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vantage, while the Americans, for their part, are by no means unanimous in approving it.

One Tennessee senator complained in Congress that the move would increase employment in Canada at the expense of the U.S. and make it more difficult for American firms to proceed with their investment plans in this country.

Whatever it means, it will be months before Congress votes on the agreement. It is possible that if the opposition gains any substantial strength the proposal could be delayed until the 1966 session.

And the car purchaser, the "consumer" as we call him in the food industry? It looks, as Dr. Dewar said, as if he'll still be the odd man out in this deal.

His Latest Award

Whatever failings his critics may pin on Mr. Pearson as a politician, most of them will agree that he has a well-deserved reputation as a diplomat and man of peace, and that he has shed honor upon Canada by his activities in these fields.

Recognition of this fact comes in the form of a new award, which Mr. Pearson has received and which is known as the Temple University of Philadelphia World Peace Award.

The Hamilton Spectator suggests that Mr. Pearson's new honor is an honor for all Canada. We believe that Canadians generally will share this feeling, and take pleasure as well in its bestowal upon so worthy a recipient.

The Mounting Toll

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has just issued a report on highway accidents which is truly alarming. The death toll registered on Canadian highways in 1964 amounted to 4,655—the highest number of road deaths recorded in any one year, and 10.6 per cent over the 4,210 total in 1963.

An upward trend in the number of persons injured as well as the total of accidents on the roads and streets last year was also revealed. In all, 139,576 persons sustained injuries in 1964 as compared with 126,086 in 1963, while accidents involving property damage in excess of \$100 totalled 266,233 as against 248,395.

Every province except Newfoundland and the Yukon and Northwest Territories recorded an increase in the number of deaths. In the Maritimes there was a rise of 30 in Nova Scotia to a total of 191, and Prince Edward Island was up one to 34. The decline in Newfoundland was three, down to 73.

Perhaps we should have a commission of inquiry to probe into this appalling situation; a commission of psychiatrists, preferably, to determine the cause of the public apathy, which accepts this increasingly heavy slaughter on our highways resignedly, as something more or less necessitated by our modern way of life.

EDITORIAL NOTE

British Prime Minister Harold Wilson may be the busiest big spring-time traveller on the diplomatic circuit. He is now on a trip to Berlin and Bonn and will go to Paris on April 1, to Rome a little later, and to India in May or June.



CARVING THE TOTEM POLE

OTTAWA REPORT By Patrick Nicholson

Highway Death Toll Poses Challenge

While the death toll on our roads mounts appallingly, I see that preventive steps are being taken in the United States. Not content with seat belts on the front seats of their cars, the Ford Company has just announced that it would make two rear-seat belts standard equipment on all its cars, beginning this Fall with the 1966 models.

Chrysler is going one better, with rear seat belts in all cars starting April 1. Front seat belts have been standard equipment in U.S.A. for more than two years; studies show that they reduce death and serious injury in automobile accidents by 35 to 40 per cent.

The Canadian Government seemingly has the near perfect imperfect record of "Nil" in its efforts to make cars safer or to establish safety standards.

MAGAZINES AGAIN The Diefenbaker Government and the Pearson Government both promised that steps would be taken to prevent the Canadian magazine industry being bled to death through the drain of advertising revenue to U.S. magazines.

It is reported in Ottawa that Ralph Snelgrove may sell his TV station at Barrie to a big group which owns or operates radio and TV stations in several localities. The buyers may seek to move the Barrie station nearer to Toronto, to cover that huge market area, and perhaps in the hope that it would then become the flagship station of the privately-owned CTV television network.

"FORGED" WINTERHALTER I recently commented in this space that the federal government owns an oil painting of Queen Victoria, now hanging outside the Senate Chamber here. Described as by John Partridge, of whom I could find no mention in art directories, it is seemingly a copy of a painting by the famous artist Franz Winterhalter, which hangs in Toronto's City Hall.

Now Mr. George H. Fear of Quebec City has kindly sent me an extract from a French language artists directory, which describes John Partridge as a well known English painter, whose portraits were frequently exhibited in Britain's Royal Academy between 1815 and 1861; he was commissioned by Queen Victoria and the Prince Consort.

I am very grateful to Mr. Fear for his interest; but this compounds the mystery. Why did Partridge, evidently rated highly in his lifetime, copy the Winterhalter portrait? Or did the latter plagiarize Partridge? The Winterhalter painting is insured for \$9,000; the highest sale price mentioned for a Partridge work is about \$115, probably many years ago.

Rotterdam's Progress Hamilton Spectator Rotterdam's important customers and when the connection between the Rhine and Rhone river systems is completed it will open important markets in Northern Italy.

This could mean Rotterdam could become the most important "Mediterranean" port. By 1970 the Dutch are estimating the deep-water Europort will be completed.

It was started in 1956, but already the world's largest tankers and ore carriers are being handled in the new basins. Many Hamiltonians will remember the destruction of Rotterdam's harbor. The fact that it has been rebuilt and enlarged in less than 20 years is a tribute to the Dutch people.

Too Old For Pallbearers The Printed Word When Adam Anand, a Huron county pioneer, died in 1892, elderly neighbors in Colborne Township bore his coffin. In a newspaper clipping preserved all these years it is recorded that three of these men were "among the few left of those who cast in their lot with this section 60 years ago."

IN ONTARIO This trend evidently is more pronounced in Ontario where one funeral director says, "Whenever possible we try to get men from 60 down—almost never above 60—depending on their health. There may be honorary bearers of any age, but never senior men for the actual carrying." So while man may be tried by a jury of his peers he may not, after a certain age, be carried to the grave by friends of his bosom.

Partridge work is about \$115, probably many years ago. Making enquiries about crime in big cities, I was shocked to learn that robberies, muggings and assaults in New York City's subways averaged five a day last year. This was over 50 per cent more than in 1963.

Joseph O'Grady, chairman of the Transit Authority, complains of the numerous cases of subway crime in which other passengers refrained from assisting those being attacked, often by bands of youths who roam the subways. Last year 636 persons were murdered in New York City (contrasted with 223 in the whole of Canada in the latest year reported) and 32,856 automobiles were stolen.

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Potions And Spices

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen It has been said that customs, styles, governments, and professions tend to repeat. This came to mind while visiting a large grocery with a pharmacy in one corner of the enormous "What is this doing here?" I said to myself, only to recall that early English druggists were members of the Peppers' and Spicers' guild.

The charter, separating them from the Grocers' company, did not come until a year after Shakespeare's death. We can assume that by then the apothecaries learned enough about pharmacy to be distinguishable from the grocers. The history of surgery followed a similar pattern in that early surgeons were barbers.

According to Dr. T.D. Whittell of the University college hospital, London, early apothecaries supplied drugs and spices to the royal household. One of the mourners at Shakespeare's funeral was a friend, Philip Rogers, "an apothecary who sold ale and tobacco to supplement his normal but not particularly lucrative trade in pills, oil of pitch, precipitate corrosive sublimate, and confection of roses." Rogers always was in debt but managed to send his son to Oxford.

Dr. Whittell also states that early pharmacists played a major role in the sale of tobacco. It was considered a new medicinal herb and in time the apothecaries had to increase their stock to meet the growing demands from smokers. They also were the first to sell bananas and coffee. A Canterbury pharmacist sold necklaces obtained from the loof of ships wrecked on the Goodwin Sands.

A study of apothecaries' wills of 1665 showed nearly all were wealthy but frequently acted as though poverty stricken. This was understandable, because they also sold poisons. Centuries ago, this was a common way of committing suicide or doing away with an enemy. The poison was obtained at the apothecary shop—with instructions and a little extra cash under the counter. Customers would not dare offer a bribe if they thought he was rich but they would not hesitate if poor.

DRY SKIN Mrs. M. writes: Since my mother has been taking medicine for dropsy, her skin is dry and lacks elasticity. She is 76 years old but always has looked younger than her years. Do you think the medicine is responsible for the condition of her skin?

REPLY Yes, provided she is dehydrated. Cold cream often helps the skin of elderly persons who are bothered in this way. SYMPATHETIC DISCOMFORT E. H. writes: My wife is pregnant and she insists I will have pain and other symptoms. This doesn't make sense to me. Please advise.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

"Animals do not know what it is to be superstitious," declares a clergyman. But we have yet to hear a mouse that will pass a black cat on Friday.—Toronto Star.

One of the curiosities of Winnipeg at 25 below is the status of air conditioners. They are seen huddled on office window ledges, receding from the Arctic climate which they seek to simulate during summer. The inwards of most are frozen solid. Perhaps a few are still at work, carrying second-hand cold air into a room as a rebuke to over-enthusiastic radiators.—Winnipeg Free Press.

What this country needs is an undo-it-yourself kit for people who have goofed.—Calgary Herald.

Canadian beauty queens are becoming dismayed at public indifference to their fictitious titles. In the past decade the position of the beauty queen has been steadily declining in importance as the number of Miss Holstein-Friesslans, Miss Cupcakes, Miss Grape Festival, Miss Blossom Week, and all the rest, has increased. To many this will be a heartening development and accepted as proof that sanity has not fled the age.—Kitchener Waterloo Record.

German-British Relations

By Harold Morrison Canadian Press Staff Writer

Mutual suspicion and distrust still appear to haunt the ties between Britain and West Germany 20 years after the Second World War. A summit conference, receding from the Arctic climate which they seek to simulate during summer. The inwards of most are frozen solid. Perhaps a few are still at work, carrying second-hand cold air into a room as a rebuke to over-enthusiastic radiators.—Winnipeg Free Press.

In fact, the talks between Prime Minister Wilson and Chancellor Ludwig Erhard which open Sunday may tend to emphasize the differences rather than remove them. In exaggerated form, a political cartoon in the London Daily Express suggests the mood in which the talks take place. It depicts Wilson in a tattered soldier's uniform pleading unsuccessfully for a hand-out from a stout, wealthy Chancellor Erhard to help pay for the British army on the Rhine. And Erhard's Bavarian lederhosen are bulging with surplus deutschmarks.

QUEEN TO VISIT This is the first British-German leadership meeting in three years and part of its purpose is to help smooth the way for the first visit by a British sovereign to Germany in more than a half-century. Queen Elizabeth will make her tour in May. Because of this state visit, it is unlikely basic differences between the two countries will be allowed to erupt.

But since Wilson's trip was first planned, the emphasis has shifted. Originally he was to have met with Erhard last January to try to sell the Bonn administration on accepting the British concept of an Atlantic nuclear force as successor to

the American proposal of a multilateral nuclear force.

West Germany doesn't like the British idea. Various comments have suggested Bonn feels the British proposal is merely a case to contain German nuclear ambitions without giving Germany any major authority in the direction and control of Western nuclear strategy.

On the British side, Labor party spokesmen have more than once voiced fear of a re-armed Germany and what might happen to Europe and the world if Germany ever got its hands on the nuclear bomb. But the nuclear bomb is thrust aside for the moment. The more urgent Wilson quest is to get Germany to place more military orders in Britain to offset the heavy British cost of maintaining its 51,000-man army of the Rhine.

Germany has indicated it cannot do more than it is doing and the British government has made clear this is not enough. Wilson has promised not to take any unilateral decision to reduce or withdraw the British force. But there is no doubt he will emphasize the possibility of eventual curtailment and the result may be a stiffening of German-British relations.

Still Perched On The Fence

London Free Press

Egypt's wily President Nasser has proved his independence by welcoming East Germany's President Walter Ulbricht as head of state, but he is still keeping the door open for continuance of trade with the Bonn government. It had been feared that there might be a major rift caused by Egyptian recognition of the Communist German state.

As usual, Nasser has played both ends against the middle. He expects to bolster his trade with East Germany and the satellites by his action. Yet it was from West Germany that he had been receiving major economic aid.

The Bonn government insisted it would end its credits to Egypt if Cairo fully accepts East Ger-

many as a sovereign state. Chancellor Erhard was able to forestall an immediate break in relations. Now that it is hinted Cairo will open consulate in East Berlin, it is doubtful if he can avert the breach. Although the West Germans do not want other Arab states to follow Egypt into recognition of the East German state, the Bonn regime had insisted it will sever ties with any land that accepts its Communist rival.

Yet while Nasser was buttering up Ulbricht, he heartened West Germany by declaring that he would preserve relations with the German people and follow a policy "that would not consolidate the partition of Germany."

Travel bargains advertisement for CN travel. Lists destinations and prices: Sackville \$2.20, Moncton \$2.90, Truro \$3.70, Saint John \$4.30, Halifax \$4.80, Antigonish \$5.20, Sydney \$9.50, Quebec \$12.15, Montreal \$13.00, Ottawa \$15.70, Winnipeg \$35.00, Edmonton \$47.00.