

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew... Published every week-day morning at 165 Prince Street...

MONDAY, DEC. 31, 1956

At the Year's End

If the year's end is a time for balancing ledgers, it is also a time for looking hopefully at the new unwritten page, with its joys and sorrows, its successes and disappointments still to come.

We who live in a land of abundance, where one of the biggest economic problems is what to do about food surpluses, ought to be, by material standards, the most contented people in the world.

The best thing that Canadians as a people have done in a generation is now in progress at this year-end—the welcoming of refugees from a land lying under the heel of tyranny.

In bidding our readers the customary good wishes for a Happy New Year, we can recall no more appropriate lines than those which have come down to us, in translation, from an anonymous medieval French poet:

Old Year is out, Laugh and make merry! When you have had your heart's desire, Turn about, Remember the very Poor Who have no food or fire.

School For Thinkers

Mr. Cyrus Eaton's school-for-thinkers idea seems to be catching on. From Benton Harbor, Mich. comes word that an extra-curricular class in thinking has been started by a professor of Michigan State University.

The report says that the class which meets for two hours once a week—that short period presumably being as much as they can stand—starts out with fantastic ideas and by gradual stages comes down to dis-

ussing practical solutions for local problems. The professor in charge "hopes" that in due course the class will come up with new ideas in work and hobbies.

One seems to recall that Mr. Eaton's thinkers spent a good deal of their time in the warm salt water that laps the shores of Pugwash. Certainly, no such aid to contemplation can be utilized in Benton Harbor at this time of the year.

The Road To Mecca

Turn, therefore, the face towards the holy temple of Mecca. Wherever ye be turn your faces towards that place.

For more than 800 years the 500 mile long road from Najaf in Iraq to Mecca, Islam's sacred city and the hallowed birthplace of the Prophet, was used by pilgrims whose one great wish was to see the holy temple of their faith.

Now, according to a Reuters dispatch, the road is to be resurrected from the thick layer of sand which four centuries of disuse have thrown over it and restored in accordance with modern road-building techniques.

EDITORIAL NOTES

One by one the old relics of a bygone era are being scrapped. A few days ago the last "sidewheeler" steamer to ply the Great Lakes was taken ashore, a casualty of modernization of the transportation system.

The President of the Civil Service Federation of Canada says he will soon present to the Canadian Government a strong case for a general salary increase for federal civil servants.

The Premier of Iraq has informed the Egyptian dictator that "the Iraqis themselves will decide what's good for them." If other Arab governments would take a similar stand Colonel Nasser's dreams of dominion would be less dangerous to the peace of the Middle East.

Although no heavy snow storms have come our way so far this season, they have visited other parts of the country with their accustomed fury, and it will be strange if they let us alone much longer.



FOR WHAT WE MAKE OF HIM

World-Wide Explorations

National Geographic Society

In the story of man's growing knowledge of his world and universe, 1956 stands out not only for its own achievements but as a year of all-out preparation for the immediate future.

For many months now, scientists of more than 40 nations have been laying plans and readying equipment to carry on the worldwide explorations and studies scheduled for the International Geophysical Year from July, 1957, through December, 1958.

Many icy expeditions already are in the field. Much basic preliminary work has accomplished in 1956, such as setting up stations, testing facilities, starting observations and mapping programs of travel and research.

Parties of participating countries dug in snugly last year at various coastal and inland points on the Antarctic continent, a major region to be investigated.

Expeditions of the United States Navy's "Operation Deepfreeze" were supported by more than 3,000 men, 12 ships, and 38 aircraft, including 8 air Force planes, and 11 Navy helicopters.

Two bases were established in the Ross Sea area, with a third near by in cooperation with New Zealand. In October the Navy sent out the first plane load of men ever to land at the South Pole, and soon after began construction there of another American base.

The British at Shackleton Base, on the Weddell Sea, had had luck early in the year when 350 tons of supplies were swept away on ice floes. The stand-by party, however, managed to hold out through the southern winter, while New Zealanders built supporting Scott Base on the continent's opposite shore at Ross Sea.

Both groups carried out preliminary surveys, equipment testing, and other activities in behalf of the British Commonwealth's overland "dash" between the two posts via the Pole.

Meantime, other countries (Australia, Argentina, Chile, Norway, France, South Africa, and Russia) dispatched expeditions to report on the Antarctic's atmospheric, oceanic, and glacial conditions. Belgium brought the figure for cooperating nations up to a dozen by preparing to set up a station in 1957.

Near year's end, Australia announced that its pilots, flying from an Antarctic base at Mawson, had discovered in the region a huge new glacier and an uncharted ice-shelf gulf, 100 miles long.

In North polar areas, 13 nations completed plans in 1956 for geophysical work at 212 observation points. Many of the bases long have been in use; others were organized last year or will come into being when the next Arctic spring brings more hospitable conditions.

The United States, Denmark, Canada, and France, for instance, will operate in Alaska, the Canadian Arctic, on Greenland, and on floating ice islands of the north-polar basin. More than 100 ships were needed to carry out one program alone in 1956—supplying shore bases of the joint United States-Canadian chain between the Bering Sea and Newfoundland.

The Russians have announced an expedition to study the Atlantic ocean's East Greenland Current, and a project to correlate far-north flight observations with data gathered at drifting ice-floe bases near the North Pole, and at scores of permanent stations along the Northern Soviet sea route.

Another phase of icy operations opened in September, when the Swedish ship Lommarén sailed from Goteborg on the first of a series of voyages to measure fluctuations of cosmic rays by means of specially built, shipboard monitoring equipment.

The project is part of a cosmic-ray program long sponsored by the National Geographic Society and the Bartol Research Foundation of the Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, along with Swedish and Canadian organizations. It will provide data on the mysterious earth-

bombarding particles in regions a long far-flung ocean routes never before surveyed.

PROBING UPPER ATMOSPHERE Planes, balloons, and rockets soared into the upper atmosphere, as the United States and other nations carried out a series of exploratory tests and trials that pre-empted still more ambitious undertakings to come.

A manned rocket plane of the United States Air Force made an unofficial record in August by climbing to a report 126,000 feet.

In November, a Navy research balloon reached 76,000 feet—the world record for this kind of craft. Then it went out of control and plummeted to the earth. At the moment of ground contact, the two-man crew released the balloon's gasbag, permitting their gondola to land gently. Their flight had bettered the 72,395-foot record of Explorer II, sent up in 1935 by the National Geographic Society-U.S. Army Air Corps. But the balloon of 21 years ago remained champion for research time spent at highest altitude— one hour 40 minutes.

During the year, details were published on one of the most imaginative sea all IGY projects— development of the first man-made satellites. These small, instrument-equipped bodies, it is hoped, can be made to circle the earth and collect and transmit valuable astrophysical and other information.

In December, electronic devices of the sort used in carried were tried on a test rocket fired 125 miles into the air from a Florida base.

SEA DEPTHS PLUMBED Besides preparations directly linked with the International Year, individual enterprise in 1956 brought to light valuable material in such fields as oceanography, mountain climbing, archeology and astronomy.

From the Pacific to the Mediterranean and from Long Island Sound to the Black Sea, floating laboratories were sent out by the world's universities, museums, sea research institutions, and national governments.

They gathered information on the nature and waves and currents, on sea flora and fauna, shore erosion, the composition of sea water and ocean floors, and conditions that create hurricanes.

In one of the deepest places of the Atlantic Ocean—the Romanche Trench between the bulges of Africa and South America—the research ship Calypso successfully dropped anchor at the end of a new type of nylon rope.

The expedition, one of a series begun in 1952 and sponsored by the National Geographic Society and the French Navy, was headed by Captain Jacques-Yves Cousteau. Cameras, specially designed for deep-sea use, by Professor Harold E. Edgerton of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, were lowered to the trench floor, 24,600 feet down. There, films of ocean-bottom formations and varied marine life were made for scientific study.

Other underwater research by the National Geographic Society and the Marine Laboratory of Florida's University of Miami produced increased knowledge of important food fishes as well as of the destructive shipworms that cause millions of dollars of damage annually by boring inside wooden ship hulls and wharves.

GOOD YEAR FOR CLIMBING Conquers of sky-climbing peaks made 1956 notable in the annals of mountain climbing. In the Himalayas, a Swiss expedition twice scaled 29,028-foot Everest, and mastered its giant neighbor, 27,890-foot Lhotse I.

A Japanese party reached the top of Nepal's Manaslu (26,657 feet). An Austrian group made Gasherbrum II (26,470 feet), in Kashmir.

Chilean and Austrian parties surmounted Mt. Ojos del Salado on the Chilean-Argentine border. This latter feat raised the question of whether Salado, whose height has taken the place of Aconcagua (23,035 feet) as the Western Hemisphere's tallest peak.

One of the biggest geodetic and mapping programs ever undertaken made impressive progress last year in Latin America, as engi-

The Poet's Corner

EMBRYO

I feel a poem in my heart tonight A still thing growing— As if the darkness to the outer light A song were owing.

A something strangely vague, and sweet, and sad, Fair, fragile, slender; Not fearful, yet not daring to be glad, And oh, so tender!

It may not reach the outer world at all, Despite its growing; Upon a poem-bud such cold winds fall To blight its blowing.

But oh, whatever may the thing be, Free life or fetter, My heart, just to have held it till it died Will be the better!

—Mary Ashley Townsend.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files

TEN YEARS AGO

(December 31, 1946)

When the figures showing Prince Edward Island's exports to Newfoundland for the year 1946 became available within the next few weeks, they will show a great increase over the amount of business done the previous year, according to Mr. W. E. Agnew, Trade Commissioner.

The "Saur" left yesterday morning on an errand of mercy with forty tons of food for delivery to Natashquan, Labrador. The food was brought to Charlottetown a few days ago by the "Island Coaster", which intended to carry the food to Labrador. It

seers and soldiers explored remote up snow-capped mountains—not to conquer, but to record altitudes and distances.

The work was part of a continuing project of the United States and 17 Latin American governments to chart still little-known areas.

ARCHEOLOGISTS PROBED... On the archeology front, the discovery of fossilized bone fragments from a humanlike creature of perhaps ten million years ago was reported from Tuscany, Italy. The find supports the theory that mankind's story may go back much further than had been supposed.

Scattered fossil remains of birds, fish, insects and animals turned up around the world—from Nebraska, with a nest of well-preserved bird's eggs estimated to be 40 million years old, to Israel's Negev Desert, where zoologists reptiles that roamed the area 190 to 190 million years ago.

Roman relics, including villas, amphitheatres, ships, and sculptures, came to light in England, Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Portugal, Bulgaria, and Yugoslavia.

Excavations in Northumberland, England, revealed the burned-out foundations of King Edwin's palace and fortress, important Anglo-Saxon center. Danish archeologists found one of the largest Viking burial sites known. Divers in the Bay of Syracuse, Sicily, came on crumbling hulks of a Greek war fleet sunk there centuries, before the Christian era.

RESEARCH DESPITE CRISIS In spite of war crises in the Bible Lands, a wealth of information was obtained last year on early life in Israel and nearby Arab nations.

Along with scores of significant discoveries at Israel sites, diggings disclosed buildings and potteries of Canaanite kingdoms in upper Galilee; an army and (Continued on page 5)

MAXIMS

The good oft interred with one's bones does not lie long there—it is resurrected.

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Sudesen, M. D.

NEW MEDICAL ADVANCES PROMISE BETTER HEALTH

Let's wind up the old year by looking at what lies ahead in the new year.

Medical advances in 1956 have been numerous and highly important in preserving our everyday health. Great strides have been taken in research and many new drugs have been developed.

Three of the most recent advances are indicative of what is being done to insure you a healthier, safer life in the years that lie ahead.

NASAL ALLERGIES

For one thing, those of you suffering from perennial allergic rhinitis—year round nasal allergies—might find relief with a new tablet preparation of Clistin Maleate.

Up until now, antihistamines have helped control seasonal allergies to trees, grasses or weeds, but have not been particularly effective against the all-year discomfort of chronic allergic rhinitis.

A team of South American physicians reports this newer antihistaminic compound rates "good" to "excellent" in relieving, first, nasal itching, then sneezing, runny noses and finally blocked nasal passages.

NEW VACCINE

Tulane University researchers have developed a new antirabies vaccine that produces immunity with rapidly, effectiveness and safety.

The new HEP-Flury vaccine is prepared from chick embryos infected with attenuated virus. Most patients, doctors report, develop antibodies within ten days of vaccination.

An additional safeguard for persons receiving blood transfusions has been developed by the Mount Sinai Medical Research Foundation Blood Center in Chicago.

By using the enzyme papain, Dr. Kurt Stern, the Foundation's director, has developed a method for testing, in the laboratory, the blood of a patient to be transfused, thus assuring the compatibility of the patient's blood and the blood chosen for possible transfusion.

In the past, identifying the type was meant that he would tolerate blood of a patient has not always meant that he would tolerate the same type in a blood transfusion.

With all this good news, I wish you a happy New Year and assure you that constant advances in medicine give great promise of a healthier and happier tomorrow.

QUESTION AND ANSWER Q. N.: I have had tuberculosis, which is now cured. Will my children inherit the tendency to get this disease?

Answer: No; children do not inherit tuberculosis or a tendency to develop it.

was learned, however, that Natashquan is ice-bound, and the "Saur" will now deliver the cargo.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

December 31, 1931

A serious fire last night which broke out about 8.00 o'clock in the third floor of the warehouse and office building occupied by DeBlok Brothers Ltd., completely destroyed the firm's stock of goods valued at about \$40,000 and left the main section a gutted wreck from top to bottom.

During the past year the swine industry has sustained the most drastic depreciation in prices ever experienced in the industry. During the late fall of 1931 hog prices reached the bottom of \$3.85 per hundredweight net to the farmer on bacon, it was stated in the Departmental annual report.

NOTES BY THE WAY

We'll bet many a baby's bank knew that Christmas was coming. —Kitchener-Waterloo Record.

Looking at some of the new cars head on had us a little worried until somebody explained that they really do have four headlights.—Brandon Sun.

Jokes are funnier than they were ten years ago, a TV comedian claims. Doubtless age has improved them.—Chatham News.

It is announced that new methods of controlling the fallout will make hydrogen bombs less deadly. Is it too much to dream that science, if it works hard enough, will eventually produce weapons capable of killing nobody at all?—Winnipeg Tribune.

Traffic police down in Bulawayo, Rhodesia, now have an interest in good drivers, too. Some drivers who hear "Pull over to the side of the road" are pleasantly surprised. They are singled out from thousands of other motorists for their courteous and careful driving under all sorts of conditions. Their reward for helping to make Bulawayo's roads safe is vouchers to have their cars cleaned and serviced free. A positive approach to traffic problems!—Vancouver Province

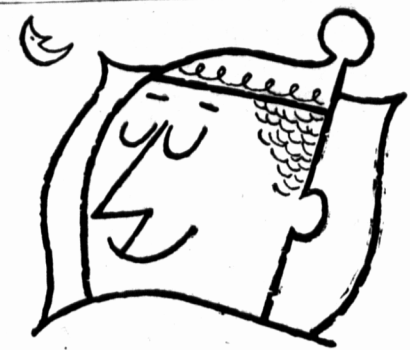
"Too many women are shooting their husbands", says a Chicago judge. Just what is the maximum number allowed by the U.S. constitution.—Edmonton Journal

It is reported that a Kentucky woman, ninety-eight years old, has never seen an automobile. That undoubtedly is why she is ninety-eight years old.—Toronto Star.

The Conservative platform has been delivered and now we will have to see how many of the planks the government swipes between now and federal election time.—Sarnia Observer

We have read that automation on farms is a possibility in the future, with farm tractors being operated by radar control set in the kitchen. It will be a far cry from the old horse and plow days.—St. Catharines Standard.

As automobile production for 1956 tapers off, expectations are that last year's all-time Canadian record of 377,598 cars will not be topped. It will be a close finish, however, with the year's total only a few thousand cars behind the 1955 mark. In a year when automotive production was considerably off peak in the United States, this is a satisfactory showing.—Windsor Star



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Table with 4 columns: CASH YOU RECEIVE, MONTHLY PAYMENTS, NUMBER OF MONTHS. Rows show values like \$109.75, \$10.00, 12.

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Province of Prince Edward Island DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS

To ALL CITIZENS OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

One of the nice things about the first month of a New Year is the desire, more or less common, to make a resolution to improve our own individual ways or habits. Most of us don't have to do much searching around to see where improvements can be made.

As Minister of Highways for Prince Edward Island, might I suggest that you include SAFER DRIVING HABITS among your resolutions.

SIXTEEN traffic fatalities are far too many in any year. Part of the Holiday Season has gone by without increasing this total. During the remainder of the Xmas-New Year period, DO NOT cause this total to grow larger, and then maintain this standard for all 1957.

I extend to all my very best wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

J. GEORGE MacKAY, Minister of Highways.

Charlottetown,

Prince Edward Island.

December 29, 1956.