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Living In Fear

In his forceful address before the Charlottetown Rotary Club, Rt. Rev. Dr. Mutchmor, Moderator of the United Church of Canada, reminded us of what living in the Thermonuclear Era means. This era, he said, "marks for the first time man's achievement of the power of complete destruction of himself and his world. It is this terrible fact which underlines the truth that man today and tomorrow must 'live in fear of a handful of dust.'"

By coincidence, on the very same day, U.S. Defense Secretary McNamara announced that the United States has 400,000 tons of nuclear force in Europe, ready to be used in whatever quantity needed. And the U.S. has in stockpile or planned for stock "tens of thousands of nuclear explosives" for tactical use on the battlefield, in anti-submarine warfare and against aircraft.

The timing and tenor of those statements, says an Associated Press report, indicated that they were in response to recent trulent talk by Soviet Premier Khrushchev.

So, despite a general easing of world tensions following the partial test ban agreement, it is evident that we must go on living in fear of what our scientific age has achieved in nuclear destructiveness. It is a monster that we can keep in check only by sleepless vigilance. Nor does trulent talk on either side warrant a forgetfulness of that fact, if only for a moment.

Surely it must be evident, both at Moscow and Washington, that national survival in an age when each nation can destroy the other with nuclear weapons many times over, doesn't depend on building more nuclear weapons.

What's the proper answer to Soviet rantings at this time, if indeed they required an answer?

Back To The Stone Age

How prehistoric man succeeded in existing on this inhospitable planet until his better equipped successors came along has always puzzled us. Some explanation of the mystery has been supplied by a group of history students from Moscow and Leningrad who established, last summer, a camp in one of the most inaccessible regions of Central Siberia. There they lived as "Stone Age men", using only stone implements, lighting fires by friction and hunting animals with only the crudest of weapons.

An archaeologist who led the expedition thought the students working methods which are believed to have been used by early man. When they had mastered these ancient techniques they did what you'd expect: the experiments were surprised to find that they did not take as long as they had expected.

It took three hours to light a fire by rubbing two sticks together, nine days to make a flint knife, and eleven days to manufacture a stone axe with a primitive handle. Only half an hour was needed, however, to fall a large pine tree, but the work had to be done by frequent, not very heavy blows, since it was found that the flint axe splintered when swung at arm's length.

It took ten men no more than four days to clear a forest area for primitive farming. They dragged away the felled trees with stone hooks, burned the undergrowth and ploughed over the fresh ash with a high wood scarifier. Three days were

required to make a covered dugout dwelling such as people used in the Neolithic era (8,000-4,000 B.C.). A raft was built in a day and a dug-out canoe in a week.

The experiments showed that in the earliest times man was not helpless in the face of nature and that he was capable of doing a great deal with his stone implements. Indeed, when we think of the misuse to which many of our modern inventions are put, in preparing for the kind of warfare that would leave the survivors in a more hazardous position than even their most primitive progenitors, we can only wonder whether the evolutionary process has carried us forward or back.

Dangerous Pesticides

One piece of legislation which is likely to pass in the Legislature meets in February is the bill Agriculture Minister MacRae plans to introduce, banning the use of all potato root killers containing sodium arsenite. Mr. MacRae's remark that at least 75 cattle are known to have died in the province this year as a result of eating forage or swallowing water contaminated with this poison is surely enough to warrant legislative action. Countless game birds and other wildlife have died from this cause as well.

As Mr. MacRae points out, other top-killing chemicals are available to our farmers, at a slightly higher cost, which do not have this harmful effect. To say the least, it would be false economy to continue using a pesticide that is so destructive to farm life.

A somewhat similar problem, we note, has been encountered in Manitoba, where the insecticides aldrin and dieldrin have been banned from farm use. The government of that province, after an attempt to eliminate chemical residues from dairy products by regulating the use of these chemicals, has decided that the only way is to prohibit them. The order does not apply to their use on home gardens, or on horticultural crops.

In commenting on this move, The Country Guide says the action spotlights the problem that some chemicals pose for the country's agriculture. It underlines, too, the fact that the only alternative to their careful use may be to have them withdrawn. This should work no hardship on farmers, although it might create problems for the chemical companies, and for extension people, since it means that regulations might differ as between one province and another.

In the Manitoba case, other chemicals are available to do the job that has been done by aldrin and dieldrin, and confidence is expressed that they will prove just as effective.

EDITORIAL NOTES

West Germany is still going ahead with its prosecution of war criminals. This week, two former Nazi SS officers were sentenced after an 11-week trial on war crimes charges in connection with mass murders at an extermination camp near Lodz, in Poland. One was given hard labor for life, the other three years.

Oyster fishermen of Chesapeake bay are asking the Maryland legislature to please increase their taxes. Really, that's what it says in the Baltimore papers. The state has spent a great deal of money over the years to protect and regulate and develop the oyster beds, but has not been taxing the haul. When the sea food committee of the legislature suggested an oyster levy of 10 cents a bushel, the oystermen eagerly agreed in appreciation for state efforts to increase production. A lot of legislators, suggests an exchange, could use some taxpayers like that.

"In the old days," says the Philadelphia Bulletin, "if there was a famine in Russia, a committee of Philadelphians would collect donations of food, charter a couple of ships and give their help personally, on the spot, amid the loud cheers of all Russians, from the Czar down. Nowadays, we are careful to make a big thing out of selling wheat for hard cash, and no American committee would be allowed to get within 500 miles of a hungry moujik. It is this sort of thing that makes it hard for old-timers to listen with patience to lectures on the inspiring growth of internationalism."



SIR ALEC CANUTE

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Liberal Back-Benchers More Active

"Whatever's happening to the Liberal Party?" This was the question posed by the Liberal national organizer, Keith Davy, when he addressed the unusual and decisive caucus of the party, held during the week-end immediately preceding the opening of Parliament after the summer recess.

What is happening, in fact, is that center-rows and back-benchers, who were swept into Parliament in the tidal wave that submerged the Diefenbaker government, are refusing to be seen but not heard. They are young, they are new in Parliament, but they remember vividly the situation which led to their predecessors in the Liberal governments of Mackenzie King and St. Laurent being deposed by the party, held during the week-end immediately preceding the opening of Parliament after the summer recess.

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Explosive Comment

What with Churchill, Manitoba; Churchill, Gordon; and oh yes, Churchill, Winston—about Randolph has some competition in getting his name into the news.

But over the years, undaunted by the handicap of his name, through his waspish tongue, acid pen, and choleric temper, he has managed this feat.

Not for him the retiring role so common to actors of the family.

Since the war, in which he indulged in all the courage and endurance typical of the family, he has concentrated on refining his image as a professional controversialist.

Many regard him as a nuisance with a penchant for journalism.

In this he at least shares in the family heritage, for his father, too, until Hitler appeared as his foil, was regarded by his opponents as a renegade boy.

Of late years, Randolph has been a political columnist for The News of the World.

This paper gave his opinions a vast circulation, far beyond what his father ever enjoyed when he was a newspaperman.

Randolph's explosive writings, involving him in controversy and litigation, have not displayed the fire rolling Churchillian phrases of his father, as a writer Randolph is no slouch, and as a scholar and historian his final reputation will rest on the biographies of his father.

In this respect he alone of all the papers accumulated by Sir Winston will rest on the biographies of his father.

Rheumatic Fever Follows Infection

By Dr. Theodore R. Vandellien
For several decades we have suspected that rheumatic fever follows an infection with group A streptococci. These microorganisms stimulate the formation of antibodies to which the victim becomes sensitized. The ensuing autoimmune reaction is responsible for joint changes and heart damage. These persons are also allergic to substances of fever, fatigue, and loss of appetite.

The cause of rheumatic fever is fairly well established but it took years to prove. It is logical because most attacks follow in the wake of a streptococcal infection. It occurs 10 days to two weeks prior to the development of fever, fatigue, and loss of appetite.

It is during this time that the body is manufacturing the all-important protective antibodies against the original streptococcal infection. But the immune process backfires in youngsters who have an inherited sensitivity to these particular antibodies.

The prevention of rheumatic fever is confined mainly to those who have had the attack. These people are advised to take an antibiotic continuously, to ward off the streptococcal infections. Throat cultures are taken, should a cold develop, to determine whether streptococci are responsible. If so, a large dose of penicillin administered in this way will help to eliminate the causative agent from the life of a person who has had the disease.

Can the first attack of rheumatic fever be prevented? This is the most question that has recently arisen. Research is being done to find a vaccine or blood serum which they start into their individual is susceptible to rheumatic fever. If successful, this would be a most prophylaxis as it given those who have had the disorder.

What has irritated Randolph on this occasion was a Labor leader Harold Wilson's observation that Prime Minister Macmillan would call an election when he "had plucked up enough courage to face the electorate."

Randolph said this was a little "barefaced" and added nothing new to political dialogue.

His father has made similar assertions with great devastating effect while still enjoying parliamentary language.

But it was in Randolph's descriptive term of Harold Wilson that he made his bid as a phrase maker. He called Mr. Wilson a "barefaced" and added nothing new to political dialogue.

At first this might appear to the unobservant as a gross malapropism but, indeed, not so.

It possibly means many dogs were overheard, so to refer to somebody as a "barefaced dog" actually does convey some perceptive connotation.

It possibly means that Randolph is, in fact, the maverick of the Establishment and that Mr. Wilson is satisfied with the allusion to his working class status as a shopless canine in the affluent society.

On Buying A Ladder
Omaha World-Herald
Our hero was in the act of buying a ladder when a friend wandered up and asked why. A ladder was not needed, he said, for something no sensible man ever buys. It's like a grass sweeper which is a thing to be borrowed and not bought.

That, we were well aware of, but our hero was in his neighborhood. The man who owned a ladder had been under the weather, and his prudent neighbors, who he had said back with a couple of sacks of fertilizer, had done so, and now, by golly, he really had to have one.

But why, asked the friend, had not one of the brighter neighbors borrowed the departed ladder just before it was moved? Chances were he'd been busy doing more of moving, which had caused the departing neighbor to forget him. Whereupon the entire neighborhood would have benefited.

Our hero said he had not only thought of that but had not acted—but to no avail. At the last moment, he had departed neighbor had remembered, and had sent a mover to fetch the ladder from the departed neighbor's home. He said the friend, yes, said he. The nerve of some people.

Spending For Education

Montreal Gazette
Competitive intellectual p.e.e. is the condition for the phrase. But it appears as the key word in the report on education (in six volumes) issued this week after three years' study by a special committee in Great Britain under Lord Robbins.

The committee toured a number of other countries to make a comparison with education in Britain.

It concluded that the American and Russian systems greatly exceeded in scope the present British program.

The report urges Britain to expand, immediately and widely, the size and number of her universities.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Iceland is levying a half-cent tax on every package of cigarettes sold—to be used for cancer research.—Straford Beacon
Home

Here is the place where dad is free to say anything he pleases, because no one will pay the slightest attention to him, anyway.—Financial Post

"What's that piece of cardboard around your finger for?" My wife put it there to remind me to post a letter. "And did you give it to me?"—Windsor Star

Mayor Jean Drapeau of Montreal says the Canadian Wop of Montreal will be ready for its scheduled 1967 appearance. It should get the job done. He will be ready by 1965.—Hamilton Spectator

Parts of Asia were in the news because they were the victims become sensitized. The ensuing autoimmune reaction is responsible for joint changes and heart damage. These persons are also allergic to substances of fever, fatigue, and loss of appetite.

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A Vancouver paper welcomes a trend to "more sensible liquor laws." The better trend would be to more sensible drinkers.

A menu is a sheet of paper that has the best meal that has been crossed out.—Toronto Star

Children, who watch television night and day will go in to history—not to mention arithmetic, geography and English.—Calgary Herald

Olaf and are the experiences of the newlywed life came home from his day at the office. She asked him to read the paper while she was in the tub. He said, "I'll do it with you." "No," she said, "I'll do it with you." "I don't understand, darling." "I wasn't hollow!"—Galt Reporter

The Plague Of Drought

The rains never came, and a drought parched wide areas of the world in 1963.

More than 300,000 Pakistanis were forced to abandon their homes and migrate to India for food and water as famine followed a prolonged dry spell.

New Jersey and Malaya were closed because no water was available to wash the streets. Drought in the growing provinces on China's southeast coast suffered the most.

RESEVOIRS DWINDLE
Hong Kong reservoirs almost emptied during seven months of subnormal rainfall. Household water was severely rationed, and the entire economy of the colony suffered. Devout Chinese released fish and turtles in the sea and turned loose pet monkeys, dogs, and birds on land to propitiate the spirits.

The worst drought of the century in Brazil struck river levels to dangerous lows. Hydroelectric plants had to ration power, slowing industrial production and temporarily blacking out households.

Drought or near drought prevailed in the United States from the Great Plains to New England. In normal all humid areas, the drought was a disaster. Worcester became a dried, cracked wasteland of mud.

New Jersey cancelled hunting seasons and banned fires in the powder-dry woods.

New Jersey forest fough a forest fire with water drawn from an abandoned mine shaft and their own water supply hose. They had to bypass a more convenient water supply in Williams, Arizona, where in normal times stockmen buy water from their ranches from a coin-operated dispenser giving 250 gallons for 25 cents, the severe drought reduced a quarter's water to 90 gallons.

Texas, who have learned to live with and laugh at drought, revived the dry story of the rancher who said, "Well, it was the best thing that happened in Old Mexico, but we ain't lost everything. We get to keep the mortgage!"

RAINFALL "MIGRATED"
Many farmers who originally settled in Texas and the Great Plains are now migrating westward with the good grasses of Providence. Others believed plowing the soil increased precipitation. The great drought of 1894-95 was the last of its kind.

In the 1890's, some people decided that radio broadcasting prevented rain by putting large amounts of electricity into the atmosphere. Thousands of farmers wrote Congress asking that all stations be silenced until rain broke the tragic drought.

The 1962 crisis has been blamed variously on nuclear explosions, sunspots, an increase in the speed of the earth's rotation—and the growing network of paved highways.

Meteorologists explain, however, that droughts usually develop when a stream of dry air persistently pours into a region, supplanting moist air. But nobody knows why the air currents shift, and "weathermen cannot predict droughts.

It is widely held that dry spells come in cycles. Studies of tree rings, old water levels, historical records, and report of crop failures show large variations in rainfall, but no clearly defined cycles.

Zion Presbyterian Church
DEDICATION SERVICE
of
Newly Renovated & Re-Decorated
Lower Hall
Wednesday, November 20th,
8:15 P.M.
A cordial invitation is extended to Members and Friends of the Congregation.
CHARLOTTETOWN
FIRE DEPARTMENT
Help your local Fire Department by having all your (milk, pop, beer) bottles ready to be picked up on Saturday, November 23rd.
Hours of pick-up—9 A.M. to 6 P.M. Money raised by this blitz will be used for fireman's tournament and Centennial celebrations.