

The Guardian

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

TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 1956

New Manifesto

In scrapping its 1933 Regina Manifesto the C.C.F. has shown political astuteness as well as a good understanding of the role of economic forces in a free society. Draft Committee chairman David Lewis stated the situation softly when he referred to the former C.C.F. illwill towards capitalism as "politically troublesome". He might have added that it was one of the things which would have made a national socialist government in this country an utter impossibility. A determination to "eradicate capitalism" may have been attractive to a lot of prospective C.C.F. members in 1933; today it is without the slightest appeal. For one thing, capitalism has been divested, by one means or another, of most of its old-time terror; for another, most persons have investments of some sort and, to that extent, are "capitalists".

Similarly, the new manifesto is on safe ground in stating that "private profit must be subordinate to social planning". This is simply putting into words a view held almost universally; and not only held but advanced by practically all political groups. In this respect there is hardly any difference between the Liberal approach and the Conservative one. It is merely a question of which side would be the more likely to carry it out wisely. Now that the C.C.F. has dropped its "eradication" program, its political principles have come so close to those of the other parties that ways and means of implementing them, rather than any special qualities they may possess, will decide their impact on public opinion. This may disappoint the few doctrinaire socialists who are still around; but it will greatly increase the national prospects of the C.C.F.; and that, it may be presumed, is the matter of chief concern to its leaders.

Forward And Backward

The late Sir James Jeans, eminent British scientist, once stated this view: "As inhabitants of the earth we are living in the very beginning of time. We have come into being in the fresh glory of dawn, and a day of almost unthinkable length stretches before us with unimaginable opportunities for accomplishment. Our descendants of far-off ages, looking down this long vista of time from the other end, will see our age as the misty morning of the world's history; our contemporaries of today will appear as dim heroic figures who fought their way through jungles of ignorance and error to discover truth, to learn how to harness the forces of nature, to make a world worthy of mankind to live in."

That cheerful prophecy may yet come true. There is hardly any doubt of it, in a material sense, that is, provided that all the problems associated with nuclear force can be overcome; otherwise, of course, the prophecy must fail. In any event, it is interesting to note that a contrary view is now being seriously considered in certain scientific circles. This view, in brief, is that man has reached the zenith of the evolutionary process, and from now on will go backward towards savagery. Proponents of this argument say that many times in the course of millions of years man has reached the point of maximum power and then, having turned that power on himself—as he seems likely to do in the case of nuclear energy—reverted to his primitive state, only to start all over again in an endless series of progress and retrogression. There are a few scientists of various categories who maintain even that nuclear energy is not the unique discovery of this age; that it was discovered and rediscovered many times in unrecorded past ages; and each time, by its radioactive by-products, it brought about a rearranging and a lowering of the species.

This, of course, is a highly speculative theory without evidence

to back it up; on the other hand there is nothing to disprove it. And, if there is one fact of modern times, of which every living person must be aware, it is that the time has come when man must use his new-found power for the good of the race, or these powers will turn and ultimately destroy the race—or, it may be, set it back to where it was in the very beginning of its upward climb. It is a frightening thought—but one that is being discussed more and more as the atomic age goes forward that, even if war can be avoided in the future, there could easily be enough uncontrolled and uncontrollable radioactivity from the industrial use of the new power to mutilate the human species, over a long period of time, beyond recognition.

Island Chautauqua

The seven children from this Province who attended the Gaelic College summer school at St. Anne's, Cape Breton, have had a most enjoyable and valuable experience. It is a rare privilege indeed to receive instruction in dancing and piping from distinguished Scottish teachers.

This Province is so deeply steeped in Highland traditions that it might be a good idea, if it were possible, to establish a summer school here, somewhat after the fashion of the American Chautauqua which, having originated in a New York town of that name, has now spread to a number of the more prominent summer tourist resorts from Maine to Oregon. Over the years these institutions have developed into large scale cultural organizations giving access to the best in theatrical productions, music, lectures, and various modes of high-class entertainment. As tourist attractions they are considered very highly; many thousands of holiday-makers travel to the towns where they are conducted just for the purpose of taking advantage of the opportunities they afford for cultural enjoyment in pleasant scenic surroundings.

There is ample talent here, surely, to warrant some such programme with a special Scottish flavour. It would, of course, have to be on a smaller scale than the American plan, at least to begin with. But, with the co-operation of all interested persons it could be done. What better advertisement for the Province could there be than a well-planned school dedicated to the fine arts of dancing and piping, and perhaps in due course to the study of Gaelic which, unfortunately, has declined in recent years, as far as Islanders are concerned. These arts deserve to be preserved in all their glory. An "Island Chautauqua" would certainly be one way of dramatizing their importance. It would be good for our summer visitors and very good indeed for ourselves.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Quebec caisses populaires have rendered a public service by pointing out to the Commons Banking Committee the dangers as well as the advantages involved in consumer credit. Frugality is still an economic principle of worth.

Congratulations to Mr. Tremaine Lea, native Islander now living in British Columbia, who celebrated his 100th birthday anniversary on Sunday last. Now if he could visit the place of his birth, his centennial joy would be complete.

Most of us would find either a bout of influenza or a dental infection a very weakening experience. The fact that Mr. Drew, leader of the Opposition, has come out of both indispositions with nothing more serious than a "feeling of tiredness"—his own words—is proof of his physical sturdiness. All Canadians, regardless of their political views, will wish him a restful period of recuperation.

External Affairs Minister Pearson's advice to the Western nations not to indulge in "a competitive auction sale with the Soviet Union" in giving aid to underdeveloped countries will be approved by most Canadians. Economic aid to these countries is desirable and necessary. But there is such a thing as over-reaching economic ability for political purposes. Regardless of what the Russians may or may not do, the best principle for this country is "generosity with wisdom". Thus far, however, there is no evidence that Canada has done more than its logical share in foreign aid.



POSSIBLE UNFORESEEN DEVELOPMENTS

Suez Canal: The Real Issue

By W. N. Ewer
United Kingdom Information Office

The real issue in the situation that has arisen as a consequence of the Egyptian Government's nationalization of the Suez Canal Company and its assets is not that of the Act of Nationalization twelve years before the date when the Canal would have passed to Egyptian ownership under the terms of the concession. It is the safeguarding of the free use of the canal as an international waterway.

This question of the use of waterways which (a) link two open seas and (b) lie within the territory or territorial waters of a single state is no new one.

They are of two classes. There are the natural straits; and there are artificial canals. Both have been the subject of agreements, disputes and discussions. Denmark for over three centuries regarded the Danish section of the Sound (which is a narrow entry from the West to the Baltic Sea) national property and levied dues on all shipping passing through it. Maritime nations frequently disputed this right and called for freedom of passage of the Sound as an international waterway. Settlement was reached in 1857. It is interesting to note that it was reached by a conference of countries whose shipping mostly used the Sound. Denmark accepted the principle of free passage and received 4 million pounds as compensation for the loss of dues.

More famous is the question of the "Straits"—the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus which lie wholly in Turkish waters. Turkey's right to their unrestricted control was challenged as soon as the Black Sea became an international "High Sea"—instead of a "Turkish Lake". It was the subject of bitter Russo-Turkish and Anglo-Russian conflicts for more than a century. The complex Montreux Convention of 1936, which laid down the present rules of passage can be denounced by one signatory which gives two years notice. But the "principle of freedom of transit and navigation by sea in the Straits" is to continue "without limit of time".

So with regard to "natural" international waterways the accepted principle is quite clear. The power within whose territory they lie has no right to restrict freedom of transit unless such restrictions are specifically provided for in international conventions.

The same principle has been accepted as applying to man-made canals which join two open seas. It is laid down in the Suez Canal Convention of 1888. In the case of the Panama Canal, it is incorporated in the Anglo-American treaty of 1901. "The canal shall be free and open to the vessels of commerce and of war of all nations on terms of entire equality." "Conditions and charges of traffic shall be just and equitable."

So there is no question that if the Egyptian Government were to restrict freedom of passage through the canal or were to impose conditions or charges which were unjust or inequitable it would be violating what is now a generally accepted principle.

There has already been one case which now assumes wider importance than at the time. It is Egypt's denial of Canal passage either to Israeli shipping or to shipping bound for Israeli ports. The Egyptian Government claimed on several occasions on which the matter came before the United Nations Security Council that this did not constitute infringement of the Canal Conventions. But that view was not accepted by members of the Council—except the exception of Russia whose attitude was ambiguous. The Soviet representative on occasion abstained from voting on the resolution calling on Egypt to lift the restrictions, on other occasions used the veto to prevent its having formal validity. But this action seems to have been taken on other grounds than support for the Egyptian legal arguments.

It is true that there has been

no judicial decision on these points. But the wording of the Convention seems quite plain. It provides that the Canal shall be "free and open in time of war as in time of peace". And although Egypt's right to take measures for its own defence in the Canal area is reserved, it is expressly stipulated that these must not interfere with the free use of the Canal.

Even if there had not been this example of the possibilities, the question must sooner or later have presented itself. It is now raised, though indirectly, by the nationalization of the Canal which gives the Egyptian Government complete control over its working.

It is whether the mere existence of an international agreement which can in fact be violated or even denounced by the power territorially in control, provides an adequate guarantee of the free use of a vitally important international waterway. Should there not be some kind of international control, some body acting in the capacity of trustee for the users?

It is true that the establishment of such a system would involve acceptance by Egypt of some restriction on its sovereign rights over a small portion of its territory. But many countries now accept as in their own advantage restrictions on sovereign rights without regarding this as in any way an infringement of their sovereignty. Specifically, there are international controls of navigation of international river waterways like the Rhine and the Danube.

There should therefore be at any rate a possibility of agreement along these lines though the difficulties are obviously very great. And it seems that there is also a strong case for calm and considered reconsideration, perhaps by the United Nations, of the whole subject of laws and customs applicable to international waterways.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO.
(Aug. 7, 1931)

Mr. John H. Colwill, Kingston, P.E.I., Provincial Grand Auditor of the Royal Orange Association leaves for Winnipeg today to attend the annual meeting of the Grand Orange Lodge of British America.

Last night it was announced that the Lea Government was defeated and the Conservatives under Hon. J.D. Stewart were returned in the P.E.I. general elections.

TEN YEARS AGO
(Aug. 7, 1946)

Mr. W.E. Massey has been appointed Deputy Provincial Treasurer. He is succeeded in his former position as Provincial Auditor by Mr. H.R. Carruthers. Lieut-Col. C.J. Stewart, who is acting Provincial Deputy Treasurer remains as clerk of the Executive Council, in addition he is Successions Duty Officer.

Members of the Phalanx Fraternity and Phi Sorority of the Y.M.C.A. held a weekend camp at Holland Cove camp, site with Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Duvar as chaperones.

The S.S. Lorne Park, of the Canadian Steamship Lines docked at Buntin and Bell's wharf at 2 o'clock yesterday morning.

MAXIMS

The weakest spot in every man is where he thinks himself to be the wisest.

SAYS SPORTS VITAL

NORTH BAY, Ont. (CP)—Edward (Moose) Krause, athletic director of Notre Dame University, South Bend, Ind., Sunday night told 500 Scollard Hall banquet guests sports form a vital factor in youthful development. "Sports is an integral part of the school curriculum. It is the most important factor in the development of a sound mind and sound body for our youngsters," he said.

House Of Many Complaints

By Eric Gotteirou
Associated Press, Jerusalem

JERUSALEM (AP)—On the border between the Israeli and Jordan sections of Jerusalem is the "House of a thousand complaints."

Its thick walls give considerable protection against the summer sun, but the two sides rarely agree that this evidence of law and order is a good thing.

The house is the headquarters of the Jordan-Israel mixed armistice commission established eight years ago under auspices of the United Nations truce supervision organization, now headed by Maj-Gen. E. L. M. Burns of Canada.

Once or twice a week two Jordan and two Israeli army officers meet, under the chairmanship of a UN truce representative, to establish responsibility for a border incident.

Usually each party has lodged a complaint, accusing the other of having initiated the incident. The evidence collected by UN observers should in most cases establish the facts, but the two sides rarely agree that this evidence is correct. When conflicting motions are submitted, the chairman casts the deciding vote.

Generally, both parties then accept the verdict censuring one side or the other, or even both sides. Occasionally one side alleges that the chairman is biased, is influenced by political considerations or is swayed by higher UN diplomacy. Then one side or the other may walk out.

COFFEE AND TALK
On a less official level, delegates have coffee and talk together before and after the meetings. Though some of the Arab officers know Hebrew and many Israeli officers know Arabic the small and big talk is in English. The uniformed delegates from each side face their counterparts

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Sundesen, M.D.

VARY BABY'S POSITION TO HELP SHAPE HIS HEAD

Babies are pretty well-constructed. And although the model has been the same for a good long while now, there's not much improving needed.

In some cases, though, you mothers can give old Mother Nature a helping hand. Frequently a mother will worry a little about the shape of her baby's head. Maybe this is troubling you right now.

PROPER SHAPE
There are, of course, many causes for the variations in the shapes of heads. But an infant's head is fairly pliable and you may be able to help shape your child's head into its proper form.

Don't want you pushing, pressing and squeezing, I hope I don't have to tell you what harm can be done by such foolish actions.

But pressure and position are great factors, since all the small bones have not united in a young infant's head. During the first two to three months the baby's head increases in circumference about one inch a month.

CHANGE POSITION
By making sure that your baby's position in his crib is changed often enough, you can help mold his head properly.

Your baby's crib is next to a wall, he naturally will attempt to turn toward the noises he hears in the room. To prevent him from lying on one side of his head continually, simply turn him or the crib around periodically.

This gives the baby an incentive to change the pressure points. There's another thing which sometimes worries new mothers. The eyes of many babies water and discharge shortly after birth. Usually this is the result of a chemical irritation from the medicine that is put into every baby's eyes as soon as he is born.

Occasionally one eye will continue to water. This is generally caused by the plugging of the small duct that drains the tears and secretions from the eye to the nose.

The condition can usually be corrected simply by pressing gently with the small finger in the corner of the eye toward the nose. The opening of the duct is in the edge of the lower lid in the corner of the eye.

If light pressure doesn't clear the duct, and tearing continues, better tell your doctor.

QUESTION AND ANSWER
Y.M.C.A. Can. has delivered successfully by Caesarean section once the mother has died?

Answer: Many cases have been reported in which a living baby has been delivered by Caesarean section after the mother's death.

The Age Old Story

Exactness in little duties is a wonderful source of cheerfulness.

The Poet's Corner

SKETCH
In the shadow of the barn Beside the brook
A painter in a stained blue smock Reflects before his easel.
He tips a brush with amber
And careful as a farmer
Plants the apple tree
In black earth and gold sun.

He steps back, squints, returns
And spreads the green boughs
On a cloud.
The blossoms bud and open,
A few fall to the grass.
So swift
The growing of that May-time tree!

The painter does not know
That on the canvas of my eyes
Tree and cloud
Barn and brook
Include him too.

—Beren Van Slyke.
In the New York Herald Tribune.

New Montgomery

Lucy Maud Montgomery will long be remembered as the writer who brought to life Anne of Green Gables, the girl whose impulses and dreams appealed to readers young and old.

Now, in "the story of L. M. Montgomery, Ryerson Hill & M. Ridley has produced an entertaining biography of the Prince Edward Island writer who died at Toronto in 1942. One can feel the presence of "Anne" and her kindred spirits in this story of Miss Montgomery.

It shows a modest person dedicated to the finer things of life. One who learned early that happiness is found in the love of people and nature, in the cultivation of the imagination.

Miss Ridley, native of Sparta, Ont., author of two previous books and articles in various periodicals shows that "Anne" reflected Miss Montgomery's own ability to detect romance and beauty and humor in what to others were everyday happenings.

The book reveals the development of a great story-teller, with a close understanding of her character. It includes a lively chapter of L.M. Montgomery's venture into newspaper work in Halifax in 1901, when she was 27, "a capable young woman whose good looks were enhanced by a winning personality."

The book quotes from Miss Montgomery's diary of those days "All my spare time here I write, and I have had stuff either, since the delineator, the Smart Set and Ainslies' have taken some of it. I have grown accustomed to stopping in the middle of a paragraph to interview a prowling caller, and to pausing in full career after an elusive rhyme, to read a lot of proof and snarled-up copy."

FIRST CIRCUS
The first circus presented in the United States is believed to have been in Philadelphia in 1793.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Families are groups of people no two of whom like their eggs and bacon cooked in the same way. —Edmonton Journal

No matter what happens there are always a lot of people who foresee quite clearly that it was going to happen. —Chatham News

Doctors have found that farmers have fewer real headaches than other people. Until it's time to plough through an income tax return. —Brantford Expositor

In a Michigan town five policemen caught mumps at the same time. Yet in other complaints that policemen never catch anything. —Oshawa Times-Gazette

People don't have to go to jail for drunk driving as some have been doing lately. All they have to do is to break up the combination that gets them in trouble. —Port Arthur News-Chronicle

A contemporary expresses surprise that most girls close their eyes when they are kissed. Nobody who has beheld the average male human nose at a range of one inch to half an inch will wish it otherwise. —Peterborough Examiner

Our forefathers in 1867 didn't know how to make democracy dynamic. They went ahead and organized Confederation, instead of setting up a committee to make a preliminary study of a need for a comprehensive survey. —Edmonton Journal

We are not surprised to learn that the secondary schools of the British education system contain no "blackboard jungle," that no teacher has been killed, beaten or otherwise assaulted. Official surveys show that while "there may be some weeds" there is no "jungle" in the American sense. The British tend to respect all authority. The English teacher has authority and a strap, assets which tend to dispel "blackboard jungles" among too ardent young savages. —London Free Press

People go on a holiday to forget things and it's only when they get on their grips that they discover how successful they've been. —Hamilton Spectator

We are sorry to see Mr. Bean do a still in the Speaker's chair because his presence there adds weight to a very dangerous idea which is gaining ground in every aspect of Canadian public life. The idea that anything can be smoothed over, any insult swallowed and that personal advantage is preferable to honour. I may be seen at work in town, municipal, provincial and Dominion affairs, and it is dangerous weakness. —Peterborough Examiner

BE BRIEF — that's what young reporters are often advised by over-worked editors; so it is no wonder that the lad who a school penned the following terse bit about Elisha was snapped up by the first editor he approached when in search of a job: "There was a man named Elisha. He had some bears and lived in a cage. Some boys tormented him and said: 'If you keep on throwing stones at me, I'll turn the bears loose and they'll eat you up!' And they did and he did and the bears did." —Strathroy Age-Despatch

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