

Trade Reform Outlook

The adoption by the United States Senate, of President Kennedy's radical trade expansion bill is an event of prime importance. The solid vote of 78-8 on which the measure passed was hailed as dramatic evidence of a shift in the protectionist viewpoint of many senators and a major victory for the administration. Of chief interest to the outside world is the fact that this bill was proposed as the answer to the European Common Market. It had passed the House of Representatives almost intact, and now, with only one minor amendment, it will go back there with every assurance of its being enacted.

Under this measure the President will be permitted to cut tariffs 50 per cent generally, abolish some tariffs altogether, and provide government aid to United States industries and workers injured by increased imports.

Meanwhile the Commonwealth members have been assured that there will be "full and continuing consultation" before Britain makes its final decision on whether to join the six-nation European Economic Community. But there is nothing in the communiqué issued at the end of the conference to indicate that British hands will be tied when talks with the Common Market group resume within a few weeks.

As Prime Minister Macmillan reminded his Commonwealth partners, "Britain is independent too, although we have not yet declared our independence." What was stirring about his closing speech was his view of Europe and of Britain's destiny.

"The future of the world," he declared, "may well depend on policies pursued by the countries of Europe in the next generation or more. They are abandoning their old internal and fratricidal disputes. Here in Europe many among the young generation are impatient with old disputes and intolerant of what we deem obsolete conceptions. These young people want us in Britain to take our place and if we can lead in the advance to the future."

The same breadth of vision is being shown by President Kennedy at this time, and the response to his leadership is indicative of the wide appeal which the trade expansion movement is making throughout the United States. Surely this fact will not be lost sight of by those who are guiding Canada's destiny! The world's future may well be at stake in this mighty movement that is sweeping both hemispheres.

Quebec Election Called

Premier Lesage has proven himself a level-headed government leader and his calling of a snap general election in Quebec, after a little more than two years in office, and on a single issue of expropriating eleven private power companies, must make sense to his supporters. What gives his gesture an air of shadow-boxing, however, is the fact that the Union Nationale party, with 40 out of 51 opposition seats in the Quebec Legislature, is not on record as opposing expropriation.

Mr. Johnson, the Union Nationale leader, appears to be on a sound ground in contending that as a general election cannot be constituted as a referendum on a particular question. A vote against the Lesage government, he maintains, cannot be a vote against nationalization inasmuch as the opposition party has never been against public ownership.

After the opposition party caucus

which is stated in the policy statement, there may be a policy statement which could be construed in this light. But the Premier has definitely called the election on November 14, and in the meantime he faces the onus of putting the province to an unnecessary expense when a referendum would serve the purpose of giving him the mandate he seeks.

Public ownership of power resources in Quebec has been discussed for more than thirty years. Open opposition to it now seems to stem chiefly from the Shawinigan Water and Power group—the largest of all the province's private power companies—but according to a government spokesman there is "solid opposition from private interests generally." How these interests can be a threat to the government without having representation in the Legislature has not been explained.

There may be other factors involved in the calling of the election, of course, of which the public is unaware. The Lesage government has given sound administration, and is entitled to the benefit of any doubts as to its motives that may arise. It has worked co-operatively with Ottawa and with the other provinces, and its continuance in power would, we believe, be a good thing for Quebec. It is its procedure on this occasion that surprises us, as being unwarranted on the basis given. Perhaps other reasons for this sudden appeal to the electorate will emerge as the campaign gets under way.

Costly Bullheadedness

When the United States began its first high altitude nuclear tests, there was international warning from physicists of many countries. They feared that it would place an important radiation handicap on all journeys into outer space, and it would set a dangerous precedent to assume that the right of self-defense also gave a nation and right to experiment with environmental features which belong to all nations.

Now there is a new man-made band of intense radiation, estimated to be 3,000 miles thick and extending for 3,600 miles in the north-south direction, with its peak intensity about 2,400 miles and covering the best available routes from midhemisphere countries into outer space. It will be necessary to go out over the polar regions to avoid it or to add substantial shielding to future space capsules. It is obvious what further testing of high altitude bombs would do.

Relatively, the U.S. Space Administration is preparing a new satellite to measure this damage. Certainly it is desirable to make this test as soon as possible. The trouble may be a good deal more serious than the authorities at Washington have let the public know. Doubtless they are not certain themselves. The point is that they acted with what the Christian Science Monitor calls "bullheaded incompetence" in pursuing these altitude tests in the first place. There was no hint of a requirement of American defense so important as to override the warnings they received from other competent authorities. Soviet propaganda is making the most of this blunder, and understandably so. There should be a shakeup at the Pentagon to determine who the bull-headed incompetents were.

OTHER ADVANTAGES That a student may also be that if a study comes out of such an environment falls at the end of the freshman year, the record of his family may not be that he did not live up to the opportunity for study. It may be, rather, that he will be shut out from all these other advantages.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Changes in the farm credit act, forecast for the coming session of Parliament, may be purposely slanted toward increasing beef production in Canada. This could be done by special financial inducements to farmers who are building up beef herds, or who are switching from dairy to beef. An increasing demand for beef in the North American market is already being noted by Canadian agriculturists and an increase of nearly 200,000 in beef cows and yearling heifers has been reported in the past year.

A useful booklet for businessmen has just been published by the Department of Trade and Commerce. Entitled "Federal Services For Business", it summarizes the wide range of services and information of direct interest to business available from 21 federal government departments and agencies. Running to 88 pages, it includes a handy index and lists information under 27 headings ranging from business opportunities, financial and technical assistance, to marketing at home and abroad.



HARD TO KEEP UP

THAT FRESHMAN YEAR

Canadian Press Staff Writer

from that of the last year of high school. It is right that it should be so, and that the student should be made to realize that he is responsible, as he has never been before, for the management of his own life. THE GREATEST THING The greatest thing about the first year may teach the freshman is not that there are hard and grim tasks to be faced, but that the mastering of difficulties is the greatest satisfaction that life has to offer.

Tardy U.N. Openings

By Joseph MacSwiney

Incredible as it may sound, the question of getting to work on time has been raised at the United Nations General Assembly. In an organization charged with maintaining peace in the world, it is true that diplomats find it tough to be at their desks on time. In fact, some diplomats and sometimes they don't show up at all.

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OUR YESTERDAYS

(From the Guardian Files)

THE annual dinner of the Ontario Federation of Fish Producers was held at the Drill Hall last evening. L.-Col. J.J. Blake, officer commanding, presided. Guest speakers included Col. H. Johnston who received the trophy for the best fish in the province and in the Maritimes.

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GOES TO TOWN

Country Town

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

HISTOPLASMA is an old rural disease that is moving to the cities. It is caused by a yeast-like fungus that grows on various tissues but preferentially on the lungs. The causative organism, which may be found in soil contaminated usually by bird droppings.

Members of the Scout group were contacted and skin and blood tests for histoplasmosis were done along with chest X-rays. Only 10 had been ill but 97 per cent of those who had visited the park have a positive skin test, 60 per cent had a positive blood test, and 47 per cent of the chest X-rays suggested histoplasmosis. It took a few moments of detective work to discover that the Scouts had worked with 60 other scouts in the same area of a city park.

The boys came from a part of Missouri which is a highly wooded area. Sixty per cent of all the soil samples collected from the park contained histoplasma. Soil samples taken from six sites within a radius of 3 miles around the park also contained the fungus. Why was the park contaminated? It was populated by a large number of starlings, woodpeckers, droppings almost completely covered the ground.

THE infection is not transmitted directly from person to person but is inhaled in the contaminated air. The starlings, woodpeckers and chickens are the most common offenders in the central part of the United States, up to 75 per cent of the population gave evidence of having had the disease. In skin or blood tests are positive.

Less than five per cent of this number develop symptoms and until we had the above tests the disease was diagnosed only in this small percentage. No wonder it was considered a rare disease. The important thing to remember is that the lung findings of histoplasmosis mimic tuberculosis and the proper tests are done.

Dr. Van Dellen will answer questions at the Ontario Health Council, stamped, self-addressed envelope accompanies request.

GLAUCOMA IN THE FAMILY

AND PLEDGE My dear mother, mother, and brother have glaucoma and, sad to say, are nearly blind. I'm afraid I'll get it as I grow older. What about my children? Is it contagious? Is it hereditary?

REPLY

Glaucoma is not contagious but heredity plays a role. It is the price some of us pay for a living past 40. With your background, particularly attention to early symptoms and consult an ophthalmologist as quickly as possible should vision become misty or halos appear around lights. Send stamped self-addressed envelope for leaflet on glaucoma.

COFFEE PEPSI HIM UP

M.V. writes: My husband has low blood pressure. Could it be due to drinking an excessive amount of coffee?

REPLY

No. We don't know why some people have low blood pressure but we do know they live longer than those with high blood pressure. Your husband is fortunate.

WEIGHT LIFTING

A.D. writes: I contracted Bell's palsy on the left side of the face. After recovery I will be able to return to weight lifting?

REPLY

Yes. I doubt if you use your facial muscles to lift weights. TODAY'S HEALTHY MAN should be physically active the year round.

NOTES BY THE WAY

A Scot, inviting a friend to a party, explained to him how to put the apartment. "Come to the fifth floor and when you see the letter 'M' on the door, push the button with your thumb, and when the door opens, put your foot against the 'M' and you'll be in. 'Show and foot!' the friend asked. "For a goodness sake, you're not a Scotchman, are you?"

The Oldest Settlers

New York Herald Tribune

The Indians were here first—probably many thousands of years before Columbus arrived but they were not to be counted among the first settlers. The Indians were here first—probably many thousands of years before Columbus arrived but they were not to be counted among the first settlers.

Both the Argentine and democracy itself are near the new crisis point. The Argentine is near the new crisis point. The Argentine is near the new crisis point.

Warning From Argentine

Christian Science Monitor

Argentina—whose future stability is in many ways more important to the United States than the amazing plans for nearby Cuba... is almost certainly in a state of transition. But its troubles are not remaining suspended. They are growing.

Atomic Fairy Tales

Montreal Gazette

The United States and Britain have indicated that they wish to sign a treaty with the Soviet Union outlawing nuclear tests. At the 17-nation disarmament conference in Geneva (now in recess for two months) the West put forward two proposals.

ONE suggested banning all nuclear explosions, with some international inspection and antea against secret underground tests. The other would allow underground tests only, without international on-site checks.

THE Soviet Union has rejected both these plans and Moscow's negotiator at Geneva has told the West bluntly that the present case would be a waste of time.

IT is to be hoped that Soviet propaganda manoeuvres in regard to nuclear testing and disarmament will not be allowed to intrude too often into the deliberations of the United Nations General Assembly which opens in New York tomorrow. The Kremlin should continue provocations that its

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