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 "Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew"
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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest link."

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 24, 1954

Ministry Of Youth

Whatever may happen to Premier Mendes-France's attempts to put new vigor into his country's political and economic life, he certainly will be remembered in years to come as a man who was not afraid to tackle old problems with new and bold methods. His negotiations with Chancellor Adenauer on the vexing Saar question provided one good example of his fresh approach to disputes which hitherto have seemed insoluble. Another is the courageous way in which he has been trying to get his fellow-citizens to see the wisdom of drinking more milk and less alcohol. His latest venture into new fields of statesmanship is indicated in a Paris report that he is seriously considering a "Ministry of Youth." His idea is to set up a special group consisting of representatives of young people from all over the country for the purpose of helping to prepare "national decisions." If the plan proves to be practicable, this group will be placed under a departmental head who will have full cabinet status and an equal share with other ministers in managing the nation's affairs.

It looks like an excellent idea; if M. Mendes-France can make it work it may in due course become a recognized institution of government in all free and democratic states. And why not? Doubtless, there are irresponsible elements among young people just as there are among other segments of society. But it is to be observed that in times of national danger young men and women are called upon to bear their full share of service and sacrifice; in most instances they bear it well and with honour. Moreover, youth organizations of various kinds often bring to light evidence of constructive thinking and planning. There would seem to be no good reason why, with careful guidance and counselling, the vision, enthusiasm, and forthrightness of youth could not be marshalled and put to good use in times of peace, just as these qualities have been found useful, and indeed indispensable, in times of war. All those who are anxious to see a strengthening of the principles of democracy, as they are being hard pressed by alien forces bent on their destruction, will wish the French statesman every success in his efforts to present the youth of his country with a fresh and clear challenge of citizenship.

Historian's Epilogue

What does it feel like to have finished writing a monumental ten-volume history of civilization, thirty-three years and ten months after starting it? Dr. Arnold Toynbee attempts to answer this question in the current issue of "The Periodical", published by the Oxford University Press, and his reflections are of great interest and value to students of his work. One point in particular is worth noting.

"When I started writing 'A Study of History,'" Dr. Toynbee says, "religion was not a prominent feature in my mental landscape. I was then still in the callow stage of disbelief in the traditional form of the particular religion in which I happened to have been brought up; so I fancied that I had thrown religion itself out of the window. In writing my 'Study' I have been constantly surprised to find religion coming back to fill an ever greater place in my thoughts and feelings; but it took me several volumes to learn the truth that every one of us has a religion all the time, and that what looks like a spiritual vacuum is merely one of religion's protean epiphanies. To slough religion off would be to slither out of human nature, and that feat is not within any human being's power."

In Dr. Toynbee's view, from what he calls "the historian's angle of vision", everything in the universe is either on the move towards its Creator or away from Him. This is the standard he has sought to apply in measuring the true value of any civilization, past or present. In our own day, a revolutionary change has overtaken mankind. For the first time in history the whole habitable surface of our planet has sprung together into "one world"; and this means that in our day, for the first time in history, the whole of history can be seen synoptically as a unity. God "hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the Earth, and hath determined the times before appointed and the bounds of their habitation." When St. Paul declared this truth to his Athenian contemporaries, they did not pay much attention, though they and he were then living in one of those occasional empires that

have been anticipations of a future world-state.

"This Pauline unitary view of history," says Dr. Toynbee, "is the vision that has led me into writing my ten volumes; but I was already following the visionary gleam long before June 1920—indeed, long before I became conscious of having any master-aim—and, although my work on 'A Study of History' is now behind me, I still find myself pursuing the same unending quest as eagerly as ever. . . . Six of those ten volumes were written within sixteen miles of York; and, lying on a bronze-age barrow on Slingsby Moor on inter-war summer afternoons, I used to catch the voice of Lucius Septimius Severus giving the watch-word for his dying day as he lay on his death-bed in the Brigantia city. The Emperor's last word was 'laboremus', a lapidary Latin counterpart of eight soldierly Greek verses in the sixth chapter of the Epistle to the Ephesians. "Laboremus"—"Go to it!"—was a magnificent profession of a life-long faith from the lips of a dying man. Ever since my inward ear first heard this watch-word being given, I have been taking it from Lucius every day. How many more of these days have I ahead of me? Well, I might still have my wits about me for another twenty-five years, or I might be run over in the street when I go out this afternoon. Meanwhile, let us redeem the time, however short or long our time may be going to be. During these remaining hours, weeks, or years, "laboremus!"

For Freer Trade

It is distinctly encouraging that a group of United States businessmen should not only see the advantages of developing reciprocal trade but also be urging their government to do something about it. The Committee for Economic Development has urged a five-year extension of the reciprocal trade programme and a policy of gradual and selective tariff reduction.

President Eisenhower had asked Congress to give him power to cut tariffs by five per cent a year for three years, but he had to be content with a one-year extension of the programme. The committee would like to see the principle carried further and the President authorized to exchange tariff reductions for other kinds of benefits, such as removal of import restrictions or concessions to American investors.

There is a feeling, which it is to be hoped is justified, that Congress, with elections behind it for a while and with a predominantly Democratic aspect, will look more kindly upon measures designed to open up the channels of world trade. Such an approach would do far more to raise the living standards of the world than all the contributions which it would be possible to make to social projects and development.

"Trade, not aid," was the plea of Britain a few years ago and although many barriers remain to trading between other countries and the United States that approach has unquestionably enabled the Old Country to struggle to her feet economically, whereas a policy of merely accepting all the aid offered would have left her in the position, more or less of a beggar.

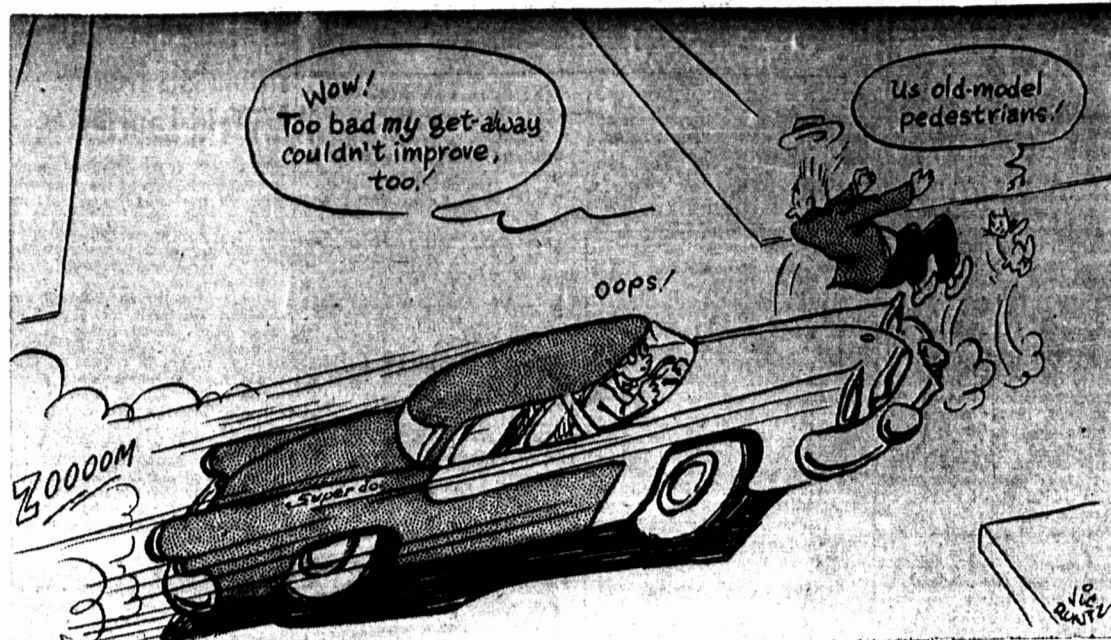
EDITORIAL NOTES

Matching provincial governments have been set up for East and West Pakistan, pointing out a probable constitutional development along other lines than Canadian Confederation. A complication is that West Pakistan is made up of four provinces and ten princely states while East Pakistan has always been considered a unit.

Only Ontario, Quebec and Prince Edward Island now do not take part in the joint civil defence assistance programme, under which matching Federal and Provincial grants are made to municipalities. If the two former, however, feel that they cannot afford to accept the conditional assistance it is small wonder that this Province is still waiting for "better terms."

Parents will probably not be as grateful as they should be to the London doctor who insists that growing children should have five new pairs of shoes a year. Nor will his advice be popular that girls should avoid high heels before they are seventeen. Doctors, however, have always been prone to prescribe bitter medicine and their hope is that it will do good whether people like it or not.

John Knox, Scottish reformer, died this date 1572. As a tutor in Douglas and Cockburn houses he met George Wishart, whose zeal for the Lutheran cause made a deep impression on him. He was a prisoner in the French galleys some eighteen months and on his release became one of six royal chaplains to Edward VI. In the latter capacity he assisted in the revision of the Prayer Book. In Scotland he championed the Protestant cause to such an extent that the history can be read practically as a personal contest between him and the Queen.



More Power

OTTAWA REPORT

Some Green Book Figures

By Patrick Nicholson

Ottawa: Canada's number of mill-shares rose by 270 to an all-time high of 1,840 in the latest year for which taxation statistics are available.

This evidence of our growing prosperity and increasing development is tucked modestly away in the Green Book describing the income of the Jones's, and how much you must earn if your life ambition is the stupid one of wanting to keep up with them. The government publishes this Green Book each year, not to publicize the Jones's but to list comprehensive details of where its direct tax revenues came from. The latest issue, out this week, contains statistics relating to the fiscal year ending 31st March, 1952.

Hon. Walter Harris, our new Minister of Finance, happened to comment publicly upon our taxes on the very day when the Green Book was issued. Showing a very sharp sense of humor about what is not at all a funny subject, he put the audience at the Canadian Tax Foundation Dinner into excellent humour, and capped this by describing that he had been doing a little homework since taking over his new Department, and had gained the main impression that the rates of tax in Canada are "pretty high".

The Green Book shows that individual income tax is not merely high, and "ugly" rather than "pretty" is the qualification most applicable to its height; it further shows that Mr. Harris' predecessor arranged to extract from us sums which progressed alarmingly to ever uglier heights. In the 12 months ended 31st March of this year, for example, Mr. Abbott levied from us, as direct taxation upon our individual incomes, a sum greater than the total which he had levied in the two years ended only three years earlier. In other words, personal income tax collections have doubled since the 1951 fiscal year.

However, in the year reviewed by this latest edition of the Green Book, one out of every 1,703 taxpayers could live like a millionaire. This is a much better chance than one has of winning the "alternatives" crosswords now being published in many Canadian newspapers; the chance of getting an all-correct solution, I calculated on one of these, was one in 131,000.

Saying that Canada had 1,840 millionaires during the 1952 year, perhaps need explaining income returns of course refer only to income; they do not disclose the total wealth of taxpayers. It has long been customary to describe as a millionaire a person whose income permits him to live in the style of a man with a million dollars. The rough and ready yardstick for this is his possession of an income representing the conservative rate of interest of 5% upon \$1,000,000.

A third of a million more Canadians paid income tax in 1952 than in 1951; the average of these taxpayers rose from \$3,150 to \$3,290, and their average tax payments rose from \$293 to \$345 over the year.

OUR WEALTHY CITIES
 Two more cities achieved the glory of having more than 5,000 citizens paying income tax, bringing the total to 52 such cities in 1952.

Trail as usual headed the list, with an average income risen by \$303 to \$3,789. Sarnia has been rising steadily in the list of average income per taxpayer; in 1950 our rubber-chemical metropolis achieved only the 14th highest average income; the next year it crept up to 5th place, and in 1952 it boasted second place, with average incomes only \$100 less than at Trail.

Chatham has risen spectacularly on this income honor roll over these three years, from 37th to 27th to 18th place. Port Arthur has as good a record, rising from 38th to 26th to 19th place.

Eloquent of the general rises in average incomes between 1951 and 1952 is Vancouver's drop from 6th to 16th place on this list, in spite of an increase of \$51 per taxpayer in average income. In fact the average Canadian taxpayer enjoyed a good year with a rise of \$140 in his income; but it is hard to disagree with Mr. Walter Harris when he says it is a remarkable situation that Canadians allow their governments to take away nearly one-third of their income in direct and indirect taxes.

MILLIONAIRE'S INCOME
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Shakespeare: Not Neat, But Gaudy

(Kingston Wig-Standard)

Recently in New York was the premiere of a new production of Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream," straight from its successful presentation at the Edinburgh Festival. It is a luscious production, the like of which has not been seen on the professional Shakespeare stage for many a year. Far from the arena theatre of the Stratford Canadian Festival, and from the modified single sets and the immediately post-war Old Vic, this production has all the romantic accessories that were thought proper on the Shakespeare stage half a century ago.

In those palmy days there were large forests and real birds on the stage. It is told, somewhat apocryphally, that Beethoven had a live cow for one of his productions of "The Dream," and it is known that he did have live rabbits skipping about.

This new production of "The Dream" has a luxuriant and unbragous forest designed by Michael Bentham, a symphony orchestra to play the Mendelssohn score and a full corps-d'habille under the professional and practiced eyes of Moura Shearer and Robert Helpmann who play the parts of "Titania" and "Oberon" respectively.

The return to luxurious treatment may be part of a new trend in the production of Shakespeare. Witness what Tyrone Guthrie did to "The Taming of the Shrew" at Stratford this year to put a little facetious life into it. Perhaps the idea of Shakespeare's neat, if giving if more people like it that way, we are sure that Shakespeare, clever controller and forecaster of the box-office as he was, would have no objection.

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.

POTATO MARKET

Sir,—Your edition of yesterday contained a letter from Mr. L. F. Simmons, Summerside, in which he seeks to inform the general public and particularly the undersigned why potato prices in the Province have declined since November 11th. I believe the public would now be better informed on this matter if he had seen fit to quote all the "Potato Newsletter" he refers to rather than just the part which he believed suitable for his purpose. The remainder is very interesting, here it is.

"We would recommend that shippers avoid rolling into either Toronto or Montreal on a consignment basis. Some smaller loaders from Prince Edward Island are partly responsible for the present condition by rolling stuff to brokers and dealers on or on a consignment basis." The significance of this statement should be quite clear to all. Perhaps this was not a case of too many cars being sold, as Mr. Simmons says, but rather too many not being sold. He may also be interested to learn that between Nov. 3rd and 10th when prices were improving than during the following week when price-cutting again became evident with such harmful effect to all.

I am, Sir, etc., DONALD A. MacDONALD November 23, 1954

BUTTER PRICES

Sir,—From Canadian Grocer November 1st, "Ottawa supports butter, wheat, cheese, pork, and other products. On butter alone our government is said to be holding some 60,000,000 lbs. The U. S. government owns 447,000,000 pounds.

In view of this, and with the dairy industry last week meeting to explore ways of selling more butter at prices then prevailing, how can last week's local increase of four cents per pound be justified? If this is to be permitted then the sale of margarine in this Province should be made legal.

I am, Sir, etc. HOUSEHOLDER

Modern Numerology

(Windsor Star)

As part of an official move to simplify identification, Canada's 10,000 Eskimos are to receive numbers, and the project sounds reasonable enough. It was in the cards that personal numbering would catch up with them sooner or later, as it has with everyone else.

Having no family names, and a predisposition to take new names in the hope of changing their luck, Eskimos were hard to follow. That formula is not exclusive with the Eskimos, however. We superior races "outside" have representatives who earned long ago that an alias can change one's prospects materially in time of troubles.

As for identification through numbers, the Eskimos should not feel they are being relegated to the status of prison inmates. The utility of numerals has spread much farther than that. "In reply to this letter," states a family directive, "please refer to File PQ 25-643-J," or whatever it happens to be. Then there are licence numbers, and unemployment insurance numbers, and family allowance numbers, and so on through a long classification.

The Eskimo who gets one number he can wear around his neck throughout his lifetime doesn't know how easy things are being made for him by the Great White Father in Ottawa.

fatal and otherwise, in New Brunswick have greatly lessened. —Moncton Times.

This will be one of the last occasions when we will refer to the new mental hospital at North Bay as such. By and large, from now on, the columns of the Nugget will refer to it by its proper name—Ontario Hospital, North Bay. We are dropping the word "mental". There may be rare occasions down through the years when it will be quite necessary for us to mention the type of treatment provided by the hospital, but for all general purposes the Nugget hereafter intends to use only the name "Ontario Hospital." —North Bay Nugget.

Old Charlottetown

and P. E. I.

From the Royal Gazette, Aug. 3, 1841: Mr. James Narraway informs the inhabitants of Prince Edward Island that he will be at Mr. Nathaniel Wright's, Esquire, where he is erecting a Threshing Machine. He expects to remain for five weeks, and will be happy to receive orders for erecting Machines. If he can get two or more Machines to erect in one Settlement he will make a reduction on the price of each.

A. Leslie, Souris, announces that while fishing with a seine for salmon lately, at the mouth of St. Peter's Bay, his net hauled up from the bottom of the deepest part of the Harbour a ship's rudder, which the former owner may have on proving property and paying damages and expenses.

The Hon. Samuel Cunard having become possessed of the whole of the legal and equitable Estate of the late John Cambridge, in all those townships, tracts and parcels of land mortgaged by the said John Cave, the subscriber (James H. Peters) announces that as the agent of the said Samuel Cunard he is now prepared to sell and lease the same. Tenants having long leases, at 1s. per acre, may purchase at 20s. sterling per acre. The tenants must be prepared to pay up all arrears at once, and to those who are prepared to purchase, a liberal deduction of the back rents will be made.

William O'Toole, having obtained a Forge in Mr. C. C. Davidson's Shop, at the head of the Queen's Wharf, announces that he is ready to receive and execute with neatness and dispatch, orders for locks, guns, and all kinds of whitesmith work, brand and figure cutting, bell hanging, etc.

S. W. Martin, artist in marine and landscape, returns thanks for the patronage he has received since his arrival in Charlottetown, and begs to inform the gentry that the remainder of his Collection is for sale at the corner of Prince Street, opposite the Episcopal Church.

Mr. Irving, Bonshaw, announces that he has procured tradesmen from Scotland acquainted with the construction of the most improved implements of husbandry, including drill machines for sowing grain, turnips, beans and mangel wurtzel, sowers and cultivators, chaff and turnip cutters, winnowing machines, horse rakes, etc., and informs the farmers of Prince Edward Island that Mr. Macgown, Secretary of the Agricultural Society, has kindly offered to receive and transmit orders for any of the above articles, specimens of which may be seen at his store.

The great antlers of the Canadian moose, measuring up to six feet across, are grown and discarded each year.

REFRIGERATION

Household, also meat counters, walk-in coolers, dairy cases, etc. We service and repair any make of electrical refrigeration equipment.

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POLIO INSURANCE

STOCKHOLM (CP) — The Swedish Textile Workers' Union now is issuing a special "polio insurance" to members. First of its kind in the Swedish labor movement, it provides \$3,000 kroner (about \$6,200) in case of death caused by infantile paralysis, and 16,000 kroner for permanent disablement.

USEFUL MASCOT

SALTFORD, England (CP)—Sam a Labrador Dog, is more than just a mascot at the golf club in this Somerset town. In three years he has retrieved more than 4,000 lost golf balls.

BORROW \$205.59

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The Poet's Corner

AUTUMNAL

Last night at dusk the wedged wild geese came over, Crying out of the north; crossing the thin And chilly moon, they left the rusty hollows, The lattered pastures, taking Summer's south.

Last night the letting Pleiades swung over The black-frost hill in a bright and climbing mist. And late, later than midnight, Orion followed, Striding in glitter, hunting the Summer down.

But we who know the brittle weeds of Autumn, The naked rock, brown leaf and rattling stem, Who know the calm of bronze and barren meadows, Leave to the cricket Summer's requiem.

—Frances Frost.

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