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Looks Good, Anyway

The recent annual report of the Governor of the Bank of Canada showed that, for the calendar year 1964, the federal government had a budgetary deficit of \$153 million—calculated on the usual basis. But on a national accounts basis—the basis Mr. Gordon is said to have introduced into the budgetary report last year for the first time—the calendar year produced a surplus of \$339 million, compared with a deficit in 1963 of \$278 million.

This hasn't happened, but an 87 per cent cut in the federal budget deficit to \$83 million for the fiscal year just closed from the previous year's deficit of over \$619 million was reported in a government white paper yesterday, and it was indicated that the economy should move forward "to new and higher levels of activity in 1965."

We're quite out of our depth here; for obviously the Bank of Canada's figures and the Finance Minister's figures are based on different methods of calculation. Combining budgetary income and expenditure with the old age security fund, Mr. Gordon's \$83 million deficit for the last fiscal year would be reduced to a nominal figure of \$19 million; but that still wouldn't account for the difference, on whichever "basis" one figures it.

What seems to be beyond doubt is that there has been a marked reduction in the deficit during the past year, indicating that the federal government's taxing and borrowing drained off about \$600 million more from the nation's savings in 1964 than it did in 1963. This will give Mr. Gordon more leeway in his coming budget presentation. Of late he has inspired the hope of broad tax deductions as necessary to stimulate an economy now enjoying an exceptional boom. In which case, of course, it won't be a balanced budget he'll be after, but one with a much more potent appeal to the taxpayers.

Favors Pearson Plan

The Manchester Guardian is one of the great newspapers of the English-speaking world, and we were interested in noting the distinction it draws between the respective merits of President Johnson's offer of "unconditional" discussions on South Viet Nam, and Prime Minister Pearson's proposal of suspending temporarily the air strikes against North Viet Nam as a means of bringing the Communists to the conference table. It is decidedly of the opinion that Mr. Pearson's offer is the more practical.

While Mr. Johnson has offered unconditional talks and a \$1,000 million contribution towards an aid program for Southeast Asia, The Guardian says, he still wants to keep South Viet Nam independent, thereby ruling out reunification with North Viet Nam which was the aim of the 1954 Geneva agreement on an Indo-China settlement. Mr. Pearson has urged the U.S. to suspend American air raids in North Viet Nam for a short period to give Hanoi a chance to consider negotiations without appearing to bow under military pressure. This would seem to be "even better" than the offer of financial aid. And it would have the additional advantage of lessening the misery and slaughter. "While the offer of massive financial aid is congenial to the magnanimous American tradition," adds the Manchester paper, "it is no substitute for proper understanding of what the war is about and until that under-

standing is gained, the United States will go on losing."

This view appears to be shared by an American newspaper of international repute—the Christian Science Monitor. It says that Mr. Pearson's suggestion about suspending bombing "might well have been an oblique hint that Washington has not made it sufficiently clear yet that the United States is in fact more interested in launching peace than in launching a wider war." And it concludes:

"North Viet Nam is no more likely to be pummeled into the conference table than is the United States. In fact, it cannot and will not come to the table unless the face-saving path is offered that softens the duress which the United States has so obviously been applying. In a word, heavier United States air attacks on Viet Nam are acceptable only if they are accompanied by more carefully spelled-out details of what Washington would settle for in Viet Nam. Then it might be time to pause to give the North Vietnamese time to reconsider."

For Safer Highways

Catching up with a "getaway" car—or just an ordinary speeder—will be no problem for the police in the future. It will be done by electronics, in a matter of minutes, and the innovation is likely to take place within the next 10 years. This is the view expressed by Quinn Tamm, executive director of the International Association of Chiefs of Police and a former assistant director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation at Washington. Mr. Tamm sees a great future for "electronic police," as he calls them, not only in keeping highway speeding under control but in freeing more policemen for other duties, like closing in on crime and criminals.

Such a system, he says, is now under discussion by experts. It would consist of a nationwide traffic control network, masterminded by a large command-type "brain centre" linked to a complex of electronic devices at each entrance, exit, and toll point along the controlled superhighway. As each car approached the highway entrance, the electronic "eye" would scan the registration and driver's license displayed on the windshield.

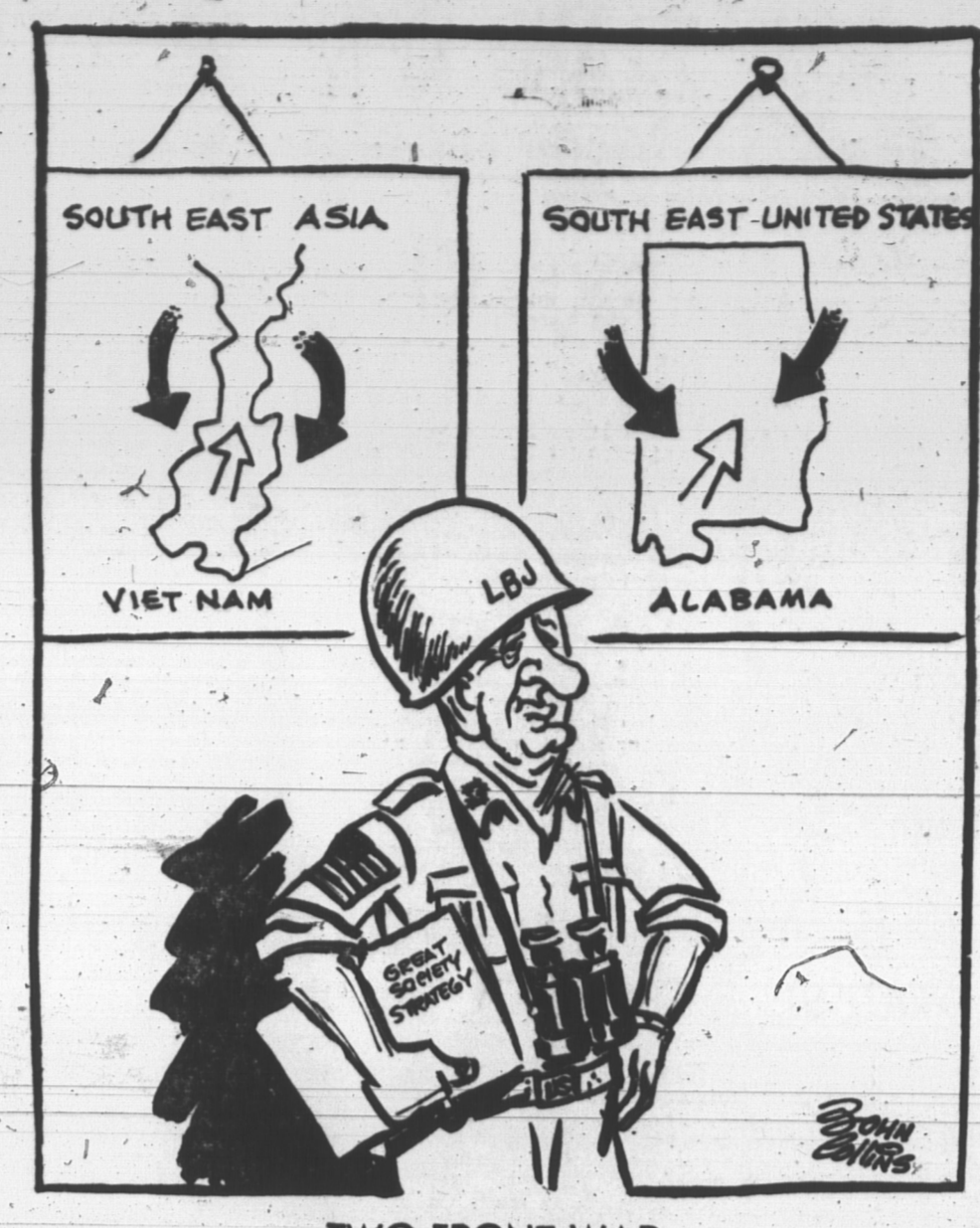
This information would be fed instantly to a central computer containing a library of all registration numbers. The library would include information on whether the license was valid or the owner wanted by any law enforcement agency. The computer would respond with a green "go" light if all was well, give forth with a red warning signal in case of a suspect.

Already, data processing and television are being used experimentally for traffic control in cities such as Boston, Chicago, Detroit, New York, Washington, Paris, and Toronto. Radar has long been used in many cities to control speeding. So the conversion of electronics into a new kind of watchdog for the cop is just another logical step. Incidentally, says Mr. Tamm, it will mean that future police forces will be composed mainly of college-educated men. Salaries will be higher to attract them. "The trend," he warns the reckless element of the driving community, "is already under way."

No Easy Solution

One thing every nation does when it gets into the industrial stage is produce mountains of junk. How to get rid of it is a problem that no nation has yet succeeded in solving. But the West Germans are working hard on it, and are talking of a solution which is at least imaginative. The plan is to establish a network of pipe lines leading to the sea, according to a writer in The Observer of London. Industrial wastes, old cars, tires, bottles, even slag and steel mill waste, would be put through a crushing and grinding machine, fed into the pipe line and washed out to sea under water pressure.

There is one hitch to this simple scheme. Residents of coastal cities may well object to the dumping of a torrent of rubbish off shore, with the inevitable washing of dirt and debris ashore. Another idea is to use the rubbish as fill to reclaim shoreland from the sea. This, too, is a touchy proposition. Shoreland already is under heavy pressure. There are conflicting demands on it to provide recreation, commercial fishing, waste disposal, petroleum production, cooling water for electric power generation and wildlife habitat. Massive land reclamation will add to the pressure and threaten other legitimate uses.



TWO-FRONT WAR OTTAWA REPORT By Patrick Nicholson

Water Shortage Poses Serious Problem

It is paradoxical that this richly endowed land could suffer a shortage of water. Nevertheless this is becoming an acute problem in the rich industrial heart of Ontario and in its nearby playground, despite our abundant natural supply of water.

The most urgent symptom of this water shortage is the falling levels of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway system, which in many places are at or near the lowest levels ever recorded. At Toronto Harbour, the low water level typifies the problem which is costing shippers a lot of money through their need to underload ships so that they can sail the shallower channels.

The cause for this disaster, which is wrecking the commercial and pleasure uses of the Great Lakes and threatening our farmlands through the fallow water table, is twofold. Officially blame is laid on the shortage of precipitation in rain and snow, which over the past three years has totalled four inches below average around Lake Superior, and from eight to 12 inches over the southern portion of the Great Lakes drainage basin.

The perhaps overriding but officially ignored reason has been ferreted out by the hard-working Liberal MP from Toronto, Ralph Cowan. PRIORITIES REVERSED Mr. Cowan has visited all parts of the man-made Seaway, making spot checks at some locks as often as six times. He has gathered information from experts; most important, he has researched back more than a half a century through international treaties, government orders and official records.

Hon. Arthur Laing, the harassed Minister of Resources, has been besieged by protests about a situation whose origins long predate his tenure of office. He now states that "the most important changes... to Great Lakes levels have been brought about by engineering works, diversions, dredging and the operation of control structures."

Our Yesterdays

(From The Guardian Files) TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (April 13, 1940) Ira MacDonald, Hopedale, second year student at Pine Hill Divinity Hall, Halifax, was awarded first place at the annual competition conducted at Pine Hill to determine the winners in the Wiswell Elocution competition.

The New York Rangers defeated the Toronto Maple Leafs 3-2 to win the Stanley Cup in the sixth game of the cup series. Toronto goals were scored by Syl Apps and Nick Metz. Rangers' goals by Neil Colville, Al Pike and the winning goal by Bryan Hextall.

TEN YEARS AGO

(April 13, 1955) Dr. W.J.P. MacMillan and F. Walter Hyndman were chosen as candidates to represent the fifth district of Queens for the forthcoming provincial election. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lloyd G. MacPhail recently were married in the First Baptist Church, Reno, Nevada, U.S.A. Mrs. MacPhail was formerly Helen MacDougall, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John W. MacDougall, Argyle Shore, and Mr. MacPhail is the son of Neil's Robert A. MacPhail and the late Mr. MacPhail of New Haven.

ment is breaking a Treaty. It ignores the long-respected principle that up-river users have prior rights. The Treaty relating to Boundary Waters between the United States and Canada, signed on 11th January 1909 says: "The following order of precedence shall be observed among the various uses enumerated hereinafter for these waters, and no use shall be permitted which tends materially to conflict with or restrain any other use which is given preference over it in this order of precedence: (1) uses for domestic and sanitary purposes, (2) uses for navigation, (3) uses for power and irrigation purposes."

That treaty was signed for U.S.A. by Elihu Root, who shortly thereafter was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Around Ottawa persons thus honoured are considered to possess high qualities of statesmanship, and in 1952 a subsequent Nobel Peace Prize winner, Canada's then Foreign Minister Lester Pearson, applied for approval to construct a power dam near Cornwall "under the provisions of the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909." That application overlooks that adequate control facilities will be constructed and all works will be designed to provide for full Lake Ontario level. Yet the fact is that the control dam at Iroquois is not fully utilized to preserve Lake Ontario level, but is opened to provide Montreal Harbour level.

Mr. Cowan urges, and with sound sense, that the treaty should be observed by Ottawa in the interests of Ontario; that the Great Lakes should not be robbed to serve Quebec's shipping; and that if Montreal Harbour is too shallow, its level should be maintained by a new dam built below it, rather than by draining Lake Ontario.

Now It's Laundered Oil

The black slime that drains from cars undergoing an oil change has been turned into a saleable commodity. This used oil oozes from engines at the present rate of 600 million quarts a year, enough to fill every bathtub in New York, San Francisco, and several other large cities. By laundering the waste, the nation's re-refiners—a fairly new industry—can produce 400 million quarts of lubricants reputed to be as good or better than the original.

Since laundered oil has actually been refined three times—first by the original processor; second by the engine, which breaks down some weaker hydrocarbons; and third by the re-refiner—some sports- and stock-car racers insist upon it. Other users are bus lines and railroads. Reuse of oil not only helps conserve the nation's petroleum resources; it solves an enormous pollution problem, the National Geographic Society says. The Horatio Alger story of crankcase oil began, in fact, when the rapid increase in the use of motor oils in the 1920's problem of waste disposal.

If allowed to flow into lakes and rivers, the slime would have polluted waterways to a far greater extent than they are today. Dumped at sea, the drainings would have sealed large ever-growing areas with a film of used oil, endangering both fish and sea birds. Extensive surface collections of used oil would also have created a fire hazard for shipping.

Downgrading The Courts

Twice in recent days public men have brought the Supreme Court of Canada into controversy. In the lesser incident, Immigration Minister J.R. Nicholson, who is not long in Parliament, obviously had no thought of overstepping the bounds when he announced that the government will pay the costs of an appeal to the court from an Ontario decision that atheists cannot be granted citizenship. He has, however, gone too far in affirming that if the ruling is confirmed the government will bring in amending legislation. The minister, who has a law degree although his senior career was as an executive of corporations, thus has in effect defied the court to uphold the present finding. The statement might better have been reserved.

The second incident is much more serious, both because of its nature and because of the offender is a lawyer and a member of the council of the Canadian Bar Association. He is Daniel Johnson, leader of the Union Nationale opposition in Quebec. Speaking outside the privileged chamber of the legislature, he has advocated a constitutional court before which changes to the BNA Act could be argued. Otherwise, he warned, "...it will not be the people who are masters of the constitution but a tribunal all of whose judges are named by Ottawa." Thus he implies that the nation's chief court cannot be trusted to extend even justice to all Canadians. And so that his meaning cannot be misunderstood he predicts that supreme court decisions "to evolve a sort of grand centralization to the detriment of Quebec's national aspirations." If this is not contempt of court it comes dangerously near it.

Surgery And Hernia

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen Surgery offers the only hope of permanent cure for hernia. Fever trusses are used and the injection treatment rarely is done today. This applies mainly to the inguinal hernia located in the groin. Males are more vulnerable to this defect for anatomical reasons and because they are subjected to greater stress in their occupations. Swelling appears in the groin and is most noticeable when standing or straining. A large hernia may exceed a baseball in size, but some are so small they can be detected only by examining the area. The bulge usually contains a loop of the intestine that protrudes through the weakened spot in the abdominal wall. No one is too old to have a hernia repaired, provided he is in good health. With improved surgical techniques and anesthetics, it is amazing how easily older men are able to undergo surgery. Even those with diabetes, heart trouble, and high blood pressure do well. In contrast, victims of asthma or chronic bronchitis may present problems, because coughing interferes with healing and may reopen the wound. This is why physicians tell tobacco users to stop smoking for two or three days preceding surgery to eliminate cigarette cough. Obesity is another drawback; extra layers of fat not only interfere with the surgeon's work but delay healing.

What happens to a pregnant woman who has a hernia in the groin? It is likely to cause concern, considering the stress associated with carrying the baby and the delivery. In many instances, the enlarging uterus pushes the intestines away from the internal opening of the hernia. A temporary cure takes place and the hernia returns after childbirth. It is likely to be larger than before. If this does not happen, the lesion continues to plague the victim. An emergency operation may be needed if strangulation occurs. The pressure that occurs during labor is likely to increase the size of the bulging hernia. The physician may apply forceps to lessen the strain.

HEEL SPURS

T. H. writes: What are heel spurs? What causes them and what is the remedy? REPLY Small, painful bony projections from the heel bone. There are several causes and the remedy includes heat, rest, shoe pads, and surgical removal.

HAIR PRESERVATIVE

Mrs. M.L.B. writes: Is it possible for an 82-year-old to preserve her hair? REPLY Many people of this age and older have a fine head of hair. It tends to thin out with each passing decade and very little can be done unless a correctable cause, such as anemia or lack of thyroid, is responsible.

AT A GOOD TIME

A reader writes: What is meant by elective surgery? REPLY An operation that can be done at any time (elective) because it is not an emergency or a life-saving procedure. Examples are the repair of a hernia that is not strangulated, removal of a wart of bunion, face-lifting, and tonsillectomy.

NOTES BY THE WAY

"Are you engaged to Harold?" "Yes. I have promised to marry him as soon as he has made his fortune." "That isn't an engagement, that's an option." — Galt Reporter.

A Plymouth youngster, when asked how she liked the new arrival at her house, replied, "Oh, it's all right, but there are a lot of things we needed more." — Plymouth Review.

"Pop, if I saved you a dollar, would you give me 50 cents of it?" "Sure I would, Son." "Well, I saved it for you. You said you'd give me a dollar if I passed my chemistry test, and I flunked." — Vancouver Sun.

It's a darn good thing the earth is round—think of how difficult it would be to put an astronaut into a square orbit! — Milwaukee Journal.

They tell about a visitor from South Dakota who called on one of our farmers last fall and, after viewing a modest sized grain field said, "I start out in the morning with my car and it takes me five hours to drive around my wheat field." After a little thought our local farmer replied, "I had the same trouble with my car so I traded it in." — Melton Weekly-Record.

Aspiring Vocalist: "Professor, do you think I'll ever be able to do anything with my voice?" Perspiring Teacher: "Well, it might come in handy in case of fire or shipwreck." — Hamilton Spectator.

The little boy had a quarter to spend and he'd priced about everything in the toyshop without making a selection: "Look here, sonny," cried the exasperated storekeeper finally as the lad still pondered, "what do you expect to buy for a quarter—the world with a fence around it?" The boy thought for a moment and then said cautiously, "Well, let's see it." — Montreal Star.

Standing By 'IODE'

Mrs. D.W. McGibbon of Toronto, national president of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire, discusses the possibility of changing the name, saying: "As for the word 'imperial' it could be changed to independent. We are often called the Independent Order Daughters of the Empire. But personally I wonder if all the businesses that have that word 'imperial' in their name feel the need to change it. I doubt it." Mrs. McGibbon is not alone in her doubt. We cannot imagine that firms with "imperial" in their name lose business because of it. And we cannot imagine that many today think the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire is an organization determined to turn the clock back or encourage imperialism and new colonies.

Proposed Milk Policy

As a mooted shortage of milk looms, pressures are being put on Ottawa for revision of its milk policy to ensure that supplies are kept near a balance. In addition there is suggestion that a federal board be set up to oversee marketing of milk products, replacing provincial bodies that now set prices and direct the milk flow. The establishment of a federal milk board has been suggested by President M.R. McCrea, of the National Dairy Council. Certainly the milk industry might be in better position to ask for subsidy revision if it had only one milk board instead of half a dozen to deal with.

The federal board might be a certain means of assuring an ample supply; federal subsidies might have to be adjusted on its advice. Yet the consumer must also be considered. Therein the value of the provincial board is evident. Pricing is a provincial responsibility and should remain there. Besides, conditions in various provinces may not be alike and provincial and area boards are in closer touch with the immediate situation. Ottawa may have to make some adjustments in its subsidy plan to keep milk flowing evenly where it is wanted; it is known that dairying equipment and dairy costs have mounted materially. But does Ottawa want to take over the directive load from the provinces? This should only be done when it is found the provincial boards are not able to handle the situation.

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