

Cover: Prince Edward Island Like the Dove... Published every week-day morning at 163 Prince Street...

PAGE 4 WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 1955

Counting The Votes

Mr. Diefenbaker recently hinted that he favors a faster method of recording votes in the House of Commons than is now used.

The Prime Minister would replace this by a method similar to that used in India where each member, by pulling a lever and pressing a button...

Mr. Diefenbaker believes that modern electronic methods of vote-recording "derogate nothing from the dignity of Parliament."

"No longer," says our Winnipeg contemporary, "would the galleries be able to marvel at the prodigious feat of memory of the clerk as he intones the names of each member with never a mistake."

Such an appeal almost persuades us. But we are in the age of automation, whether we like it or not.

Sic Transit!

Time moves fast for politicians. It is only four years since the big summit conference at Geneva, but President Eisenhower is the only 1955 government head still in office.

West Germany, which had only regained its sovereignty in May, 1955, has risen to be a power to be reckoned with in East-West negotiations this year.

In the ranks of foreign ministers there has been a clean sweep since they last met in 1955. Most recent and perhaps most significant, the United States swore in a new secretary of state, Christian Herter.

ly No. 2 man in the ministry under Harold Macmillan. Antoine Pinay of France is out, and his place has been taken by Couve de Murville, whose freedom of action is believed to be strictly limited by the orders of his chief.

Russia will be represented at the ministerial level by Andrei Gromyko, but he is expected to have no freedom to negotiate without detailed direction from Khrushchev.

"Sic transit gloria mundi." To which might be added the hope that time's changes will be for the better at Geneva this month—and this summer if the proposed summit conference is held.

Wiser Second Thoughts

The United States has finally agreed to lift import restrictions on Canadian oil. The news is welcomed, even though no immediate boom in Canadian oil shipments to the U.S. is anticipated.

The real value of the change may be psychological. The quotas were imposed on the ground that the defense of the United States needed them—that she must diminish her dependence upon oil from other sources.

In removing these restrictions Washington has taken a new look at our economic inter-relationships, and acted on wiser second thoughts.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Perhaps it was just an ironical coincidence; but one of the first vessels through the new St. Lawrence Seaway docked at Detroit to unload 60 Ford cars made in England.

President Eisenhower has proclaimed May 22 as National Maritime Day. The day marks the departure from Savannah, Ga. on May 22, 1819, of the "Savannah" on its first trans-oceanic voyage by any steamship.

Prime Minister Nehru wants to keep on good terms with China's Communist Government and at the same time keep his sympathy with the Tibetan rebels. It's a fine trick if he can manage it.

Who headed the Lenin peace prize winners for 1958? One guess ought to do. The Communist organ "Tass" announced the big news on May Day—none other than Mr. Khrushchev, whose "activities in favour of peace personified most fully and strikingly the peaceable policy of the Soviet socialist state," etc., etc.

Considering that a general election has to be held sometime within the next year, the British Conservative Government has done either a courageous or foolhardy thing. They have refused to raise old age pensions, despite Labour's claims that they are not high enough.



THE BIG EAST-WEST GAME

OTTAWA REPORT

Unfaithful Pen-Portrait

By Patrick Nicholson. "As you read this, immigrants will be lining up at charity soup kitchens for their one meal of the day—in a land where the very idea of a Welfare State has not even been born."

London-born Bert Herridge came to Canada in 1906, the same year as another Britisher who now, after a distinguished career in the R.C.M.P. and the Canadian Army, represents our defence forces in the federal Cabinet—the Hon. George Pearkes.

For example, our old age pension is \$65 per month; in Britain it is \$5.50 a week; our family allowances rise to \$8 per child per month, while in Britain, it is 70 cents per week for each child other than the first.

This attack on Canada evidently started from the case of a letter written to the queen, by the wife of an immigrant whose job at Avro was lost when the Arrow was scrapped.

Sinking Into The Sea

The majestic city of Venice, once the dominant seapower in the Mediterranean, faces a dim present and an even darker future. The problem of the present is that the city's population is dwindling because of a lack of occupation for its youth.

It is believed that this challenge can be met by programs installed by the city itself. But the long-range problem, which makes all current difficulties seem small, is one the city does not hope to meet.

WATERS RISING

Venice is sinking back into the sea from which the city was dredged. Or, perhaps truer, the waters which brought forth Venice are rising, as the world's temperature rises and melting ice caps and glaciers contribute to the depth and breadth of the oceans.

Microbes & Antibiotics

By Herman N. Budases, M.D. Why do some of our antibiotics fail? Why is it that some drugs which were so helpful in the fight against microbes a scant few years ago are now of little help in many cases?

Why is it that the spread of antibiotic-resistant staphylococcus bacteria is now a cause for concern? A SIMPLE ANSWER

The answer is simple although the explanation for the answer is somewhat more complicated. The fact is that we have not yet conquered disease microbes.

Human generations are spaced about 20 years apart. Microbes, however, act at a tremendously faster rate. The streptococcus, for example, produces a new generation every 35 minutes and the tuberculosis bacillus every two days.

Thus, the microbes have a much faster ability than man to produce mutants, strains which appear spontaneously and are able to survive hostile change in environment.

Because of mutation this microbe produces a substance which inactivates the antibiotic. That is the only respect in which it differs from the others which were destroyed.

Thus the emphasis on the unusual. It is of course a precept of journalism that it is only news when Man bites Dog—or alas when an immigrant is dissatisfied.

Mr. Alexander W. Matheson, barrister and attorney, is today opening his office on Richmond Street in the Cameron Block.

TEN YEARS AGO (May 6, 1949) The Maritime Electric Company agreed yesterday to sub it to the Public Utilities Board an "interim" electric power rate for summer cottages and commercial cabins and hotels.

This week marked the opening of the Provincial Government's \$70,000 central bait freezing and storage plant on Escher Street. In operation for the past two days, the plant is working at full capacity handling about 40,000 pounds of herring bait per day.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

The perch are reported to have started their Spring "run," but as far as we're concerned, this low-life species, (reported to have 365 bones or one for each day of the year), can run itself ragged, alone and unhampered.—Ottawa Journal

While it is important that youths who drive cars be properly trained in safety and courtesy, this should have nothing whatever to do with the school system. Modern education is sufficiently watered-down and spoon fed now without taking the time of teachers or other educational officials in any aspect of driving-training.—Edmonton Journal

MAXIMS Wait till it is night before saying it has been a fine day.

produces another infection. When the same antibiotic is used again, it has no effect, and another antibiotic must be tried.

QUESTION AND ANSWER A.J.A.: What are the symptoms of low blood pressure and what effect does it have on the individual?

Answer: Tiredness and lack of energy usually are the symptoms of low blood pressure and except for the discomfort to the individual, it has no important effect.

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The Age Old Story

Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

Such wonders star the Arc of Space. Man, gazing up, now sees Beyond earth's arching dome at night

That manifests before him here In giant Axioms won Through some long race from dust to stars That led him to the Sun.

—Katherine Kennedy in the Montreal Star

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