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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."

PAGE 4 WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1950

Election Strategy

The Provincial general election campaign is becoming a battle of records. Liberals are pointing to the accomplishments of the Matheson administration and promising that the various projects will be continued and expanded.

Progressive Conservatives are placing great emphasis on the change in attitude by Ottawa towards the Atlantic Provinces and Prince Edward Island in particular since the Conservatives came to power.

The Hon. Angus MacLean has been a particularly effective spokesman for this theme because his own appointment as Minister of Fisheries represents a departure from the previous government's practice of either having no cabinet minister from this province or of merely finding a safe seat here for a minister who needed it.

There are no serious conflicts of principle between the parties, except possibly over the way in which the pay of teachers should be handled. Walter Shaw has undertaken to pay all teachers' supplements from Provincial revenues; while the Liberals propose to go further with the policy of paying equalization grants which are intended largely to enable districts with relatively low tax resources to pay a supplement equal to that offered by wealthier districts.

Progressive Conservative attention seems to be directed to problems of agriculture to a greater degree than is Liberal comment. That is natural enough where the leader is a specialist in agricultural problems and he has no colleagues who have yet had the opportunity of exercising their talents in the many and varied fields of modern government.

Advances In Eye Surgery

Corneal grafting, to preserve or restore sight, is generally looked upon as a very modern operation; but in fact the first successful corneal graft was performed as long ago as 1835 by an Irishman, S.L. Bigger. Speaking in a series of talks called "The Surgeon" broadcast in the BBC's General Overseas Service, Professor George I. Scott, who is professor of ophthalmology at Edinburgh University, explained how Bigger, while a prisoner of a wandering tribe of Arabs, operated upon a pet gazelle blinded by a corneal wound, by transplanting the cornea from another gazelle which had recently died. Ten days later his pet could see and the cornea remained clear.

"Forty years were to elapse", Professor Scott said, "before the real importance of this pioneer operation was to be recognized by Henry Power in London—that to be successful the donor material must be taken from an animal of the same species; only human cornea can be used for man. During recent years the technique of corneal grafting has reached nearer and nearer to perfection mainly because we now have instruments of great precision which were not available to our fathers".

Professor Scott went on to speak of advances in surgery for the removal of cataract. Removal of a cataract lens from within the eye had first been described by Daviel, eye surgeon to King Louis XV of France, he said, but in his operation the cataract had had to be left to mature before it could be removed, by which time the patient was almost blind. The method used today enabled the operation to be performed as soon as the patient was unable to carry out his normal occupation. In Britain, cataract accounted for more than forty per cent of blindness in those over seventy years, and in a world containing an increasing number of elderly people, more and more would require the operation. Great changes in post-operative management made old age itself no bar to the operation.

bed on the day after operation and out of hospital within fourteen days. The operation for removal of cataract, although the most difficult of all eye operations to perform, had now reached the stage that, in the hands of a competent surgeon, ninety per cent of operations were completely successful.

Provincial Flower Show

This is the second day of the Provincial Flower Show at Summerside and it can well be seen that the experts were right who have stated that Prince Edward Island is the best place in Canada for many types of flowers.

For the eighth year in succession the Abegweit chapter of the I.O.D.E. has sponsored the show. The chapter deserves great credit for giving this opportunity for Island flower growers to display their choice blooms and for the public to enjoy seeing them.

Although this Island is so favoured by nature in flower growing, Canadians everywhere are also enthusiastic. Last year the people of this country spent nearly a million and a half dollars on flower-bulbs from the Netherlands, placing us amongst the highest per capita importers in the world.

We thus shared in one of the oldest and most lucrative branches of Dutch agriculture, which now employs some 9,000 farmers on 20,000 acres of land.

Canadian purchases of tulips, daffodils, hyacinths, lilies, dahlias, and other types of bulbs have been increasing over the years. This is partly from the increase in the Canadian population and living standards, but also from the new Dutch production and selling techniques.

While Prince Edward Island has contributed heavily to this Dutch industry, and will no doubt contribute more in the near future, it is worth considering whether we should not also be on the selling end.

Bermuda has made an industry for itself by supplying lilies to the United States market, as the Netherlands have on a much larger scale. This Province might well become the source of supply of particular varieties of flowers which do exceptionally well here. At any rate it would be worth looking into. Anyone with half an eye can see that the product would be equal to the best.

Deficiency Payments

We cannot agree with the Letter Review that the Government at Ottawa is heading for serious trouble with deficiency payments for hogs.

There is sound reason behind drawing a line between independent farmers and large producers. The farmer, if he is a good farmer, will produce on a fairly stable basis, year after year and the deficiency payment will help to keep him in business over a series of bad years.

There is practically no limit to the increase in production by large-scale breeders, however, if they can be guaranteed a margin of profit. A general price support policy would probably involve us in all the grief that the Letter Review foreshadows.

It might seriously disrupt world markets. It might worry United States and induce them to seek retaliatory measures. It might stop Canada from effectively protesting against American dumping of surplus production on world markets.

The deficiency payment scheme, on the contrary, will certainly not result in great overproduction year after year. On the contrary, it will give stability to both production and markets because there can be no years when prices fall so low that the farmer generally will get out of swine production. Such a development would, of course, result in a sudden climb in price, followed in turn by another spurt of high production and tumbling prices.

The deficiency payment plan means that the farmer will be able to go about his business of raising the best pigs he knows how, on the most economical scale for his own facilities, and will be in pocket in the long run.

EDITORIAL NOTES

A second Canadian Conference on Education is being planned, probably in 1962. The February, 1958 conference was successful in enlisting the interests of groups representing business, industry, labour, veterans and women's organizations as well as those specifically linked with education. The new conference should have a firm foundation of public support on which to base its efforts to determine what education is and should be.



HORNET'S NEST AT THE PICNIC

OTTAWA REPORT

New Cabinet Members

By Patrick Nicholson

"Well, your batting average was good on that," smiled Prime Minister John Diefenbaker, greeting about twenty waiting journalists as he ended speculation by leading his two newly-appointed Cabinet colleagues to Government House last Wednesday.

Speculation had pinpointed Toronto's David Walker as the probable new Minister of Public Works. He was the Cabinet's most brilliant available reinforcement. Considered by his fellow-lawyers as one of Ontario's leading counsel, his natural post would be as Minister of Justice—if that were vacant. This would be justified on professional grounds, and also so that his high qualities could be placed more generally at the service of the Prime Minister.

The new minister from the province of Quebec had been less unanimously foreseen as Montreal's Pierre Sevigny. Noel Doino was favoured by some tipsters, not without grounds. Colonel Sevigny's portfolio as Associate Minister of National Defence surprised many here, although his gallant war record and his Quebec origin make him a political natural for that department.

PUBLIC FORUM

THE COMING ELECTION

Sir.—While we are not being entertained as in oldtime pre-election activities, by joint public meetings with their acrimonious and sometimes offensive repartees, nevertheless we have our ears assailed, with claims and counter-claims, affirmations and denials, from T.V., radio and Press. It should trouble everyone whose mental processes are not dependent on such pressures to consider first what is best for P. E. Island in general and next his or her own county in that order before casting a vote.

In the past our revenues have derived from two sources,—the soil and the sea. We were confined to these essential but prosaic activities by the lack of natural endowments. We had, neither minerals nor oil; we were and still are considered the poor relative in this group of federated provinces called Canada.

We have agitated and begged our representatives, under both Liberal and Conservative regimes to strive without ceasing to impress the powers at Ottawa of the imperative and immediate need for a Causeway. We must be fair and state that the project was first advanced by Mr. Neil Matheson and later endorsed by the present Premier Hon. Alex Matheson.

However there was dissent in their ranks, in both Kings and Prince Counties, re the practicability of the proposal, with the result that the lack of unanimity gave Ottawa a good excuse for ignoring it. We have now placed our trust in the new Conservative regime to present our case with positivity, clarity and incisiveness. We have every reason to hope for unanimity in our representation, and for consequent and prompt results.

Under the terms of Confederation we were promised uninterrupted communication with the mainland. In this modern age, uninterrupted communication does not mean sitting for hours on end waiting for passage in one of the boats. Hon. Mr. Harkness and his good wife could tell us something about this type of annoyance.

Eyes Never Really Rest

By Herman N. Sundeen, M. D. EVEN while you're asleep, your eyes don't relax completely. You use your eyes while working. You use them while you are relaxing during leisure hours. You use them, to a degree, even in complete darkness when you can't see a thing.

NEED GOOD CARE

Since they get so little rest, it is obvious that your eyes need good care and frequent checkups. Just think back over yesterday and how you used your eyes more than any other portion of your body. Unless you managed to calm your way to or from work, your eyes were busy from the moment you got up.

ALWAYS BUSY

While the rest of your body was relaxing as you watched television following the evening meal, your eyes were busy carrying every moment on the TV screen to your brain. Even while you ate, your eyes were as busy as ever.

OBSERVED IN DARKNESS

In a recent series of tests, the pupils of 453 persons were observed in the dark under infrared radiation. Each subject had spent 15 minutes in the dark to give his eyes time to adapt to the situation.

The tests showed that their pupils were not completely at rest, but made very fine contractions from time to time. Of possibly even more interest is another test in which the eye movements of some 70 persons were observed while they were asleep. Small electrodes were attached to their eyelids and scientists stood by to observe them.

Occasionally the scientists awakened the subjects and questioned them. They found that the individuals in this group dreamed as long as two hours during the night.

EYES MOVED

During these dreams, the subjects' eyes moved as though watching scenes on a screen. When they dreamed of climbing and other vertical action, their eyes moved up and down. Dreams of horizontal scenes brought sidewise movements and when the subjects dreamed they were viewing something far away their eyes were fixed in the gaze position.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

A Reader: Is it always advisable to have piles removed surgically and if neglected, do piles become cancerous? Answer: If causing symptoms such as pain and bleeding, hemorrhoids (piles) may sometimes be successfully treated by injections. In many cases surgery is the best and surest form of treatment.

Piles do not, as a rule, become cancerous, but a careful examination for cancer higher up must always be made in every case of rectal bleeding.

OUR YESTERDAYS

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

(August 26, 1934) While assisting in the transfer of a ferris wheel from the Midway to the railway station early Saturday morning, Mr. Joseph Kenslow received severe injuries which necessitated his removal to the P.E.I. Hospital. Mr. Kenslow fell from the top of the truck and several pieces of equipment dropped upon him.

Representing the Summerside Golf Club at the Senior Golf Meet being held at Digby, N.S. this week were Messrs R.C. Holman, H.T. Holman, J. Leroy Holman and W.J. Witney. They left on Saturday morning and intend to call at Port Egin, N.B. enroute.

TEN YEARS AGO

(August 26, 1949) Before a distinguished company in the Confederation Chamber yesterday afternoon, an historic ceremony marked the unveiling of three bronze plaques under the auspices of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada. The plaques commemorated the lives and works of Sir Louis H. Davies, Sir Joseph Pope and Robert Harris, C.M.G., R.C.A.

It was announced yesterday by Mr. A.S. Hopkins, chairman of the essay committee of the Summerside Board of Trade that Miss Carmela Arsenault, Grade 9 of the Dalton School, Fighish, was the winner of the first prize of \$50.00 for the best essay entitled "Canadian Heritage" sponsored by the Board.

MAXIMS

It is a great blunder in the pursuit of happiness not to know when we have it.

been as a result, able to not only agree with us, but to present our case before the Government and the Legislature, that the representatives of the rural population also are in agreement.

We must not forget also, that the Hon. B. Earle MacDonald, acting for the Minister during his unfortunate absence from the last session of the House, got for us some of the most important statutes, which now appear on the statute books for the Department.

Management, organized workers, and the unorganized workers should make a long and careful study in this regard, so that decisions will not be made which might be regretted.

I am, Sir, etc.

AL MACLEAN Labour Representative, Canadian Brotherhood of Railway, Transport, and General Workers.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The man down the street says he doesn't mind being nagged around the house; it's the constructive criticism he can't stand.—Calgary Herald.

Testifying before the Senate finance committee, Mr. James E. Coyne, governor of the Bank of Canada, stated that wages had gone up more than prices. He suggested, however, that the argument would be endless between those who said that higher wages cause higher prices and those who said that the demand for higher wages is provoked by higher prices. In short, "what came first, the chicken or the egg?"—Financial Times.

New Zealand has conducted a carefully controlled experiment into the effect of fluoridated water on children's teeth. It has shown fluoridation to be spectacularly effective in preventing decay. To give only one of the somewhat startling statistics: decay in the permanent teeth of children aged six, seven and eight has been reduced by 60 per cent, 53 per cent and 32 per cent respectively. The younger children, whose teeth were formed during the period of fluoridation, show the greatest improvement.—Vancouver Province.

The Age Old Story

If two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of My Father which is in heaven.

The Poets Corner

AFTER THE TIGER HEAT After the Tiger heat, Day after day with unremitting heat,— Night after night sleepless in its throes, And the humidity that clings like clothes (!),—

After the heat, and the long prayed-for rain To cool the rabid air—again. As we shiver in unwonted chill — — — Suddenly we love the sun!

Great Orb, ten months we love your rays. We seek and greet your face with praise. —But please remember To temper Your fierce fiery blaze In July and August days. And, even in Equinoctial September!

Yes, usually we love the sun. —But O Sole Mio, it can be overdone!

—Christine L. Henderson in the Christian Science Monitor

FRANKLY SPEAKING

by Freedom

At the last Federal-Provincial conference held in Ottawa, all the provinces, and that means Prince Edward Island too, were told that they would not get any more money from the federal treasury until the country was able to reduce its deficit and show a surplus. Finance Minister Fleming was the man who made this announcement.

And did you know that the Ottawa government long before, and ever since the conference has been and still is showing a monthly deficit of many millions of dollars?

Mr. Bell, the leader of the Opposition at the last session of the Legislature said, "We are getting to the point where we are liable to be told by Ottawa that we are getting as much as they can give and if we can't run our own affairs, they will send someone down to run them for us".

Perhaps Mr. Bell was allowed to gaze into the Ottawa crystal ball for a little while when he made that statement in the House.

And did you know that in spite of this information that is now on record at Ottawa and is well-known to the leader of the Party here, Mr. Shaw persists in telling the people that he is going to get money from Ottawa to pay teachers' supplements?

Did you ever think what this would cost the federal treasury if Quebec and Ontario, or, for that matter all the other provinces, were to insist on the same thing . . . Do you think they would get it?

Mr. Bell, who we believe was speaking for his Party during the last session of the House seems to think the province has enough or too much pavement. He said, "I am afraid we will soon have to call a halt, because everyone knows that paved highways are very costly to maintain." (Adv.)

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