

Covers Prince Edward Island The New W. J. Hancock, Publisher...
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Published every week day morning except Sunday and statutory holidays at 165 Prince Street, Charlottetown, P.E.I., by Thomson Newspapers Ltd.

Represented nationally by Thomson Newspapers Ltd. (Toronto, Ontario, Canada) 425 Bloor Street East, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4W 1A5.
Epping, 38864; Montreal, 440 Calcutt Street, Montreal, Quebec, H3C 2R4; Western Office, 1300 West Georgia Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6E 2Y3.
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For one year \$12.00 per year by mail or rural routes and areas not serviced by carrier.
For one year off-land and U.S. \$20.00 per year in U.S. and elsewhere outside British Commonwealth.
Not for sale single copy.
Member Audit Bureau of Circulation.

"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink"
PAGE 4 SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1964

Mr. Hays' Kind Offer

With the long winter evenings setting in pretty soon, life on the farm will slow down and our farmers will have more leisure than they have now to give consideration to an offer recently extended to them by Agriculture Minister Harry Hays. Mr. Hays said his department will write to every farmer in Canada and invite any farmer with a problem to write to him personally.

This opens up a wide field for epistolary activity. We never heard of a farmer who didn't have problems, and the difficulty will be to select the most pressing one out of the lot before setting it down on paper for Mr. Hays' personal consideration, and sending it post free to the minister at Ottawa. If one has a typewriter it will save a lot of time, for Mr. Hays will likely have to write back for more information and it may take the exchange of half a dozen letters to clear up all the points involved.

Then, of course, when he's got one problem cleared there's nothing to prevent the farmer from starting on his next worst problem, and getting it straightened out with Mr. Hays' friendly help. That may take him into midwinter. There should be time enough left to dispose of three or four more problems before Spring. What a pleasant and profitable way to spend the long cold evenings, when there's nothing else to do but feed the stock and sit by the fire!

But graver considerations intervene at this stage. How is poor Mr. Hays going to bear up under all this work? The Calgary Albertan has pondered this question, with disquieting results. It figures that if only one per cent of the 481,000 farmers in Canada reply to his invitation, in one month the minister will have premises to reply 4,180 letters. This work is out to be better than 160 letters a day. One fears that before his experiment is over he will have to devote many more hours than the 10 he has said he is willing to put into whatever farmer-correspondence arises from it.

It looks as though a good many of our farmers are going to be disappointed in their expectations over this offer after all. Perhaps, in the circumstances, they had better continue trying to figure out their own answers to their problems. If they get a helping hand from Mr. Hays, well and good; but they'd better not bank on it the way we said at the start.

Again Under Fire

South African rule will again come under fire when the United Nations Security Council meets early next month. This follows on the heels of the strongly unfavorable reaction to the execution last week of three men condemned as murderers by the South African government. The three were saluted as martyrs by black African delegates at the UN.

Shortly after the news of the hangings reached the world organization, the special committee on apartheid was called into emergency session by Algeria. In a communique, the committee stated it "strongly condemns this ruthless and criminal act." It urged all states, "particularly those states which by still maintaining close relations with South Africa bear special responsibility in this matter, to now take energetic steps, in accordance with the resolution of the General Assembly and the Security Council, to ensure the abandonment of the disastrous policy of apartheid of the South African government."

Whatever the legal merits of the case, few delegates accept that the executions were without political implications. The three men were convicted in March of murdering a state witness in various sabotage trials, and of sabotage. Anti-apartheid supporters in Britain as well as the United States protested the executions. Appeals were made to the General Assembly, the Conference of Nonaligned Countries, the UN African group, and the Secretary-General personally, but without avail.

South African spokesmen are indignant that UN bodies could "condone assassination on political grounds." They take it as an indication of "the extremely dangerous divergences from the traditional norms of international morality which are developing in certain UN circles." Which goes to show that there is little prospect of reconciliation between the two sides on this issue, and that other nations as well will be dragged into the controversy.

South Africa has already quit the Commonwealth because of criticism of its racial policies. It seems determined to go its own way regardless of what the United Nations may say or do. But this, one fears, will only be postponing the day of reckoning for a nation that has failed so lamentably to read the handwriting on the wall.

Conning The Lesson

Only now are the implications of Monday's federal by-elections in Ontario and New Brunswick being brought home to the two major political parties, neither of which has any cause for rejoicing at the results.

Publicly, the Liberals profess to be satisfied with having held Westminster with an increased majority, even if they failed to capture Waterloo South from the disunited Conservatives. Privately however, they are concerned over their failure to take that riding from the New Democrats. The NDP vote was higher by more than 5,000 than in 1963, and much of this represented disaffected Liberals. As for the Conservatives, there was not the slightest indication that their stand on the flag issue evoked any significant response in what is regarded as the heart of Ontario's Red Ensign territory.

It would seem in the circumstances, that NDP Leader T. C. Douglas was right in claiming that the Waterloo results indicated public impatience with the performance of both the big parties at Ottawa. And for this, both the big party leaders must share responsibility. Mr. Pearson must see now that his decision to force the flag issue on Parliament at this time was unwise, but he had committed himself too strongly to turn back. Mr. Diefenbaker's summer-long effort to capitalize on this blunder has been resented across the country, as obstructionist tactics out of season.

It has become impossible, now, to make any sober assessment of the issue on its merits. The waste of money involved has disrupted the business of Parliament, and put the country in the sourest mood it has been for years. And according to Ottawa commentators, the evidence of this mood is beginning to impinge on the consciousness of the most obtuse party strategists. If it succeeds in dampening both Liberal and Conservative enthusiasm for an early general election it will be a blessing in disguise.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Four friends of the late Ian Fleming, whose hugely successful James Bond stories allowed him to leave an estate of more than \$900,000, should have no difficulty accessing to their benefactor's last wish on their behalf. Mr. Bond left within 19 months they would spend that sum "on some extravagance."

The Sausage Festival at Durkheim, a health spa in West Germany, has just come to an end for the 498th time. But the "Wurstmarkt" is no sausage fair. It is Germany's biggest and oldest wine festival. In two week-ends, it attracted more than 500,000 people, who drank 195,000 litres of wine and ate 892 pigs, 113 heads of cattle, 22 calves and around 50,000 grilled chickens.



TWEEDLEDUM AND TWEEDLEDMUR

AUTOMATION PROBLEM

People Need Work To Be Content

Automation is not one of economics alone; it is social, moral and spiritual. On the successful meeting of them all will depend the contentment of those who live in an age of full technology.

Caution Well Advised

Finance Minister Walter Gordon has provided us with some estimates prepared by his department showing in round figures how much each Canadian province contributed to federal finances and how much it got back in a sample fiscal year (1961-62). Mr. Gordon offered the figures with the caution that many of them were the product of assumptions and that in any case, the calculations were based on a warning that should be heeded by anyone who might feel tempted to use some of the statistics as a club with which to beat another province. Certainly, there is nothing in the figures to support the idea that Quebec is being milked for the benefit of the rest of the country, as many do seem to follow that Ontario as the biggest contributor is the one willing horse in a nation of deadbeats.

Back To The Woodshed

Woodsheds are part of our heritage. The countryman licks them in the same category with shovels, rakes, axes, kerosene lamps, the horse and buggy. Until the magic of electricity and the internal combustion engine took over, the woodshed was a basic part of the farm's economy. There are those who remember woodburning kitchen stoves and tall, nickel-trimmed parlor heaters. There are men who remember the piles of wood in the backyard, the sawing outfit, and the splitting. It was a boy's world of wheelbarrow spilt wood to the shed, and to stack the oak, ash, maple and yellow birch to high tiers. The knotty chunks went into a pile for the parlor heater. There was a lad's task, emphasized by sisters, to keep the woodboxes filled. A longused woodshed was a handy, pungent and satisfying fragrance compounded of sawdust, bits of bark, splinters and debris. Mother wanted a special section of split white birch or cedar for a quick biscuit fire in summer. She wanted a section of oak and beech for the steady heat of Saturday baking. These late fall days give us a man a comfortable feeling of security as he looks at his woodshed. He is reminded of the Wintidays when he chopped the wood and the song of the saw as the wood was cut. There are who might feel they enjoy a feeling of security as they survey their woodsheds by modern standards. To stop a minute in the evening as he comes in with milkpails and a bucket of water, to see the light play over the tiers. Wood, they say, warms a man twice—when he cuts it and when he burns it. There are those who know that it also warms the heart just to look at a full field of woodshed on a crisp Autumn evening.

Oldest Paper In U.S.

The Hartford Courant, the oldest newspaper in the United States, has just celebrated its 200th anniversary. It appeared in 1764 and was first known as The Connecticut Courant. No doubt for the people of that colony, there was all the interest of a great novelty. The publisher headed the first page with a graceful discourse on the art of printing as being one of the most useful arts which have been introduced amongst mankind, for the civilization of man's nature. This discourse closed with the note: "Subscribers for this Paper will be taken at the Printing Office, near the North Meeting House, in Hartford."

Good Writing Discouraged?

Surgeons teach surgery, lawyers instruct in law, engineers in engineering, but at the school of writing is taught by teachers many of whom not only can't write but who would stave if they tried to make a living through writing. What is worse, they and their can't-write colleagues in universities stifle the efforts of youngsters who do possess writing talent and discourage the few determined of them until in discouragement perhaps, they turn to teachers who are guilty of these sins, of course. Some teachers in high school and universities have the talent they seek to bring out in their charges and have the capacity to do so. But the majority of teachers are mediocre and are not only dampen the creative spark in their students but divert us

Hot Climates and Arthritis

Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen The caption, "Arthritis? Move to a hot climate," is very apt, especially in the case of rheumatoid arthritis. Puerto Rican community Dr. Ricardo Mendez-Bryan and associates have surveyed the population and report a rate of 92, compared with 54 in this country. Only 188 people live on the island area (Guaynabo) and the study did not include other diseases that might have been more prevalent and equally disabling.

There may not be many arthritics in Guaynabo but this does not mean a doctor will cure the moves to Puerto Rico. Furthermore, physicians in this area may have little or no experience treating rheumatoid arthritis because it occurs so infrequently.

Many people go to the south-west when they develop a stubborn case of arthritis. The warm, dry air has a soothing effect but the climate cannot produce miracle cures but a variety of things can be done to reduce inflammation, pain, stiffness, and deformity.

A well balanced diet helps maintain resistance and weight reduction is important in the case. The individual has a fight on his hands as the weight everything possible to preserve the involved joints to avoid deformities.

Keep the structures flexible by moving them through their full range of motion several times a day. Take it easy if much soreness persists after exercise. Activity also helps to build up weakened muscles, an important consideration because muscles lend support to joints and when either structure is ailing, the other suffers.

POSTURAL AND VOCAL PROBLEMS

Mrs. J. G. writes: I am round-shouldered and speak with a nasal twang. Am I too old at 38 to correct either or both conditions?

REPLY: You are not too old but it will be more difficult to correct the posture than the nasal defect. Do you have a nasal obstruction caused by polyps or adenoids?

BLURRED VISION

M. E. writes: My eyesight has been blurry for the last month or so. Is there a vitamin I can take to clear this up?

REPLY: Perhaps, but this is unlikely. Vision is too precious to rely upon vitamins and suggestions from medical columns. Consult your ophthalmologist because this symptom may be an early sign of a serious eye disorder.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT

Insist upon fresh air activities for youngsters. (NOTE: All correspondence to Dr. Van Dellen should be addressed to: Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen, c/o Chicago Tribune, Chicago, Illinois.)

NOTES BY THE WAY

Young Husband (in early morning)—"It must be time to get up."—Why "Baby's" asleep.—Toronto Star. A Great Missenden, England, parrot can whistle extracts from Beethoven's Pastoral. Symbolically he's called a long-tailed bird.—Hamilton Spectator. Old laws make for bitter beer: an Oxford University student found recently. He discovered an ancient college law which he was entitled to a free pint of beer before taking an examination. By insisting on his privilege, examiners were forced to scrounge up the pint of beer. But while he wrote the exam, they found another ancient law. When the student came out the winners from his five pounds for failing to wear a sword.—Canadian U.S.

Two counterfitters found themselves with a large quantity of almost perfect, bills of one hundred dollars. They had that were all eighteen-dollar bills. The crews decided to go far back into the hill country to dispose of the bills. Deep in the mountains, they flashed one bill after another. The foreman talked him into changing it. "Well, how do you want it changed?" asked the foreman. "I'd want two tens and a four-bee and all right!"—Galt Reporter.

A story that is circulating in Moscow goes like this: At long last the Soviet Union declared war on Communist China. The first week the Red Army captured 1,000,000 Chinese soldiers; the second, 5,000,000 prisoners; the third week, 20,000,000 and in the fourth week, 50,000,000. The fifth week, Mao Tse Tung picked up the phone, calls the Kremlin and asks "How much?"—New York Herald Tribune.

Back On UN Delegation

Lord Caradon, the former Sir Hugh Foot, who now heads Britain's United Nations delegation, once again has been threatened to the peace of the world is the danger of a war between the colored people and the rest.

Coming from a man with a remarkable reputation on both sides of the color gulf, the statement carries weight. His return to the United Nations is being watched with interest as a possible turning point in Britain's attitude on colonial and racial matters.

When he resigned from the British mission two years ago in a policy dispute over Southern Rhodesia, it was widely felt at the UN that the delegation had lost one of its most enlightened and liberal members.

With his return, the British delegation insists that there will be no radical change in direction. But it does expect that the tone will be different. This is almost certainly an understatement. If Lord Caradon's past record is any clue to his future actions.

As with any UN delegate, he will be obliged to follow the policies of the Labor government. But the fact that he has been given cabinet status, along with his record in colonial affairs, indicates that he will have a main part in shaping these policies as well as carrying them out.

The British attitude towards South Africa is only one of the areas in which Britain is expected to alter its stance. As recently as last May, as a member of Secretary-General U Thant's advisory panel on South Africa, Lord Caradon said Britain and the U.S. would have to put economic pressure on South Africa to get a fair deal for the Negroes there.

The same is true on the admission of Communist China. Britain has supported admission of the Peking regime consistently but from now on will probably take a more active part in promoting it.

Perhaps the most fundamental change will be in the atmosphere of relations between Britain and the non-white world. In the past, this relationship has often been unhappy. The Afro-Asians accused Britain of refusing to consider their proposals seriously while the British insisted in effect charged the Afro-Asians with their own monkey wrenches into their carefully built decolonization machinery.

In the future, the Afro-Asian can be assured at least of a sympathetic hearing from Britain. And the British can be assured of a greater reservoir of good feeling from the non-white delegates.

The Evening Patriot MAGAZINE and Colored Comics At All Newsstands. The sultry French actress, who, in a few short years became a world-wide symbol for the pouting, ruffled, sex-kitten look, is now 30. What's next? Bernard Kaplan attempts an answer in a feature from Paris—appearing in your Weekend Magazine.