

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew
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Valley Of Decision

Canadians who think that they are called upon to consider important issues on election days when, more often than not, it is merely a matter of judging between parties which are so much alike that there is hardly any way to tell them apart, should consider the task confronting the French people as they prepare for the referendum to be held Sept. 28.

This is no contest among political parties. It is a matter of choosing between the Constitution as it now stands and a political pattern which, if approved, will create a new system of government. Indeed, the Republic, as France has known it with varying degrees of uniformity for almost a century, will virtually disappear. There will be a Republican form of government, to be sure; but the power which hitherto has resided in the people through their parliamentary representatives will henceforth be vested, for all practical purposes, in an executive modelled very closely on the American executive branch of government. But, while in the United States' case, Congress can and does exercise a restraining influence on the executive, apparently no such provision is being suggested for the new French system. It might even be said that under certain conditions the President of the Republic will have the absolute power of dictatorship.

Reports from Paris appear to indicate that the proposed constitutional changes will be sanctioned by the electorate—chiefly perhaps because a return to the confusions of the past few years is an unattractive alternative. There are powerful opposing forces, however; not only among the Communists who see in the proposed pattern possible curbs on their own divisive techniques, but also among liberal politicians who fear that democracy is in peril. Yet, without a sweeping change from the old order, it is hard to see how France could avoid continued political ineptitude, perhaps anarchy. So, it can plainly be seen that Frenchmen have a serious decision to make; and, whichever way it goes, there is as yet no assurance that France will emerge from the valley of decision a champion of democratic government as well as a politically stable community.

Recalling 1932

Writing in the Toronto Telegram, Judith Robinson recalls an odd thing about the first Commonwealth Trade Conference, held at Ottawa during the dogdays of 1932. The junior civil servant handpicked by Prime Minister Bennett to brief correspondents on the Canadian point of view at that time was named Lester Bowles Pearson!

Mr. Pearson, then 35, had been with the Department of External Affairs less than four years. It is said that he was quite a favorite with Mr. Bennett, who had plans to bring him on in politics (Conservative politics of course). But the general election and the Liberal victory of 1935 changed all that. Mr. Pearson's entry into Parliament and exit from the Civil Service was delayed for 16 years. He came in at last in 1948 as Mr. St. Laurent's Secretary of State for External Affairs.

There is a story that the 1932 Conference was saved from disaster at the last minute by the direct and high-handed action of the Canadian Prime Minister. All the opening week it had gone from bad to worse. Everybody was hot and badtempered. Nobody would give an inch on any point of issue. Stanley Baldwin and Neville Chamberlain, senior delegates representing the Conservative interest in the then national government of Great Britain, found themselves unable to calm down their Labor Party conferees who had no use for Mr. Bennett or his protectionist plans. At the week's end the foreign editor of the Liberal and free trade News Chronicle of London cabled home joyfully that the conference was a monumental flop.

This was the day when the CPR head office in Montreal was advised that the liner which had brought over the United Kingdom delegation must be prepared to take it back right away. Delegates packed their bags,

sailing orders were given and the hour of departure set. Then, so the story goes, "R.B." went into action. He took down the telephone receiver, called his old friend Sir Edward Beatty in Montreal and urged him to use his authority as president of the CPR to stop the sailing. After listening to Mr. Bennett for quite a spell, Sir Edward reportedly did just that, on some such pretext as tides or fumigation or fresh water supply contamination.

A week end of suspense followed during which the U.K. delegation unpacked some of their bags and Mr. Bennett and Mr. Baldwin spent a lot of time together in private. When the week end was over the conference resumed in a better frame of mind. Sailing orders were postponed indefinitely and everybody managed to keep his temper until the Commonwealth trade agreements were threatened out and all the signatures affixed.

Miss Robinson does not vouch for this story in her column in the Toronto paper. She says that if true, it was quite a triumph for direct, or Bennett, diplomacy. "But who," she adds, "unless Mr. Bennett's press secretary of those days, can say whether or not it is true?" Perhaps Mr. Pearson will oblige with an answer. In view of his present position as Liberal Party leader, it would make an interesting footnote to history.

American Reaction

That there is strong American reaction against the Eisenhower-Dulles policy in the Formosa crisis is evident from newspaper comment across the country. The influential Milwaukee Journal has this to say:

"The United States has virtually lost all control over whether it will go to war in the battle between the two Chinese governments. The decision lies in the hands of Chiang Kai-shek and Mao Tse-tung. If either decides on an all-out attack our forces will almost inevitably become embroiled. That could easily lead to World War III—to an atomic war. This situation is doubly tragic because, as former Secretary of State Dean Acheson has pointed out, the offshore islands we are helping defend are not worth a single American life. Few of our allies and almost none of the neutrals over the world believe that these islands belong to anyone but the forces that control the mainland. They believe that the war we risk has no legal, moral or military necessity."

And the Christian Science Monitor, which is for the most part favorable to the Eisenhower administration, sounds this warning editorially: "Americans may usefully note that not only British but practically all other people in the Western Alliance, including the Canadians, regard American defense of Quemoy and Matsu as exposing the Western world to new risks." A correspondent in the same newspaper puts the issue this way, in terms of American revolutionary history:

"Let us suppose that, after Cornwallis' surrender, the British had refused to recognize the finality of their defeat and, expressing their determination to return to the mainland, had withdrawn most of their forces to an imaginary island lying 100 miles off our Middle Atlantic coast. Let us suppose further that the Royal Navy and a few of King George's redcoats had clung to Nantucket, Long Island, and the Florida Keys, using these offshore islands as bases from which to interfere with American shipping and to launch occasional raids upon the mainland.

"How long would the founding fathers have tolerated such a situation? And how would the American people have felt toward France, if, instead of aiding the American Revolution, Louis XVI and his foreign minister, Vergennes, had decided to back the British, had refused to accept their defeat and had sent Rochambeau's fleet to help the British defend their remaining island strongholds? According to the Dulles doctrine, French assistance to the American rebellion would have been adjudged as "indirect aggression."

EDITORIAL NOTES

There are many thinking people in other countries who will agree with a Norwegian paper's comment that "what the world needs is a new American foreign secretary."

Mr. Leo MacIsaac struck the right note in his interview on the potato situation when he warned Island growers that they will have to watch gradés more carefully than usual this year. That is the only way to protect their hardwon markets.



HARVEST TIME IN OTTAWA

OTTAWA REPORT

Britain's Free Trade Offer

By Patrick Nicholson
Special Correspondent of The Guardian

Ottawa: A modified Atlantic Free Trade Area could paradoxically develop from seeds which may be sown at the important Commonwealth Economic Conference now in progress in Montreal.

While substantial benefits for trade within the Commonwealth are the objective and the likely result of the talks, the five Canadian and four British Cabinet Ministers attending the conference will certainly also discuss between themselves the British offer for Canadian-British free trade. As Prime Minister Harold Macmillan recently declared that offer is still "on the table."

The Canadian Government has consistently snubbed the offer, by stoutly ignoring it since it was made just a year ago at the Mont Tremblant preliminary Commonwealth trade conference. But Liberal Leader Lester Pearson and his chief lieutenant Paul Martin have repeatedly needed the government for not at least giving it careful examination.

CANADA INTERESTED
The fact appears to be that the government sees some probable long-term gains, very substantial in scope, inherent in the idea behind the offer. But at the same time, the government is quite adamant that the offer in its present form is entirely unacceptable to Canada.

In the manner of presenting her suggestion, Britain was less than judiciously realistic towards this country. In a most undiplomatic manner, Britain presented a most undiplomatic proposal. It is difficult to believe that this was done through international bad manners; it must have been the product of sheer abysmal ignorance and if this is the case, where are Britain's advisers?

What happened was that a British Cabinet Minister just threw onto the table, at a press conference,

PUBLIC FORUM

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

COST-PLUS ECONOMY

Sir,—The following paragraphic picture is credited to your Ontario contemporary at Kingston, and won what our mutual friend Ed Sullivan describes as "a tremendous hand" when read to our Forum members: "There is a rigidity in prices which has been characteristic of our economy ever since the end of the war. The last thing considered is lowering factory prices. Anything but that. There is no more 'free enterprise' because every producer expects to be protected—by somebody else. This is at the bottom of our present troubles..." (Whig Standard).

I think the above comment is timely and constructive and right on the target, and felt like saying so. I commend it to the careful study of not only our business leaders but, also, to the increasingly powerful leaders of Union Labor who, if I may judge by their recent Labor Day messages to the organized workers in town and city, don't appear to be mildly concerned about the effect of ever-increasing wage levels upon the cost of their goods and services to other gainfully employed Canadians, and especially to the high 3 million people whose living standards are directly linked to Agriculture's share of the national income. For my part, I think that my fenceline neighbor, as the saying goes "has something" in the following terse comment on the above pattern: "We are living in a nation whose economic system is run on the cost-plus basis. To think that farmers can buy at cost-plus and sell on 'What will you gimme?' basis is childish."

I am Sir, etc.,
FARM READER

ference, a take-it-or-leave-it offer of unqualified free trade between Canada and Britain. The British Government obviously failed to understand that, just as she herself desires reservations in her own possible free trade link with Western Europe, Canada might also feel herself inhibited without similar safeguards.

Canada is waiting for Britain to show awareness of this. But Britain has not yet vouchsafed the hoped-for invitation to discuss reservations.

Canada must be protected against the instantaneous disruption, and indeed destruction, of certain delicate and perhaps artificial and probably undesirable secondary industries. These would require either permanent protection or, preferably, gradual conversion. Examples are the internally important textile and steel industries.

The textile industry is important only because it provides the predominant employment in several prosperous and significant communities. Its importance would vanish if attractive alternative work could be provided in the present textile towns. If this were to happen, there would be no objection to the importation of British and Italian and French and Japanese textiles. Seventeen million Canadian consumers would then benefit by higher quality and lower prices. But first, safeguards must be provided for the one hundred thousand or so workers whose jobs would disappear.

This is no doubt the sort of thing Liberal Leader Pearson has had in mind, when he has urged the Conservative Government to see whether something cannot be worked out for our greater benefit, along the lines of the British offer. And on this basis, it appears, the government would be happy to negotiate with happy assurance, thus taking the first transatlantic step towards what could well develop into a prosperous, happy and fully-employed Free Trade Atlantic Community.

OUR YESTERDAYS

(From The Guardian Files)
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
(Sept. 17, 1933)

The official opening of the new school building at East Royalty was held on Friday evening. Attending the opening were Hon. Dr. W. J. P. MacMillan, Acting Premier and Minister of Health and Education, Mr. H.H. Shaw, Superintendent of Education, Dr. S.N. Robertson, Principal of Prince of Wales College and Professor L.W. Shaw.

H.M.S. Scarborough of the North American and West Indies Squadron, arrived in Summerside Harbour on Saturday morning for a visit of five days. The ship is leaving the North Atlantic waters and her last call was at Gaspé. Her next port of call will be at Cape Breton Island. Mayor Manson and the Town Council called to pay their respects and at twelve noon the Commander returned the call at the Civic Building.

TEN YEARS AGO

(Sept. 17, 1948)

At the morning service in St. Paul's Anglican Church on Sunday, the Rt. Rev. R.H. Waterman, D.D., Coadjutor Bishop of the Diocese of Nova Scotia, will officiate at the reopening of the church. Immediately following he will dedicate the Carillon of Schulermerick Chimes which were given a few months ago by Hon. George D. and Mrs. DeBlois in memory of their son Lieut Gordon R. DeBlois who was killed in action in Italy in 1943.

Mr. Carl F. Burke, Charlottetown, was elected President of the Maritime Board of Trade at the annual meeting held at Kentville yesterday. Other Island officials include Mr. T.E. Hickey, Summerside, vice-president for P.E.I. and executive members F.W. Curtis, Charlottetown; R.S. Hinton, Summerside; Spurgeon Clark, Cra Paud and Peter Pate, O'Leary.

Watch Cancer Danger Signals

By Herman N. Wadesen, M.D.

A self-examination of your breasts each month should be as routine with you women as paying the monthly bills.

Every year at least 21,000 women die of breast cancer, many of them needlessly. We have about 46 per cent of all women with cancer of the breast. We could save many more if only the cases were discovered and treated in time.

DANGER SIGNALS

You women, you prospective victims, must know how to find any danger signals which might signify cancer of the breast. You can do it simply and in the privacy of your own room. Here's how:

Stand or sit in front of your mirror with your arms relaxed at your sides. Examine your breasts carefully for any change in size and shape. Look specifically for any puckering or dimpling of the skin, and for any discharge or change in the nipples.

RAISE ARMS

Rise both arms over your head and look for the same things. Note whether there has been any change since you last examined your breasts.

The following steps are designed to help you locate any lump or thickening in the breasts.

Lie on your back with your left hand under your head and your right hand held together flat, press gently but firmly with small circular motions to feel the inner, upper quarter of your left breast, starting at the toward the nipple line. Also feel the area around the nipple. With the same gently pressure,

NOTES BY THE WAY

Hidden taxes can't be seen but they sure can be felt. They have a lot more to do with high prices than most people think. — Kitchener Record

When another newspaper of our acquaintance referred to the ladies holding a bag fest, we, in our stylish innocence, thought it had something to do with the sack look. Turns out it was a typographical transposition for "gab". — Brantford Expositor

feel the lower innerpart of your breast. Now in this area you will feel a ridge of firm tissue or flesh. Don't be alarmed because this is perfectly natural.

Next, bring your left arm down to your side and, still using the flat part of your fingers, feel under your armpit.

Use the same gentle pressure to feel the upper, outer quarter of your breast from the nipple line to where your left arm is resting.

FINAL STEP

Finally, feel the lower outer section of your breast, going from the outer part to the nipple.

Repeat this entire procedure on the right breast. If you do find a lump or thickening leave it alone until you consult your doctor. Above all, don't become frightened. Most breast lumps or changes do not mean cancer, but it's best not to take chances.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

A.G.: Is it possible to heal a rupture by injection treatment? Answer: Most cases need surgery. However, in certain cases, the injection treatment is helpful especially when the person is old and unable to withstand surgery.

Instead of just knocking, why c'n't opportunity kick the door in like temptation does?—London Free Press

More than one million people in Ontario do not have access to a public library, or for that matter, a library of any kind. That is one of the facts behind a recent report on a provincial library service produced by W.S. Wallace, librarian emeritus of the University of Toronto.—St. Catharines Standard

The Age Old Story

A man's strength cannot always be judged by his strongest actions; in many instances he is judged by his weakness.



THE CRICKET

The poetry of earth is never dead. When all the birds are faint with the hot sun, and hide in cooling trees, a voice will run from hedge to hedge about the new-mown mead; That is the Grasshopper's—he takes the lead in summer luxury—he has never done with the delights; when tired out with fun He rests at ease beneath some pleasant weed.—John Keats.

MAXIMS

It is required in stewards that a man be found faithful.

NUCLEAR TESTS MUST STOP



Nuclear tests must be banned, says a Canadian biologist from Dalhousie University. Recently returned from three months study of the effects of high-energy radiation at Cambridge, Dr. Gordin Kaplan asks "... will cancer and idiot children improve us as a race?" In this startling report to Weekend Magazine he tells why, even now, nuclear testing has become a menace to mankind.

Little Sisters Are Big Problems

Little sisters bring big problems to a family. Older children feel distressed when a new baby arrives. Joy Carroll of Toronto, good humoredly tells of the tribulations encountered by her four-year-old daughter Anne as she learns to live with younger sister, Barbara. In Weekend, father Jock Carroll takes photos to show how a big sister reacts to a little intrusion.



British Dishes For Canadian Kitchens

Dishes to bring back memories are offered in our Weekend Magazine Section. Good Food expert Helen Gougeon suggests eight specialties from England, Scotland and Ireland. But you and your family need not come from the British Isles to enjoy these old favorites.

New Bounce for Handball

Handball becomes a real spectator sport with the advent of glass courts. New life will be given to the old game when the World Series of Handball is played in Aurora, Ill., next month. Weekend Sports Editor Andy O'Brien discusses probability of universal acceptance, and interest which may rival major tennis.

Justice in the Far North

His courtroom is often an igloo, tent, or airplane cabin. Mr. Justice J. H. Sissons exercises jurisdiction over the 40 per cent of Canada that lies north of the 60th Parallel. Yet within that vast area there are only three regular courtrooms. Read how justice is adapted to the strange customs of the Eskimos.

As You Sow...

It's time to think of next spring's flowers. Weekend Women's Editor Doyle Klyn suggests "background" planting to enhance beds of tulips. She recommends a variety of flowers and helpfully provides a planting-depth chart. It's spring in September this weekend in our magazine section.



all this and more in Saturday's EVENING PATRIOT