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Something To Watch

At this early stage in the functioning of the Atlantic Development Board, it would be absurd to begin subjecting it to prying criticism. It has a great many proposals to evaluate and it certainly can't do everything at once.

Even so, it is not premature to begin keeping careful track of the extent to which this province's interests are being served by the board. And new figures published Thursday, covering fund allocations as far made by the board, bring to light something that needs watching.

The total of announced allocations comes to \$51,440,000. And amounts committed to Prince Edward Island, out of this total, so far stand at \$1,875,000.

This means that the island has been allotted 3.6 per cent of the funds so far allocated. But the population of this province, as it stood at the time of the 1961 census, constitutes 5.4 per cent of the total for the Atlantic Provinces. The spread between the two figures is 1.8 per cent, and so far it is in the wrong direction as judged by P.E.I.

It will be time to begin grumbling if the situation long continues in which the province with the greatest needs gets the smallest share proportionately of ADB fund allocations.

No Larger Peril

Isn't often that a Canadian, after reading a discussion of some political situation in the U.S., is tempted to say: "Why, that could be applied to us even more than to them." But there is room for such a reaction to the following passages from a recent editorial in the Christian Science Monitor:

"Any major campaign is apt to be a time of stirred emotions. The deeper the fervor, the greater the danger. The danger is that people will close their minds. When they do that, they stop trying to understand each other and start suspecting each other. Suspicion is the seedbed of disunity and destruction."

"Responsible observers on every side are now forecasting the ugliest political campaign of the century. The mills of partisanship already are . . . sowing hate, vilification, and the half-truths on which these evils feed. This is happening at a time when the national atmosphere is explosive . . ."

Is there any part of this summary that won't become exactly applicable to Canada if this country is forced into an election this year upon any issue that is now in the forefront?

'ONE CANADA' STAND—Partisanship being what it is, there can be no general agreement as to exactly what is happening in Ottawa these days. There have been happenings to support the view that Opposition Leader Diefenbaker and his followers have been waging a filibuster with the purpose of forcing the government either to retreat on the flag issue or into an election. And there are those who insist the Conservative leadership has merely been functioning in the way to be expected of an opposition, and that Mr. Diefenbaker's stand on the flag reflects both statesmanship and patriotism.

Just why the Conservatives carried the debate for filibuster on the interim supply measure

right up to the brink of forcing an election, only to withdraw from that debate on Wednesday, is capable of many different interpretations. Strange patterns emerge whenever there is a minority government in power.

In all the ins and outs and roundabouts, however, Mr. Diefenbaker seems to be flirting with the notion that his "one Canada" stand, whether developed through the flag debate or otherwise, could work the magic which would return him to the prime ministership.

But in the present temper of the country, there is no way in which Mr. Diefenbaker's version of "one-Canadaism" could successfully be interpreted or advocated without showing many of the characteristics of anti-Quebecism.

How this would come about already has been made clear by the way in which several otherwise-responsible papers in Ontario have taken to talking about "boasting to Quebec" and "appeasement" in connection with the flag issue.

Talk of this sort, flourishing during a general election campaign, would spread the greatest excesses of racial hate that this country has ever experienced.

IT WON'T WORK—All this is sad, for there is much that is attractive about Mr. Diefenbaker's "one Canada" notion, if there were only the faintest hope it would work.

There is nothing evil or dishonorable about Mr. Diefenbaker's adherence to this notion. It is prevalent in the melting pot regions on the prairies where he spent his formative years.

But all of Canada's history down to now testifies that it will not work so far as French Canada is concerned. And fighting an election campaign on something that has never worked—can never work—would divide this country as it has never before been divided.

It is fear of this awful consequence, even more than it is support of the government's flag policy, that gives rise to the intensifying of hope across Canada that no election will be precipitated after this issue.

Oh, there's no doubt of the fervor of the feeling of Mr. Diefenbaker and his followers on this matter. But then, as the Christian Science Monitor said of the U.S. situation: "The deeper the fervor, the greater the danger."

There's no larger peril in Canada today.

Causes Misunderstanding

It is well that English-speaking Canadians should be alerted to the danger of taking anything any French-speaking Canadian says as representing what all French-speaking Canadians think. In this tendency—to believe that any one can speak for all—much of the misunderstanding in Canada today has its origin.

This point was made recently by Hon. Maurice Sauve, the federal Minister of Forestry. In a speech in Winnipeg he said that Quebec today is extremely difficult for even a French-Canadian to interpret. It speaks with many conflicting voices. On all problems there is a broad spectrum of views.

This is worth keeping in mind in reading every statement from Quebec sources, particularly from Quebec politicians. The speakers may have much in common, but no one voice can express all the different ways in which Quebec nationalism is being defined. It is fall to understand that opinions in Quebec have varied from ever is to fail to understand the extent and the depth to which the French-Canadian people are stirred and involved in the challenge of working out their future under modern terms.

EDITORIAL NOTE

Contrary to the impression noted yesterday, Parliament seems to have returned to its game of tetter-totter and tit-for-tat, spiced with vituperation, following passage Thursday of the interim supply bill after nine days of what most observers described as filibustering. Instead of thrashing toward an election showdown this week, the Commons now seems poised to continue the suspense on this matter at least until a new test arises when the flag debate is resumed.

Diefenbaker Talks Plan Called 'Rather Woolly'

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen Hearing aids at one time were so expensive only a fraction of the population could afford them. They now are as common as automobiles and vary in price from \$75 to \$200 or more, depending upon the performance of the instrument. Upkeep runs from about \$10 a year, largely for new batteries, receiver cords, and other parts that wear out.



'DOCILITY' GETS BLAME

When Backbenchers Remain Silent

Ottawa Journal

Backbenchers are supposed to be ready to fight for their rights to be heard. Astonishing, in light of that, is the attitude of three MPs at the Concluding Conference, who are supposed to be given more voice in House of Commons affairs.

What possible reason have they for using the words "he given more voice"? They were given a voice in Parliament when they were elected. It is up to them to use it, not wait to be "given it."

Mr. Stanley Knowles, NDP, knows from long experience that the backbencher is silenced in the House only by laziness, lack of ideas or docility. The last is the worst fault. The MP who dances to the whistle of his party whip on every occasion belongs to the "trained" class of Parliament, in which were so docile that they allowed

Canadian Markets Sought By Britain

Globe and Mail, Toronto

Sharp promotion earlier this year made a thorough investigation of the Canadian market. The President of the Board of Trade, Mr. Edward Heath, said he was most anxious to meet British exporters increase their sales in Canada, which he described as one of the toughest markets in the world.

Mr. Heath said that the Canadian market is a large one and that it is necessary to capture and hold a large share of the Canadian market. He also mentioned the importance of advertising, prompt delivery and servicing, together with the rudiments of staying in business.

Dull? Not Necessarily

The Printed Word

From 1921 on, Mr. W.L. Mackenzie King was the great administrator and political pragmatist. He was not likely to be killed by a Canadian public. He was a man of great stature and great ability.

Numbers Game

As if there weren't enough candidates in the Conservative leadership engineer had to think up ways to string together a coalition of 50 nationalities in the next 15 years. The result is another unmeaning scramble by the Conservative politicians, this time over the assignment of international areas.

NOTES BY THE WAY

"Why all this haste?" asks Mr. Diefenbaker about the Government's proposal for a distinctive Canadian flag. Perhaps the easy answer is that the Government has been office from 1957 to 1963 and did nothing, and that the Confederation is now 97 years old and we are still without a flag. United States flags sell well—well—Montréal Star.

A former British film actor lost his driver's licence for drunk driving. So he bought a horse. Now he has been fined for being drunk while in charge of a horse. One can anticipate he may be charged next with drunk walking.—Fort William Times-Journal.

Vietnamese Puzzles

By Camillus Canning Staff Writer

The new Vietnamese crisis has brought the world closer to the brink of major East-West conflict. It has been since the 1942 Cuban crisis.

The question is made up of many smaller questions and none of them are answered. For example: Assuming the truth of the U.S. charges, how long will it take in international waters, why did the little North Vietnamese government demand the U.S. 7th Fleet.

From the point of view of military logic, the Communists would be expected to win. They have been so clearly successful in the United States, Canada and attacks in the South Vietnamese civil war.

THE U.S. insists it does not, although it has spent \$500 million in the present crisis to add \$500 million more.

Do We Want A Congress?

London Free Press

Before scrapping our Parliament system for one designed along the congressional lines of the United States, Canadians must examine more seriously all proposals for making the national structure more efficient.

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New Attitudes On Drink

Slowly but surely, the Nova Scotia Liquor Commission and the Liquor Control Board are abandoning the attitude that anyone who drinks intoxicating beverages must expect to suffer indulgence by purchasing and consuming beer, wine, liquor and other alcoholic beverages in surroundings.

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