

Cabinet Changes

As good a reason as any was given by Premier Shaw for his cabinet shakeup this week when he said that "a change makes personnel more alert and increases efficiency." This was not said in disparagement of his colleagues, as he was at pains to point out. Actually, of course, some changes were made necessary by the forthcoming resignation of Hon. J. D. Stewart, who holds the three portfolios of provincial secretary and minister of tourist development and municipal affairs. With three exceptions, the other cabinet members have been reshuffled and a new member, Hon. Lloyd MacPhail, brings the administration up to full strength.

We trust indeed, as the Premier says, that the result will be a more equitable distribution of cabinet responsibilities in each department, that government policy will be strengthened thereby and that the interests of the province will be better served. It all boils down to this latter objective, of course, and it will be from this standpoint that the changes will be assessed in due course. Meanwhile we extend to all those who are taking over new cabinet duties our best wishes for success.

Mr. Stewart's resignation is to take effect on June 15. He will remain as a private member of the House, and there is no doubt that he will continue to pull his weight in this capacity. The Premier's tribute to him, as a source of outstanding strength to the government since 1959, was well merited, and will be indorsed by the public generally. He was instrumental in putting through some of the most important legislation enacted in recent years, and did a particularly good job in discharging his responsible duties during our centennial activities last year.

It is fitting, on this occasion, to recall Mr. Stewart's distinguished services as an officer in the Second World War, also his successful career in civic affairs, which he relinquished in 1958 after serving for seven years as Mayor of Charlottetown before entering the wider field of provincial politics. It will be recalled, too, that his father, the Hon. J. D. Stewart, was twice Premier of the province and that leadership in public service has been a strong tradition in the Stewart family.

It may yet prove too strong to be severed permanently at this juncture. After all, Mr. Stewart is only 54, with who knows what prospects of further achievement before him?

Mr. Johnson's Order

Perhaps it was Mr. Pearson's example of writing a letter, some time ago, on ethical conduct of government personnel that inspired U.S. President Johnson to go one better by issuing an executive order on the same subject. In any case, that is what he has done, and there is a note of firmness in it which is quite lacking in the Canadian prime minister's motherly epistle. The point Mr. Johnson is concerned with is the conduct of government employees in dealing with private interests, and this is what he says:

"We cannot tolerate conflicts of interest or favoritism, or even conduct which gives the appearance that such actions are occurring, and it is our intention to see that this does not take place in the federal government."

The new order is mainly a codification and clarification of existing rules, but notably it requires for the first time the filing of financial statements by the 200 agency heads and other presidential appointees who report to him, and by some 2,000 others involved in decisions on government contracts.

The Milwaukee Journal notes

that since these statements will be confidential, with apparent violations reportable to the President personally, it will just have to be taken for granted that he is being a strict enforcer. He has given at least one clue that he will be, when he forced out an assistant secretary of commerce only a few weeks ago, in a situation that appeared improper.

But the main thing is that these key people in the executive branch will now know that any missteps will readily come to the notice of their superiors. Also, administration of ethical rules is placed in the chairman of the civil service commission.

By way of practicing what he preaches, the President reportedly intends to file with this official a statement of his own private financial involvements. These actions put the executive branch in sharp contrast with the legislative. Congress, it seems, is very righteous about the ethics of others in government, but still holds its own members and staff above the need for any rules or enforcement of any standards. Maybe this is the target the President is really aiming at, though he hasn't said so.

Overdue Debate

Opposition Leader, Diefenbaker's motion for an emergency debate on international affairs was ruled out of order in the Commons on Tuesday, it being held that there was no "sudden emergency" and that there may be other opportunities shortly to debate the issue more effectively. But there hasn't been a full-scale foreign policy debate for quite a while, and with the tag-ends of government business piled up as they are at this stage, the prospects for one are not very promising.

Prime Minister Pearson has gotten into the habit of dropping his most important foreign policy statements elsewhere than on the floor of Parliament. Recently, in an address at Queen's University, he was quoted as "joining forces with U Thant, secretary-general of the United Nations," in decrying the lack of a solid UN role in Viet Nam and the Dominican Republic. Prior to that, in a speech in Philadelphia, he caught the headlines by proposing a pause in the United States air raids on North Viet Nam which reportedly involved him in an argument with President Johnson when they lunched together next day at Camp David, Md.

Mr. Pearson has been tight-lipped on these matters in the House of Commons, where he should be most voluble in expressing himself. As a result Canadians do not know, officially, where this country stands on important matters such as Southeast Asia, the Johnson-Monroe doctrine with regard to interference in Latin American affairs, and the gradual erosion of United Nations authority. Surely Parliament is the area where these matters should be debated, fully and frankly.

The suspicion has gotten around that either the government is afraid to speak up, to initiate a debate, or else it accepts the status quo everywhere. That, as we understand it, is what Mr. Diefenbaker is driving at, and it's a good point.

Student Employment

When the question is raised of a year-round curriculum for Canadian universities, one of the objections almost invariably voiced by opponents of the plan is that it does not take into account a student's need of summer employment. Many students need such employment to help finance their education, the argument runs, and a trimester, or year-round, system of education would deny them this opportunity.

The argument is based on the assumption that it is easier for students to find employment in the summer than during other periods of the year. This, however, is only partly borne out by a study of current employment trends. As William Thomson, director of the National Employment Service, points out, many university undergraduates who depend on summer employment may be in difficulty again this year. Students in engineering and commerce may not have far to seek for summer jobs, but students in other faculties will not be so fortunate.

"Nothing in Canada," he says, "is growing as fast as university enrolment, and there is a year-round shortage of unskilled and semi-skilled jobs where they try to find employment. This is why we're all in favor of year-round universities."

This, notes an exchange, is not the first time Mr. Thomson has made this type of statement. If he keeps repeating it often enough, perhaps its significance will begin to sink in.



EASY TO GET IN--HARD TO GET OUT

OTTAWA REPORT By Patrick Nicholson

Recalling The Big Fire On Parliament Hill

Parliament Hill has many frequenters who consider themselves—even if others don't—to be VIPs (Very Important Personages); but there are some here who are incontrovertibly VHPs (Very Historic Personages). One such has just been welcomed back at work here by his many friends after a long illness. He is Jean Desjardins, Curator of the House of Commons Reading Room. This VHP is the only veteran from the MPs or staff of the House of Commons at the time of the Great Fire who is still on the Hill.

"I remember the Great Fire vividly, although it happened nearly half a century ago," Mr. Desjardins reminisced to me. "I was on duty as a young page boy in the Chamber, happy in the thought that I would be off duty in half an hour; I was planning to go with some friends to see the last show at the old Dominion Theatre."

When the sixth session of the 12th Parliament opened on 12th January 1916, 13-year-old Jean Desjardins started his job as page boy. Only three weeks later, on 3rd February, his family twice feared that their young son had perished at his new post. For that was the night when the entire Parliament Building, except for the detached Library, was destroyed by a fire which blazed all through the night with flames which could be seen for miles around. Will Loggie, MP for North-

berland, New Brunswick, was on his feet, the young page noticed. President of a fish-packing company, he was making a speech about the problems of shipping fresh-caught salt-water fish to the important markets of Montreal and Toronto, in freight cars which the railways heated. The fish, he complained, arrived stinking—but that faraway day was before cargo shipments were carried express by Air Canada.

"Suddenly, at exactly 9 o'clock, Charlie Stewart, the Chief Doorkeeper, rushed into the Chamber," Jean told me. "He cried out: 'There is a big fire in the Reading Room; everybody get out quickly.' Nobody waited for the Speaker to adjourn the session formally, nor stood on ceremony; MPs fled helter-skelter from the Chamber and visitors rushed out of the Galleries. In the panic, the Sergeant-at-Arms, 75-year-old Colonel Harry Smith, forgot the Mace which is in his care, and nobody else thought to remove it. That was the end of our historic Mace."

The fire started in the Reading Room, of origin unknown. It sped rapidly along the passages, as the paint on the walls and the wooden ceilings burned. Jean Desjardins recalls how it caused a series of loud popping noises as it spread, so people thought the Building was exploding. ENEMY WARNING EARLIER The fire raged through all that February night; eerily until

Protecting Canada's Parks

Canada's national and provincial parks last year attracted 30,000,000 visitors, an increase of 600 per cent in seven years, according to Mr. Gavin Henderson, executive director of the young National and Provincial Parks Association, a group of private citizens.

The association is delighted with this park popularity, but it worries because parks are also increasingly attractive to people such as prospectors, bus line operators, loggers, skiers, highway engineers, hunters, fishermen, ranchers, university planners, dam builders, billboard agencies, gasoline companies and hot dog stand operators.

Our Yesterdays

(From The Guardian Files) TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (May 27, 1940) Yesterday, Horace J.A. Brown of Charlottetown was elected second vice-president of the Maritime Association of Chiropractors, organized at a meeting held in Moncton, N.B.

Among the graduates of St. Dunstan's University receiving their Bachelor of Arts degrees were: Leonard Connolly, Morell; John Coyle, Charlottetown; Thomas Holland, Souris; Harold Lindsay, Montague; James McGaughey (cum laude), Bonshaw and Howard Wight, Georgetown.

TEN YEARS AGO (May 27, 1955) Norma Gallant, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Gallant of Bloomfield Station, was capped this spring at the Holy Cross Cathedral, Boston, Mass.

At the annual convocation of Prince of Wales College, Gouda, will MacDonnell, Belle River, was awarded the S.N. Robertson Prize, fourth year Arts Division; and Francis Campbell, Souris, was the winner of the Anderson Prize, fourth year Science Division.

ed public is necessary to protect parks against misuse and give government officials the support they need in preserving them. Also required, says Mr. Henderson, is a clearer statement of parks "philosophy" and stronger legislative control over use of parks.

The parks association makes clear it is not against "essential services and facilities for park visitors" but is firmly opposed to the belief that parks exist for the benefit of private enterprise. The preservation of parks in the most natural state possible is a worthy cause. The parks belong to the people, and will become increasingly important with the encroachment of civilization on more and more of our countryside. Governments should consider establishing, as Mr. Henderson suggests, more parks to include samples of Atlantic and Pacific coastline, natural prairie and tundra, an extensive area of the Laurentian shield, Yukon scenery and possibly other land types.

"National parks are outdoor museums of immense cultural scientific value, besides giving sheer enjoyment and inspiration to millions," says Mr. Henderson. The parks are worth fighting for. It will never be an easy fight because the enemy usually appears in the appealing garb of "progress" and sincerely believes that it can make the park a better place. But we must take a stand for nature, for the parks will one day be the last stronghold of natural wilderness.

SUSPECT COSTA NOSTRA OTTAWA (CP) — RCMP declined Tuesday to comment on reports it has been asked for help in tracking down the assassin of Onofrio Minardo. Sicilian police said over the weekend they have asked both U.S. and Canadian assistance in investigating the death of Minardo, found dead last week with four rifle bullets in his body. Minardo was deported from Canada in March, 1964. Police in Sicily believe a hired gunman of the Costa Nostra crime syndicate did the killing

New Polio Vaccine

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen A carefully controlled study on the immunizing effect of oral polio vaccine was reported recently and results were encouraging. The study was conducted in Dade county, Fla., on 657 children eight to 24 months old. The vaccine was trivalent, in that it contained a mixture of three types of polio viruses. Two doses were given four to six weeks apart.

Tests were conducted initially to determine whether the infants had protective antibodies in the blood. Approximately 47 per cent of the youngsters had received one or two injections of Salk vaccine had these neutralizing antibodies. Almost 90 per cent of those who never had Salk injections lacked these antibodies.

What were the results after they received the oral vaccine? Approximately 90 per cent were protected against type I, 98.7 per cent against type II, and 97.1 per cent against type III. Corresponding percentages for those who had no detectable antibodies prior to immunization were 87, 98.4 and 96.8. These results tend to confirm those obtained by others using a similar trivalent oral vaccine.

The vaccine is taken by teaspoon or cup and mixed with liquids (except those containing chlorine). It can be dropped into milk, simple syrup, or on a piece of bread, cake, and cube sugar. Two doses are recommended. Time will tell whether a booster is required in three, 10 or 30 years. To date, there is no evidence that this will be necessary. In the future, the vaccine may be given to all infants between six weeks and six months of age and repeated at age 10 to 12 months. Meanwhile, anyone, regardless of age, can take the material.

The new vaccine is safe to use among those who previously received oral immunization against one or two types. It is safe to use after tonsilectomy, tooth extraction, during pregnancy, and by allergic individuals and those taking penicillin. The product takes time to immunize and is not effective in existing or incubating polio. Polio vaccine does not protect against Coxsackie and ECHO virus infections that cause paralysis.

SUN EXPOSURE L. A. M. writes: Would exposure to sun, when the temperature is 90 degrees or more, cause or contribute to an enlarged heart? Also, would grief, such as the loss of a loved one, have any bearing on this condition?

REPLY No to both questions. Enlargement is caused by leakage, high blood pressure, anemia, glandular disorders, and infections or degeneration of heart muscle. (NOTE: All correspondence to Dr. Van Dellen should be addressed to: Dr. Theodore Van Dellen, c/o Chicago Tribune, Chicago, Illinois.)

NOTES BY THE WAY

Behind every successful man is a much surprised mother-in-law. — Kiel Record.

Vision is definitely affected by glasses. Especially after they've been filled and emptied a few times. — Community Press.

Lawyer— "Now that we have won, will you tell me confidentially if you stole the money." Client— "Well, after hearing you talk in court yesterday, I am beginning to think I didn't." — Galt Reporter.

"I'm glad to find you as you are," said the old friend. "Your great wealth hasn't changed you." "Well," replied the candid millionaire, "it has changed me in one thing. I'm now 'eccentric' when I used to be impolite, and 'delightfully witty' where I used to be rude." — Montreal Star.

Uncertain OAS Future

By Arch MacKenzie Canadian Press Staff Writer

Plans by some Latin American foreign ministers to meet in Washington this weekend indicates some hope for the future usefulness of the Organization of American States.

Some observers have been pessimistic about the ability of the 20-country group to face up to the challenges piled on it by the Dominican Republic crisis. Fresh troubles now loom elsewhere, which is the real reason for the weekend consultation.

Another indicator of hope about OAS is the continuing United States effort to piece together a coalition government in the Dominican Republic, relying on more liberal elements although this constitutes a diplomatic somewhat by the U.S.

But observers are not optimistic that the OAS, which likes to call itself the oldest international grouping in the world, can develop much muscle quickly.

After 75 years, it still is not geared to the type of chaos that enveloped Santo Domingo one month ago, or the strife that exists or threatens in Bolivia, Colombia, Guatemala or Ecuador or Uruguay.

PRESTIGE DWINDLES The year 1965 in Latin America, in fact, so far makes 1964 appear to have been a golden period of peace. Cuba's Fidel Castro faced dwindling prestige and the growth of moderate political parties was indicated by Chile's rejection of a major Communist bid for power in honest elections.

May 6 is a date in OAS history since it marks the official acceptance of the challenge of forming a peace-keeping corps. But the fact remains that corps is more symbolic than real, with the U.S. expected for some time to supply most of the troops.

The OAS has never been noted for prompt action. It has been more of a talk shop where

decisions and their execution tended to be the exception to the rule. This has been one of the various reasons behind Canadian reluctance so far to join the OAS, say diplomats.

Part of the tardiness in setting up the peace-keeping operation, however, was due directly to anger at the U.S. for first launching a unilateral armed intervention and then urging the OAS to pluck the chestnuts from the fire.

The OAS has numerous points of contact ranging from periodic meetings of foreign ministers such as that planned for the weekend in Washington to regular council meetings in Washington or special conferences and agencies.

LACK AUTHORITY But the foreign ministers frequently have been jealous in allocating responsibility to representatives on the OAS council so that the consultation doesn't pack much weight.

There are powerful stimulants at work now to reshape the OAS, as the postponed meeting at Rio De Janeiro had intended to discuss.

This is quite aside from the urgent American pressure to get the OAS into a more modern and effective format.

There is the resurgence of widespread "austerity" in assorted countries, tense political atmospheres in countries like Venezuela, a widening gap between the rich and the teeming poor and the opportunities that such conditions breed for communism or military dictatorships.

Population figures for Latin America show that the 173,000,000 people of 1954 had risen to 226,000,000 last year and will exceed 300,000,000 in 1974.

Such growth tends to sink without trace the economic progress that most Latin American nations can afford.

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