

Causeway Briefings

The federal Minister of Public Works, Hon. George J. McIlraith, has made a point of being personally present at the important technical briefings on our causeway construction details, which are now in progress in Charlottetown. He is scheduled to speak himself on the subject this morning, and there will be a galaxy of departmental experts to go into every phase of the operations, so that contractors, suppliers, engineers and all concerned will have as thorough a knowledge as possible of what is expected of them.

While initial work on the approach roads and embankments was actually started in New Brunswick last fall, and will, it is hoped, soon get under way here, this full dress rehearsal is concerned, we understand, with the major phases of the problem—or rather of the many problems which a bridge-tunnel-causeway of this kind involves, and which represents, indeed, one of the most ambitious engineering challenges of the century.

We welcome Mr. McIlraith and his associates here on this occasion, all the more because the briefings have been arranged for a period during which we are enjoying a welcome relief from party strife, and can concentrate objectively on what the project will mean, not only to Prince Edward Island but to the whole Atlantic provinces and to Canada generally. It will be a project to which both our major political parties can point with pride, for both have made their contribution to the extensive research which went into its planning and design; and both, for some years now, have been firmly committed to carrying it through.

The big job lies ahead, of course. But this week's series of conferences is the culmination of a very real achievement in itself, in bringing into focus all the ramifications of the undertaking. We have no doubt that the result will be well worth while, and will serve materially to expedite the progress of the work.

No Easy Job

It is important to the public to know something of the problems of the press in covering such vital matters as that of the Viet Nam war. The manager of the Associated Press, an American news agency from which the Canadian Press gets much of its war news, has issued a statement on this subject, and it deserves to go down as part of the record. It makes clear that while the U.S. government would like the news from Saigon preferred favorably in black and white, and while the American taxpayer would like a clear, simple explanation of who's winning and what he, as a citizen, is paying for in blood and money, such methods of reporting would be fallacious and misleading. The situation in South Viet Nam is neither clear nor simple. It is indeed something of a political and military enigma and the press would be betraying—not serving—the cause of democracy by picturing it otherwise.

The present Associated Press writing staff in the war area is composed of highly competent men, three of whom covered the Second World War and Korea, and two of whom are Pulitzer Prize winners who have been in Viet Nam for four years. In the past 14 months, two AP men have been killed and six wounded in action. They were reporting first hand—not second-guessing from Washington. Last year, the news agency spent three-quarters of a million dollars in Viet Nam on staff and communications. This doesn't mean that everything reported from Viet Nam through AP

has been accurate. Mistakes are inevitable where the confusion of war exists. But an examination of the record of what has been reported through independent news channels and what government officials have said about Viet Nam in the same period leaves no doubt that the reporting has been more accurate than the official statements. The military action, confusing as it is, comes through with startling clarity compared to the political situation.

There are, however, no measuring rods that a correspondent can use to show who's winning and losing each day. No towns are captured, occupied and put behind the lines. There is no front; few large battles by the standards of every other war. Small units strike back from ambush, and both sides claim a victory. There is a daily body count of enemy dead of extremely doubtful value. These and other imponderables leave huge gaps for claims of any kind by the South or North Vietnamese, by hawks or doves, by the government, or by those against the war. The correspondents, as a whole try to report the facts, and incur the wrath of all concerned. But as is essential that they keep doing their job as accurately as they can.

Of Maritime Concern

Maritime representatives in the Commons have expressed concern—and rightly so—over the government announcement that Caribbean trade shipments to Canada no longer need to be routed through east coast Canadian ports. This provision is made in the new trade agreement with the Commonwealth Caribbean countries, and it means that cargoes made up for the United States and Canada may be unloaded in, say Boston, and the Canadian portion trucked or rail-shipped to Canada without loss of the preference which heretofore applied only if they were landed directly at Canadian ports.

It is the contention of government officials that the loss of cargoes handled at Maritime ports will not likely be great, but this is not a satisfactory answer. Ray March, executive secretary of the Halifax Port and Industrial Commission, predicts the results will be "very, very serious." The danger, he concedes, is not so much the actual disadvantage in this instance, but it sets a precedent in breaching the Commonwealth preferential tariff agreement which could prove of far-reaching consequences. It is possible that Australia, for example, might say this privilege has been granted to the West Indies and want it too.

Moreover, it has been suggested that this new agreement could pave the way eventually to a free exchange of commodities between Canada and the Caribbeans—something the Maritimes have long been after and which would restore to us a measure of the shipping boom we enjoyed in pre-Confederation days. But if this precedent of permitting the routing of cargoes through U.S. ports were to be followed—and it is always hard to get rid of a bad precedent—it could involve us in serious losses indeed.

Meantime we note the announcement by Transport Minister Pickersgill that so far as the St. Lawrence Seaway is concerned, there will be no increase of tolls during the 1966 shipping season. The seaway authority has proposed a 10 per cent increase, and the issue is now before the cabinet. Even this increase will fall short of meeting the gargantuan debt charges which this ambitious enterprise entails, and which every Canadian taxpayer will have to shoulder. But the government has yielded to pressure to do nothing for the time being, permitting an extravagant form of subsidization at the expense, chiefly, of Maritime shipping interests which always seem to be the "odd man out" when it comes to getting fair consideration.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Prince Philip hasn't lost his refreshing tartness of tongue. He noted in a speech in London the other day that the British Commonwealth has a lot of "obituary writers," but predicted that they would be "pushing out daises long before the Commonwealth ceases to exist."

The United States automobile industry is reported to have 1,700,000 unsold cars to get rid of before the 1967 models can be brought out. The Ottawa Journal comes up with the consoling reflection that, in a pinch, they could bring out the 1967 cars in 1967.



PAPER CHASE

FABLED SILK ROUTE

Road To Mandalay To Lose Its Ruts

The fabled old silk routes across Asia are being revived in the form of two modern trans-continental highways. Within a few years, it will be possible to drive from the Mediterranean to such far-flung terminuses as Saigon, Singapore, and the island of Java. Land-Rovers, Jeeps, and buses have taken over from slow-moving, dusty caravans, but trekking eastward on completed sections of the two roads still is an arduous adventure. A recent traveler, who was making a survey for the United Nations, reported: "One of the many deep ruts (near the Afghan border) buffeted our bus so violently that a large carton strapped onto the roof rack was thrown overboard and its contents strewn over the road, including two whisky bottles, of which only one survived the fall."

ROAD TO KATMANDU

Asia's A-1 priority road will link booming metropolises with storybook cities—Mashhad, Kabul, Mandalay, and Phnom Penh. A-2 will swing northward into the Himalayan foothills to bring international traffic to Nepal's temple capital, Katmandu. The old silk roads took traders to and from Imperial China as early as A.D. 97. China sent forth an envoy to try to establish trade with Rome; he never got there, but the effort had been made. Within two or three decades, a wealthy Roman merchant had organized trading expeditions into central Asia. Once East-West overland trade had been established, there was a steady stream of men, pack animals, and cargo across the cruel wastelands of central Asia. Caravans joggled westward with silk, jewels, and lacquered chests of tea. Those going east carried gold and silver. Silk was literally as precious as gold to Westerners, and until the mid-6th century they could get it only from China. Centuries later, a document of Henry VIII referred to "satin, tarts, and every other Cloth of Silke"—all words of Asian origin. The long trail from China to the Mediterranean resembled the early Sante Fe Trail in the United States. The silk road was merely a path, though marked in places by towers flanked by

Our Yesterdays

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (July 14, 1941) Russian forces battling Hitler's legions by land and sea inflicted heavy losses on Nazi units on the eastern battlefield and sank two German destroyers and 13 transports out of a big Baltic convoy. The fire bell at City Hall will ring six times every morning until the duration of the war, at 11 o'clock to remind citizens that this country is at war and to give them an opportunity to pray for a successful conclusion to the conflict. It was decided at the regular meeting of the City Council.

TEN YEARS AGO

(July 14, 1956) The largest number of scouts and girls ever known to be under canvas at one time are now enjoying an outing at five camps throughout the province. Altogether about 250 boys are camping. The statement was made by J. David Stewart, chairman of the Prince Edward Island Hospital campaign to raise \$250,000, that the total results are \$247,195, with almost complete returns from every worker of the campaign. Edmundson with a heavy sprinkling of French close to its boundaries, has a privately owned

Exercise Keeps Age

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen
 Some individuals are fanatics about exercise and believe that their health and a sense of well-being are dependent upon it. Others have no use for calisthenics, brisk walks, a game of tennis, or a round of golf. So far as they are concerned, "if breathing were exercise, they would have been dead long ago."

Most of us fall between those two extremes and I'm a follower of the middle-of-the-road attitude. The key to the problem is to exercise in keeping with your age and never take a year's workout on a single afternoon. More than one executive has been laid to rest because he tried to keep up with the boss of the shipping room at the annual picnic.

The enthusiast disregards the fact that almost all bodily movements done during the day by a normal person are a form of exercise. These maneuvers include sitting, walking, eating, and dressing. The farmer exerts all day to accomplish his chores and the carpenter and bricklayer are physically active in their occupations. In other words, most of us obtain more exercise than we realize.

Exercise also is a potent remedy and is used extensively to increase strength and to rehabilitate injured and ailing muscles and joints. Whenever a group of muscles contracts there is another group (the respective antagonists) that relax at the same time.

Resistive exercises help to improve coordination, enhance endurance, and re-educate muscles. As the term implies, the muscles contract against resistance which forces them to exert near maximum effort. Lifting a weight is a simple illustration provided the weight is heavy enough to tax the strength of the particular muscles involved.

It has been said that approximately 30 repetitions of a single exercise each day will increase muscle strength at an optimum rate. Heavy weight loads are used to develop potentially strong muscles but the physical therapist also must be prepared to alter the technique to exercise poor grade or partially paralyzed muscles. This method is useful in the treatment of arthritis, residuals of a strain, sprain, fractures, and other joint injuries.

ROUGH SKIN
 Mrs. W.A. writes: My three-year-old grandson has unusually dry and rough skin, especially on his palms and legs. Can anything be done?

REPLY
 There are many salves and lotions containing oil, but before anything is done, find out what is making the skin dry. Several skin, glandular, and allergic disorders as well as a vitamin deficiency are capable of causing dryness and roughness.

TOOTH ERUPTION
 Mrs. M.F. writes: Are the gums lanced any more in children to help a tooth come through?

REPLY
 No, because the gum may heal before the tooth erupts. Now and then the dentist may remove the underlying tissue when tooth eruption is delayed.

TEARFUL
 G.F. writes: Could excessive crying injure the health?

REPLY
 Crying itself is well tolerated, but the same cannot be said for the facts responsible, such as grief, frustration, or depression.

HIP SORENESS
 H.A. writes: What causes pain in hip after walking a block?

REPLY
 Arthritis and poor circulation are the most common causes.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT
 Frequent coughing should be investigated. (NOTE: All correspondence to Dr. Van Dellen should be addressed to: Dr. Theodore Van Dellen, c/o Chicago Tribune, Chicago, Illinois.)

KNOW THAT SNAKE
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EVERYBODY'S TALKING ABOUT "THE OTTAWA MAN"
 "It's popular in its rarest sense . . . It's the right play for the summer."
 —Robert Blondin

Guarded Chinese Reaction

By Harold Morrison
 Canadian Press Staff Writer
 Caught by political conflict at home, China now is faced with the possibility that its last bastion of influence in North Viet Nam may be lost to the more affluent Russians who have promised increased military aid to Hanoi. It seemed just a short time ago that Peking was shouting that its troops were ready to march into the Viet Nam war to teach the Americans a lesson they would never forget. Now China says its troops still are available, but it might be better if Hanoi depended on "self-reliance."

It is evident that Peking doesn't want to get deeply involved in the Viet Nam struggle. Undoubtedly one reason is that such involvement would add to the strain on the Chinese economy. Perhaps more significantly, it might tend to switch vigilance from the home front where the Mao Tse-Tung forces are busy purging their ranks of those reluctant to bow to the Mao line.

FACTS SCARCE
 The bamboo curtain prevents a clear understanding of the depth of the internal political cleavage. Some observers suggest it is perhaps more serious than meagre reports would indicate.

The evidence of internal conflict may have been one of the arguments President Johnson considered before ordering the bombing of oil installations near Hanoi and Haiphong. It was an open invitation to the Chinese to respond if they could. The Chinese did not.

The North Vietnamese need help. There have been reports—in the nature of rumors since they cannot be substantiated—that Hanoi has told both Moscow and Peking there is a limit to North Vietnamese ability to resist unless the big Communist powers provide more arms.

The Soviet Union almost immediately announced a substantial increase in military supplies and it goes without saying that Moscow won't give equipment away without getting something in return. In this case it undoubtedly will demand more influence over Hanoi's foreign policy and a withering of Peking links.

DISPUTE OVER LENIN
 Whether Moscow would use its influence to end the Viet Nam war is doubtful. It is more likely it would seek to promote wider international acceptance of its own interpretation of Leninism.

Part of the Soviet-Chinese clash involves acceptance of a quasi-religious messianism and the Mao challenge to the supremacy of Lenin.

In the Chinese view, Mao appears to be the true successor to Lenin. Premier Chou En-lai has said repeatedly: "Mao Tse-tung's thought is our most powerful weapon for defeating the bourgeoisie and revisionism. The banner of Mao Tse-tung's thought is the banner of victory."

This is an attempt to elevate Mao at least to equality with Lenin—perhaps even a notch higher. It would be a blow to Mao's ego if, through the loss of influence in Hanoi and elsewhere, he no longer can be assured of wide acceptance as the supreme philosopher of Communist doctrine.

Another Witch Hunt

Ottawa Journal
 Thieves mustn't lead very tranquil lives. Someone is always after them. Imagine, then, the feelings of the thief who was foolish enough to loot the St. Louis, Mo. hotel room occupied by Dame Sybil Leek, witch and high priestess of the New Forest Coven. She has sworn to put a hex on him.

It is a popular belief that crooks, besides not being very honest, are superstitious. Medieval literature is full of thieves being carried off by the Devil. What can that Missouri marauder have been thinking of? Surely he noticed the broom at the parking meter outside the hotel. He must have wondered about the caution in Dame Sybil's flat "Didn't he see the box in her bath?"

He will never, of course, be able to get rid of the \$450 he stole from her. For every dollar he spends, two more will sprout in his pocket. And how those magic rings must burn. He will have to stay awake at night lest one of them roll up and fasten itself around his neck.

The poor fellow has not only Dame Sybil to worry about. He was careless enough to steal a purse given the witch by law Fleming. Now he has James Bond to contend with as well.

Famous Old Cheeses

Chatham Daily News
 One of our contemporaries questions the sense of importing cheese from England. He said that in a supermarket someone came across a package of quite ordinary cheese at an ordinary price. It looked like Canadian cheddar but it was a crumbling sort of cheese and quite bland compared to the fine mippy Canadian cheddar.

We would like to advise that this was probably real British cheddar from which the nippier Canadian variety was cribbed. It is made in Cheddar, England, near the area which makes the better known Cheshire cheese. Cheshire cheese is so well known that a London "pub" near Fleet Street, is named after it. It was there that Samuel Johnson, the famous lexicographer and author, once held court and it still exists.

Britain also is celebrated for Stilton and Wensleydale cheese. Other countries also have specialty cheeses, variously made from sheep, goat's or cow's milk. Egyptians once made cheese from camel's milk. The Lapps make it from reindeer's milk.

The Netherlands is celebrated for edam and gouda cheeses; Switzerland for gruyere; Italy for parmesan and zagonzola; France for camembert, brie and Roquefort. The latter, like Danish cheese, is veined with green streaks due to the introduction of bacteria in manufacture. There are limburger, brussels and herve cheeses. The latter three rank "high" in the pungency division.

There are many more varieties differing slightly in methods of making, curing or maturing, thereby each acquired its own individual flavor and odor. So, when you savor real Canadian or American cheese to spare a kind thought for their European precursors.

BIRDS FIND HOME
 More than 350 species of bird can be found in Yugoslavia.

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