

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew... Published every week-day morning at 136 Prince Street...

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Appalling Alternative

In her Christmas Day broadcast Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth emphasized the great challenge facing this day and age. It is not greater scientific development...

"Entire cities, even the largest and the richest in art and history, wiped out; a pall of death over the pulverized ruins, covering countless victims with limbs burnt, twisted and scattered, while others groan in their death agony..."

Dante in a vision was conducted by Virgil through the realms of Hell to an exit "where once was Eden." It is this vision of the Inferno that His Holiness may well have had in mind...

World-wide concern with this issue may be said to be the most important trend of the year 1955. Will it carry over with greater force and effectiveness into the new year?

Conferences And Action

It must be apparent to even the most steadfast supporters of the present Federal Government that, thus far, plans for relieving the present unsatisfactory plight of Canadian agriculture have not progressed noticeably beyond the talking stage...

Meanwhile, in the United States, where agricultural conditions in many respects are no better than they are here—and in some respects worse—definite action is under way to improve conditions...

The President's "State of the Union" message next month. This calls for farmers to take certain acreage out of grain production and put it in production of soil-building grasses...

There is, too, the matter of price supports which, reports say, will be increased considerably this coming year—an election year, incidentally...

Ottawa's Decision

The City Council of Ottawa, by a vote of 17 to 6, has accepted the recommendation of the Ottawa Board of Health that Ottawa should follow the example of scores of other communities in North America in fluoridation of the city's water supply...

"How else can Board of Control form an opinion other than by accepting the word of the responsible authorities who are equipped to make technical recommendations of this sort?"

As the Ottawa Journal points out, "most of the qualified experts are convinced that the addition of fluorine to a community's water supply cuts down tooth-decay among the children and has no bad effects..."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Maurice Ravel, noted French composer, died this date 1937.

The officers and crew of the C.G.S. Saurel are deserving of much praise for their efforts in clearing icebound ships in the harbour.

No violent deaths in Prince Edward Island or Saskatchewan were reported over the Christmas week-end, but the toll across Canada, of sixty-four persons killed in traffic accidents is a shocking one indeed.

Congratulations to Mr. W. Stewart Lavers, formerly of Georgetown, who has been appointed Chief of Police for the Town of Sackville, N. B. His twenty years of varied service in the R.C.M.P. ought to fit him eminently for the responsible post.

The P. E. I. Dairy Association deserves commendation for its decision to provide 240 quarts of milk for needy Charlottetown citizens at Christmas time.

The recent cold spell brought a certain amount of discomfort to residents of various sections of Canada; and, in this section at least, it was felt the more keenly because it came early and unexpectedly...



Sentiments Of The Season

World Affairs In 1955

By Russell Elman Canadian Press Staff

The world's leaders toasted each other in 1955 and agreed that their differences could be settled without bloodshed.

While the July air was filled with talk of the "spirit of Geneva," communique from the first Big Four summit conference since 1945 told of disarmament proposals, plans for German unification and of a possible lifting of the Iron Curtain.

But four months later, when the Big Four foreign ministers met to negotiate the details of their chiefs' pronouncements, they found they were as far apart as ever on how to disarm, how to reunite Germany and how to re-establish normal contacts between East and West.

AUSTRIAN INDEPENDENCE One comparatively minor problem was settled during the year. After years of deadlock, Russia finally signed the treaty giving Austria her independence for the first time since 1938.

An uneasy calm settled over the Far East, after artillery exchanges between the Communist Chinese mainland and the Nationalist-held islands of Quemoy and Matsu appeared to herald full-scale hostilities in the early months.

The Middle East, however, became a new danger spot. Renewed border warfare between Israel and Egypt threatened to assume major proportions as Communist Czechoslovakia, backed by Russia, sent arms to Egypt.

In a sudden change of tactics, Russia's leaders made unexpected trips abroad to shop for goodwill. Premier Nikolai Bulganin and Communist party secretary Nikita Khrushchev banqueted with Marshal Tito in Belgrade, posed for photographs with the Western Big Three in Geneva and wooed Prime Minister Nehru in New Delhi.

GERMANY JOINS NATO Russia offered technical assistance to underdeveloped African-Asian countries, returned the naval base of Portokala to Finland, made a token reduction in her armed forces and permitted an increasing number of cultural, trade and technical exchange visits with the outside world.

On the other hand, Russian recognition of newly sovereign West Germany and repatriation of German prisoners did not prevent the Aduana's government from joining the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. As a counter-measure, Russia organized an East European defence system.

Later in the year a new Middle Eastern anti-Communist alliance was signed by Britain, Pakistan, Iran, Iraq and Turkey.

Of the participants in the summit conference, only President Eisenhower was in power in January. Bulganin, British Prime Minister Sir Anthony Eden and French Premier Edgar Faure all came to office during the year.

Unrest in North Africa was a major cause of France's political problems. A wave of nationalism swept Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia, culminating in bloody riots. After long negotiations, the Faure government quieted the disturbances in Tunisia by granting home rule and attempted to appease Moroccan nationalists by restoring the exiled Sultan Mohammed Ben Youssef to the throne.

CPYRUS TERRORISM A growing agitation for union with Greece produced a series of terrorist attacks in the strategic British Mediterranean colony of Cyprus.

A campaign against colonialism by a group of African-Asian nations — the "Bandung powers" — was conducted in the United Nations with occasional Russian and Latin American support.

This nationalist power bloc got its name from the Indonesian town where 29 nations, including Red China, met in April. The conference ended with a declaration emphasizing peaceful goals and rejecting all forms of colonialism.

Latin America had more than its share of political unrest. A revolt of the armed services removed President Juan Peron, ending a 10-year dictatorship. Two months after Peron went into exile his successor, Maj.-Gen. Eduardo Lonardi, was ousted by the army chief of staff, Maj.-Gen. Pedro Aramburu, who pledged a return to democratic rule.

In Brazil, where President Joao Cafe Filho suffered a heart attack in the last weeks of his term of office, his successor, Carlos de Luz, remained in office only two days before being ousted in a bloodless coup. Charging a plot to remove President-elect Juscelino Kubitschek from taking office in January, the rebels installed Mereu Ramos as provisional president.

Panamaian president Jose Antonio Remon was assassinated Jan. 2 and his successor, Jose Ramon Guizado, was arrested two weeks later. He was charged with complicity in the murder and given a six-year prison term.

A short-lived Costa Rican rebellion was crushed. For several months world interest was held by the romance of Princess Margaret and Group Capt. Peter Townsend, a former royal querry now serving as a Royal Air Force attaché. Apprehensions of the effect of a possible marriage between a divorced man and a member of the Royal Family were stilled when the princess announced her decision not to marry him.

A vaccine against poliomyelitis invented by Dr. Jonas Salk was put into wide and effective use in several countries, including Canada and the United States. Russia and the U.S. both announced plans to launch the world's first man-made satellites within two years.

Canada's Largest Forest

Winnipeg Free Press

The western softwood forest, rolling in successive waves from the Rockies to the sea, is one of Canada's primary assets. It provides about a quarter of the nation's vital timber products and half the annual income of British Columbia.

These are the questions now before the Chief Justice Gordon Logan, who, as royal commissioner, is taking his second look at forest problems after ten years of an experiment launched in 1945.

NEW SYSTEM The experiment is based on the premise that man must cut no more wood every year than nature can replace. To this end the provincial legislature has established a completely new system of forest administration.

The Poet's Corner

FROM "SNOWBOUND"

The sun that brief December day Rose cheerless over hills of grey, And darkly circled gave at noon a sadder light than waning moon. Slow tracing down the thickening sky...

And ere the early bedtime came, The white drift tilted the window frame, And through the glass the clothes-line post Looked like a tall and sheeted ghost.

—J. G. Whittier.

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Sundesen, M. D.

RELIEVING PAINFUL MUSCLES

That agonizing pain in your shoulder is often helped by a noise you can't even hear.

Does this sound impossible? Well, it isn't. The treatment employs use of ultrasound waves and its effectiveness is being demonstrated every day.

SNOW WAVES

These sound waves have frequencies beyond our hearing range. Because of the energy involved in the motion, they produce a soothing heating effect.

Generally, a series of treatments ranges between six and twelve daily applications given in succession. The length of the treatments ranges from a minimum of five minutes at first and increases gradually to a maximum of 15 minutes.

Doctors advise against these new treatments, however, on the eyes, heart, genitalia, growing bones and other specific areas.

Since air is not dense enough to permit easy passage of these ultrasound waves, two methods are used to get these healing waves to the source of the pain.

One is the direct method of application in which petroleum jelly, liquid paraffin, mineral or castor oil are applied to the body to serve as a binding agent between the skin and the treating apparatus.

Both the part of the body to be treated and the apparatus are held under water throughout the treatment.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

H.R.: I have poor circulation. Could this be caused by a thyroid condition?

Answer: Sometimes a lack of thyroid hormone may be at fault in circulatory difficulties. However, this is not often the case.

The Age Old Story

O man greatly beloved, fear not; peace be unto thee, he strove, he strove. And when he had spoken unto me I was strengthened.

On Honoring Poets

(Ottawa Journal)

The United Kingdom Post Office has rejected a suggestion that the head of Robert Burns, Scotland's immortal poet, be used on an issue of Britain's postage stamps.

"It is traditional in this country that the head of the reigning monarch is the basic feature of all our stamps and I think there is no desire to depart from that."

Little reason why there should be. For if once a beginning be made in putting the heads of poets on stamps, even the head of a beloved poet like Burns, where would the thing end? Would we have Shakespeare and Swinburne, and Arnold and Keats and Shelley, and perhaps later on Eliot and Auden and Spender? And then start with politicians, engineers, industrialists and scientists.

There is another and better way to honor poets: To read them. Robert Burns is rightly remembered in Scotland and indeed throughout the English-speaking world (there are said to be more monuments to him in Canada than to any other man), but we sometimes wonder how many read him?

In truth, we wonder often how many of our youth now read Shakespeare (apart from what they read at school), or read the Victorian poets, or a poet like Longfellow and Whitman, or some of our own Canadian poets like Archibald Lampman or Bliss Carman? We hear of Eliot and Spender and Auden, or even of Dylan Thomas (the poets of our own youth, Francis Thompson, Lionel Johnson, Stephen Hopkins, seem completely forgotten but how much of Mathew Arnold and Milton and Byron and Shelley?)

Of all the expressions of our thought, of our hopes, fears, ambitions, joys, sorrows and longings, poetry is the noblest. Yet the works of the poets of the greater part of them seem on fewer bookshelves; their place in the home is now with a TV set or radio.

It is one of the saddest comments on our age.

that a forest commission might fall into the wrong hands and prove uncontrollable, whereas a Government, called always to account by the elector if it makes mistakes. He insists, however, that much more of the revenues from the forest must be plowed back into their management and protection, and sees the forestry service gravely undermined and undervalued.

The second Sloan report, due late next year, should prove a document of first-rate national interest since other provinces owning timber — and many American states — are watching the British Columbia experiment with a view to its adoption if it proves successful.

NY CRITIC DIES NEW YORK (AP)—Robert Garland, 60-year-old playwright, scenario writer and former drama critic, died early Tuesday following a stroke. He was the critic for the New York Journal-American from 1943 to 1951.

BOYS FORUM OPENS MONTREAL (CP)—Quebec's sixth annual Boys' Parliament began "sessions" at Lower Canada College Tuesday, with 70 students considering 70 items of business. Sponsored by the Christian Education Council for the province of Quebec, the three-day "Parliament" is designed to give students an opportunity to take part in debates covering many subjects.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Would colored highways be safer? Most roads today are black, which quickly takes up light at night. Pedestrians walking along the road are totally obliterated. It is possible that some other color, say yellow or green, would prove most satisfactory both for night and day traveling. —Brandon Sun.

A snow shovel on wheels is designed to take the strain out of removing snow from walks and driveways. The 30-inch blade on this manual snow plow can be adjusted easily to push snow to the right or left, or forward. The plow is of sturdy steel construction and rolls easily on rubber tires. —Science Digest.

The wolf at the door has become a symbol for pretty dire emergency, but few things are so bad that they can't be worse, and that also applies to wolves at the door. An Eskimo community near the northeastern tip of Quebec is proof of it. The settlement was raided by five hungry polar bears, and the R.C.A.F. has had to fly there to replenish the exhausted food supply. —Windsor Star.

Ho, James Sinclair has often asked for more attention to be paid to the possibility that one day the starving nations of the world will be fed by the seas. Not numbers already subsist on the fish. The sea has been the great provider for time immemorial. But there is no reason why the answer to the starving masses of the Orient will not be an elaboration of the simple fishing net that drags in sustenance and vitamins in such generous measure. —Vancouver Herald.

To avoid being inoculated against rabies, a Flin Flon cat illegally boarded a CNR train and sprang into the wild blue yonder. It is difficult to see how any good can come of this. People who approach cats for being cats will be quick to point out that here is a clear case of feline dereliction of duty. One suspects too that by this time the office has been composed. As sure as cats are cats, this cat will turn up in some Saskatchewan point without visible means of support and become a charge on the public authorities. But in all fairness it should be recognized that a cat spaces over nine lives the expense that a human compasses is into one. This is probably conducive to irresponsible conduct. —Winnipeg.

If all motorists subscribed to the laudable habit of having their tires checked periodically for curb breaks, pot-hole breaks and other damage, there would doubtless be fewer blowouts and accidents caused by tire failure. But we can go further. If we would have our vehicles treated to regular programs of preventive maintenance, there would be even fewer accidents still. If we all saw our dentist twice a year, we wouldn't have many toothaches. If we all took physical check-ups at reasonable intervals, there might not be so many deaths due to heart ailments or other diseases. So that the question with lives is to see that they are given periodic inspection by qualified people. There is merit to the tire dealers' assertions but unless there are compulsory periodic safety lanes for checking up on motor vehicles, people will go right on driving with unsafe tires—some of which will cause serious accidents. —Welland Tribune.

Premier Duplessis' threat to control newspaper production in Quebec has an air of unreality about it. If it were in the interest of newspapers generally it would be forgivable, though mistaken. But his point is that the Quebec newspaper mills must give a lower price to Quebec newspapers or face controls which possibly might curtail their capacity for expansion. The move has the earmarks of a political play to win the goodwill of Quebec's press. It would cost the Government nothing and the newspaper firms very little since it's said the mills could sell out all the newspaper consumed in Quebec Province in a single week. —Vancouver Sun.

Russia has an unusual, but apparently successful, plan of dental education. On the principle that most dental work is the filling, pulling or cing of teeth, most dental students have a three-year course or enough to qualify them for the work. A small portion take a five-year course, or qualify them as orthodontists, etc. At dental clinic there will be one specialist to about 15 ordinary dentists. —Windsor Star.

Canadians should be allowed to deduct the whole of their medical expenditures from taxable income. They should not, in other words, have to pay one penny of income tax on such expenditures. Furthermore, the definition of such expenditures should be broadened to include health costs of every reasonable type—all drugs, all appliances, all treatments, all medical or hospital or accident insurance. Finance Minister Harris has the power to make this change. Not a single vote would be raised, not a single vote cast, in Parliament against it. —Toronto Globe and Mail.

Canadians have developed such skill in aerial surveying, mapping and prospecting that their surveys are being called on from all parts of the world. Canadian aerial surveyors have worked in Pakistan and Ceylon, various areas of South America, two especially. Two specially aircraft are presently being flown to the Antarctic to act as the photographic eyes of the British Antarctic expedition. The special methods, special devices these crews were developed in Canada, which has such a great need for them and which presents every kind of terrain, in one area another for experience and experiment. —Montreal Gazette.

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