

Rebuilding The Alliance

There are hopeful signs that the serious rift between Britain and the U.S. may be on the mend. Rebuilding the alliance, however, will require most careful attention...

Washington, he points out, is discovering that its "cold-shoulder" diplomacy against the British and French—its refusal to even discuss matters with them—has aroused only resentment...

"Belatedly," says the Monitor correspondent, "Washington has begun to realize that its unwillingness to discuss any aspects of the crisis with British or French officials until their troops were beginning to withdraw from Suez has become a virtual severance of diplomatic ties..."

Indeed, the Middle East is the one area where the United States has persistently refused to accept a measure of responsibility proportionate to its power. It was offered the mandate for Palestine before Britain accepted this difficult assignment but it refused to become directly involved...

But basically, on both sides of the Atlantic, there is a realization that more effort to maintain and appreciate the Anglo-American partnership is a fundamental necessity. Diplomats have to look no further than the allegation by Soviet Foreign Minister Shepilov that Britain, France and Israel are ready to attack Syria and Jordan to see that Moscow's plans for stepping up its penetration in the Middle East are formidable...

The fact that NATO meets at Paris on December 11 constitutes a kind of deadline for breaking up the impasse in the Atlantic alliances. Quite probably by that date, official American assistance in relieving Europe's oil shortage will be very much of a reality. By that date, it is hoped, something concrete in the way of long-term planning over Suez will have emerged in Washington...

A resolution condemning Soviet genocide—the attempted destruction of a racial group—in Hungary is being considered for formal presentation in the U.N. General Assembly. Ironically, the United States is one of the few countries which have not ratified the Convention of 1943 which made the practice a crime under the U.N. Charter...

Report On Fluoridation

Parents who look forward to the day when fluoridation of the local water supply will ensure enduring strong, healthy teeth for their children will be encouraged by the latest report of the U.S. Public Health Service. As reprinted in the monthly newsletter of the American Dental Association, the statistics show that one-fourth of the population of the United States is now served with fluoridated water...

The figures indicate that up to October 1, 75 communities which put in fluoridation had later discontinued it. Of these eight had again reverted to fluoridation. By the end of 1955 about half the communities in the United States with populations of more than 500,000 were using fluoridated water...

With the practice becoming so widespread, the New York City health department recently conducted a survey of 93 fluoridated cities to determine whether any legal claims had ever been made charging harm from the water so treated. Not a single claim was reported in the 80 cities which sent replies...

As the New York report says: "This lack of even a claim of harm on the part of over 15 million people who had consumed fluoridated water for from two to 11 years should be particularly reassuring to city administrations concerned with litigation of this type. The finding of this survey also reflects the basic validity of the scientific evidence which has established the safety of water fluoridation through vital statistics, laboratory, epidemiological and clinical study."

EDITORIAL NOTES

In an English city officials have made comfortable accommodations, including heated tree-tops, for starlings in a park especially created for the purpose. The hope is that all this luxury will keep the birds out of the city's thoroughfares. That's appeasement.

A new gimmick has been introduced in press conferences held by Mr. Pearson, the Minister of External Affairs. At a recent meeting with newspapermen Mr. Pearson revealed that his staff had acquired a small, German-made recording device. A tiny microphone is fitted to the Minister's wrist, much like a wrist watch. Wires lead from it to the recorder which is carried in his pocket, and his answers to questions are automatically recorded.

It's understandable that the Federal Government is trying desperately to obtain U.N. consent for the "Magnificent" to sail to Italy with the Queen's Own Rifles aboard. They know very well that if she does not sail one of their main arguments for Canadian independence in the crisis will be no longer feasible. Not only that; but the Hon. Mr. Pearson will have to experience the most humiliating setback in his role of U.N. "leadership."

The news from Syria is disturbing. The pro-Russian Government of that country has received new shipments of Soviet arms and is menacing not only Israel but also its comparatively modern Arab neighbors, Iraq and Lebanon. It is being openly incited to fresh adventures by the Soviet newspaper, Izvestia, which now speaks of Israel in the terms formerly reserved for Hitlerites and Hungarian rebels. Many governments have been passionately concerned to get Britain out of the Middle East. Will they now stand idly by while Russia moves in?

A resolution condemning Soviet genocide—the attempted destruction of a racial group—in Hungary is being considered for formal presentation in the U.N. General Assembly. Ironically, the United States is one of the few countries which have not ratified the Convention of 1943 which made the practice a crime under the U.N. Charter. All the other major powers including the Soviet Union signed it as did 52 other countries. Just why the United States refrained from signing it has never been explained. Certainly, no American Government would ever resort to racial destruction.



COLD WEATHER CAUTION

A Thousand Years Of History

National Geographic Society

WASHINGTON — Revolt — torn Hungary has stood for a thousand years at a pivotal spot between East and West.

The nation has been called "Asiatic's westernmost outpost" for it was founded in the late 9th century by the Magyars — bands of Finno-Ugric tribesmen from the far side of the Ural Mountains.

Hungary's position astride the fertile Danube basin in the heart of Europe long made it a natural battleground as well as a prize among rival neighbors. The boundaries have contracted and expanded with an elasticity that recalls the territorial shifts of Poland.

A CHRISTIAN BULWARK

Despite their Asiatic background, the people of Hungary have faced westward since the reign of King Stephen between A. D. 997 and 1038. Canonized after his death, Saint Stephen is still a national hero as the first king and creator of independent Hungary, which he turned from paganism into a bulwark of western Christianity.

In recognition, Pope Sylvester II presented him, in 1001, with the Holy Crown of Saint Stephen. From then on, the gold and jewel-decked headdress has remained a potent religious and political symbol, valued far beyond its intrinsic worth.

During World War II the crown was removed to Austria, where it was discovered by American military authorities. The United States Government is keeping its present whereabouts secret, but has said it will be returned as soon as possible to a free Hungarian people.

In Hungary's long and turbulent history, many a battle for freedom has been fought. In turn, the Hungarians at various times have ruled over other lands and people.

The story of changing fortune

echoes in patriotic themes of literature and art, and in haunting tones of sadness that often underlie the gayest and most dashing of melodies.

GOLDEN AGE CAME EARLY The Golden Age of Hungarian Power and culture goes back to the 15th-century reign of Matthias Corvinus. Later came domination by the Ottoman Turks and subjection to the rule of the Austrian Hapsburgs.

In 1948-49, a revolt led by Lajos Kossuth was crushed by invading forces of Austria and Czarist Russia. But never-ending pressure for liberty eventually has its reward 18 years later in the formation of the Dual Monarchy of Austria and Hungary.

The vast Austro-Hungarian Empire stretched from mid-Europe to the Adriatic Sea. Defeat in World War I brought about its dissolution and scattering of territories. Hungary's loss amounted to two-thirds of its former area. Transfer of outlying lands of German, Slavic and Romanian-speaking inhabitants to Austria, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia and Romania reduced the country to a landlocked fragment about the size of Indiana. An estimated two and a half million Magyars went with the transferred regions.

Hungary recovered some of the lost territories in the wake of the German expansion that led to World War II. Then once more an Allied victory pushed Hungary back to its previous boundaries. Occupied by Russian troops in 1944, the nation became a "People's Republic" in 1949.

Today's Hungary has a population of roughly 10,000,000. More than a tenth of the people live in the capital, Budapest, now reported to be a maze of wreckage after the latest Hungarian uprising against foreign control.

Work And Play

By Harold Garnett Black, Beverly Hills, California

Who can ever forget the lesson in practical psychology that Tom Sawyer put to use on his unsuspecting playmates — Ben Rogers, Billy Fisher, Johnny Miller, and all the rest — that day when Aunt Polly ordered Tom to whitewash her board fence? Tom's idea was "nothing less than a great, magnificent inspiration."

The fun began when Ben Rogers, impersonating the Big Missouri steamboat coming round the bend, finally hove to with a "Ting-a-ling-ling — chow-ch-chow-chow."

A few seconds later the rest of Ben's friends trooped in. Of course Tom would have liked to accept Ben's suggestion that they go swimming in the "ole swimmin' hole," but he was wise enough to make Ben think "he's rather whitewashed" that 99-yard-long by 9-foot-high board fence. Aunt Polly, he told them all, was awfully particular about that fence!

"I reckon there ain't one boy in a thousand, maybe two thousand," Tom solemnly explained, "that can do it the way it's got to be done." How gullible he found his chums to be! They swallowed not only the bait but hook, line, and sinker. So thoroughly enjoyable did Tom make the job appear that they were all eager to surrender their most prized treasures for a chance to work.

By the time the third coat of whitewash had been applied, Tom found himself rolling in wealth, wealth made up of articles collected from his neighbor friends for the high privilege of making the fence white. In the end Tom's friends were all practically bankrupt.

How I should like to have seen the look of satisfaction on Tom's face as he sat on a barrel, dangling his legs and munching what was left of Ben's apple, and to have seen also the miscellaneous articles he possessed at the close of the whitewashing episode: a kite, a dead rat, a dozen marbles, a broken key, two tadpoles, six firecrackers, a knife handle, a brass doorknob, four pieces of orange peel, — to name only a few. That day Tom Sawyer discovered a great Law of Human Action:

that Work consists of whatever a body is obliged to do, and that Play consists of whatever a body is not obliged to do!

Would that I might have dangled my legs on some neighboring barrel at the same time and have made some other discovery just as valuable. But . . . !

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

(December 6, 1931)

The Annual Potato Leaders Conference for Prince Edward Island was held in St. James Church hall Saturday afternoon and evening. Twenty-four leaders from six Charlottetown groups attended. The conference was conducted by Asst. Provincial Commissioner, William Warren and Provincial Secretary, R. C. Parent.

Rev. G. J. MacLellan, D.D., was welcomed to his new parish, St. Paul's, Summerside, on Sunday by a congregation which filled the church to capacity. Rev. Father MacLellan, who comes to Summerside from Tignish, was formerly Rector of St. Dunstan's University and Rector of St. Dunstan's Cathedral.

TEN YEARS AGO

(December 6, 1946)

The most successful Rotary Radio Auction held since its inception fourteen years ago was conducted last night in the city and although official figures were not obtainable, officials felt that the total amount realized would go well over the previous high mark. The proceeds of this auction are in aid of the Crippled Children's Fund.

The investigation into the recent fire at Davis and Fraser's plant has been concluded and it was learned from reliable sources yesterday that the Fire Marshall's report, to be released today, will attribute the cause of the fire to too large a quantity of wood being burned in the smoke-house at one time.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion of issues of general interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

BOARD MANAGER REPLIES

Sir, — In Wednesday's issue of The Guardian there appears, over a nom de plume, a letter criticizing the last report on potato markets issued from this office.

It is not our policy to take note of such anonymous "wonderings", nor is it our intention to enter into any further argument with this writer. However, we feel that his expressions are so innocent as to merit some comment.

First, our periodic reports are issued because of growers' requests. We go to considerable trouble and expense to ensure that the prices which are quoted are reasonable in the light of what our markets. Quite often, of course, reports of prices, both higher and lower, than those quoted, are reported to us. Nevertheless we are satisfied that our quotations have been sensible, and have not, as suggested, affected the market adversely or otherwise.

Our complainant may know, but has not mentioned, that the quotations issued from Ottawa, to which he refers, are wholesaler's prices to retailers. Unfortunately, as of December 5th, the latest Ottawa report received here is that of November 30th. However on that date it shows Montreal WS to Retail at 2.20-2.25, and the best price available to Island shippers was \$1.90. We would assume that Montreal wholesalers were still selling the goods bought ten days earlier, and trying to "come out" on it. They were not buying new stock at so high a level.

As for growers receiving within 75 cents of these Ottawa quotations, we can say that the only time that happened was during the period three years ago when the Federal Government paid an average subsidy of 30 cents per bag, and the quoted Montreal price, was about half of what it is today, despite surplus conditions far worse today than they were in the fall of 1953.

Our bashful correspondent is invited to visit the Potato Board office at any time, and, upon disclosure of his name and potato acreage, will be afforded all the courtesies daily extended to those who make use of the Board's information and facilities.

I am, Sir, etc., ELLIOT W. CAMPBELL, Manager, Prince Edward Island Potato Marketing Board

MAGNIFICENT ACHIEVEMENT

Sir, — Almost a month has passed since the closing of the Royal Winter Fair at Toronto, and apart from a press dispatch from that City, not a word locally about the great feat accomplished by Mr. Sylvanus A. McAulay of Campbell's Cove, in winning the Grand Championship this year for table-stock potatoes after being World Champion last year.

It seems to the writer that Mr. McAulay has given a great amount of free advertising to the Island potato industry through his ability to grow and exhibit prize-winning potatoes. His effort should not go unrewarded by our Department of Agriculture. What Mr. McAulay needs, I think, is a press agent. They seem to keep the fistic prowess of Patterson and Moore before the public, although no one before them has realized this and gave his accomplishment more publicity at least. This might encourage many more growers to compete, and who knows but that in the near future P.E.I. might win all major championships, and what a day that would be for P.E.I. potato growers!

I am, Sir, etc., "PRO BONO PUBLICO"

MAXIMS

A hen is only an egg's way of making another egg.

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Sundesen, M. D.

A LITTLE NIP MAY HELP

There are those who believe that a little nip now and then may be just the thing you need if you're suffering from arteriosclerosis obliterans.

This ailment is a chronic occlusive arterial disease affecting the extremities. Moderate use of alcohol quite often is helpful.

A major problem in treating this disease, you see, is to increase the flow of the blood. Alcohol helps accomplish this.

Dr. J. Earle Estes, Jr., of the Mayo Clinic, recommends drinking one to two ounces of beverage alcohol three or four times a day. In addition to its vasodilating effect, he writes in a recent issue of "Minnesota Medicine," and alcohol serves as a sedative and produces a feeling of well-being.

I guess there's no use arguing INTRAVENOUS USE

Sometimes, Dr. Estes advises, a 5 per cent solution of alcohol may be given intravenously. This, however, isn't nearly as convenient as far as the patient is concerned. It's not quite so enjoyable, either.

But remember, in such cases you're taking alcohol as a medicine, not as whoopee water. And I hope I don't have to caution you to get your doctor's okay before embarking on such treatment.

There are other ways of increasing the blood flow. A special hot-box can be placed over the affected area or an oscillating bed might be used. But these aids seldom are found outside of a hospital.

IN RECEIVING THE SYMPTOMS OF arteriosclerosis obliterans, your doctor probably will prescribe the use of simple drugs such as aspirin, codeine and barbiturates. Later it might be necessary to try opiates.

It's of the utmost importance to avoid injuring the feet. Patients with this disease must protect themselves from ulceration and gangrene if they want to escape amputation.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

I. K.: Can weather changes affect my arthritis?

Answer: Yes, changes in the weather can most certainly cause or increase attacks of arthritis.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

A Western Ontario man named Swallow has been convicted, not of what might be suspected but of keeping it for sale.—Toronto Star

Sometimes we think that the government which profits from liquor sales should build special highways for those who drink it and drive.—St. Catharines Standard

One of the new cars is described in the ads as "sassy"—which is all right so long as it doesn't stick out its tongue at the man from the finance company.—Hamilton Spectator

Every baby born today creates a lifetime demand for at least fifteen tons of paper. J. D. Zellerbach, president of Crown Zellerbach Corp., made this statement in a recent speech before the Seattle Chamber of Commerce. He predicted that paper production will double in the next twenty years.—American Free Farmer

Those who steal automobiles are compared by a magistrate to the horse thieves of an earlier day. The penalty, however, is less drastic. In the Wild West days of the United States many a horse thief was caught and hanged from a convenient tree and no bother about a trial.—Ottawa Journal

Pilots of private aircraft who may become lost will soon have a means of finding out where they are. North Bay is going to build a water tower, and presumably after the fashion the name of the city will be painted on it in big bold letters. Thus if an amateur pilot isn't sure where he is he can drop down and take a look at the tower. (This was done quite often by student pilots training with the RCAF during the war years).—North Bay Nugget

The gals sometimes complain of being short on dresses, but we hear no complaints about dresses being short on gals.—London Free Press

If during the off-season months fishermen would show the patience they exhibit while waiting for a fish to take their line many homes and offices would be happier.—St. Catharines Standard

Fort Hope's Central Home and School association has advertised a meeting this: "Do you know what happens to your child in kindergarten?" This reminds us of a mother who deposited her child on the first day of school with the kindergarten teacher, saying: "This is Johnny, Goodbye, and God bless you."—Peterborough Examiner

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