

New Conservative Leader

As indicated in a recent special despatch from Ottawa, Prince Edward Island delegates at the Conservative convention favoured, for the most part, the selection of Mr. John Diefenbaker as the new party leader. Doubtless this was how they voted yesterday as did the majority of delegates from other Provinces outside the contingent from Quebec. A last-minute effort to defeat Mr. Diefenbaker was fanned by Quebecers on the ground that he had not chosen a French-speaking mover or seconder for his nomination. This may have been a strategical blunder, but it does not appear to have affected the result. Mr. Diefenbaker's sponsors were outstanding men, one from the East Coast, one from the West. There was no attempt to cater to any particular Province, and no reason for doing so at a national convention. The chances of winning much support in Quebec at the next general election are problematical. In any case, and it is not likely that Conservative prospects have been affected one way or the other by the anti-Diefenbaker demonstration.

The new leader is a man of unquestioned ability and experience. It will be recalled that for a considerable time he stood alone in the House of Commons against order-in-council government and legislation which denied individuals the right of appeal to the courts. Today, these and other principles have become the essence of Conservative opposition to totalitarianism in government. Again, in his very first speech in the House he advocated a Canadian Citizenship Act. It took many years for the government to adopt his suggestion, but when it was placed on the statute books after the War, Prime Minister Mackenzie King publicly acknowledged the part John Diefenbaker had played in bringing it about. One of his greatest early triumphs was to force the formal withdrawal by the government of the Emergency Powers Act for revision after he had exposed its deficiencies in a speech which gained nation-wide attention in November, 1945. He took an equally prominent part in helping make the Veterans' Rehabilitation Act an effective statute.

It is to Mr. Diefenbaker's credit that he has concentrated on big issues, involving principles in which he firmly believed. If he follows the same line as party leader, whether or not he succeeds in carrying his party to victory in the next election he will have served his country well. There never was a greater need for statesmanship, as distinguished from political opportunism, in the management of affairs in Canada. Mr. Diefenbaker now has the chance for which he has been waiting, of arousing his fellow countrymen to their opportunities and responsibilities. His experience as chairman of his party's foreign affairs committee, as chief Conservative spokesman on external affairs, as a delegate to the United Nations Charter meeting in San Francisco in 1945 and at subsequent NATO conferences and elsewhere, should serve him in good stead. He has a right to expect the fullest support and cooperation from his party followers, and the best wishes of his fellow Canadians generally, in the responsible role he has now assumed.

A Pity

The retirement of Mr. Adlai E. Stevenson from political affairs is a misfortune, for he has many talents for leadership which the United States, and indeed the whole free world, could use to advantage in these days of uncertainty and stress. It is a long time since any political party in the United States had his superiors in proven administrative ability and, more particularly, in intellectual understanding of the problems that face humanity. This is acknowledged by even his most outspoken political critics.

cal system Mr. Stevenson will not even guide the affairs of the Democratic Party until his successor in the next Presidential race is chosen. He will have no seat in Congress, no official status of any kind. For a time he may serve in some subdivision of the Democratic National Committee, but he will have little influence even there. As far as the broad sweep of national affairs is concerned, his voice will be heard only incidentally, if at all. There is just one way for his abilities to be used as they deserve to be—by his appointment to and acceptance of some position of responsibility under the Eisenhower administration. This possibility was mentioned in Washington circles immediately following the election, but lately it seems to have gone out of circulation. The Republicans are not so favourably disposed to bi-partisan appointments to high office as the Democrats traditionally have been. More's the pity, especially these times when the responsibility of statecraft call for the very best talent irrespective of party tags.

A Work Of Charity

Church World Service, the relief agency of the National Council of Churches in the United States, is all set to send 300 million pounds of food to underprivileged people in 28 countries of Europe, Asia and Latin America. And the best thing about the transaction is that the food is not costing the organization a penny except for distribution and administration costs. A million dollar fund to provide for these costs now and in the future is being raised by the Churches making up the National Council.

This large amount of food is coming from agricultural surpluses held by the United States Government under the "Share Our Surplus" program. It consists mainly of wheat, corn, rice, powdered milk and cheese. In announcing the program the executive director of Church World Service stated: "Given in the name of Christ and without question of race, color or creed, these foods from our national abundance strengthen the bonds of human brotherhood from which alone can rise a better world for all."

Canada, too, has large surpluses of agricultural products on hand, though perhaps they do not represent so great an economic problem as the vast surpluses held in the United States. From time to time various organizations have requested the Federal Government to make some of these products available to needy people in the famine stricken areas on long term credit or even as outright gifts from a land of plenty. So far, little has been done about it, presumably on the ground that any such program would bring theoretical dislocations in our agricultural economy. But charity is never an unwise economic practice; and, when all is said and done, the hungry people of the world—at least half of the world's population, it is said—can scarcely be blamed for questioning the moral conscience of a nation which insists on cash-on-delivery even when its larders are over-filled with good things.

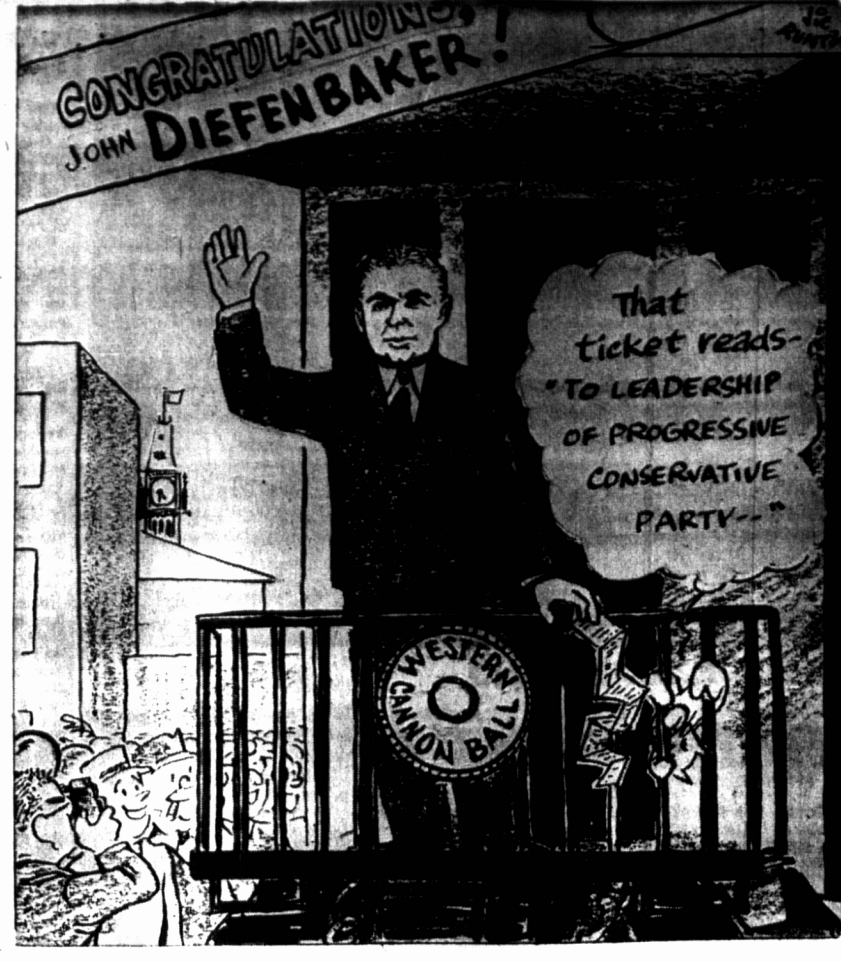
EDITORIAL NOTES

Norway won't be needing any potatoes from outside for another year anyway. This year's crop amounted to nearly 1 1/2 millions tons, about twice the 1955 production.

An American historian says "it is very hard to get many people to dismiss the idea that we (the Americans) were crude aggressors in the Mexican War." Perhaps for the simple reason that the plain facts of history are on their side.

Japan is now a member of the U.N. which means that from now on there will be 77 speeches on resolutions instead of 76. And that, as far as one can see, is about the only change that the increased membership will bring about.

President Eisenhower's action in turning down the recommendations of a tariff commission for increased levies on imported groundfish and fillets is being subjected to severe criticism by New England fishery interests and congressmen. It is no more than a 50-50 chance that he will be able to hold out against the pressure. He is not noted for overruling the will of Congress in matters of domestic concern.



HIS TRAIN ARRIVED

Philippines Bases
 By William Courtenay, O.B.E.

Clark Field, Manila. The breakdown of negotiations here between the U.S. Air Force and Philippine Government concerning American held bases throws into strong focus a problem which is plaguing both America and Britain. Here America holds an air base—vital to the defence of the Philippines—on a 99 year lease. But there are elements in the Philippines willing to be unpatriotic enough to make political sport out of such holdings; to inflame passions to "get the Americans out". This is all done under the specious guise of "patriotism". We found yesterday the same thing at Okinawa among some spurious and phoney patriots and one finds the same outlook in Japan among some elements towards America's retention of Tehekawa and other air bases—the holding of which are in the best interests of Japan's defence.

Britain is of course similarly by Nasser's phoney brand of "patriotism" in Egypt and there are similar obstructionists in Cyprus towards the Middle East base there, though it is essential for the defence of Greece as well as of Cyprus. Britain has had similar trouble with similar characters in Iraq and Jordan. In fact these same "super patriots" are responsible for the dissolution of those Assyrian levies in Iraq and the Jordan levies—the only disciplined forces on which the Arabs could count to defend them.

LOOKING AHEAD
 If those who exploit such situations to prop themselves in power would look ahead—the true test of state manship—they would realize that the atomic engine aircraft is coming. Its arrival will confer on both American and Commonwealth Air Forces, immense range and therefore duration of flight. Air Forces may be able to keep aircraft in the air for two or three weeks with ease on the basis of uranium as power plant.

With such range and duration, these Air Forces will no longer require many of these bases round the world to which strategy for defence of the free world is at present anchored. Such airfields as this one at Clark Field, Formosa, Okinawa, Cyprus and Japan, all held on a 99 year lease, will no longer be required. Aircraft will be able in one grand stride to carry our troops and equipment to any desired destination, on the world's surface without intermediate alighting. Airfields, supply depots, maintenance and servicing units, will not require bases on the ground, certainly not on unfriendly soil.

This means that as these aircraft overfly such countries and bases all the great revenues in sterling and dollars now accruing to the populations of these lands by the presence of thousands of airmen and their families; by the expenditures they incur; by the labour they employ—all this will go. And what will succeed this prosperity? Nothing at all which the local people can find to fill the gap. When that day dawns they will revile the short sighted politicians who hastened the event.

INEVITABLE
 The development of the atomic engine aircraft is of course inevitable but in the normal course of research is the aeroplane which will dominate the period 1970-1980 onwards. But every time these politicians seek to exploit patriotism by the presence of foreign forces in their midst—especially when the forces are there by equal treaties signed honourably as between equal sovereign nations—it hastens the day. In both England and America are strategists and leaders pressing for more money for aeronautical research so that the atomic engine aircraft may be produced years earlier. This will make air forces independent of all these troubles and anxieties. Why hasten this movement? Do not wisdom, sagacity, sound patriotism, and statesmanship suggest that the foreign forces should be made so welcome, made to feel so much at home, left free from all pin-pricks, that they themselves do not hurry to sink into a slumber into accelerating research for production of the atomic engine aircraft too quickly?

And Nasser has been guilty of the same folly in Egypt. In twelve years when the 99 years lease of the Suez Canal expires, the Canal and its revenues revert to Egypt. But by then the atomic engine cargo ship and tanker may dominate the seas. President Eisenhower has signed the contract for the first one. Nasser's conduct must hasten its development in many lands in an anxiety to be free from holdups in the Suez Canal. With double the present speeds; and journey times halved; with fuel space available for cargo earning shipments; it may well be that in from 12 to 15 years the journey via the Cape will not prove an economic bugbear. And Egypt may find herself left with a Canal without a ship or a ripple upon the waters of Suez-Nasser has thus been operating on a falling market also—if only he could see beyond the end of his rather long nose.

A SCOTSMAN'S AMERICAN LOG

"Way Down Tennessee"
 By Wilfred Taylor of The Edinburgh Scotsman

TENNESSEE—Our train is rolling through the lovely uplands of Tennessee. The leaden clouds and drizzling rain of last night have given way to bright skies and warm sunshine. The bump we experienced in the night was probably due to the train crossing the Mason and Dixon line.

For over an hour or so we have been company with a brawling river flowing between pine clad hills. Were it not for the tumble-down shack and the refuse dumps outside towns we might almost be in Perthshire. The scene itself at this moment as the long train rounds a curve is astonishingly like Killiecrankie.

Something happened to Cincinnati last night. It just wasn't there. The train was supposed to stop there for almost an hour and we planned to mail some letters. We thought we must be running late and after a while we asked a Negro porter when we were due in. He looked at us in astonishment. We had left Cincinnati almost an hour before and had paused there for three quarters of an hour. Either we must have dozed off or we were too busy writing letters to notice Cincinnati. The fact that we had forgotten to advance our watch an hour may have had something to do with it.

Or, it may be, the American Press is to blame. At Indianapolis we bought the "St. Louis Post Dispatch" and the "Louisville Courier-Journal", two of the best newspapers in the United States. We read their editorial pages with much interest. There is a quality about their editorials which commands respect.

NEWS VALUES
 We find, as we suspected, that American papers are too big and unwieldy for our taste. Because of widespread syndication of columns they tend to look alike. Although the American Press, largely because of geography and patriotism at the city level, are much more localised than our own, the syndication goes some way to give them the national impact which otherwise they lack. You are just as liable to find these two prophets, the Alsop brothers, gracing the pages of your morning paper in Colorado Springs as in Knoxville. Even the serious newspapers, with one or two exceptions, carry comic strips and there are vast society sections. Apparently it is noteworthy that "Miss Barbara Bonbrant", a student at Southwestern University in Memphis, will arrive home today to spend Thanksgiving with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. K.

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Medically Speaking

ARE YOU UP TO DATE ON TETANUS SHOTS?
 Most of you, I imagine, have at one time or another been inoculated for tetanus. Most persons receive immunization injections of some kind during their childhood. This doesn't necessarily mean that you are immune to the disease today.

Generally, immunization requires two to three injections of tetanus toxoid followed by another dose a year later. But that isn't all—and here's where many of you probably have slipped up. **REPEATED DOSES**

Immunization also requires that single doses be repeated about every five years. Have you had one of these "booster" shots since 1951? Probably not.

You must also get another dose of tetanus toxoid as soon as you suffer a wound which might be infected with tetanus. Punctured or torn wounds, particularly those which contain dirt or bits of cloth or other foreign matter, must be treated promptly by a doctor.

TAKE HIS ADVICE
 If he advised another immunization shot, get it promptly.

Tetanus is caused by a tiny germ called tetanus bacillus. It produces a nerve toxin when it grows in deep wounds. Most common symptom is a painful spasm of the jaw muscles. We call it lockjaw.

The tetanus bacillus lives in the intestines of grass-eating animals, particularly horses. Anyone working around stable and farm, or in garden soil treated with animal manure, is especially susceptible.

FIRST SYMPTOMS
 First symptoms are stiffness of the neck muscles and painful contractions of the jaw muscles. These usually appear four days after the injury, but sometimes aren't apparent for three weeks.

As the disease progresses, spasms of other body muscles may occur. Any noise or the slightest jar may throw the victim into violent convulsions.

About one-half of those who fall victim to the disease and develop symptoms die from it. Chances of surviving are greatly diminished by delay in recognizing the symptoms and beginning proper treatment.

QUESTION AND ANSWER
 P.N.: I have heard that the eyes remain the same size from the time one is born. Is this true?
 Answer: This is not absolutely true. During the first few years the eyeballs grow to their normal size. However, growth of the eyes is usually completed at the end of the first decade of life.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Austria has produced an automobile with the steering wheel in the middle of the dashboard—so that the driver can see neither side of the road!—Stratford Beacon-Herald

Salut John may need a Pied Piper. Authorities are blaming rats for a tenement fire which left 21 people homeless. The rodents, they say, caused a short circuit by gnawing at electric wires. This is an alarming statement and undoubtedly will cause home-owners throughout the province to declare war on these pests. It may be that rats have caused many fires whose origins remain unknown.—Fredericton Gleaver

Alberta's school curriculum, already sadly overloaded with non-essentials, is about to face a new assault. The Alberta Co-operative Union is seeking to have high schools give increased attention to the part co-operatives are playing in the world today. The suggestion is dangerous. If accepted, it could only end in the schools becoming places of indoctrination rather than education.—Edmonton Journal

The long-headed hubby will keep loose coins in his trouser pockets that will scatter on the floor when he goes to bed.—Moose Jaw Times-Herald

A special service worker declares there are 35,000 alcoholics in the city of Toronto. If he meant Metropolitan Toronto that would work out to about one alcoholic for every group of 40 men, women and children. Unless it is an exaggeration, the statement is a terrific indictment against the municipality.—Fort William Times-Journal

The Brooklyn Bridge has finally been bought and paid for—and this time not by a gullible visitor to New York but by the people who actually live there. New York city officials announce that the city has finally retired all money issued to finance this famous bridge across the East river, which was opened to traffic on May 24, 1883. The bridge had been constructed at a cost of \$25,000,000—a whopping amount of those days. But interest charges on the intervening years amounted to twice the cost of building the bridge.—Winnipeg Tribune

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The Poet's Corner

STRONG AND SINGING
 The bridge opened built To span the darkened sea From yesterday To bright tomorrow's shores Lies shattered And I must work And lift and build once more.

But when the wind Fills all its length with song And sundown glids The cables with warm gold, Then I will know it Fashioned well and strong Enough for any burden It must hold Bonnie Elizabeth Parker, in the Christian Science Monitor.

The Age Old Story
 I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

OUR YESTERDAYS
 From The Guardian Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
 (December 15, 1931)
 At a special meeting yesterday afternoon of the Falconwood Hospital Trustees, members of the City Council and representative citizens, a committee of citizens was appointed to co-operate with and assist the Board of Trustees in carrying out its emergency. The immediate care and accommodation of the patients will be the first consideration of this committee.

The work on the ferry S. S. Prince Edward Island by Bruce Stewart and Company has been completed and is expected that the ship will sail to take up its duties on the Borden-Tormentine route in the near future. It is understood to lay up for the winter months that the C. G. S. Brant is preparing to lay up for the winter months after having completed her duties in this area.

TEN YEARS AGO
 (December 15, 1946)
 Yesterday morning at City Hall James Edward Howatt and Arthur Gordon Birtch were sworn in as members of the Charlottetown Police Force by His Honour Stipendiary Magistrate K. M. Martin. Cpl. Tony Lund, who has been appointed head of the Prohibition Enforcement Squad, was congratulated on his promotion and appointment.

A most impressive ceremony was held in Victoria Hall yesterday afternoon when a plaque containing the names of all the Victoria young men and women who had served in World War II was unveiled. Mr. Keith Boswell presided. The guest speaker was Lieut. Col. W. W. Reid, D. S. O.

NEEDED HELPER
 OTTAWA (CP)—John Higgins, delegate from St. John's, Nfld., apologized for his hoarse voice while speaking from the floor of the Progressive Conservative convention. "If I was home I would have had a couple of drinks of good Newfoundland rum last night and would have been able to speak with a silver tongue."

VESSEL CATCHES FIRE
 NORTH SYDNEY, N.S. (CP)—Fire in the engine room of the Newfoundland vessel Zipper Thursday scared other ships out into the harbor and away from a feared explosion. The blaze was put out quickly and damage was described as light. There were no injuries.

MAXIMS
 You will never be the person you can be if pressure, tension and discipline are taken out of your life.