

The ingredients of the proposed settlement are these: The Dutch would release administration, and perhaps also sovereignty, over West New Guinea to the United Nations for an interim period during which the islanders would be prepared for self-determination. During this U.N. period, Indonesia would have full opportunity to present its point of view to the Papuans and attempt to persuade them to become part of Indonesia. The Dutch would not be present to influence the Papuans otherwise.

After a reasonable period, the natives would choose between independence and accession to Indonesia. Accession to the Netherlands would be ruled out. This would meet one major Indonesian objection to earlier Dutch plans, namely, that the Papuans already have been unduly influenced by the Dutch in favor of independence, and hence that determination would mean automatic loss of territory for Indonesia.

The new formula means that the Dutch are prepared to go a very long way to settle the problem peacefully. Heretofore, the Indonesians have demanded that administration of the island be turned over to them, with no U.N. interregnum; but they are now reported to be "cautiously retreating" from this position, under Thant's persuasion.

Of course, there is another reason why President Sukarno may be prepared to modify his demands on Indonesia's part. On the night of Jan. 15-16 a Dutch destroyer sank two Indonesian torpedo boats and turned back a third, thus demonstrating a considerable capacity to rebuff an Indonesian invasion. It was only after this that Sukarno descended to listen to Thant's proposals, to which the Dutch had already agreed. Now he has sent one of his highest ranking diplomats, Dr. Tjondronegoro, to New York to take part in the preliminary triangular discussion and to participate in the more formal negotiations if and when they are held.

And indeed, we can claim that if Canadian plowing matches didn't originate here, we were very early in the field. In dipping into old newspaper files we find they were going strong back in 1830, when the "Annual Ploughing Match of the Prince County Agricultural Society," held at St. Eleanors, "showed a very decided improvement compared with last year's."

The Royal Gazette of October 10, 1837, reports a plowing match which took place at Government Farm, Charlottetown, in which ten plows started. But there was only one "native" plowman, the natives being "in general intimidated by the dread of the superior dexterity of the Old Country competitors." Later came the annual plowing match, fair and cattle show, all under the superintendence of the Central Agricultural Society, in Charlottetown and environs, the fair being held on Queen Square.

Why should this roundabout approach be necessary? Because the Senate, its membership, the qualifications of its members and the method of their appointment cannot be altered without at least general agreement among the provinces, or, incidentally, without the ratification of the Senate itself.

This means that its "reform" will take time, patient negotiation, the co-operation of the provincial legislatures, and the broad approval of the Canadian people. It may be an issue in the next general election, but it is hard to see how government legislation at the present session can have much effect on the problem.

The roadblock here is a constitutional one, according to lawyers who have written on the subject. At the Quebec conference which laid the basis of Confederation, and in the British North America Act which created it, the Senate was established as the protector of minorities, and mainly as the protector of provincial rights. The four old colonies that agreed to join a federal system insisted on fixed representation in an appointive chamber of "second thoughts" because the weaker members of the union regarded the Senate as their vital safeguard against the stronger.

Speeding The Plow

Of great interest to all our farmers is the announcement that the Canadian Championship Plowing Match will be held at Dundas in September, 1964, provided arrangements satisfactory to the Canadian Plowing Council can be made. This event will coincide with the Confederation Conference centennial celebrations and will be another event of national importance to chalk up for that occasion.

The Dundas Plowing Match and Agricultural Fair Association, under the presidency of Mr. Leslie Hunter, has done a great job in reviving plowing matches in this Province in recent years. It was with legitimate pride that Mr. Hunter, in announcing the 1964 event, remarked that the association, with its extensive agricultural fair, has something which no other plowing match association in Canada can offer.

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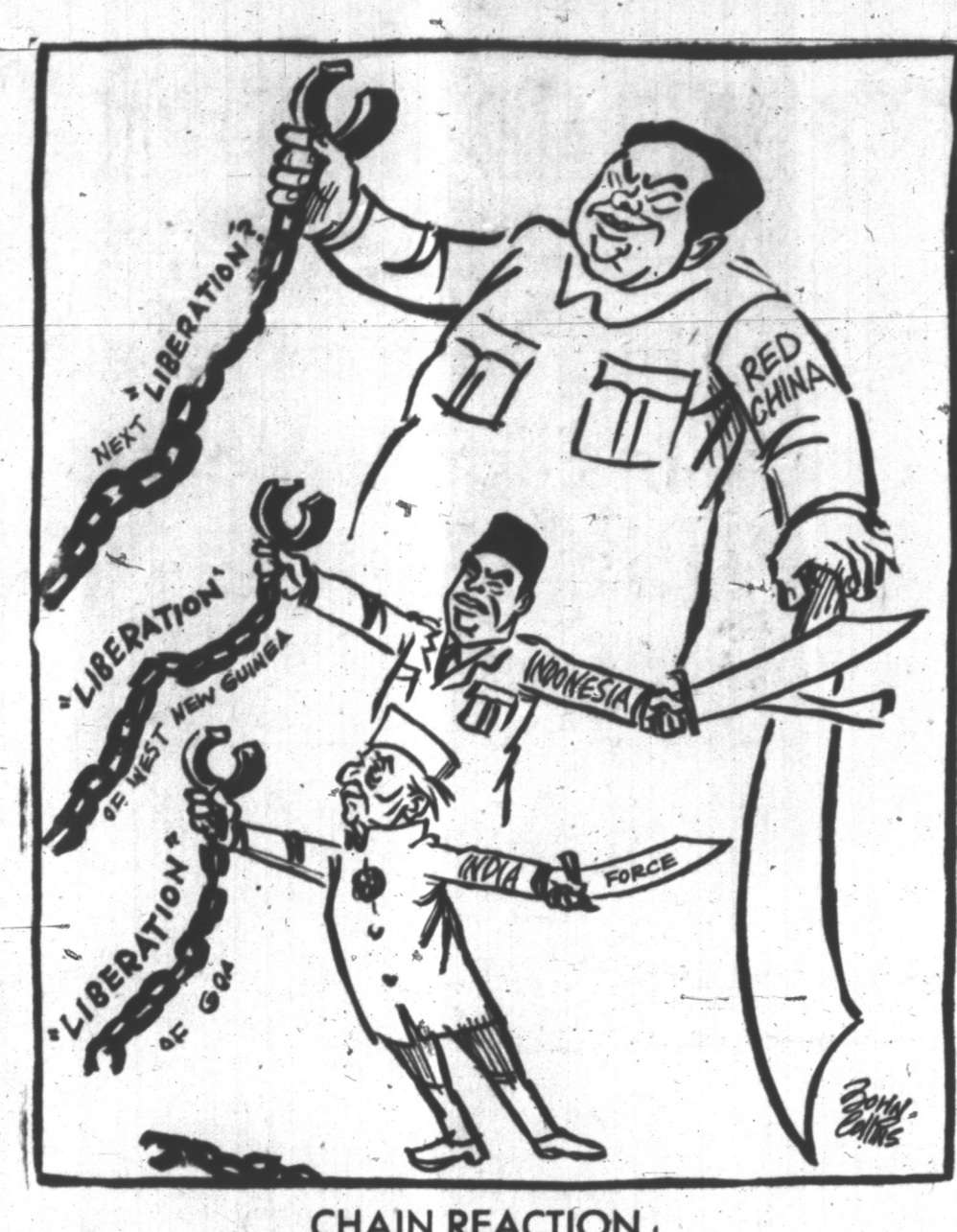
Then there were the subscription plowing matches. One of these, held at Marshfield in November, 1868, prompted the Islander newspaper to suggest that, in future, competition be invited from the mainland, and that provision be made for the payment of the expenses of competitors from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick "who might be disposed to try conclusions with the Islanders at an International Ploughing Match."

We don't know what came of this suggestion, but local contests were continued in a lively fashion for some years thereafter. At one of these matches at New Perth in 1871, the school children of the district, with their teacher, were brought along to look at the straight and even furrows, in order that they might "anticipate the time when they too would be promoted to the command of a team, and, perhaps, be permitted to gather laurels from the field."

So, it will be like coming into our own when we get the Canadian championship plowing contest here in 1964. The technique employed will be unlike those of the old days, but the spirit will be the same.

Thant's Guiding Hand

Hopes for a negotiated settlement of the West New Guinea problem have taken an upturn this week; and the credit, if the settlement materializes, will go largely to the new acting secretary-general of the United Nations, U. Thant. The Netherlands, for its part, has long been ready for formal negotiations, and the U.N. chief, in private, behind-the-scenes explorations, has been seeing representatives of the two sides separately for the past fortnight. He expects soon to bring them together with a proposal that the Indonesians will find it difficult to refuse.



CHAIN REACTION. SOVIET ACHIEVEMENT

Russia And Science Education

The Gazette, Montreal

It was during the decade of the 1950's, particularly during its latter half, that the public in the Western world became aware of the threat of Soviet scientific education.

It took time for the reality of Soviet progress in science and technology to become accepted. For this progress defied one of the most common myths that the Western society had developed about itself, and about itself in comparison to Soviet society.

This was the myth that only a free, democratic country, with freedom of discussion and criticism, could master the complexities of science and technology; and that a totalitarian society would destroy itself if it permitted progress in these fields.

Even the more spectacular achievements of Soviet technology were disputed, and in some circles are still disputed. For a long time, it was the custom to explain away Soviet scientific advancements by saying they were due to captured German scientists, or due to Soviet spies in the Western world.

There were captured German scientists, and they undoubtedly did make a contribution, as did spies. But this very tendency to explain away Soviet science by pointing to mysterious Germans itself contradicted the theory that science could only flourish in a free society, for the German scientists had presumably flourished under the Nazi regime before being captured by the Russians at the end of the Second World War.

A new study, recently published in the United States by the National Academy of Sciences and the National Research Council, indicates that Soviet progress in the field of scientific and technical education is continuing, and that this progress reflects unfavorably on the United States.

The study concludes that if the aim of education "is to develop applied professional skills enabling the individual to perform specialized, functional tasks, then Soviet higher education is unquestionably a success, posing not only a temporary challenge, but a major threat in the long-run struggle between democracy and totalitarianism."

STUDENT RATE The Soviet success lies in the large proportion of students that select, or are forced to select, science and engineering. Even though the total education base is much smaller in the Soviet Union, that country currently produces 190,000 engineers and applied scientists a year, as against 90,000 in the United States. It is expected that, during the present decade, the Soviet output will increase to 250,000 a year, and that this will be more than twice the expected American rate.

Figures like these often produce reactions similar to despair in the West. This is as unwarranted as the former contemptuous attitude towards Soviet education. Specifically, it seems that in a limited field, which the Soviet Union has deliberately cultivated, Soviet education is exceedingly good, in quality and quantity.

THE RESULT It seems reasonable to conclude that the Soviet Union is going to get out of its education system what it asks of it. It is producing, and will continue producing, all the scientists and engineers it needs to complete the industrialization of the country, and to keep the country in the first-rank among industrial nations.

The West can do nothing to stop this. The Western reaction must be positive, not negative. The Western countries must accept that in the future the Soviet Union will be in the first-rank of industrial nations, and must concentrate on seeing that they will be there too.

Scientists have journeyed literally halfway around the world and set up 20 tons of equipment in barely accessible wasteland, only to have clouds obscure the sun at the crucial moment.

In 1955, teams of astronomers from all over the world gathered in Ceylon to observe one of the longest eclipses of the century. A sudden bank of clouds covered the sun, and only one party saw the event. The disappointed Swiss expedition flew its flag at half-staff.

The discomforts, dangers, and disappointments are worthwhile, however, for the study of a total eclipse provides basic data about the sun, moon, and earth. Observation of eclipses has given fundamental information about temperatures and pressures in the sun's atmosphere. The corona, a fantastic halo of pearly-white gas around the sun, bursts clearly into view during a total eclipse. Scarlet prominences—tongue-like jets of glowing hydrogen—ordinarily are visible only when the sun is blotted out.

Eclipses have aided in precisely computing the movements of moon and earth, and in calculating the earth's exact size and shape. Star photographs made by a National Geographic Society research team during a 1952 eclipse of the sun confirmed that starlight can be bent by gravity. The photographs and later measurements tended to bear out Dr. Albert Einstein, who predicted that one of the proofs of his theory of relativity would be an apparent shift in the position of stars whose light rays passed through the sun's field of gravity.

A total eclipse of the sun occurs when a new moon slides directly between the earth and the sun, and is close enough for its shadow to reach the earth. Astronomers are fond of recalling the legend of the first recorded eclipse, which supposedly occurred around 2900 B.C. The Chinese classic Shu Ching relates that the two royal astronomers, Hsi and Ho, were so "drunk in excess of wine" that they failed to warn the populace of the pending eclipse. The unexpected blackout caused a riot, and the angry emperor had the bibulous pair beheaded.

Ever since, astronomers have studied eclipses with sobriety and diligence.

But some delegates in Brussels are obviously worried that unless the principles and practices of supra-nationalism are explained more clearly to the British electorate the voter may panic and throw the treaty out altogether.

Balanced Diet Seen Essential In Pregnancy

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen THE modern woman appreciates the need for a balanced and ample diet during pregnancy. The child is more likely to be healthy at birth when the mother is a better obstetrical risk, having fewer complications.

How did expectant mothers fare throughout the ages? According to Emma Seifrit, assistant professor of home economics, Albright college, enough women must have eaten sufficient and adequate food to continue the human race. She has traced the food practices of pregnant women from early times until the present in an article published in the Journal of the American Dietetic Association.

The Emperor Constantine, for example, cautioned against mentioning unobtainable foods within hearing distance of a pregnant woman. It might create an unsatisfied desire for food that could cause the uterus to sink. Sinker Albertus Magnus thought the same, except that the fetus would die of weakness when denied this food.

The Pahutes believed the fetus lived in the uterus voluntarily and came out when hungry. When delivery time neared, the mothers began fasting to coax out the infant to her waiting milk supply. Pregnant Kikuyu women of Africa dieted on sweet potatoes, beans, and corn. They also ate leaves, suggesting they were aware the greens contained something (vitamins) beneficial to mother and child.

Expectant mothers in China appreciated pig's feet boiled in diluted acid until soft. The bones were considered a delicacy but we cannot say whether they knew about calcium and phosphorus.

We will never know whether a pregnant woman paid any attention to the food needs of the pregnant woman or whether the recorded habits were independent rituals or customs. A prenatal diet began to receive attention less than 200 years ago. The advice of Dr. J.C. Barnett in 1880 is worth noting. His ideal was a "well fed, well worked, cheerful, happy woman living in a sunlit airy habitation."

Dr. Van Dellen will answer questions on medical topics if stamped, self-addressed envelope accompanies request.

SMOKING AND LUNG CANCER J.C. writes: I have been smoking more than a pack a day for 24 years. If I stopped, would this prevent the development of lung cancer or is it already too late?

REPLY No one can answer this question. Some individuals have developed lung cancer 10 years after they stopped smoking. Others live to a ripe old age even though they are inveterate smokers.

WISHFUL THINKING J.B. writes: What is wrong with a 71 year old man who always is bragging about how he can do things well and other people can't? He even makes remarks about some people who are dead.

REPLY Nothing. With age, many traits—good and bad—are enhanced or exaggerated.

GALL BLADDER DISTRESS M.G. writes: Are gall bladder pains sharp or dull and where are they located?

REPLY They may be sharp when a small gallstone is trying to escape or dull when the organ is mildly infected. The gallstone is located in the upper right side of the abdomen, below the rib margin.

PAINLESS DIABETES P.W. writes: Does diabetes cause pain anywhere?

REPLY No, but complications of the disease may, including neuritis and skin ulceration.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT—Quacks cheat sick people of money and proper care.

OUR YESTERDAYS From the Guardian Files TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (Jan. 26, 1937)

Members of the Little Theatre Guild who will represent this province at the regional drama festival at Saint John, N.B., leave today for the New Brunswick city. They include Mr. J. H. Foster, Mr. George Hart, Miss Esther Rattenbury, Mrs. Ruth Simpson, Mr. Ivan Reddin and Mr. Charles Jenkins, manager.

Five rinks from Charlottetown Curling Club paid a surprise visit to Summerside Club Friday evening for a friendly game. They were late arriving but beat the local players by 24 points. TEN YEARS AGO (Jan. 26, 1952)

The Charlottetown Fire Department is "very pleased" that part of the air horn for the new fire alarm system has arrived, and it is hoped that installation will take place in the near future, stated Fire Chief H. H. Jewell in his annual report read at last night's meeting of the City Council.

Miss Marjorie Ellis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Ellis, O'Leary who has been employed in Alberton with J. W. Dow Campbell, has enlisted in the RCAF (Women's Division). Miss Ellis is a former teacher in O'Leary school.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Writers assigned to prepare a government booklet asked the railroad department to define exactly the responsibilities of a railroad inspector. They received this answer: "Inspectors are civil servants assigned to assist chief inspectors and to oversee the work of assistant inspectors." — Stuttgart Zeitung.

Mr. Polemidotes, who runs an auto driving school, is in trouble with police after having successfully obtained driving licences for 20 of his students. Police have learned that Mr. Polemidotes himself has no licence to drive. — London Evening Standard.

Inflation in Italy finally will benefit those convicted of crime. Until now, those who could not pay fines served jail sentences instead at the rate of "one day equals 65 cents." From now on, one day of jail will be valued at \$2. "Everything is worth more today, even time," explained an official. — La Nazione, Florence.

An astute Washington correspondent has discovered that at least two Central Intelligence Agency employees go to work in the hush-hush agency's new headquarters close to the Potomac by canoe. Could they be in training for World War IV, the one that's to be fought with bows and arrows? — Windsor Star.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Penney, of Chichester, England, had a bit of a spat recently, as sometimes happens between a husband and wife. In the course of their argument Mr. Penney picked up a frying pan and gave Mrs. Penney a bash on the noggin with it. A surgeon—or maybe a team of surgeons—handling the task in relays, had to put 77 stitches in her head to close the wound. Subsequently in the police court she said: "I don't think he intended to do me any harm." — St. Thomas Times Journal.

Two air force men watched a plane "unload at an airfield. "Look at the terrifying insignia on the side of the plane," one explained. "Sh-h-h. Not so loud. That's the commander looking out the window." — Hamilton Spectator.

Recently Nikolai Pauritsev, Soviet minister for communications, complained that 60 percent of the TV sets sold in the Soviet Union failed to work after six months. As for telephones, he said, 80 percent of those installed in Moscow last year had to be repaired after they were placed in service. Imagine a Gagarin launched into space with great public bustle but with more than half of the Russian TV sets out of order—and no way to call a repair man because the telephone is on the blink, too. — Milwaukee Journal.

BACKACHE May be Warning Backache is often caused by lazy kidney action. When kidneys get out of order, excess acids and wastes remain in the system. Then backache, disturbed rest or that tired-out and heavy-headed feeling may soon follow. That's the time to take Dadd's Kidney Pills. Dadd's stimulates the kidneys to normal action. Then you feel better—sleep better—work better. Get Dadd's Kidney Pills now.

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National Sovereignty Issue

By Doug Marshall Canadian Press Staff Writer

British governments have always been wary of signing any international agreement that would singe the proud fur of national sovereignty.

During the construction of the Western world's elaborate trade and defence alliances after 1945, Britain shied away from all structures soaring towards supra-nationalism.

This was at least part of the reason why the country dissociated itself from the coal and steel community and declined to join the opening European Common Market negotiations.

Now the fur is being ruffled, if not singed. Sources in Brussels say officials of the continental six are critical of the British government and press for concentrating on the general public the full political implications of Common Market membership.

SHYING AWAY? The critics say the government is cautiously backing away from its initial statement last October that Britain is willing to subscribe fully to the European Economic Community's aims and objectives.

Plans for some form of political union, implied in the Treaty of Rome which founded the community, are being worked out by a committee established last summer by the heads of state of the six Common Market members (France, West Germany, Italy, Belgium, The Netherlands and Luxembourg).

But the committee is bogged down. Its basic blueprint is French President de Gaulle's dream of "L'Europe des Patries"—a confederate organiza-

tion for joint foreign and cultural policies, leaving national sovereignties intact. The British and Belgians have more supra-national aims. They would like to see some sort of federated union, which would lead eventually to full political integration.

They are also insisting that Britain, as a prospective community member, should take part in the negotiations. WANTS NO PART Britain has made it clear she does not want to participate although Prime Minister Macmillan is known to favor de Gaulle's confederation rather than the federation plans of the Benelux countries.

Criticism that Macmillan's government is muting the market's political implications seems partly justified: He has stressed that the economic problems should be solved before the political question is tackled at all. Macmillan may be in a hurry to complete entry negotiations before the sensitive subject of sovereignty becomes an issue in a general election.

By using the tradesmen's entrance and ignoring the political portals he is avoiding man-in-the-street queries such as "what would the Queen's position be?" or "could the French Communist party gain political power?"

But some delegates in Brussels are obviously worried that unless the principles and practices of supra-nationalism are explained more clearly to the British electorate the voter may panic and throw the treaty out altogether.