

Peace, It's Wonderful!

One of the things for which the Diefenbaker Government deserves credit is the manner in which it has smoothed the troubled political waters in Newfoundland, and brought Premier Smallwood round from bellicose denunciations of Tory trickery and discrimination to gentle cooings of satisfaction and even gratitude at the privileges Newfoundlanders are enjoying under Confederation.

Speaking recently in Toronto, Mr. Smallwood declared that Newfoundland's union with Canada has been a "brilliant success." Indeed, he said, "we should almost be on our knees thanking God for the precious privilege of being Canadian."

Mr. Smallwood, of course, had taken Newfoundland into Confederation and can fittingly be called the only Father of Confederation living today. But that was under Liberal rule at Ottawa. It wasn't long after the Conservative landslide that he began having doubts, and soon he was waging a feud with Prime Minister Diefenbaker and Justice Minister Fulton that threatened to end in a grand blowup so far as Canada's newest province was concerned.

This went on for some time, and the situation seemed to be going from bad to worse. Mr. Smallwood rarely made a public speech without appealing to high heaven against the raw deal he was getting. His occasional trips to Ottawa were like the visitations of minor hurricanes, leaving wrack and ruin in their wake; and when he retreated to his own citadel in St. John's it was to nurse his wrath and plan more devastating forays against the enemy.

All this has changed, at least outwardly. In his address above referred to Premier Smallwood noted how much better Newfoundlanders are being fed, clothed, housed and educated now than in all their previous 500 years of history. In twelve years the province has doubled its road mileage at a cost of \$100,000,000, increased its school attendance from 75,000 to 130,000 and its teaching strength from 2,400 to more than 4,000. Forty per cent of hospital beds now in use have been provided in the 12 years of new nationhood at a cost of more than \$100,000,000. The people have also benefited under the federal welfare system and in numerous other ways.

Mr. Smallwood now is in good form to be sent to those so-called separatists in Quebec who are talking about seceding from Canada. He could tell them a thing or two about the advantages they enjoy as Canadians! Not that he is any less ardent a Liberal than he ever was; but he appears to have seen a new light with regard to his contacts with Ottawa, and to have accepted a philosophy of co-existence that would indicate, pretty plainly, some nice diplomatic footwork on the part of the federal authorities.

Canada's Role

Foreign Affairs Minister Green has stated that disarmament is the most pressing international issue of the day and that Canada is in a position to play an important role in the 18-nation disarmament conference opening in Geneva on March 14. This, as the Ottawa Citizen points out, is quite true; but Canada's role is shaped not so much by its critical standing on the international scene as by the support it has given disarmament measures within the United Nations and its lengthy Commonwealth association.

Mr. Green, comments The Citizen, "is perhaps in a better position to speak of Canada as a country with an 'independent and responsible voice' than some other members of the cabinet. He has quite properly given a very cautious reception to United States proposals aimed at setting up a nuclear deterrent within the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. But the indecisions of his government on whether or not to accept nuclear warheads for weapons it has received from the U.S. puts this country's whole approach in this field in a different light."

Commonwealth Prime Ministers called for a complete abolition of the means of waging war of any kind during their London conference of a year ago. Canada gave meaning to this view in supporting the resolution within the U.N. that led to the convening of next month's Geneva conference. This country, along with other middle powers, can play a vital role in disarmament negotiations at a time when major world powers are deep in cold war tensions. It is to the credit of Mr. Green that he realizes this fact so clearly, and has worked so consistently to this end.

It is regrettable, however, that cabinet policy is not more clearly defined on the issue to which our Ottawa contemporary refers. It has been a subject of heated debate in Parliament, and will continue to cause concern until it has been clarified.

The First 10 Minutes A long-winded pleader before the Board of Broadcast Governors recently was given some friendly advice by a Toronto clergyman. "After the first 10 minutes no one is converted," the pastor cautioned.

This is as good a thought as any to leave with our legislative solons over the weekend, as they prepare to debate the 60-paragraph Speech from the Throne now before them. The temptation to outdo the Speech in verbosity will be strong, but they should resist it. They will find, if they try hard, that brevity can be achieved without sacrifice of sense, logic or continuity, and that indeed a half-hour speech—or even a fifteen-minute one—carefully prepared, makes a stronger impact than an hour-long speech that has been put together haphazardly, and without being digested by the speaker himself before imposing it upon his hearers.

Latitude, of course, is required by Government members and by the leader of the Opposition in dealing with a wide range of political issues; but this doesn't apply to the ordinary backbencher, who should be able to say his piece without taking half an afternoon to amble through it. The business of the House requires that it be discussed fully, and there is no suggestion here that proper discussion should be curtailed. But repetitive speech-making, for the sake of speech-making and for the pleasure that comes from hearing the drone of one's own voice, is a luxury that could well be dispensed with.

One of the greatest speeches ever made was Abe Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, which could be inscribed verbatim on the two sides of a postcard. Present-day American politicians, who love quoting it, are as lax as their Canadian counterparts in profiting by its example of brevity. Nevertheless, the example is there, and it is worth keeping in mind. That way, the first ten minutes of oratorical effort will really count, and the "converts", if any, will be safely corralled.

EDITORIAL NOTES It shows what a glutton for punishment Mr. Hazen Argue is when he says he's considering serving under Mr. Lester Pearson, whom two years ago he called "the greatest mistake in the Liberal Party's history."

For some reason not stated, a World Health Organization report shows that the highest suicide rate for the past decade is in West Berlin. East Germany has been consistently in second place. Hungary, another country that has felt the pressures of Communism, showed a rising level of suicides for the same period while Finland, also very close to the Soviet border, showed a similar rise since 1951. Laurels for the happiest nation in the world, judged by its low suicide rate, go to Ireland.



LET'S ALL SWITCH TO A PEACE PIPE. LOOK WHO'S TALKING NOW.

WORLD'S NEWEST NATION

Western Samoa Becomes Independent

National Geographic News Bulletin

Western Samoa, a cluster of lush tropical islands long administered by New Zealand, has become the world's newest nation and the first fully independent Polynesian state.

The new nation's 113,500 inhabitants marked their coming of age recently with a five-day celebration at Apia, the capital. Two chiefs, one of whom weighs 350 pounds, will serve jointly as head of state. After their deaths a 45-man legislature will elect a single ruler.

Lying about 2,600 miles southwest of Hawaii, Western Samoa has 1,133 square miles of territory, less than Rhode Island. Biggest of the four inhabited islands is 45-mile-long Savaii. Eastern or American Samoa, with an area of only 78 square miles, continues under United States administration. Its capital is Pago Pago.

STEVENSON CAME TO DIE Western Samoa is a civilized man's dream. Poet Rupert Brooke called Samoa "lovely and lost and half the world away." Robert Louis Stevenson came to Samoa to die. He was buried on a hill overlooking Apia.

The Polynesians of Samoa are a handsome race with light-brown skin, wavy hair, and well-proportioned bodies. They live in thatched-roof houses about 25 feet high and 30 in diameter. They fish and cultivate breadfruit, coconuts, bananas, taro, and sweet potatoes. Women manufacture bark cloth and mats, sometimes so fine in texture they resemble the straw of Panama hats.

Samoa life is so leisurely that a visitor called it "one long sun-drenched yawn." But F.M. Keating, an expert on Samoa, explains that the Samoan living pattern represents "a close adjustment to a tropical climate and a fertile but isolated environment."

"The economic system has as a central ideal a minimum of effort, in contrast to white men's ideals of maximum production and efficiency," he said. WOMEN BOX, TOO Samoans love to dance, throw

spears and disks, hold canoe races and tree-climbing matches. Both the men and women box. In the old days, the men often made war. Hollow wooden hand gongs and loud wooden whistles summoned club-wielding warriors, who wore distinctive headbands and face paint as uniforms. Elaborate speech-making often preceded an fray. Though winners sometimes ate the losers, casualties were generally low.

Samoa culture became famous in the United States in the late 1920's with the publication of anthropologist Margaret Mead's "Coming of Age in Samoa." Dr. Mead reported that Samoan children grow up without many of the conflicts that afflict children and adolescents in other societies. Children are never considered a burden; the word "orphan" does not exist.

Old people also fit comfortably into Samoan life. The Polynesian ancestors of today's Samoans may have reached the island about the 5th century A.D., but contact with Europeans did not begin until 1788. In 1830 Protestant missionaries arrived. Today most Samoans are Christians.

Europeans introduced previously unknown diseases, and the population declined drastically in the late 19th century. The Samoans gradually acquired immunity, however, and today overpopulation threatens. Germany, Britain, and the United States signed a treaty recognizing German rights in Samoa in 1899. Samoa remained a German colony until 1914 when New Zealand troops took over. New Zealand will continue to give the independent nation a subsidy.

Jamboree in Greece Boy Scouts of Canada The Jamboree will be Dr. Nestor Constantoulis of Athens. Dr. Constantoulis, an experienced Scout leader, was the Greek contingent to the 10th World Jamboree, and attended the 3rd Canadian Jamboree at Connaught Ranges, near Ottawa, last summer as an observer. At the request of the Boy Scouts of Greece, Lt. Col. George Simmons, then executive commissioner for administration at National Scout Headquarters in Ottawa, visited Greece in December, 1960, to help the Boy Scouts of Greece in planning the 11th World Jamboree.

Chief Scout for Greece, H.R. H. Prince Constantine, Duke of Sparta, is expected to play a prominent part in the next

Senate Reform Proposals Ottawa Citizen Senator Donald Cameron's two proposals for Senate reform could, if adopted, make the Red Chamber more representative as well as more useful. But before one of the reforms he suggests can be instituted, the government itself—and all succeeding governments—would have to undertake a change of heart if not of law.

Mr. Cameron suggests that 22 Senate seats be filled by persons who had distinguished themselves in the arts, professions, and local public affairs. Of the remainder, one-third could be filled on recommendation of the provincial governments; this would give the NDP and Social Credit groups representation in the Senate.

GREAT WEAKNESS Suggestions of this kind have been made before, but have largely fallen on deaf ears. Yet unless the government reforms the basis on which appointments to the Senate are made, no true reform is possible. For the Senate's great weakness is that it is almost entirely composed of political appointees, either as a reward for services to the ruling party in the Commons, or as a means of removing a member of the Commons without loss of face to the appointee.

OTHER PROPOSAL Senator Cameron's other proposal may be easier to implement, and could open the way to much useful work by the Senate itself. He suggests that tasks now given to royal commissions be handed to the Senate. The senators include lawyers, accountants, and persons trained in public affairs; they should be able to handle many of the inquiries now undertaken by royal commissions.

Prospects of real co-operation, therefore, between Russia and the U.S. would appear remote, for military advantage appears still at the heart of their efforts.

Hospital Rules Show Changes Through Years

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen HOSPITALS are changing so rapidly that many of those being built today will be obsolete by the time they are completed. But at least they will be new and free from that horrible smell of carbolic acid and other antiseptics that have saturated the floors of older institutions.

Passavant Memorial hospital in Chicago has a modern building next to Northwestern university medical school. The original Passavant was torn down several years ago but its records are still available, and were reviewed recently by John Stagi, its director.

Some of the rules and regulations of the year 1899 are amusing. For example, patients were forbidden "to curse or use improper language of any kind, to disturb others by loud talking, to play at any game for money, to smoke or chew in the wards or corridors, to spit on the floor, or to procure for themselves or others any intoxicating drinks."

Hospital gowns and bed baths must not have been in vogue because the patients were ordered to keep themselves and their clothing clean. If they were able to sit up, they were expected to make their beds and keep them orderly. Where were the nurses?

Patients were not allowed to sit on the sills or throw anything out of the windows. They were encouraged to attend daily religious services, and those who were unable to do so, were expected to be quiet while the services were in progress. Patients unwilling to obey the rules of the hospital were discharged.

What about the cost? "Free patients shall, if required, render service according to their ability." Pay patients in the wards were charged \$7 a week and those in private rooms, \$12 to \$25. "All bills are payable weekly in advance." Miscellaneous donations for the year included kindling wood, five tons of coal, zwieback, two night-shirts, a gallon of ammonia, a chicken and two rabbits, and all kinds of jams, jellies, fruits, and vegetables.

AGAINST SURGERY A. P. writes: I'm against operations of any kind for old people. I'm 84 and the doctor wants me to go to the hospital for X-rays to see if I have tumor or ulcer. What would be the best thing for me to do?

REPLY Go to the hospital for X-rays. You must be in distress or you would not have consulted the physician. There is no harm in being X-rayed and there is a good chance surgery will not be needed.

HIVES FROM COLD P. K. writes: My 17 month old son has fair skin and red hair. Every time I take him out of doors in this weather his face, hands, and legs break out into what looks like hives. These red swellings disappear 15 minutes after bringing him indoors. Is there an explanation for this outbreak?

REPLY This is an allergy to cold. See your physician because there are several remedies.

NECK STRETCHING L. W. writes: I have a spurred neck and the doctor wants to put me in traction. What does this involve?

REPLY A special head halter, a rope, a 10 pound weight, and a pulley. The rope is fastened to the halter on one end and the weight on the other. Traction can be applied while the individual is in bed or sitting under an open door. The spurs are a sign of arthritis.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From the Guardian Files TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (Feb. 24, 1937) Mrs. J. Mathieson was elected Regent of the Royal Edward Chapter IODE at the annual meeting held yesterday afternoon. Mrs. Mathieson reported that War Memorial Bursaries which were to have terminated in 1938 had been extended for a further period.

TEN YEARS AGO (Feb. 24, 1952) Yesterday evening on its last trip from Tormentina the crew of M.V. Abegweit picked up an exhausted doe deer spotted swimming among the ice cakes in mid-strait. The captain ordered the boat stopped when the animal's plight was brought to his attention.

The doe in the last stages of exhaustion, submitted meekly to capture. Men and women are almost equal so far as numbers are concerned, in the Province. The recently-completed census reveals that there are 90,218 men and 89,211 women. Quebec is the only province in Canada which shows more women than men.

Speaking for Myself

Sevigny Sees Bogey, Not Reality

It is right, I imagine, to forgive any man in public life for occasional slips into impetuosity; for getting his foot stuck in his mouth if it doesn't happen too often; and even for making a few blundering, offensive utterances, provided he strives to make amends when he is shown where he has been out of line.

When a man persists in blundering, however, and shows no signs of learning from his mistakes, as in the case of Associate Defence Minister Pierre Sevigny, I see no point in going on forgiving him.

He should, rather, be silenced completely. If no other way of accomplishing this is available, he should be booted out once from the Diefenbaker cabinet. No risk should be taken of his ever again being in a position to speak for the government on any matter which involves foreign policy.

AN UNLIKELY CHOICE In retrospect, indeed, it is difficult to understand how a man capable of the kind of blundering indulged in by Mr. Sevigny ever became the government's choice as Canada's observer at last fall's session of the Organization of American States, in Uruguay. It was only that circumstance that enabled him to assume the posture of something of an authority on Latin American matters.

Of course, in saying these things, and going even further, I realize that some readers are likely to find grounds for feeling that I am speaking extremely. This is particularly true since an earlier writer for this paper, Patrick Nicholson, at Ottawa, deplored criticism of Mr. Sevigny as "shallow," a form of "sensationalism," and saw it as senseless for any excitement to be generated over passing references to "two small Latin American countries."

NONE SO DISTANT Well, Mr. Nicholson, as a newspaper man, has much more right to be heard as I have so I plan no quarrel with him. In passing, though, I would expect him to agree that no land in the modern world, is so small, or so distant, that it may be disparaged, or discussed irresponsibly, with impunity, by a government spokesman.

In any event, when it comes to Mr. Sevigny, my feelings about him as a target are altogether different. He is a member of the federal cabinet. In any of his public utterances, he is presumed to speak for the government as a whole. It follows that he has an obligation to speak with the utmost of responsibility, even in his most incidental references, and that every word he says is open to criticism.

DANGEROUS DRIFT It is true, too, that my interest in the area under discussion is extremely keen, whether or not this makes me an extremist. I've edited a couple of papers in the Caribbean region, and just recently returned from a fine vacation there, so I am at least aware of some of the special problems of the area, and further south, even though I claim no special wisdom about them.

There is worrisome evidence that Canada's relations with some of the newly-emerging and swiftly-changing countries to our south have drifted into

most precarious balance. member; I chose the word "drifted," for I feel little impulse to hand out blame over most of the causes for worry I see.

But my feelings about the things Mr. Sevigny has said are different. I think they place a direct and needless strain upon relations that are important to Canada. And I think, too, that such statements, and the kind of misunderstanding they represent, are capable of contributing swiftly to the explosion of more and more Cuban-style governments in our hemisphere.

WHAT HE SAID It seems to me that even an average nincompoop should have known better than to say some of the things Mr. Sevigny has said.

What Mr. Sevigny said first, and then retracted, was that "in the past six months communist governments have taken over in British Guiana and Ecuador."

Then, less than two weeks after he had dug his way out from this mess of his own creation, he chose, of his own volition, to return to the matter, following the recent outbreak of violence in Georgetown, capital of British Guiana.

He saw what had taken place as making it "amply evident that communism is spreading through Latin America and therefore presents a danger to world peace."

AN ODD FEATURE An odd feature of this particular view lies in the fact that those who launched the violence were the foes, not the friends, of the government which Mr. Sevigny had described as being communist on such a basis. It doesn't matter whether heads or tails come up; Mr. Sevigny is right.

Still, the larger fallacy supported by Mr. Sevigny is very much larger indeed. It is my view that any man must be blind or stupid if he can look at the political ferment at work in Caribbean and Latin American lands, can see it at first hand, and then can interpret it as an open-and-shut, black-and-white manifestation of the struggle between communism and the free world.

DISSERVICE TO CANADA On the contrary, the truth is that the main quality of that ferment is as an expression of forces of historic determination which I consider incapable of being crushed, and which are almost completely independent of ideologies, whether communist or democratic.

It is a determinism that is on the march to wipe out colonialism and oppression, no matter what forms they take or what steps are needed to accomplish their overthrow. When a man fails to see the reality of that determinism—what it means, why it arose and where it is going—and sees instead the tired old bogeyman of communist conspiracy, I think he renders Canada and lands which need her informed friendship a serious disservice.

And that's about the way in which I think Mr. Sevigny has gone wrong.

Burton Lewis

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