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FRIDAY, DEC. 6, 1957

Not Burdensome

In order to expedite progression of the present session of Parliament a majority of members has approved a Government plan to speed up the dispatch of business. To this end, the house will sit from 2.30 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays. The usual meal time breaks of 1 1/2 hours in the morning and 2 hours in the evening will continue. It is reported, too, though not as yet officially confirmed, that there will be a one-week adjournment for Christmas beginning Dec. 21 and one day off to celebrate the New Year.

Almost anyone outside the Commons would say that the arrangements proposed are reasonable and not likely to work any great hardship on any honourable member. It seems, however, that it does not please everybody in the House. Mr. Low, leader of the Social Credit Party, is particularly displeased at what he calls a "not so decent" Christmas holiday. He would like to run from Dec. 21 to Jan. 6.

Mr. Low needs to be reminded that many thousands of citizens who work as hard as members of Parliament do and who are rendering just as important a service to Canada are quite content with a one or two day respite from work in the Christmas season. As for the stepped-up work schedule, it surely is not burdensome. Allowing for the meal periods 3 1/2 hours a day—it works out to about 32 hours a week. That should leave plenty of time for members to catch up on their correspondence, departmental contacts and other chores which demand their attention.

A Risky Proposal

A group of prominent churchmen and educators, forty-eight of them, has asked President Eisenhower to declare a moratorium on the testing of nuclear weapons and to trust to the Soviet Union to take similar action. In forwarding the proposal the group quoted a resolution of last summer's meeting of the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches which said that "Christians are justified in asking their governments to forego tests of nuclear weapons for a trial period in the hope that others will do the same, a new confidence be born and foundations laid for reliable agreements."

This is not a new idea. In one form or another it has been part of the pacifist tradition for many years. Nor is it confined to those who make pacifism a fetish. Some two or three years ago a member of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission suggested something of the sort. His argument was that, since there seemed to be no hope of agreement between the West and Soviet Russia, the United States—then the strongest nuclear power—would be justified in stopping the tests. If the Soviets followed suit, well and good. If not, they could be resumed and no harm would be done.

Doubtless, all such representations are well meant. And it is certain that the United States Government, and the British Government too, would like nothing better than to put an end to a program which is full of danger. But would they not be taking a fearful chance, especially now that the Russians appear to be in the lead in missile development and the like? What if they deliberately fell behind in the race and in course of time discovered that the free world was at the mercy of the Russian Communists? The judgment of history on the steps prompted by the best of

"Something Definite"

Mr. J. W. Pickersgill, who evidently is set himself up as a trustee officer for the Commons, has been taught a lesson in deportment and perhaps in the proper concept of parliamentary duties by the Conservative member for Waterloo South, Mr. William Anderson.

Speaking in Galt, Mr. Anderson's home town, the former Immigration Minister observed that he had never seen Mr. Anderson in the House and doubted whether any other M.P. had. Commenting on this careless statement, which he called a "statement of the lowest order," the member for Waterloo South stated that he has been attending sessions regularly but has not yet made a speech because he wanted to wait until he had "something definite" to contribute. Whereupon, Mr. Pickersgill expressed regret for "not having noticed" the honourable gentleman and promised not to make the same mistake again.

Leaving Mr. Pickersgill to his repentance, one is constrained to say that if all members of Parliament were to refrain from making long speeches until such time as they had "something definite" to say, Parliament and the country in general would benefit from the experiment. A study of Hansard at any given time will reveal thousands of words which served no useful purpose whatsoever. It is probably safe to say that for every statement which really touches on the nation's business and helps to stimulate thought and action, there are at least a dozen inert declamations, interruptions, repetitions and plain inanities, which like the loud laugh speak of the vacant mind. It would not do, of course, for freshmen members to be tongue-tied at all times. But there is little danger of that. The great temptation is chronic verbosity. Wise is he who steers clear of it.

EDITORIAL NOTES

By unanimous vote the British Parliament has decided to erect a monument in the precincts of the Palace of Westminster to Earl Balfour, the author of the Balfour Declaration which had a good deal to do with the founding of the modern Israeli state.

Is a Provincial Government Leader a Prime Minister or a Premier?

—A House of Commons inquiry by Mr. James Sinclair (Liberal member for Coast-Caplanon). He said Prime Minister Diefenbaker correctly referred Mr. Diefenbaker as "Mr. Diefenbaker" and "Mr. Diefenbaker" respectively. Mr. Diefenbaker correctly answered that "... you take your own choice," Ontario and Quebec, as it happens, use both terms.

Dr. Albert Schweitzer, the famed medical missionary, must surely be considered one of the great men of the age, if not the greatest. Now in his 83rd year he has gone back to his leper hospital in French Equatorial Africa after spending a few months in his native Alsace. He says he has not even thought of retiring, there being so much that needs to be done.

According to Focus, a magazine published by the American Geographical Society, Australia is expecting a 24 per cent increase in population in the next ten years. It has increased 27 per cent since 1945. 1.5 million immigrants have settled there since the end of the war. It is still a sparsely populated continent, however—9 million persons in an area the size of the United States.

Legally, Lt.-Col. the Hon. J. Keiller Mackay, newly-appointed Ontario Lieutenant-Governor, will be able to retain his \$9,600 annual pension as a judge of the Ontario supreme court when he assumes the \$10,000 annual vice-regal post on December 30. The Ontario Lieutenant-Governor carries a tax-free expense allowance of \$12,000 annually, so that Lt.-Gov. Mackay's total income of \$31,600 annually would make him the fourth highest paid public official in Canada. He will be next behind Donald Gordon, CNR president, \$75,000 annually; James Coyne, Bank of Canada governor, \$50,000 annually; and Prime Minister Diefenbaker, \$37,000 annually.

WORTH EXPLORING ANYWAY. Our Closest Neighbour. National Geographic Society. Due to the weaker pull of gravity on the moon, a strong man who could lift 3,000 pounds on the earth could lift 1,000 pounds on the moon. A seven-year-old child could break the high jump records of Olympic champions. A large canoe could row a shot completely around the moon.

WORTH EXPLORING ANYWAY. Our Closest Neighbour. National Geographic Society. The origin of the moon and the way of the solar system is much debated among astronomers. The plan, recently proposed, is possibly the most generally accepted theory at present. This theory holds that another star once passed close to the sun, the earth's star. The passing star pulled matter away from the sun. By the action of gravity, the matter collected into the planets and satellites of our solar system, including the earth and its moon.

WORTH EXPLORING ANYWAY

Our Closest Neighbour

Due to the weaker pull of gravity on the moon, a strong man who could lift 3,000 pounds on the earth could lift 1,000 pounds on the moon. A seven-year-old child could break the high jump records of Olympic champions. A large canoe could row a shot completely around the moon. The moon revolves about the earth at exactly the same average rate it turns on its axis. Hence, no one has seen the moon's other side.

The visible face of the moon is a lifeless desert. Its principal features are enormous mountains—some higher than the highest on the earth and innumerable craters, not entirely agreed on as to their number. Some have estimated some 32,000 craters, and unquestionably many more exist. The surface of the moon may be covered by a thin layer of ash dust, although astronomers do not entirely agree on this. The mountains and craters are rugged, because there is no rain or wind to soften their features.

The most exact look at atmosphere here means that humans would hear no sound on the moon, but they would see more clearly than on the earth. For this reason, astronomers are making constructing observatories on the moon to get a better view of the universe. From the moon, the earth would probably look like a blue globe in a black sky. The continents would be faintly visible on cloudless days. The earth would appear to be blue because its oceans reflect more light than the land. The sky would be black because the moon's almost non-existent atmosphere would not scatter any light rays at all.

Subversion of The Intellect

Walter O'Hearn in the Montreal Star. The time has come to re-examine not only the ethics and methods of the cinema companies which employ him. This would not be necessary if Presley had been a one-shot artist, but he is not. He has made three films, each of them successful, and more are being made. So far, America's answer to Laska has worked for a different company each time, but his first for Twentieth-Fox was "Love Me Tender," a nice little western, made mainly thanks to his presence. The second for Paramount was "Hillbilly," "Love Me Tender," a sharp, ironic look at the popular music circuit, made mainly thanks to his presence. This was comparable to that of a bottled specimen in a laboratory. The third film, "Hillbilly," "Hillbilly Rock" flouts the MGM banner and was produced by Paramount. It is a comedy.

"Hillbilly" might have been assembled by a literary group. It is an uneasy combination of the sentimental and the comic. The Presley is revealed as a young fellow who doesn't know his own strength and goes to prison for manslaughter. Here comes under the influence of a southern, comic, fiddle-shaunty man who teaches him his own jungle philosophy and the tricks of the trade. A thoroughly embittered young man leaves the pen and claws his way out, popularly leaving a trail of disillusioned partners in his wake. His former cellmate, now turned drinking companion and valet, gives him his come-uppance. This leads to the most improbable reformer since Trebitsh Lincoln turned Buddhist. CHAP EXHIBITISM. I do not wish to tarry over this film, save to note that Shaughnessy gives fine performance and that Vaughn Taylor, cast as a sardonic lawyer and part-time carrier, carries the sort of popular art and still is fulfilling it. The picture is a masterpiece of the gurgling, incoherent lewdness which dribs from that immature, but becoming, exhibition. The sheer, animate vulgarity of Presley's act is enough to drive a thoughtful viewer back to the wall with Spengler, mourning the decline of the West. The answer to the problem is not more censorship, but self-control by the men who control the studios. Responsible citizens should contribute themselves to their libraries and their art collections, and contribute heavily to charity campaigns and education. Must be hard not to utilize their property with this drop in public taste. It is illogical to denounce political subversion and to collaborate in subversion of the intellect. Nor can you justify everything by the example of the "People Who Want. Some people want marks?"

Cold Cream For Skin Chapping

By Herman N. Budsens, M.D. Try cold cream for protection during cold weather. Skin chapping is a universal problem, but it is especially likely to occur in cold dry weather. Cold cream is the best protection for your skin. Under such climatic conditions, the air absorbs more water than usual from your skin. As it is, most American women have dry, cracked, and itchy skin. FLAKING AND ROUGHNESS. To apply a creamy film to the skin, you are apt to develop flaking and roughness on your face. Unless proper treatment is begun, the chapped areas might become cracked, red and swollen. Really bad chapping sometimes results in open bleeding and crusting.

CREAMY FILM. Probably the best way of preventing chapping, and also treating it after it has occurred, is to apply a creamy film to the exposed areas. This helps cut the skin's water loss. Cream is the simplest way of doing this, as it is cold cream on the face. Most cold creams today are soothed with glycerine. Applying cold cream before exposure to a frosty day will prevent chapping. Using it on areas already chapped soothes the irritation and provides protection from further injury. DON'T USE SOAP. Soap should avoid washing the chapped areas any more than is necessary. And then use a soap which is free from soap or detergents. Be sure to dry the skin thoroughly after each washing. The use of water makes the skin more susceptible to chapping. While cold cream generally can be applied to normal skin without harm, it might be well for anyone with excessively oily skin conditions, such as acne, to avoid its use.

QUESTION AND ANSWER. J.B. Is it true that there is a blood test for cancer? Answer: Up to the present time, no accurate practical test has been devised to detect cancer by means of a blood test. However, research is being carried out toward this end.

The Age Old Story

Into the upright their ariseth light in the darkness, he is grateful, full of compassion, and righteous. My father could hear a little animal step. Or the moon in the dark against the screen, and every far sound called to me in the night time and was in places where the rest of us had never been.

The Poets Corner

My father could hear a little animal step. Or the moon in the dark against the screen, and every far sound called to me in the night time and was in places where the rest of us had never been.

PUBLIC FORUM

MR. HEE'S STATEMENT. Sir.—In the Guardian of November 20th there is a report of the many proposals which have been put forward by members of Mr. Macdonald's cabinet. I am particularly interested in making a few points about what was going on in OMA.

OUR YESTERDAYS (From The Guardian Files) TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (Dec. 6, 1932) Citizen of Summerside extended an on Saturday a warm welcome to the Hon. Robert Weir, Federal Minister of Agriculture, on the occasion of his first visit to P.E. I. Mr. Weir was met at Borden by Mr. Shelton Sharp, Minister of Public Works. They proceeded directly to Summerside where they met prominent breeders and discussed matters pertaining to the fish industry.

TEN YEARS AGO (Dec. 6, 1947) The Provincial situation in Ontario is better than a year ago if figures of the local employment office are any criterion. Mr. B. M. Murrin, Manager of the local office said recently, "The Charlottetown office, he said, is at the present time as compared with 600 a year ago.

Getting in line with other provinces, the Charlottetown branch of the Canadian Legion will sponsor a Christmas tree for disabled veterans. The tree will be decorated on Christmas Eve. Parcels will be wrapped and distributed to the veterans. It will be arranged by Contact Club members and the Overseas Nursing Sisters Association.

NOTES BY THE WAY

A woman shoplifter in Manchester, England was arrested as she staggered from a store with a large store, picked up of course, in a moment of weakness. Toronto Telegram. Those who know can't agree whether the young driver of a good or bad risk at the wheel of an automobile. A doctor we know has what he considers a logical approach. His offering are as follows: 1. The driver should be a young man, 2. He should be a member of the automobile club, 3. He should be a member of the first year. Daytime driving should be restricted to the second or third year to use of the car at night. Detroit Free Press.

There is no knowing where your next source of inspiration may come from. Take the case of the beggars at the Hindu temple at Shrirangpur in India. As the beggars noticed that offerings of sugar left by the devotees were disappearing they further discovered that the sugar, grain by grain, was being carried off by the industrious ants. So inspired were the beggars that they went out and got jobs.—London Times. A halibut weighing 500 pounds arrived at Grimby in the boat trawler Stockholm. The fish was caught in the White Sea. When auctioned on the fish market it was bought by the owners of the trawler, the Boss group for £20. The halibut is estimated to be between six and seven years old.—London Times.

Nearly thirty million tons of fish were caught through out the world in 1956, according to a report by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. This represents an increase of ten million tons over production in Japan remains far in the lead with a total catch of four and a half million metric tons last year. Second largest fish-producing country in the United States, followed by China, the Soviet Union, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and India.—United Nations Bulletin.

Attending an agricultural conference in Leningrad, Mr. Nikita Khrushchev was surprised to learn that the problem of getting "an upsurge in cabbage production" had not been solved. He said all the farmers had to do was to grow cabbages like his grandmother did. Plans good sprouts at the right time and water them. Thus it appears that in Russia, as in Canada, public men sometimes need to be reminded of the value of telling the farmers how to farm.—Ottawa Citizen.

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DID YOU KNOW?

The main objects of the Prince Edward Island Tuberculosis League are to help prevent the spread of tuberculosis by assisting in the early discovery of the disease before it becomes contagious, and to carry out an educational programme chiefly through the distribution of appropriate literature to school children, etc. This voluntary organization needs your help. Buy and use Christmas Seals.

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