

We Can't Afford This

The danger of careless handling of poisonous insecticides has been the subject of warnings by our agricultural officials for a considerable time, and it is disappointing to note that in some Island areas, at least, the warnings have had so little effect. The Provincial Government is now contemplating the advisability of introducing legislation to curb this practice. Nova Scotia's legislation dealing with water pollution will be studied in this connection, and presumably the statutes in other provinces as well, which have any bearing on the matter.

Our farmers have a reputation for being among the most progressive in Canada; and here, surely, is a measure which they should support 100 per cent in their own interests as well as in the wider interests of the Province. Agriculture Minister MacRae has cited instances of carelessness in the disposal of poisonous material which have resulted in serious losses in cattle as well as in the pollution of at least seven trout streams. Human lives are also endangered.

Mr. MacRae suggests that the use of poisonous potato killers be discontinued altogether, as there are safer substitutes on the market. He also emphasizes the danger of farmers filling their spraying machines with water from streams which become mixed with the toxic chemicals.

The same urgent warnings are being sounded, we note, in other areas across the country and in the United States. The carelessness, it seems, is widespread; but that doesn't make the consequences any more acceptable. The situation calls for remedial measures before it gets out of hand completely.

Lord Home's Speech

One of the most arresting speeches heard in the United Nations General Assembly for a long time was that given this week by Britain's foreign secretary, the Earl of Home. What was extraordinary about it was the conviction expressed by the speaker that this Assembly session would mark "the beginning of the end of the cold war." This was based, not on wishful thinking, but on the evidence that Moscow has definitely abandoned as suicidal that part of the Communist doctrine which used major force to promote its political ends.

Soviet Premier Khrushchev's knowledge of what a nuclear war would mean, said Lord Home, is a fact of tremendous importance. It has led him to show a willingness "to split the Communist world in two" rather than adhere to a doctrine that war was inevitable. Serious problems remain, but "it is all gain if it is accepted by the Soviet Union and the Western allies that these problems must be settled by negotiation and not by the threat of force, however long and testing the negotiations may be."

What gives weight to these statements, says an American correspondent, "is that Lord Home is not Lord Russell." He is a tough-minded foreign minister who has been in the midst of the negotiations between United States Secretary Dean Rusk and Soviet Minister Gromyko. He is a frank-spoken diplomat who in private and public shows he is well aware of the pitfalls and impatiences ahead.

On another theme Lord Home was equally outspoken. He reminded the Afro-Asians that what some of them call "neocolonialism" is the

very private investment capital they most need to catch up with the West "A few more cases like that of Indonesia," he said bluntly, "and the supply of capital will dry up. . . All this talk of neocolonialism does is to play into the hands of racialism and poverty."

At another point he reminded his hearers that all roads do not necessarily lead to Communism or capitalism, or to any other sort of "ism." "My own country," he added, "is a mixed economy, with private enterprise working alongside public enterprise to the advantage of both. There are enough divisions between nations without artificially creating more."

Sound words from a sound man, that can be read by their light.

The Feud Goes On

A Globe and Mail reporter notes that at Ottawa Mr. Thompson and Mr. Caouette—principals in the split in Social Credit ranks—still are seagulls in the House of Commons, "but there appears to be an uneasy truce between them." To mark Monday's Social Credit re-election in British Columbia, they were orations in their lapels, as did the other members of both factions. But Mr. Thompson and his followers sported a white carnation, while Mr. Caouette's and his Creditists' were tinted green.

The flowers, of course, helped to denote who is supporting whom, just as in the famous Wars of the Roses in 15th century England, which incidentally were marked by a ferocity and brutality unparalleled in English history before or since. The Thompson-Caouette split hasn't reached that proportion, of course; but the newspaper scribes have dubbed it the Battle of the Carnations.

The House hasn't yet decided whether Mr. Caouette's group should be recognized as a distinctive political party—giving their leader the right to draw an extra \$4,000 indemnity—and the Creditists have launched a blockade which they threaten to continue against the Government's money supply bill until the matter is settled, and they are given a preferred position over their rivals.

This is a matter of small concern to the country at large, except that the votes of these zealots, one way or the other, are so important in determining the wider issues before Parliament.

It would be a sorry case of the tail wagging the dog if they succeeded in forcing another general election over their wretched squabble. That's up to the other opposition parties, and we trust they'll keep this fact in mind.

A Good Sign

For 17 years the Bulletin of the Atomic Sciences, published in the United States, has carried on its cover a clock ticking off the minutes to the "hour of nuclear doom." The hands recently have been at about seven minutes to midnight. Last week they were moved back to 12 minutes to midnight—indicating the belief that mankind is a bit safer now than that the ban on nuclear testing in the atmosphere, under water and in outer space has been approved by the Senate.

When the clock was first used on the Bulletin cover the hands were at eight minutes to midnight. They have been moved four times. In October of 1949, when the Soviet Union exploded the atomic bomb, they went to three minutes to midnight. In September, 1953, when the Soviets and the United States developed the hydrogen bomb, they moved ahead to two minutes to midnight. In January, 1960, the hands moved back to seven minutes to midnight, for the editors believed that in the 15 years the bomb had existed there was a growing awareness and a desire to curb it.

Now the test ban treaty has improved the margin of man's safety in the view of the scientists.

EDITORIAL NOTE

Near Tashkent, in the central USSR, Soviet researchers are testing the resistance of various types of housing to simulated earthquake shocks. Explosive charges of up to 200 tons are set off to see how water and sewer pipes, gas mains and heating systems, as well as the structures themselves, stand up to the shock waves.



LET ALL BE HEARD

Wishful Thinking Will Not Solve Problem

Globe and Mail, Toronto

Most Canadians will share Mr. Pearson's aversion, expressed in his broadcast speech Sunday night, for the voices of extremism, but there does not seem to be much point in closing our ears to them. The problem of Quebec's place in Confederation will not be resolved by wishful thinking and good intentions, and the extremists are at least forerunners, including the Prime Minister, to do some serious thinking about the future.

Nor does there seem much sense in asking, as Mr. Pearson did, for the voices of reason and moderation to rise above those of the extremists. We can all agree with him that prejudice and bigotry should be attacked and rejected wherever they appear, but just who are the bigots and who are the moderates in this context?

Some elements with shrill voices, of course, can be ignored in any serious discussion of the future of Confederation. The PLAs-type terrorists in Quebec and the fanatical anti-papists in English-speaking Canada may be with us for some time, but they are of no account in determining the wider issues before Parliament.

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PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion of current events of national interest. The Editor does not accept responsibility for the opinions expressed. All letters published are subject to editing for brevity and clarity. The Editor is unable to enter into correspondence beyond the letters submitted.

SPORTSMEN'S RIGHTS

Sir—I think the majority of our people in this Province should be warned that they are in a dangerous position if they do not insist on their rights to use our worthwhile hunting resources and fishing sites in the Province. I am sure that the majority of our people would be glad to see the Province developed for the benefit of all its citizens. I am sure that the Province would be a better place if it were developed in this way.

OUR YESTERDAYS

(From The Guardian Files) October 5, 1963 Royal Canadian Mounted Police were investigating the whereabouts of the unidentified man from whom a family purchased the cannon boiler which exploded in Palmer's Road, Monday. The product was believed to have been made in the United States. The man was not the product of an established cannery.

TEN YEARS AGO

October 5, 1953 A beautiful copy of the Scriptures, the gift of the Church Office, Mr. Fred Smith, was dedicated yesterday morning at the Communion service in the Kirk of St. James, by the minister, Rev. T.H. Somers. The gift was made by the friends of Mr. J.R. Burnett, Mr. D.A. MacKinnon and Mr. A.E. Morrison, who were church elders for many years.

ON YOUR MARX - GET SET -

LET ALL BE HEARD

Wishful Thinking Will Not Solve Problem

strong in numbers or to enjoy extensive influence and their arguments be the whole question under discussion. Between these positions, however, there is the great body of confused and often contradictory Canadian opinion. Premier Jean Lesage and his Liberal Government in Quebec, for example, claim to be reasonable and moderate in the degree of autonomy they are seeking for their Province in Ontario and in other Provinces there are people with equally good claims to be regarded as moderate and reasonable who view the Quebec Government's position as a most serious threat to Confederation.

One of the difficulties in this Canadian dialogue appears to be a lack of definition in the terms being employed. Mr. Pearson borrowed a phrase from the Quebec nationalists when he spoke of recognizing "the French fact in Canada." This is a catchy piece of alliteration, but large and numerous in a major ceremonial center like Chichen Itza in the Yucatan. One of the seven ball courts in Chichen Itza measured 400 feet long by 20 feet wide. The other was only 65 by 20 feet. They were shaped like a capital I, with a massive wall rising along the length of each side. To play a ball, each player would stand at each open end, whippers would stand in the walls or knocking the ball into the opponents' end zone.

The Maya of Chichen Itza evolved a difficult variation requiring the ball to be driven into goals. These were ornately carved stone rings with 18-inch holes set into the walls 24 feet above the court.

Players who sent the ball through the ring—a rare event—were entitled to all the jewelry and clothing of all the spectators. So, instead of staying to cheer the ball, the spectators were able to get away while friends of the lucky athlete chased the most affluent to collect the loot.

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Work is now under way in preparing the ground and the building of a combination projection-room and auditorium which will, when completed, be Prince Edward Island's first modern drive-in theatre, with a parking area for 500 cars.

Blood Pressure And Card Games

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen Many people get so excited playing cards in the evening they have trouble sleeping. Others are calm and enjoy poker or gin rummy, but cannot sleep because they are unable to forget the evening's events and get all steamed up as they mull over their mistakes. I am a member of the second group, and although I enjoy cards, I'm sure it is not worth it.

A unique experiment was conducted on 30 men and women playing in a contest held by the American Duplicate Bridge Association. The investigation was done by bridge enthusiast, Dr. Milton Ende of Petersburg, Va. He was interested because, on several occasions during the contest, he noted a sudden pounding of the heart and flushing of the face.

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WE HAVE MANY ARTERIES

C.M.D. writes: If a person has hypertension, should he be given a diet which has heart disease? Not in the coronary arteries are plugged or narrowed to such an extent that the heart muscle can't receive enough blood to work efficiently.

AEROSOL THERAPY

S.M.S. writes: What is the aerosol treatment of bronchitis? The individual inhales a fine mist containing medications that help to loosen mucus and reduce inflammation.

LUMP ON INSTEP

A.B. writes: Since childhood, I have had a lump the size of a walnut on one instep. Can it be removed successfully? Yes, most of these growths are exostoses and need not be removed unless bothersome. A lump of this size may create a problem when walking, standing, or buying shoes. Nothing more need be said.

SULFA REACTIONS

P.B. writes: Can anything be taken with a sulfa drug to counteract the side effects? Nausea and indigestion can be minimized by taking the tablets after eating or with milk. In addition, drinking large amounts of water helps prevent the chemical from crystallizing in the urine and forming stones.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT—

Paint the top and bottom steps of your basement stairs so they can be seen easily.

NOTES BY THE WAY

It's a safe bet that the hooding liquor found in a hearse in Ohio didn't die of old age—Chatham News.

The French sent two rats into space in 1962. Next month the country's scientists will launch a cat into space. That seems to be a most unfair handicap for the cat—Fort William Times Journal.

Passport Grief

Minneapolis Star If the United Nations conference on international travel and tourism in Rome, can do something about the annoying hodgepodge of procedures in handling tourists' passports it will be a great relief to millions of travelers.

There is very little uniformity about the way passports are handled at ports of entry in various foreign countries. For example, a traveler coming up to stamp all passports in a bunch. Yet in some other city, the traveler will find he has to "queue" to get his passport stamped.

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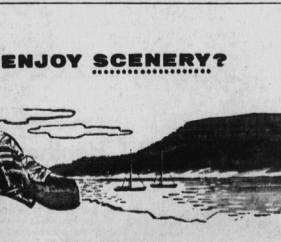
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COME TO NOVA SCOTIA FOR A LIGHT HEARTED FLING

There's nothing so stimulating as a change of scene. For a real tonic, come to Nova Scotia. Enjoy a holiday of endless enchantment, refreshed by pine-scented woods and the salty tang of the sea. You can picnic on a mountain top, beside the blue waters of a lake or on the shores of the Atlantic. You will find scenery so lovely it will bring a fresh zest for living into your life.

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