

Pope Paul's Pilgrimage

Some half a million Roman Catholics from all over the world are attending the International Eucharistic Congress which has provided the opportunity for Pope Paul's visit to Bombay, "the gateway to India," at this time. It is the first time a Pope has ever set foot in an Asian country, and grave fears had been expressed as to the reaction of extremist Hindu parties who have protested even against the holding of the congress on Indian soil.

However, the enthusiastic welcome accorded to the Pope on his arrival yesterday was unmarred by any hostile acts, and there is good reason now to hope that the visit will be an unqualified success from the standpoint of promoting peace and amity.

Premier Shastri, himself a devout Hindu who has just made a pilgrimage to the famous mountain shrine of Tirupati where he donated a month's salary to the temple fund, came from New Delhi to welcome the papal party. Like his great master Gandhi, he is said to feel drawn to the Christ religion, and this may well have been one of the reasons which prompted Pope Paul to undertake his hazardous journey at this time.

Also, there has been a heart-warming development of late in the stand taken by two prominent Hindu spiritual leaders, Swami Shankaracharya and Swami Chinmayananda, who have shown a desire to extend the hand of fellowship and who were met more than half way by Archbishop Gracias of Bombay, India's only Cardinal. As a gesture of good will, Cardinal Gracias recently spoke from the same platform as Swami Chinmayananda to the Hindu religious gathering on the message of the Bhagavad Gita to the Hindu sacred text.

Considering the long and painful history of conflict between Hinduism and Christianity in India, it is perhaps too early to expect a "spiritual reconciliation" between the two religions. But the time appears to be ripe for making a great effort in this direction. It is this which has brought Pope Paul to Bombay at this time, as "a pilgrim of peace," with greetings to all the nations of Asia, and a prayer that they may learn to "love one another, to respect one another and avoid violating the rights of others."

Mr. Macquarrie's Warning

Are we in the early stages of a withering away process which will leave Ottawa with nothing but the left-overs of governmental authority, powers not wanted by the provinces or capable of exercise by them? This question is posed by Heath Macquarrie, junior MP for Toronto, in a lengthy article in the Toronto Globe and Mail in which it is argued that there are compelling and urgent reasons for Canadians to arrest or at least slow down the trend toward greater provincialism.

Mr. Macquarrie does not mention the recent federal-provincial conference at which the package deal on patriation of the constitution showed this trend in its most disturbing manner. He does, however, stress that if federal government is presently too numerous in yielding its jurisdiction and its revenues to the provinces, it will no longer be able to act effectively in assuring a reasonably similar standard of living to Canadians everywhere.

This is a point which we have endeavored to make on several occasions in these columns. Mr. Mac-

quarrie is particularly effective in relating it to our own fiscal problems in this part of Canada when he says:

"While some provinces are sufficiently rich and well-endowed to carry out a full scale program of social legislation and resources development, others have been much less fortunate in their inheritance of oil, metals, water power and the other components of a modern industrial empire. Any action taken to give economic freedom to the provinces will serve to emphasize and increase the economic inequalities. It would be impossible for the 'have not' provinces to assume full responsibility for providing adequate services and utilities for their own people."

The article points out that to some of the provinces less affluent in 1964, the sacrifices of 1867 were substantial and meaningful. They were made in the belief that a united people with a common purpose could build something greater than the old logic of economics or the facts of geography would dictate. And it is from the national standpoint that arguments for a weaker federal state deserve strongest rebuttal.

The federal Government, serving and representing all Canadians, must never become a mere referee or arbiter between opposing or competing provincial demands. This is where the danger lies today, and it is important that warnings of the kind sounded by Mr. Macquarrie should be given as wide publicity as possible.

Hard Problem To Lick

It is a sad commentary on human frailty that even an up-and-coming state like Sweden hasn't, as yet, been able to lick its housing shortage problem. In Stockholm alone, we read, there is a waiting list of 120,000 out of 800,000 inhabitants. It is not that housing is neglected. Fifty thousand flats go up every year; but it is not enough. And it seems that state control has proved a hindrance rather than a help.

All new flats and houses in Sweden, whether privately or publicly owned, must by law be let through public housing agencies. Rents are strictly controlled, and private landlords find property an unattractive proposition. Consequently big banks and insurance companies own most of the non-public blocks of flats.

Owing to the demand new flats, instead of being legally let through the public agency, are frequently negotiated privately. Out of this has arisen the so-called "housing shark," who acts as an illegal estate agent. He collects key money, and sees that the landlords get their cut, and keeps prices up.

Behind the closed doors of the Liberal caucus, many a backbencher protested, that the Government might do better to bring on ahead of the estimate.

In caucus, the commonsense viewpoint of "business first" was persuasive and successfully argued by Bruce Mackenzie, a 48 year old native of Quebec City. He stressed it, the city of Verdun. This tough Irishman is building solid concrete blocks. Parliament as he brings the industry and commonsense of a business man to bear on the work of government.

In the instance of the street the importance of completing the year's financial work; otherwise the Opposition might be barking on another protracted filibuster of the flag, for the government again to seek "interim supply" — a development which he agreed with Mr. Tupper would be political suicide.

First get the spending items approved and then the vote on the bill would have control of the House. Mr. Mackenzie reasoned, and his arguments on the Liberal caucus to this course of action.

EDITORIAL NOTES

As noted in a Canadian Press dispatch, Chief Justice Dorian of the Quebec Superior Court should be well equipped to judge Conservative accusations against Liberal executive assistants. He sat in the House of Commons for six years as an independent.

An angry man in Great Britain has his own private cure for bad drivers. He shoots them with a camera, and presently is generous in yielding its jurisdiction and its revenues to the provinces, it will no longer be able to act effectively in assuring a reasonably similar standard of living to Canadians everywhere.

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THE WINTRY TOUCH: BEACH GROVE LANE

OTTAWA REPORT BY Patrick Nicholson

Parliament's Progress Still At Snail's Pace

Last week the House of Commons gave final approval of the proposed expenditures by the federal government in the current fiscal year ending just March next. Now it should concentrate on its delayed legislative chores.

But will it? The leadership by Prime Minister Pearson in this respect this session has been neither determined nor business like. One opportunity after another for working through the mountain of promised legislation has been allowed to slip by as the Government waltzes waddled away from the path of duty.

The deal for "seven days estimates" to finish off consideration of the spending program last week should have been the curtain-raiser for three weeks of brisk work on legislation before Christmas. It was a good deal. Despite speculation that the deal was a "trap" or, it was a deal the brain-child of Bert Lebow, veteran MP of the Social Credit Party — the one party which alone in Parliament has stumped petty partisan politics and has consistently tried to place the nation's business first.

BACKSTAGE DEAL

Bert Lebow conceived the idea of the deal. He discussed it, in the Chamber, with Government House Leader George Melnichuk, who welcomed the suggestion and asked Bert to sound out the other parties. The Tories agreed to accept Bert's proposal that if the Government would call the outstanding departmental estimates, final approval of all spending would be voted at week's end. At a meeting of House Leaders, the other small parties concurred, and George Melnichuk confirmed the programme in a carefully worded announcement.

But this was not before the proposal faced its tougher road block. Behind the closed doors of the Liberal caucus, many a backbencher protested, that the Government might do better to bring on ahead of the estimate.

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DELAY AGAIN

Then however instead of moving on with important legislation the Government went on reopening the flag debate.

This was irresponsible. It lays the Government on an unsteady, unbalanced charge that it is deliberately filibustering its own legislation.

Should Be Forbidden

Milwaukee Journal

Our cornucopia of plenty has poured out new marvels, the Walkie-Watchie. It is a miniature four inch television set which can be taken in a stroll. It dangles on a strap from the viewer's neck like a camera. The user walks with head bowed, eyes glued to the tiny viewing screen on top, receiving instead of taking pictures.

No longer will teen agers wander about with vacant, eye-baring transistor radios glued to their ears. Now they can stroll, they will glide, with the reflected glow of "The Monsters" and "The Fly" from the world.

The rosy world of the walking watchie may be studied with thorns. He may merge into tele-

Developing Flu Vaccines

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen More than 75 different agents have been found producing upper respiratory infections. A vaccine against influenza was developed after the 74. The goal is a polyvalent vaccine that will give immunity against all including the viruses that cause the common cold.

The influenza vaccine contains substances that are effective against flu viruses. It is made against some of the current strains. It is a must for protection against five or six viruses only and cannot be expected to protect against other viruses or bacteria from other viruses or bacteria.

The vaccine is said to be 70 per cent effective and is worthwhile despite its limited scope of usefulness. It is a must for those who are hardest hit by flu — chronic lung and heart disease, oldsters, and a pregnant women.

Influenza kills 83 million each year in the United States. In 1953, 1954 and 1955, we are not dealing with a second rate disease. Many problems are associated with the preparation and use of respiratory vaccines. The study team developing prolonged protection against these diseases is still in the laboratory. The reinfection rate is high. Authorities reason that if nature catches up with the vaccine, it will develop a vaccine that will give long lasting immunity.

It is unimprobable when it comes to propagating them in the laboratory. This makes it difficult to prepare standard vaccines in large numbers. It is difficult to predict the facility of changing slightly from year to year as a result of mutations. The vaccine of 1953 may not be identical to the 1964 model.

BETTER THAN EVER Mr. J.B. writes: Can a man return to normal living after a heart attack?

REPLY Yes, and often finds a new life that is better, happier, and more rewarding. As an example he frequently tells those recovering from coronary thrombosis that they now have an excuse to stop or avoid anything that they do not care to do. This means parties, staying up late, drinking, and continuity meetings.

The Opposition's Role

Winnipeg Free Press

Mr. Diefenbaker, in his recent speech to the Conservatives in Winnipeg, spent a great deal of time and breath on a defence of the performance of himself and his party in the House of Commons. His party, he said, united the blame lists with the Opposition but with the responsible Government which spends days and weeks chasing trivial details—the-wisps.

Mr. Maude's party, like Mr. Diefenbaker's, faces a government weak in numbers. The Tories, however, seem to be planning different tactics. "Tactics in Parliament need not detain us too long. We have all seen the Tories in opposition not pay unless and until the government is near to death."

Mr. Maude eyes on to suggest that a really clever opposition, seeing the possibility of defeat, might well choose to handle the matter in a different way. It will be necessary to give the utmost effort encouragement to a strong and united opposition is also, to Mr. Maude's way of thinking, essential.

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Those Airforce Tunics

Fort John

We've just spent a terribly alluring night in Fort John. We've just spent a terribly alluring night in Fort John. We've just spent a terribly alluring night in Fort John.

With the millions the government spends each year, 12,000 useless tunics at \$5.50 each are being bought. It is a waste of money. It is a waste of money. It is a waste of money.

What started us tossing and turning was a news item that it's the duty of every citizen to help his government. And it's the duty of every citizen to help his government. And it's the duty of every citizen to help his government.

To do our part, we stungled at one of the most serious problems confronting our chosen leaders, namely what to do with a small but embarrassing surplus of airforce tunics. Well, maybe not so small at that, piled in a heap 12,000 tunics would make quite an impressive sight, particularly for a moth.

How the airforce wound up with 12,000 more winter tunics than it needs hasn't been explained and likely never will be. Obviously somebody goofed.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

A woman drove into a service station to complain that her car was using too much gas. The attendant pointed to the checker lever which protruded 10 or 15 ft. a dashboard. "Do you know what this is for?" he asked. "Oh that," said the woman airily. "I never use it so I keep it pulled out to put my handbag on it." Montreal Star.

The Congo Battleground

By Harold Morrison Canadian Press Staff Writer

Various reasons are given why the Joint United States-Belgian rescue operation in the Congo suddenly was halted, although hundreds of white paratroopers are still trapped behind rebel lines.

The official version is that the operation went so far as it could go; that the remaining white people are held in widely-scattered areas where planes and paratroops would not be effective. It is also possible that the Congolese army to do the rest of the job.

Many are not satisfied British legislators. Scores of them have called on the British government to insist that it is necessary to protect British lives against butchery. And in Brussels a legislator called on the U.S. of ordering an end to the rescue operation prematurely.

The U.S. had acted swiftly to save many lives; yet the thought that persisted among observers is official U.S. enthusiasm for further action was not to become a victim to Western imperialism intervening in "civil war."

CONGO IN BATTLEGROUND

That was the curious element in this latest Congo massacre: Votes in the Communist camp and among many of the newly-developing countries were concentrated by an avalanche of African-American whites as well as the indigenous thought Western soldiers had barged their way into territory that did not belong to them.

There is no doubt The Congo, rich in resources, had become a battleground of the big powers. The Congolese are generally primitive and untrained. Early attempts at uniting the country under independent leadership had failed. Tribal chieftains are still at war, and neither those in power nor those in rebellion lack outside help.

It's Here The New

Advertisement for McCulloch Chain Saw. Features: No Smoke, No Odour, Fuel Chief, Heating Oil. Price: \$129.00. Retailer: Keith Carmichael, 25 Brackley Pl. Rd. #4623, Sherwood. "The Woodsman's Best Friend". Phone 4-7311, CHARLOTTE TOWN, Petroleum Products.

Trade bargains

Table listing real estate prices in Charlotte town. Locations include Sackville, Moncton, Truro, Saint John, Halifax, Antigonish, Sydney, Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa, Winnipeg, and Edmonton. Prices range from \$220 to \$47,000.