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"The strongest member is weaker than the weakest ink" - FRIDAY, MAY 11, 1962

Firm Nuclear Policy

Prime Minister Diefenbaker's assurance that Canada will not join the nuclear family as long as there is any hope for disarmament is a statement of major importance. It should be treated as such by his political opponents, who have charged the Government with having no policy in this matter, or, conversely, with having already committed the country to nuclear responsibilities in its dealings with the United States.

But with an election campaign on, it is unlikely that either Mr. Pearson or Mr. Douglas will be prepared to applaud the Prime Minister's latest pronouncement. We have no doubt, however, that its forthrightness will be noted in other countries, on both sides of the Iron Curtain, as indicative of the leadership which Canada is striving to give in a wholehearted drive toward world arms reduction.

Mr. Diefenbaker made his statement at Brockville, Ontario, and repeated it three times, as if to make sure that its significance would be driven home. Not only was it indicative of Canada's determination not to join in the nuclear arms race on its own account, but it implied the resolve to oppose, in every way possible, the expansion of nuclear weapons on the part of other powers, beyond those who now have them.

This is the only way in which Canada, in the eyes of uncommitted nations, can hope to stand forth as a champion for disarmament. We may regret that the Government's policy was not announced earlier, but it is no secret that there was division in the Cabinet on the subject, and that, in particular, Defense Minister Harkness and External Affairs Minister Green were repeatedly at odds as to the course to be followed. Mr. Green has consistently opposed Canada's entry into the nuclear arms race, and it would appear that he has won his point. His position, if the Government is returned after June 18, will be greatly strengthened at the United Nations, at Geneva and elsewhere as a result. And in any case, Canada's stand as of now leaves no room for misinterpretation.

Denies the Rumor

Some time ago we referred to a widespread rumor that Prime Minister Diefenbaker had promised the last caucus of Conservative MPs that seasonal salaries would be raised from \$10,000 to \$15,000 if his government was returned to office. We were perturbed at this rumor, for we considered such a promise to be quite improper; and we suggested that, if incorrect, it should be repudiated. We note now that on a recent visit to Fort William, Mr. Diefenbaker denied the report out of hand. It was, he said, "simply not true."

This denial does not necessarily mean that members' pay will not be increased during the next Parliamentary term, regardless of which party government is in power. It does mean that there has been no prior commitment by his followers on the Prime Minister's part, and we accept that assurance unreservedly.

Meanwhile, it is interesting to note that the Carleton, candidate for the Social Credit party, Mr. Harold H. Spelt, has come out on a plank of his own on this issue. He pro-

posed to ent parliamentary indemnities by 50 per cent. MPs now receive an annual indemnity of \$8,000 plus a tax-free allowance of \$2,000. The allowance Mr. Spelt would leave unchanged, but he would slash the indemnity in half, leaving future members of Parliament—such as, he hopes, himself—with \$6,000 to keep on each year.

Mr. Spelt hasn't explained how, unaided, he could achieve this reform. The general feeling among former members, at least, runs all the other way. But he contends that the general trend towards higher wages must stop somewhere, and that MPs' pay is the proper place. Further, he maintains that money should not be needed to entice "honest and sincere men" into the service of the nation.

Mr. Diefenbaker didn't say, at the Fort William meeting, whether he had made any pledge along this line at the Conservative caucus referred to. He was explicit only on not having promised an increase. So it is possible there is a secret compact among Conservatives to put through salary-cuts for themselves if elected; possible that Mr. Spelt has got wind of it, and is now pluming himself in borrowed feathers. Possible, we concede, but highly unlikely! Human nature being what it is, we venture to predict that our next parliamentarians will be as unwilling as their predecessors to pass self-denying ordinances of any kind.

Tremendous Progress

Education goes on apace, and the most recent world-wide survey by Unesco has something of high significance to report on this matter. It reveals that about 71,000,000 children are enrolled in high schools or the equivalent of secondary education in about 200 countries and territories. Most of these children (30,100,000) are in Europe, including the Soviet Union; 26,200,000 are in Asia, including Mainland China; 12,500,000 are in both continents of America; 1,400,000 in Africa; and 600,000 in Oceania, including Australia and New Zealand.

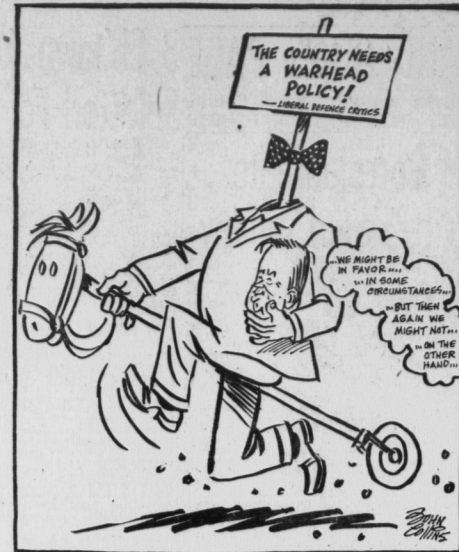
Although the total number of children in high schools now represents only 2.6 per cent of the world's estimated total population, the study forecasts an "explosion" of the enrollment in the near future. For example, the percentage in the United States has risen in recent years from 50 to 73 per cent; in Ceylon from 11 to 42 per cent; in the Netherlands from 35 to 87 per cent; in France from 13 to 42 per cent; in Chile from 12 to 27 per cent; and in Australia from 25 to 65 per cent.

This trend, evident in Canada as elsewhere, is of prime significance for the future. It could spell a new age of enlightenment, unprecedented in all history; of progress culturally and spiritually as well as materially. It could lead to disaster if the old hates and animosities, the old fears and suspicions, which we inherited from darker ages, are not eradicated. Education is supposed to do just that, but it has been prostituted, too often, to other aims. There is hope, at least, in this amazing advance in education throughout the world, and in the prospects it holds out for greater understanding and co-operation among the nations.

EDITORIAL NOTES

According to Mr. Hugh R. Montgomery, president of the Canadian Construction Association, the volume of wintertime construction in Canada is higher on a per capita basis than in any other country. Mr. Montgomery gave credit to the work done by the building research division of the National Research Council in achieving this result.

The island of Rum, off the western coast of Scotland, has been taken over by the Nature Conservancy Board, which intends to change the spelling to "Rhum". This action has been denounced by Sir Compton Mackenzie, the well-known novelist, who calls it a childish piece of Victorian gentility. "It all began," he says, "when a man who bought the island in the '60s century decided the name Rum was a bit common, so he struck an 'h' in it." Perhaps a compromise can be reached. Rum was originally known as "Rumbullion", and this name could safely be revived without any vulgar connotations today.



THE HEADLESS HORSEMAN INTO SPACE TOGETHER

Launcher Development Organization By Keith Bean United Kingdom Information Service

Seven governments have now signed the convention establishing the European Launcher Development Organisation (ELDO)—Australia, Belgium, France, West Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Britain. The organization will be setting up its headquarters in Paris within the next month or two. Already scientists and engineers from the member countries have been working in co-ordination on the technical details.

The birth of ELDO is significant not only as creating a major third force in the exploration of space but also because it demonstrates a real potential which West Europe can mobilize when it sets itself to a co-ordinated co-operative effort.

Britain, particularly, has conducted a vigorous space research programme since 1953 and France has ambitious plans, but by combining together and joining their European neighbours and the Australians they make possible a comprehensive advance on a wide front.

A questionnaire circulated last year revealed that some 25 research groups in a dozen European countries were interested in space research and had in mind some 150 experiments.

These countries—besides the European members of the ELDO group, they comprise Austria, Denmark, Norway, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland—are expected to sign another convention about the middle of this year, which will establish a European Space Research Organisation (ESRO). The initial eight-year programme, which is the preliminary commission has worked out envisages the launching of some 140 sounding rockets, 22 small earth satellites, eight deep space probes, four stabilised astronomical satellites and two moon satellites. It is expected that ELDO launchers will be used to put up the Esro satellites.

Such a prospect would obviously put a big strain on resources of even the richest European nation, but when countries combine to mobilise their finance and their brain power it becomes plain practical.

The first five years of ELDO programme are expected to call for an expenditure of nearly £70 million of which Britain will contribute £27 million and the initial Esro programme can be very roughly estimated at £100 million of which Britain will contribute a quarter.

Australia's accession to ELDO makes it possible to use the Woomera rocket range for launching satellites. British scientists are already contributing to the valuable and extensive efforts of Australian scientists in the Esro research programme. Fifty-one Skykay sounding rockets and some Black Knight rockets have been launched from Woomera which, as the only permanent range in the southern hemisphere, provides data unique for those latitudes.

In addition the ELDO and Esro projects will doubtless have for their disposal ranges already set up by other member countries such as the French range in the desert and the Italian range in Sardinia as well as the Esro range in Chile.

India and Communist China have exchanged declarations of mutual friendship and have agreed to refrain from military clashes on their common frontier. Each, in effect, threatens armed action to eject troops of the other that have advanced to new posts in territory which Delhi says is Indian and Peking claims is Chinese.

India is already fighting a costly rebellion of Naga tribesmen, defending herself against Chinese encroachments along the McMahon line and continuing Chinese intrigues in Sikkim, Bhutan and Nepal.

Despite this, India is also intensifying its relations with Pakistan and Kashmir. Defence Minister Meon served notice on the United Nations that India would not accept any previous undertakings for a permanent settlement in the disputed state, demanded by Pakistan, and rejects even the offer of a ceasefire. India's acquisition of nuclear capability by action of a Hindu cabinet, which has been announced, he declares, is "a complete and final" India's

Sex Education Is Responsibility Of All Parents

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen MANY PARENTS asked the late Dr. Logan Clendinning to tell the secrets of life to their adolescents. He confessed it was a subject embarrassed him as he usually tried to pass the job back to the parents. On one occasion a mother protested that unless he instructed the child, Junior would learn sex in the gutter.

Dr. Clendinning replied: "The gutter is a very good school to learn the facts of life from the gutter—a modernized version of course. Love is portrayed as having profound emotional experience. The appeal depending somewhat upon the type of soap, all pollutants or clichés that are being advertised by mass media.

This is not the most desirable way to pass along the information that life is handed down from generation to generation. The parents should be advised and physically implicated.

Sex education is the responsibility of the parents and not of the school, church, or physician. Parents should be made aware of the security of the family. But some parents cannot use the right words or become embarrassed easily.

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Parents ought to take advantage of the sex period when children go through a surge of interest in sex. The first urge when they are in the fifth or sixth grade; the next in high school, usually as juniors; the last, while in college. Use the correct terms, answer the questions according to the age level, and say only as much as Junior desires—and no more.

Dr. Van Dellen will send list of books and pamphlets on sex education of children if a stamped, self-addressed envelope accompanies request.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

The country will never be betrayed by a man who eats mince pie as a midnight snack. It wouldn't feel well enough.—Brandon Star.

The French government sent office in New York noted in a recent travel bulletin that France could fit into Texas and still leave room enough for a state the size of New York. We don't mind France moving in so much, as long as New York stays right where it is.—Dallas Morning News.

Spectators remained breathless at a concert in Hamilton when they saw a wisp fly into the open mouth of a singer. The singer had the presence of mind to keep his mouth open and to let forth a note that blew the wisp out of the danger area. He received luminous applause.—Stockholm Aftonbladet.

A palate for food, as far as training and practice, and that may be started in childhood. It is a scientific fact that a taste buds inside the mouth with which we tell the difference between sweet, sour, bitter and salt, are more sensitive in a child than in an adult. So when the toddler turns up his nose at a lachrymose cod fish, or throws half his lunch milk puddling on the floor, he's really showing the first signs of a discerning palate. Do we encourage him? Not at all.—BBC Broadcast.

The Blue Peter Steamship, Ltd. M.V. Blue Peter, arrived in Charlottetown May 8, on her first trip of the season. After looking on cargo, the ship will be taken on St. Pierre and St. John's, Nfld., and from there to Boston. This is the second year of operation between Charlottetown and St. John's for the Blue Peter, a modern 1112-ton vessel, built in 1944.—BBC Broadcast.

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OUR YESTERDAYS (From the Guardian Files) TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (May 11, 1937) C. B. Stewart of Norboro and R. G. Lewis, were included in the prize list of the Faculty of Medicine at Dalhousie University, announced last night. Mr. Stewart won the \$100 prize for anatomy, awarded for special work and efficiency in that subject. He also won the Dr. W.H. Hatfield prize for medicine and therapeutics, was won by Mr. Lee. Firemen fought a roof fire at the residence of C.H.B. Long on Fitzroy Street for the second time last night. The blaze was believed to have originated from a chimney pipe. The large portion of the roof was damaged and three rooms of the house suffered water damage.

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