

Here And In Quebec

Opposition critics are to be believed, the Shaw government in this province and the Lesage government in Quebec are in the same unsteady boat...

Yet he seems quite confident of doing so and—strange to say—the consensus of informed opinion across the country is that he'll make it without too much difficulty.

But while Premier Shaw's expansion program would take fuller advantage of federal aid under existing federal-provincial arrangements, and his opponents are claiming a monopoly on their ability to do this effectively...

We'd like to hear from both our party leaders about the implications of this coming conference, about their attitude to the Quebec Liberal premier's demands...

De Gaulle's Strategy

A Cambridge professor, writing in The Times of London, sees General de Gaulle as the Bismarck of our age, who by settling the problems of Viet Nam and of Europe would fittingly crown his career by winning global recognition as a world statesman...

There is no question that the general entertains this sense of destiny. What it will do to Western unity and to the future integrity of Europe is another question.

Reputable observers in London feel that in return for a Franco-Soviet alliance, Russia would be ready to support a five-power conference, possibly to be held in Paris, to end the war in Viet Nam and neutralize the area.

guaranteed jointly by the Soviet Union and France.

The chief flaw in this scheme, as pointed out in a well-informed article in the Winnipeg Free Press, is that France really is not a great power. Her nuclear force, still in infancy, depends on highly vulnerable manned aircraft, and it is very doubtful whether she will be economically able to embark upon a missile program that would lend credibility to its deterrence.

Another point is that of neutralizing Germany. After Russia, this is the largest, most populous and economically most powerful nation in Europe. Any attempt to neutralize such a power is as much doomed as was President Roosevelt's ill-conceived Morgenthau plan aimed at transforming Germany into a pastoral nation.

To Be Unhorsed

It's come at last. RCMP recruits are to be unhorsed. That faithful animal will vanish within six months as a standard part of the training of Royal Canadian Mounted Police aspirants.

The new policy, says the police statement, is "forced by rapidly changing conditions." But we suspect that that's just another paltry "exercise in semantics."

It is further argued that while equestrian training was invaluable for developing personal courage and self-control, "the chances are a man won't even see a horse after his graduation these days."

We are somewhat mollified to note that the RCMP's famed Musical Ride, which dates back more than 80 years, will not fall victim to these motor-age innovations.

It's a relief to know that for the time being, anyway, the nation can at least afford to retain these remnants of a once grand tradition of our Canadian Northwest.

EDITORIAL NOTES

From St. Thomas, Ontario, comes the story of an accused who was asked whether he wanted to be tried by a magistrate, by a judge or by a jury.

A mobile program learning workshop has just ended a tour of 12 centres in Britain, and with phenomenal success. Among 500 students who completed the courses there was a pass rate of 90 per cent.



PARIS IN THE SPRING

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Proving Competent In Speaker's Role

Lucien Lamoureux, the 45-year old lawyer from Cornwall, Ontario, is proving himself competent and firm in presiding over the potentially disorderly Question Periods and acrimonious debates in this young House of Commons.

His most important contribution to the work of the House is the decisive manner in which he unfailingly but politely rules out of order the many picaresque oral questions posed by MPs.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

UNITED FUND CAMPAIGN

Sir—The continued competition for leadership and contributions among independent national agencies and the United Fund is causing concern among business and community leaders throughout the Island.

Betting Influence

A few thoughtful people in Britain are beginning to wonder if it might not be a good idea to gear rid of opinion polls before another general election comes around.

Our Yesterdays

Word was received in Toronto that Capt. Lionel Massey, elder son of Hon. Vincent Massey, Canadian High Commissioner in London, was taken prisoner by the enemy during the British campaign in Greece.

TEN YEARS AGO

With this in mind, the Prince Edward Island United Fund is inviting those organizations which have not done so to consider, as a matter of urgency, coming to terms with this organization so that all can participate in the one annual provincial campaign.

UNLOCK THE JOINT

I. V. writes: Is a locked knee dangerous?

REPLY

In this condition the torn cartilage is caught in the hinged part of the joint. Unless the defect is allowed to heal spontaneously with rest or is corrected surgically, the victim will become disabled whenever real exertion is attempted.

ONE OF MANY TESTS

Y. M. writes: If an electrocardiogram is normal, does this mean that the person does not have heart trouble?

REPLY

No. This test is only one of many ways and means of detecting heart disease. The electrocardiogram is a tracing of the electrical current as it passes through the heart.

FOOD IODINE

J. V. E. writes: Do any foods contain iodine, or must we depend upon iodized salt for our supply?

REPLY

Fish and foods grown in coastal areas supply this element, as sea water contains iodine and its spray, carried by the wind, enriches inland water and soil.

HAIR DYING

H. M. writes: Could dyeing the hair cause insanity in a 43-year-old woman?

REPLY

No. If this was true most women would have a mental problem after age 50.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT

Dirt gardening offers good exercise. (NOTE: All correspondence to Dr. Van Dellen should be addressed to: Dr. Theodore Van Dellen, c/o Chicago Tribune, Chicago, Illinois.)

Plan For Retirement

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen The human machine loses much of its flexibility after age 60. It is difficult for an energetic man who has kept pace with a competitive world to turn off the steam abruptly.

Many companies provide the latest information and advice on the subject to employees approaching retirement in this way they hope to avoid the innumerable social and economic pitfalls that tarnish the golden years of life.

A person who is healthy in mind and body at 65 has a life expectancy of six years and should be able to find enjoyment in many fields. It can be a mixture of productive work and fun but without the headaches of responsibility and deadlines.

This is best accomplished by concentrating on health at age 45 and correcting defects that might lessen longevity if allowed to continue.

SOCIAL AND OFFICE WORK

He also plays the leading role in such time-consuming tasks as arranging Canadian participation in international parliamentary meetings.

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The Brussels Decision

By Harold Morrison Canadian Press Staff Writer

Britain's bold and brassy speeches about possibly joining the European Common Market are essentially about into a canyon where there is no echo.

The Brussels decision to end internal bickering among the six members over farm financing and to fix a date for elimination of remaining internal industrial tariffs is a giant step in establishing the strong economic unit envisaged by the Treaty of Rome.

It doesn't establish the political unity which formed part of the original dream of a Europe so tightly integrated that it no longer could entertain thoughts of the kind of aggression that caused two world wars.

To the extent that these member countries agree, the Western world will rest easier. As time passes, maintenance of this developing economic unity will become so vital that each member country will become less inclined to allow political differences to lead to a military showdown.

Nevertheless, the Brussels decision may make British exporters edgy. In the past British diplomacy benefited to some extent by cross-border differences among European neighbors and competitors.

But the compromise Britain seeks becomes steadily less available. The few whispers from Paris which hinted that President de Gaulle might be more receptive to a fresh British application to the Common Market appear to have been magnified by over-eager British officials.

There is no open urge from either Paris or Brussels that Britain attempt to renegotiate and certainly no suggestion that the Common Market would be prepared to modify its policies in order to win Britain.

The situation would suggest, instead, that either Britain throw in the sponge and openly plead for membership on Common Market terms—ditching Commonwealth preferences—or attempt to form a stronger association with other trading partners, including Canada, the United States and Australia.

It is unlikely that either Canada or the U.S. would be prepared to entertain construction of a special Anglo-Saxon trade bloc since this would undermine the multilateral policies which these governments pursue.

Unless pinned against an economic crisis, Britain is unlikely to sacrifice Commonwealth links.

Jails and Glue-Sniffers

Toronto Daily Star

Ontario authorities are entirely justified in their concern over the spread, among thrill-seeking youngsters, of the dangerous habit of sniffing air-plane glue.

Putting people in jail has done little over the years to eliminate the use of marijuana, heroin and other drugs, and there is no reason to believe that it will be more effective in combating the new menace.

The first is an emergency warning program. The provincial government should insist that all containers of this substance be labelled "poison." At the same time, the health department should spread the word among young people, by all the means at its command, that airplane glue is not a drug.

that airplane glue is not a drug, that it is highly toxic and can be fatal to the brain, liver and other organs. Since this fact sinks in the urge to sniff it should quickly wane.

The second stage is for the government to bring pressure on the glue manufacturers to change the formula of their product so as to eliminate the dangerous ingredient.

This is surely beyond the resources of modern chemistry. But if it is impractical, certainly lessen the danger without the necessity of throwing foolish youngsters in jail and giving them lifelong criminal records.

Those Sale Prices

The Printed Word

If a retail merchant were absent-mindedly to advertise an article at \$10, readers probably would spot it as a mistake.

Search of newspaper files disclosed that as recently as 1901 blankets were offered at \$1; men's hose at 50 cents and "fur ruffs" at \$3.

An old-timer in the retailing of women's wear says it was department stores, in competition with each other, that started this abhorrence of round numbers.

Just as a passing thought: do hardheaded, practical country folk see through this gimmick? Evidently not: it was a farmers' co-op that advertised a dishwasher at \$229.99.

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