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What Might Have Been

It is not unusual for Canadian politicians to talk big on the hustings, to flex their muscles and vaunt their scorn of opponents in bellicose terms. But for heap big talk Premier Castro can outdo them all in this country. From his Cuban citadel he thumps his nose and shakes his fist daily at the President of the United States; and now he's taken on another heavyweight champion, or at least indicated that he was prepared to do so if the champion had shown up in Havana during the Cuban crisis last fall. He was all set to get into the ring with him at that time.

Who was the big bloke that he was going to take on? Soviet Premier Khrushchev, no less! In an interview with a reporter for a Paris newspaper, Castro is quoted as saying that he was mad at the Russians for agreeing to withdraw their rockets from Cuba without consulting his government, that he told Soviet First Deputy Premier Mikoyan as much, and that if Khrushchev had come himself he would have "punched him."

Mr. Mikoyan, from his pictures, already appears to have a flattened nose, which is probably why Premier Castro, out of sportsmanship, didn't punch him. But Khrushchev would have gotten it, no mistake! He might think, because he could wave a shoe at opponents in the United Nations Assembly and get away with it, that everybody was scared of him. But Castro wasn't falling for that grandstand stuff. He'd have given him "what for" if he'd showed up in Cuba looking for trouble. He'd have knocked the smile off his ugly mug. And, oh boys, wouldn't that have been a scrap!

Of all the punches that never came off, surely this one is the most provocative of speculation as to its consequences. It would have made headlines everywhere, added to the gaiety of nations over a large part of the world—including Communist China—and perhaps changed the course of history.

Minority Governments

If there is one thing sure in this federal campaign it is that the majority of electors do not want a return to the kind of minority government rule they experienced since the last election. Both the major parties are appealing for a vote that will give them a clear majority over the combined opposition. There should, however, be a recognition on both sides of the likelihood that neither of them will achieve this ambition. Their spokesmen should be prepared to say how they propose to safeguard the country's interests in the event of another indecisive result.

Writing in the Ottawa Journal, Dr. Eugene Forsey, visiting professor of political science at Queen's University, research director of the Canadian Labor Congress and one of Canada's most authoritative interpreters of our parliamentary system, has something of interest to say on this subject. The point he makes is that if the electors persist in returning Parliaments with no clear majority for any party, the onus is on the government to make the most of it.

Dr. Forsey recalls that Britain, between 1831 and 1931, had no less than 14 minority governments. Among them, they held office for 82 years out of the hundred. Nor were the minority governments of Palmerston, Disraeli, Salisbury,

Gladstone and Asquith weak, incompetent or indecisive by any ordinary test. Australia and New Zealand also survived long periods of minority government, and came out remarkably well. Canada itself has had minority governments from 1921 to 1926, as well as in 1957-58 and 1962-63.

British governments in the nineteenth century, and Sir John A. Macdonald's in the early years of Confederation, did not regard defeats in the Commons as decisive. The main reason for this, of course, was that parties were then less well organized, and party lines accordingly much less strictly drawn. The House (British or Canadian) contained a considerable number of more or less independent members; what Sir John called "loose fish." We seldom have any individual loose fish nowadays. But we have loose shoals of fish—parties which shift from side to side on particular votes.

In the days of loose fish, governments in the case of an adverse vote often took the course of neither resigning office nor calling an election. They just let the House have its say, unless the defeat was on a question they considered vital, or unless the cabinet was on the verge of collapse from internal dissensions. Now, in the days of loose shoals of fish, our governments may have to make up their minds to adopting the same commonsense procedure. Otherwise they may have the electors spending most of their time trailing through the polling booths.

Easter Seal Campaign

The Rotary Easter Seal Campaign is on—it runs from March 14 to April 14—and Guardian readers do not need to be reminded that the money raised by this means goes to the aid of crippled children. It provides the care, the treatment, the hospitalization, the vocational training and the education that makes life for crippled children happier and more independent.

There are thousands of these children across Canada. We've all seen them, and we have admired their courage and spunk. But pity isn't what they want. They want a chance to catch up and make their lives, as useful citizens. Our generous donations are needed if the work of mending tired and crippled bodies is to continue.

A child grows faster and learns more rapidly at the nursery school age than at any other time of life. That is why it is so important to reach crippled children in the formative years. The special help they need can be provided through Easter Seal contributions—the voluntary way, the best way, the truly Christian way of meeting charitable appeals. It enables us not only to help a crippled child, but to show thanks for our own good health. And at the approach of Easter—the season of hope and happiness—could the occasion be more timely for sharing hope and happiness in this manner?

EDITORIAL NOTES

A significant fact, notes an exchange, is that when road and weather conditions are at their worst the traffic accident rate is lowest. This seeming paradox is explained on the ground that drivers—and pedestrians—tend to be more alert, cautious and careful under such circumstances than when conditions are good.

Anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union is dead, Premier Khrushchev insists. Nevertheless, reports of new attacks on Jewish culture and religious observances continue to seep out. A noted Russian authority, Edward Crankshaw, writes in the London Observer that synagogues in at least 10 important centres of Jewish population have been closed in recent months. This makes a total of at least 60 closed since 1959.



THE COMMON MARKET GARDEN

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Need Stressed For Standard Sized Packages

The Canadian housewife is utterly confused in the grocery store. I know she must be, because after two visits to the grocery store myself, I came out with a had case of "housewife's perplexation" through trying to decide whether the "Giant" size or the "King" size is the best buy.

Yes, I had to make two visits to the grocery store, because the first time I did not think to take a ruler and pencil and paper to do the calculations.

I was driven to make my own investigation by the way 500 women consumers took the offence against the representatives of 100 Canadian manufacturers at the National Consumer-Producer Conference. Senator Wally McCutcheon, Canadian "Minister Trade" who has become Minister of trade, kicked off the talk at this conference when President Kennedy's hopes for a vast transatlantic trade expansion move through proposed massive tariff reductions.

High Washington authorities who have been courting "decorative" trade deals and other European trade reports back suspicion de Gaulle will foot-drag or block effective tariff negotiations under Kennedy's Trade Expansion Act.

Since de Gaulle has a veto over European Common Market negotiations, the negotiators may bargain in good faith at the 1964 world tariff conference in Paris and therefore inoperative.

Christian Herter, Kennedy's tariff negotiator, is reported to feel like a dark road ahead with the possibility that all of Europe's tariff negotiators will be reduced to a mere footnote in the United States tariffs by up to 50 per cent during the next five years.

Herter made a tour of Europe earlier this year to feel out Brussels and Paris on tariff reduction prospects. He is reported to have found the French almost completely unresponsive. The U.S. made clear there will be no concessions on agricultural goods.

der, but in bewilderingly different weights. The smallest, called "Regular size", contains 15 ounces; now that is neither one pound nor any convenient fraction thereof. Then there is the "Texas size", containing 1 lb 2 1/2 ounces, biggest of all the "Monarch size" contains 3 lbs 2 1/2 ounces. Which is the best buy? See who needs that slide rule!

TO CONFUSE THE VALUE-SEEKING housewife further, one package also contains an unworried and perhaps unwelcome "decorative" glass fruit juice tumbler. Another contains a discount coupon for five cents and plastic beaker. The third contains one

dishevelled, undisciplined colour and pattern which may not match the decor of Jane Canoe's kitchen, yet she must bear its cost in the price of the detergent.

Even with a mathematics professor and a domestic economist at her side, the Canadian housewife could not possibly decide how best to lay out her husband's hard-earned dollars in this marketing maze. The "frustrated five hundred" who buy in the front of Senator McCutcheon may well have started a drive for standard size packages and simple shopping. It couldn't take too soon.

Hard Problem For Herter

By Harold Morrison
Canadian Press Staff Writer

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Vascular Ills Are Many, Varied

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

"VASCULAR" disorders come in a variety of forms. Some of the blood vessels of the skin are involved, the capillaries, arteries, or veins may be affected. For example, itching or prominence of the tiny blood vessels of the skin bothers some people and is due to changes in these lesions appear on the face, neck, or extremities. Different diseases are associated with these lesions.

Red streaks on the nose or cheeks represent another form. The cause is due to blood in the small dilated vessels. These visible vessels may crop out on the body subjected to excessive exposure to heat or X-rays. The lesions are more common among those with thin, inelastic skin, and in victims of certain dermatologic conditions, including acne rosacea.

Other persons also develop elevated spots varying from pinhead to pea size. The tiny mass consists of dilated and dilated loops of dilated capillaries. These spots are meaningless and require no treatment, except cosmetic purposes. They can be disguised with powder or removed by electric cauterization.

The arterial spider is well named. It consists of a central fine artery with several smaller processes branching out like the legs of a spider or spokes of a wheel. The spots are bright red in color, pulsatile, and is located usually on the face, neck, or extremities. The lesions appear suddenly and fade quickly; they remain.

A somewhat similar lesion is noted occasionally over the liver area as a forerunner of cirrhosis. Venous stars are the counterpart of the arterial spider. The visible dilated vessels are blue in color because venous blood flows through them. They are found mostly on the body but prefer the lower extremities. Venous stars pop out in the face, neck, or extremities. The venous system is increased.

These blood vessels can be destroyed by electrocauterization but this is not recommended. They are of a serious nature, varying from a cosmetic defect to highly malignant tumors.

STOPPING THE ABDOMEN

R. M. writes: Can a doctor detect in the abdomen with a stethoscope?

REPLY: No, because the stomach and intestines are not in a keeness the physician could not interpret as meaning "it hurts."

REPLY: Yes, if you are hard to hard over a tender spot with the stethoscope, the individual is probably suffering from a high blood pressure state. VITAMINS AND PRESSURE

REPLY: Yes, because of the high blood pressure state vitamins, will his blood pressure go higher.

REPLY: No, because vitamins have no effect on blood pressure. HATLESS

N. M. writes: Is there a yarmouth in the white?

REPLY: No, but the white you can do to wear earmuffs in zero weather.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT— "Mental health begins in the home."

Our Yesterday's

(From the Guardian Files)
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
March 23, 1938

Premier Thea A. Campbell donated a beautiful silver trophy for the Maritime speed-skating championships opening at the Victoria Jubilee Stadium.

The closing exercises held yesterday in Prince of Wales College hall marked the end of the first term of the Maritime Courses in Home Economics. These courses have been given through the Maritime Extension Program and under the direction of the Women's Institute Branch.

TEN YEARS AGO
March 23, 1928
The late Premier J. B. Campbell died last night that she is directing her last production, after nearly 60 years appearing before the public. In early life Mrs. Campbell was a public speaker and elocutionist.

Two Island musicians of note are mentioned in the recent issue of the CBC Times. They are: a pianist, Mrs. M. J. Rogers, and a violinist, Mrs. K. B. Rogers. Radio station CBE, Windsor, Ont. will bring them to the attention of the public. Illustrated musically by Mr. MacNutt, and the CBC Windsor staff.

What About Friendship in Politics?

This message reached me a few days ago from a friend who has been suggested to be a friend of John Diefenbaker. He'll be better off if he forgets the past and his enemies.

Well, the only answer I have to give is that the Prime Minister has always treated me as a friend, and that what I feel for him comes close to being boundless affection.

However, it does not follow that when I represented my self to him as being a down-the-line, all-or-nothing supporter of the Prime Minister, there is in the way of friendship between us had its birth. I do not, whatever I think, think critically of his position. The same thing has happened to me many times without doing any harm I have seen to my pleasant relations with the Prime Minister.

RISK OF THE JOB
Part of the admiration I feel for the Prime Minister comes from the fact that these things are true. Always, toward me, he has been as candid as a friend, and that what I feel for him comes close to being boundless affection.

When I write what is expected of me it is that it will be as a critical observer of matters of public interest, not as an auditor, a closed-minded adherent to some cause, or as an applicant for some party position.

It is part of my nature, just as it is part of my job, to speak critically and to try to bring about change.

"MY GOOD TEMPER"
Several times in the past when I've disagreed with the Prime Minister, he has recommended me for "writing in good temper". That, I imagine, is the only aspect of my nature which he has noticed.

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It's Thumb Lickin' Good

SMALL BUCKET 2.50
8 BUCKETS 15.00
Serves 3 to 5

DINING ROOM SPECIAL
FRIED CHICKEN
WITH FRIES AND HONEY
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Busby Lewis's Restaurant

Dial 4-9226 Free Delivery

Our Famous Medalist Ready-to-Wear

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latest styles, fabrics and colors
all sizes—regulars, shorts and tails

TIP TOP TAILORS

Charlottetown
Try One on a

The Poets Corner

IMPORTANT WORK
Sir—This is in appreciation to you for editorial "An Excellent Choice."
While all your readers will probably not agree with the wisdom of the choice, yet there can be little disagreement as to the importance of the work which this committee is undertaking.
The dairy industry plays a very important part in the total economy and dairy organizations are very much concerned that it be kept in a sound condition. It is in this field that the work of the executive committee rests and only time will tell whether we are succeeding or failing.
Again my sincere thanks for your kind attention.
Very truly yours,
J. L. DEWAR
P.E.I. Federation of Agriculture.

Flowers On Caesar's Statue

Montreal Gazette

Rome is curious over the fact that somebody, for years, has been placing a bouquet of pink carnations at the foot of the statue of Julius Caesar, just outside the a century old monument in Paris.

Who, after all these centuries, thinks of the statue as a person to pay this personal tribute of remembrance? And yet such acts are by no means unique. On the grave of Charles Dickens in the floor of Westminster Abbey, a little bouquet of flowers are not infrequently found.

A remarkable example of how a great man may evoke this personal tribute, long years after death, occurred in New York in 1946. An elderly man, it is said, placed a bouquet of flowers against the clock wind, was found lying at the gate of Bellevue Hospital, and was pronounced dead by a doctor.

"No," said the man. "I came to pay my respects to the late Stephen Foster, who died exactly 82 years ago today in the charity ward at Bellevue."

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CITES SMOG COST

TORONTO (CP) — Metropolitan Toronto's smog cost every resident about \$40 a year. Harry Belyea, chief air pollution control officer, said Wednesday. He said that the cost of cleaning, corrosion of automobiles and the cleaning and repainting of buildings would be blamed on fumes from burning of 2,000,000 tons of coal and 100,000,000 gallons of oil every year.