yesterdays

(From the Guardian Files)

OUR YESTERDAYS

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY - FIVE YEARS AGO

(August 21, 1938)

Plans have been completed in anticipation of the sixteenth annual diocesan convention of the Catholic Women's League of Canada, scheduled to be held in Charlottetown, August 24-26.

Rev. A.A. Gates of Manchester, N.H., has purchased the property of Mr. Willis Warren on Victoria Road, Summerside, and expects to take possession the latter part of the year. Mr. Gates will conduct the services at Trinity United Church on Sunday.

TEN YEARS AGO

(August 21, 1953)

High honors were carried off by members of the Lads and Lassies Band, when five members of the Burke family competed at the fourth annual Highland Gathering held in the Dalhousie Memorial rink at Halifax on Tuesday.

CALGARY (CP) — Alberta's teacher shortage this year probably will be worse than last year when 200 classrooms were without teachers. Dr. W. H. Swift, deputy minister of education said Tuesday.

FEWER BABIES BORN

OTTAWA (CP)—Fewer babies were born in Canada in the first seven months of 1963 than in the same period last year, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reported today. At the same time, more deaths and marriages were recorded. Birth registrations in January-July totalled 276,486 compared with 278,271 a year ago. There were 64,073 marriages compared with 63,809 and 89,002 deaths compared with 85,803.

SMALL PLANE CRASHES

SEPT ILES, Que. (CP)—A Cessna 182 spun out of control and crashed while making a landing Saturday near this community 350 miles north of Quebec. None of the three persons aboard were injured. Larry Kubler of Chula Vista, Calif., pilot of the privately-owned plane, was on a fishing trip with his wife and their 18-year-old son.

The FLYING DUTCHMAN RESTAURANT

"Your Island Steak House"

Good Food Is Essential

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

An athlete from a primitive community rarely wins an Olympic event. Helsinki's Dr. Martti J. Karvonen believes young men and women from underdeveloped countries have too many handicaps to overcome, including inadequate nutrition.

He found, for example, that the number of points gained per person scored in the 1952 Finnish Olympics was 30.3 for athletes from countries where the average caloric consumption varies between 3,000 and 4,000. It was only 15.3 points in those from areas where the calories consumed per day was low, ranging between 1,500 and 1,900.

The capacity for work among laboring men improves when they eat balanced menus. Substantial amounts of protein and fat raise the caloric content and supply the energy needed for heavy physical work. But huge meals are not as beneficial as several small meals during the day. The more a person eats at one time, the more sleepy and fatigued he becomes. The situation is somewhat similar to eating a Thanksgiving dinner every day.

Good nutrition does not lead to softness and laziness. Consuming too little food reduces performance and often contributes to illness; too much leads to obesity, especially when the body receives more calories than necessary to perform the task at hand. In this respect, prosperous countries need not deteriorate because they live in the lap of luxury.

Hunger and malnutrition in the poorer lands go hand in hand with low productivity, poverty, ignorance, and apathy. Any one of these factors could be singled out as a potent deterrent to economic progress. But inadequate nurition heads the list because it is difficult to do a day's work without eating staple foods. Furthermore, malnutrition contributes to ill-health. Who can work when he does not feel up to par?

DEPRESSION AFTER STROKE

F. M. writes: My husband had a stroke nine months ago and remains quite depressed. Why does depression follow stroke?

REPLY

Because it is depressing to be handicapped or dependent upon others after being healthy and strong for years. Low morale is minimized or avoided by encouragement and rehabilitation.

SCARRED VALVES

Mrs. H.D. writes: How does a rheumatic heart affect a person?

REPLY

Most victims are unaware of the scarring of the valves (leakage) or changes in the heart muscle. In time, shortness of breath may develop should the old tissue enlarge and fail to perform normally. Others develop palpitation or fever, depending upon complications.

PAIN AND PILLOWS

E. H. writes: I had one pillow made from two pillows. Ever since I've been sleeping on this big one, I awaken with pain in my shoulders. Do you think smaller pillows are better?

REPLY

Yes. A high pillow may strain the neck unless you rest your shoulders on it.

COSMETIC RASH

E. M. writes: I always have used cologne and toilet water without any reaction but, starting a few months ago, I get an itching rash wherever I apply them. Have I developed an allergy to these products?

REPLY

Yes.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT —

Instak a tamper proof lock on the back yard fence around the swimming pool.

HAD BIG THIRST

The 14,000 Boy Scouts who attended the 1963 world jamboree at Marathon, Greece, used some 1,500 tons of water a day.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Sign on a Manhattan bridge: "In case of air raid, do not stop —drive off bridge."— Montreal Star.

Faith is a wonderful thing, as long as a person doesn't put too much of it in other drivers. — Galt Reporter.

Two or three readers have asked how it is when Members of Parliament could boost their own pay from $10,000 per year to $18,000, why cannot the country afford to increase the old age pension by $10 per month. The only reason we can give is that chairty must begin at home.—W. L. Clark, in Windsor Star.

While he may put on a terrible show of rage the average man is secretely glad when his wife puts a dent in a fender. — Door County Advocate.

Lots of girls who already know how to swim will take post-graduate courses with lifeguards this summer. — Windsor Star.

The plate glass door at the entrance to the city hall in Hamilton disintegrated. It is surprising that this should be a very rare incident, considering the thousands of irate taxpayers across Canada who slam city hall doors after they have paid their taxes. —Fort William Times-Journal.

Churchill Season

Winnipeg Free Press

The shipping season in Hudson's Bay has not opened under the most auspicious circumstances. Heavy ice in the Bay delayed the arrival of the first ships; ice-breakers escorted them in; one ship had its propeller shaft bent by ice.

Ice is not, however, a hazard peculiar to the Hudson Bay route. Each year the opening of the St. Lawrence is accompanied by the use of icebreakers, as is the opening of the Great Lakes ports. Ice in the Bay this year cannot be used as an argument against the northern route.

Now the ships are in and loading. It is predicted that before the 1963 season closes in October a record 22 million bushels of wheat may have been shipped through Churchill. Last year 40 deepsea vessels loaded 21.5 million bushels. In addition, cargoes of nickel and cobalt oxide from the mine at Thompson will be exported.

Efforts are still being made by the Hudson Bay route Association to have the shipping season on the Bay extended. This year the extension to the wharf at Churchill, which will be open officially on Thursday, will permit larger vessels to be handled at the port and will cut down on the length of time they remain in Churchill.

Given normal luck, there seems to be no reason why 1963 should not be a record season for Manitoba's northern port.

Mexico Clamps Down

Brockville Recorder and Times

Mexico, once a stamping ground for Castro agents distributing propaganda material and making contacts with fellow travellers, is now taking strict precautions to halt the flow of undesirables from Cuba.

Going or coming from Cuba, every traveller is photographed and the picture sent to his home country. "Cuba" is stamped in large letters on his passport so that he may be watched at home if necessary. All luggage is thoroughly searched.

At one time Latin- American Communists flowed through Mexico by the hundreds, many with special permits issued by the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City, permitting them to travel without showing on their passports they went to Cuba.

Once there they trained in subversive activity and guerrilla warfare.

All propaganda material emanating from Cuba is now seized by Mexican authorities.

Even diplomats are not immune from the airport examination and clearance may take up to eight hours.

It is little wonder that those who have made the trip say it is harder to get into Mexico than it is to get in or out of Cuba.

And Fidel Castro must wonder if Latin America is as revolutionary- minded as he had at first thought.

Clipping The Dollar

Wall Street Journal

If you had a man's note for $100 and on the due-date he paid you of it 88 cents on the dollar, you wouldn't think you had made a very good investment. And you'd probably give him thereafter a low credit rating.

Moreover, if you discovered that this was not the result of the debtor's ill-luck but was a calculated deceit, planned that way when the man borrowed your money, we dare say you'd be outraged.

Disregard the big World War II inflation and, as the National City Bank does, take the year 1952. If you consider that year as 'par' the dollar today is worth only 88 cents. This is a 12 per cent depreciation unattributable to war or depression; the decade was, in fact, the most prosperous in our history.

DEFRAUDED

One thing that means is that people who a decade ago trusted the United States Government with their savings on a promise to repay principal with interest were paid back 88 cents on the dollar. In every case they were defrauded in part on the promise; in some cases they have been the victims of "negative interest" — that is, they actually pay the Government for the privilege of lending it money.

The loss, to be sure, was a hidden one. The Government did pay the number of pieces of paper it had promised to pay, and many people receiving the correct number of dollar bills were not even aware of their loss. But it startlingly is that this, rather than mitigating the fault, makes it more deceitful. For those who are fooled are not the rich and ticated, but the poor and the trusting.

A SLICK TRICK

There's not much new in this and it might not be worth remarking except that now we are told in Washington that a "little inflation" is not such a bad thing. What was once done covertly is now to be done openly; and even a little boastfully. An inflation rate — that is, a depreciation rate on the dollar— of one or two per cent is supposedly an "ideal price" to pay for all the good things that will be done.

The beauty of all this for politicians is that it can profit its investment more than taxes; why shouldn't they cut taxes, while spending more, when clipping the dollar can steal it all stealthily back? We too can admire the wizardry, but somehow we can't appreciate the beauty when its adornment is deceit.

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