

Mr. Pearson's Visit

When Premier Shaw announced that the Legislature would not sit this evening in deference to the visit of "an outstanding Canadian," the Hon. Lester B. Pearson, he spoke for all our citizens, and took the words of a suggestion we were about to make right out of our mouth. The Premier accompanied this nice gesture to the national leader of the Liberal Party by assuring him of a cordial and cooperative as well as Liberal members of the House; and the provincial Liberal leader, Mr. Matheson, was prompt to extend his thanks for these good wishes and to assure the Premier that he would take pleasure in conveying them to Mr. Pearson.

If political campaigning could be conducted across the country on this courteous level, it would be a wonderful thing indeed. For Premier Shaw was well aware that Mr. Pearson's visit at this time is to strengthen his party locally and win Liberal votes in the coming general election. His claim to be a distinguished Canadian, however, is as well recognized by political opponents here as it is by his own loyal followers, and the present occasion is an opportune one on which to give expression to this feeling.

SMEAR CAMPAIGNS—We refer not only to the fact that Mr. Pearson will be with us today in person, but to an unfortunate bitter controversy which broke out in the Throne Speech debate at Ottawa recently, resulting in an exchange of personal abuse of a venomous kind. Mr. Pearson was accused by an Ontario Conservative member of having been "soft" on the Communists; and we note that at a press conference in Moncton on Tuesday the Liberal leader denounced this accusation with understandable heat, as he did another charge, by an Alberta Conservative, that the Liberal Party was a "cesspool of civil servants with 'Red friends'."

Really, however, these accusations were scarcely worth answering—especially in view of the circumstances which led up to them. It appears, from the record, to have been Liberal mudballs that were thrown first. And by one of Mr. Pearson's senior Quebec lieutenants, Mr. Lucien Cardinal. According to Mr. Cardin, Mr. Diefenbaker was a demagogue and hypocrite who regarded French-Canadians as "imbeciles." Further, the Prime Minister was cowardly, undignified, a sham actor given to insinuations and half-truths. He was arrogant, envious, malicious and—above all, was addicted to "the blatant lie," the "Nazi-like lie," and "the Fascist lie with strong overtones of McCarthyism."

MADE NO REPLY—As it happened, Mr. Diefenbaker was not in the House of Commons to hear this attack in person. When he did, he chose, magnanimously, to ignore the incident. Only once did he give any sign that he had heard of it. In replying to a question asked by Mr. Cardin, when about to address him "the honorable member for Richelieu-Verchères" as the rules require, he hesitated briefly but noticeably over the word "honorable."

According to Arthur Blakely, the reliable Montreal Gazette commentator, Mr. Cardin's Liberal colleagues had little or nothing to say about this attack. In private, they

disclaimed any deliberate attempt at character assassination and admitted, in general, a "boys will be boys" attitude.

It was then that the practice broke to spread. Infuriated by Mr. Cardin's attack on the Prime Minister, and adopting the tactic of the former rather than of the latter, a few Conservatives went out on a witch-hunt of their own. They tried to smear Mr. Pearson in the same manner, and with equally poor success so far as the general public said nothing at the time, but their Liberal dignitaries began raising the roof. As Mr. Blakely aptly puts it, their reaction bore "remarkably little resemblance to the boys-will-be-boys feeling that was so general in the wake of Mr. Cardin's caustic comments about the personal habits and tendencies of Prime Minister Diefenbaker."

It was a sorry show on both sides, and is best forgotten. We in this part of Canada had no part in it, and want none. If Mr. Pearson needed reassuring on this point, he need only read the words of the Premier, which go for us all. We trust that he will carry them back with him when he leaves our shores, and convey their import and significance to the less enlightened parts of the country.

If Only . . . !

An important study, prepared by economists from ten countries—Western, Communist and non-aligned—has just been released by the United Nations. For that reason, unfortunately, it may not get the attention it warrants at the Geneva conference now in session. For it has a very close bearing on the conference, showing as it does, in concrete terms, that total disarmament would not be a cause of depression—as some industrialists fear—but "an unqualified blessing to all mankind."

Canada is named as one of the seven biggest military spenders in the world, in which total military spending now is estimated at \$120,000 million—at least two-thirds of the total income of all underdeveloped countries. More than 50 million people—some three times the Canadian population—are in uniform or producing for the uniform.

The report estimates that military expenditures range between one and five per cent of gross national product in some countries and between five and ten per cent in others. Such an investment, it is emphasized, would bring in a new era of prosperity and progress if transferred to peaceful uses. Foreign aid could be increased; living standards raised; plant equipment expanded; housing, urban renewal, slum clearance and rural development promoted; education, health, social services and scientific research facilities improved.

On the broad aspect of international relations, the report predicts that disarmament—through easing of tensions—would greatly stimulate world trade and thereby trade barriers, "social investment" the gains would be equally striking. Latin America needs \$1,400 million a year to wipe out a housing backlog. The Soviet Union has a serious housing shortage. In Canada and the United States, the deficit in hospital beds has been estimated at from a quarter to a half of the existing number. Most underdeveloped countries have an illiteracy rate of more than 50 per cent. And so it goes.

This 95-page report is a wonderful document. It only it could be made required reading at Geneva—and given priority over other matters in this respect—there could be hope yet for a conference that has opened not too auspiciously.

EDITORIAL NOTES

It is cheating indeed to note that the first patients are to be moved into the new Sherwood Hospital for retarded children today. This opens a new chapter in health department activities in this province, and one upon which all concerned are to be congratulated.

Reviewing the proceedings at the Canadian Conference on Education last week, the Winnipeg Free Press notes with regret that the delegates failed to agree to two of the most important matters affecting education in Canada today: the financing of education and the steps that might be taken toward a more uniform curriculum.

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Cholesterol Said Not Sole Cause In Heart Disease

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen  
The level of cholesterol in the blood is normal in one out of five heart attack victims. This shows that other factors cause coronary heart disease and arteriosclerosis, and we should not become too fixated on cholesterol. Other factors include smoking, heredity, high blood pressure, lack of exercise, smoking, alcohol, and obesity.

Diets is the most sensible method because it limits one of the important sources of cholesterol. The level is increased by saturated (animal) fats, such as those found in meat, cream, butter and cheese. The level is lowered by including polyunsaturated fats such as those found in vegetable oils. Olive oil contains a different polyunsaturated fat which has no effect on the level.

But let there be no misunderstanding. The diet does not lower cholesterol lowering diet unless blood tests show a high level. Furthermore, scientific evidence has been produced showing that lowering the level will prevent heart attack or reverse the artery hardening process in humans.

Nevertheless, a relationship exists between the level of the blood cholesterol level, and arteriosclerosis. Those who consume a diet high in cholesterol are at tempting fate or killing themselves.

Doomed From Start  
It is at fault, really, it is only in these ways: he permitted himself to be made a figurehead in a front man for a cause which was doomed before it began, according to the terms of his own creation; as Prime Minister he didn't make much of it in the process of compounding his error; he has perhaps the most promising career to be seen developing in the whole Caribbean region; he was the perfect "father image" for the new nation.

Smoking & Lung Cancer  
Cigarettes are being dug out all over Britain as a result of last week's report by the Royal College of Physicians which indicates a direct link between cigarette smoking and lung cancer.

Public Forum  
This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of public interest. The editor reserves the right to edit and condense where necessary and to omit correspondence regarded as irrelevant.

A Good Samaritan  
Sir, We read with interest an article in The Guardian which "Who is Charlottetown's most generous citizen?" He does not win an award, which is a very nice idea, but it is a pity that a citizen, I feel it is the duty of a citizen to be generous.

The Age Old Story  
Most men will proclaim every day his own wisdom, yet few are wise men in what they say.

NOTES BY THE WAY

It will probably be quite some time before the English youth who twisted continuously for 23 hours and 45 minutes on a washing machine by his bed it—Nansimo Free Press.

Two Scandinavian physicians say there is no effective remedy for "hangover." Can it be possible that the 19,878 remedies for a hangover, not a single one is effective?—Sarnia Observer.

"The old philosopher says: 'God judgment comes with experience, and experience comes from poor judgment.'" —Hamilton Spectator.

There's something to be said for a salt mine bomb shelter. If anything happens down there you'll keep a window bar.

The full-size dinner set makes a comeback, although we'll have to wait for the diet craze to die out before we see a revival of the full-size dinner.—Grand Rapids Press.

Then there's the philosopher who says that being positive is merely being mistaken at the top of your voice.—Branford Expositor.

John Glenn says he will not go into politics. But some Democrats is bound to say, neither did General Eisenhower. —Ottawa Journal.

A young man rehearses a proposal for days before putting it to a girl who has been waiting with the answer for months.—Galt Reporter.

Should a people that calls reading, writing and arithmetic the top of their education if some of its citizens are speller? —Ottawa Journal.

"My brother wants me to help him with his income tax. 'But you can't read or write.' 'No, I know, but he doesn't want to read or write, he wants me to pay it.'" —Hamilton Spectator.

Serves Man Everywhere

National Geographic Society  
The recent discovery of a layer of sulphur in the earth's atmosphere comes as a surprise to anyone familiar with the element. In one way or another, sulphur is found in almost every part of the world.

The average man's body contains about one-quarter of one percent sulphur. He takes to the sulphur in his food, and in the steel was a "pickled" in sulphuric acid, a compound second only to water in its corrosive power.

He drinks orange juice from trees protected by sulphur-containing fungicides. He has cereals that would never have reached his table but for fertilizers made with sulphuric acid.

OUR YESTERDAYS  
From the Guardian Files  
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (Mar. 15, 1937)  
Professor J. H. Muller, the N.S. gave several excellent lectures in Georgetown Hall this week. The first one on Monday evening, dealt with vegetable growing. A full hall greeted the visitor on each occasion.

From crib to casket, man lives in a world of sulphur-made things. Even in death, sulphur may follow him. Known as the volcanic Popocatepetl, sulphur is the classic fuel of hell.

But sulphur is also a constituent of the human body. Dr. Charles E. Mearns and his associates of the Air Force Circulation Laboratory at Bedford, Massachusetts, recently found that a three-mile-thick layer of sulphur-containing particles exists about 11 miles above the earth's surface. The studies in electron microscopes of air samples collected by high-altitude balloons.

THE PARTIES may help explain "purple light," the conspicuous disk of red light often seen above the point of sunrise or sunset. The phenomenon has been observed for more than 2,000 years.

ECONOMIC BAROMETER  
On earth, sulphuric acid, the king of chemicals, has so many uses that it is hard to list its uses. Its consumption a valuable economic barometer, the National Geographic notes, in the early 1950's demand for sulphur was so great that prices rose sharply. Discovery of new supplies in Mexico has since given the world ample quantities of sulphur.

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Honourable Lester B. Pearson

LEADER OF THE LIBERAL PARTY OF CANADA  
HE WILL ADDRESS A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE LIBERAL ASSOCIATION OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

AT THE Community Centre  
115 Stewart Street, Charlottetown  
On Thursday, March 15, 1962  
TIME - 8:00 P.M.

Everyone is cordially invited to attend.

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Most men will proclaim every day his own wisdom, yet few are wise men in what they say.  
Inserted by the Prince Edward Island Liberal Association