

national interest. Perhaps a Federal farm development bank, consolidating all Government credit for farmers, as suggested by James M. Forgie, Liberal member for Renfrew North, would help.

Thin Veneer

Despite the horror of the execution of former Premier Nagy of Hungary and three of his co-patriots, by consent, if not by the order, of Russian authorities, some good may come of it. All over the world a cry of outrage has been heard. A United Nations committee on Hungary is going ahead with a special report on the former premier's execution regardless of Budapest's refusal to cooperate. The committee also is exploring the possibilities of calling a special meeting of the U.N. General Assembly. Even in powerful Communist parties like those of Italy and France there is said to be consternation at the stupidity, to say nothing of the iniquity, of the act. In India, where Government officials have been trying for years to stay on friendly terms with Russia's leaders, denunciation has been particularly severe. And we may be sure that in countries which are under Moscow's domination—the satellite countries—there is dismay mingled with fear.

The fact that the Government of a supposedly civilized country could do such a thing is proof that the Russian leaders' professed desire for "co-existence", for international understanding and good will, for agreements based on mutual respect, is only a thin veneer covering almost primitive savagery. A truce there may be—for the simple reason that war would be universally devastating; but how can there be any respect for a regime that has shown plainly that it holds both human freedom and human life in utter contempt?

Cause For Uneasiness

There is cause for uneasiness in a report made to a meeting of doctors in Halifax by Major H.B. Bevan Jones, a psychiatrist attached to the R.C.A.M.C.

Major Bevan-Jones stated that "loss of freedom, lack of privacy and the impersonal attitude of the army are factors which are 'upsetting recruits.'" He noted that two-fifths of the recruits rejected on medical grounds during a test period—Nov. 1956 to March 1958—were psychiatric cases. Most of them had personality disorders; and 7 per cent had mental deficiency in some degree.

3.8 per cent of the new recruits in the army's Eastern Command, which takes in the Atlantic Provinces, were "downgraded" for medical reasons within six months of signing up. 1.5 per cent of the total were recommended for discharge for psychiatric reasons. Major Bevan-Jones expressed the opinion that more personal officers should be fully trained in psychology. This, he believes, would lead to more efficiency in screening recruits.

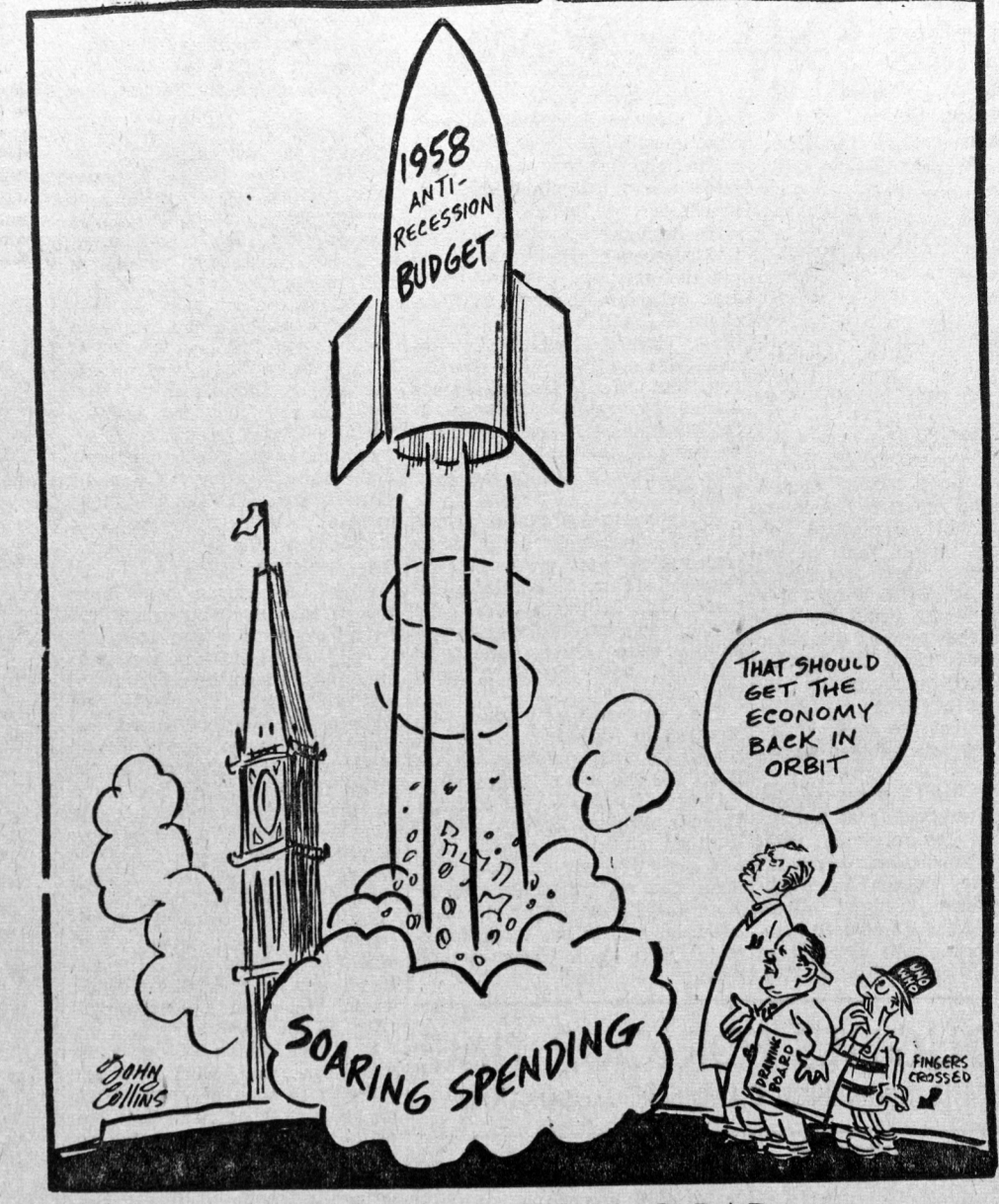
Vacant Farms

In her recent speech in the Senate the Hon. Florence Elsie Inman touched on, among other things, the need for rehabilitation of vacant farms, so that the soil—good soil in most instances—might be put back in production.

This is a matter which is of importance to the whole Maritime area. It is of special importance to this Province where, for its size and taking all factors into consideration, there are more vacant farms than in any of the other areas. There must be many thousands of acres of land lying idle on this Island. It is a most unfortunate situation and all possible efforts should be made to improve it.

Senator Inman did not say what form these efforts should take, except to suggest that members of Parliament from farming constituencies "direct their influence" to finding ways and means of doing something about the situation. We are not sure that the rank and file member of Parliament from rural areas has a great deal of influence. But if he has only a little, he could do much worse with it than use it in behalf of the need outlined by Mrs Inman. It is a shocking thing that good land should be idle when over half of the world's population are constantly on the verge of starvation.

It is not the type of problem that is easy to solve, of course. Nor is it altogether a Federal problem. It might ever be argued that it is a problem that belongs exclusively to the Provinces. But in these days, when the Federal Government has a hand—usually a controlling hand—in everything that involves social and economic welfare, it is not unreasonable to expect Federal aid in a problem that is so closely related to the



OFF THE LAUNCHING PAD

OTTAWA REPORT

"Under New Management"

By Patrick Nicholson
 Special Correspondent For The Guardian

OTTAWA — It is remarkable how wide some doors are opened around here by a little bit of defeat.

And this is especially true at or near the summit in adversity, where doors which used to be so firmly closed are now invitingly open on a come-one come-all basis. Noteworthy in this respect is that popular and headlined statesman, made familiar to all through his device of how tie, "boyish grin" and Novel Peace Prize.

When "Mike" was our Secretary of State for External Affairs, he was virtually inaccessible to most journalists. I was always very fortunate; but his secretary, Mary Macdonald, barred his door against many newsmen with a wall of oh so solid flesh, in a zealous and jealous manner not shown by woman since. Flora of the same name sacrificed her forearm as a door latch to protect Bonnie Prince Charlie.

Now "Mike" under new management has become Hon. Lester Pearson. John Payne, one of our most successful commercial publicists, has been lured by the National Liberal Federation at a rich remuneration to build a hero of the grass roots out of that diplomat of the ivory tower.

THE LIBERAL HOPE
 In this era of the cult of personality at the summit of the Liberal Party—which was initiated by projecting an apparent

ly forbidding Quebec lawyer into trans-Canadian folklore as "Uncle"—the immediate future of the party largely depends upon John Payne's mission to create a winning image out of his employer's selected front man.

This practitioner emeritus in wooing the public was long successful in putting across the 300 year old Hudson's Bay Company of Adventurers trading into our West. Now he must attempt as much with his 61 year old charge adventuring especially into a West barren of elected followers.

He certainly handles more promising clay than that available previously to Bill Munro, the account executive of the advertising agency Cockfield Brown, who handles the Liberal Party business.

As a first step, he has launched a campaign to win back for Mr. Pearson that reverent and uncritical admiration, which was tendered to him by political correspondents here through his 9 years as External Affairs Secretary—only to be destroyed within an hour on 20th January last in the most impressively successful political suicide ever caused by error of judgment.

Through years past, Mr. Pearson has held weekly press conferences which earned him both admiration and headlines. So as a start, John Payne has reintroduced these, but with a difference.

In Parliament's Room 497, about two dozen newsmen gathered for the first conference. This is the present Liberal Party caucus room, which used to house no more than a Quebec caucus.

ATTENDANCE DROPS
 The following week, the audience of newsmen was halved, which testified to the thinness of the gravel. For when Mr. Pearson was a Cabinet Minister, he would talk freely and frankly on any topic raised. But now when he is Leader of the Opposition, charm is all. Every worthwhile topic is barred on the grounds that it will shortly be discussed in Parliament. This new preferential respect for Parliament deodorises his news conferences.

Our uncapacitated attention hence roamed around the room, appreciating the attractive paneling, noting the gilded door lining, proclaiming "Honor the King" and "Fear God," comparing the brooding black busts of former Liberal giants at one end of the room and the happy live faces of present Liberal aides at the other. The hour-long conference was recorded word by word by a Hansard reporter with a tape-recorder, who was moonlighting at the expense of the National Liberal Federation; and by a five-man C. B. D. television crew with camera, lights and tape-recorder, which was not moonlighting and was at the expense of the taxpayer, which means you.

As one cynic commented, we will soon be given coffee and doughnuts to fill the hour which facts may not fill.

The only remaining interest in what was once the most popular press conference on The Hill, now is to see what gimmick the brilliant John Payne will infuse into this moribund moment.

THE ACADIANS OF P.E.I.
 Three Years Of Privation
 By J. Henri Blanchard, LL. D.

(Continued from Saturday)

In eleven of the new settlements, although clearing had been made, not a bush had been sown for lack of seed. This lack was due largely to a succession of misfortunes which may be well illustrated by de la Roque's remarks concerning Malpec, one of the most promising of all the settlements.

"The lands in the neighbourhood of the harbour of Malpec are superior in quality to those of St. Pierre, and the river du Nord-Est, and even to all those we have visited up to the present time. Nevertheless those who have settled here have not been able to seed their lands this year, but it must be taken into consideration that it was due to the bad seasons from which the unfortunate settlers have suffered during three consecutive years. The first year the trouble was caused by field mice.

"A prejudiced, ignorant and vulgar people, did not long hesitate in ascribing the coming of this plague to some evil spirit working against the Island. Suspicion fell upon a man named St. Germain, dit Perigord. This suspicion coming to knowledge of the Indians, they took the man Perigord, put him to death, and buried him on the Isle of Comte Saint-Pierre, at the western entrance of the harbour of port Lajoie.

SECOND BAD SEASON
 "The second bad season was caused by innumerable legions of locusts of a prodigious size. They were of so voracious a species that they ravaged all the grain, vegetables and even the grass and the buds on the trees.

The last year, the wheat crop was totally scalded. These are the events of the last three years' anguish, that have reduced these poor settlers to the depths of poverty, so that for at least six months, the greater number amongst them had not even bread to eat, but subsisted on the shell fish they gathered on the shores of the harbour when the tide was out. It is certain that unless the King makes them a gratuity, or a loan of seed grain to seed their land the coming spring, the settlers will be under the bitter necessity of

Among Latest Medical Aids

By Herman N. Bundesen, m.d.
 NEW DRUGS for relief of arthritis, bursitis and lumbago, a new emergency treatment for severe shock and even a different kind of toothbrush are the medical advances I would like to discuss today.

Chlorzoxazone is the drug which reportedly provides relief from painful muscle spasms of lumbago, bursitis, stiff neck, sprains and strains. Its manufacturers say it is one-and-a-half to three times as potent as other commonly used skeletal relaxants.

FOUND EFFECTIVE
 In three years of laboratory research and two years of tests with human patients, they report, it has been found effective in a wide variety of arthritic, rheumatic and orthopedic ills. It is not, however, a cure for arthritis.

Aristocort triamcinolone is a new steroid which may prove beneficial to many arthritic and allergic patients who previously have not been able to tolerate steroid drugs.

NOT A CURE
 It reportedly has proven effective in treating rheumatoid arthritis, respiratory allergies and dermatoses. Again I want to emphasize that this drug is not a cure for arthritis or asthma, but it does promise to make steroid therapy available to many more patients.

Meticortelone Soluble, a sterile powder form of prednisolone, is the new emergency treatment for severe shock caused by injuries, burns, surgery and other life-threatening medical-conditions marked by the need for rapid replacement of cortical hormone.

Favorable response is also reported in sensitivity reactions such as acute asthmatic attacks, drug reactions, hives and other allergic emergencies.

The new type of toothbrush is

NOTES BY THE WAY

Science is immeasurably ahead of Nature. In the modern household the children are about the only things left that still have to be washed by hand.—Brandon Sun

If it's true, as the scientists say, that civilization began 70 centuries ago, isn't it high time one of these numerous "commissions" could find out where it got sidetracked?—Ottawa Citizen

A popular magazine says that your health will benefit if you walk more. But you'll lose the splendid message of the inner organs which result from squeezing out of these modern cars.—Peterborough Examiner.

considerably different from the conventional brush. It has two inner rows of stiff bristles and two outer rows of soft bristles. Investigators used special testing machines and human volunteers to measure the effectiveness of the new type brush. They report it performed in a way that conventional brushes could not.

The inner bristles, they say, were strong enough to clean the teeth thoroughly and the outer bristles were soft enough to massage the gums without damage.

QUESTION AND ANSWER
 T.H.: I have been told I have a cervical rib.

What cause it, and is there any way of taking care of it besides an operation?
 Answer: A cervical rib is an extra rib present in the neck, extending from a spine in the neck. There is no real function of a rib in this area, and it can at times cause pressure on nerves and blood vessels, producing pain and circulation difficulties in the arms.

Usually, the only cure is removal of the rib by surgery.

From South Africa comes the story of the ox sold near Kimberley which walked 40 miles home, passing through 10 gates on the way. The ox had been sold and when it reappeared at the old homestead the first owner was so touched that he refunded the purchase price and it will spend the rest of its days on the farm it loved.—Ottawa Journal



LILACS

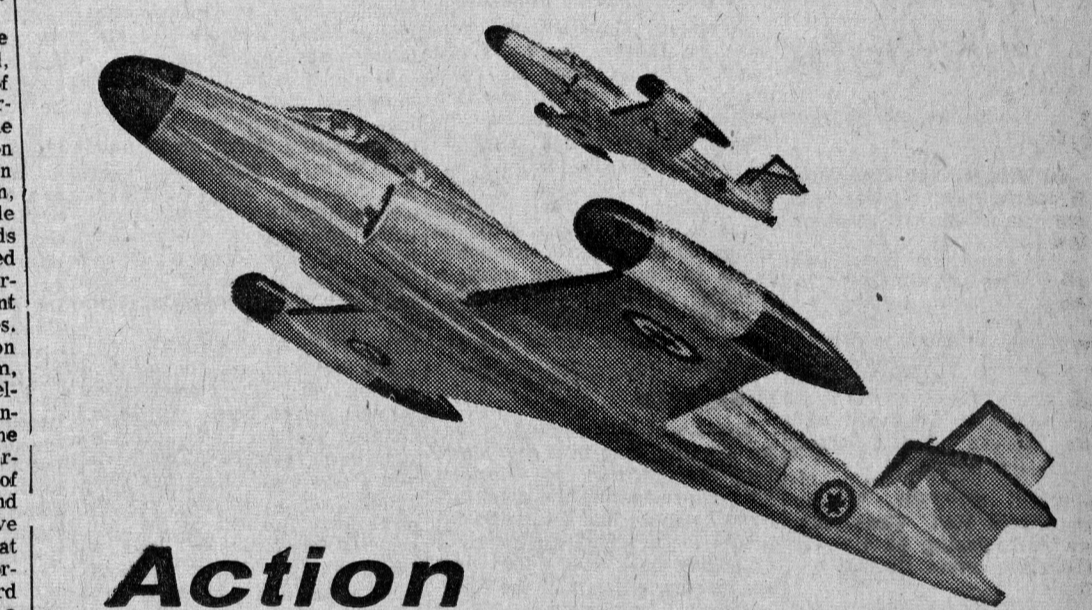
There is a window in a house I know
 Through which I watched the wind so softly blow
 The dew-wet lilacs that they swayed as though
 By spirit moved; to me, at break of day
 There stole a haunting breath, a roundelay
 Charming the lattice with the lure of May.

And one there was who loved the lilacs too,
 And so I picked them wet with morning dew
 And gave them for their beauty's thrilling hue;
 The lilacs now are dreams of long ago;
 Yet still is seen their dew-impassioned glow
 Watched from a window in a house I know.

—Arthur S. Bourinot
 (In "Collected Poems")

MAXIMS

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