

A Disturbing Report

Our citizens will read with grave concern the report of the Grand Jury on conditions prevailing in the old Hillsborough Hospital. This mental institution is badly overcrowded, and this, of course, is the main cause of the trouble. But the report goes into details which indicate a lack of facilities of the most ordinary kind, with stairways in bad condition, ceilings and floors in need of repair, leaky taps, broken bed springs and other evidences of gross neglect. Fifty patients on one floor have to use one bath tub and one shower, and in this case even the privacy of doors is lacking. The report exonerates the staff, which it describes as most competent; it does not fix the blame but it goes with commendable thoroughness into the living conditions of the patients, which can only be termed disgraceful.

In marked contrast are the conditions at the new Riverside Hospital and at Beach Grove, which are given high commendation. Granting that the older institution is more difficult to keep in proper shape, surely there is no excuse for the situation which the jurors found on their inspection tour. The Queen's County Jail also requires renovation. These matters should be attended to at once. In particular, some means must be found of relieving the congestion at Hillsborough, and the building given a thorough overhauling.

Two In A Row

It is noteworthy that of four outstanding laymen chosen to represent Canada at an important NATO conference in Paris next week, two of them should be from this little Province of Prince Edward Island. We refer to Professor Edgar MacInnis, President of the Canadian Institute of International Affairs and formerly of Charlottetown, and Dr. Frank MacKinnon, Principal of Prince of Wales College.

The invitation to the conference was extended by NATO itself to delegates nominated by all member nations, and the appointment of the Canadian delegates was made by the Federal Government. As noted in the news story in today's issue, a full five day agenda has been arranged for the conference. It will include addresses and discussions on various NATO activities, and visits to SHAPE and other allied enterprises in Europe.

Dr. MacKinnon was taken quite by surprise when he received the intimation of his appointment from NATO authorities, and he is still wondering what it is all about. What is evident is that his abilities are highly appreciated at Ottawa. This tribute is one in which his fellow citizens will concur most heartily. Whatever responsibilities may devolve upon him, there is no doubt but that he will discharge them with credit to himself, to his Province and to the country.

Professor MacInnis has had a distinguished career as educationist, author and authority on international affairs, and has travelled widely in connection with his present responsible duties. It is a striking coincidence that he and Dr. MacKinnon are both winners of the Governor General's literary award—the highest in Canada; Mr. MacInnis for his history of World War Two, and Dr. MacKinnon for his history of Government in Prince Edward Island.

Keeping Them Guesing

Quite properly, Prime Minister Diefenbaker is keeping opposition members guessing about the prospects of an election in the near future. Replying to a question as to whether another federal-provincial fiscal conference will be held before the election or after it, he stated that "that would naturally depend on my honourable friends opposite and the degree to which they follow the course of action that they have followed in recent weeks".

That could mean that if the Liberals remain as co-operative as they

have been thus far—and certainly they could not have been more co-operative—the Government will carry on indefinitely, perhaps for the full term. And why not? So long as it does not meet defeat in Parliament, a minority Government is just as stable as a majority one and just as capable of carrying out its legislative program.

On the other hand, of course, the Prime Minister's statement could mean that he is getting a little weary of one motion of no-confidence after another, brought forward by the CCF group in the hope that the Liberals would join them in their mischief, and has decided to "fling down the gauntlet" at an early date. One thing is sure: Barring a defeat in the Commons, the election will come when the Prime Minister thinks the time is propitious and not when the Liberals, CCFers and Social Creditors would like to see it.

It may be that, once their new leader is duly and solemnly installed, the Liberals will cease their gentle ways and proceed to breathe forth threatenings and slaughter. But that is by no means certain. Before they can hope to win an election they have to reorganize their whole approach to the electorate and show visible and convincing signs of repentance for past arrogance. This will take time. Our guess is that at the moment the Liberals are more anxious than the Government to have the election deferred for another year or so.

Caribbean Trade

Mr. J. W. Pickersgill's comments in Parliament are sometimes a bit flippant. But there are times, too, when he comes up with a really worth-while suggestion. His proposal that a Canadian delegation be sent to the newly created Caribbean Federation is a case in point, although one is inclined to believe that it ought to be a trade mission and not a "parliamentary" one as he proposed.

The communities which make up the new Federation are well able to look after themselves politically. Their long experience under British tutelage has seen to that; and it is doubtful that any group of Canadian politicians could help them very much. What they are interested in and what they need at this important stage of their development is two-way trade with Canada and lots of it. For generations they have been taking large quantities of Newfoundland fish (this, of course, is Mr. Pickersgill's chief interest, since he represents a Newfoundland constituency); but in the past it has been very much a one-sided traffic. If these and other Canadian exports are to receive favoured treatment in the future, the sooner Canada explores the possibility of increasing imports from the island, the better.

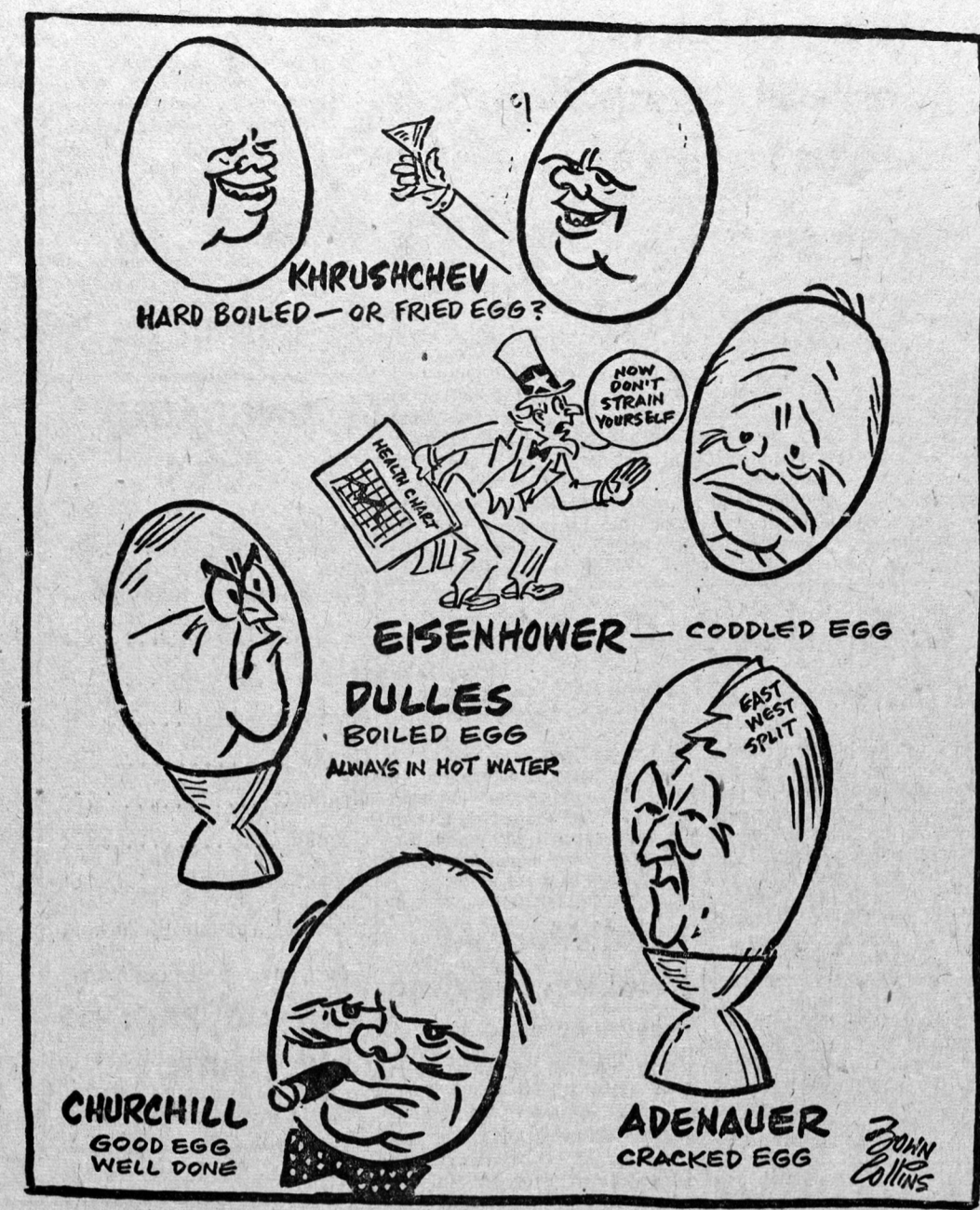
The United States already has trade missions to the Caribbean; and not only trade missions but economic advisors and technicians in many fields. The Canadian Government would be well advised to do likewise and do it quickly. As for the parliamentarians who might wish to go on a jaunt to Trinidad, they would do well to forget about it, at least for the present. Practical business men would serve the purpose much better.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The social scientists know everything. One group, armed to the teeth with statistics, recently declared that the evangelist Billy Graham will lose his popularity in another two or three years and that it will be 40 years before another of "similar impact" enters the picture.

Canada exported 27,900,000 bushels of wheat in November, the largest shipment for that month since 1952 and the best for any month since June 1956. 800,000 bushels went to India, the first to go to that country since 1955. 3,100,000 bushels went to the Soviet Union. The biggest shipment—9,600,000 bushels—went to the United Kingdom.

Actress Helen Hayes, the chairman of Women's Activities of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis in the United States, told a meeting sponsored by the Mothers' March on Polio that "workers must never stop waging war against poliomyelitis because the virus never stops looking for new victims". It is good advice for all who are engaged in the fight against polio. There is still need for the "March of Dimes"—and dollars to go forward aggressively.



EVERYBODY'S AN EGGHEAD NOW

OTTAWA REPORT

Brilliant Actor-Writer

By Patrick Nicholson
 Special Correspondent for The Guardian

Ottawa: A vivid picture of a past era is receiving well-deserved praise from book reviewers across Canada. This is "Bulls in the Meadows," written by the brilliant English character actor Peter Bull.

"The Meadows" was the name of the huge old-fashioned home in south-west London where Sir William Bull raised his family of four highly individualistic sons. The book is based largely on Sir William's diaries and scrap-books so it contains much contemporary description of family life in the London of half a century ago, and a very vivid picture of the hard task of a politician of that era. For those years were the last of the seven hundred years of honorary unpaid work by legislators; and an M.P. lacked inherited wealth sufficient to maintain his family, then he had to have some work for no salary was paid to those public-spirited persons who were chosen to represent their fellows in parliament.

This hilarious record of a happy family is evidently enjoying a warm reception in Canada. But what astonishes me is that the author's previous book, "To Sea in a Sieve," did not appear to find its way into many of our book-stores. A SIEVE IS A SIEVE. The sieve in which actor Peter Bull went to sea as a reluctant but voluntary sailor was one of those war-time naval monstrosities a tank landing craft. They did not all become sieves, but Peter Bull's private wartime floating stage generally managed to get where its actor - skipper would have liked it to be, in the limelight — the Nazis' limelight. And the Nazis' guns made it into a fair imitation of a sieve.

That was without any exception the funniest wartime autobiography I ever read. Peter Bull started his story by asserting that the sea was not in his blood; and he took jolly good care to ensure that his blood was not in the sea. But from the start as "extraordinary seaman" in 1941, to the final curtain as lieutenant-commander, decorated with the Distinguished Service Cross but still hating the sea, in 1945, it is a vivid picture, absolutely true to life, of a crew of amateurs whose gallantry could never be over-

The Paper Clip Scandal

Bruce Hutchison in the Winnipeg Free Press

It is a relief to find that the American Congress, though overburdened by its investigation of destructive missiles, is not overlooking the constructive and vital aspects of life. Paper clips, for instance.

A Congressional committee (I read this news remotely in the accurate Owen Sound Sun Times) has completed a study of paper clips. And if anyone supposes that paper clips are not constructive and vital let him consider where government would be without them. It is all very well to talk about the Constitution and the statutes but remove those pieces of twisted wire and the whole structure of democracy falls to pieces. Wisely, therefore, the Congress decided to find out what happens to a typical sample of 100,000 paper clips. Then the whole resources of modern research, the detective methods of congressional inquiry and no doubt those vast and fool-proof mechanical brains were mobilized to determine whether paper clips are economical-ly used or wasted.

EASY TO ANSWER
 The youngest office boy could have answered the question without a moment's thought, of course but that would not have been a scientific answer. It would have provided no work for a Congressional committee. It would have left the mechanical brains idle. It would have put a large corps of highly-paid sleuths on the unemployment rolls.

The results of the inquiry are now issued in fascinating detail, thus: Of the 100,000 paper clips under study 20,000 were used to clip paper; 3,000 were used as pipe cleaners; 5,038 as nail cleaners; 5,494 as toothpicks or ear scratchers; 19,413 as make-shift crutches; destroyed or bent out of shape during telephone conversations; 7,200 served as emergency hooks on suspenders belts and brassieres; the balance fell to the floor, were swept up or swallowed by small children.

SEPARATE TRAILS
 How sedulously the investigators must have followed the separate trails of 100,000 suspects! How skillfully they must have hidden themselves behind screens and under desks to observe the government employee using the property of the Republic to clean his pipe or scratch his ear!
 How many innocent poker games must have been watched through the keyhole as the little markers of wire changed hands! How many telephone conversations must have been recorded as officials, under the heavy strains of responsibility, eased their nerves by twisting paper clips out of shape when their fingers really itched for some other official's throat!
 Yes, and with what delicacy, with what diplomacy (even more subtle than that of Mr. Dulles) researchers must have approached both ladies and gentlemen to ask whether their garments perchance hung on temporary fasteners provided free by the taxpayers!
PRODIGIOUS TASK
 Well, the prodigious task was finished at length. The last pipe smoker, ear scratcher, poker player and twister was interviewed. The last female stenographer was asked, with respect and delicacy,

Keep Aspirin From Children

By Herman N. Bundesen, M.D.
 ASPIRIN probably is the most common medication used today. It is found in almost every household.

Justifiably, aspirin and salicylates in general rank high on the list of safe medications. This probably accounts for the fact that aspirin is used for self-medication more than any other single drug.

MISTAKEN BELIEF
 Unfortunately, it also accounts for the completely mistaken belief that aspirin is harmless. If taken in large enough quantities, aspirin can be, and often has been, fatal!

Physicians generally agree that a lethal dose of aspirin for adults usually is more than 150 grains. For children, of course, it is much less. And since the full-dose, adult aspirin tablet contains five grains, it might not take two many to make a child ill, possibly critically ill.

Actually, however, most cases of aspirin poisoning, at least as far as the Chicago Poison Control Program is concerned, have been caused by the candy-coated, small-dose variety prepared especially for youngsters.

FLAVORED ASPIRIN
 Of the 84 cases in the first 500 aspirin poisoning cases reported to the Control Program, 73 were caused by swallowing flavored aspirin.

Youngsters simply think they are candy and chew and chew and chew. If aspirin or any type of medicine is left within grasp of your child, you are inviting trouble, serious trouble.

Once you see your youngster with an open bottle of aspirin in his hand, you've got to act fast. Determine if you possibly can just how many he has taken. If it is only one or two, you probably have nothing to worry about.

CALL YOUR DOCTOR
 But if you can't be sure, call your doctor right away. He probably will give you an antidote and advise that you make the youngster vomit immediately.

I'll have more to say later about antidotes and how to make a child vomit.

Perhaps you won't spot the opened aspirin bottle. Maybe the salicylate (oil of wintergreen sometimes is the villain, too) will be swallowed by the youngster some time before you sense anything is wrong.

In such a case, warning signals are listlessness, dizziness, mental confusion and vomiting. Generally, these are symptoms of acute salicylate poisoning.

QUESTION AND ANSWER
 Q: I have a severe case of cirrhosis of the liver, and my abdomen has to be tapped three times a week to remove excessive fluid. Is there any way this

can be eliminated?
 Answer: A new operation in which a button is inserted in the abdomen permits the fluid that forms in the abdominal cavity to flow into the tissues. This may be of some help to you.

The Age Old Story
 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, thou wilt revive me; thou shalt stretch forth thine hand against the wrath of mine enemies, and thy right hand shall save me.

FOR YOUR PROTECTION - - - SAFE MILK
 For All Your Children
 CALL 4251
 SUNSHINE ISLAND DAIRY

FOR HIGHEST QUALITY IT'S
 Holmes and Bradley
 OR THE BEST ARRAY OF MISSES' AND CHILDREN'S WEAR.
 159 Queen St. Dial 3414

SINGER IN THE WOOD
 I was not a springtime singer. When I stood Within the green and springtime wood, My leaves did not uncurl. I listened only, and saw light that glistened, And shape unfurl. I waited for the late. The bare, when, as a shadow there, I could drift like heartwood smoke, unseen, The red leaves gone, the heart no longer green, The song no longer young — waiting to drop The frost's first silvery crop, Tight and brown as the nut and, even more, With something sweet and hard within the core.
 —Harvena Richter in the Christian Science Monitor.

MAXIMS
 When any duty is to be done, It is fortunate for you if you feel like doing it; but, if you do not feel like it, that is no reason for not doing it.

ey, whether she was wearing a paper clip that day. The last janitor recorded, under oath, how many bits of metal he had swept from the floor. The last child was x-rayed.
 Finally, as all the figures were fed into the mechanical brain, there emerged the answer which any office boy could have supplied without any brains at all, namely that 20 per cent of all paper clips are used for their intended purpose and the remainder for unintended purposes much more important.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Many enter a battle of wits unarmed.—Brandon Sun
 The U.S. wild life service says the whooping crane population there has increased to thirty-one. That's one thing the Republican administration can boast about.—Edmonton Journal

As one American congressman puts it, no one knows how many times the Russians had failed before they looted their first Sputnik. None knows how many times they may have failed since. They kept quiet until they had a strike. Maybe the U.S. brass will now learn to keep quiet until it orbits a baby moon. They are paying, and will continue to pay for lack of imagination coupled with arrogance and pride.—Vancouver Sun

The blacksmith's shop is a nostalgic memory for old-timers. There was a pleasant and distinctive aroma from the horses' hooves as the blacksmith shaved them with a hot iron. A big work horse standing placidly while being shod dwarfed everything in the shop, and it was one of the thrills of childhood when the smith invited a boy on his way home from school to give the bellows a blow!—St. Thomas Times-Journal

Authoritarians cannot tolerate free press because it is the greatest enemy and a constant threat to those whose political ambitions depend on secrecy, public delusion and backroom manoeuvres. Canada is not threatened with autocracy. But there are recurring attempts by politicians of one kind or another to nibble at the freedom and the powers of the press.—Victoria Times

One of the best hopes for peace is that the high cost of war put war beyond everyone's reach.—Vancouver Province

Sir Edmund Hillary, tired of chilling his toes at the South Pole decided not to wait for a lagging British expedition. He's giving up one of those great historical moments — "Dr. Fuchs, I presume!" —Windsor Star

Say what you will for the wonder drugs, there's nothing quite as effective for getting a sick man out of bed, back on his feet, and down to work as having a six-year-old child volunteer read to him.—Winnipeg Tribune

Authoritarians cannot tolerate free press because it is the greatest enemy and a constant threat to those whose political ambitions depend on secrecy, public delusion and backroom manoeuvres. Canada is not threatened with autocracy. But there are recurring attempts by politicians of one kind or another to nibble at the freedom and the powers of the press.—Victoria Times

AYLMER
 FANCY PEAS
 Buy Aylmer Peas by Threes!

JANUARY SHOE SALE
 Still Going Strong at
HOWARD McINNIS

BIG BARGAINS IN LEATHER and RUBBER FOOTWEAR

MEN'S RUBBER OVERSHOES Reg. Zipper Style \$4.59	WOMEN'S RUBBER OVERSHOES Reg. Laced Style Fur Trim \$3.98
---	---

"FRESH COUNTRY" "A" LARGE EGGS
 IN CARTONS—DOZ.
39c
 "EAT MORE EGGS"

SHAMA'S
 EXTRA SPECIAL SAVINGS

Blade ROAST BEEF, lb.	39c
Slab BACON, sliced, lb.	59c
Cottage ROLLS, 1/2's, lb.	59c
ROAST PORK, lb.	49c
Sandwich Spread HAM SALAD, 10 oz. pkg.	49c
SAUERKRAUT, 2 lbs.	29c
SUGAR, 10 lb. bag	98c
Broken PEKOE TEA, lb.	69c
Perfection MILK, 6 tins	93c
Maxwell House INSTANT COFFEE, 6 oz.	\$1.29
Jewel SHORTENING, 4 lbs.	98c
Red Rose, Orange Pekoe TEA BAGS, 60's	79c
One Free Bottle Fleecy with JAVEX, 32 oz. bottle	31c
Tasty-Pak PEAS, 20 oz.—2 tins	39c
White Swan TOILET TISSUE, 3 rolls	39c
Fancy Mixed COOKIES, lb. bag	39c
King Size FAB, pkg.	\$1.29
Oakleaf TOMATOES, 28 oz. tin	25c
New CARROTS 3 lbs. 25c	
Fresh Frozen RHUBARB lb. 19c	

DIAL 8224 - FREE DELIVERY - 211 EUSTON STREET