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A Strange Thing

A curious thing about human nature is its predilection for bad news. At least, that is what one is forced to conclude from the prominence accorded strife and turmoil...

Take, for example, the stir in certain places in the Southern States over integration of the schools. The headlines proclaim violence and lawlessness at Little Rock and a few other places...

In many of these places—perhaps in all of them—the idea is not particularly liked. But sane people, realizing that integration was inevitable sooner or later, have submitted to court rulings and, in some instances, have taken it upon themselves without waiting for a court order...

Again, consider the racial disturbances in one or two English cities. Here, too, it is the hot-headed, fascist-led troublemakers who have been accorded prominence, while the districts where Negroes and whites mingle freely without friction of any serious kind are practically left out of the news...

Perhaps we would do well to dramatize peace and good order a little more than we have been in the habit of doing. But then, perhaps, nobody would bother to read the news. It's a strange thing, isn't it?

Junior Red Cross

Last year members of the Canadian Junior Red Cross contributed pennies, nickels and dimes to the amount of \$50,863 for the Fund for International Help and Understanding...

The money was used to purchase such things as sewing machines and carpentry tools for youngsters in Ceylon; laboratory equipment for 22 schools in Korea; and occupational therapy equipment for crippled children in various other countries.

Back in 1955, a recent report notes Canadian Junior Red Cross groups provided a number of farm animals, farm equipment and housing materials for a community of orphaned boys in Korea. Today these boys are practically self-sufficient with a thriving productive farm that is growing all the time.

This is the time of year with the schools just opening, that Junior Red Cross branches are preparing for new service and enrolling new members. It is estimated that from Newfoundland to British Columbia during the first two weeks of September more than 1 1/2 million students will have enrolled in 39,000 branches.

Thus does Red Cross go forward in one of its important branches of humanitarian service and in promoting international goodwill.

Radiation Precautions

Concerned with public misapprehensions in regard to radiation x-ray programs, the medical section of the Ontario Tuberculosis Association formed a special study committee last year to explore the situation.

As reported in the bulletin of the College of General Practice, their conclusions are, that chest x-rays are in-

dispensable in the diagnosis and treatment of chest diseases. In the past ten years sixty percent of the active pulmonary tuberculosis cases were uncovered in the minimal stage.

Mass surveys have been the means of protecting large numbers of people from becoming infected and developing active clinical tuberculosis disease.

It is recognized, however, that every effort should be made to eliminate unnecessary radiation. Modern chest x-ray techniques can reduce the radiation dose to an extremely low level. The average annual dose represents less than 1-25,000th of the thirty-year cumulative dose recognized as a reasonable upper limit.

All mass survey x-ray machines were found to have been properly equipped to eliminate unnecessary radiation, as were all miniature x-ray units in health centres and hospitals.

The conclusion is, therefore, that as tuberculosis continues to be a major public problem, chest x-ray programs should be continued. As a general policy, however, in the absence of specific reasons, such examination is seldom indicated more often than once every two years. A number of particular classifications are mentioned where more frequent x-ray is justified.

Existing Services

Whatever political faults Mr. J. W. Pickersgill, member of Parliament for Bonavista-Twillingate, may have, there is no denying that he is an able spokesman for Newfoundland in the Opposition. He never misses an opportunity to state why, in his opinion, his Province should receive special favours from Ottawa under the terms of confederation. However, there are times when he carries his arguments a little too far.

For instance, in urging the Federal Cabinet to make an interim payment to Newfoundland of \$8 million, pending further study of the MacNair Commissions report, Mr. Pickersgill said that "it's no use claiming that Newfoundland can get along under grants made to all the Atlantic Provinces, because the other Provinces are using their grants for improvements, while Newfoundland needs them to maintain existing services".

We cannot say exactly what the position is in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. But as far as this Province is concerned, it certainly needs the Federal grants to "maintain existing services" and to meet current expenses from month to month. In fact, we feel free to say that, without these grants, the Province would not be able to honour its existing commitments for very long, let alone embark on new and expensive projects. Furthermore, we rather suspect that the other two Maritime Provinces are in a somewhat similar situation.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Cancer campaign officials are preparing for the annual canvass for funds. As hitherto, our people can be expected to respond generously. Nothing is more important in the whole field of public health.

Congratulations to Sir Winston and Lady Churchill on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary which they celebrated recently at Nice, France, where Sir Winston spends most of his time these days.

For the first time in its history as a State, Maine has elected a Democratic Senator, former Governor Muskie having defeated the Republican incumbent Frederick G. Payne by a substantial majority. It certainly gives the Democrats a renewed hope to carry the nation in the November national elections.

The Charlottetown City Council having approved fluoridation of the city's drinking water, it now remains for the Water Commissioners to make plans for implementing this public health measure. It will cost some \$2,500 a year, but if the system is as valuable as health authorities believe it to be, the money will be well spent indeed.

There is only one iron bridge left in the United States. It crosses the Walloomsa River at Bennington, Vt. It is 30 feet long. The Smithsonian Institution has suggested that it be put on display at an engineering exhibition planned for 1960. Around the turn of the century there were hundreds of such bridges around the country.



BUSY STREET

OTTAWA REPORT

Divorce By Parliament

By Patrick Nicholson, Special Correspondent For The Guardian

Ottawa — Big Bob McCleave, the Conservative M.P. from Halifax, had the last word to say on the always contentious subject of divorce-by-Parliament.

"Kangaroo justice; kangaroo courts," he exclaimed, as he left the Commons Chamber in disgust at the end of the last Private Members hour available for consideration of the victimized spouses' pleas for relief.

Bob McCleave's complaint was that Arnold Peters, C.C.F. member from Kirkland Lake, was deliberately "talking out" one divorce case. Mr. Peters ignored interjected requests by George McLaughlin, Liberal from Ottawa, and Bob McCleave that, having expressed his own opinion, he should not take the law into his own hands by filibustering, but should cease his speech and leave the House of Commons time to vote on whether or not the divorce should be granted.

"I am not saying I am opposed to it, but I have some more remarks which I would like to make at the next sitting," responded argumentative Arnold Peters, everyone else in the Chamber knew that was the final day, and there would not be a next sitting.

SUPREMACY MILL. Three hundred and twenty-five applications for divorce were heard in the past session of parliament. Six of these were rejected by the Senate; one was "talked out" in the Commons; all the rest were granted. Apart

Parliamentary Committees

By Dave McIntosh, Canadian Press

It is many years since commons committees have made as big a splash as they have at this session of Parliament.

In the past, committees have dug up a lot of new facts through questioning of witnesses. But they have seldom employed these facts to make strong criticisms of and recommendations to government departments.

This is largely due to the committee system itself. The party in office has a majority on committees just as it has in the Commons itself. And it usually is not considered politically astute to bite the hand that helped elect you an MP in the first place.

Consequently, it is not likely that the Progressive Conservative members on the public accounts committee would have delved into the construction costs of the national printing bureau with such relish if this construction program had been undertaken by a Conservative instead of a Liberal administration.

On the other hand, political considerations didn't seem to stay the hand hard on the estimates committee.

It had a big majority of Conservative members as well as these members for the most part offered far more telling criticisms of the defence and defence production departments than opposition MPs.

The estimates committee seldom, if ever, made reference to the fact that it was inquiring into policies put into force for the most part by the former Liberal government. It simply let fly.

Less than a month after the committee recommended more integration of the ancillary branches of the armed forces, Defence Minister Peakes announced unification of the medical and chaplain services.

The defence department had already had such action under consideration but there seems little doubt that the committee lit a fire under it.

MOST CRUCIAL ISSUE. The committee also tackled the most crucial issue facing the government today: whether to order into production the super-sonic CF-105 interceptor at an estimated three-year cost of some

Sleep Has Many Stages

By Herman N. Bundesen, M.D.

"I WAS so tired last night that I fell asleep as soon as my head touched the pillow."

Most of you, I dare say, have made this statement to friends a one time or another. Yet I doubt that it was quite accurate. Even without intending to, you probably exaggerated a bit. SLEEP IS GRADUAL.

Sleep as a rule, just doesn't come that suddenly. In fact, it comes gradually and varies in depth. Besides, all of your body doesn't fall asleep at the same time.

Sleep actually consists of eight different levels. It ranges from the relaxed, yet wide-awake level to a very deep sleep. Generally, we say a person is asleep when he reaches the sixth level, although real sleep may come toward the lower part of the fifth level.

DREAMY STATE. The fifth level is a dreamlike state in which the sleeper is easily awakened. The sixth level is classified as "light sleep."

Your various organs and senses fall asleep at different times, first one and then another. As for the organs, the large muscles of the back, legs and arms quiet down first. Then the smaller muscles, such as those of the hands and feet, go to sleep. Finally, the smallest muscles, the eyeballs, lips and eyelids, become quiet.

The senses also fall asleep in turn with the power to effect conscious movement, the sense of smell being the first to relax. Then vision, hearing and the sense of touch go to sleep in that order.

What causes us to sleep at all has been quite a mystery to doctors for a long time. One theory is that the brain, or perhaps only a limited area of it, suffers a reduction in the blood supply.

IT EXPLAINS WHY. If this is true, it would help explain why we feel sleepy after a large meal (blood is diverted from the brain to aid the digestive process) and why we become drowsy in front of a fire or in a tub of warm water (blood again is diverted to fill blood vessels expanded by the heat).

There has been much talk recently about whether a person can learn anything while asleep. Some investigators report that perhaps some knowledge can be gained with special teaching procedures while a person is in a drowsy state, but that learning while in a deep sleep is practically impossible.

QUESTION AND ANSWER. B.S.T.: I am 67 and have recently lost my sense of taste and smell. What can I do? Answer: It is not uncommon for people to lose their sense of taste and smell as they become older. In most cases this loss is permanent and it is not possible to correct it.

HURRICANES

National Geographic News

In a single second, a typical hurricane releases more energy than several atomic bombs. In less than an hour, it expends more energy than 50 years' production of electric power in the United States.

In a day, a hurricane can lift two billion tons of water from the ocean and hurl them back on land and sea as torrential rains. Packing a force of a half-trillion horsepower, it can scythe a path of death and destruction 500 miles broad.

For all its terrible strength, a hurricane is born of little but warm, moist air caught in a calm in the tropics and given a twist to set it spinning. Gradually it becomes a large revolving storm, accompanied by violent winds, heavy rains, and high waves and tides.

FAVOR SEPTEMBER. The same type of storm is called a "typhoon" in the China Sea, a "baguio" in the Philippines, and a "cyclone" in the Bay of Bengal, the National Geographic Society says.

Hurricanes may form at any time of year, but most come in August, September and October. More than a third of all hurricanes since 1877 have occurred in September. In an average year, two tropical storms bring hurricane force winds to the Atlantic Seaboard and the Gulf Coast.

The United States Weather Bureau can predict with increasing precision the areas likely to be hardest hit by a hurricane. The value of warning was pointed up by two hurricanes that passed over Lake Okechobee in Southern Florida. The first struck in 1928 before the Joint Hurricane Warning System had been set up. Deaths totaled 1,836. The second — with equal winds — followed virtually the same path, but killed only two persons. The chief difference was a warning that gave people time to evacuate.

Scientists have not yet devised a way to stop or divert a hurricane, but researchers have learned how to manufacture miniature cyclonic storms in the laboratory. By studying these pin-sized hurricanes, scientists hope to learn more about how a hurricane develops and behaves. Knowledge gained in this and other researches — such as radar tracking and flying into the actual storms — should lead to even more accurate prediction and perhaps, some day, to control.

BLOWN OFF TRACKS. Weathermen already know that hurricanes usually move from low to higher latitudes with increasing speed, size, and intensity. Winds of hurricane tope trece, bowl over houses, and even blow trains off their tracks. But the storm takes its greatest toll by drowning. As the hurricane moves forward, it may pile up enormous waves which cover low-lying beaches and islands.

MAXIMS

After you have sought over the wide world, you learn that happiness is to be found only in your own home.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Auditor General Watson Sellars is quite right in saying that the Public Accounts blue-book is too bulky—but think of how much fun Ottawa people would have if they couldn't look in it and find out the salaries of their Civil Service friends and neighbors!—Ottawa Journal

American Senator Warren Magnuson, Democrat from Washington State, wants the U. S. to "go fast" to claim Arctic sovereignty before Russia does. It is obvious that Canada must move fast to reassert its claims. Sen. Magnuson, chairman of the important Senate committee on interstate and foreign commerce, told the Senate that Arctic "is still a virgin international sovereignty field practically." In a whole discussion approving American construction of a nuclear powered ice breaker for the Arctic, Canada's historic rights and claims were totally ignored. There was even talk of establishing American colonies in the Arctic to help maintain an American stake in the territory.—Vancouver Sun

OUR YESTERDAYS (From The Guardian Files)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (Sept. 12, 1933)

A bad fire which threatened to burn the village of O'Leary broke out about 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon and destroyed the farm dwelling, large barn and other out-buildings of Mrs. Irving Johnson, besides a barn belonging to Mr. Herbert Jelly. The furniture and machinery were saved, but the entire crop and new harvest, besides a large number of hens and two pigs, were lost in the fire. Several residences in the village were set on fire by the sparks but were extinguished in time.

A delegation of citizens came before the School Board last evening, asking that the boys be allowed to continue to attend Prince Street School, and that a new room be opened to accommodate the increased number of pupils attending the school. After discussion it was decided to open a new room in Prince Street School, and that a male teacher be appointed.

TEN YEARS AGO (Sept. 12, 1948)

At Cavendish yesterday, His Honour Lieutenant Governor J. A. Bernard decorated two Island citizens, Mr. Donald MacDonald of Glenfinnan and F.O. James Harry Waugh, D.F.M. of Wilmot Valley. The citations were read by Lieut. R.C. MacMillan, D.S.C. aide-de-camp to His Honour. Mr. MacDonald received the M.B.E. and F.O. Waugh received the D.F.C.

The new electric line from Charlottetown to Montague was completed recently by a crew of the Maritime Electric Company. The line is carrying 11,000 volts until it enters the town of Montague via MacDonald Avenue where it is reduced to 2200 volts and then to 220 and 110 for house use.

The Age Old Story

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