

other residents of areas about to be sprayed are warned in advance by loudspeakers and leaflets dropped from planes. They are told to leave the area. Citizens are promised food and shelter if they do. Furthermore, they maintain that "war is war" and that to deny food supplies to the enemy is an accepted part of warfare. The British used a similar substance to fight Malayan Communists, they claim. In war, food is just as much a weapon as rifles. Standard procedure for Americans and South Vietnamese is to hold back as much food as possible from the Viet Cong.

But the critics are not appeased. One of them—a New York landscape architect and Harvard graduate—was so incensed with the spraying that he went on a prolonged fast. That hasn't brought the Pentagon to heel, though it is said to be sensitive on the subject, and anxious to allay suspicions that the sprays did lasting damage or caused harm to humans.

N.S. Economic Goals

Worth careful study by our local legislators is the first report, recently released, of the the Nova Scotia Planning Board, in which regional problems very much like our own are dealt with constructively. An annual increase of 2,400 new jobs and a growth rate of new capital investment of 9.2 per cent are two of the objectives set forth in the report, which is to be updated hereafter at four-year intervals.

Its broad provincial goals are similar to those called for on the national scale by the second annual review of the Economic Council of Canada: full employment, equitable distribution of income, high rate of economic growth. The board agrees with the ECC on the importance of education to achieve better economic conditions and has set up an advisory council which has made recommendations.

The province lacks not only sufficient manufacturing industries but it is also short of semi-skilled and skilled workers to fill the jobs new industry would create. Emphasis is placed on the fact that restrictive lending policies hurt the area more than wealthier parts of Canada and that special consideration should be given to this account.

A key factor in helping Nova Scotia to achieve greater economic growth, the report says, is development of secondary manufacturing industries. Industrial growth centres provide the best way to encourage this development. Halifax-Dartmouth and the Sydney-Glace Bay districts are listed as centres where industrial expansion should be emphasized in the next few years.

The board calls for a total job increase of 13,600 by 1968, and would like to see a capital investment level of \$380 million by the same year.

What, No Applause?

Saskatchewan's Liberal Premier Ross Thatcher is said to have been "livid" when the news of Hazen Argue's appointment to the Senate reached him. Mr. Thatcher was incensed at not having been consulted, or even told in advance, of Mr. Argue's elevation. And a writer in the Winnipeg Free Press reports that many Saskatchewan Liberals share his feelings. They claim that the new senator—the former CCFer turned Liberal—had not done enough penance to merit such an appointment. Also they say that if the appointment had been announced before the recent provincial byelection in Bengough, the Liberals would have been "slaughtered"—instead of winning, as they did.

Nor is there any joy among Western Liberals over the appointment of Harry Hays, the defeated minister of agriculture, to the Upper Chamber. It seems they blame him and his friends for much of the party's ill fortune in November, on the ground that Mr. Hays is not a politician and does not know how to talk to people. Their fears were not unfounded.

What it boils down to, according to this Winnipeg Liberal source, is that "as long as prairie Liberals feel that they are ignored and neglected at Ottawa, and until Ottawa gives positive and continuing proof of a change of policy, there will be no Liberal resurgence on the Prairies. In fact, there is going to be no attempt at a resurgence or revival until there is a change in policy—and Liberal leadership—at Ottawa. If the Liberal national leadership were thrown open tomorrow, the Saskatchewan delegation would not support Mr. Pearson if he were running, but would be 100 per cent behind Robert Winters, with Mitchell Sharp as second choice."

Shameful Episode

Speaking of the row that has rocked the Commons chamber during the past few days, NDP Leader Tommy Douglas remarked that no matter what happens from now on regarding the case of Gerda Munsinger, the usefulness of Lucien Cardin as a justice minister has ended. Certainly no commission of inquiry will meet the demands of the case if it does not take note of the behavior of the Liberal cabinet in this matter, and of Mr. Cardin in particular.

The minister told a press conference he first learned about the scandal when he was associate minister of defense, a post he assumed in April, 1963. Was it from the then justice minister, Mr. Favreau, that he received word, or from whom? And why, if it involved national security interests, was it allowed to lie dormant for three years? If it was not worth investigating in 1963, did it suddenly become a matter of public interest when it could be used as a Liberal instrument of retaliation in a partisan vendetta?

These are ugly questions; but so are the accusations which gave rise to them, and they should be inquired into with just as much thoroughness as other aspects of the case. The government, of course, will not submit to having the inquiry broadened in this way. But the public is holding its own court of opinion on the matter.

Meanwhile, as the Montreal Gazette sadly says, of what use was it, amid the disgraceful scenes the House has just witnessed, to hear the Prime Minister challenging the Opposition, saying that if you don't like what we are doing you can vote us out and have another election? What meaning would there be to another election? If these two great parties feel that going to the people after the display they have put on would bring either of them back with the gratitude and the confidence of the people, they delude themselves. With Canada's Centennial Year only a matter of months away, Parliament has slithered into this morass of name-calling. If it does not recover itself—and quickly—then the country is seeing disintegration taking place before its eyes.

Food Warfare Waged

Last year there was an uproar when news reports said the United States was using "poison gas" against the Viet Cong. U.S. Secretary of Defense McNamara explained that the "gas" was actually a "riot-control agent" in common use by police around the world. The types of agent used caused mild to severe irritation, lasting from 5 to 10 minutes. They did not kill, Mr. McNamara said. As Senator George Aiken commented at the time, "If the report had said tear gas was used, the world wouldn't have thought so much of it."

Now Washington is blaming another misunderstanding over reports that U.S. Air Force planes are spraying chemicals on Viet Nam to kill the crops and deny food to the Viet Cong. From universities and private citizens has come an outcry of moral indignation. In reply, Pentagon officials say the spray does not spoil earth or trees for future growth. It kills crops only for a limited time. It has been used on 20,000 acres of cropland—1.3 of 1 per cent of all the cultivated land in South Viet Nam.

Critics heatedly reply that it is morally wrong to use it, in any case. On the one hand, they argue, the United States is providing food for the Vietnamese. On the other, it is depriving them of food. What assurance is there, they demand, that only the Viet Cong will suffer? What about other Vietnamese living in sprayed areas? Officials say both Viet Cong and



THE IDES OF MARCH

OTTAWA REPORT By Patrick Nicholson

Western Budget Examples Recommended

Hon. Mitchell Sharp is now deeply involved in every Finance Minister's annual problem. He is preparing his budget of federal taxes for the fiscal year starting on April 1.

Mitch Sharp has asked Canadians to send him suggestions, "Ottawa Report" is pleased to help him, with very simple but constructive suggestion: "Go West, Mr. Sharp; visit western Canada. To learn how provincial Finance Ministers there can cut taxes while increasing welfare benefits."

Specifically, Mr. Sharp should meet his fellow-Liberal in Saskatchewan. That sounds funny, but there are some liberals left among the Tory wheatfields of the Prairies, in addition to former Conservative provincial leader Hamie McDonald and former New Democratic national leader Hazen Argue, who are now of course, both sitting in the Senate as Liberals.

Mitch Sharp should talk to Hon. Ross Thatcher, Liberal Premier of Saskatchewan, who was of course formerly a CCF MP. Ross is a big man with a big mind and broad shoulders;

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents. All letters published are subject to editing and condensation where necessary. The Guardian is unable to enter into an correspondence regarding letters submitted.

CAR FERRY CROSSINGS

SIR.—Several times this winter we have read where the car ferries at Borden were slowed with very heavy ice, some crossings taking several hours. I wonder as one of the crew of the early twenties how many are left who made the crossing in the winter of 1925, when we were 76 hours going one way. We left Borden pier with passengers and mail Saturday morning, making good time until we neared Tormentine and stuck fast. There we stayed until there was a change of wind and we reached Tormentine pier Tuesday afternoon, four days late. As one of the firemen of that time I recall we shovelled coal and raked fires on four-hour shifts many times on a slice of bread without butter. There was no time to get washed or shaved and only half enough sleep.

Coal was hoisted from the reserve bunker and carted to the stove holes to keep the forced fires raging night and day, and as the coals got low the master said as a last resort "Lower the ice boat and take the passengers ashore". They had to walk over the blackened ice pans with the late Captain A.B. Paquet going ahead with a long pole for safety.

One of the crew we like to mention was Robert McPherson, retired chief engineer, the finest man one could serve under, and that could not be said for some of the others. The late J.L. Reed was master and was very good but the stewards and the food were rotten, especially to those of us who served so hard.

Any time we visit Borden now and see again that mighty old boat coming into the dock we will recall that awful winter and several others we served there, and wonder how the crews of today would like to work that way six weeks without getting ashore or getting a hair cut or shave. On and on, night and day, for a regular monthly cheque of less than a hundred bucks! Forty years have come and gone since that winter and I have never read of any others like it, since. If any of my old buddies of that day are around yet and read this, it will churn their memory again. I am, Sir, etc. WALTER O'BRIEN Charlottetown.

he moonlights in the role of Provincial Treasurer, which is another name for Finance Minister.

PLEASE CUT TAXES

Mr. Sharp should sit at his feet and learn how—despite record government spending one-fifth higher than last year—he can still reduce the provincial income tax surcharge from 6 to 5 per cent. Ross will also meet head-on the inequity and ineffectiveness of levying tax on tax; he will offset the burden of paying federal income tax on the amount of municipal property tax by paying to every home-owner a grant of \$50 or half his property tax, whichever is less.

Then Mr. Sharp should go further west, to our boomiest and most favoured province—"Beautiful British Columbia"—it is called on its car licence plates. There too he will find a hard-working premier handling also the Finance portfolio.

Social Credit Premier W.A.C. Bennett, wearing his other hat as Minister of Finance, has increased his government's proposed spending over last year by one-fifth, a record jump for B.C. which matches the increase in prosperous Saskatchewan and Bermuda, like Thatcherland will also enjoy tax cuts.

"The tremendous increase in government expenditure this year on behalf of the people of British Columbia is by far the largest in any one year in our province's history," Mr. Bennett told me. This is not a political

empire-building budget; the increase will predominantly be spent for the benefit of the people, on education, health and welfare.

TO SPARK PROSPERITY

Despite this huge increase in government spending, prosperity booms in B.C. that Mr. Bennett can cut taxes and yet balance his budget. He will remove the 5 per cent Social Services Tax from restaurant meals, candy and soft drinks, newspapers and periodicals, and school supplies. He will also exempt from real-property tax all non-profit organizations working for the community.

The home-owner grant, comparable to Ross Thatcher's new kick-back, was introduced in B.C. by Mr. Bennett nine years ago. This year it will be increased from \$100 to \$110 per home-owner.

The economists are advising Mr. Sharp to cut federal taxes too, to stimulate the economy and to help create jobs for our out-of-work and especially for this year's school leavers. Dr. Firestone has urged that income taxes should be reduced by at least as much as last year's election-bait cut. Mr. Sharp's federal spending estimates are only two per cent above last year; if those two western provinces can increase their spending by twenty per cent and yet cut taxes while planning a small surplus, surely Mr. Sharp can give federal taxpayers some tax relief too?

For A' That

Manchester Guardian

Mr. Harold Macmillan has sent a touching and disarming reply to Mr. Emrys Hughes, the Labor member for South Ayrshire, who reminded the former Prime Minister in verse the other day that the Wilson Government had made good an omission of the Macmillan Government by publishing a Robert Burns commemorative stamp.

The lines which Mr. Hughes sent to Mr. Macmillan went: "For 'a' that, and 'a' that, It's come at last, for 'a' that, You'll see him on postage stamps, We've honored him for 'a' that." Mr. Macmillan has now replied: "Many thanks for the

Automated Potatoes?

Toronto Telegram

Dr. Herman Tiesson, a University of Guelph professor, warns that tomato growers face extinction unless they automate by employing mechanical harvesters. Increasing labor shortage is the reason why tomato growers will have to turn to automation.

With mechanical harvesting, one major problem exists, the ability of researchers to find a variety of tomato that will adapt to automatic picking. The shortage of labor during the tomato picking season in Essex County has long been a problem and it is no secret it will not improve with industry and construction paying high wages for manpower.

Tomato varieties now grown



POLITICIAN'S NIGHTMARE In silent silence, features grim. I stood and waited, facing him (A High Court Justice of the land Who held my future in his hand) With apprehension and dismay I listened to him sternly say, "Not for treason, theft or murder, But for having lunch with Gerda Guilty!" Robert Grindlay, MLA

poem, for which I am grateful. I must congratulate you on your triumph over the Burns stamp. I miss you all very much, and one of the things I miss most, is our little skirmishes at question time."

Mr. Macmillan, a Scot who sat for an English seat, and Mr. Hughes, a Welshman sitting for a Scottish seat, are both well qualified to be sentimental about Scotland.

It appears that Mr. Macmillan as Prime Minister, would have liked to issue a Burns stamp, but was over-ruled by his Postmaster-General at the time, Mr. Ernest Marples, who is an un-Scottish as anybody could be.

In Ontario, and especially Essex County, do not lend themselves to picking machines. The task facing research experts is to develop such a variety, but this will cost money and the senior governments must provide more financial assistance than at present.

Currently, only \$15,000 is being spent annually in Ontario for such research, compared to hundreds of thousands in the United States. Agricultural officials at the senior government levels should be impressed with the importance of this research and the vital role it could play in our economy.

GAME HAS HISTORY The English game of darts was fashionable at the 13th century court of King Henry II.

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Colorectal Cancers

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen More than 76,000 persons develop cancer of the colon and rectum every year. Approximately 42,000 of these men and women will die, making the condition second only to lung cancer (43,000) as a cause of death from malignancies. These statistics are more encouraging than they appear to be because the outlook for colorectal cancers is much better than those developing in the first nine leading organs causing death.

Everyone should be on the alert for this malignancy because the chance of survival is very good when detected early. The most common manifestation is a change in bowel habits. A 56 year old who had been regular all his life consulted his physician because of constipation. This was a new experience for him. The passage was partially blocked by a tumor.

Other victims develop diarrhea or pass blood or stools of a smaller caliber. Many develop constipation plus colicky abdominal pain, signs of bowel obstruction. Weakness due to anemia also suggests the possibility of a malignancy. Bleeding should never be blamed on hemorrhoids until the rectum and colon have been examined thoroughly. Some polyps of the bowel become malignant and many physicians advise removal of these tumors as a safety precaution. Many wait too long before seeing their physician because they are too embarrassed to have the rectum examined.

This is foolish because the longer the delay the more extensive the operation and the greater the chance of not surviving. It has been said that the smallest cancer visible to the eye (1/8 inch) has spent 70 per cent of its life span. By the time symptoms develop it may be nearing the 85 to 90 per cent mark.

Periodic examinations after 40 help to detect colorectal cancers early provided they include X-rays of the colon as well as proctoscopic and stool studies.

DAY SLEEPER

Dr. DeS. Wiles, I have been on night nursing duty for 17 years but because of illness I had to give up my job. Now I cannot break myself of the habit of sleeping days and staying up all night. Have you any suggestions on making this change work out?

REPLY

Force yourself to stay awake during the day and if your problem is one of readjustment it should be complete in a week. If not, look for some other cause of your insomnia.

JAW LOCKING

E. T. writes: Is there any way to prevent the jaws from locking when I yawn?

REPLY

Stifle the yawn as much as possible. Meanwhile, consult an orthopedic specialist to find out whether the capsule surrounding this joint can be strengthened.

SHOULDER PROBLEM

Jane writes: I am 15 years old and have big, square shoulders for a girl. Could they be made small and round through an operation?

REPLY

No, but don't be concerned, soon you will grow up to your shoulders.

RUPTURED VEIN

Mrs. E. writes: What should be done when a vein breaks and no doctor is available?

REPLY

When a vein ruptures in the leg, for example, cover the bleeding site with a bandage and apply pressure over the spot with a thumb.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT—

Coffee should not be drunk in excess. (NOTE: All correspondence to Dr. Van Dellen should be addressed to: Dr. Theodore Van Dellen, c/o Chicago Tribune, Chicago, Illinois.)

WAS DEPUTY AIR CHIEF

TAIPEI, Formosa (AP)—Air Force Lt.-Gen. Chen Yu-wei, 54, one of the three deputy chiefs of the Chinese Nationalist general staff, died Monday after a heart attack. A native of the mainland China province of Hunan, he was deputy commander-in-chief of the Chinese Nationalist Air Force between 1963 and 1965.

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No Softening Toward China

By Arch MacKenzie Canadian Press Staff, Washington

WASHINGTON (CP)—Any softening of United States policy toward China is more apparent than real. The basic objectives remain the same: Military containment of China and continued resistance to China's admission to the United Nations.

Even a two-China policy is ruled out despite evidence that within a year or two China—if she wishes—can get enough votes to be seated in the UN.

This analysis is general here despite assumptions in some quarters that Vice-President Humphrey Sunday signalled a policy shift when he suggested "containment without necessarily isolation."

A major element in American caution is consistent Chinese belligerence to such initiatives. SPURNS BRANCHES Small olive branches have been spurned consistently in the past. In 1958, in what was an American policy shift, China rejected an offer for exchanges of news representatives.

More such American offers have been made and probably will be raised again today at the 129th meeting of American and Chinese ambassadors at Warsaw.

The format has been consistent in the sterile talks—Chinese insistence that the U.S. abandon Formosa and U.S. refusal to do so. The U.S. recently offered non-reciprocal entry for Chinese news representatives, plus passports for China-bound doctors, or students and writers; China has refused entry to American doctors previously.

The U.S. conviction is that any genuine and extensive thaw must await further developments. Humphrey said Sunday in a television interview that "in the meantime we ought to maintain as best we can a spirit of friendship toward the Chinese people but recognizing what the regime is and making that regime understand they cannot achieve their purposes by military power."

A VOLATILE ISSUE China remains a volatile issue in the U.S.

But there is a public examination of China in Congress and the press unprecedented since communism took over in 1949. President Johnson has said through aides that he welcomes this public education process about the country of 700,000,000 people.

The Thieves Among Us

Ottawa Journal

In the first 10 months of its operation, New York City's American Hotel lost 38,000 demitasse spoons, 16,000 towels, 553 silver coffee pots, 15,000 silver

Our Yesterdays

(From The Guardian Files)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

(March 16, 1941)

Rev. J.S. Bonnell, minister of Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in New York, said he is going to Britain shortly to aid in some way the start of a spiritual union of English speaking nations which would be headed by Britain and the United States.

The Royal Air Force and the raiders of the Nazi Reich matched aggressiveness during the weekend, but the recently accelerated pace slackened off, apparently because of the fog.

TEN YEARS AGO

(March 16, 1956)

It was announced that Mr. J. Leo McGinn, son of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel McGinn of Emsvale, P.E.I., and student in Seniors Arts at St. Dunstan's College was the year's winner of the Christ the King Cultural Foundation Scholarship at that institution.

It was reported that Commander John N. Kenny, Commanding Officer of HMCS Queen Charlotte, was taking one month's sea training on board the Algerine escort vessel HMCS New Liskeard based at Halifax.

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