The Guardian

Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew

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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink"

Should Be Well Aired

Prime Minister Pearson has indicated that he sees no objection to the proposal to set up a parliamentary committee to examine all phases of the national pension plan, provided Ontario will cooperate. It is to be hoped, in this case, that federal Health Minister Judy LaMarsh—who only last week expressed herself as being strongly opposed to this idea—will go along with it in the proper spirit.

Miss LaMarsh argued that if the plan were thrown open to a parliamentary inquiry, more extravagant proposals would be made, especially by the New Democratic Party; and the Liberals, being a minority government, might not be able to resist them. She was alarmed, too, at pressures that might be brought to bear by the insurance and investment interests.

This idea that the Government, trusting that its own experts know better than anybody else, should hurry the plan through without inviting other opinions is completely at variance with that of the Canadian Welfare Council, which makes a strong plea for representations by interested and informed persons or organizations.

The insurance companies are not hiding the self-interest which the minister charges them with having in this matter. Why should they? But the fact remains that they are better informed on the subject than most parliamentarians are. They wouldn't stay long in business if they weren't.

If their objections to the plan are invalid, the committee would soon find it out with the help of the Government actuaries and economists. But if there are risks in the plan that only the expert eye can see, then they should be exposed before the measure becomes law, not afterwards by a costly process of trial and error.

This is the gist of the argument for a parliamentary committee inquiry, and it is pleasing to note that Mr. Pearson appears to be considering it favorably. It only remains for him now to convert his health minister to an appreciation of its advantages. He might remind her, among other things, that the Government simply can't afford another fiasco along the lines of the Gordon budget, which started off so bravely and petered out so ignominiously.

Magical Learning Aid

A magical learning aid is being boosted in a Newark, New Jersey, publication, which it is claimed has many advantages over the learning and teaching aids in which most people are brought up nowadays. Indications are that if it catches on, all the electronic gadgets will be so much junk. For this invention has no wires, no electric circuit to break down. No connection is needed to a power plant. It is made entirely without mechanical parts to go wrong or need replacement.

It is claimed, too, that anyone can use it—even children; and it fits comfortably into the hands. Basically, it consists only of a large number of paper sheets, which may run to hundreds where a lengthy course of study is programmed. Each sheet bears a number in sequence, so that the sheets cannot be used in the wrong order. To make it even easier for the user to keep the sheets in order, they are held firmly in place by a special locking device known as "binding."

Each sheet presents the user with an information sequence in the form of symbols, which he absorbs optically for automatic registration. When one sheet has been assimilated a flick of the finger turns it over and further information is found on the other side. By using both sides of each sheet in this way a great economy is effected, thus reducing both the size and cost of the device. No buttons need be pressed to move from one sheet to another, to open or close the aid or start it working.

The user may turn at will to any sheet, going backwards or forwards as he pleases. And one sheet is provided near the beginning as a location finder for any required information sequence.

The initial cost varies with the size and subject matter, but already a vast range of the product is now available at moderate rates; and once purchased, it requires no further upkeep cost. It may be stored on handy shelves for reference purpose; and thanks to an ingenious idea patented by the makers, no motive power is required but the brain of the user.

The device is known as Built-in Orderly Organized Knowledge. The makers, however, generally call it by its initials, BOOK.

Secrecy, Yes, But...

On a vote of 105 to 91, the Commons defeated a motion of Opposition Leader Diefenbaker on Wednesday, calling for the Government to make public the nuclear custody-and-control agreement signed with Washington on August 16. Prime Minister Pearson's contention is that the agreement cannot be made public for Canadian and NATO security reasons, whereas Mr. Diefenbaker maintains that the Government leader has already given the press an expurgated version of it.

This "expurgated" version is presumably all Parliament would have on which to debate the issue. If the agreement falls into the category of classified information one can understand that the public interest would not be served by making public the details. But the result of a debate under such circumstances would be farcical.

Surely the defense committee of the House could be entrusted with the details of this agreement, at a closed session at which all the parties would be represented. U.S. congressional committees hold sessions of this kind frequently, where matters of secrecy are involved but where it is desirable that the grounds for government policy be made clear to responsible party spokesmen.

This would at least free the Government of the suspicion of playing politics in the matter, and give the defense committee an opportunity of performing a worthwhile chore in the public interest. This committee, after all, was Mr. Pearson's idea, born out of the hectic nuclear weapons controversy that preceded the downfall of the Diefenbaker administration. Wasn't it for purposes of this kind that he proposed its setup in the first place?

EDITORIAL NOTES

Water safety activities have gone over well in the Province this year. Committees in 114 centres held organized classes in which over 7,000 enrolled for instruction.

* * *

Federal Labor Minister Alan MacEachern objects to calling "distressed" the areas designated for special government assistance. They are "areas of future opportunity", he says. Which doesn't say much for our Island prospects, in Mr. MacEachern's view, since we were bypassed completely by the bureaucrats who selected these places for opportunity to knock.

* * *

A prime example of how these seaboard provinces have been discriminated against was cited by the Port of Halifax Commission in a brief presented at the restrictive trade practices inquiry in Montreal. Halifax is 300 miles closer to the United Kingdom than Montreal is; 600 miles closer than Toronto, and 1,400 miles closer than Chicago. Despite this advantage in distance, ocean conference rates between Halifax and the United Kingdom and Europe are identical with rates to and from St. Lawrence ports.

PREPARING FOR THE LAUNCHING

BRITISH COMMENTARY

Indonesian Lapse Into Barbarity

United Kingdom Information Bulletin

The British are usually known for their habit of understatement and their dislike of overemphasis. The Foreign Secretary, Lord Home, is typically British in this respect. It therefore meant much when he felt it necessary to describe Indonesian behavior as barbaric and uncivilized.

Not only in Britain, but in other countries too, Indonesian actions against the British, in the days following Malaya, Singapore, Sabah, and Sarawak federating as Malaysia, are seen as a violation of all normal standards for the conduct of relations between states, or even of peaceful and orderly relations between human beings.

Indonesia had not suffered any provocation. No threats and no insults had been offered. All that had happened was that two British territories in Northern Borneo — Sarawak and Sabah— had achieved independence along with Singapore as constituent parts of Malaysia.

The Indonesians, as protagonists of the "anti-colonial" cause, might have been expected to rejoice in the emancipation of two neighbouring territories from colonial rule.

NO THREAT INVOLVED

There was no danger to Indonesia from Malaysia which is far smaller in population and territory and which, for some time to come, will have to rely on a British guarantee of aid for the defence of its frontiers.

The reason why the Indonesian reaction was so violent has to be found elsewhere. Indonesia's economic situation is precarious and outside adventures may seem a useful distraction. President Soekarno, perhaps encouraged by his success in taking over West Irian, has presumably been looking round for some fresh expansion of Indonesian power. He may have seen the prospect of a stable, prosperous and peaceful Federation, next door to Indonesia, not as something to be welcomed but as an obstacle to future adventures.

BRITISH WARNINGS

It cannot be believed that the Indonesian authorities were caught unawares, or that the demonstrations and attacks were a purely spontaneous outburst of popular feeling. The British Ambassador had warned the Indonesian Government several days earlier of the likelihood of demonstrations and had asked for measures to be taken to guard the Embassy. No measures were taken. Even after the first attacks no proper protection was given. It is also significant that those who wrecked British private houses carried lists of addresses — obviously carefully prepared in advance.

ELEMENTARY DUTY

Over the centuries nations have built up the whole system of diplomacy and diplomatic relations as an essential method of conducting peaceful intercourse between states, settling disputes without violence, promoting mutual understanding.

The rights and requirements of diplomats have been universally recognized; a certain code of international behaviour has been established and observed even in times of acute strain and crisis.

ELEMENTARY DUTY

Most states moreover, accept the protection of the lives and possessions of foreigners—whether diplomats or not—as an elementary duty of any responsible government.

In recent years many nations have achieved independence and have emerged as new states. These states, in nearly all cases, have felt it a matter of national self-respect to adopt the code of international behaviour commonly observed by all countries on the basis of equality and reciprocity as is evidenced by the agreement drafted almost a year ago in Vienna on diplomatic rights and immunity, an agreement signed by Indonesia.

President Soekarno has tried to claim a leading position among the newly-emerged nations. Some may feel that, by damaging Indonesia's international reputation, he has seriously weakened this claim.

Wilson's Labor Leadership

By Joseph MacSween
Canadian Press Staff Writer

Harold Wilson probably hasn't allowed himself such exuberance since he draped the mantle of Britain's Labor party leadership over his sturdy shoulders.

It was the "we're all brothers" speech Wednesday by his erstwhile leadership rival George Brown at the Labor party convention in Scarborough that unleashed emotion in the usually placid Wilson.

His moon-like face wreathed in a ferociously affectionate smile, Wilson grabbed Brown's hand and swung it high in the prize fighter's victory gesture.

Delegates to the Labor party's pre-election conference were thus able to see for themselves that all is well in the leadership —at the top of the heap anyway.

Brown's speech came on the topic "The return of a Labor government", a pep talk to rally enthusiasm, if such is needed at a conference where the only question asked is not whether Labor will win but when.

Tory newspapers, said Brown, are spreading rumors about dissensions in the Labor shadow cabinet but it is actually free of "suspicions." Brown, deputy leader, also scoffed at any suggestion of bitterness over Wilson's election as successor to the late Hugh Gaitskell.

Chief behind-the-scenes speculation, however, revolved around Wilson's proposal for a new economic planning ministry, a sort of master department that impinges on the treasury and hence on James Callaghan, slated to be Labor chancellor of the exchequer.

Callaghan said at a meeting Tuesday there are "discussions" but denied any quarrel. Brown, thought to be in line for the proposed ministry said on television nobody has "title" to any ministry until he is appointed by Wilson after Labor wins an election.

The backstage mutterings sour, however slightly, the triumph Wilson scored Tuesday in a speech urging Britain to discard its "old boy network" and plunge into the scientific age.

The dissension reports seem to rise in part from Wilson's practice of keeping lieutenants at arms length and maintaining his own counsel. In this way he is unlike Gaitskell, who formed close friendships with some of his associates.

COMPARED WITH JFK

Because he is only 46, Wilson is inevitably compared with President Kennedy. He exudes the same "let's have the facts" attitude. Some observers say Wilson is exhibiting a warmer side of his nature at this conference, dropping the sometimes metallic tone in his speeches.

Wilson has said that if elected he wouldn't form a brain trust such as the one surrounding Kennedy. But observers are sure something of the kind is envisaged, noting Wilson said he wants to improve the briefing system at 10 Downing Street. He also plans to bring in experts for his new scientific ministries.

Wilson is quick with a quip. His son Robin said Wilson was wrong in saying Tuesday that if a man could walk as fast as a computer can calculate, he could circle the earth in less than a second. Robin claimed it would take 1¼ seconds.

"I take longer strides than Robin," Wilson replied to the reporter who brought the subject up.

Our Yesterdays

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
October 4, 1938

The Charlottetown Board of Trade has been notified by Premier Thane A. Campbell, visiting in Ottawa, that he was "assured there was no intended change" in the terminus of the proposed Wood Island, P.E.I.—Caribou, N.S. ferry service.

Dr. A.A. MacDonald yesterday received unanimous nomination as Conservative candidate for Kings County in the next federal contest.

TEN YEARS AGO
October 4, 1953

The official changeover at the RCAF Station, Summerside will take pace Monday, Oct. 26. The station, on that day, will be transferred from Training Command with headquarters at Trenton, Ont, to Maritime Command with headquarters at Halifax.

Bulb Syringe Aids Nostrils

Mrs. C. R. has suffered from atrophic rhinities for 30 years. She developed this nasal condition at the age of 6 and is "...wondering what the outcome will be as I get older. How do you get this nose disorder? Is it contagious? Four members of our family have it. Will my children and their children inherit it? My doctor says there is no cure and washing out the nose with a bulb syringe is all that can be done."

In atrophic rhinitis, the lining becomes dry, thin, porous, and often crusted. Certain microorganisms that produce a fetid odor find living conditions in these surroundings ideal. This is in contrast to what happens when infection occurs; the membranes become swollen and congested.

The cause of atrophic rhinitis is not known. It is more prevalent in some families suggesting a hereditary background. More women than men are bothered and other nasal malformations often coexist. The basic cause may lie in arrested development of the membranes before birth. In others, the changes are secondary to years of infection which have left the membranes shrunken, pale, thin, and poorly nourished.

Most victims complain of dryness and crusting. An offensive odor may be present, which escapes detection if there is an associated loss of the sense of smell. But the people around the victim are most conscious of the odor. The nostrils may be completely occluded by the discharge and crusting. The condition is not painful but some individuals encounter a dull headache above the root of the nose, along with lassitude and mental depression.

Mrs. C.R. has been given sound advice concerning the outcome and treatment. Irrigating the nose once or twice a day with a saline solution removes the crusted secretions. There are many ways of doing this, varying from the use of a fountain syringe to a nasal siphon. A tampon saturated with a variety of medications is inserted when the crusts cannot be removed by irrigation. A bland oil or mild astringent also helps soften the crusts.

The newer remedies include spraying hormones that tend to thicken the nasal membranes. Irrigating with a dilute solution of potassium permanganate lessens the odor. The antibiotics and sulfonamides give disappointing results.

COUGH WILL CLEAR

G.K. writes: I don't have asthma but every time the doctor stethoscopes my chest, he hears wheezing. He didn't explain why or prescribe any medicine. Can you tell me what is wrong?

REPLY

He hears wheezing because a small plug of mucus is creating a partial obstruction of a bronchus. Cough, and the wheeze will disappear.

TAKE THEM ALL

J.R. writes: Is it better to take vitamins all at one time or wait a while after swallowing each?

REPLY

All at one time—after eating.

NOTES BY THE WAY

In many a case, conscience, that "still, small voice", is never stiller and smaller than when money is talking.— Woodstock Sentenel Review.

The mosquito was discovered by the person who was discovered by the first mosquito.—Sherbrooke Record.

On a train a woman set beside a little girl who was holding a doll in her lap. The woman asked cheerily, "Does your dolly talk." "Yes," replied the child politely. "But not to strangers". —Montreal Star.

The second world war is often said to have debilitated Britain's status, however much it enhanced it at the time of her glory. But if we had not fought it, would there have been a Britain at all?—London Daily Telegraph.

If a person goes out and fools a person into letting him have some money, the courts call it fraud. But, if an orator fools a lot of people into voting for him, that is politics.—W.L. Clark in the Windsor Star.

Eroded Savings

Winnipeg Free Press

The minister of finance every year sends out a personal letter to employers across the country entreating them to support the payroll deductions system by which hundreds of thousands of Canadians purchase Canada savings bonds.

Employers are asked to assist in convincing their staffs that saving is a good habit and that one of the easiest ways to do it is through systematic purchase of bonds.

So it is and employers, as this year's letter from the minister states, have always been unstinting in their support of the payroll savings plan over the years. Last year alone some 675,000 persons purchased a record total of $232 millions through deductions from their salary cheques, and no doubt as many or more will do so again this year. It is a convenient form of saving and the interest rate is usually attractive.

Yet there is an element of misrepresentation in the way savings bonds campaigns are presented to the public, and many thoughtful employers are troubled about the validity of their position as agents for the government. The minister's letter this year speaks of how the bonds can help people "acquire the good things of life on a sound financial basis."

If the good things of life really are purchasable, as the minister appears to believe, how financially sound is it to try to buy them with his bonds? A savings bond purchased in 1949 and cashed ten years later would have declined in value by 25 per cent. If, hypothetically, it had been held until July of this year it would purchase 33.5 per cent fewer goods and services than it did 14 years ago. The owner, of course, has had the benefit of interest payments in the meantime, but this has really been no more than a rental payment for the use of his money, which has declined in value.

The moral, surely, is that the government, too, has a responsibility to manage its affairs "on a sound financial basis" and to see that the dollars with which it repays its creditors are as valuable as the dollars it borrowed from them. So far it hasn't done very well.

TOPS AIR CADETS

OTTAWA (CP)—Alberta air cadets won top honors in this summer's scholarship flying training courses sponsored by the Air Cadet League of Canada and the RCAF. League headquarter announced Wednesday that Alberta won the Token of Friendship Trophy given by the Air Training Corps of Great Britain to the province whose cadets do best in the flying training program. All 29 Alberta cadets completed summer courses successfully.

Let's Dine Out At The Charlottetown

Mother, too, deserves to be served . . . fussed over . . . freed from the apron strings. Give her a treat. Take the whole family to luncheon or dinner at The Charlottetown Hotel. She'll like it. Superb selections from only $1.60. The Charlottetown Hotel is the ideal place to bring your favourite friends . . . your special guests . . . your very special family. Special menu rates for children. If you can't make today the treat day — come in on *any* special occasion.

The Charlottetown CN Hotel

NO BITTER SEEDS IN Barbour's PEANUT BUTTER

JUST THE NUTTY PEANUTS

Try Barbour's Peanut Butter—the old-fashioned Regular Grind or the new Ultra Smooth—and see how good Peanut Butter can taste. Barbour's uses only the nutty peanuts—no bitter seeds. You see, on one end of a peanut there is a little seed that can be removed. This seed tastes bitter by itself. That is why Barbour's remove these seeds before the peanuts are ground to make Barbour's Peanut Butter taste so good.