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A Colossal Task

As criminal proceedings go, the trial of Nazi agents for their part in thousands of deaths at Hitler's Auschwitz extermination camp, concluded Thursday in Frankfurt, West Germany, was a record-breaking affair in many ways.

Next to the Adolph Eichmann case in Jerusalem and the 1946 international tribunal in Nuremberg which tried Hermann Goering and 20 other top ranking Nazi leaders, the Auschwitz case is regarded as the most important in war crimes prosecution.

One of the questions raised by the proceedings was whether a fair trial could be held 20 to 25 years after the act. In the long dispute over the extension of the statute of limitation this was a matter that bothered many responsible-minded citizens.

The point was made still more plainly by Dr. Hans Joachim Keugler, deputy prosecutor of the Auschwitz case, who said recently: "I am not particularly interested in whether each defendant is sentenced to 12, 15 years or life. The punishment cannot fit the crime anyway. For me, the important thing is that this trial, and the ones to come have an educational effect on the German people."

Opinions in West Germany, however, are divided on this issue. Though nearly 20,000 visitors—mostly young people—have sat in the gallery and watched trial proceedings, surveys are said to indicate that only 60 per cent of adult Germans knew it was being held and more than half were against it.

News came from Ottawa recently to the effect that the Unemployment Insurance Fund, which had been regularly dipping into the red, has begun a cautious upward climb. At the end of June it held \$38 million (compared with a deficit of \$15.7 million at the same time last year), and it is hoped that by the yearend the fund may have passed \$100 million.

But the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Unemployment Insurance still remain unimplemented, and there is reason to assume that, before even a slight recession, the fund will again vanish into thin air. At one time, back in 1953, it had stood at \$900 million. That vanished, and a number of hefty government loans went after it.

The Commission would have insured against this by divorcing welfare from insurance costs. All Canadian workers—not just the lowest paid who are most prone to unemployment—would have been required to pay insurance on a portion of their income, with a like contribution from their employers.

Unemployment extending beyond this period, the Commission reasoned, began to involve an element of welfare, the burden of which should be borne by the whole of society. It proposed that at this stage a new plan take over, paid for out of federal taxes, which would provide benefits without a means test for a further maximum of 39 weeks. Beyond the total of 65 weeks, the Commission held that unemployment became a welfare problem entirely and should be handled as such, on a means test, with allowances being provided by the provinces and Ottawa on a 50-50 basis.

As the Toronto Globe and Mail notes in this connection, there were some flaws in the Commission's proposals—the exclusion of farm workers from the plan, for example—but in general outlined it was sound, and could have provided Canadians with a stable Unemployment Insurance-welfare structure calculated to withstand great stress. Three years have been lost in implementing it, despite the fact that each new session of Parliament has been promised legislative action.

Now that the fund is beginning to put on flesh again, we may expect that the Government will let it go at that. This is not sound policy—the good times now with us, as our Toronto contemporary says, should be employed to build up a fund that can finance bad times—but it is likely to be regarded as politically expedient.

What may develop as a giant pilot test of the effort to clean up the Great Lakes may result from a five-state conference on Lake Erie, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Pennsylvania and New York, as well as U.S. federal agencies, participated in the meetings, at which a tentative construction program was agreed upon.

Action to cut off the flood of contamination pouring into the lake is scheduled to begin showing measurable results within four years. The undertaking covers remedial action against both domestic sewage and industrial pollution.

Although for some reason Canada was not invited to attend the conference, it has a vital stake in the proceedings. Ontario owns over 200 miles of Erie shoreline, for one thing. And there is no doubt as to the need for action, in the interests of both countries. Detroit alone dumps 1.5 billion gallons of waste each day into Detroit River, which carries it into Lake Erie, making the river a giant sewer. Two-thirds of the waste comes from manufacturing processes.

The Russian trade delegation in Winnipeg last week took advantage of the announcement of the 187 million bushel wheat sale to their country to press for larger Canadian purchases in the Soviet Union. And, as the Winnipeg Free Press remarks, the Soviet delegates had statistics on their side.

Trade is, theoretically at least, a two-way street. The large wheat sale made to Russia in 1963 was part of a three-year trade agreement between Canada and the Soviet Union. The agreement expires next April. When the 1963 wheat sale was made, the Soviet minister who signed for his country said that the treaty was "a good basis for the development of trade" between the two countries.

But last year Canada sold products to the value of \$316 million to the Soviet Union, and in return bought goods valued at less than \$3 million from Russia. In the light of these figures, it will not be surprising if, when the Soviet-Canada trade agreements come up for renewal next year, the Russians really put pressure on this country to increase its buying in the Soviet Union. If the present imbalance continues, it may be pointed out to us that there are other wheat exporting countries in the world.

A Hollywood report says movie stars are becoming more political. Some of them, suggests an exchange, could use a few acting lessons from politicians, too.



YOU'RE NOT TAKING MARRIED MEN?

THE 1966 MODEL YEAR

Safety To Be Preferred Above Glamor

In a few months, Canadian automobile manufacturers will mark the beginning of the 1966 model year. According to industry leaks, 1966 will be, in the vernacular of the trade, the year of the stylist. The Canadian automobile buyer can expect more glamor, more creature comfort and more power.

On all Ontario-built automobiles, he can also expect \$75 worth of safety features as standard equipment. The new safety package is not an offering to the buyer—manufacturers claim that safety does not sell cars—but a concession to growing government concern in Canada and the United States about the rising human toll in traffic accidents.

Statistics recently released by the Ontario Safety League indicate that 92 Canadians were killed for every 100 million miles driven on the nation's roads in 1964. The rate was 5.7 in the United States.

Accidents are bound to happen in North America. Accidents of all kinds rank third, after cancer and heart diseases, among the causes of death; but the heavy loss of life on the highways as a result of traffic accidents is inevitable. Government experts and private researchers in Canada and the United States are not convinced. Recently, they have turned their attention to the design of safer automobiles as one answer to the problem.

The automobile manufacturers, however, have been somewhat less enthusiastic about safety design. They recall the Ford Motor Company's ill-fated safety design campaign in 1956, a year in which Ford promoted seat belts, safety-dished steering wheels and padded dashboards while the competition won the day with more chrome, more carpet and more horsepower.

Often the industry argues that its first obligation is to satisfy consumer demands and that, in any event, today's cars are safe; it is drivers, not their cars, that cause accidents.

Problems Of Pacemakers

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen The ingenious pacemaker is that stimulate stubborn hearts are being improved constantly. The unit is inserted under the skin of the abdomen and connected to the heart with wires. The wire electrodes, made of the new alloy, Elgiloy, resist deterioration and add to the long-term use of the device.

Research in organ transplants and artificial substitutes is a fast-moving field full of implied promise that will create future problems. When there is progress in a certain field, we tend to forget what the old was like. With an electrical heart stimulator, he lives in constant fear that a wire will break or the battery will give out. Failures bring criticism to the physician for not maintaining the instrument in peak condition. This is anticipated as we utilize gadgets to keep people alive.

Modern medicine is creating semi-artificial persons. Eyeglasses help him see and hearing aids reopen the world of sound. He can chew with his false teeth and is able to obtain a lifelike prosthesis when an extremity is lost. There are false noses, ears, eyelashes, and nails; wigs are available for those who want a different colour or to hide a bald spot.

But these are minor accomplishments compared with transplanting corneas, by-passing obstructed arteries with knitted Dacron tubes, kidney transplants, and the use of artificial internal organs. My only concern is that we may lose our perspective and in time concentrate on prolonging death, instead of life.

SANDALS F. H. writes: A shoe salesman told me the feet never will return to normal after wearing flat-heeled sandals for years. Is this true? I have done this for a long time because I have trouble being fitted with closed shoes.

REPLY Your feet may be normal now, despite the remark of the salesman. The inhabitants of many agricultural countries—including Mexico—wear flat-heeled sandals all their life and they have good feet.

ULCER IN CHILDHOOD Mrs. G. writes: Could a six-year-old boy have a duodenal ulcer?

REPLY Yes, the medical profession is becoming increasingly aware that bizarre abdominal pain in children may be due to peptic ulcer.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The best preserved men never allow themselves to become pickled. — Regina Leader Post. Our forefathers ran a farm with less machinery than we use to keep up a lawn. — Wittenberg Enterprise. Jones: "Why do you keep that ugly parrot?" Smith: "Because I like to hear it talk. It is the only creature gifted with the power of speech that is content to repeat just what it hears without embroidering it into a fancy story." — Hamilton Spectator.

Success For Johnson

The signing into law of the American civil rights voting bill by President Johnson is indeed an historic event. This is perhaps the most important bill to be enacted since Mr. Johnson came to office. That it has passed is a tribute not only to the American conscience, but also to the immense political skill of the President.

Whatever reservations may be felt about some aspects of President Johnson's policies, his campaign for civil rights has been, in terms of politics, a work of art. It is often said that politics is the art of the possible; it might better be said that it is the art of making the apparently impossible possible. This is what Mr. Johnson did with the civil rights voting bill.

Passage is, however, only the first step. And it could turn out to be the least important step if some of the southern states do their utmost to frustrate the bill's implementation. Hence, Mr. Johnson's triumph over one obstacle leads him to another no less formidable. He must enforce the bill; if it is not enforced, he will be blamed.

Justice for the Negro people of the United States has been long delayed. It is still, in many cases, being granted only with reluctance. And what has been done is only a fragment of what needs to be done. Still, at least the path now leads upward. If, from now on, a large increase takes place in the number of Negroes who are able to vote, this will be an historic victory for the principles to which American society is supposed to be dedicated.

SOMETHING To think About...

If your furnace is over 10 years old, you may be money ahead to give it a good, close look! HERE'S WHY: The usual "life expectancy" of ordinary furnaces is about 10 years. BUT EVEN MORE IMPORTANT! There have been so many wonderful improvements in the last 10 years you have a right to be discontented if you don't have a modern LENOX heating system! If you do not call us TODAY.

Palmer Electric Dial 894-8548 - Ch'town

Losing Points At Geneva

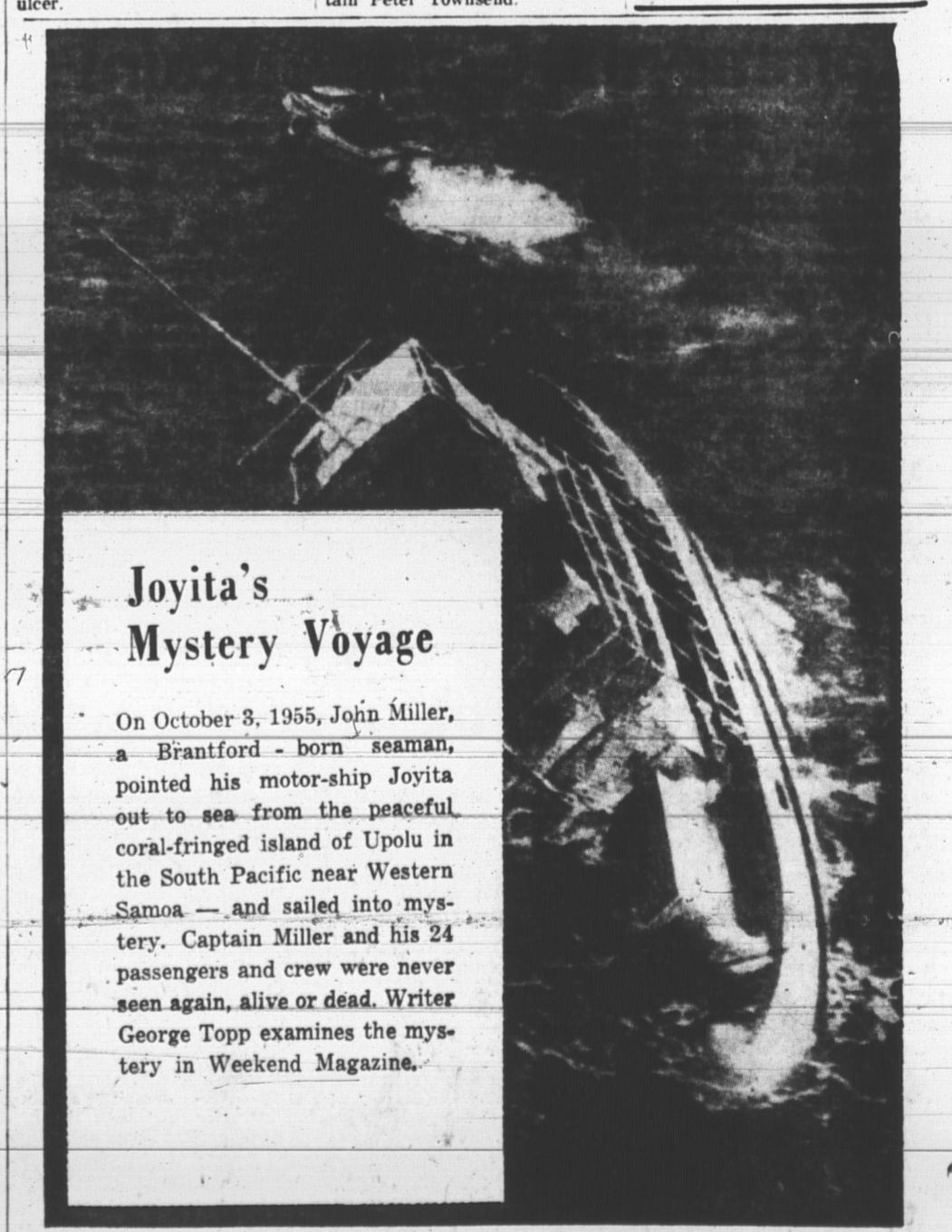
The Western powers appear to have stumbled in the propaganda charge that attempts to pass for disarmament negotiations in Geneva. The Communists seem to be scoring points in the game by default. The West left itself so wide open with its belated and half-hearted presentation this week of a plan to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons that the Russians did not feel obliged to shoot it down at once.

Would the Western plan provide a watertight guarantee against a country getting access to nuclear weapons through any Atlantic pact nuclear force? Would the plan exclude creation of a multilateral Nuclear Force in which West Germany would participate?

AWKWARD POSITION The answer to both questions is no, which puts the Western powers in an awkward position. They may be judged by neutrals to be less than genuine in their avowed desire to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons, or they must openly abandon plans for an Atlantic Nuclear Force and thereby anger an ally such as West Germany.

Manitoba elk—the horned variety—will be watching with interest and pardonable concern August 30 when a draw is held at the Norquay building auditorium to decide which Manitoba hunters will be allowed to shoot at them during a special limited hunting season between Sept. 30 and Oct. 2.

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Joyita's Mystery Voyage

On October 3, 1955, John Miller, a Brantford-born seaman, pointed his motor-ship Joyita out to sea from the peaceful coral-fringed island of Upolu in the South Pacific near Western Samoa—and sailed into mystery. Captain Miller and his 24 passengers and crew were never seen again, alive or dead. Writer George Topp examines the mystery in Weekend Magazine.

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