The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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Better Left Unsaid

The cordial relations between Prime Minister Pearson and President Kennedy, as shown at their weekend conference at the President's summer home at Hyannis Port, made as much international news as did the subject matters they discussed. This is all to the good, for it is only by mutual understanding and confidence that we can hope for a solution of our difficulties. In any case, of course, the discussions between the two national leaders were of an informal kind, and naturally were not covered in full in the press communique.

For the most part, Mr. Pearson in his public statements lived up to the best traditions diplomatically. Canadians are proud of the impression he made, and will take it as a promising augury for success in dealing with the many intricate problems that lie ahead. But there was one instance in which it might have been better for him to have spoken with a little more thought and a little less joviality.

This was when, at a press conference following his first afternoon talks with Mr. Kennedy, the Prime Minister joked about "marginal notes" and "working papers". According to the Canadian Press, he appeared to be recalling an episode in the recent Canadian election campaign when there were rumors that former Prime Minister Diefenbaker was angered by discovery of a U.S. working paper which bore a derogatory remark about Mr. Diefenbaker, written in the margin in President Kennedy's handwriting. Mr. Kennedy is said to have misplaced or lost the paper when he was in Ottawa two years ago, conferring with the Conservative leader.

This matter was not played up by Prime Minister Diefenbaker in the campaign, though there is reason to believe that the rumor was true. In any case, it threatened to cause more friction between Ottawa and Washington, and it was a relief to all concerned that it was not introduced as an election issue. Wherever the fault lay for our strained relations with the Kennedy administration at that time, we wanted to forget them and start anew.

That didn't give Mr. Pearson the right to treat this matter as a subject for jest at Hyannis Port. His words were: "Wait until I make a marginal note. I found this paper on the floor." The CP reports Mr. Kennedy, who was standing near Mr. Pearson, as appearing at first "puzzled," then as smiling and finally as bursting out laughing.

That, of course, disposed of the matter jovially. A good laugh was had by all. But it was a cheap triumph on Mr. Pearson's part over the man he succeeded as Prime Minister, and poor way of showing his desire to heal political wounds.

"What Kind Of Victory?"

Under the above heading the New York Times gives prominence to what it terms a "thoughtful as well as courageous" speech by Senator J. W. Fullbright, chairman of the U.S. Foreign Relations Committee, who has publicly challenged the advocates of "total victory" against Communism. "Such leaders as Senator Fullbright and the Pope," says The Times, "speak out of the confidence that the true worth of Western traditions and ideas will be evident in the long run, as people of all countries have the opportunity to compare and contrast the alternatives before them. We need not fear the prospect of long-term competition in peace."

This is indeed the new spirit that is permeating Western thought at this time. Instead of the chimera of "total victory"—which raised more problems than it solved in two world wars and certainly did not create a perfect world—Senator Fullbright urges that the West follow the dual policy of using its strength to convince the Kremlin that its dream of world domination is attainable, while also assuring Moscow's leaders "they can have a secure and untroubled national existence under institutions of their choice."

In his recent Encyclical, Pope John pointed out that the original ideas of a political movement may remain constant, but the movements themselves, "working on historical situations in constant evolution, cannot but be influenced by these latter and cannot avoid, therefore, being subject to changes, even of a profound nature." This answers a major fallacy implicit in the assumption that Communism is something fixed and unchanging, that the Communist system must remain as evil and horrible tomorrow as it has been yesterday and today.

Of course, it would be safer if we could get rid of it altogether. But there is no rational prospect for that. The reasoning of the advocates of "total victory" is the assumption that the only alternative to total victory is total defeat. But we have managed to live on the same planet with a Communist-ruled Russian for almost half a century, and there is no necessary reason that we cannot continue to do so in freedom for the indefinite future. The Soviet Union is not all-powerful—but neither are we. The acceptance of this fact could go a long way to insure at least a greater stability in world affairs than we have had since the Second World War.

Now A Police State

The South African Bar Council is concerned, with good reason, about new arbitrary measures that have been introduced in South Africa. It feels that they "make provision for a police state," and mean "the virtual end of the rule of law" in the country. Under their provisions political offenders may now be kept in prison indefinitely, even after their sentences expire. Police may "detain" anyone they consider politically suspect, and keep him incommunicado, without benefit of habeas corpus, for three months; and these three month periods may be multiplied as seems desirable.

Postal authorities may now open any letter or telegram. The concept of what constitutes "treason" has been widened to include any criticism of the government. A report of a purported statement in a foreign newspaper could be sufficient evidence for conviction. People can now be put on trial for their lives without any preliminary examination, without knowing the case they will have to meet. And these powers are added to others that already existed, such as the power to declare states of emergency, to ban people from political life, or to exile them.

It seems incredible that any civilized nation would tolerate measures of this kind, aimed directly at the liberties of the people. One would imagine, at least, that they would be strongly resisted by the opponents of the government, in Parliament. But South Africa seems to have reached the point of no return in this matter. The new arbitrary measures were approved by the opposition United Party as well as the ruling National Party. One is reminded of the vote in the German Reichstag in 1933, when the Enabling Act was passed giving Hitler absolute power.

EDITORIAL NOTE

Immigration was up by 1,648 during the first three months of 1963 over the first three months of 1962; but Canada can take no credit for this modest gain. Most of the increase in the flow of new residents came from the United Kingdom, and the Britons were not so much coming to Canada as getting away from the rigors of the worst winter Britain has known this century.

1963 MAY POLE DANCE

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Canada's Aid Programs Stinted

Are we as generous as our prosperity dictates?

It is very obvious that the under - privileged nations of the world regard us as being less generous than we might be; while other "have" nations consider that we have to them more than their fair share of the responsibility of assisting the "have-not" nations.

How much do we contribute to international economic and social aid programmes?

Ten years ago, the then Foreign Affairs critic of the old CCF, chided the Liberal government for the irresponsibly low level of Canadian aid. What we give to less fortunate nations is the equivalent of three cigarettes per Canadian per week, he calculated. That, everyone agreed, was not overly generous.

So our scale of aid was stepped up. It has been increased. What is it now? Well, last year it totalled nearly $57 million; but the deficit - conscious Conservative Government decided to do some economising in the last Parliament, so it lopped a staggering 17 per cent off our contributions under the Colombo Plan. Today, our aid to the under - developed countries of the world totals just the equivalent of four cigarettes per Canadian per week.

If there is one step the new Pearson Government should take, and take quickly, it is to hoist our aid programs to a level at which Canada need no longer hide her head in shame at the international charity parade.

SIX AID PROGRAMMES

Canada now participates in six main "aid" programs.

Chief of these is the Colombo Plan, for capital aid to countries of South-east Asia, which started just ten years ago as a Commonwealth programme. Our current contribution to this is $41.5 million this year.

Next is the Special Commonwealth Africa Aid Programme, towards which we pay $3.5 million this year.

Then there is the West Indies Assistance Programme, our "nearest home" and in some ways most intelligent aid plan on which our budget is $2.5 million this year.

The Commonwealth Scholarship Plan is an exchange programme between Commonwealth countries; some 250 students coming to Canada this year cost us an average of $4,000 each.

Fifth, we contribute $300,000 to the Educational Assistance for Independent French - Speaking African States - a programme for which our French inheritance and New World democracy fits us especially well.

And lastly, we set aside a paltry $120,000 for our contribution for Technical Assistance to Commonwealth countries not covered by the Colombo or Special Africa programmes.

WHO IS RIGHT?

While former Prime Minister Diefenbaker was telling an election audience in Kelowna that he won't "take any lectures" from U.S. critics of Canada's foreign aid programmes, the special committee appointed by President Kennedy and headed by General Lucius Clay was urging Canada and other "have" nations to increase their aid, to help ease the colossal load on U.S.A. Our neighbour is spending $3.9 billion on foreign aid this year; using the usual yardstick that Canada corresponds to about one - tenth of U.S., our aid should thus run at $390 million, in place of the frankly somewhat niggardly $48.7 million we are currently spending.

We now have a self - contained External Aid Office, headed by one of our top External Affairs officers, H. O. "Herb" Moran, who learned at first hand - when he was Canadian High Commissioner in Pakistan - what a wide gap there is between lush Canada and starvation - poor south-east Asia. I was interested to learn, in a discussion with Mr. Moran, that a badly - needed role which we could reasonably play more powerfully, would be to provide more educational facilities and technical training, to help the under-developed nations help themselves.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents. All letters published are subject to editing and condensation where necessary. The Guardian is unable to enter into any correspondence regarding letters submitted.

TRAGIC LITTLE STORY

Sir,—"Little Johnny just adores animals; in fact, he's crazy about them. We got him the cutest little kitten to play with, and he takes it around in his arms all day long and it certainly keeps him amused. Its a good cheap TEDDY BEAR! Do you know where we could get another kitten? This one just keeled over and died, for no reason at all, and Johnny has just got to have another one to keep him out of mischief!"

This little story really needs no interpretation. This boy's mother doesn't seem to realize that baby kittens and other baby animals have soft tender bodies that can be crushed and mangled by small children's hands. No thought is given to allowing them to look for a sand-box or other place, which is needed often by small kittens. The child has a strangle-hold on the animal and struggling is to no avail. When the kitten finally "makes a mistake", then its little body is subjected to more punishment. It is merciful that these animals finally die, but often, not soon enough.

At this time of the year, when it seems that kittens are plentiful, it is hoped that any surplus ones are not given away to substitute for so called "Teddy Bears". It is more than pitiful to see little creatures go to their death this way.

It is gratifying to many to know that a SPCA branch has been formed on Prince Edward Island. However, it would be appreciated if further information about the Society would be printed.

I am, Sir, etc.,
ORDINARY CITIZEN

Mr. Speaker's Election

Ottawa Journal

In London as well as Ottawa there is some airy talk of creating a special constituency for the Speaker of the Commons, to remove him from the sullying party contests of an election. That plan is not as simple as it sounds.

In Britain the Speaker is "permanent" to the extent that if he is re-elected as an MP he may continue to be re - elected by the House as Speaker for decades. In Canada the normal practice is to change the Speaker with each parliament and while Commoners sometimes say that they ache for a permanent Speaker singularly little has been done in almost a century to obtain one.

LATEST SUGGESTION

The latest suggestion in Canada is that there should be a constituency of Parliament Hill which the Speaker would represent with members of the House as his electors. The comparable British plan, according to a private MP who is backing it, would create a constituency of St. Stephen's to be the British Speaker's special preserve. In it he would be the sole elector — one vote, one member.

These proposals raise the issue of whether MPs want a chairman who is not one of them. Today, in both Britain and Canada, the Speaker is named to the chair at the opening of Parliament after running the gauntlet of an election campaign; the British Speaker, even if regarded as "permanent", has no guarantee he will be returned without opposition in his home constituency. Under the existing system, then, the Speaker knows the fears and triumphs of all MPs and is in sympathetic understanding with them. Give him a special secure constituency without the challenge of elections, and he is removed from the normal workings of democracy and can quickly become remote from the elected members.

UNPLEASANT PROSPECT

The House could always withdraw its support from an arrogant Speaker and remove him from the chair. What a muddle there would be then, under the suggested arrangement in Britain! The Speaker, elected with one vote, could be ejected from the chair but still claim the right to sit in the House as the member for St. Stephen's.

That would make Parliament look foolish and nothing frightens Parliament more than such a prospect — beside the Thames or beside the Ottawa.

The Oregon Boot

RCMP Quarterly

Many decades ago Canadian Indian prisoners had such a propensity to escape that the authorities shackled them in leg irons which, in most instances, consisted of an expended nine-pound shell attached to a strip of chain.

In the western United States and Alaska was to be found the counterpart to this innovation: the Oregon Boot. Composed of a steel frame, the device was secured by screws to the heel of a boot. The frame in turn rested on a solid steel weight, of about 10 to 15 pounds, which was locked with a key around the ankle. Thus secured, a prisoner could walk — but only with difficulty.

In the early days in the Yukon, most U.S. marshals escorted long term prisoners from Alaska through the Yukon Territory via Dawson, Whitehorse and Skagway to the U.S. penitentiary in Oregon State. On one occasion, when two convicts, named Thornton and Henrickson, sentenced in Alaska to 25 years for murder, were being taken to prison, they managed to escape by picking the locks of their Oregon Boots with a piece of brass curtain rod.

When subsequently captured, they were again subjected to the boot treatment. But this time they were in for a surprise. Instead of merely locking the contraption, the U.S. marshals poured melted solder into the key holes.

JAIL FORMER PREMIER

DAKAR Senegal (Reuters)—The High Court of Justice sentenced former premier Mamadou Dia Saturday to life detention on charges arising out of an alleged attempted coup. Four former ministers tried with Dia also were sentenced—Ibrahim Sarr, Valdodio Ndiaye and Joseph Mbaye to 20 years detention and Alioune Tall to five years.

Loss Of Memory Appears Normal In Elderly People

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

CAN YOU send me any information on forgetfulness or loss of memory in old age? My father is 75 years old and is extremely forgetful about everything," writes Mrs. R. We have some information on the subject but I must warn this reader that the day of miracles is far away.

Some degree of forgetfulness in the elderly is so common, we consider it normal. There are exceptions, however, in that many men and women of advanced age are alert and keen of mind.

When loss of memory exists it is for recent events. Grandpa may forget what happened yesterday or even a few minutes ago, but recalls a business deal of 25 years ago and what Roosevelt did after becoming president. This may help to explain why he likes to reminisce when given the slightest encouragement.

Forgetfulness tends to come and go. It is more pronounced when the oldster is tired, sick, or depressed. Illness, including slight infections, aggravate many of the behavioral aspects of the aged. Too much bed rest and inactivity do the same. The rocking chair may be a geriatric symbol but it does lead to some exercise, and in this respect is desirable.

Our reader should be happy her dad is not plagued with feelings of guilt, depression, suspiciousness, incoordination, weakness, and odd mannerisms. These are manifestations of the same degenerative processes that occur in the brain as a result of a gradual loss of active brain cells and intellectual units.

There are no specific remedies for memory loss except to maintain good physical health through diet, and vitamin and mineral mixtures, exercise, ample sleep, and remaining active. Sedatives and tranquilizers do not solve the problem and occasionally they aggravate the condition. So far, DNA is the only product that sounds encouraging.

PERIODIC FASTS

P. C. writes: My husband has lost weight by going on periodic fasts of 24 to 60 hours. During this period, he takes vitamins and drinks tea or coffee constantly. Is there any danger to his health in this program?

REPLY

Not if he eats balanced meals between fasts.

FOWL DISORDERS

C. G. writes: Is there a disease humans can contract from chickens?

REPLY

You can't get chicken pox or chicken breast from these creatures but they could encourage conditions such as bronchial asthma or transmit salmonellosis (food poisoning), ornithosis, avian tuberculosis, or histoplasmosis.

BODY'S CHEMISTRY

H.W. writes: Can blood tests determine the body's chemistry?

REPLY

In the strict sense, blood tests tell us the chemical constituents of the blood only. But they may be used as a guide for certain chemical changes occurring in tissues elsewhere in the body. On the other hand, a small piece of tissue must be removed if you want to know, for example how much iron is in there or how much potassium is in a muscle.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT—

Heart attacks are not common among the lackadaisical.

CONQUER COLD

Agriculture is gradually conquering the cold lands and Russia, Alaska and Canada now grow wheat in the far north.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Even though you may be on the right track, you're apt to get run over if you merely sit there. — Chatham Daily News.

It looks like the only way we'll ever be able to balance the budget is to tax people on what they think they are worth, not on what they are actually worth. — Toronto Star.

Who says there's no profit to be made from idle money? An 1875 Canadian dime in mint condition brought $700 at a coin auction here on the weekend.— Ottawa Journal.

The creation of the word is told in Genesis in 400 words. The Ten Commandments have 297 words, and the Declaration of Independence has 1,821. But a U.S. Government pamplet required 2,500 words to announce a reduction in the price of cabbage seed. — Oakville Journal-Record.

That thing of shreds and patches commonly called a scarecrow has had a long history, but is less familiar than it used to be. Did its decline follow a suspicion that predatory birds had become too smart for it? Probably yes. In these evolutionary times bird cunning doesn't appear to have stood still, either.

Yet in its insensate way the scarecrow has evolved, too. From Arkansas comes word that a county judge plans to surround his courthouse with plastic owls to scare away pigeons. — Montreal Star.

Sign in a suburban front yard: "Anyone is welcome to use our lawn mower, provided they don't take it off our lawn." — Montreal Star.

A woman happy with her husband is better for their children than a hundred books on child welfare. — Ladies' Home Journal.

Instead of knocking, why doesn't opportunity kick the door the way temptation does? — Guelph Mercury.

A job is something that most people don't really appreciate until they haven't got one. — Galt Reporter.

If cars didn't last many thousands of miles we'd soon wear them out looking for places to park. — Port Arthur News-Chronicle.

A manufacturing firm has complained to the Carter Royal Commission on Taxation that the wheels in the Canadian Department of Revenue grind too slowly. Experience is that they also grind exceedingly fine. — Ottawa Journal.

Doubtfully the young mother examined the toy. "Isn't this rather complicated for a young child?" she asked. The clerk replied, "It's an educational toy, madam, designed to adjust a child to live in the world of today. Any way he puts it together, it is wrong." — Montreal Star.

"Little Eight" To Unite?

United Kingdom Information Service

Representatives of the "Little Eight" islands of the British Caribbean have been invited by Duncan Sandys, Britain's commonwealth and colonial secretary, to a London conference June 24 to discuss the formation of an East Caribbean Federation. The islands are Barbados; Antigua; Montserrat; St. Kitts — Nevis — Anguilla; Dominica, Grenada, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent.

The governments have been invited to include in their delegations representatives of all legislatures. In addition, the Governor of Barbados and the administrators of the other islands have been asked to attend the conference at Lancaster House.

It was also learned that the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, Nigel Fisher, will be visiting Barbados from May 23 for preliminary discussions on federation with the Regional Council of Ministers.

The islands formed part of the Federation of the West Indies which came into being in January, 1958, but which was dissolved in May 1962, after Jamaica had announced its intention to withdraw. Later that year both Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago (also members) became independent countries within the Commonwealth.

A conference to discuss proposals for a possible federation of the remaining islands in the East Caribbean was held in London. Commissions were subsequently appointed to report on fiscal and civil aspects of the proposed federation.

Barbados, with a population of about 232,000 is the largest of the islands in the proposed new federation. All at present enjoy internal self-government Their total land area is approximately 1,315 square miles; total population is in the region of 690,0000; the chief industry is agriculture, but for some the tourist trade is an important source of revenue.

Our Yesterday's

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
May 13, 1938

Financial assistance from both the Provincial Government and the City would be given in the purchase of seed and equipment, Mr. H.K.S Hemming said at a meeting of the Unemployed Workmen's Gardening Association in Charlottetown last night. The association aims to provide some unemployed with vacant lots, so that they may be able to grow their own vegetables to carry them over the summer and winter.

An unique event, the first of its kind in the history of this province, occurred May 7 when Mother St. Catherine of Sweden superior of St. Joseph's Convent, Charlottetown celebrated the diamond jubilee of her religious profession.

TEN YEARS AGO
May 13, 1953

Graduates and prize winners in the faculties of law and dentistry were announced by Dalhousie University Wednesday, included William Sutherland McIntyre, Montague and Donald Alan Stewart of Summerside.

Rt. Rev. C.M. Nicholson, past Moderator of the United Church of Canada, and principal of Pine Hill Hall, was the speaker at the Presbyterian Banquet of the United Church last night. Mr. Nicholson spoke on critical areas in todays world, dwelling particularly on the situation in Japan and Germany.

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