

have been extravagant"; "I believe we have wasted some of the public money, perhaps 1% of it, perhaps more, perhaps even 10%"; "We were not as watchful as we should have been to see that there was no dishonesty, no extravagance, no inefficiency, no waste".

No one is so simple as to suppose that Mr. Smallwood said these things, or any one of them, just to help out his political opponents. He feels, no doubt, that the favourable psychological reaction to his candour will more than compensate for any loss of confidence in the Government that might develop from his confession. In that he may be right. At any rate, he has contributed something new and entertaining to political campaigning tactics.

Unflattering Appraisal

Sometimes it looks as though Soviet diplomats regard their Western counterparts as morons who don't know the difference between a pledge and a guarantee. The latest exhibition of this unflattering appraisal was given in Washington at the atoms-for-peace conference. The American delegate, backed by all his Western colleagues, proposed that all countries having bilateral agreements for the exchange of atomic materials for peaceful purpose should agree to some sort of mutual control system which would make certain that the materials would in fact be used for non-military purposes. It is hard to see how any country with honest intentions could possibly disagree with that kind of proposal. However the Soviet delegate called it "an attempt to infringe on the sovereignty of nations" and said it would be quite enough for countries sharing in the plan to give a "pledge" against misuse of the materials and from time to time report to the international agency just how they were being utilized.

That, of course, would be tantamount to giving a nifty aggressive nation permission to go ahead and convert atoms for peace into instruments of war at its discretion. Yet, apparently, the Soviet delegate thinks that eventually the West will grow tired of the whole controversy and submit to the Soviet will in the matter. He practically said as much in his speech to the conference. Yes, there is only one explanation for it: the Russians think that all Western diplomats are feeble-minded.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Montague Junior Board of Trade believes in preaching traffic safety rules by example. Its members have set to work painting cross walks on all the streets of their town for the use of school children. These safety zones will reduce the accident toll and contribute to the general welfare of the whole community.

Premier Fleming of New Brunswick says that the present fiscal policy of the Federal Government, as reflected in anti-inflationary measures of the Bank of Canada, is "about as sensible as a man with 10 children feeding them all custer oil regardless of their individual needs." This is not the sort of language that professional economists would use in discussing fiscal matters but it probably sums up the situation just as well.

Something New

A couple of weeks ago reference was made in these columns to an announcement by Premier Smallwood of Newfoundland that in his first speech in the current election campaign he would "attack" himself and his Government for their failures and mistakes since they were first elected to office. Well, the speech has been delivered; and one feels like suggesting that its unusual character entitles it to safe keeping in the historic Newfoundland Museum. Mr. Smallwood criticized himself in such a thorough-going fashion that it left the Opposition with little to do in the campaign.

Here are a few excerpts from it, as reported by the Canadian Press: "My errors in judging people have sometimes cost the public a lot. I will do my best to learn from past mistakes, but if I am to be strictly honest with you tonight I cannot and I will not guarantee that I will never again be taken in"; "I could list dozens of mistakes"; "I firmly believe that in some of our work we



WHERE WE HAVE THE ADVANTAGE

Cape Route Costs

By Patrick Seale, United Kingdom Information Office

The Suez Canal crisis is at its peak. The decisions taken in the next few days may vitally affect not only the future of the waterway but also the rate of economic development of much of the Middle East and Asia.

A vast change in the pattern of world trade and communications is being planned which would mean at least a slow death for Egypt's prosperous area—a sharp fall in revenue for Middle Eastern oil producing countries and severe dislocation of the industrial plans of India, Pakistan and Ceylon.

The issues are clear out. Colonel Nasser has not budged from his thesis that the management and control of the Suez Canal must be in the hands of the Egyptian Government. He has shown a display of outdated nationalism, the traditional users of the canal are unwilling to trust their vital trade to Nasser's political good faith and managerial competence. They have therefore made plans which, at substantial short-term cost to themselves, will at least free them from Egyptian pressure.

GATHERING MOMENTUM In the last few weeks evidence of this flexibility has been reported almost daily and plans to bypass the canal in favour of the route round the Cape Good Hope have been gathering momentum.

Committees in Europe and the U.S.A. have made detailed arrangements to divert Western Hemisphere oil to Europe should a drop in Middle Eastern supplies follow a boycott of the canal. U.S.A. surplus oil estimates. U.S.A. surplus oil capacity could easily meet these needs. Some 26 U.S. reserve fleet tankers could be brought into transatlantic service. The construction of super-tankers—too large in any case for the canal and capable of rounding the Cape economically—has been given greater urgency.

Latest reports suggest the U.S. Government would contemplate subsidizing giant tanker building. Already some 300 such tankers are under construction in world shipyards. Britain is giving acute attention to a 13,000 million terminal at Milford Haven, a terminal capable of accommodating such tankers. Meanwhile, atomic power plants are to be developed to relieve undue dependence upon oil.

Arrangements for the provisioning, bunkering and watering of ships diverted round the Cape are being finalized. Plans to provide more bunkering points in Durban Harbour have been put into operation. Dakar in French West Africa—claiming 30 berthing places—has been reminding transit ships that it is one of the cheapest refuelling ports in the world because of the low freight charges to carry oil from the refineries of Curaçao. But what of the effect of these

changes on Egypt's Middle Eastern and Asian friends? Excepting Egypt herself, it is in these countries that the Suez crisis carries the most menace.

Almost half the southbound cargoes through the Suez in 1955 consisted of machinery and manufactured metals. India, Pakistan, Burma and Ceylon received 65 per cent of India's foreign trade goods through the canal as opposed to only 18 per cent of Britain's. An important point is that only a fraction of India's trade is carried in Indian ships. Foreign tonnage is mainly supplied by British, Norwegian, Dutch, Japanese and American lines.

All these factors apply equally to neighbouring countries. Passengers to the Far East will be hit by the 20 per cent surcharge that the P and O Line have just introduced as a result of the Cape diversion, while Colombo Port itself will lose an estimated 10,000 tons of business for every large liner that bypasses it on its Cape route to Australia.

MAIN VICTIMS But, of course, the port to suffer most will be Port Said. One of the busiest ports in the world and the scheme by the Egyptian Government, Port Said is now threatened with decline. Not only are local businessmen, shipping agents and suppliers faced with bankruptcy, but a major effect of U.S.A. support for the proposed Canal Users' Association will be to deny Egypt dollars now being paid her "un-der protest" as canal dues. Without this source of hard currency and denied the use of sterling, Egypt's slender reserves will be under great strain.

Apart from the countries dependent for development and trade on western equipment and shipping, the main victims of Nasser's intransigence will be the Middle East oil producers. The Cape route could carry less than half as much oil as the canal has been carrying. U.S. oil producers are eager to make up this difference. The net result would be a cut in Middle Eastern output. It is estimated there would be a drop of nearly a third in total Middle Eastern oil output and royalties of about half in those fields that depend most on the canal outlet.

Russians In Mediterranean

By William Courtenay

Britain's 250 year old policy of keeping the Russians out of the Mediterranean has been burst wide open by Nasser's acceptance of Russian aircraft and military experts. This is the most serious aspect of the Suez Canal trouble. In British eyes it is not Egypt but Russia who will control the Canal and its traffic, if the West accepts the Foster Dulles plan of sending ships via the Cape of Good Hope. It postpones the day when the issue has to be faced.

But Russia who for 250 years had sought a means of entering the Mediterranean had found another bypass across her vast Commonwealth to the sea, this is by Communist control of Albania. Russia is reported to have established a submarine base at Valona on the Adriatic opposite Italy. Thus while Britain for 250 years has held the Straits of Gibraltar thus preventing submarines or hostile ships from entering the Mediterranean, and while by alliances with Turkey the Dardanelles have also been controlled so that the Russians could neither send ships

nor submarines from the Black Sea into the Mediterranean, this sea now seems wide open to Russian penetration. It is a matter of concern as well as to Britain because the US 6th Fleet with its aircraft carriers now operates in the Mediterranean. And it is a matter of concern to all the NATO Powers there including France, Italy, Turkey and Greece.

From the Italian port of Brindisi, which British Overseas Airways used to employ for their flying boats, lie the Straits of Otranto and Valona is guarded by the small island of Saseo. If an airfield can be established at Valona or nearby then Russia fighters could protect the area from bombing attack; while Russian Bombers would have only 275 miles to fly to the American NATO naval base at Naples — a mere 30 minutes trip to an atomic bomber. It brings the British base at Malta within 475 miles of Valona by a mere 45 minutes flight. Cyprus the

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Sundesen, M. D.

CAN A SINGLE BLOW RESULT IN CANCER?

Despite a popular belief, it's doubtful that cancer can be caused by a single blow or other injury. At least, there is no established evidence that it can. In experiments with animals, scientists have been unable to produce cancer by a single mechanical injury. However, an injury or wound—we call it trauma in medical terminology—may aggravate existing cancer. Thus, it can actually help to shorten a cancer victim's life.

It has been claimed at times that cutting into a tumor, such as in making a biopsy, has caused dissemination of cancer cells and has aided the rapid spread of the disease.

HARD TO DISPROVE It is extremely difficult to disprove such claims and there is evidence supporting this theory. However, a study conducted by Dr. Smale of Sault Ste. Marie, at the present time a single acre of good pulpwood forest can be converted into \$1,500 worth of pulp and paper products and the same acre can repeat its values time and time again.—Forestry Association Bulletin

Perhaps it is comforting to know that our national credit is such that we can buy and buy and buy, without any real concern as to payment. It can drive a feeling of tremendous prosperity. But unless Canada intends to renege on its debts, we must remember that all of this trade must be paid for. In some way or another, our imports must be matched with export goods of comparable value.—Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph

Members of the North Bay's Police department are taking a course in judo as a means of handling violent prisoners. The police feel that if they become proficient in this renowned art of self defence the number of occasions when they will be required to use their pistols will be kept down to a minimum. Theirs is a wise decision.—North Bay Nugget

The Poets Corner

ELMS ON THE COAST

A tree is mostly water, so they tell us. I cannot see the elms without the thought That here are fountains in a wild, green, glistening Which fingers of the sky have somehow caught.

I once saw lines of them in coastal country Where silent waves backed them where they stood. I had the feeling they were like the ocean. That shouted in the storm and found it good.

The people who walked near them seemed so sturdy That no one looked to these and found a fault. The clouds of rain still played unfeeling on the elms still played And with the people touched the ocean salt. —Daniel Smythe in the Christian Science Monitor.

The Age Old Story

And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (September 29, 1931) Mr. H. T. Colvin, Summerside, was elected president at the annual meeting of the P.E.I. Optometric Association and J. S. Taylor, Charlottetown, vice president. Named on the Board of Examiners were G. F. Hutchison, T. H. Colvin, L. R. Romecke, F. G. Hutchison and H. J. Mabon.

TEN YEARS AGO

(September 29, 1946) Monsignor Jean Chaisson, 94, oldest Roman Catholic priest in the Diocese of Charlottetown, died in Sacred Heart Home. He was a native of Tignish.

The first shipment of pure bred hogs ever to leave the Province for breeding purposes in Western Canada left here over the weekend. There were 41 hogs destined to 27 individual breeders in the Winnipeg and Edmonton areas.

RUSSIA'S PROBLEM

Russia would have to move her submarine in parts, by land across Europe to assemble them at this new base, but given another 4 years of peace and this can be achieved even at a leisurely pace while the Base is completed with all repair facilities; spares; and fuel for many years activities. It can be made self-contained. Since Russia's fleet of 400 submarines has only one objective—the destruction of Anglo-American shipping on all the world's seas in time of war—it follows she will strive to secure a foothold in the Mediterranean. Bared at either end she has sought this control of the sea in the centre so that such submarines could play havoc with shipping moving to and from the Suez Canal and Mediterranean ports.

When the Italians were tireless in days of peace around the Ethiopian period of trouble the Royal Navy practised depth charge manoeuvres in suspected areas; this soon brought them to the surface! No doubt both British and American fleets will indulge these manoeuvres in the Straits of Otranto with Italy's aid to this time—when ever presence of Russian subs is suspected. This would either send them scurrying back to their pens, compel them to surface (when we could count them); or keep some permanently underwater!

MAXIMS

Perseverance is more prevailing than violence; and many things which cannot be overcome when they are together, yield themselves up when taken little by little.

REALTORS TO MEET

HALIFAX (CP)—Registrars expect about 200 delegates at the Canadian Association of Real Estate Boards' 13th annual conference here Oct. 1-3. Speakers at the conference will include Realtor F. A. Seagrove of Hamilton, Ont., and novelist Dr. Will R. Bird.

BUY MAINE POTATOES

PRESQUE ISLE, Me. (AP)—Uruguay has purchased 9,000 bags—nearly 10,000,000 pounds—of Maine seed potatoes, the Maine Potato Council announced Saturday. Delivery to the South American country is scheduled between Oct. 10 and Dec. 5.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Prime Minister St. Laurent says he can see no need of a fall election. He figures the right party is still in power.—Windsor Star

Helpful hint for today: "The best way to get rid of worries is to let them die of neglect."—Stratford Beacon-Herald

Sometimes it's hard to understand the language the economists use, but when they refer to families as "spending units" they're talking light down to everybody's level.—Brandon Sun

At one London club the host is handed a menu which lists each item and its price. His guest is given the same list, only there are no prices on the guest's menu.—Atlantic Monthly

A major forest fire in 1956 is fully twenty times more costly to the people of Ontario than would have been the case in our grandfathers' day, says Mayor C. H. Smale of Sault Ste. Marie. At the present time a single acre of good pulpwood forest can be converted into \$1,500 worth of pulp and paper products and the same acre can repeat its values time and time again.—Forestry Association Bulletin

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"Aloette" has evidently become the most national and international of folk songs. It has become an expression of Canadian unity as well as an expression of Canadian popularity abroad. During the war it was sung in the pubs of London, in Paris, New York, Edinburgh, Brussels, Aix-la-Chapelle, etc. One Canadian mayor understood its profound significance the other day when he struck up the tune at the Congress of Mayors and Municipalities.—Le Droit, Ottawa

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