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Wants Fairer Terms

According to an Ottawa dispatch in the Financial Post, the British have been lobbying hard for a chance to lower their automobile prices in Canada, and the campaign has "annoyed some senior Ottawa officials." Basically the official Canadian line is that the British "are making too much fuss over our antidumping laws and that they don't really hurt them all that much. What's more, Canada isn't going to dismantle its carefully constructed valuation-for-duty system just because it annoys London."

These officials may have a jolt coming to them if Britain decides to do something about what she regards as unfair discrimination, taking into account the difference in distribution costs in Canada and in Britain. Certainly it is time for Ottawa to take stock of the growing imbalance of trade between the two countries, which recently prompted Sir Leslie Rowan, director and deputy chairman of the British Aircraft Corporation, to make some pointed comments at a Canadian club luncheon.

Sir Leslie noted that in 1964 Canada sent to the United Kingdom \$1,300 million worth of products; Britain in turn sold to Canada \$560 million worth of goods. The difference between these two figures accounted for one-half of the United Kingdom's overall trade deficit. The ratio of British exports to imports from Canada was 40 per cent in 1964. Three years before, in 1961, it was 70 per cent.

"I haven't come here either to make excuses or to plead," said Sir Leslie. "But I have come here to say this, that the gap needs action on both sides to close it. And if we need to pay regard to you as a market, you certainly need to pay regard to us as one of your best customers. There is no compulsion on you to purchase from us but there is a compelling reason for you, in your interest, to provide us with conditions in which we can compete on fair terms."

This plain speaking must have been very annoying to "senior Canadian officials," but the British have a right to feel that too many restrictions, direct and indirect, are raised in the way of British exports to this country. Canada's recent auto-trade deal with the United States may have prompted their campaign for relief from our stringent antidumping regulations.

In any case, what Sir Leslie seemed to have been driving at was that if the situation doesn't improve, Britain may be forced to take steps to discourage Canadian sales to the United Kingdom. And it is our basic producers who would be adversely affected in that case. Isn't it high time that they were making their views known at Ottawa on the subject?

The Kroeker Case

A ruling of considerable public interest has been given by a federal appeal board concerning the firing of John Kroeker, the Department of Insurance actuary who assailed the Canada Pension Plan. It will be recalled that Mr. Kroeker was dismissed the day after he criticized the plan at a press conference. In a judgment released last week the board sustained the Government's claim that the official had acted inconsistently with his duties as a civil servant.

This is the first time in the history of the Public Service of Canada that formal judgment has been given on this point although it has long been regarded as an unwritten rule of Civil Service employment. The board ruling, with the supporting endorsement of the Civil Service Commission now goes to the Cabinet. There is no further formal appeal although Mr. Kroeker has the right to ask for clemency from the Government.

In its findings the board ruled against the appellant's claim that the freedom of speech safeguarded by the Canadian Bill of Rights permitted him to make his criticisms. It found that the law as it stood when the Canadian Bill of Rights went into effect did not permit a civil servant to make such a statement and the Bill does not express any intention to change the law.

Another argument of the appellant was that as a private citizen and taxpayer he had a duty to express his views openly. But the board held that this did not take into account the special duties the appellant had as a member of the Civil Service to uphold the constitutional laws and traditions and as an employee to refrain from conducting himself in a manner that would destroy his harmonious relationship with his employer.

Again, the appellant argued that he should have been as free to express his personal views on government policy as the Deputy Minister of Welfare, who had published his personal views on the Canada Pension Plan about two months earlier. But this could not be accepted, said the board, because no evidence was produced to show that the Deputy Minister of Welfare had acted without the authority of his minister.

There is always, of course, a way out for civil servants who find themselves conscientiously opposed to government policy in any department. They can resign and blast the policy to their heart's content. But it seems that they can't have it both ways. Most taxpayers will agree that there is reason behind this seemingly arbitrary ruling, and that the question of infringement of individual rights is not involved.

Those Prying Questions

Commenting on the prying questions members of Parliament are receiving from the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism, the Montreal Gazette recalls that the closest precedent for a general investigation of this kind was the Royal Commission on Arts and Letters, appointed in 1949. But even the term "arts and letters" provided some limit to its scope. And, in any case, it had, in Vincent Massey, a chairman who was the very soul of tact.

The Montreal paper concedes that the present commission's terms of reference are, by their very nature, vast and pervasive. Part of its necessary work has been the carrying out of studies and analyses. But Parliament, it adds, is a very special body, with privileges and immunities of its own. These are not only traditional but have come into being by need. How zealously the rights of members are watched and defended may be seen in the number of points of privilege raised in Parliament every session, even every day of every session.

In this case members have been presented with 30 questions, some of the most personal kind, such as whether they regard politics as a dirty game, or always vote the way they feel. Nor is the matter improved, notes The Gazette, by the commission's explanation that any member was free to answer the questions or not, as he chose. This ignores the possibility that a member might later be asked, perhaps during an election, to state whether he answered the questions or not; and that whether he answered or not could, under certain political circumstances, be used against him.

This is a valid objection. But it is unlikely that the commission, having turned a deaf ear to the Prime Minister's request that it withdraw its questionnaire, will pay attention to newspaper criticism—even when, as in the Montreal paper's case, it is couched in conciliatory terms.

EDITORIAL NOTES

President Johnson made no empty threat when he said that the notorious Ku Klux Klan was due for an investigation. The U.S. House of Representatives committee on un-American activities voted \$50,000 last week for this purpose. This in addition to the \$379,000 the committee has already received from the House for its regular investigation program this year.

While the arguments between users of pesticides and the critics of pesticides continue, research being quietly done in the background continues to bring forth disquieting results. The latest discovery is that penguins and seals in the Antarctic—thousands of miles from any known use of pesticides—have measurable amounts of DDT in their bodies. These animals spend their entire lives in the Antarctic feeding mainly on shrimp and occasional fish.



EVERYTHING BUT THE KITCHEN SINK

OTAWA REPORT By Patrick Nicholson

Urges Regular Annual Study Of CBC

Alphonse Ouimet, the \$40,000 per year president of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, has complained because that crown corporation has "had its share of enquiries—twenty-two in all, over a period of twenty-nine years." Instead of what he calls "repeated, ad hoc, unplanned and almost continuous investigations," he would like the CBC to undergo only "comprehensive inquiries at known fixed intervals say every ten years." Of course he would like that! What other crown corporation, what department of government, would not prefer to have MPs only able to enquire once every ten years that the taxpayers' money was being spent on.

While Mr. Ouimet complains about 22 enquiries in 29 years, we never hear the heads of other crown corporations, such as Donald Gordon of Canadian National Railways, or Gordon MacGregor, of Air Canada, talk like this; yet they have to appear before a parliamentarian committee every year, to explain their past year's accounts and answer all questions.

CBC DESERVES CHANGE

The change which the government should make is to set up a standing committee of the Senate and House of Commons on Broadcasting, and let it study the CBC regularly every year, and also study the activities of

the Board of Broadcast Governors and of private broadcasters. Such a committee should enquire very closely into how the CBC is spending some \$100 million of the taxpayers' money this year—at present without an annual parliamentary study. In contrast, the annually studied Air Canada last year achieved an operating profit of nearly \$13 million before interest.

For instance, with a bill for a reported \$125 million pending for building and equipping new facilities in Montreal, should Mr. Ouimet have announced that the CBC would spend \$10 million on its own building at Expo '67—a one-year show? He did that, and even placed the initial construction contract for \$3,922,000 before Parliament had voted even one cent for that purpose. Treasury Board a committee of the Cabinet had considered it but far from implying parliamentary approval, that merely implicated Cabinet in an insult to Parliament.

MPs were quick to notice this and to protest. Social Credit leader R. M. Thompson asked why prior parliamentary approval had not been sought by the CBC; Opposition Leader Diefenbaker demanded "What right has the head of the CBC" to take such action "without consideration by Parliament?" The Minister who "speaks" for the CBC in Parliament, the evasive and bumbling Maurice Lamontagne, replied that he did not know what was going on—despite full accounts in the press for anyone who can read. This example of independence from Parliament assumed by the CBC amply shows the need for a standing committee on broadcasting.

SHOULD INTERFERE

What has long been happening is that our MPs have been terrified by a bogey conjured up by apologists for the CBC, called "political interference." This semantic ghost threatens that Parliament should not interfere with the CBC. This of course is a heretical doctrine, denying our democratic system that Parliament should carefully study the operations of all crown spending agencies. "Political supervision, and interference when necessary," in the CBC should be led by the Government and demanded by every MP.

What Canada could not tolerate is "partisan censorship" by the political party in power. Every taxpayer bitterly resents abdication by our easily-scared MPs of their duty to pursue regularly and thoroughly the affairs of the CBC, just as they examine the spending of other tax money. MPs foolishly permit themselves to be brushed off with shallow excuses when they seek information—through almost daily questions in Parliament—about the affairs of the CBC.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents. All letters published are subject to editing and condensation where necessary. The Guardian is unable to enter into any correspondence regarding letters submitted.

ALLIED YOUTH SUPPORT

Sir,—This is Youth Alcohol Education Week. It is very fitting that this week should follow Easter, the time when we commemorate and bring to mind the greatest example of self-discipline, courage, and sacrificial love that the world has ever known.

We are proud of our young people, and they should be the greatest concern of all, from the Premier and Government churches and church groups organizations of all kinds, right down to the last citizen.

Self-discipline is the most effective discipline in the world, and it is very encouraging when the youth of our country organize to educate themselves. In order that they may live more useful and disciplined lives. Young people grouped together for a worthy purpose can exceed our expectations, and achieve far greater results than the same individuals working separately.

I am very happy to offer my whole-hearted support to these young people in their quest for right living. Perhaps the most effective way that we older citizens can help our young people is by example. We who are parents have great hopes and ideals as to how we would have our children live and grow up in the community, but we are prepared to live that kind of life ourselves. Education is very important and necessary, but there is a more important aspect which we must consider.

The building of Christian communities, happy homes and noble character cannot be achieved by individuals in their own strength. We must be willing to acknowledge our own inability and weakness, and seek a Higher Power for guidance and strength. Then let us give our every support in their worthy endeavour, and may the great Spirit of God be their real power and strength.

I am, Sir, etc., R. A. PROFITTT

Fredericton, P.E.I.

A Commonwealth Role

Vancouver Sun

That Canada is expected to do bigger things for a greater Commonwealth was made plain by Britain's Commonwealth Secretary, Arthur Bottomley, in a speech to the Canadian Club of London.

This is probably not news to External Affairs Minister Paul Martin or to Prime Minister Pearson. There seems to be a definite British desire to place a Canadian as the first secretary-general in the formal Commonwealth secretariat to be set up shortly.

The British Labor government, genuinely fired with desire to make the multi-national, multi-colored Commonwealth a greater force in the world, is

Our Yesterdays

(From The Guardian Files)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

(April 26, 1940)

British and French troops landed on the Norwegian coast at Molde, Laerdal and Namsos, it was reported by a Stockholm newspaper.

Gerard Cole of St. Hyacinthe, Que., won the 44th Boston Athletic Association Marathon run in the record time of two hours, 28 minutes, 28.35 seconds, lowering the old record by 23 1-5 seconds.

TEN YEARS AGO

(April 26, 1955)

The bi-monthly meeting of the Charlottetown Lions Club was held at the Queen Hotel. Chairman was King Lion Jack Stevenson. Guests were Dr. Gerald Barrett and John Rogers, a visiting Lion from Hawaii. Lion Joe Malloy was presented with his membership certificate from Lions International by the chairman.

Earl Taylor and Percy Simmonds were co-chairmen at the regular weekly supper meeting of the Centennial Y's Men. Pines-master was Bennett Carr and the sing-song was led by Bob Acera and Les Alexander. The guest speaker Major T. E. MacNutt gave a very interesting historical sketch of Old Charlottetown.

unquestionably wooing Canada to take a leading role.

Mr. Bottomley speaks, for instance, of the strong Canadian imprint the Commonwealth already bears and goes on hopefully to speak of Canada's role as a bridge between the old and the new, and of its wisdom and experience.

In truth this is a role Canada can fill and it is a noble one. What the government has to consider is what calls it is prepared to meet.

Among the total of almost 750,000,000 people in the Commonwealth, our fewer than 20,000,000 seem small in numbers—but in wealth and skill we rank high indeed.

How much can we afford to give in material aid among the newer nations in Africa and Asia and the Caribbean, with their diverse outlooks and needs?

Already Canada has a tolerably healthy annual foreign aid bill.

This year, Colombo Plan aid alone absorbs \$55,000,000 or more.

Most of this goes to our big Commonwealth partners, India and Pakistan, and Ceylon.

Several more millions go to our African and West Indian partners. And the aid takes many forms.

The British are not seeking to replace Britain's present 110,000-man reserve force. By reducing the size of the reserves, which now cost an estimated \$40,000,000 (\$120,000,000) annually, the government hopes to release money for a smaller, more mobile force, the reports say.

HINT AT RESERVES CUT

LONDON (Reuters)—A new emergency army of 20,000 military reservists is being planned to replace Britain's present 110,000-man reserve force, British newspaper reports say. By reducing the size of the reserves, which now cost an estimated \$40,000,000 (\$120,000,000) annually, the government hopes to release money for a smaller, more mobile force, the reports say.

Malaria Resistant

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen Malaria is proving to be a resistant foe in South Viet Nam. According to Medical World News, the casualty list continues to mount because infected drug-resistant parasites. Authorities may be forced to discontinue the weekly suppressing doses of chloroquine and primaquine and return to quinine.

This is a new wrinkle to an old problem. Armies of the past had more to fear from infections, including malaria, than from swords and bullets. This has been true since the days of Alexander the Great. World War II brought malaria closer to home; the peril was greater because more men were involved all over the globe. Malaria casualties in the southwest Pacific in the four months of early 1942 and 1943 amounted to 90 per cent of the forces employed; they were five to 20 times greater than those incurred in battle.

The Japanese realized this and captured Java as quickly as possible to shut off the supply of quinine to America. We owe a debt of gratitude to our chemists for preparing the synthetic drugs mentioned previously. It is ironic that these are beginning to backfire in the part of the world which produces most of the quinine.

The fight against malaria is fought on two fronts. The first concerns the mosquito that transmits the parasite to man. DDT takes care of him. The other deals with chemicals used to suppress, prevent, and cure. We're doing an excellent job until now. A new weapon—may solve the problem, but more time is needed to satisfy the rules of the FDA.

There is a good possibility that malaria will be with us for a long time. It is estimated to afflict 200 million persons in the world and kills two million yearly. This is only part of the picture. Most victims live in underprivileged countries and are so ill they cannot take a full productive share in the life of the community. They cannot improve their lot until cured of the disease that holds them down.

VEIN CLOT

Mrs. D. S. writes: I'm a 37-year-old woman who developed a clot in my right leg about six months ago. The swelling is going down—at least, in the morning the leg looks normal. But by the end of the day it is quite puffy. The doctor assures me that in time my bad leg will match the good one in size. He has me swimming and bike riding to help recovery, but has taken me off all medication. Is this the way this condition usually acts?

REPLY

Yes, this is a typical story of thrombophlebitis, with a happy ending.

WENCHED HIP

T. U. writes: I fractured a hip a year ago and now am as good as new. But I still have two screws in the joint. Will they have to come out eventually?

REPLY

Only if they irritate the bone or cause infection.

HAIR SPRAY USER

J. G. S. writes My 15-year-old girl uses hair spray daily. Is this injurious?

REPLY

No, but she should be careful not to inhale fumes from the material.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT—

Teach youngsters to share.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Grocer: "No, sir. I wouldn't cash a check for my own brother." Customer: "Well, I guess you know your own family best." — Galt Reporter.

A little girl was asked to state the difference between pride and vanity. After considerable thought she replied: "Pride means I don't think much of you," vanity means, "What do you think of me?" — Galt Reporter.

A politician was invited to talk on Americanism to the students of the grammar school he had attended as a boy. He began: "When I see your smiling faces before me, it takes me back to my childhood. Why is it, my dear children, you are all so happy?" He paused for effect and instantly a dirty little hand from the front row went up. "The reason we are so happy is if you talk long enough, we won't have a spelling lesson this morning." — Montreal Star.

Peace At A Price

Toronto Globe and Mail

After three years of battle over transcontinental passenger fares, Canada's two major airlines have settled their differences by eliminating them. Gone are the days of heady competition (as of April 25) when the careful shopper could save as much as \$10. Now both airlines will charge the same rate to fly from Montreal to Vancouver.

line with the principle laid down last year by Transport Minister J.W. Pickersgl, who told the airline presidents (as well as the presidents of Canadian National Railways and Canadian Pacific Railway) that any development of competition on domestic mainline routes must not be permitted to weaken Air Canada's economic position. (Air Canada's profit in 1964 was \$1,405,575; CPA's profit was \$4,800,000.)

Canadian Pacific Airlines will raise its one-way economy class fare to \$150 (from \$110) to match Air Canada. And Air Canada, in turn, will increase its one way first class fare to \$165 (from \$162) to match CPA.

The price changes were in

Not invited to this meeting, of course, were the people who will have to pay the increased fares. It's probably just as well they might have said no.

Regrets Outburst?

Quebec Mercury

Walter Gordon, who is Prime Minister Pearson's close friend, may be an outstanding finance minister but he is a clumsy politician and could help the PM more by sticking to his budgeting.

Mr. Pearson paid to his opponent to mark Mr. Diefenbaker's 25th anniversary as an MP: "he has become one of the great, and remains one of the greatest, parliamentarians in our history."

Moreover, if John Diefenbaker decides Mr. Gordon's scalp is worth his trouble, both the government and the minister may regret a weekend speech.

It was a deserved and generous compliment, for the PC leader, best though he may be by factions within his own party, has remained An' opinion as strongly in command of the Commons as he was when a Prime Minister.

In it he compared the Conservative reader to an old vaudeville performer who might be capable of staging one last farewell performance; and for good measure added that the kindest thing to be said about Mr. Diefenbaker is that he is in a second childhood.

Mr. Gordon's first budget took a merciless but warranted hammering. He may wish by the time he gets his upcoming budget through the House, in whatever form it retains at the end of the debate, that he had not been quite as free-wheeling in his remarks about the old Tory.

This inept and amateurish outburst is all the more noticeable because it followed by just one day a graceful tribute which

One History?

Montreal Gazette

Proposals continue to be made for a new history of Canada that will tell the country's history in such a way that old prejudices will be discarded and the unity of truth will prevail.

any tendency to establish an "official history." This comes close to the absurdity of Communist history, which has to be altered with each change in the administration of the country, and each change in the party line.

The aim is, beyond question, good. But history is not quite an objective science. Every historian brings much of himself to what he writes, and the greatest historians have brought a great deal of themselves into their histories.

In the painstaking work of searching and defining the facts the work of the historians must go forward; and in this process much misunderstanding and many myths will be destroyed. But in the work of interpretation, in selection, in emphasis and judgment there will be as many histories as there are historians. And no one should really wish it to be otherwise.

History cannot be a science, lying entirely in objective fact. Much of history rests on judgment and interpretation—not in things only, but in the way of looking at them.

Perhaps one of the things that Canadians have yet to learn in the interest of their unity is that there can be, and are, different ways of looking at the same facts.

There is much to be said for two histories, bound together, with the two interpretations made available to all readers. But in the search of an agreed text—one history for all—what must be avoided at all costs is

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