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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."
 FRIDAY, SEPT. 9, 1955

Liberal International

The seventh annual Congress of the Liberal International, an organization made up of Liberal political parties and others with different names which profess similar general principles, has been in session in Lucerne, Switzerland, for the past several days. Reports of its activities and discussions indicate that most Liberal leaders believe the so-called "Geneva spirit" (the new friendliness between Russia and the West) to be a delusion and a snare. They do not deny that, as an Italian delegate put it, "the Russians have stopped doing a few things they never had any right to do in the first place"; but they attribute this change in tactics not to any change in the Communist system itself, but to the strength which the West has built up over a period of years. Said the Italian statesman: "It is the blood of free soldiers in Korea, Indo-China. It is the effort we have undertaken since 1950 to strengthen our defenses and our economic and social structures."

The general tone of the conference seems to be one of alarm over the tendency of some Western leaders to believe that some relaxation in defence effort might be justified. The Liberals see this as even more dangerous potentially than anything else that has happened during the cold war. Even if they do exaggerate the danger a little bit, their view is helpful in that it may act as a balancing influence on too much optimism. Incidentally, although most of the countries of Western Europe are represented at the Congress, there is no mention in the report of either the United States or Canada. Perhaps they are not members of the Liberal International. It is strange that, although Great Britain was the starting place of modern political liberalism, it is today the only country in Europe where the Liberal Party, or some other party adhering to the same philosophy, has very little influence in the making of national policy.

U. S. Farm Economy

In a recent article, W. C. Hopper, Agricultural Counsellor to the Canadian Embassy, Washington, D.C., described some of the revolutionary changes that have taken place in the agriculture of the United States during the past few years. The introduction of new machinery and equipment, use of improved seeds and plants, better methods of cultivation, increased use of fertilizers, more effective control of weeds, and plant and animal diseases, plus the adoption of recent discoveries in feeding and breeding of farm animals, have all resulted in a higher production per farm worker, per acre, and per farm animal. This, despite the fact that the number of farms and the farm population are steadily declining.

Although there has been an increase of only 15 per cent in crop acreage since 1910, farm output has increased by 75 per cent. To put it another way, in 1940 each farm worker produced enough food and fibre for himself and ten other persons—today he produces enough for himself and 18 other persons. Since 1939, there has been an increase of 40 per cent in production, with no increase in the number of acres being cultivated.

The farm Gross National Product per worker has risen an average of two-and-a-half per cent since 1929, as compared to a rise of only one-and-a-half per cent for the non-farm private worker. Farms and ranches in the United States cover about one billion acres, or some 60 per cent of the total land area. Of the 350 million acres sown to harvested crops in 1953, 10 per cent produced material for export, four per cent for food, fibre, and tobacco for horse and mule feed, and 86 per cent for food, fibre, and tobacco for domestic human use. The advent

of farm machinery has made it possible to divert 80 million acres from growing horse and mule feed to producing products for domestic human use since World War I. Added to this, there has been a per acre production increase of 20 per cent, and a 63 per cent increase in livestock production per breeding unit, in the same period.

By 1953, the use of commercial fertilizer had increased three times from the amount spread on the land in 1940. The increased production per animal is well illustrated by the fact that milk production per cow in U. S. dairy herds increased from 4,033 pounds in 1934 to about 5,500 pounds in 1954. Production of eggs per hen now averages about 180 yearly, a rise of 60 per cent over the average production of 20 years ago. Poultry meat, pork production per sow, and beef production per acre have all followed this upward trend. To cap it all, the man-hours of labor used for farm work have been cut by more than a third in the past 40 years, especially since the end of World War II.

Poorly Planned Tour

In arranging the itinerary for the Russian farm delegation to Canada, the Maritime Provinces were completely ignored. Now we have evidence that the whole tour was somewhat badly botched. The abandonment of the Toronto visit was a case in point, but there were many other instances. Commenting on the situation, the Globe and Mail says editorially:

"What the delegation should or might wish to see ought to have been arranged in consultation between the Dominion and Provincial agricultural authorities, and the whole trip carefully arranged and scheduled in advance. Instead, we have had continual reports of changed routes and timetables, abundant evidence of confusion and lack of planning.

"It is simply incredible, for instance, that the Dominion authorities would not take the Russians to the Ontario Agricultural College, the leading Canadian institution of its kind. . . . But the climax of ineptitude was the failure to visit the Canadian National Exhibition and the Massey-Harris plant. Here the visitors would not only have been able to see a representative collection of the best livestock and poultry in the country, but they would also have obtained a general picture of Canadian achievements unattainable any other way. It would have been foolish to have taken the visitors to the Exhibition on Labor Day, with its crowds, but to have missed the fair entirely is inexcusable.

"Part of this decision was due to presumed trouble with lawless elements among foreign-born recently come to this country. It would have been quite possible to deal with this. But of greater importance appears to have been the disgracefully bad manners of the civic administration, which permitted the impression to get ground that no official attention would be paid to the visitors.

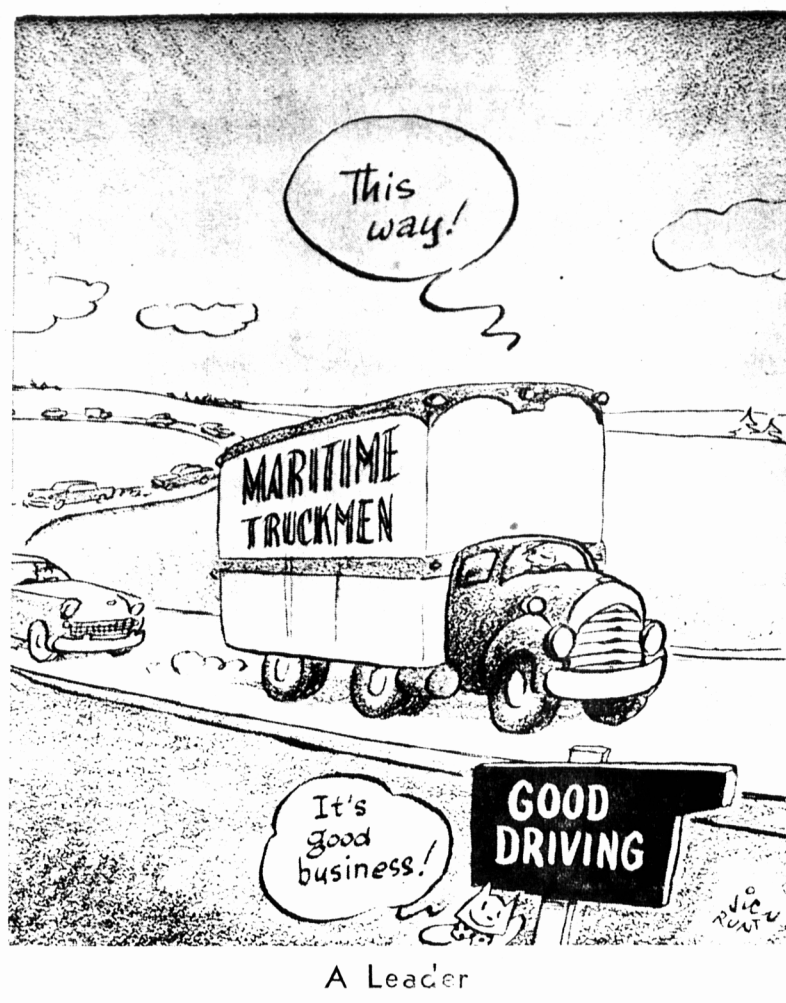
"Toronto apart, however, it is difficult to avoid the impression that the Dominion officials in charge of the tour have botched it. Unseemly demonstrations, haphazard arrangements, disorganized planning, all give basis to a feeling that they are weak in their knowledge of protocol."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Salerno landing, this date 1943.

The sharp increase in the enrollment at Prince of Wales College indicates that more of our young people are seeking higher educational advantages, but it also places increased responsibility upon the teaching staff. The figures reflect the general upswing in attendance noticeable both in rural and urban schools.

In imposing an embargo on the shipment of rhesus monkeys (used in cultivation of Salk vaccine), because of some minor dispute with Western buyers, the Indian Government seems to have made an error in business. Necessity is the mother of invention; and, faced with an acute shortage of the important animals, researchers got busy and have now reported that, once a few initial difficulties have been overcome, it will be easy enough to raise the monkeys in this hemisphere, thousands of miles away from their natural habitats.



A Leader

OTTAWA REPORT

Our Immigration Trickle

By Patrick Nicholson

Ottawa Our cost of living is higher than in the States, and our standard of living is lower. This is because we have a much smaller population than our rich cousin has. That it is direct cause-and-effect is recognized by all economists. If our refrigerator manufacturers were able to count on a domestic market of 165,000,000 persons, rather than on our present market of one-eleventh that size, they could sell refrigerators at prices as low as the American. If our textile mills were able to weave to sell to a U.S.A.-sized market, rather than to their present fraction of the fifteen million Canadians then they too would be able to offer a selection as wide and prices as low as those now enjoyed by buyers in the States.

Fifty years ago, Sir Wilfrid Laurier made that prediction destined to be repeated daily, about this being Canada's century of expansion. In the next few years after his famous remark, the federal government facilitated and fostered a program of open-door immigration, with an energy which proclaimed its determination to make Laurier's words come true.

The Men in Sheepskin Coats poured into the country. They flocked across Quebec and Ontario in those railway coaches little better than cattle trucks, as they headed westwards to open up the Prairies. There was no scientific calculation or absorptive capacity, no nibbling resentment at New Canadians taking jobs from Old, no jealous recording of the religion of the immigrants.

CANADA'S RECORD FLOOD As many as 400,870 immigrants were admitted in that one glorious year, 1913, when our population was half what it is today. Just think of that staggering influx: Enough immigrants in one year to populate a city the size of modern Vancouver, and after filling up that huge city, enough immigrants left over to fill two cities each the size of Port Arthur today.

But since those days, and increasing in post-war years, the Laurier dream of a filled and developed Canada has been forgotten. Then we did not even have a Ministry of Immigration; today we

have what is in effect a Ministry of Non-Immigration, a Department of Exclusion. There is no sign of the price of refrigerators coming down. As if to warn us against the dangers of this policy of non-immigration, the Bank of Canada has just published, in its admirably compiled monthly Statistical Summary, a twenty-year survey of our population growth by Provinces, from 1936 to the present day.

This shows that in 20 years our national population has been increased, by immigration and by natural increase together, by 42 per cent, from 10,350,000 to 15,001,000.

This increase includes the adventurous and unrepeatable increase of about 350,000, through the entry of Newfoundland into Confederation.

Excluding this, our population has mounted by an average of less than 2 per cent per year; in the glorious year of 1913, our fathers and grandfathers boosted the population by over 6 per cent.

B.C. TO THE FRONT For an empty land offering the highest level of wages in the Commonwealth, coupled with freedom from almost every imaginable material want, our performance lags sadly behind our appeal.

British Columbia alone shows up as a real growth Province. Since 1936, her population has grown by exactly 75 per cent, far outstripping any other section of the country. At the other end of the scale lies Saskatchewan, with a population which actually decreased by 5 per cent, whether from allergy to Premier Douglas, or to wheat or to the farm life, the Bank of Canada does not say, but suspicion points to the last.

Ontario's increase of 1 1/2 million in 20 years is a drop in the bucket when one considers the potentialities, resources and empty acres of that Province.

Canada and Canadians need more of such programs. But the official government policy now points to a continuation of non-immigration, and a growth at no greater rate over the next 20 years, to a mere 22 million by 1975.

Cure Worse Than The Disease

St. John's, Newfoundland, Telegram Almost vivid description of the effects of interfering with natural forces is contained in a recent report of the Department of Fisheries. It concerns the mass forest spraying in New Brunswick in an effort to arrest the spread of the spruce bud worm. From the report—which concerns itself mainly with fish—it seems possible that the entire forest ecology of New Brunswick is being upset, with results that no one can predict as yet—except to hazard a guess that they will be most unpleasant indeed.

The destruction of salmon may be only one of those unpleasant results. The Department of Fisheries has published pictures of dead salmon parr taken from New Brunswick river following spraying with DDT. However, the text gives an even more impressive account: Inside the sprayed area, 81 per cent of the salmon parr were killed; effects of spraying lasted for at least two and a half months. That isn't all. Further analysis indicated that trout up to 13 inches long had been killed, that all young salmon had been reduced by a third of the normal population, that first year salmon parr had been reduced by five-sixths of their total numbers, and that fry from the previous year's hatching had been wiped out entirely, or almost entirely. There were no significant numbers of fry found in the rivers.

That was the short-term effect. Next, it was noticed that aquatic insects had disappeared. This was to be expected, since DDT doesn't distinguish between a bud worm and a dragon fly nymph. That of course, meant that the main food supply

of the fish had been destroyed, and that they faced starvation. In fact, no living thing exists by itself, but is dependent upon a host of other living things which surround, nourish, and prey upon it. A forest is not just a collection of trees, but consists of an interplay of a great many living species of birds, insects, fish and plants, pitted against one another, but at the same time supporting one another. When one of the great divisions of the ecology (in this case the insect kingdom) is destroyed the whole structure is liable to collapse. That may be what is happening in the forests of New Brunswick—in which case the New Brunswick forests will be no more, and those who set out to save will find that they have instead destroyed.

That doesn't mean that we should sit back and let matters take their course. Fostering of natural parasites, introduction of new parasites, is the biologically correct way to fight an insect pest, to keep its destruction within bounds without upsetting the entire life system of the forest. The use of killing chemicals—except on individual trees and shrubs in your garden—is likely to result in throwing out the baby with the bath water.

The Age Old Story

And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring me an offering: of every man that giveth it willingly with his heart ye shall take my offering.

Medically Speaking

Herman N. Bundesen, M. D. BELCHING IS NOT ALWAYS DUE TO ORGANIC DISEASE

In some countries of the Middle East loud and frequent belching during and after meals is considered common courtesy. The host believes it demonstrates appreciation of the feast.

Our own dining etiquette, however, is somewhat different. Even a barely audible belch is very embarrassing and requires profuse apologies.

Despite the popular belief, belching is not caused by abnormal fermentation in the stomach. The gas is merely air which you have swallowed.

You have a certain amount of air in your stomach all the time. Constant swallowing of more air, however, leads to a feeling of fullness in the upper abdomen or lower part of the chest. Belching gives you relief but, unfortunately, frequent attempts to belch probably will lead to the swallowing of more air.

Sometimes belching is a symptom of organic disease. Maybe pyloric obstruction is responsible. Chronic cholecystitis, or gall-bladder inflammation, with or without gallstones, usually causes these symptoms. Also, hastily eaten meals and failure to chew your food properly frequently brings on this embarrassing trouble.

The noisier you belch, the less likely it is that there is anything seriously wrong. Persons with frequent quiet flatulence (belching) are more apt to have some underlying organic disease.

Once you get the habit of swallowing air, it becomes a reflex and you'll have a terrific urge to swallow more. Usually, this occurs after eating.

Holding a cork between your teeth for half an hour after each meal or whenever you feel a sensation of fullness might be a great help.

The cork, you see, prevents you from closing your mouth. And since it's difficult to swallow with your mouth open, you won't gulp down more air. Simple as this remedy is, it has produced dramatic results.

Don't, however, attempt to bring up the disturbing "wind" by trying to force a belch. It will only make you feel worse.

QUESTION AND ANSWER V. E. P.: What is the cause of burstitis?

Answer: Burstitis is inflammation of a sac containing fluid located over any one of many joints. Inflammation may occur as a result of an injury or infection or may be caused by overuse of the part.

Civil officials of Montreal including Mayor Jean Drapeau visited St. Helen's Island the other day to recognize officially the scene of the marquis' act as a monument to the wedding of French and English-speaking Canadians into one nation.

The site is an old blockhouse built in 1870 from a 1715 design, which has been restored as a permanent museum of Montreal in the year 1760.

Inside are many relics of the period. Flags, replicas of those burned, hang from the ceiling of the blockhouse. It features life-size figures of British and French soldiers of the period, with exact reproductions of their 18th-century uniforms.

The Poet's Corner

PLINY'S SPRING

This water ever-flowing from the ground Slaked Pliny's thirst two thousand years ago; Continually its sparkling streams abound.

Joined with Lake Como waiting far below, Great express frogs stand by the villa named.

For that abode which once was Pliny's home, Eating his midday meal, the writer famed

Beyond his time, would watch swift water come, Ebbing and flowing in a curious course.

Stopping and starting like no usual spring, A cooling fount from an unending source.

Here in the gushing of this liquid thing, Antiquity seems intimately known, The Roman era merging with our own.

—Louise Darcy, in The Christian Science Monitor.

Recalling The Past

(Canadian Press, Montreal)

On Sept. 8, 1760, the Marquis de Levis, commander of the Army of New France in the Montreal area was ordered to surrender to the British forces by Governor Vaudreuil. The doughty marquis, rather than accept the conditions laid down for the surrender, ordered his

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NOTES BY THE WAY

Statesmen, politicians, industrialists, scholars realize that Christianity is the only hope for a free civilization. No one has brought a substitute that does not enslave the mind and body of its followers. —Farmer's Advocate

Quebec police, checking on dangerously slow drivers, picked up one whose legs were paralyzed, another with admittedly poor eyesight. They lose their driving permits, of course, and the highways will be that much safer.—Ottawa Journal.

Is the driving of an automobile on the public highways a "right" or a "privilege"? That was debated in the Alberta Legislature last week, with Highways Minister Taylor declaring emphatically it was a privilege and several Opposition speakers contending it was right.—Calgary Albertan.

The Russian language comprises 30 letters. It is written in the Cyrillic alphabet, which is largely based upon the Greek. Perhaps that is why much of what the Russians say is like so much Greek to the average person. Remember Sir Winston Churchill said Russia was a mystery wrapped up in an enigma.—Kitchener Waterloo Record.

The Ottawa Humane Society reports that during the protracted heat wave it received many complaints about horses fainting in the streets from exposure to the sun. The Society suggests a simple remedy—straw hats and damp sponges. A number of horse owners already take these protective steps; the practice should become universal. A horse with a straw hat has a slightly humorous look. In this guise, it is an object of good-natured affection, and this is better than the feelings of pity

and indignation aroused by the sight of an animal suffering cruelly from the heat.—Ottawa Citizen

Some New York congressmen want a St. Lawrence Seaway diversion made through Lake Champlain and the Hudson to the Atlantic at New York. (Lake Champlain empties north into the St. Lawrence). Thank you, Chicago is already stealing enough of our seaway water.—Peterborough Examiner.

"Ontario Information," prepared for distribution among potential tourists apparently says: "In the Province of Ontario (Canada) there is no sales tax, no tax on meals, tobacco and liquor." To the resident of Ontario that statement seems like misleading advertising even if it is technically correct. We pay sales tax on everything even though it doesn't go directly to Toronto but to Ottawa. What Toronto losses on metal taxes it makes up on gasoline. As for liquor, the rake-off the Ontario Government gets from that is not taxes—it's just profit, and that beats a tax all to that place especially the water cut Ridgecrest Sominon.

Financial questions of crucial importance are to be discussed at the World Bank and International Monetary Fund meetings in Istanbul this month. Commonwealth governments, representative of some of Canada's best customers, will discuss means of arresting the continuing fall in the sterling area's gold and dollar reserves. Mr. R. A. Butler, United Kingdom Chancellor of the Exchequer will attend. It will be remembered that Canada's Government has been unable to spare a cabinet minister for these meetings and will be represented only by an official from the Finance Department and an officer of the Bank of Canada.—Ottawa Journal.

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