The Guardian

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Conference Prospects

With plans now taking shape for a summit conference on the Berlin issue, there will be fresh speculations as to what, actually, is in Premier Khrushchev's mind. He has reversed himself several times on minor points, but his major proposals may be summed up as follows: That the United States, Britain and France remove their forces from West Berlin in return for which the Soviets will remove their forces from East Berlin; that West Berlin (but not East Berlin) be made a "free city", its independence and access to it guaranteed by the United Nations; that the two Germanys, the West German Republic and the East German Communist State, then be told by the Big Four that the only way their nation can be united is by negotiation between themselves.

The catch in these proposals is that withdrawal of Western forces from West Berlin would not insure freedom to the East Berliners, who are free only to elect a Communist government; but it would imperil the freedom of the 2,200,000 West Berliners, including their right to elect any government they wish. Nor is there any evidence that the United Nations would be able to maintain the independence of West Berlin, especially with a Soviet veto over the Security Council.

There is suspicion that what Mr. Khrushchev really wants is to get rid of West Berlin—"a bone in his throat", as he has called it—because it presents an open and inviting window through which the East German and Eastern European people can see the freedom and widely shared prosperity of so much of the Western world. He wants to reduce it or embrace it as a Communist satellite.

That, of course, isn't what the Soviet leader will talk about at any summit conference. It is one thing which the free world cannot permit. There can be no question of relinquishing the use of access routes while Russia controls East Germany. Yet compromise on other points can be discussed. Some pull-back of forces is possible, and we can go as far as the West Germans are willing to go in establishing a relationship with East Germany. The free powers have indicated that they are prepared to give Moscow a guarantee that if Germany attacks the Soviet block in the event of withdrawal of Communist forces, NATO will join in the defense. That would be a good starting point for negotiation.

Power Of Disallowance

The Newfoundland situation has brought an interesting ruling by Deputy Speaker Pierre Sevigny in the House of Commons. Mr. Herridge (CCF, Kootenay West) had tried to debate the disallowance of the Newfoundland labor law by the Federal Government. Citing Beauchesne's rules of procedure, the Deputy Speaker ruled that the disallowance of a provincial statute could not be discussed until the Cabinet had either disallowed it or had failed to do so.

The Government, it seems, has a year in which to disallow. Under the ruling, if it should void the legislation during this session of Parliament, its action would be debatable. Otherwise, the question cannot be discussed until after the expiration of the one year period,—that is, at the next session. According to Beauchesne, if the Commons adopted a resolution calling on the Government to disallow a provincial statute it would be encroaching on the powers of the provincial Legislatures as set forth in the British North America Act.

The power of disallowance by the Government rests on sections 56 and 90 of the B.N.A. Act. It was contested some years ago by Alberta under the Aberhart administration, and was upheld by the Supreme Court. On that occasion it was argued that the imperial power to disallow Canadian laws had lapsed and had been declared extinct by the Imperial Conference reports of 1926 and 1930 and the Statute of Westminster, and that therefore the federal power to disallow must also have lapsed because the Governor General could have no greater power than his master, the King. The Supreme Court, under Chief Justice Duff, unanimously threw this objection out.

The disallowance procedure is, in part, prescribed by the B.N.A. Act and in the Instructions to Lieutenant-Governors. After giving his assent to a measure, the Lieutenant-Governor is required to transmit an authentic copy to the Secretary of State by the first convenient opportunity. In case of emergency, the Secretary of State may request that a particular Act be forwarded without waiting for prorogation. This, as Justice Minister Fulton has indicated, was the procedure followed with the Newfoundland legislation.

When it is decided to disallow an Act, an order in council is passed accordingly, together with a second order approving the report of the Minister. Then, when the Act is proclaimed in the Provincial House by the Lieutenant Governor, the statute is annulled. This is the explanation of Deputy Speaker Sevigny's ruling.

While federal power of disallowance is unrestricted in law, all governments have held that it should be exercised with great caution and only in cases of necessity. In the Newfoundland case, until decision one way or the other has been reached, it would seem that Parliament is effectively blocked from discussing the matter.

The Farmers' Plight

Of all the industries affected by the exorbitant freight rate boosts of recent years, agriculture is penalized the most. Farmers represent only 18 percent of Canada's population, but they pay 30 percent of the total national freight rate bill. Where they are selling in competitive markets, the buyers will pay only so much. This means that the higher the freight rates, the less there is left for the producers. This point is made in a recent editorial in the Windsor Star. Published in a big industrial area, the Star sees the situation this way:

"Farmers, per capita, probably are the nation's greatest buyers. They buy everything from forks to feed. Freight rates are a substantial part of the laid down cost of combines or automobiles on the Prairies. It is probably true that farmers, being both producers and consumers and thus getting it both ways, feel the impact of high freight rates the most."

In any reassessment of freight rate burdens, therefore, the farmers' plight should be given special consideration. And, of course, it is the farmers at the eastern and western extremities of the country that are in the most difficult position.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Moscow newspaper "Pravda" has accused Iran of harbouring "aggressive designs" against the Soviet Union. Reminds us of the wolf in the fable that killed a hare in self-defence.

* * *

It has been made known that large numbers of trout fingerlings have been released in the Province's ponds and streams. What a fine feast the oldtimers (trout) are going to have!

* * *

It is no secret that some American Government officials viewed Prime Minister Macmillan's visit to Moscow with some misgiving. It is to be hoped that the misgiving has been dispelled by Mr. Macmillan's frank statements to the press on his Washington visit. Certainly, as he said, "to negotiate is not to surrender one's principles."

* * *

A CCF spokesman claims that a "political vacuum" has been left in Newfoundland as a result of unanimous support in the Legislature for Premier Smallwood's action against the I.W.A. The interference is that the CCF ought to step in and take advantage of organized labour's dissatisfaction with both the Liberal Government and the Conservative Opposition. They may as well forget it. Whatever may be said about Premier Smallwood, no one can deny his ability to guage public opinion. In any case, all news reports indicate that he has the great majority of the people with him. There are only a few hundred loggers supporting the I.W.A. position; and they are scattered in a number of ridings. Their votes, even if all were given to the CCF, would be inconsequential. From all reports, Mr. Smallwood was never stronger, politically.

EVERYBODY'S ON THE WARPATH

OTTAWA REPORT

An Exacting Portfolio

By Patrick Nicholson

The sudden death of Hon. Sidney Smith last week made an especially severe wrench at many hearts, because the jovial Nova Scotian was so universally liked and because he had just sailed past his sixty-second birthday in apparently blooming health.

Sidney Smith joined the Cabinet in September 1957 and was elected to Parliament six weeks later. From the cloistered calm of a university, he was hurled into leading positions in politics, in Parliament, in departmental administration and above all in international diplomacy—a novice in all those fields. In the weeks before his election to Parliament, he used to sit in the Speaker's Gallery to listen to the proceedings. Some of the questions on foreign affairs fired by Opposition members alarmed him, as symptoms of the tightrope he would soon have to walk, and he let out mock groans of dismay.

Entering this strange new world Sidney Smith had to familiarize himself with so much that was new to him. This column deplored the snap judgments being registered against the rookie. As I watched him buffetted by the unfamiliar in-fighting of Parliamentary committees, parrying unexpected questions about details of departmental administration, I was shocked at the failure of some civil servants at his side to support him with information.

However the personality and experience and intellectual stature of the former university president soon began to tell; and the measure of his achievement in eighteen short months is the wealth of sincere tribute which poured into Ottawa from other countries after his death.

SUCCESSOR TO COME SOON?

Perhaps his greatest triumph was to demonstrate to Canadians and to our friends abroad that Canada's position on the world stage would be no whit less strong and active since Nobel Peace Prize Winner Hon. L.B. Pearson had been succeeded as "Mr. Canada". And already the speculation is rife as to who will be our new Mr. Canada, for Prime Minister Diefenbaker cannot continue to carry that extra load for long.

There is no obvious successor, as for example Paul Martin would have been the automatic and trained choice to succeed Mike Pearson in the Liberal government. The fact that this front bench portfolio was one of the last to be filled by Mr. Diefenbaker shows the care and the difficulty involved in the choice.

The most widely favoured possibility for the post is Hon. Davie Fulton, the young Minister of Justice from B.C. In 14 years in Parliament and 19 months in the Cabinet, he has shown himself to be outstandingly reliable, imaginative and able; as a Rhodes scholar, he would not be excelled by the permanent staff of our most intellectual department.

A dark horse possibility is Revenue Minister George Nowlan, a Nova Scotian like the late Sidney Smith. He has built up an image of a quick-thinking hard-working Minister with a facade of grantite, never fazed by sharp shooting by his Parliamentary foes, and with a presence and toughness which would be diplomatic assets.

NEW CABINET MINISTER

Other speculation around Ottawa mentions names which were similarly bandied about before Mr. Smith was brought in from outside politics. These include politicians and career diplomats, but there is no talk of another surprise outsider.

Following the precedent of Mike Pearson stepping up from senior career diplomat to be policy-making Cabinet Minister in the same field, there is inevitably consideration of a repeat. Thus Jules Leger, now our ambassador to NATO, was mentioned and no doubt actively considered in 1957; thus Norman Robertson, until recently our ambassador to U.S. is talked of now. A Rhodes Scholar to Oxford's great Balliol College, and 30 years a career diplomat, he has a great background and an assured future; would he exchange that for the gamble of politics?

Apart from Sidney Smith's job, there is his Ontario representation in the Cabinet to be filled. The outstanding candidate for this is without doubt David Walker, M.P. for Toronto-Rosedale. A very prominent lawyer, he outranks even Finance Minister Don Fleming as a Bencher of the Law Society of Ontario; the man who started John Diefenbaker up the political ladder, he had the political perspicacity to propose him for the Conservative leadership at the Winnipeg Convention, 14 years before he ultimately won. Mr. Walker is cut out to fill the post of Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, which he has understudied as Parliamentary Assistant; even more, he is cut out to contribute to the wisdom of Cabinet's work for Canada.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of question of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

MORE DOUGLASES NEEDED

Sir,—I would like to briefly express a few comments on Dr. W. L. MacDonald's letter in your issue of March 21. I think it would be much to the benefit of the Province as a whole if we had more Douglases as M.L.A.'s, and I believe we will. I am sure farmers would be much happier if they were paying more income tax. Dr. MacDonald doesn't seem to realize that we are producing much of his food below the cost of production.

He should appreciate the fact that there is very little Crown land on P.E. Island; and when he is roaming around, fishing and hunting, he is on private property and should respect it as such. A good many are thinking that sportsmen should get permission first, on private property.

He must know we pay double school tax and gas tax the same as he does, and a 5 cent tax on all gas used on the farm (for which we get no rebate) for road construction.

I agree with him when he says money isn't all important. I am sure his roots must be pretty deep in his native Province when he forfeits a salary increase of $6,000 to $8,000. But I think the farmer is paying too much for his individual freedom and may be forced to give some of it up.

I am, Sir, etc.,
ELDON DRUMMOND
Freetown, P.E.I.

INFORMATION SOUGHT

Sir,—I am writing you in an endeavour to obtain information relating to the building and the sailing of the Brig "Prince Edward", 174 tons. I have ascertained that the vessel was built in 1858 by R. Craswell, Innanside, for the owners Messrs Hazzard Morpeth and Millner. She sailed from Charlottetown in January 1859 under the command of my maternal great-grandfather, Captain Edward Nolan or Nowlan and reached Auckland on the 12th May that year. The total number of people on board was 97.

If possible at this date I would like some information about the builder, whether he built other vessels with the names of same. Also is there any likelihood of plans of the Prince Edward or a similar vessel being obtainable. Should it be possible I would also appreciate from newspaper references of this day or other sources the reasons for the emigration to New Zealand and details of the ship leaving port.

I fully understand that my letter is a "long shot" but as the centenary of the vessel's arrival is now very near I wish to gather all the information possible for my family and others interested. I understand a centenary celebration of Prince Edward Island was held in 1854 and could be that some of the information I require was gathered at that time.

Captain Nolan or Nowlan was not a native of Prince Edward Island but was born at New Ross County, Wexford, Eire, in the year 1810. As far as we know he married May Ann Collins about 1840-1842 in P.E.I. as their youngest child was born in 1851 and there were 3 daughters older than she. We believe that the name of Mrs. Nolan's father was Thomas and that he was man-o-war pilot at Charlottetown. If there are no records held in your city perhaps some of your readers could advise where this could be confirmed.

As I was examining a map of Prince Edward Island I noted a small town or village named New Zealand. I would be interested to know whether this name bears any association with this country.

I trust that it will be possible to obtain information through your newspaper and thank you in advance for your co-operation. In passing I would mention that I am well known in shipping circles in Auckland and am managing director of Watson and Wallace, Ltd., customs, shipping and air cargo agents.

I am, Sir, etc.,
H.M. RODEWALD
Huddard Parker B'dg
Quay Street, Auckland, C. I.
New Zealand

The Red Dragor

Arthur Blakely in the Montreal Gaz....

Despite published reports to the contrary, there is no reason to believe that the Canadian Government has made any decision one way or another on the vital question of extending Canadian diplomatic recognition to Communist China.

Reports had suggested that Ottawa had decided against any such policy change.

All of the avanable evidence, however, suggests that the Government of Canada hasn't yet reached such a conclusion and isn't, for that matter, particularly anxious to do so.

Opposition to recognition has been based on the conviction that Canada should have no truck nor trade with a Chinese Communist regime which was directly responsible for the Korean tragedy.

Advocacy of recognition, which has come from some unexpected quarters, has been based on considerations of logic and of the trade advantages which might accrue. How can it be logical to refuse recognition to the Chinese Reds because of Korea, it is argued, when it is extended to the Russian regime, despite the infamous intervention in Hungary?

But trade is the more convincing argument to many.

C. M. Forsyth-Smith, Canadian Trade Commissioner at Hong Kong who visited Red China at the behest of the new Government, has reported favorably on trade possibilities. He has pointed out that Canadian trade with Communist China, which amounted to about a million dollars in 1957, will total about 10 times that amount for 1958, and could (he believes) climb to $25,000,000 or $30,000,00 in the next two or three years, barring mishaps of one sort or another.

WESTERN SENTIMENT

In the four western provinces, there is a good deal of sentiment in favor of fostering this trade by extending recognition to Red China. The strength of the pro-recognition sentiment is higher in the more westerly provinces and reaches a peak in B.C., where business interests are convinced that failure to recognize the Chinese regime has hurt the province economically.

Chief opposition to recognition appears to be rested in the Province of Quebec. The Government is aware that Quebec Conservatives would view with alarm any closer ties with Red China. Ontario and the Maritimes, with fewer trade advantages to gain but less deep-rooted hostility to a policy change, don't seem to care as much one way or the other.

The political parties are divided on the issue. The eight-man CCF group favors recognition. But the Liberals, like the Conservatives, are divided on the question.

At the moment, the Government's only real concern seems to be to avoid a showdown of any kind on an issue laden with political dynamite and to keep the matter under active consideration pending the occurrence of new developments which might make the present policy, or a new one, a more saleable commodity in Canada's open market.

OUR YESTERDAYS

(From the Guardian Files)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
(March 25, 1934)

A special meeting of the Summerside Town Council was held on Saturday afternoon to pass a motion to ask the Provincial Government to empower the Town to issue debentures from $30,000 to $35,000 for permanent work. Mayor Lidstone presided with all councillors present. Another motion was passed to ask the Legislature to grant permission to the Town to purchase land for an airport.

Mr. Tid McEwen returned to his home in Charlottetown on Thursday after spending a busy hockey season with the Montague Primroses, winners of the P.E.I. intermediate championship. Tid played with the Vics in 1930, the Intermediate Abbies in 1931 and the Abbies in 1933 when they won the Island championship.

TEN YEARS AGO
(March 25, 1949)

The annual Radio Auction of the Summerside Y's Men's Club was held on Wednesday afternoon and evening over the local radio station and was a great success. The gross amount of the bids was $2,634.00. The business end of the broadcast was set up on the second floor of Holman's store and ten telephones were in almost continuous action.

On Friday evening a delightful party was given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred MacQuarrie, Searletown, in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Doull who celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary on February 18th. The presentation of a beautiful mantle mirror was made, and a bouquet of American Beauty Roses was made to the bride of 60 years by her great grand-child, Barbara Ann Clark of Halifax.

Better Chance For Diabetics

By Norman N. Dudeen, M.D.

THE "good old days" weren't as good as you might like to think. Not really.

The groceries might cost a little more today, taxes are quite a bit higher. But all of us are much better off, believe me.

Why, not so very long ago, a diagnosis of diabetes was a diagnosis of death. The most a newly diagnosed diabetic could hope for was five to ten years of life, most of them miserable years.

LITTLE HELP

About all that doctors could do to help diabetics was to restrict their diets. And, more often than not, this didn't help much.

Then in 1921, a couple of medical researchers isolated insulin from the pancreas of a dog. And diabetics were given a new lease on life.

By taking daily injections of this hormone—and by following their diets—almost all diabetics could lead normal lives.

Certainly this was much better than "the good old days" when virtually nothing could be done to help a diabetic.

Yet, things are even better today.

Administering insulin by injection is a nuisance and tends to complicate a diabetic's life greatly.

For one thing, a diabetic must be extremely careful to give himself the prescribed amount of insulin, at the prescribed time of the day.

Now, a great many diabetics—an estimated four-fifth of all adult diabetics—can take new diabetic drugs by mouth to control their disease. Many need only very small doses.

NO MORE FUSSING

That means no more fussing with hypodermic needles, no need to take embarrassing injections any more.

Public health officials estimate that approximately 4,750,000 Americans who are perfectly well today will develop diabetes sometime in the future.

NEW CASES

There are about 1,000,000 known diabetics in the nation, and another 1,000,000 have the disease but don't know it—yet.

New cases are being discovered at the rate of 65,000 per year.

Yet, the outlook for such persons was never brighter. With the great strides we have made in recent years, we may be on our way toward preventing diabetes. And that's something science has been trying to do since even before "the good old days."

QUESTION AND ANSWER

W.M.D. : Could you give me the name of a liniment for combatting arthritis or rheumatism effectively?

Answer: No liniment can be relied upon by itself to combat arthritis or rheumatism. As an aid to symptomatic relief, liniments containing oil of wintergreen, such as analgesic balm, may be helpful.

MAXIMS

In making our decisions, we must use the brains that God has given us. But we must also use our hearts which He also gave us.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The Sunday School teacher was somewhat taken aback by the sketch one of her students submitted toward the end of class. "Why, Wilbur," she exclaimed, "that looks like a cowboy going into a saloon!" "It's okay," he assured her. "He's not going to drink anything. He's just going in to shoot a guy."—Hamilton Spectator

Children often see U.S. Murder trials on television, where the prosecutor seems to care nothing about fair play for the prisoner, but is only attempting to create a record of convictions to impress those who have elected him. In Canada there is no such thing and the dignity and fairness of the British court system should impress youngsters. —Kitchener-Waterloo Record

We have often felt that the dashboard clock is a rather useless addition to most cars. Most drivers who can afford an auto can also afford a wristwatch, surely. Once the clock breaks down, it is seldom repaired and sits there, a prime target for any gadget fiddlers who get into the front seat.—Kingston Whig Standard

Like the owner of the swearing parrot who covered her bird on Sundays, British railways cover the "Gentlemen" sign at Lynn station when royal passengers arrive. The sign is at the top of platform 2, the platform which is used by such passengers. Apparently the authorities cover the sign to prevent it figuring in photographs taken of members of the royal family arriving or departing. —Lynn, England, News and Advertiser

"The emphasis on security means that no political party in Canada has any chance of success unless it promises to give everybody more money by taking wider control of our lives," declared Professor Marcus Long to a meeting of Retail Merchants. What an indictment of Canadian democratic freedom that is. And yet, is not the professor right?—Fort William Times-Journal

Some Winnipeg school trustees apparently believe, with the Mikado, that the punishment should fit the crime. Many Winnipeg school yards are littered with paper, cigarette butts and other assorted garbage. The cure, according to the trustees, is to have the students themselves clean up the grounds.—Winnipeg Free Press

The Age Old Story

Forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before.

An eastern Ontario newspaper thinks the Diefenbaker Government is laying a smoke-screen and adds: "It's a pretty moth-eaten smoke-screen." Where else but Ottawa could one see such a spectacle?—Ottawa Journal

In all the argument about Russian schools as compared to American schools, few even mention the German schools. After all, the missile and other scientific experts of both Russia and the United States are Germans, products of the German schools.—Windsor Star

The trailing edge of Alaska would be of great value to Canada, and it has very little value to the U.S. It is unlikely that Congress will ever consent to the giveaway of American territory, but, in all goodwill, there should be no insuperable obstacles to negotiating whatever access corridors to the open sea that Canada needs for the development of its northern regions.—Buffalo Evening News

The Poet's Corner

IS IT I?

As I sit at His table and take up
The broken bread, the wine within the cup,
I hear a voice so strangely calm, so nigh:
One shall betray! I ask: Lord, is it I?
Time holds a breath and heartbeats seem to stop.
As anguished eyes fix on the damning sop;
Unease and fear flit down the aisles of thought;
Complacency becomes undone, distraught.
To whom I give—'tis he! Again my cry
From arid, trembling lips: Lord, is it I?

Let me go out when darkness stills the lea
To find the place He knelt, and make my plea
Lest I seek out the chief priests and entice
Them for my own, a more ignoble price.
Let this the bread, let this the cup refine
All sin and dross, each wayward thought of mine;
Purge me of avarice, my heart enthrall
And let me speak for Him in Pilate's Hall
That I may eat and drink again without
A touch of fear, the whisper of a doubt.

—S. Barlow Bird.
Freetown, P.E.I.

Uneasy Hold On Tibet

By Joseph MacSween
Canadian Press Staff Writer

The Communist Chinese have received a new lesson in what the people of Tibet mean when they say their younger leader, the Dalai Lama, is "holder of the thunderbolt."

Reports from the remote Himalayan theocracy says the Tibetans, despite impossible odds, rebelled when word spread that the Communists were going to abduct the Dalai Lama, 23, whose power derives from thousands of years of religious and political history.

This was the latest in a series of struggles the Communists have faced since they moved into the Ontario-sized country in 1950.

The shy, studious Dalai Lama —"Buddha incarnate" — fled to the Tibet-India border at that time and stayed there for eight months while trying to negotiate a measure of autonomy with the conquerors. Finally, assured he would retain his status and powers, he returned to Lhasa late in 1951 and was greeted joyously.

FAKE REPORTS

Reports favorable to the Reds have been attributed to the Dalai Lama from time to time, but it is no secret that he has been quietly opposed to the new regime. In effect, he has been a prisoner all along.

Outside Lhasa, the countryside —which towers to an average altitude of 16,000 feet—has been in constant battle against the Chinese. Warlike Khamba tribesmen have swept up to the gates of Lhasa. Guerrilla activity has been reported in various regions.

The outside world saw the Dalai Lama for the first time when the Communists permitted him to make a goodwill tour of India in 1956 for the celebration of the 2,500th anniversary of Buddha's birth.

It is reported that he asked permission to remain in India but Prime Minister Nehru, an admirer, is said to have told him he could best help his people by returning home.

RIVAL LINE

Tibetans have feared that the Chinese would supplant the Dalai Lama with the representative of an ancient rival line—the Panchen Lamas, also "living Buddhas"—who was educated in China and used by the Communists for propaganda there.

As god-king, the Dalai Lama apparently is unbearable to the Reds. His spiritual followers are to be found not only in Tibet but throughout large areas of Asia, including China.

According to believers in the Buddhist faith, when a Dalai Lama dies the living soul of Buddha transfers to the body of a boy born on the instant of the old Lama's death.

The high church officials and state oracles confer, deciding by signs and trances the logical area in which the new Lama will be discovered. Priests start out to search for the boy.

The 13th Dalai Lama died in 1933, aged 57, and the search for his successor led to a Mongolian peasant child named Lingerh La-Mu-Tan-Chu, who lived in a primitive cave home in what now is a province of China.

The Mongolian boy was taken to Tibet and given rigid training by Buddhist priests. Then, dressed in golden robes and conical yellow hat, he was helped onto a golden throne and proclaimed the 14th "all high Lama, holder of the thunderbolt." Tibet was ruled by regents until his maturity.

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