

**Robot Weather Station**

Since the world has become just one big community because of air travel, weather has assumed a much more important place in connection with the day to day duties of many people. Weather systems can start in areas which to persons living in civilized places are remote regions, and where it is important that information as to "what is brewing" should be available. It is because of such circumstances that a completely automatic meteorological station of French construction is to record Antarctic weather conditions during the period of the International Geophysical Year. The robot-station will be set up on the coast of Wilkes Land, several hundred miles from Antarctic bases at Mawson and Davis.

Operated by means of accumulators, the station will broadcast hourly weather reports over a radius of about 750 miles for several months without maintenance. The bulletins will give wind speeds and directions, barometric pressures and thermometer readings.

The recording instruments are all linked to an electronic "brain" which encodes the recorded data and passes it on to one of two transmitters on different wavelengths, for night and day operation. The brain automatically cuts off the apparatus at the end of each broadcast. A pendulum clock, the nerve centre of the system, regulates the brain. During each transmission, the station call sign is given 14 times, followed by the weather bulletin which is repeated three times at dictation speed.

The robot station has been undergoing tests near Melbourne, in Australia. If good results are obtained, it may well be adopted by many countries for use in desert regions where problems of supply prevent the setting up of manned weather posts.

**New Soviet Diplomacy**

The Soviet Union poses as a firm opponent of all nuclear bomb tests as dangerous to human life and to the future of the race; it presents the Western Powers as obstinately determined to conduct them, whatever the consequences. One may have one's own opinion about the rightness or wrongness, wisdom or unwisdom of conducting nuclear tests. But it is worth noting that it was the Soviet Union which exploded the first hydrogen bomb seven months before the Americans, and claimed then that Russia's possession of it was a new "instrument for the consolidation of peace." And it is the Soviet Union which has just demonstratively carried out five explosions in twelve days.

There is an old English legal maxim that those who make charges must have "clean hands". So looking at the whole picture of Soviet diplomatic moves and of Soviet propaganda in the past weeks one is driven to this conclusion: The Soviet leaders have not only reverted to "Stalinist" methods in the internal affairs of their empire. While it is charitable to assume that the Russians want to bring about a relaxation of tension in international affairs, the methods they are using achieve the opposite effect. And they have decided that the dread which all men have of the potential horrors of nuclear war provides them with a valuable asset. They are trying to convert the fact of the existence of the H-bomb into a potent weapon of political warfare.

The first objective is a familiar one. It is to create an atmosphere which will bring a demand, based on fear, for the dissolution of NATO or, at least, for the effective dismantling of its defence organization in Western Europe. The second purpose, shown also in the Middle East manifesto and in Marshal Zhukov's May Day speech, is to create the belief that all "tensions" and all danger of an "outbreak of an atom war" whether in Europe or in Asia, are the result of the aggressive policies of the "imperialist powers" and especially of the United States. From

which the deduction is to be drawn that any prudent nation should dissociate itself in every possible way from the American "war-mongers" and so win the friendship and goodwill of the Soviet Union.

The new Soviet proposal in the disarmament sub-committee of the United Nations may, at first sight, seem to be in a different category. On the face of it it is a new and constructive, though "partial", plan for the reduction of armaments. But its real significance does not lie in the details of the proposals. These are simply variants on old themes.

As pointed out by a United Kingdom commentator, the real point is the production of such a plan at such a stage. The sub-committee had supposedly finished its general discussion of the various plans already before it. It was preparing to settle down to the consideration of them subject by subject. It was at this point that the Soviet Government suddenly produced a new set of proposals for consideration. To consider them would mean going back and restarting the general discussion on a new basis. It also enabled Soviet propaganda to build up a picture of Russia putting forward proposals for disarmament and of the Western Powers raising objections and making difficulties.

The document itself is careful to make the point. It charges that the Western Powers have shown no desire to conclude a comprehensive disarmament agreement. It accuses them of deliberately creating a deadlock which the Soviet Union is manfully trying to break. Anyone who knows the history of the whole business knows what travesty of facts that is. But memories are short. An impression can, unfortunately, be created by this simple device of fabricating the new Soviet proposal.

**2 Million Bibles**

A report from the Gideons International states that they have distributed their 2-millionth copy of the Holy Scriptures in Canada. It was fitting that it went to the King Edward-Sheraton Hotel in Toronto, for it was there in 1911 that the organization began its praiseworthy work in this country.

This interdenominational group of business men was first organized in the United States in 1908. Since then it has spread to 26 countries and has a total membership of more than 22,000. Of these 1,717 are in Canada (according to the latest report) organized in 121 "camps" from Newfoundland to British Columbia. By the end of 1956, 34,346,072 Bibles and New Testaments had been distributed throughout the world—in hotels, public schools, hospitals, penal institutions. Only last month a new venture was started—making the Bibles available to the dormitories of universities and colleges. Evidence of the organization's rapid growth in Canada in recent years is the fact that the 1-millionth copy was distributed only five years ago.

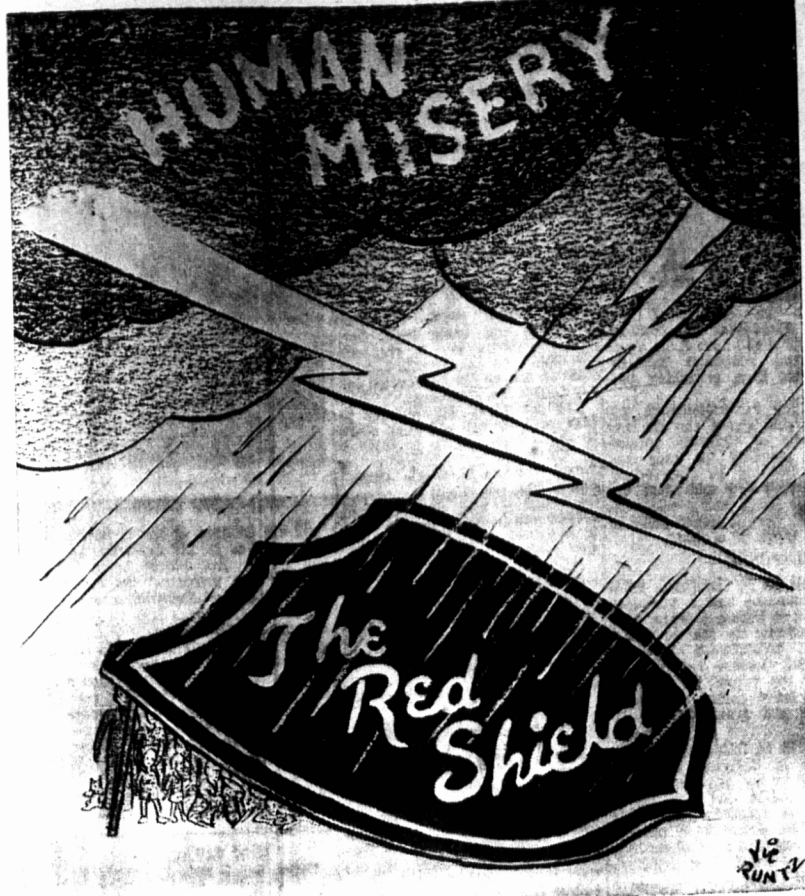
An interesting story is told of the first Bible that was given to the King Edward Hotel. It was taken away by a young couple from South Carolina who were on their honeymoon in Toronto at the time. Forty years later it was returned to the hotel together with a \$2 bill and a letter of explanation.

**EDITORIAL NOTES**

It may not be easy to get out of the habit of writing MP after the name of a person entitled to it for the past four years, but the fact is that there is not even one MP in Canada today. The reason is of course that we have no parliament and therefore no members of parliament.

Crew members of the good ship "Mayflower II", out of Plymouth, England, bound for Plymouth, Mass., were reported to have "whistled for wind" when calm settled over the sea. It is a little difficult to believe that the skipper would approve any such dangerous practice. According to nautical lore, nothing is more likely to enrage the elements.

Mrs. Frederick Hockwilt, Secretary-General of the United States' Catholic Education Association, has a word of advice for those whose business it is to make known the needs of education. "We must do away with a lot of the pedantic gobbledygook if we are to get our message over to the general public," he told delegates attending the annual meeting of the association.



A SHELTER

**Next Commons Membership**

Arthur Blakely in the Montreal Gazette

No one can be sure just who will be elected to the next Canadian House of Commons. But even at this early stage of the campaign, there are some things about the composition of the next Commons membership which can almost be taken for granted, due to trends that have been established clearly in the past elections.

In all probability, the next House will contain some 90 lawyers. The total could run a little higher or a little lower. But a guess of 90 wouldn't be far off. But the forecasting stops here. How many of these will be Liberal lawyers, Conservative lawyers, good lawyers, indifferent lawyers, garrulous lawyers, stolidly silent lawyers—these things won't be known until that June election date rolls around.

It's a fair bet though, that however the CCF and Sacred splinter parties fare in the election generally, they won't return many—perhaps not any—lawyer M.P.'s. The legal profession finds itself much more at home with the two big parties. The profession, by the way, has had a tight monopoly on Commons seats since Confederation. Lawyers for only about one-fifth of one per cent of Canada's labor force. Yet they usually hold about one-third of the seats in the House of Commons.

About one M.P. in every five in the next Parliament will be associated with Canadian Agriculture, which contributes the next largest batch.

**MERCANTILE QUOTA**  
Kye-brows would be raised if the election failed to return between 25 and 20 merchants. The manufacturing industry's quota of M.P.'s fluctuates. The total could drop below 20 or exceed 30.

About 10 of the 265 Parliamentarians will be identified with publishing and journalism. And the teaching profession will have between 15 and 20 representatives. There was a time, from 1867 to the turn of the century, when the voters used to send to Parliament

many men associated with the young and rapidly-growing Canadian transportation industry. Railway company directors in parliament were numerous. But the smaller railway companies have vanished with the integration of railways into the two great concerns. And the industry, which was once represented by 35 Parliamentarians, will have no more than two or three after this election.

Add to this mixture three or four accountants and perhaps as many as five clergymen. This is the age of organized labor. But if 10 of the new M.P.'s have labor as their main economic and occupational interest, a new mark will have been established.

Doctors and dentists, on the other hand, will be more numerous in the new Commons. The total may range all of the way from about 10 to—in a vintage year—more than 30. M.P.'s who are identifiable with finance or insurance will probably number about 20. Big election for the insurance and finance men was 1874, when no fewer than 43 were sent to Parliament.

**OTHER PROFESSIONS**  
The other table of professional groups represented in Parliament won't be prominent numerically. It things go according to form, there should be a pair of druggists and from five to 10 engineers moving into Parliamentary quarters next fall. M.P.'s associated with the mining industry will number above five. Those identified with private life with the public service will probably be about seven or eight in number. The service industries could send as few as six and as many as 10 representatives up this way. Add, say, three real estate agents for luck, make provision for the 15 or so M.P.'s who never mention just what business they're in, and you have the make-up of the House of Commons of Canada's 23rd Parliament.

**Ballots For Doukhobors**

Canadian Press, Ottawa

The last barrier to conscientious objectors voting in a federal election has been removed.

Some 3,000 Doukhobors in British Columbia will be able to cast their first federal ballots in the June 10 election.

At the last election in 1953, they were the only group denied the franchise under a legal provision covering persons claiming exemption from military service as conscientious objectors. Since then the B.C. electoral law has been changed to allow them to vote in provincial elections. The federal franchise was automatically extended also.

**EXTEND VOTING RIGHTS**  
That was the latest step in a steady widening of voting rights since Confederation. It is denied by law only to these persons: chief electoral officer Nelson Castonguay, election returning officers, federally-appointed judge, prison inmates, mental patients, certain workers hired by election candidates, persons found guilty of "corrupt or illegal" election practices, and Indians on federal reservations—with some exceptions.

Returning officers can cast a deciding vote in the case of a tie. Apart from these groups, some Canadians are excluded from voting by circumstances. They are the residents of Kewatin and Franklin districts of the Northwest Territories, which contain about one-third of the territories' 19,300 persons.

Those are the only parts of Canada without Commons representation. Mackenzie district, most populous part of the territories, returns one Commons member. Kewatin in northwest of Hudson Bay and Franklin embraces the archipelago.

However, servicemen stationed throughout the north will be able to vote at service polls. Generally, the rule on eligibility of a voter is that he or she must be a Canadian citizen or other British subject that includes im-

migrants from Eire—21 years old by polling day and residing in Canada for the year immediately preceding the election date.

**QUALIFICATION WAIVED**  
In addition, the age qualification is waived for member of the regular forces or those who have served in the forces at any time since September, 1950.

Before the 1953 election, the federal franchise was extended to Eskimos for the first time and applied, in practice, to Eskimos in the Mackenzie district, Quebec's Ungava and the Labrador coast which have Commons representation.

At the same time the Canada Elections Act was changed to provide certain exceptions to the rule denying the vote to Indians on reservations who are technically government wards.

Now, all Indians war veterans and their wives have the vote, as do Indians who have been in the armed forces at any time since September, 1950, and reservation Indians who waive income tax exemption on income earned on the reserve. The waiver must have been signed before the formal writ is issued announcing the election.

Indians not living on reservations, of course, have the vote just like other Canadians. There are voting restrictions for persons working on provincial or federal public works outside their home constituencies. To vote in the district where the work is located, they must have been there 30 days before issuance of the election writ. This also applies to their wives and dependents.

One special voting provision which applies in wartime is not now effective. By law, any prisoner-of-war can have a proxy vote exercised by his next-of-kin.

**COLD PEAKS**

Antarctica has the highest average elevation of any continent—5,950 feet above sea level.



**SMALL-ANGLED FOOTPRINTS**

The level roof supports a prayer of hieroglyphics pressed in snow; Small-angled footprints mark the square.

That reaches out a flight below. The broken crusts you scattered down.

Are more than bread to cast away; The gift may bring but small renown.

Against a city's winter day. But where the snow was but by feet.

That carved initials on the roof. A canticle so clear and sweet and published with mite and published proof.

The blessed Francis would approve As evidence of wordless love.

—William Vincent Steiler, in the New York Herald Tribune.

**OUR YESTERDAYS**

From the Guardian Files

**TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO**

(May 6, 1932)

His Worship Mayor Stewart has been officially notified by the Department of National Defence that H.M.C.S. Saguenay and Champlain will visit Charlottetown on May 17th, arriving in the afternoon. The two ships will remain in port at Charlottetown until the following day leaving at 11 a.m.

At a meeting of the Summerside school board last evening it was learned that the Department of Education was ready to provide a teacher for grade eleven and grade twelve in Summerside High School. It was thought possible that a third teacher would be required, and the board will not determine if they will be able to get one should the occasion arise.

**TEN YEARS AGO**

(May 6, 1947)

While prospects appeared good for lobsters in Souris and vicinity, reports yesterday from Tignish and Alberton were not so encouraging. All fishermen agreed, however, that the traps already set and baited had not been in the water long enough to be fishing well and that it was too early to make predictions.

At a late hour Thursday night the residence of Mr. Keith Pratt, Bloomfield, together with an egg grading station and a warehouse were destroyed by fire. The fire started in the egg grading station, spread to the attached warehouse and caught on the house which was only a short distance away. The loss, although not estimated, was thought to be considerable. It is partly covered by insurance.

**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.

**THE MUSKRAT**

Sir—I have read with surprise your recent item about men from Summerside, who bravely attacked and killed a muskrat that attacked them. I wonder if they will have the head mounted.

The muskrat is one of the most harmless animals we have on the island, spending most of its time around ponds and creeks. They will occasionally stray away from their habitat which would account for one being seen on the streets. The muskrat could be classed with the rabbit and squirrel so far as attacking a person is concerned. Even a mouse will attempt to defend itself if attacked but will escape if possible. The same applies to the muskrat. It is a fur-bearing animal and is protected by law.

I am, Sir, etc., AN EX-TRAPPER

**SCOTTISH PEAK**

Scotland's Ben Nevis, highest point in the British Isles, reaches 4,406 feet.

**Medically Speaking**

By Herman N. Sundesen, M.D.

**EYES OFTEN BETRAY ILLS**

You may have eye trouble and yet have little or nothing wrong with your eyes. The cause of the disturbance may be something entirely unsuspected.

Perhaps you feel as though you have a gritty foreign substance in one of your eyes. If the eye specialist you consult observes that the pupil is abnormally small and there are masses of small and thin, yellow particles in the fluid portion of the eye, he may diagnose your trouble as gout.

**LABORATORY TESTS MADE**

Of course he'll have laboratory tests conducted to support his belief. Sometimes gout can be found in this way even before any joint pain has developed. Clearing up the gout condition probably will clear up the eye trouble.

Diabetes sometimes is the cause of sudden nearsightedness. Even a mild case might make you notice that you can't see as well as you did a few weeks previously.

**VISION RESTORED**

Again, laboratory tests are needed to confirm a diagnosis. When once confirmed and treatment is instituted promptly, recovery of normal vision is likely to follow.

Of course, something much more serious might lead you to suspect eye trouble. Headaches, often an indication of visual difficulties might at times actually be caused by brain tumors.

**FREQUENTLY DETECTED**

Brain tumors, incidentally, are responsible for one out of every 200 deaths. Eyesight men probably detect them more frequently than any other doctors.

Tuberculosis, too, sometimes affects the eyes. Perhaps sudden flashes of light, spots and blurred vision will signal a TB infection. Prompt and proper treatment, however, usually can restore both health and eyesight.

**QUESTION AND ANSWER**

**Q.C.:** Is it wise to expose a child to diseases such as measles, chickenpox, mumps and scarlet fever, or delay his getting them as long as possible?

**A:** Answer: It is not wise to expose the child to the contagious diseases. Every effort should be made to keep him from getting them.

**The Age Old Story**

Grieve not the holy spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed into the day of redemption.

**SHALLOW SECTION**

Lake Erie has a maximum m Lake Erie has a maximum depth of 210 feet, compared to 1,260 feet in parts of Lake Superior.

**NOTES BY THE WAY**

Always drive so your car will expire before you do.—St. Catharines Standard

A news item about which we could scarcely care less—a robra at the New York zoo has laid 56 eggs.—Ottawa Journal

A laundry in Arbroath, Forfarshire, Scotland, received this note from a woman customer: "Tell your man to call because I haven't time to wash myself this week."—St. Thomas Times-Journal

A horse can sleep while standing up and hasn't a thing on the father of a month old baby.—London Free Press

Marshall Zhukov has a good idea in ordering Soviet Generals and admirals to diet and exercise, because they are getting too fat. Washington visitors will confirm that some of America's chairborne military could stand a bit of this same medicine. But copying a Soviet military idea would probably never, never do.—Milwaukee Journal



TEA IN THE DUG-OUT — Players, and fans too, find a cup of Tea really does refresh.

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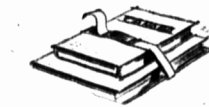
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