

New Soviet-Cuban Tie

Whatever the reasons behind it, the red carpet treatment which Premier Castro is getting in Moscow spells cold comfort to the Western powers. His month-long visit can only be viewed as evidence that the Cuban leader and Soviet Premier Khrushchev have resolved their basic political problems raised in the wake of the missile crisis last year. In the United States, too, the degree of stability Castro has achieved in recent months.

In the view of many analysts even at Washington, last October's crisis turned out to be a considerable success from Castro's point of view since it provided him, for all practical purposes, with the long-sought guarantee that the United States would not invade Cuba. While the Kennedy administration has refrained from issuing a formal "no invasion" pledge since the withdrawal of the missiles, it has adopted the policy that military intervention in Cuba is out of the question.

This, it appears, was primarily what Castro had desired. His position has been further strengthened by the Soviet decision to maintain troops in Cuba indefinitely, and go on building Cuban defenses. Despite recent withdrawals, there are at least 13,000 Soviet troops on the island. Castro's parallel insistence that the United States cease harassing him through its tolerance of raids by Miami-based exiles was also met when President Kennedy banned these attacks last March.

After the Russians withdrew their missiles and bombers last year, and Red China denounced the removal of these weapons as a "sellout," the Cuban dictator gave public indications of developing sympathies for the Chinese. In two speeches last January he deplored the "difficulties within the Socialist family," and, in effect, offered to mediate in the Soviet-Chinese quarrel. At that time, references to Soviet-Cuban friendship almost vanished from official speeches and press articles.

Now—on the surface at least—a new agreement has been signed providing for several hundred million dollars of additional Soviet export credits to Cuba, and Castro, by special invitation, is touring the Soviet Union as Khrushchev's honored guest. Washington is no doubt right in regarding this turn of events as having ominous significance. Unfortunately there is nothing it can do about it but wait and see.

U.S. Wheat Referendum

A bill which passed the U.S. House of Representatives by a narrow margin last week could have important results on agricultural policy in the neighboring republic. Known as the Feed Grain Bill, it is designed to assure the approval by farmers of the government's program to manage crop surpluses. It is tied directly to the national wheat referendum that will be held on May 21. This referendum covers what has been described as the tightest production control plan in history—one that can be talked about for twenty-five years but never before put to farmers.

If two-thirds of eligible wheat farmers approve the new control program, every bushel of wheat they grow will be subject to federal control—a condition that its opponents denounce as depriving the farmer

of the freedom he should have, and, if accepted, as involving in time a similar control for every other farm commodity.

Under this wheat plan producers will have to accept a reduction in wheat plantings, a move aimed at reducing the burdensome surplus of this vital crop. To offset the reduction the wheat farmer must take the government is holding out the feed grain bill as a lifeline. It will enable farmers to grow on the acres they have already taken out of wheat production, or must take out in the future, the feed grains of corn, grain, sorghums and barley. This would be their new bonus for voting "right" in May. Opponents are predicting, in this event, that it will not be long before farming in the United States will virtually be conducted by the federal government.

The odd thing is that farm organizations, as well as other groups organizing bankers, businessmen and economists, seem to be pretty equally divided over this issue. The same groups are represented on both sides. In the opinion of a New York Times commentator, there is no question that the outcome of the referendum is a matter of the highest economic and political importance. The result may not only affect American agriculture, but it possible world agricultural prices, the eventual membership and programs of the European Common market, and the international relations of the United States with other wheat-growing countries such as Canada and Australia.

Quebec Report

An educational movement of far-reaching importance has been sparked in Quebec by a royal commission headed by Msgr. A. M. Parent, vice-rector of Laval University. This commission, after extensive inquiry, has come up with a report calling for a complete reorganization of the school system of the province—if indeed it could be called a system, a fact about which the commission appears to have grave doubts.

"Our institutions," the report says bluntly, "have been divided in almost every conceivable way—Roman Catholic from Protestant, French from English, academic from technical, secondary and primary from university." To achieve better co-ordination, it calls for a minister of education with full control over all phases of education in Quebec. The present department of education and the ministry of youth would be fused to form the new department.

In theory, co-ordination has been through a Council of Education consisting of a 44-member Catholic committee and a 22-member Protestant committee which was supposed to meet jointly, but rarely did. In fact, the report indicates that the council has only met three times during the twentieth century. In its place, a streamlined 16-member Superior Council of Education is suggested which would be required to meet once a month.

To meet fear which might exist in some quarters because of the fusing of Protestant and Roman Catholic branches, Dr. David Munroe, director of the institute of education at McGill, has emphasized the necessity for greater unification and the fact that the rights of the two main religious groups under the British North America Act have been preserved.

It is possible, comments an exchange, that the successful implementation of this report may do more to resolve the grievances separatists than any number of political concessions. A Quebecer dedicated to seeing that his young people get an education which will fit them for the challenge of the twentieth century will probably not be unduly worried about separatism.

EDITORIAL NOTE

It has been announced that in May and June, for the first time since 1961 units of the British Army will train with their counterparts of the Canadian Army at the big military establishment in Camp Gagetown, N.B. The British trainees will comprise officers and men of the 24th Field Squadron, Royal Engineers, and the 1st Battalion, Queen's Own Buffs, Royal Kent Regiment.



WHAT A LINE-UP!

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

A Lively Canadian Success Story

Why do we Easterners always envy but fail to copy the zest for life, the alacrity and the ebullient individualism of the friendly people of the Prairies and the British Columbia? Perhaps you are born into this world to be positive or negative; to be pugnacious about life, or else to accept it as it comes. If I had been a negative character, I would now be minding a machine shop in a western Canadian mining district. I had to be pugnacious to get as far as the University of Alberta.

And from that first step, Lovat Dickson progressed. His autobiography, "The House of Words," recently published by the Macmillan Company of Canada, describes that progress. Thirty years ago, Mr. Dickson left the "part of Canada I call home, the uplands of Alberta, rising in the west to the prairies to meet the foothills of the Rockies." He travelled six thousand miles eastward, with a little money, and with only a promise of a job in London which his energetic Canadian benefactor was not able to implement.

THE CHARM OF WORDS

Lovat Dickson's life has been built of words and around words. He started as an editor; he became a book publisher and became always an editor; he published the House of Macmillans, the family business of Britain's Prime Minister, Harold Macmillan.

His account of his career is a fascinating story, a triumph of trapping struggle, of interest even in early adversity, of the man's interest in the stories behind the stories in the books which he published.

There was, for instance, Captain von Bismarck, the German Imperial Navy, the famous German spy who wrote the first novel, "The Secret of the Island," in the early years of the first World War, which was intended to show the flow of munitions which the Americans were selling to the Europeans.

"Did you have any success?" asked Lovat Dickson.

"Oh, immense," chuckled the spy.

And when Lovat Dickson published the spy's writings, they met with an immense success. The book—publisher's business is to understand the proportion." Perhaps Fate arranged a suitable curtain when 7 a.m. on a winter morning in 1946, a jobbing gardener, clutching a workman's ticket in his hand, was found on the platform of South Kensington Underground Railway station in London—one of the deepest stations where Londoners had slept on the platform during the Blitz, seeking protection against the German bombers in England, and who was identified as the name of that workman was ex-Captain Fritz von Rintelen von Kluge—and also wrote his book.

THE LAST ENEMY

That district of London was the setting for the romance between the young Royal Air Force hero, Richard Hillary, and LIFE, personified by Dickson, the publisher of the famous football star Max Woollam. Hillary's best-selling book, "The Last Enemy," was also published by Dickson.

The last enemy of the interest must centre on the story of the romantic Grey Owl. Lovat Dickson published his book, "The Grey Owl," which acted as his manager and friend which he made lecture tours in England, and also wrote his book.

No Ghostly Derelicts

National Geographic Society

On his way to America in 1902 Columbus sailed through the Sargasso Sea. He enjoyed the trip, his chronicler reports, though the Sargasso later acquired a bad reputation.

As recently as 1962, a sea captain detoured around the Sargasso, fearing that seaweed might be in his ship's wake, reported a day late because of the detour.

Portuguese belief has pictured the Sargasso at the graveyard of a thousand ships, eternally engulfed in a wilderness of seaweed.

Explorers and scientists have disproved this notion. There are no ghostly derelicts on the Sargasso. The Sargasso weed that gave the sea its name floats loosely in patches, often small, or not at all.

WARM AND SALTY

The Sargasso is a gently roiling oval section of the western Atlantic. Its warm waters, saltier in the Atlantic, are bounded by the Gulf Stream, the North Atlantic Current, and the cold Labrador current.

Although the myths about the Sargasso have been exploded, it remains a fascinating area of interest to gourmets on both sides of the Atlantic, as well as to zoologists and oceanologists.

Curiously, the center of the Sargasso weed is a cross-section view resemble that of a blowfish, so strange in aspect that one expedition christened it "Sog Word" because that was what one of its members exclaimed when he first saw one.

Technically named Histrio histrio, or Pterophrone, the Sargasso fish looks exactly like the surrounding seaweed and can stalk its prey unseen. One gulp of its big mouth, and the little, stretchy fish can take in another fish of equal size.

Sargasso fish will eat almost anything, including, it is said, another. Their breeding habits remain something of a mystery.

Marine biologists presume the little cannibals call a truce at the appropriate time.

Charter a coach

The warm sea in northern Europe, the Sargasso Sea, the Sargasso's western a 200 northern boundaries are controlled by the Gulf Stream, whose flow determines the amount of heat allowed into the colder North Atlantic waters.

The Sargasso, for the gourmet, is important as the birthplace of redfish. Both American and European varieties swim thousands of miles to breed in the Sargasso Sea.

The progeny, larval eels, is transported as greenish eels to the fresh water streams and pools where their parents had spent most of their adult lives. The European larvae develop into young eels, or elvers, in the three to five years from reach home. American eels,

When Is Rabies a Treatment Vital?

By Dr. Theodore E. Van Dellen

IT HAS been estimated that 600,000 new rabies cases annually by animals, for which treatment is required, are reported. Many who are bitten do not contact a physician because the infection is not serious and the animal is a pet or was provoked into biting. But, despite statistics, the question of rabies always comes to mind. When is this type of treatment needed?

Dr. James H. Steele, chief of the veterinary public health services, writing in Consultant, suggests the following points:

Call your local health authority and ask whether rabies exists in the community. If not, the chance that the animal is rabid is not great.

Don't let the animal escape skin examinations by a veterinarian, especially if the animal is most important because rabies is a fatal animal disease and can be detected within a few hours after death of the fatal animal.

The vaccine is in order when the animal cannot be found and rabies is present in the region. The vaccine is also in order if a person is bitten by a wild animal such as a squirrel, skunk, fox, rat or cat—more so if the animal attacked on the face.

Finding the animal also is important because it might be a pet that was immunized recently against rabies. If so, the chance of developing the disease is almost nil. The victim also may have been immunized and protected against rabies. "No one has ever died of rabies who had received a previous dose of vaccine," they declare. We pass this along to veterinarians, dog handlers, and persons who are in contact with animals. The same applies to inveterate campers and hunters who are in the woods.

The anti-rabies vaccine differs from the Sempole, which is used to prevent rabies after the individual is bitten by the rabid dog. The latter is prone to cause reactions and is not used except in emergency situations. One or two doses of the more advance of exposure is more effective because it is given subsequent to contact with the rabies virus.

There is no effective treatment once symptoms appear. Sedatives help calm extreme excitability and fitfulness, and combat dehydration. I hope you may desire to witness this new, mysterious disease.

Our Yesterday's

(From The Guardian Files)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

May 1, 1888

The old Arena Ring in Charlottetown, scene of many keenly contested hockey battles in former years, has been purchased by the Provincial Government. The building will be used to house government machinery, including road equipment.

Thirty-five men will go to work in Victoria Park, grading, staking grass seed and installing on other beautification work along the driveway built around the park last year. Mayor Foster has announced.

TEN YEARS AGO

May 1, 1953

Dick Vanu (left) of Leckerberk, Holland, who has been preaching liberalism apparently taking a rest in the church. Franco may have felt a drastic move, such as Grinnau's execution, had to be made to only he still is the boss.

NOTES BY THE WAY

"This is ridiculous," said the infuriated producer. "Do you realize that in the last 25 years you actually laughed when you were supposed to be crying?"

"At my salary," answered the actor, "not without dignity, gratitude is expressed with sighs and cheers." — Gall Reporter.

A retired policeman in St. John was surprised to receive a government cheque for a quarter of a cent. Accountants checking the cheque supposed it was a clerical error. He had been coming in on his previous year's pension for 25 years. He had no records and sending the cheque was \$1. — Munich Press.

Grimau's Execution

By Alan Harvey

Canadian Press Staff Writer

Spain's slow, deliberate progress into the 20th century is bound to suffer a temporary check with the execution of Communist leader Julian Grimau for the sake of revenge. Franco is a man of ice who seldom acts on impulse. He comes from Galicia in northwestern Spain, an arid region where the people are known for their dour, calculating qualities.

It can be argued, therefore, that in ordering Grimau's execution Franco was less interested in the national martyr in deliberately reviving the memories of 1888 as a means of demonstrating his conservatism. For the last decade, Spain has been moving in reluctant, crab-like style away from her old isolation and toward a tentative understanding with Europe and the West. Admirers of the Spanish people and they are soon-welcomed an encouraged the trend.

CHURCH SYMPATHIZED

For himself seemed reluctantly ready to condone the new liberalism, as long as the personal power remained unaffected. Perhaps the pace has become too fast.

During the strike last summer, the Spanish church showed sympathy for workers whose minimum wage was only recently raised to 60 pesetas a day from 38—or so \$1 in Franco's terms. It was 85 cents.

The church went so far in its tacit support that it was releasing a priest in the church, tested to the Roman Catholic primate of Spain, Cardinal Primate.

The church and the army are the two main props of the Franco regime. With the new version of something appearing in the church, Franco may have felt a drastic move, such as Grinnau's execution, had to be made to only he still is the boss.

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