

New Federal Building

The formal opening today of the Federal Building in Charlottetown marks an important event, both locally and from the standpoint of administration of federal departmental activities in this Province. The imposing building dwarfs other surrounding structures, occupying as it does an entire city block. Built six stories high of steel and concrete, with exterior finish in grey granite, the vast area will give accommodation for some twenty-five federal departments which heretofore have been dispersed in various offices throughout the city. The new arrangement will make for greater efficiency and public convenience, and provide modern facilities equal to any building of its kind in Canada.

It is a long time since this building project was initiated, and considerable difficulties were encountered before excavation was finally started in October, 1954. The site itself was subjected to criticism, but it was apparently the only one obtainable at the time. There is no question as to the improved appearance which it gives to this section of the city, or of the business it will attract in view of the large number of employees engaged in the various federal offices. The extent to which these offices have grown in recent years is remarkable, and it is worth noting that the federal civil service payroll now represents an important item to our merchants locally, as well as to the city in tax revenue. We have come a long way since the old Post Office building was constructed to provide accommodation for all federal government activities, and the expansion trend is still in evidence.

As a provincial capital, Charlottetown is entitled to share in building projects of this kind. The Confederation Building, as it has been named, should serve its purpose for many years, and fill a long-felt need on the part of our citizens, urban and rural alike, having business to do with the various offices. It may be some time before all the departments will be installed in their new quarters, but the official opening today marks the completion of the biggest construction job of its kind ever undertaken in the Province, and one which will likely remain a landmark in the greater Charlottetown of the future.

Arab 'Solidarity'

Just how strong is this Arab solidarity which President Nasser of Egypt shouts about whenever the possibility of war over the Suez dispute is mentioned? According to a recent report from Jordan it may not be nearly as strong as was supposed only a few weeks ago. The report says that King Hussein has invited the Presidents of Syria and Lebanon to a conference on Arab problems. One of these problems is said to be the "presumption" of President Nasser in assuming leadership of the Arab world without the consent of his neighbours. Another is the way he has of undertaking big steps, such as the nationalization of the Suez and the recognition of Communist China, and then expecting the other rulers to fall in line whether they feel like it or not. One Jordanian official is reported to have said that having obtained their political freedom most Arab states don't relish losing it again.

Still another problem that King Hussein wants discussed is Nasser's trick of stirring up dissident groups in the various neighbouring countries when he is unable to get the governments to agree to any particular proposal. Then, of course, there is the economic angle. Nasser seems to be under the impression that in the event of war with the West he can depend on his neighbours to destroy oil pipelines and other installations in their territories

Just to make things difficult for the invaders of Egypt. But would they be likely to do that? It is possible, of course, but sheer bread-and-butter economics would seem to be against it. People don't usually throw away an important means of livelihood in that capricious manner. After all, the economic life of most of the states depends on their business transactions with the West. Iraq, for example, gets \$200 million a year in oil royalties.

Survey Authorized

The City Council has taken aggressive action in the matter of obtaining an authoritative report on the water and sewerage problem in the City and suburban area, including Parkdale and Spring Park. With this object in view it has authorized a topographical survey and the engineer in charge, Mr. W. H. Crandall, of Moncton, will prepare a report which will include comparative estimates of costs of both separate and integrated water and sewerage systems, as well as plans for whichever system may be agreed upon.

This problem has been developing for several years now, owing to the expansion of the suburban areas, and its solution, in some permanent form, is a matter of the greatest importance to all concerned. It was emphasized at the Council meeting that the survey is purely a fact-finding one, which may or may not result in a recommendation for amalgamation of the communities involved. It is obvious that before any progress can be made, the facts must be fully ascertained, and alternative proposals explored. Such a survey, indeed, should have been instituted years ago. It has been urged on several occasions by the Charlottetown Board of Trade and by our health officials as a matter of major concern. The Council is now prepared to expend an amount not exceeding \$10,000 to bring this issue to a head, and the survey cost will be amply justified if it results in any concrete improvement of the present situation.

EDITORIAL NOTES

While no date has been set for the Nova Scotia general election, both major parties have been nominating candidates for months and election this autumn is regarded as more than a likelihood.

There are 60,000 patients in Canadian mental hospitals and institutions, a number equal to all those in all other general or special hospitals combined. So reports the Canadian Mental Health Association.

The Rev. J. H. Bishop is to be congratulated on his appointment as first Moderator of the North America Synod of the Free Church of Scotland. It is a high honour, indeed. Those who know Mr. Bishop will be confident of his ability to fill the office with distinction.

Halifax school officials are trying to stop parents from doing their children's homework. If the ruling can be enforced it will be an annoyance to some youngsters. On the other hand, it will save a lot of parents undue embarrassment. It will be no longer necessary for them to make claim to knowledge and skill they do not in fact possess.

As the Windsor Star notes, it's one thing to take over a big canal like the Suez; it's something else to keep it operating smoothly. 250 skilled pilots are required for the job. Of these, 50 are Egyptians and 200 are from other nations. The vessels take 14 hours to negotiate the 103 miles between the Mediterranean and the Red Seas. It is 14 hours along a water route that is bordered on both sides by desert.

Russian engineers now touring Canada have said that the Soviet Union is "definitely interested" in buying Canadian-built cars and parts. Only the other day the visiting Soviet fishery officials declared that they were "definitely interested" in buying Canadian-built fish plants. If this sort of thing keeps up Canadian factories will have all they can do to supply Soviet needs. However, perhaps it would be better for them to wait until the orders start coming in before making any great plans for expansion.



TOUCHDOWN!

OTTAWA REPORT

Mr. Ishkov's Tour

By Patrick Nicholson

OTTAWA: Capitalist luxuries will soon make life easier for Communist housewives, and make banquets tastier for the Kreminites. These are the first results of the "I came, I saw and I was conquered" tour of Canada by Mr. A. Ishkov, the Soviet Minister of Fisheries. His host, and Canadian opposite number, Hon. James Sinclair, has given me a pithy rundown of the first stage of this tour, highlighting the Russian's impressions as the first Soviet Cabinet Minister to visit this country.

Russian has a general food shortage. But there is no shortage of potential fish dinners swimming about in Russian waters. Her problem, in Jimmy Sinclair's own words, is to get the fish from the sea to the distant comrade's dinner table. This problem can only be solved by efficient distribution. So the Russian Fisheries boss is intensely interested in picking Canadian brains about methods of freezing, preserving, packaging and transporting fish.

Mr. Ishkov and his entourage of advisers arrived resolved to learn a lot on these subjects. They have already, says our Minister, learned much more than they expected. They have seen much, in Eastern Canada, and they have been—in Jimmy Sinclair's own words—very impressed by everything. "Everything," he explained to me, includes the old-fashioned fish flakes used for drying cod in Newfoundland; the lobster pound in Nova Scotia; Mr. C.D. Howe, at St. Andrew's by the Sea; the fish research station at Halifax; and the Falls at Niagara.

ALL THIS AND BETSY TOO And I can add Betsy, the Minister's own youngest daughter, who is a sprightly and healthy child as one could find between Cape Race and the Queen Charlotte Islands. In fact it was laughing blonde Betsy, quickly lifted into the arms of Communist fisheries professor Moisevs, who stole the show when the popping-eyed tourists landed at Ottawa's airport.

But to get back to those luxuries. First, the Russians may have a car but they cannot have anything approaching our Maritime

lobsters. Their waters are mostly too cold for this delicate fish. Mr. Sinclair told me. Their famous and favourable shellfish is the great Kamohaka crab. But our visitors have quickly developed a passion for our lobsters while touring the Maritimes. Now Mr. Ishkov plans to take 600 pounds of Nova Scotia lobster back to Russia with him. These will be taken live, Jimmy Sinclair told me; not for breeding purposes, but to serve to the communists in the Kremlin to show them how capitalists live. It is possible that lobsters might be introduced into Russia later, if some suitable southern breeding ground can be found where the waters are not too cold.

NEWFOUNDLAND DELICACY The Communist housewife won't get lobster for dinner. But she will have fishsticks. Most Russian women work, Jimmy Sinclair explained. So food which can be prepared and served quickly and easily would make life simpler for the housewife. Canada's fishsticks, sold already prepared, filleted, cooked and frozen, need only to be heated before serving. Last week Mr. Ishkov and his colleagues were entertained to lunch in the experimental kitchen in the Department of Fisheries here. Jimmy Sinclair told me that he arranged for them to eat fishsticks, giving them a demonstration that they can be heated and served, from package to plate, in less than ten minutes—a boon for the Russian housewife.

And I don't mind adding, no mean help to my own wife's unskilled part-time helper, meaning myself. The Russians now want to buy from us ten complete production lines of our machinery for the preparation of fishsticks. These will be shipped to Russia, and set up at her big fishing ports. Now will come the highlight of the Russian tour of Canada—ten days in B.C. Canada and Russia have the Pacific fisheries in common, so it is natural that the Russian visitors are most keen, said Mr. Sinclair, to see how our British Columbia fish industry conserves, catches, processes, packs and ships all fish, especially salmon.

Gamble In North Africa

Judith Robinson in the Toronto Telegram

One of history's ironies is the one that has brought Robert Gordon Menzies, chairman of the Suez committee, to Cairo to dicker on behalf of the western world with the present dictator of Egypt.

Being a politician with a sense of humor as well as a sense of history, the Prime Minister of Australia will likely see the joke through he may not enjoy it. For it is on himself.

A decision was made in Canberra by Prime Minister Menzies 16 years ago did a great deal to lay the groundwork for the Suez committee; and a great deal to lay the groundwork for President Nasser too.

The decision was made in the summer of 1940; to send a second Australian Imperial Force to join the first in Egypt. Prime Minister Menzies not only made it, but carried it, mostly by will-power, through the Australian parliament in spite of the weakness of his own majority and the strength of Australian labor's opposition.

EGYPT'S CHANCES In a hopeless-looking situation nothing looked more hopeless at the time than Egypt's chance of escaping Axis conquest. The first Australian Imperial Force with a handful of other British units was in the Egyptian desert facing a quarter of a million Italians mobilized and armed for the kill Mussolini had planned.

France had been knocked out of the war, the Germans had overrun Europe. In Britain the army escaped from Dunkirk was being equipped for Hitler's next move. In the Pacific, as most Australians rightly believed, Japan was preparing at leisure to strike with-

out warning as Italy had struck. But in London Winston Churchill had decided on the calculated risk of a major offensive in North Africa; and in Canberra Robert Menzies was backing the desperate gamble.

By the time the second Australian Imperial Force reached the Suez the gamble looked even more desperate. Italy had struck again, at Greece now, and the greater part of the RAF fighting strength assembled to support General Wavell's Army of the Nile in its attempt to drive the Italian armies out of Egypt and back across Libya had been withdrawn and sent to help the Greeks.

Nevertheless the battle of the Western Desert was launched, as planned and the second AIF was there to help launch it. From the surprise raid that freed Mersa Matruh, to the captures with their garrisons of Tobruk and Benghazi; through two months and 500 miles of desert fighting, the Australians were in it all the way.

MAKING EGYPT SAFE For two years more, while Tobruk was lost and retaken and defended and lost and retaken again, the long series of battles that were to make Egypt safe for Col. Nasser at last ebbed and flowed, but never again was a gamble like the one of December 1940, when everything risked could have been lost on the first toss. And Menzies was in that one with Churchill.

There is an Australian memorial at Tobruk. It stands in the Commonwealth war cemetery where nearly 7,000 of the men who fought around and in Tobruk are buried. The inscription on it reads: Australia This is hallowed ground

MAXIMS

We may achieve climate but weather is thrust upon us.



WORDS

Choose and use well these particles of power, These tools of rescue from the heritage Of spoken thought, the immemorial dower Of man from all the past to this our age.

Teach yourself well to ply them artfully, With equal fond concern for sound and sense, Not pendant-wise, but ever with a free Conception of their source and consequence.

As vehicles of wisdom or of wit, Both better for their mingling each with each, Let them be weapons too, swords flashing, fit To battle evil with victorious speech.

As words set man and speechless brute apart, So they identify us man by man, Each with a name that rhymes deep in his heart With outer semblances that all may scan.

—M. A. DeWolfe Howe.

For herein lie those who died for their country.

And for President Nasser's country too. It seems possible that the thought may occur from time to time to a Suez committee chairman with a grim sort of sense of humor. It is not so far from the cemetery at Tobruk, to the palace in Cairo where the dictator of Egypt lives.

And it is not so long since they were defeated around Tobruk and El Alamein that the plans prepared for Egypt by the Axis dictators need be forgotten. They did not, as far as can be recalled, leave much room for nationalistic pistol packing outside the master race.

The Age Old Story

I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go; I will guide thee with mine eye.

SIX ISRAELIS KILLED

AMMAN, Jordan (Reuters)—An Arab Legion spokesman said Monday that six Israel soldiers were killed when an Israeli force, estimated at 100-strong, entered Jordan territory and opened fire on Arab farmers and Jordan national guards. The area where the incident took place was west of Edana village in the Hebron area, the Legion spokesman said. The bodies of the Israelis were left behind, he said. One Jordan guard was wounded.

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Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Sanderson, M. D. OLDER PEOPLE REQUIRE A BALANCED DIET, TOO

It seems to me that we talk a lot about what the average youngster or adult should eat and don't give enough thought to the nutritional needs of the elderly person.

Many older people have special dietary problems because of their age and most of these problems can be blamed on habit.

Because they may have never eaten enough meats, milk and vegetables, many older people simply refuse to break this habit and go on with deficient diets. They rigidly stick to their eating habits even though they may be detrimental to their health.

MISSING TEETH Deceived or missing teeth also hamper adoption of a good diet among the elderly. Unless they have their dental problems taken care of by a dentist, they may be forced to exclude all solids from their menus. This, of course, can lead to malnutrition.

Money, unfortunately, is another problem of the aged. Many of you elderly folk have to get along on shrunken budgets, and I know. But this doesn't mean you have to exclude vegetables, fruit and meats from your diet and eat the much cheaper starches almost exclusively.

A little more careful budgeting and marketing, coupled with a better knowledge of food values and costs, can provide you with an adequate diet on a most modest income.

You older people need fewer calories than younger folk because advancing age cuts your physical activity and lowers metabolism.

For example, a man at the age of 65 requires about 600 calories a day less than the 2400 to 3000 required at the age of 25. You women of 65 need about 1,000 to 1,500 calories a day, about 500 less than you did at the age of 25.

Since the body fat is greater in elderly, you older people can get along with less than the usual amount of fat and oil. However, your diet must contain ample protein since many persons over 65 find it difficult to retain protein in their systems.

DAILY DIET The daily diet of you older people should include the following: One pint of milk; butter or margarine fortified with Vitamin A; eggs, meat, poultry or seafood; peanut butter and other vitamins; rice; enriched or whole grain bread; whole grain cereal green or yellow vegetables potatoes or other vegetables or fruit, and one serving of oranges, grapefruit or tomatoes.

Supplemental vitamins and minerals must not be forgotten.

QUESTION AND ANSWER H. T.: My child has been given sulfa drugs for a sore throat. Is there any chance of these drugs damaging her kidneys?

Answer: Since the newer sulfa drugs have been employed in proper dosage, under a doctor's direction, there is little chance of their crystallizing and causing difficulty.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (Sept. 11, 1931)

Sir George Hennessey has arrived from Portland, Oregon, on a visit to his mother Mrs. M. Hennessey, Kent Street and to renew many old friendships.

The plans of the new P.E.I. Hospital have been thoroughly examined by both the building committee and the doctors and have been approved in every particular. Work on the foundations will start immediately.

TEN YEARS AGO

(Sept. 11, 1946) Captain W.S. MacNutt, M. A., left yesterday morning for Fredericton, New Brunswick, where he has accepted a position on the staff of the History Department of the University of New Brunswick.

The Charlottetown City Council in regular monthly session last night, were of unanimous opinion that the Minister of Reconstruction, Ottawa, should be pressed for an immediate start on the proposed construction of thirteen apartment buildings in the City.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Interesting to note that Australian women workers are paid 69.5 per cent of the male rate of pay, a survey in Sydney has indicated. This is claimed to be the highest rate for any country except France, where women average 85 per cent of men's wages. — Niagara Falls Review.

In confirming the asbestos discovery made some time ago in the neighborhood of Bale Verte, Premier Smallwood has suggested that it may turn out to be the richest source of high grade metallic fibre in Canada. That means the world because Canada is today the largest producer of asbestos. — St. John's News

The International Geophysical Year will make humanity's first step toward safe and dependable travel to the moon and beyond, via the launching of a space satellite. If science continues to make progress at this rate, soon there will be an International Geophysical Year which, conceivably, might result in safe and dependable travel through the Suez Canal. — Detroit Free Press

We are not to be involved in any Pickersgillian discussion of whether a Canadian baby is better than any other baby but it is cheerful news that the birth rate has held up well, that the death rate has declined and life expectancy has increased. This country needs people, native-born and immigrants, and all the statistics of our progress appear petty compared to those recording population gains. — Ottawa Journal

The Government's surplus is higher than last year's at this time, and continues to grow, but the Government has its eye on the situation—in an effort to keep the situation under control it is spending more. — Ottawa Journal

A man was known for his inability to think of anything to say to women. His friends were amazed when, the morning after meeting a strange girl at a dance, it was announced that he had become engaged. One inquired how it happened. "Well," said the tongue-tied one, "I danced with her three times and couldn't think of anything else to say." — Ottawa Journal

'My Fair Lady' Show Inspires Fall Fashions

When Cecil Beaton, noted English photographer, designer, designed the costumes for the Broadway musical comedy hit, "My Fair Lady," he also set the theme which practically every New York costume designer has adopted for this fall.

Gwen Cowley, Star Weekly fashion editor, who recently visited New York, describes this "Edwardian era touch" in this week's issue as the latest word in femininity and sheer poetry in color.

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