

# The Guardian

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"The strongest memory is weaker than  
the weakest ink."

THURSDAY, DEC. 8, 1955

## Honored On Retirement

Promptly on the heels of the announcement of the Rt. Hon. Clement Attlee's resignation as leader of the British Labour Party comes word that Her Majesty the Queen has made him an Earl, and that he is expected to become leader of the Labour Opposition in the House of Lords. This high honour is well merited, and there is no doubt but that he will discharge his new duties with the same quiet efficiency and conscientiousness which he showed in the House of Commons.

When Mr. Attlee was elected twenty years ago to succeed George Lansbury as head of the Labour Party, he was regarded as a compromise choice, and few thought he would stay long as leader. But this small, unassuming man, who seemed to have the power to lower the political temperature in any situation, proved an ideal chairman for a chronically unruly party. It was a fortunate choice for Britain as well; for Mr. Attlee played a major role in world affairs, both as Prime Minister and as chief political opponent to a series of Conservative regimes. He not only put through sweeping domestic programs of social change, but guided Britain through the opening years of the cold war and was instrumental in building up the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Mr. Attlee's modest characteristics led one biographer to comment, "he is almost anonymous." Sitting at cabinet meetings during the war, feet on the table and head sunk, he was once described as "the doormouse at the tea party." It was always much easier to get him to listen than to speak, but he soon revealed himself as a man of great integrity and singleness of purpose. He stands out in striking contrast to his great political adversary, Sir Winston Churchill, but there is no question that he, too, will hold an honoured place in the roll of our Empire statesmen. His resignation as Labor Party leader, and elevation to the House of Lords, will undoubtedly be the occasion for many tributes to his public service.

## Pro-Israel Influence

It is hard to say how much longer the United States Government can continue to halt between two opinions in the matter of the Israeli-Arab dispute; what is clear is that public opinion is demanding with increasing insistence that a stand be taken on the side of Israel. It would be easy to suggest that this is due largely to the influence that Jewish interests are able to bring to bear on almost every phase of American life, and, especially, on the political front. This influence is, indeed very heavy and well organized. But that there are other powerful pro-Israeli forces at work is indicated in a report from the annual convention of the National Committee for Labor Israel which was held recently in New York.

One of the speakers at the convention was Walter Reuther, President of the C.I.O. who urged the Government to "stop playing footsy with Egypt and the other nations under dictatorships in the Middle East." Mr. Reuther proposed that the United States offer treaties of mutual defence to both Egypt (and the other Arab states) and Israel. "If the Egyptians refuse the offer," he suggested, "the United States should say 'O. K., we will sign one with Israel alone, and we will stand behind that treaty to defend Israel.'" The solution to the ticklish problem is probably not as easy as Mr. Reuther thinks it is; but his explanation for the enmity that the Arab states harbour towards Israel will find ready approval in large sections of public opinion in the United States and, very likely, in other Western countries as well. "The dictators are opposed to Israel," he

said, "not because she occupies physically a land area in the Middle East; they are opposed to her for what she stands for morally and politically in that part of the world." W. P. Kennedy, President of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, took a similar view. He said: "The free world and the free labor movement should give material assistance to Israel until that nation achieves economic stability."

These are powerful voices in the United States; added to others in Congress and elsewhere they seem likely to bring about an early change in American official policy with respect to the Middle East.

## A Note Or Urgency

The British Government appears to be trying to give the impression that the projected visit of Prime Minister Eden and Foreign Secretary MacMillan to Washington and Ottawa does not signify any great worsening of the international situation. However, the "general topics" which will be on the agenda would seem to indicate a note of urgency which requires more than the normal diplomatic attention.

The fact of the matter is that Western Governments have been shocked and angered by the villification of the West, especially Britain, indulged in by Premier Bulganin and his friend (?) Khrushchev during their current tour of India and Burma. All pretence of goodwill and desire for co-operation, which came to the fore at the Big Four meeting in July, has been dropped; and there is no longer the slightest doubt that the Russians are trying, by every scheme they can think of, to line up the whole of Asia against the West. How far they have succeeded no one knows; but the seriousness of the situation cannot be exaggerated and ought not to be minimized.

Opposition in Britain to the proposed Spring visit of the Soviet leaders is growing. Sir Winston Churchill is apparently of the opinion it should be called off; and many will agree with him.

## EDITORIAL NOTES

This promises to have been a good year for the Nova Scotia lobster business. So far it has amounted to nearly \$7 million as compared with the same amount for the whole of 1954. In weight, it comes to about 200,000 pounds more than the full 1954 catch. It has also been a better than average year weather-wise, thus keeping losses much below last year's volume.

A parliamentary committee in Indonesia wants the Government to punish doctors who refuse to visit patients in their homes. The doctors' attitude, at first sight, may seem a matter for censure. Yet, there is something to be said in extenuation. There are only 1500 of them for a population of more than 82 million. A comparable figure for this country would be less than 300; and for this Province it would be 2.

The common syllabus and joint admission board proposed for colleges of the Atlantic Provinces may be a good thing; certainly it ought to facilitate administrative techniques. Doubtless, however, authorities will see to it that the standardizing methods are not permitted to develop into academic sameness. In that case, the remedy would be worse than the disease it is intended to cure.

In a recent political speech Governor Harriman of New York made this statement: "For myself, I've got one ambition—to give New York the kind of good government that will make sure that in November next year our 45 electoral votes are cast for the Democratic candidate for President." There are rumors that the New York governor has still another ambition—to make himself the Democratic candidate.

No better appointment to the proposed new portfolio of Provincial Minister of Fisheries could be made than that of Hon. Dougald MacKinnon, as Premier Matheson intimated yesterday to the Fishermen's Association. Mr. MacKinnon has had practical experience in the industry, as well as a great deal of experience in the Legislature and Government. It is to be hoped he will accept the post when the new department is set up after the next session of the Legislature.



NICE PICTURE

## The Mayo Clinic

By Allan L. Blakeslee  
Associated Press, Rochester, Minn.

The Mayo Clinic stands tall and glisteningly handsome in the middle of a city that medicine built on the rolling plains of Minnesota.

Nowhere else are there so many doctors (some 900) in proportion to population (35,000). There are so many that in some neighborhoods, children of doctors grow up calling every man "doctor," including the milkman.

To the clinic come 150,000 patients a year—about 500 daily—seeking checkups, diagnosis, medical or surgical treatment for ailing bodies.

For nearly half a century, the clinic has had notable impact upon medicine. It pioneered group practice; its staff contributed many research discoveries and new techniques. Its archives hold medical records of 2,000,000 men, women and children—patients since 1907—a treasure trove of informative medical statistics.

### CREATES PROBLEM

Around the clinic have mushroomed 38 hotels, some motels, scores of homes offering rooms for rent, a service industry of restaurants and shops serving needs of patients, relatives and companions.

All this concentration on medicine and allied services has created one major problem. Too many young men, seeking careers in fields not available in Rochester, go elsewhere to make a living. This has created an oversupply of women. Now there are seven women between the ages of 21 and 35 for every eligible male in the same age bracket.

A new civic organization, working under a \$200,000 fund subscribed by citizens is seeking to attract to the city industries primarily employing men.

How—and why has a medical centre come to so dominate what might otherwise be a farming and light industry city of perhaps 100,000?

The Mayo Clinic is obviously a medical mecca, dispensing high-grade medical care. Sixty per cent of its patients each year are making repeat visits. Some 80 per cent come from within a 50-mile radius, the rest from points over

the globe. Doctors elsewhere often send patients for diagnosis of difficult cases, and often come as patients themselves.

### DIAGNOSTIC CENTRE

One of its greatest fames is as a diagnostic centre: here any patient will be seen by one or a number of specialists in different fields if his case requires it. It is the birthplace, too, of dozens of new techniques in surgery and medical diagnosis and care; it also draws vitality from being a centre of education and research.

The clinic has never been without critics. Past critics objected to the practice, pioneered here, of putting physicians on salary. Others accused the clinic of indirect advertising. Modern critics, apparently fewer in number, argue that equal care may be obtained by the patient in his own home area, at least in big cities. Some object to certain features of the clinic as "mechanized" medicine.

Clinic spokesmen reply that its method of systematic handling of patients frees physicians' time for more complete devotion to the human patient.

Basically, the Mayo Clinic is a group of 320 staff physicians and surgeons who examine and treat patients, set salaries, hire staff, and govern themselves through an 11-man board, of which only two members are laymen officials of the clinic.

Working with them are 575 Mayo Foundation Fellows—physicians and scientists doing graduate work—and 2,000 non-medical personnel including nurses, clerks, receptionists, librarians, secretaries, interpreters (covering all languages), maintenance staff, dozens of different jobs.

### OWNS NO HOSPITALS

The Mayo Clinic does not own any hospitals. But four hospitals provide hospital care under direction of Mayo staff members.

Patients are examined, their troubles diagnosed. Those needing medical or surgical care usually enter one of the Rochester hospitals.

The clinic's business office—not

## The Poet's Corner

### WINTER EVENING

To-night the very horses springing by  
Toss gold from whitened nostrils.  
In a dream  
The streets that narrow to the westward  
gleam  
Like rows of golden palaces, and  
high  
From all the crowded chimneys  
tower and die  
A thousand aureoles. Down in the  
west  
The brimming plains beneath the  
sunset rest.  
One burning sea of gold. Soon,  
soon shall fly  
The glorious vision, and the hours  
shall feel  
A mightier master; soon from  
height to height,  
With silence and the sharp un-  
plying stars,  
Stern creeping frosts, and winds  
that touch like steel,  
Out of the depths beyond the east,  
Glittering and still shall come the  
awful night.  
—Archibald Lampman.

doctors—sets the fees, based on the actual costs and on ability to pay. The staff physician's income is termed comparable to that of most first-rate men in private practice. Once becoming a member of the medical staff, few physicians leave the clinic.

Some can say any precise date at which it might be said the clinic, as known now, began. The first seed was sown by a doughty, hard-bitten physician, Dr. William Worrall Mayo, who set up a small-town practice in Rochester nearly a century ago.

### SONS JOIN FATHER

His sons, Will and Charlie, never considered any other possibility than becoming doctors, and they joined their father in practice. The two young Mayos demonstrated surpassing skill at surgery, and their fame spread.

If there was advertising of the Mayos, it was by word-of-mouth of patients and others. Prominent patients attracted newspaper attention. There is no evidence the Mayos ever tried to "plant" new stories or to advertise.

As their father retired from active practice, the brothers Mayo took in first one, then another physician as partners. By 1905, 60 of them were seeing 10,000 patients a year.

Surgery was initially the basis of the clinic's fame. When Dr. Charles developed a technique for removal of the thyroid gland—goitre was a common complaint of the day—5,000 of these operations were performed in a single year in Rochester.

From emphasis on surgery, the clinic developed into supplying medical care as well.

MORE TO FEED  
MARITZBURG, South Africa (CP) — By 1970 an additional 5,000,000 people will have to be fed in South Africa, said Dr. A. R. Saunders, Natal agriculture department director. "The future of farming in our country appears to be one of prosperity," he said, as the onus on farmers to produce food would steadily increase.

Tunny fish weighing more than 800 pounds have been caught in the North Sea.

## Benevolent Irish Society

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## Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Sundeisen, M. D.

### HOW CANCER ATTACKS

As you know, cancer is a disease that can cause death. But just what is cancer? How does it kill?

Too few of you, I am afraid, understand how cancer attacks your body. You should realize what you are up against.

Simply stated, cancer is a disorderly growth of cells in your body.

Your body began as a single living unit called a cell. This original cell divided into two. These two cells then divided into four and so on.

That is how you grew. Your body is now composed of billions of these tiny cells.

NATURE HALTS GROWTH  
Once a person is full grown, nature halts growth of the cells. New cells are developed only to replace others which have worn out or to fill a special need.

For example, what happens if you cut your finger?

New cells are formed rapidly to bridge the cut. But once the cut is healed, your body stops forming cells for this purpose. So, you see, normal cell growth is orderly.

On the other hand, some cells occasionally develop in a disorderly and uncontrolled manner. This abnormal cell growth does not stop when it is necessary and serves no useful purpose.

There are two forms of abnormal cell growth—benign tumors, which are usually harmless and can be removed easily, and malignant tumors or cancerous growths.

Without proper treatment these cancer cells grow unchecked, crowding out healthy cells and stealing their nourishment. They may vigorously attack a vital organ such as your stomach, liver or lungs, preventing it from functioning properly.

Your entire body is endangered when a vital organ is attacked. Even though cancer cells begin in a non-vital location, some of them sooner or later will break off, if not checked by treatment, and find their way to other parts of your body via the lymph and blood vessels.

When this happens, it is virtually impossible for a doctor to track down all of these cancer cells and destroy them. The widely dispersed cells promptly attack nearby healthy cells, spreading the disease throughout your body.

Eventually, some of them will reach a vital organ, interfere with its work and cause death.

You can see why early treatment is essential in combating cancer.

### QUESTION AND ANSWER

Mrs. B.F.: Kindly enlighten me on fibrositis. Is there any cure for it?

Answer: Fibrositis is an inflammation of the connective tissues around a muscle as well as the ligaments. The symptoms consist of pain, usually without fever.

The treatment generally consists of the application of heat, massage and a search for infections, such as in the teeth, tonsils, sinuses or elsewhere in the body.

Followed by moderate exercise. Certain other similar preparations may be of value.

### "Chubby's" Answer

(Ottawa Journal)

Robert Sherwood, despite his fame as playwright and writer—his pen won him more Pulitzer prizes than any other American—retained his interest in Canada.

In World War II, when he had a hand in the United States war Information Department and was very close to Roosevelt (he helped with some of Roosevelt's great radio addresses) he visited Ottawa and was tendered a government dinner.

His main concern then, it seemed, was to get Prime Minister King to send a cable to De Valera urging him to bring Southern Ireland into the war, (Sherwood was a descendant of the Irish patriot Robert Emmett).

Somebody suggested to him that he approach the Irish representative in the Cabinet, C. G. ("Chubby") Power then Minister for Air. In due course, Sherwood went up in Power (he was a guest at the dinner) and made known his plan to bring from the irrepressible "Chubby" only this: "King send a cable to Dev? Why he sent a cable to Hitler, and look what happened?" The whole company—and the plan—dissolved in laughter.

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## NOTES BY THE WAY

There seems to be a growing tendency among Canadian cabinet ministers to make some of their most important statements on Canadian affairs outside the borders of their own country. While individual cases may show extenuating circumstances and certain advantages, the growth of the practice in recent years is bound to displease many Canadians and even more some of our members of Parliament. —Edmonton Journal.

Members of the Fort William Junior Chamber of Commerce were discussing ways and means of increasing the turnout of voters on election day next week. One of those present drafted a question which he thought could be put to all who have the franchise: "You wouldn't let your neighbor choose your house or car. Why let him choose your city council?" It is a mighty good question. —Fort William Times-Journal.

Climatic conditions create seasonal hazards in Canada. One of these, which already has taken two young lives, is breaking through the ice on lakes, rivers or ponds. Each year there are such fatalities, particularly during the onset of winter and in the early spring. In the early winter ice often is not strong enough to carry weight; in the early spring it is weakened by the sun. In most parts of Canada, during the heart of winter, it is amply thick and strong. Victims usually are youngsters who do not understand the risk they take chances. "Skiing on thin ice," is a phrase which denotes danger. —Windsor Star.

Dog lovers never tire of citing the numerous cases in which man's best friend has rescued his master or other humans from drowning, freezing, burning or otherwise perishing. They may, however, be a little embarrassed by the case of a Labrador retriever named Dan McGrew. Dan's master and three friends were duck hunting on a lake when their boat capsized and dumped them into icy waters. Dan located them and dragged them ashore, in the best tradition. However, this dog believed in first things first. Before setting out to the rescue, he carefully retrieved the dead ducks. —Edmonton Journal.

Skies are a shade brighter for the Canadian textile industry. There is still plenty of trouble, but the situation is better than it was, perhaps better than at any time in the last four trying years. Employment has stopped dropping, even inched up slightly in recent months. Prices are a little firmer. Volume has risen, consumption of raw cotton has moved up, new lines have been introduced. Profits, however, are still few and far between, and foreign competition is as tough as ever. From earliest times the textile industry has been an important one for throughout the country and the primary industry alone provides direct employment for over 75,000 Canadians. —Toronto Financial Post.

Recent accomplishments of French enterprise: the longest dock in the world on a single alignment (Le Havre); the largest hangar in the world (Paris-Orly airport); the longest pipeline in Europe (Le Haore-Paris); the highest cable-car in the world, the widest span without intermediary support (Aiguille du Midi); the largest man sewer in Europe (Sevres-Acheres); the highest dam on the African continent (Bin el Ouidane); world railway speed records (French National Railways); the longest welded steel road bridge in Europe (Pont-de l'Arche); and the highest arch in Europe (Tignes dam). —French Economic Bulletin.

Persistent use of the word "isolationism" in referring to the attitude of Quebec vis-a-vis education, health and certain other questions that are primarily matters for provincial concern is unfortunate. It suggests, and has actually led many—both inside and outside of Quebec—to believe, that the provincial government of Premier Duplessis would be prepared to secede from confederation. Nothing could be farther from the truth. What the Quebec majority wants and it is a reasonable desire, is to retain its religious, cultural and social traditions; something which can quite easily be achieved within the framework of confederation. —Financial Post.

One of the virtues of Middle East Treaty Organization is that the signatory powers are bound by a common fear born of bitter experiences which the Arabs generally do not share. The Turks have vivid memories of Russian demands on their eastern provinces. The people of Iraq have felt the hot breath of Communism from neighboring Kurdistan. Iran has known Russian armies and even the governments on northern Iranian soil. Pakistan is troubled by secessionist movements encouraged by an Afghan government which is being ostentatiously courted by the Soviet leaders. But this does not alter the fact that the military, political and economic problems of the Baghdad states are much more difficult than those of the Atlantic community. —Winnipeg Free Press.

There is a rumor that if the historic West Block of the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa is torn down, a swimming pool may be included in the structure to replace it. It is not known how much support the idea has among M.P.s but it is impossible to consider it without some direct connection with their attendance in the House. Some people, for instance, like to bathe before retiring. For others, the favorite time is immediately after rising from a good sleep. Arrangements would have to be made, therefore, which would allow members to take a dip either before or after a sitting. Would sections of the pool be reserved for Government or Opposition members? Would political football be used for water polo? One thing is definite. A lot of members have no need for a pool in which to go off the deep end. —Montreal Gazette.

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