

A Troublesome Dilemma

"Inconsistencies of opinion, arising from changes of circumstances, are often justifiable," said the great Daniel Webster. Yes, and they are often annoying.

For years, ever since the Second World War in fact, the Western powers have been trying to persuade the Soviet Union to agree to a formula for disarmament accompanied by some method of control.

So far, the faker of the fossils remains officially unidentified. But it is certain that, in making a man of a monkey, he made monkeys of men.

carried to the trick. Then he spent all he had trying to buy back the copies of his book. He died shortly thereafter, penniless and humiliated.

The most recent—if not the greatest—hoax of all was the Pilt-down man. For 40 years after Charles Dawson, a Sussex lawyer and amateur antiquarian, discovered the skull and jaw bones near Pilt-down, they were believed to have belonged to the earliest Englishman—a "beetle-browed chap with a murderous jaw" who roamed the land 500,000 years ago.

So far, the faker of the fossils remains officially unidentified. But it is certain that, in making a man of a monkey, he made monkeys of men.

The U.S. Farm Vote

If the primary contests in the United States did not decide which the Democratic presidential candidate picture will be, they again alerted both major political parties to the important, perhaps even deciding role the farmer will play in the November election.

What is the farmer thinking as he is caught in the squeeze between price declines and rising production costs? Such farm experts as Charles B. Shuman, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, Otto Steffey, president of the Illinois Agricultural Association, and Jim Russell, farm editor of the Des Moines Register, are most reluctant to surmise about farmers' opinions, which are as diversified as the crops they raise.

The American farmer, already seeding oats and preparing to plant corn a few weeks hence, is more confused, impatient, and exasperated over congressional delay in providing a farm bill that would help him than he is angry or on the verge of revolt.

Farmers cannot be looked upon to vote as a bloc in any certain way even if there is general unrest in the farm belt. Their political opinions, like those of others, are the result of many factors other than their particular economic situation.

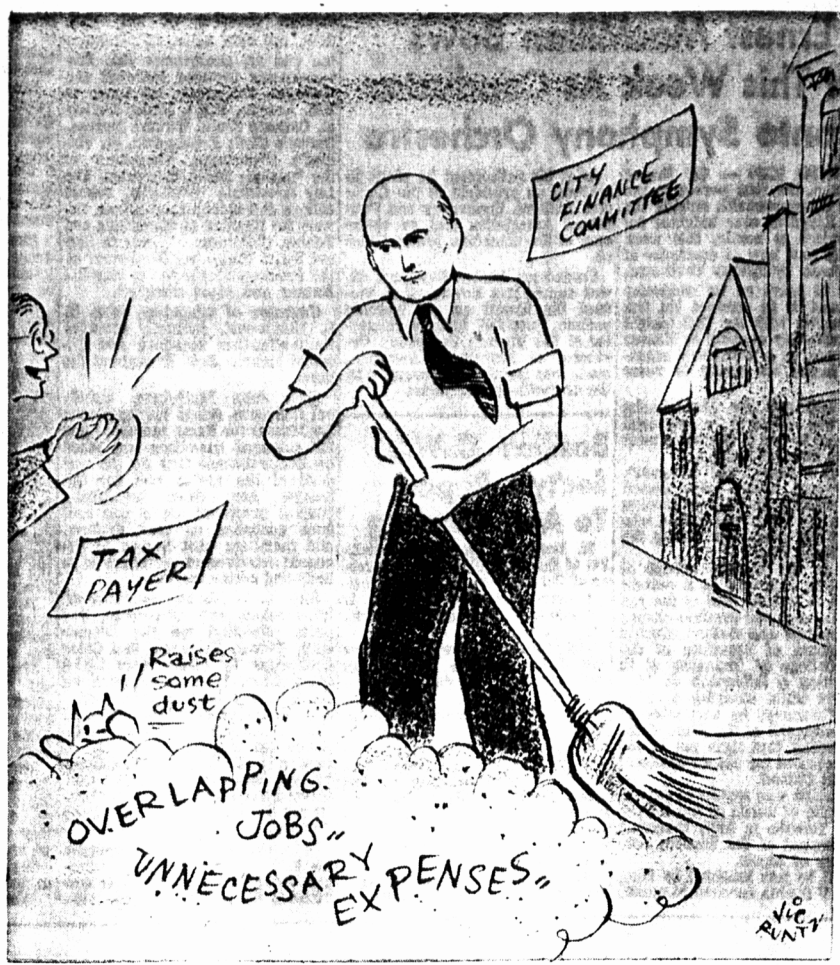
It will not necessarily be the party that promises most that will get the farmers' vote, say the farm experts. It more likely will be the party that shows an understanding of the farmer's predicament and lends him a hand, regardless of political consequences, to help him solve his problem with a maximum of independence.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The customary view of India is that it is a country teeming with surplus population which keeps growing inordinately fast. Actually, according to a recent survey, the rate of increase is lower than that of the United States or Canada.

An expert picture taker pleads with women clients "please, please don't give advice to the photographer. He knows what he's doing." The poor man is just wasting his time.

A man arrested for drunkenness in Phoenix, Arizona, had a poor excuse for climbing up a street-sweeping machine. He told the judge he thought it was a street car. He was reminded that such conveyances went out of use in Phoenix ten years ago.



HOUSECLEANING BEGINS

Egypt's Bid For Leadership

By William L. Ryan Associated Press, Lebanon

In the countries surrounding Israel, bitterness, frustration and a vast mass inferiority complex have created a new hero of pan-Arabism. Millions are turning to Egypt's Gamal Abdel Nasser as their leader.

Why has Egypt's young and impatient dictator had so tremendous an impact? Two great social revolutions are getting under way in the Arab world—one in Iraq, where oil money is being plowed into development—and the other in Egypt. Brought to flower, this movement could go far to stabilize the Middle East. Both revolutions are menaced by the shadow of war.

Most Arab eyes are turned toward Egypt—even the eyes of the Israelis. The Arab world has pushed Prime Minister Nasser to a place of imposing leadership. But he is at once the leader and the captive of Arab ambitions. To remain the leader he must ride with the tide of frustration.

Nasser is asserting his own and Egypt's leadership of the Arab world, but it is far from secure. An opening battle of renewed war is opening battle of renewed war is opening battle of renewed war. The revolution was and is impressive in its earnestness. Land reform is well under way. Filthy mud huts were soon to be replaced by stone houses, and for once the unwashed fellah had a stake in the future. Egypt would build a new High Aswan dam, and millions more acres would burst into flower. Electric power from the dam would bring new industry. The world applauded Nasser's dreams and wished him well.

But the ferment of the Arab world concerning Israel and the division of the globe into East and West blocs militate against the promise. If Nasser is to push himself or be pushed into war, he cannot have the dam, nor can he afford to extend himself too much on costly reforms. The same ferment offered him a chance to capitalize on Arab unrest in North Africa and dabble in popular anti-Western campaigns in the name of "liberation."

Now Egypt's bid for leadership is taking priority over the aims of the revolution. The price of leadership was dangerous dalliance with the Communist bloc. If war came, the revolution would be lost for a long time to come, and if the war spread, as many fear it would, the Arab world might find itself swallowed by Soviet domination.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files

TEN YEARS AGO (April 11, 1946)

Democratic slate chairman James A. McVicar announced last night that his predecessor Peter M. MacDonald of Rumford, Maine, a former native of Waterford, P.E.I., would seek the party's nomination for the United States Senate.

Through the initiative of the Provincial Command of the Canadian Legion, returned men who are engaged in the fishing industry will now be supplied with their minimum requirements of rope. It was learned yesterday.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (April 11, 1931)

Transportation conditions in the Strait improved steadily yesterday, the westerly winds loosening the ice barrier between Borden and Tormentine. The ferry made three round trips. There are now about two hundred cars, mostly of potatoes, at Borden awaiting transfer to the mainland.

The new pumping engine was tested out at a hydrant near Government Pond by the Fire Department last evening. The test which began at 6 o'clock, lasted for an hour and was very successful.

Summerside harbour is entirely free of ice except around the wharves. The Bedouque Ferry has been tried out by her crew, and is expected to make her first trip of the season on Friday.

Jordan's Troubled Waters

National Geographic Society

The Jordan River Valley—bone of contention between Arab and Israeli—is one of nature's most fantastic creations.

Sunk in places some 2,000 feet below the surrounding countryside, the steep-walled canyon through which the river flows forms part of the deepest inland depression on earth.

From ancient times this valley has marked a dividing line between settled and nomad peoples. Crossing the Jordan was epochal in Hebrew history. From Mount Nebo on the east, Moses looked down into the Promised Land though he was fated never to make the westward passage.

THE "DOWN-COMER"

The River Jordan has its beginnings in headwaters that rise on the slopes of lofty, perpetually snow-capped Mount Hermon, straddling the border between Lebanon and Syria north of Israel. Falling swiftly, the main source streams meet near the now largely drained papyrus swamps of Israel's Lake Hula, at a point 260 feet above sea level.

From Lake Hula on the "Down-Comer," as the Jordan is known in Hebrew, earns its name by plunging ever lower. Nearly 700 feet below sea level at the clear, sweet waters of the Sea of Galilee, the river burrows its way southward until it empties into the salty depths of the land-locked Dead Sea, 1,286 feet lower than the Mediterranean's surface.

The trough below Galilee—2 to 14 miles wide—is only 65 miles long. Yet within its confines, the river writes for 200 miles. From an airplane, it resembles a giant brown serpent caught between jungle, desert, and cliffs.

Before "drowns in the Dead Sea, the Jordan winds through black basalt gorges, chalky terraces and weirdly eroded hillocks. Here and there hot springs boil up from the valley floor, a reminder that earthquakes in the regions have destroyed cities as large as Jericho. One mighty cataclysm helped form the deep hole now filled with the Dead Sea's turbid waters.

HEAT-FILLED VALLEY

In climate, the walled Jordan is a sun-drenched tropical strip cut through the world's great overhang by alpine Mount Hermon. Summer temperatures go well above 100 degrees F.; winter nights may drop to freezing.

ONTARIO MOOSE GAINING

TORONTO (CP)—Lands Minister Mapledoram of Ontario says the province's moose population now is large enough to make possible considerably larger kills than last year. He said the number of moose in remote areas has increased rapidly. Last year 11,000 licensed hunters killed 3,000 moose. In 1954, 8,250 hunters shot 2,000 moose.

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Bundesen, M. D.

FIYOU HAVE PET BIRDS BEWARE OF PSITTACOSIS

Psittacosis is for the birds! Unfortunately, however, humans also may be infected by this disease which is somewhat similar to influenza.

The disease, caused by a virus, is found generally in parakeets, parrots and lovebirds, although similar infection may also be harbored by canaries, pigeons and even poultry.

Ordinarily humans develop psittacosis by inhaling dust from the feathers or cage contents of infected birds. A bite by a bird harboring the virus also may transmit it to humans. And humans themselves can spread it by coughing.

While quarantine regulations have greatly reduced the number of cases, they haven't eliminated the disease.

SYMPTOMS

Symptoms of psittacosis might easily be mistaken for influenza. So, if you've been handling parakeets or other susceptible birds, you'd better mention this to your doctor when you seek treatment for that suspected case of flu.

The incubation period may extend from six to 15 days. After that, onset of the disease may be insidious or abrupt with chills, fever, backache, headache and lack of appetite. Coughing attacks develop rapidly and may be pretty severe.

Temperature also rises quickly and may reach 104 degrees. If no complications develop, the fever will fall gradually after two or three weeks.

Psittacosis means strict isolation of the patient. You don't want the rest of the family infected, too.

PENICILLIN

Penicillin is a great aid in fighting the disease. It also helps prevent secondary infections. Streptomycin or sulfadiazine may be needed if the bacteria of secondary infections are insensitive to penicillin.

Codeine probably may be necessary for controlling severe cough and various sedatives can be used for combating insomnia or restlessness.

Chloromycetin and Aureomycin have also proven effective against the disease. In fact, doctors have injected Aureomycin into parakeets and quacks to drop the psittacosis carrier rate to almost zero in test cases.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

S. A. D.: Do doctors ever do bloodletting? Answer: Yes, in certain cases of heart failure which are due to high blood pressure, dramatic results may be obtained by removing a pint or so of blood in a few cases.

ANCIENT SITE

Official civic records of Poole in Dorset, England, go back to the year 1248.

Fake Fossils

In the field of fossil study, where serious debates have raged over which end of a backbone a skull should be fastened to, it is inevitable that even the experts can be fooled.

Dr. Harry Ladd and Dr. Roland W. Brown, of the United States Geological Survey, tell in the current issue of the National Geographic Magazine of several frauds that have been perpetrated on paleontologists. The falsity of one fossil, as a matter of fact, was proved through research in preparing the article.

Dr. Ladd, remembering a specimen he had seen 30 years ago in an Australian museum, wrote for information about it. It was a piece of selenite (a variety of gypsum in crystals) with the wing of a large insect trapped inside. When the museum director photographed the specimen he noticed that, under pressure, tiny air bubbles near the wing shifted position. Closer scrutiny revealed that the crystal of selenite had been cut open, the wing slipped inside, and the crack pounded smooth over it. The wing, long believed to be a fossil of the Tertiary period, was nothing more than that of a common grasshopper.

Experts once identified a Wedgwood teacup handle as the stem of a "calamite," a fossil plant. But their shame was small compared to that of poor Johann Beringer, the credulous professor of Wurzburg. An avid fossil collector, Beringer used to take his students digging in his favorite hillside. He believed that the Creator had planted fossils there for him. But the students didn't. They carved weird stone images and smuggled them into the hill for the professor to discover. As fast as the students carved, the professor gathered. Not until after he had published his unusual findings in an illustrated volume in 1726 did Beringer

NOTES BY THE WAY

A fourteen-year-old girl in Chicago robs a bank, then escapes in a motorcar driven by her mother. On the other hand, too many modern parents let their daughters go out at night unchaperoned. Winnipeg Tribune

At Ottawa the other day the House of Commons put the finishing touches to 131 divorce bills in 43 seconds. This is another reason for doing away with the farce of parliament trying divorce cases.—Oshawa Times Gazette

Figures show that marriages actually fall off in Leap years. For example, there were some 100,000 fewer marriages in the U.S. in 1940, a Leap Year, than there were in the year preceding or the year following. This rule was held good during the past two decades. It seems men do not want their women to be too obvious.—Owen Sound Sun-Times

Fair Isle is in danger of going the way of St. Kilda. And it is not the only island where the population is shrinking so that evacuation seems inevitable. Foula, the Shetland island, which is well known to newspaper readers on account of the regularity with which it is isolated for weeks by winter gales, is getting near the critical point. The drift of people from the northern islands of Orkney is also alarming.—Weekly Scotsman

At this moment Canadians have to square up to the not too pleasant fact that well over one-third of every one hundred dollars we make is spent by the government. In the last 25 years spending at all government levels has jumped from 19 per cent of our national income to over 35 per cent. Expenditures on health and social welfare alone have gone up in the last 10 years from 794 million to last to 2 billion. Soaring costs of production stand as a chief threat to stability and employment.—Hamilton Spectator

Then there is the play on words. Making them say something without saying it at all. Such a case was the lawyer who found it necessary to write to his former client's parents and inform them of his client being hanged as a cat. The lawyer's problem was how to say the man had without telling the unvarnished truth. He found his answer and wrote: "Your son died this morning while taking part in a public affair when the platform on which he was standing suddenly gave away."—Vanguard Tribune

Students recently garnered an especially startling harvest in their fresh man composition courses. Here are some results from the latest vocabulary test—without comment: Copious—That which has copal. Phonetic—One that is false, untruthful. Pragmatic—One who steals someone else's idea in writing. Fobles—Tales; stories of old. Utilitarian—one whose thoughts wander. Licentiousness—That which is covered by a license, deplorable—Honorable; beyond help. Beatific—Pretty having beauty.—Word Study.

Canada exported no grindstones in 1954, the Bureau of Statistics reports. Presumably, the whole production was kept at home for the benefit of Canadian noses.—Stratford Beacon-Herald

Shakespeare's Richard III is culture, but other shows depicting mayhem encourage juvenile delinquency. It must be made quite clear to youth that it's in order to kill people with a sword, a pike or by drowning in a wine vat, but not with a switchblade knife, zip gun or lead pipe.—Hamilton Spectator

Seems that the technique of putting apples in storage in sleep has been developed in England and improved upon by the New York State College of Agriculture. It works this way: The apples harvested in the fall are stacked in sealed rooms, where control of temperature, oxygen and carbon dioxide slow down the "ripening state." It is claimed they are still firm and crisp in April, and keep longer at room temperature following storage. Is this a bed-time story?—Sydney Post-Record

To a man with a life span of fewer than 100 years, history which dates back three or four thousand years before Christ seems to go back almost to the beginning of the earth. The mystery of creation is deepened for the ordinary human being when he reads that extremely well-preserved insects have been found in Alaska, 156 miles inside the Arctic Circle. The specimens are not fossils, but the bodies of insects imbedded in amber during the Cretaceous period 60 million years ago.—Fort William Times

The purchasing power of the United States is roughly equal to the total income of Canada. This comparison helps to explain the consternation in the Southern States over the boycott of public transportation by colored residents of Montgomery, Alabama. The boycott (over treatment of Negro passengers) has already caused serious loss to the bus company involved. Other firms have learned by experience that to practice discrimination is to throw away sales.—Financial Post

QUICK CASH LOANS

Borrow the cash you need, quickly and easily, at Trans Canada Credit. You don't need endorsers or bankable security. Your own credit, backed up by your car or home furnishings, is all the security we need. Call us today.

THE ALL-CANADIAN LOAN COMPANY TRANS CANADA CREDIT 1614 KENT STREET DIAL 8523

HOMES \$30 A MONTH

Workers in the brick-making plant at Lantz, N.S., buy their homes for \$30 a month and no interest. This model community built its own school and sports arena. The workers did the job and the company gave the bricks and tiles. Picture-story in The Standard this week. Get The Standard—on sale now, complete with magazine, 12-page novel and 20 pages of comics. Only ten cents.

The Standard ON SALE NOW

DEBATING COMPETITION

The P. E. I. Junior Farmers are again sponsoring a Debating Competition which is open to all 4-H Club members and all rural young people under 31 years of age. If your Club or Organization is interested in Debating, please contact Allan Palmer, Box 9, Department of Agriculture, Charlottetown.

All Entries Close on April 17.

Go by TRAIN and SAVE BARGAIN COACH FARES APRIL 17-18 From All Stations in MARITIMES TO MONTREAL-OTTAWA-TORONTO

The Jenkins Pharmacy DIAL 4219 We're as near as your Phone.