

Hard To Understand

We regret that in his welcome visit to Charlottetown at this time, Liberal Leader Pearson has a little to say about our Causeway project. That is not to say that he is against the project, by any means. As we recalled in our comments yesterday, it was the St. Laurent Government, of which he was a member, that initiated the survey work, which the Conservatives later carried through to the point where, according to their own statement, the planning is now "in the hands of highly qualified consultant engineers and an early start on this important connecting link is assured."

This statement in the Throne Speech in our Legislature was endorsed 100 per cent by Prime Minister Diefenbaker on his visit here last week. He had previously pledged himself to the Causeway's construction on the basis of engineering reports as to its feasibility. Yet we understand, from an interview with Mr. Pearson yesterday, that he has never received assurance on this vital point. He has had no access to the reports on which the Prime Minister based his promise and he knows nothing about them. His attitude, in the circumstances, is that a similar Liberal commitment on the subject would be improper at this time.

We frankly cannot understand this situation. The Opposition in the last Parliament, if it had wanted information on the subject, could have asked for it. It could have placed questions on the Order Paper as it did in connection with many other matters of public concern, and obtained any data it required. Let us recall what happened in the Commons on April 17, 1962, when the Causeway pledge was first given by Mr. Diefenbaker. He said at that time that the studies undertaken since 1958 had been to determine whether the project would be feasible from an engineering point of view and justified from an economic point of view. And he added, amid cheers from the House: "The answer in both cases is in the affirmative."

What did Mr. Pearson say on that occasion? He did not question the accuracy of the Prime Minister's statement, or request to see the proof. He said that all members would welcome the announcement, though "on the eve of the election"; but he wondered if "the cost" of the Causeway and other great national undertakings in the future will not be to be paid for out of increasing deficits? This may still be a valid matter of concern; but it leaves us wondering why, suddenly, in that case, Mr. Pearson should discuss it here from that angle. Surely we have a right to know where the Liberal Party stands on the matter.

You Start From Here

Crossword puzzles have nothing on the fun to be derived from figuring out election results. Here is the setup in the current federal campaign so far as the Atlantic Provinces are concerned, as outlined by a writer in the Ottawa Journal. You can start from here and work the results out anyway you like:

There are 33 seats. Conservatives hold 18, Liberals 13, NDPs one, and one is void. A wind sweeping in from the Atlantic across four provinces and in favor of the Tories at just five per cent would

gain them three seats. A 10 per cent would gain them an added two; a 20 per cent blow would bring them another three—for a total gain of eight.

If those winds blew Liberal they would gain as much as six seats with but a change of five per cent. Three more would come to the Liberals if the wind were 10 per cent, and if it hit a gale to 20 per cent they'd sweep another seven—for a total of 16.

But there is still the void seat of St. John's West that could go either way with a gentle breeze of one per cent. Thus at 20 per cent turnover the Liberals could gain 17 more seats in the Maritimes. The same increase in votes would bring the Conservatives only eight more.

NDP ran 25 in the four provinces, won one, got 10 per cent of the total vote in another, but got less than six per cent in the remaining 23 in the last federal election. They don't stand to gain unless the gales blow fierce for them. As for Social Credit, it ran 17 candidates, elected none. One got nine per cent of the vote and the rest between one and two per cent. They seem to be out of the picture, but there are French majority seats in New Brunswick and Social Credit strength could slip over the border from Quebec.

But some like to judge by the popular vote figures. It is not an exercise in precision judgment, but let's humor them. In the 1958 election the popular vote in the Atlantic Provinces went this way:

Table with 4 columns: Party, Con., Lib., NDP, S.C. Rows for NB, NS, PEI, Nfld.

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These facts and figures purport to show what damage the electoral storm could do in these parts on April 8. All one has to do now is determine which way they'll be blowing and at what force!

Kennedy In Costa Rica

President Kennedy concludes his three-day visit to San Jose, Costa Rica, today. There he has been in consultation with government leaders in the Caribbean area on plans for building a Central American "common market", and on countering Cuban-Communist subversion. The results of this conference could be of far reaching importance. Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Costa Rica—with Panama and Mexico watching carefully—intend to accomplish the economic integration of the isthmus by 1970. This includes the elimination of tariff barriers and the unification of all customs. President Kennedy has talked with the six Central American Presidents (including Panama) on bilateral trade matters, and has discussed the global foreign policy situation.

What the United States hopes is that the San Jose meeting will give further momentum to an integrated economy and, possibly, to some kind of future loose political unification aimed—among other things—at stopping the movement from Cuba of arms, people, money and propaganda into Central America. A blueprint is also being discussed for an integrated transportation and communication network, setting up a regional grid electric power, and the five-nation Clearing House for payments balances.

The conference, if successful from Washington's point of view, will be good political material for Mr. Kennedy domestically. Following the well-publicized swing by Venezuelan President Betanourt to Puerto Rico, the United States and Mexico, it will show that the Caribbean has hardly "gone down the drain" for Communism as some Republican critics have been maintaining.

EDITORIAL NOTE

Last year Canadians put nearly 4 per cent of their after-tax income into life insurance and annuities, according to a news release put out by the life insurance officers' association. The assets of the life companies increased by \$625 million in 1962, totalled \$9.5 billion at year end.



CHECKPOINT CHARLIE

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

The Freedom From Hunger Campaign

"Freedom from Hunger Week" is being observed across Canada this week. It is appropriate that attention in Ottawa has just been caught by a front-page story in the Kirkland Lake "Northern Daily News" about hunger in logging camps in Northern Ontario.

Canada, however, is one of the 48 donor nations interested in Freedom From Hunger Week. This five-year project is aimed at raising \$20 million to set up self-help projects in a like number of countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America...

PUBLIC FORUM

TIRED OF DIF

Sir—I am wondering why an election cannot be carried out without so much of "they" talk. We supposedly have a Cabinet of educated men, but at times I wonder. They do not sound as such.

INCIDENTAL THOUGHTS

Sir—When we blame governments of being wasteful, extravagant, and beyond their country's needs, we are in truth blaming ourselves. After all, that elected body is one of the peoples that elected it.

MORE COUPON NEEDED

I have just seen one of the letters about liquor for a long while and I agree with the writer from the fact that there is something evil about liquor itself, it is how it is used.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Some people who live from temptation have been known to make a lot faster on other occasions. —Galt Reporter. A college graduate is fairly well educated if he knows half as much when he leaves college as he thought he knew when he entered it. —Galt Reporter.

Dean Acheson's Attack

By Harold Morrison, Canadian Press Staff Writer. Dean Acheson once again has launched an attack on the European allies, this time concentrating his fire on French President de Gaulle, describing his "suicidal" nuclear policies as increasing the danger of a world nuclear holocaust.

The former state secretary has no official status in the Kennedy administration, but his voice often seems to reflect the administration's private views on the nuclear arms race. This may be more than on important nuclear holocaust. The reflections of a private citizen when Acheson a ridicules de Gaulle's position among the world's nuclear giants and suggests he is less than a robust leader and that his army is not to be trusted.

Our Yesterday's

(From the Guardian Files) TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

Work on the project of cleaning out Government Pond will be commenced immediately. It was decided at a meeting of the Legion Hall, Georgetown, recently, and completed the organization of the Georgetown Film Council, which is providing the sum of \$3,000 is now available for this purpose from the Provincial Government.

TEEN YEARS AGO

A meeting of delegates from ten organizations and a number of interested citizens met in the Legion Hall, Georgetown, recently, and completed the organization of the Georgetown Film Council, which is providing the sum of \$3,000 is now available for this purpose from the Provincial Government.

PROYALTY M.D.

B.C. writes: I am interested in becoming a doctor and would appreciate information on how to go about it. REPLY: Go to college and take the courses required for admission to a medical school. While in college take the medical college entrance exam and make application to a medical school. You will be accepted at the beginning of the school year. Then get your knees and your feet ready for the rigors of the profession.

ELBOW BEMUFFS

H.P. writes: My beer make a sore elbow worse. REPLY: Yes, especially when it is bent too long.

GETS NEW POST

EDMONTON (CP)—Appointment of Basil Duggan as executive assistant to Basil Duggan was announced Tuesday. Mr. Ker was executive assistant to the editor of the Ottawa Citizen for eight years. Prior to that he was assistant to the editor of the Ottawa Citizen Daily Newspaper Publishers Association and also was employed by the Hamilton Spectator.

150 lbs. of baggage goes with you free

Advertisement for Eastern Trust Company, featuring a large illustration of a man and a woman, and text: 'The Eastern Trust Company, 154 Richmond Street, Charlottetown. Branches Across Canada. 7472'

Advertisement for Flying Dutchman Restaurant: 'The Flying Dutchman Restaurant, "Your Island Steak House"'

Advertisement for Canadian Pocket Tax 1963: 'FREE... ON REQUEST. CANADIAN POCKET TAX 1963. An authoritative guide on Income Tax, Gift Tax and Succession Duties. THE EASTERN TRUST COMPANY, REVISED TO JANUARY 1, 1963'

Advertisement for Eastern Trust Company: 'THE EASTERN TRUST COMPANY. Please send me a free copy of your CANADIAN POCKET TAX 1963. NAME ADDRESS'