

Khrushchev's Proposal

Premier Khrushchev's call for a summit meeting on disarmament has not stirred up any great enthusiasm on the part of the leading Western powers. This is understandable, since it is likely to be more of a political move than a gesture indicative of any real desire to come to terms on the issues involved.

Moscow's tactics to date haven't offered much encouragement on this score. Time and again it has backed away from test-ban agreements that appeared near fruition. Last month the West proposed that the deadlocked Big Three negotiations on this subject be merged with negotiations on general disarmament scheduled to begin March 14 at Geneva.

The Quebec bill to limit election expenses and provide campaign assistance from the treasury has now been introduced by Premier Lesage. Since the Liberals nationally have indicated an intention of adopting a policy of this kind, the proceedings in the Quebec Legislature in passing the measure will be followed with more than usual interest.

Under the proposed bill, the Quebec government would contribute 15 cents for every listed voter in a county to all candidates obtaining a minimum 20 per cent of the vote. Candidates' expenses would be limited to 50 cents for each voter in all ridings except three in which the population is widely scattered, where higher contributions and higher limits would apply.

Whether that's what Mr. Khrushchev wants is another question. Reactions from neutral countries generally to his proposal have been favorable, and that may be really all that he was after in the first place.

U.S. State Secretary Rusk has now intimated, in accord with President Kennedy's stand that there must be adequate advance preparations for a summit meeting to ensure some measure of success, that the present time is inopportune. His statement leaves the way open for such talks later. The Geneva group is to report to the United Nations on June 1, and by that time, perhaps, some concrete progress toward translating general principles into a concrete program will have been achieved.

As the Globe and Mail points out, Mr. Lesage is tackling a problem which has been aggravated by the unorthodox politics of his own province. However, concern at the mounting costs of elections is shared by all Canadians. The 1958 general election cost the federal treasury \$9,553,515, and it is estimated that the major political parties spent an even greater amount. It is questionable if the results would have been a lot different had the parties spent only half as much. But without a limit, no party is willing to curtail its spending.

The 1958 general election cost the treasury over nine and a half million dollars and it is estimated that on this occasion, due to increase in the number of electors and other factors, there will be a boost of more than a million dollars over that figure. Failure to provide for this amount, however, doesn't mean very much, since the government can take it from the

consolidated revenue fund at any time, without getting parliamentary consent for the spending. So, the prognosticators are back where they started in their speculations, and the MPs, doubtless, will keep electoral matters well to the fore in debating the estimates in committee.

We are the only Province, it appears, for which no expenditures for new public buildings are slated. However, works projects totalling more than a million dollars are planned for our requirements, the largest single item being a vote of \$470,000 for the completion of harbor repairs at Wood Islands. This is another in the long list of expenditures required to maintain our transportation links with the mainland.

Included in our estimates and those of New Brunswick is an expenditure for opening a test quarry to determine the availability of a suitable type of rock fill for the proposed PEL-NB causeway. We were under the impression that the availability of such material had already been demonstrated in earlier tests, and that the concern now was with ice hazards and matters of that kind. Why the opening of a test quarry was left to this late date we don't know; but when this item comes up for discussion it is to be hoped that we shall obtain, from the Works Minister, a complete explanation of all the activities going on. We quoted recently some interesting details from a Toronto engineering publication in this connection, but surely Parliament is the place where such information should first be given.

As noted in the Canadian Press despatch, the estimates tabled on this occasion are just the beginning for the 1962-63 fiscal year. Costs of enlarged old age pensions and supplementary outlays will boost the overall figure by some hundreds of millions over last year's expenditures. We shall know more about this, and about how the bills are to be paid, when the Budget comes down. But it is still anybody's guess whether that will take place before or after the electors go to the polls.

Campaign Expenses

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Premier Lesage reasons that election campaigns may be kept within reasonable cost limits if every party is subject to the same ceiling on expenditure. He believes that when a proportion of the election fund is supplied by the government, a candidate is not forced to seek substantial help from private sources, and therefore will be under no obligation to seek government favors for his financial backers.

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EDITORIAL NOTES

The Consumer Association of Canada Bulletin reports the first children's clothes in "Canada Standard Sizes" are coming on the market. Under the new system size tags will show hip, waist or chest measurements the garment will fit. Until now they have carried numbers corresponding, in theory, to the age of the child they are meant to fit.



... TO TALK OF MANY THINGS

THE SINGLE NATION

Compact Theory An Old Fallacy

Winnipeg Free Press

That old Canadian fiction, the "compact" theory of Confederation, reaches its final reductio ad absurdum in the latest pro-nationism from the New Democratic party of Quebec. The nation's constitution, we are asked to believe, is not, as some Quebec nationalists contend, a compact between the four original provinces, unalterable with out their unanimous consent; it is a pact between two "nations," Quebec and the other provinces combined.

Of course Canada is neither a compact, nor a pact, nor two nations. It is, and was from its beginning in 1867, one indivisible nation. The architects of Confederation never conceived of it as anything else and that,

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. All letters published are subject to editing and condensation where necessary. The Guardian is unable to enter into any correspondence regarding letters submitted.

JAILS AND ALCOHOLICS

Sir, — I think we are getting away from the topic in question when we start quoting about what goes on at P.W.C. and rocking chairs in jails. I certainly can see that those comforts are not necessary but it is just a question of plain ordinary cleanliness.

I would say the biggest problem is, the restoration of those men back to a better life, and I certainly can't see it done by shoving an alcoholic back into jail every time he appears on our streets with a drink. That is their weakness and no doubt a serious sickness and jail is undoubtedly not the answer.

There are institutions for all other disabled people and why not for the alcoholic. Some people should hear that song entitled, "Those men with broken hearts." It says "Help your brother along the road of despair for the God who made you made him too." What is more pitiful than the alcoholic and the family who watches him and no way of helping them. So let us get to the real problem and see if something can't be done with those people who have no comeback. Those men with broken hearts.

I am, Sir, etc. READER. Charlottetown.

SEEKS PEN FRIENDS

Sir, — I am writing to ask you a very great favour: it is could you somehow find me a pen friend in your lovely island. I am an invalid who has polio and am pretty well fast in my home most of the time; I'm not young (but 40). A few years ago when I was unable to go out at all after an accident, I took up philately as a hobby. This enabled me to see, through the views, etc. that are on stamps, parts of the world that I know I will never see, and it has made me understand things more. Gardening is another hobby, and when able, make my own clothes. I also read a lot, mostly during the night, when I cannot sleep.

I understand that your Island is "Canada's Garden Province," so it must be a really lovely place. How I would love to be able to see it, but this won't ever be possible, I know. You even have a town named Southport, which is the same name as my home town. So please will you try and help me find a pen friend. Thank you for reading this and may I extend my good wishes to you and all Prince Edward Island for 1962.

Yours sincerely, (MISS) PHYLLIS M. LOCKETT, Doris, 13 Turning Lane, Southport, Lancashire, England

mainly, was why a decade and more of controversy preceded its construction. The original provinces of Upper Canada, Lower Canada, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia thought a long time about entering a new union because they knew that, once in it, they could not withdraw. That assumption was quickly confirmed when Nova Scotia tried to withdraw and failed.

Nevertheless, the Quebec wing of the New Democratic party, denying all past history and all present reality, insists that a French Canadian "nation" has a right to self-determination, the right to decide under what conditions it will participate in Confederation and hence the right to leave it.

CURRENT SCHISM

The current schism and the future fortunes of a splinter party are of little concern to the Canadian people but the old fallacy, now raised in a new form, touches questions much more important than the political manoeuvres of Canadian socialism. It touches the ancient relationship between French-speaking and English-speaking Canada, constitutionally one body but two bodies of culture and language.

This relationship, always lying close to the core of Canadian citizenship and now happier than it has ever been, is currently questioned by various Quebec pressures, vaguely called "separatism" which have reappeared at pretty regular intervals under various labels.

Only a small fraction of the French Canadian peoples has

ever believed or can believe today that their separate language and culture could long survive separately, outside the Canadian state. The great majority knows and has always known that Quebec, attempting to stand alone, would soon be swallowed and its distinctive life overwhelmed in the broad sea of North American culture.

Through this prospect is impractical and intolerable to most French Canadians, it would be unfortunate if the public mind in Quebec and elsewhere were confused by any revival of the compact, or by the new party theory. It would be especially unfortunate if the French Canadian people assumed that the opposite theory and established fact of a single nation was enforced solely by English-speaking Canadians for their own purposes.

The record shows, on the contrary, that French Canadians as much as any outside Quebec contributed to the creation of a single nation and maintained it intact, often under extreme difficulty. The compact theory was always nonsense. The sensible people of Quebec may well have grievances that deserve real redress and they must always be treated with utmost consideration by their equal partners throughout Canada. But, being sensible, they will not be impressed by this latest attempt to misconceive the constitution and misrepresent the history of a bold experiment and a proved success, almost unique in the contemporary world.

The Spy Exchange

By Harold Morrison Canadian Press Staff Writer

By HAROLD MORRISON The Soviet American spy swap appears to be an indication of a temporary thaw in the cold war which the Americans are studying with a rather cold-fish approach, fearing it may contain a booby trap.

The initial excitement generated by the sudden announcement that Russia has agreed U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers has given way to new questioning and appraisal.

Has the U.S. obtained the best of the deal? What value was there in getting Powers back if it meant turning over to the Russians their master spy, Col. Rudolf Abel, who apparently operated in the U.S. for more than 11 years before he was uncovered through an informer?

U.S. diplomats say the public generally is glad to see Powers free simply because he is an American. But some congressmen would like to question the 32-year-old pilot and find out how his plane fell into Russian hands almost intact and why he allowed himself to be taken alive.

HOPE GROWS But amid the questioning generated by the Powers-Abel exchange—with the release by East Germany of American student Frederick L. Pryor thrown in — there is growing hope that the spy swap may lead to other exchanges, and that out of these may finally come some concrete decisions reducing tensions and controlling the arms race.

U.S. authorities feel, however, the public should be cautioned not to read too much into the spy exchange. It may tend to seize and enlarge on any token Soviet offer.

Premier Khrushchev may have U.S. public sentiment in mind in announcing he was releasing Powers in the interest of promoting better relations with the U.S. However, as time Khrushchev appears to be less successful than in the past, Americans appear unsatisfied

The Age Old Story

We have the age of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Doctors Probe Reason Night Births Higher

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen WHY ARE most babies born at night? We don't know, unless this is done to make the physician worker harder for his fee. The most frequent onset of childbirth is just after midnight; the least around midday.

A conference on a rhythmic functions in the living system was held in New York City several months ago. A group of Prague physicians said labor beginning before midnight was "shorter and associated with fewer surgical deliveries than those beginning in the morning."

Dr. J.H. Kaiser of the University of Utah and Dr. Franz Halber of the University of Minnesota reported that most babies appear to be born at approximately 3 a.m., and the least number at 4 p.m. They too noted that the time of the onset of labor had something to do with its duration.

Approximately 1,000 persons die annually from electricity. In 1957, for example, 650 were electrocuted at work. It was estimated that 150 involved contact between the booms, cranes, or similar machines and high tension wires. About 120 of the victims were listed as linemen, with another 120 reported as electricians. Among the non-industrial group, 90 died from contact with electrical tools and equipment in the home, 50 from household appliances, and 90 from accidental contact at play.

Vegetables can be cooked in a way to preserve their mineral and vitamin content by braising in a skillet rather than boiling in a pan. The bottom of the skillet is covered with a polyunsaturated vegetable oil (corn, soy or safflower). The vegetables are added and seasoned to taste the skillet is covered tight, and the vegetables are cooked over a low or medium heat for 5 to 10 minutes.

Water absorbs the soluble minerals and vitamins such as C. Discarding the excess water wastes these valuable elements. On the other hand, the fat soluble vitamins are absorbed by the oil, which tends to adhere to the vegetables.

(Dr. Van Dellen will answer questions on medical topics if stamped, self-addressed envelope accompanies request.)

BLOOD GROUP

L. P. writes: Can a person's blood type change? In 1927 I had a severe internal hemorrhage and was packed in ice and given 17 transfusions. These were direct person to person donations and we ran out of blood because of a shortage of this type. I was labeled type 2 but recently I was typed A. Are they the same?

REPLY Yes. At one time, blood categories were designated as types I, II, III, and IV. We now classify blood groups as O, A, B, and AB. Type II is now Group A.

POLYPS AND ALLERGY

J. Z. writes: Would an asthmatic-type of allergy be relieved by having nasal polyps removed?

REPLY No, because the polyps are caused by the same allergy that produces asthma. Removing the polyps will improve breathing temporarily and may influence the asthma if a co-existing nasal infection is eliminated at the same time.

VISUAL NEEDS

R. M. writes: How often should a woman of 60 have her glasses changed? She uses her eyes constantly for close work.

REPLY Whenever she no longer is able to see clearly with her current glasses. If this rule is followed, she may be able to go six months to 10 years between eye examinations.

THYROID AND CHOLESTEROL

R. K. writes: Could a thyroid deficiency be responsible for a high cholesterol count?

REPLY Yes, and have the blood test repeated after the thyroid deficiency is corrected. If the level is down to normal, the thyroid can be blamed.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

These are the days when two can live as cheaply as one large family used to! — Montreal Star.

The Duke de Doudeauville, 92, recently agreed to give up the presidency of the famed Jockey Club to make way for a younger man. The younger man probably will be the Duke de Levis-Mirepoix, who is only 77. — Paris Presse.

In ward off the evil effects of an unfortunate conjunction of planets, holy men in India threw 3,000 pounds of butter into sacred fires. Similar ceremonies here might not prevent disasters but should at least leave the buter surplus. — Ottawa Journal.

Cedimir Radoljevitch of Yugoslavia has claimed the championship for walking backwards. He claims to have walked 25,000 miles backwards during the past 50 years and enjoys seeing where he has been instead of where he is going. — Nachrichten, Innsbruck.

A boy who was home from college was telling his father a little about the wonders of science. "Why," he said, "any good astronomer can tell us almost exactly where any star in the heavens will be at 12 o'clock at night." "That may be," replied the experienced dad, "but I'll bet he can't tell where his teenage-son is at that hour." — Montreal Star.

The United Church Observer has an interesting item about the behavior of delegates at the World Council of Churches conference in New Delhi. Russian delegates criticized their fellow Christians for smoking at the sessions. But while they looked, with disfavor on the humble weed, tobacco, they had no objection to quaffing the fiery vodka brew, which they had in abundant supply, and consuming mounds of the exotic caviar. It's the old story: What is one man's sin is another man's excusable indiscretion. — Toronto Telegram.

Judge L. G. Lewis, Summer- side was re-elected president last night at the P.E.I. Red Cross annual meeting. The meeting was originally scheduled as a dinner meeting at the Charlottetown Hotel, with National President, Mr. Paul Vaillancourt, as principal speaker. However, out of respect to his late Majesty King George Sixth, the dinner was cancelled.

In fairness let it be said that by the time it gets to the United Nations it is no longer a situation, it's a mess. — Brandon Sun.

A thoughtful observer explains that a lame duck is a politician who got his goose cooked. — Hamilton Spectator.

A judge the other day remarked that the average criminal looks the part. We daresay it's hard to keep a straight face if you're crooked. — Galt Reporter.

OUR YESTERDAYS

The Basilea Dramatic Guild presented a delightful light comedy "A Previous Engagement" in Holy Name Hall, last evening. The members of the cast were Miss Clarice MacGuigan, Mr. Louis Smith, Miss Iphigenie Arsenault and Mr. Gordon McWade. The play was under the direction of Mrs. Frank Murray Miss Kathleen Hughes and Mr. Albert Blanchard supplied the musical part of the program.

Bradford Yeo, son of Wyma Yeo, formerly of Reads Corner, won the Silver Medal at a public speaking contest at North Battleford, Sask. recently. His subject was "The Spirit of Canada." The judges complimented the young man upon his address which they considered was of a very high standard.

TEN YEARS AGO

A special "farewell" party will be tendered Miss Anna Mair, at the Y.M.C.A. tonight, as the Superintendent of the Prince Edward Island Hospital retires after 25 years service.

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WITH THIS MAN CAME SECURITY. This man was one of many responsible for more than one billion dollars of Sun Life insurance being sold last year and Sun Life passing the ten billion dollar mark of life insurance in force. Through his diligence, funds that might not otherwise have been available were provided for widows' livelihoods, for retirement incomes, for advanced education and for emergencies. Perhaps this man brought security to you and your family. This man is the Sun Life representative in your community. New Life Insurance Sold In 1961: \$ 1,129,922,229 Total Life Insurance In Force: \$10,185,070,715 Paid to Policyholders and Beneficiaries in 1961: \$ 194,628,661 Assets At December 31st, 1961: \$ 2,480,916,134 Sun Life announces new dividend scales which, for the thirteenth consecutive year, will result in an increase in the total amount to be paid in dividends to its participating policyholders. Over \$45 million will be paid out in the form of dividends in 1962, an increase of more than \$3 1/2 million over the corresponding amount in 1961. A copy of the Sun Life Annual Report for 1961 will be sent to policyholders; copies may also be obtained from any of the 150 offices of the company from coast to coast. H. Bennett Carr District Supervisor, Charlottetown, P. E. I. Sun Life of Canada