The Guardian
Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew
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The Causeway Again

We note with interest that at a joint meeting of the Association of Professional Engineers of Prince Edward Island and the Island branch of the Engineering Institute of Canada, our Causeway project was discussed. These men find discrepancies between the statements of the federal deputy works minister and the information contained in tide tables issued annually by the department of mines and technical surveys, and are disturbed by some other aspects of the program as indicated in ministerial statements. They have commissioned their secretary to write Ottawa asking for clarification of these matters, and we shall all await with interest the result of this inquiry.

Perhaps the prestige of these engineering organizations will carry more weight with Works Minister Walker than the prestige of Parliament in convincing him that there is a lively and legitimate interest in all phases of the work that is being done on our Causeway survey. We saw and heard him over the air the other night, discussing other matters with a volubility that surprised us; for we had pictured him as a tight-lipped gentleman, with a Coolidge-like aversion to using two words where one would do, and dedicated, for the most part, to the old copybook maxim that silence is golden.

Certainly, when it comes to Causeway information, Mr. Walker has been as hard to pry open as the proverbial oyster. Perhaps that's why our own federal members have given up the task, and left it to such adventurous spirits as Mr. Pickersgill and Mr. Bourget, the Liberal member for Levis, whose latest unsuccessful efforts were recorded in our issue of yesterday.

Mr. Bourget's guess was that the government is "hiding" the causeway report until after the election. We hope not, indeed. That would indicate that it contains bad news, whereas all that we have been able to glean about it is to the contrary effect. However, we should like to see a change in this policy of close secrecy, which is doing the government no good and is causing a lot of criticism on political grounds that may be unwarranted.

Mr. Bumble & Mr. Monkley

"If the law supposes that," said Mr. Bumble in an entertaining passage in Oliver Twist—"if the law supposes that, the law is a ass—a idiot." That, we fancy, would pretty well express the sentiments of our taxpayers if it could be shown that the law in this Province "supposes" that any member of our local Legislature, for attending a special three-day sitting over and above his attendance at the normal annual session, is entitled to any more than an adequate remuneration for his services during those days, either by way of "travelling expenses" or other emolument.

The law doesn't provide for any reimbursement over and above the full sessional indemnity of $1,000 plus $500 tax-free expenses. It was framed, obviously, without thought to special sessions of the kind that was held last December. However, there has been no protest heretofore at the members having been paid a modest amount out of contingent accounts, though plainly it was a case where an amendment to the statute was overdue.

A breach of a more serious kind, however, was committed when, for last December's special sitting, the members were bonused to the tune of $500 each for their attendance. The Opposition leader rightly drew attention to this departure both from custom and from the letter of the law; and we ventured to commend him for so doing and to add our own opinion of such a prodigal waste of the taxpayers' money.

We have been rebuked for so doing by Mr. Lorne Monkley, junior Conservative member for Fifth Prince, who maintains that not only is he entitled to his $500 cheque for his three days' work in the House last December, but for a whole double indemnity payment of $1,500, it being that or nothing so far as the law is concerned. (The discrepancy between his reference to four days and our three days is due to the fact that the House adjourned for a day during its four-day session on the occasion of Prime Minister Diefenbaker's visit here; Mr. Monkley counts it a working day and we don't.)

The Prince County member doesn't say what he thinks of a law's asininity that would entitle a man to take three months' pay for three days' work. He is much more reticent than Mr. Bumble was in dealing with this phase of the subject. But he maintains that that is what he is entitled to under the law, and furthermore that the newspapers, instead of criticising the government for paying members too much on this occasion, should commend it for its "austerity program" because they are so grossly underpaid.

If there are other Conservative backbenchers who feel that way, perhaps they could get together and draft a policy statement for service in the next election campaign. We doubt whether their party leaders would be prepared to commit hara-kari along with them on such an issue, but that would be for them to find out.

N.B. Oyster Prospects

The Moncton Transcript finds heartening the announcement by Hon. Angus MacLean, Minister of Fisheries, that re-seeding of New Brunswick oyster beds with disease-resistant transplant bivalves from Prince Edward Island is proving successful. It is pleasing news in this Province as well, for it is a matter of concern to our whole Maritime economy.

This rehabilitation program was commenced three years ago, after approximately 90 per cent of New Brunswick oysters had been ravaged in 1955 by a mysterious malady which resulted in this important shell fishery becoming almost extinct. With the exception of isolated beds in such areas as Miscou Island, where mortalities have only recently taken their toll, all the oyster waters in Northumberland Strait and northward into the Bay Chaleur have been restocked with healthy bivalves. The few remaining beds yet to be done will have transplants provided this year.

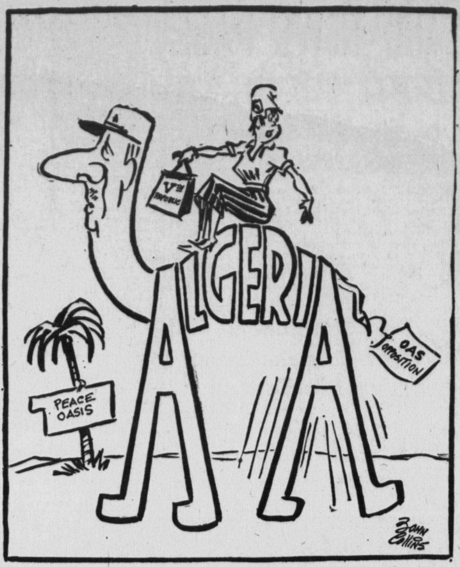
The reports from the experts after their latest sampling of the transplant experiment in the rehabilitated beds are cautiously optimistic over the new oyster stocks building up successfully. This augurs well for the future production of the fishery, which in due course should attain to a normal level. But, as our Moncton contemporary well says, assurance of such successful accomplishment naturally depends upon proper care and management being given the present beds, along with energetic development of the others.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The complete works of Shakespeare are to be translated into Arabic. The project, sponsored by the Arab League, was initiated by the celebrated Egyptian writer Taha Hussein, who has translated into Arabic the works of Sophocles and a number of tragedies by Aeschylus. Six volumes, each containing two of Shakespeare's plays, have already appeared.

* * *

When Mr. Anthony Wedgwood Benn became Lord Stansgate on the death of his father, he was evicted from the British House of Commons. The new Lord Stansgate is now a reluctant member of the House of Lords. But if a joint committee on reform of the Lords brings in the findings it is expected to, it will be possible for members of the upper house to renounce their peerage, as Mr. Benn wanted to, and run for a seat in the Commons.



THE CONTRARY CAMEL

SOVIET RESPONSIBILITY

Another Nuclear Tests Conference

United Kingdom Information Service

The Soviet Government must bear responsibility for the collapse of negotiations which only a year ago seemed to offer great hopes of success. The United States and Britain have tried in the Geneva Conference for over three years to secure an agreement banning all tests control. They have made many important concessions to the Soviet viewpoint, especially on March 21, 1961 and on five occasions since them.

The Soviet first accepted the principal of effective international control (which they now reject) as a basis for nusclear tests talks in 1958; the Soviet Government has made no constructive move for over 18 months, has ignored Western concessions and has reacted its agreement to treaty texts already adopted, to tripartitely agreed technical reports on control, and to understandings reached between Heads of Government.

BROKE OWN PLEDGE

The Soviet Government, by its massive 1961 series of tests, broke its own pledge not to be the first to conduct nuclear tests. It thus proved not only that an uncontrolled moratorium on tests is of no value but that a new moratorium could be used by the Soviet Government to practise another similar gigantic deception on the Free World and menace its security.

On January 16, the United States and British Governments proposed that, if the Soviet Government persisted in refusing to continue negotiations for a separate nuclear tests ban under international control, the only alternative seemed to be that this problem should be explored by the 18-nation Disarmament Committee in March. But this proposal, which seemed to reiterate what the Soviet had themselves proposed last June, was rejected by the Soviet delegate as a manoeuvre to prevent agreement on nuclear tests and to distract the Disarmament Committee from its proper function.

This disappointing and negative Soviet record leaves little doubt that all the twists and turns of Soviet policy have been designed behind a facade of reasonableness to disguise their unrelenting opposition to a controlled nuclear tests ban.

SOVIET CLAIMS

The Soviet draft treaty of November 27, 1961, is unacceptable to the Western Powers. The Soviet allege that national detection systems are adequate for detecting all tests (except perhaps small underground tests in respect of which they propose an indefinite moratorium); but even if national systems could register most suspicious events the Soviet draft rules out any impartial method of verification of the observance of such a treaty.

The Western Powers will make every effort to persuade the Soviet Government to resume nuclear test negotiations. They remain ready to resume the meetings of the Geneva Conference at any time that a basis for constructive negotiation emerges.

Once negotiations have been resumed the British Government will work again for the conclusion of a nuclear test ban treaty under international supervision as a matter of the highest priority which need not be attendant on the implementation of any other measures.

Grand Or Grotesque?

Financial Post

When Canada marks its centenary in 1967, will the nation be holding monster street barbecues or building model cities? There's considerable indecision currently about what Canada should do. The Financial Post learned in a nationwide survey. Many Canadians are apathetic and unimaginative about the centenary. Civic and government leaders in many communities and provinces are still gropping for ideas and goals

But a healthy minority of Canadians has originated a storm of ideas. Favorites include the construction of public monuments — one Maritimer wants all public buildings illuminated by floodlights in 1967—and restoration of old buildings. A University of Ontario professor has proposed the federal government sponsor consultants to give free advice on restoring buildings. One man. looking at the divisive pressures in Confederation, suggested an exchange of language teachers between French and English Canada. The object: to make bilingualism work.

A Medicine Hat librarian, Phyllis Lapworth, has appealed for centennial money to finance bookmobiles for rural areas. Judging by the number of historians who have already signed contracts, she'll be able to stock them with Canadian histories to be published by 1967. There's a way to make the centenary successful, says Laurie J. Wallace, the man who directed B.C.'s 100th Anniversary in 1958. Canadians must organize "strong local committees."

Put Out Fewer Flags

Globe and Mail, Toronto

There are grounds for suspecting that the thick pads of paper and sharpened pencils placed on the desks of Members of Parliament are for no other purpose than the design of a Canadian flag. This subject obsesses Canadian politicians in the months preceding an election.

Unabashed by the failure of various public competitions, artistic and inartistic Members continue to produce designs which we assume they doodle during dull debates.

There are flags which the Fleur de Lys, for submission to audiences in Quebec; flags with the Maple Leaf, for nationalistic groups; flags without the Union Jack, for those with no particular sentiment toward Britain; and multi-purpose flagpoles for those who cannot make up their minds but want to be kind to all.

There are flags with odd-shaped beaver and self-conscious Indians; flags which combine the symbols of 10 Provinces and flags which embody the symbols of none.

Mr. Lester Pearson, the Liberal leader, surprises no one by admitting he has a design in mind. Mr. Pearson is of the opinion that his new, distinctive design—which. to judge from past experience, will be unacceptable to most of his countrymen—can be flown side by side with the Union Jack on Commonwealth occasions. This is patently a sop to those annoyed by the omission of the British flag from Mr. Pearson's design.

He suggests that the Cabinet should be prepared to stake its political life on presenting a design to a free vote of Parliament.

The Government unfortunate enough to take this step would probably become the first in history to be buried in its own flag. The flag is an entertaining subject for school debate, but political leaders would be well advised to concentrate on other designs.

A Hate-Ravaged Capital

By Allan Harvey
Canadian Press Staff Writer

"This is the ugliest city in the world."

Announcer Alan Whicker was talking on British television about Algiers, the hate-ravaged capital of Algeria.

His comments reflect growing revulsion at the sickening and senseless terror in France's North African colony. Another commentator, Brian Connell, spoke almost wearily of "this hideous war."

Everything now is in suspense. After 23 years of nonstop fighting, in Europe, Indochina and Algeria, France stands palpitating on the verge of a peace that millions of Moslems await with incredible self-control, peace that seems almost sure to come, finally, within the next few days or weeks.

NERVES STRAINED

The last days of waiting are hard on the nerves. Even as the final details of agreement are prepared, diehard supporters of a doomed "French Algeria" seek desperately to delay or frustrate the accord by indiscriminate killing of any Arab in sight, man, woman or child.

Published reports describe the unprovoked shooting of harmless street urchins and flower sellers on the main street of Algiers.

Time bombs exploding in Oran kill at least 30 persons. Correspondent Clare Hollingworth reports in The Manchester Guardian that the "torn remains of men, women and children littered the pavement in a lake of blood."

It is hard to see what the OAS — Secret Army Organization—hopes to gain by piling horror on horror. It appears to have no future. Recent mass demonstrations in Paris showed that it can have little to expect from France.

In Algeria, its capacity for sowing confusion and terror remains great but it can hardly hope for victory over the Arab masses who have already endured seven years of war for their goal of independence.

ARMY IS TESTED

Much depends on the French army. Though it seems unlikely that any large groups will rally to the cause of ex-General Raoul Salan, circumstances could arise in which the army's loyalty to French President de Gaulle would be sorelyt ried.

The OAS, for instance, is believed to hold large stocks of stolen French army uniforms. By adroit use of these they might succeed in provoking Moslems against the "army."

Premier Michel Debre, who has sometimes seemed halfhearted in actions against the OAS, has ordered the army to get tougher with it. So far, however, French troops seem more adept at coping with Moslems than with the OAS.

Salan and his supporters stand condemned by world opinion. In a typical comment, The Edinburgh Scotsman says the human community must feel shame at their actions.

"Unless France performs a cleansing operation and brings these killers to justice, she will forfeit the respect of other nations, as Germany once did for similar reasons."

Lack Of Fear Results In Burns To Tiny Children

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

MANY children are burned every year because they have not learned to fear heat or are fascinated by matches and fire. It is a difficult problem at best because furnaces heaters, fireplaces, and stoves are here to stay.

Parents ought to place matches out of sight and keep toddlers away from hot appliances. Meanwhile, mother and father should cross their fingers and hope for the best.

The floor type heater was responsible for burns received by nine children in Atlanta, Ga. The heater consists of a gas furnace set immediately below the floor and covered with a floor level grating. Many are placed out of the usual line of traffic but others are so situated they must be stepped on to go from one room to another.

The grill becomes hot after the heater is turned on and tots are not always steady on their feet. These youngsters, according to Dr. Julian A. Waller, were burned on their legs fingers, hands, thighs, feet, or buttocks. They crawled onto, touched walked on, sat on, fell into, or were pushed onto the grate. Attempts are being made to improve this type of heating system.

Many burns are sustained in homes with conventional heating. A nine month old toddler tried to stand up next to the hot oven of the kitchen stove. She braced herself with one hand on the door and the result was a burn on the entire palm and fingers.

Another child stumbled and raised his arm to avoid a hot steam radiator. The hand got stuck between the rungs of the radiator, which burned the palm and back of the hand. A two year old grabbed the handle of a frying pan containing boiling grease. He was lucky because only a few drops spattered on his arm and chin. Accidents of this nature could happen every day in most homes.

Place the burned part in cold or ice water to relieve distress. Then call the physician or take the child directly to the hospital emergency room.

(Dr. Van Dellen will answer questions on medical topics if stamped, self-addressed envelope accompanies request.)

EATING SPEEDS PULSE

H. W. writes: Can you solve my problem? Why does my heart beat very fast after a meal?

REPLY

It is normal for the pulse to quicken after a meal. This stems from the need for more blood in the gastrointestinal tract plus increased metabolism. An additional rise in the pulse rate follows the excessive intake of coffee, tea, or alcohol. On the other hand, reflex changes are responsible if the heart beats 200 or more a minute.

SURGICAL TEAM

R. B. writes: Must two doctors be present at all abdominal operations?

REPLY

No, provided the surgeon has assistants who know what to do. The late Dr. Raymond McNealy once said, "A good surgeon with a poor assistant is not as good a surgical team as a good assistant and a poor surgeon." A trained physician makes a better assistant. In rural communities, a second physician often is needed to give the anesthetic.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From the Guardian Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
(Mar. 3, 1937)

Dr. A. W. H. Needler of the Biological Station at Ellerslie, leaves this morning for Nanaimo, B.C. to join his wife, who left a few weeks ago for a holiday visit to her home there.

The Anglican Social Service Council of P. E. I. met in St. Paul's Parish Hall. Dr. W. W Judd of Toronto, secretary of the Dominion Council, addressed the meeting. A report on the Public Nursing situation was presented by Rev. W. J. Phillips, and Mrs. Hart-Davies. The report stressed the need of a system of public health nursing on P.E.I. Judge H. L. Palmer then presented a complete constitution which after discussion, was adopted.

TEN YEARS AGO
(Mar. 3, 1952)

In the city at present are two members of the Army's Instructional Cadre Corps of Halifax. who are conducting a course for senior non-commissioned officers. Upwards of 100 Island soldiers of the Reserve Units are attending. The instructors are Sgt. Ray Pomeroy and Sgt. Arthur Bellefontaine.

E. A. Jessome, who has been manager of "Beaton and MacRae's", Winsloe for the past two years moved this week to Kensington, where he has been appointed manager of the Feed Service in that town.

Speaking for Myself

Speed of Flight Outdates 'Luxury'

Most of the time, when I think of Trans-Canada Air Lines it is, quite simply, as the crown corporation which operates my favorite magic carpets. At one time or another I've ridden most of its services, and almost as often as I could get aboard.

Last week, however, produced a reminder that it is also a vigorous giant which Canada can't afford to let become undernourished. It came as Gordon R. McGregor, TCA president explained the situation behind serious losses last year, and the way the line plans to halt them by domestic rate increases which will narrow the gap between economy-class and first-class fares.

The move is intended to meet a situation in which more passengers than expected are using economy class, leaving first class underloaded, which means that revenue per flight, in the case of planes with both services, is falling below requirements.

SOONER THAN EXPECTED

As a economy fares are raised, enlarged space also will have to be provided for passengers in this class.

Behind these facts I think there is a larger story of what amounts to a major, almost-revolutionary development in the ever-changing role of air transport. What has happened, it seems to me, is that the mass transportation aspect of air travel has come into its own, has become the dominant fact of life within the industry, much more rapidly than seemed probable even a year ago.

The luxury appeal of air travel is rapidly becoming one of its relatively minor features. This is probably something which became inevitable with the advent of turbo-prop and jet planes, with their tremendous speed of flight. They have made it into a rare thing for any air journey to last long enough to make luxury worth what it costs.

MILES VS TIME

That, at least, is my opinion, after a recent wonderful vacation trip to Trinidad and Tobago with that woman, travelling by TCA. Using the best space available on our chosen flying dates, we went south by economy class and returned first class, so we had a good chance to compare the two services.

Well, we didn't think first class was overpriced, when you consider what you get (which is wonderful) for what you pay, and when that price is calculated on the basis of the number of miles travelled. On domestic flights, it doesn't seem overpriced when compared with the cost of other means of travel available.

After all, on a mileage basis $5.00 doesn't seem much to pay for extra luxuries enjoyed on a trip of 500 miles, no matter how you travel.

But air travel has become so swift, with jets cruising at 550 or more miles per hour, that journeys are measured now in time and cost, and not in miles. And most passengers are likely to see it as an extravagance, on an elapsed time basis, when $5.00 becomes the price of luxuries enjoyed in less than an hour.

When flights are considered on that elapsed time basis, it is hard to find enough difference between first class and economy class to equal the difference between what they cost.

Presumably it is the way in which travellers have been discovering and acting on this fact that explains Mr. McGregor's recent announcement. And the effect of what he has announced is to turn the future of air transport, and of TCA, over to "ordinary travellers."

HEALTH FOR GIANT

In the long run, of course, this development probably was inevitable. The only way anything like full utilization can be achieved with today's huge, swift planes is by using them as mediums of mass transportation. The way in which the weight of demand has swung to TCA's space for economy-class passengers indicates that prospects for full utilization are good.

It appears to follow, therefore, that TCA, as an industrial giant which is vital to Canada, is well on the way to finding the right method of keeping itself nourished.

Mind you, even so, on the basis of a wonderful first class flight from Trinidad fresh in my memory, it is with something of regret that I acknowledge the arrival of the resulting "ordinary trayeller" new era in the age of flight.

ADEQUATE, AND YET. . .

Oh, those "ordinary traveller" (or economy-class) facilities and services are adequate; thoroughly so in most cases and admirably so in others. The accomodations are handsome and comfortable, even though passengers are a little tightly - packed. The meals are good, if a little dull.

Perhaps "efficient" is the right word to use in describing everything about economy class. Certainly I'm not the kind of person who should go around spending $5.00 an hour on the idea of pampering himself with something more luxurious.

But, man, may those splendors of first class flight — the extra space, the extra service, the superb meals — may those splendors never cease to be available. Just every once in a while, afford them or not and no matter what becomes the general pattern for the "ordinary traveller," I want to have them within reach.

Burton Lewis

NOTES BY THE WAY

You're decidedly poor company when you're beside yourself with anger.—Galt Reporter.

As in the case of China, so in the case of Cuba; to cut off the normal supply lines of trade, and the lines of social contact that go with them, simply drives the country further into its Communist shell. It enhances existing enmities and creates new ones. — Montreal Star.

Some people are of the opinion that the person who does the Twist was quite a bit twisted before he did it.—Sarnia Observer.

Disconsolate Prof: "Why did you come to college?" Frosh Co-ed: "I came to be went wid —but I ain't yet." — Windsor Star.

Another twist sees farm boys going to town to make money and town boys buying farms to save taxes. — St. Catharines Standard.

English sea - captain Geoffrey Fletcher says of the sea he has sailed for 45 years, "I'm afraid of it," but "I've been too cowardly to change." When there are such cowards, who needs heroes? — Ottawa Journal.

An acre of soil may contain four tons of bacteria, four tons of other microbes, and a ton or more of earthworms. There are smaller quantities of amoebas, eelworms, moulds, mites, centipedes, slugs, snails, and so on—altogether millions upon millions of little animals. Add to that the decaying remains of plants and you have the soil whereby we all eventually live. —Scientist Nigel Carter, on the BBC.

Policemen became suspicious of a foreigner in local railroad yards who kept hanging around locomotives with strange equipment. He turned out to be Peter Handford, an English railroad employee on vacation in Italy. His hobby is to tape-record sounds of engines. "Their puffs and whistles are music to me," he said. —Paese Sera, Rome.

An Islington stockbroker had just finished a 21 - foot - high sculpture of an elephant in his back garden. An impressed friend asked how he managed to get such a perfect likeness without a model. The stockbroker replied: "Oh, I just kept chipping off the pieces that didn't look like an elephant." — Clive Roslin on the BBC.

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