

The Guardian

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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20, 1956

Mr. Gregg's Admission

After many weeks of quarrelling the Federal Parliament has got around to discussing a subject on which there is inter-party agreement: the need for more professional and skilled personnel. But whenever any matter relating to educational needs comes up for discussion, Government spokesmen hasten to remind the House that the whole field of educational and technical training comes within provincial jurisdiction. In this instance Labor Minister Gregg felt called upon to reiterate the solemn warning. To his credit, however, he did not stop there, as so many of his ministerial colleagues have done in the past. He went a step further and agreed that "it is the duty of the government and the duty of the Minister of Labor and his agencies to do everything in their power to forward the effort".

If, as seems likely, Mr. Gregg had consulted other cabinet ministers before venturing on the unusual admission, it may mean that at long last the Government has become aware of the serious situation facing the Provinces—at least most of them—in trying to provide adequate educational facilities. Federal grants for education on a generous scale and quite apart from the grants now made to the Provinces under tax agreements are of pressing concern to the national wellbeing at the present time, to say nothing of a war emergency which conceivably could descend on the nation with very little warning.

There is no use in pretending any longer that the federal purse must remain closed to the educational needs of the Canadian people simply because control over methods and systems is the constitutional responsibility of the Provinces. That excuse is so patently lame and has been shelved so many times in other fiscal matters that it does not merit a moment's delay in facing up to the greater issue. Perhaps Mr. Gregg's statement is a prelude to governmental action.

Progress In Ceylon

Not all of the newly independent states of Asia are depending too much on aid from either the West or the Soviet Union. Ceylon in particular, according to a report by the National Geographic Society, is making ambitious plans for the future. One of these plans involves clearing of a huge jungle in the Valley of the Gal Oya, which for many centuries has been desolate, and settling it by thousands of persons from the crowded cities and towns. 2000 years ago what is now jungle was a flourishing area nourished by a created irrigation system; which proves that the Ceylonese of that period, before they came under colonial domination (of Portugal) were a highly civilized people.

Ceylon is about the size of the Province of New Brunswick. Its population is many times greater—about 9 million—and growing rapidly. Its growth is due mainly to the virtual annihilation of malaria which in the past used to take a fearful toll of life annually. Like most other countries, Ceylon has become tourist-conscious in late years and is now making plans to capitalize on its colorful scenery and old customs which have survived the modern trend towards industrialization. Already, the tourist industry comes fourth in economic importance, ranking after tea, rubber, and coconuts, in that order.

Ceylon has been under the control of three colonial powers: Portugal from 1505 to 1560; Holland from 1560 to 1796; Great Britain from 1796 to 1948. Indications are that it will remain within the Commonwealth; but there is no certainty of it. In one respect at least, the country merits praise: the generally amicable manner in which its citizens of many racial backgrounds—Sinhalese, Hindus, Arabs, Malay-

ans, Chinese, and Europeans—live together and co-operate in the working out of national problems, many of which came with political independence.

Potato Packing

The customer is not always right, the adage to the contrary notwithstanding; but, as Mr. Alan Buchanan, President of Lorne Campbell, Ltd. in Windsor, pointed out the other day, it is good business for potato packers to go on the assumption that he (or she) is. Potatoes, like all other farm products, are put up to sell, and of course anything that pleases the customers is bound to benefit the producer. Potatoes packed in quantity in unattractive bags, which perhaps have been used before, may be just as wholesome to the taste as those that are put up in neat little packages of modern design; but they are not as pleasant to the eye, a factor which counts very heavily in any phase of seller-buyer relations.

Both Mr. Buchanan and his Detroit neighbour, Mr. Paul J. Maroon of Midwest Produce, appear to believe that Island grown potatoes can find a ready market in the Detroit-Windsor metropolitan area, if only "several accepted practices which customers insist on" are carefully followed by the packers. Whether they are right or not in suggesting that more central packing by growers and dealers would eliminate some of the difficulties which have stood in the way of maximum marketing in the past, it is a suggestion that deserves the earnest consideration of all who are connected with the business. There is no question about the value of good packing standards for any food product, even though they may cost a little more than inferior ones. They pay for themselves many times over, not only in immediate sales but in the reputation for quality which they help to build up for the product itself.

EDITORIAL NOTES

A United States Grand Jury has indicted 12 men connected with the seasoning and condiment industry for alleged violation of anti-racketeering laws. In other words, they are in a "pickle".

There's one thing to be said for the British Government's handling of the proposal to sell the British owned Trinidad Oil Company to United States interests: they are giving parliament plenty of opportunity to debate the question. There is no threat of "closure" hanging over the Commons.

Britons may be practising austerity in some aspects of living; but a recent report shows that they are not letting up on at least one traditional pastime. During the first three months of this year they drank more alcoholic beverages than during any corresponding period since it became customary to keep records—almost \$227 million worth.

A professor has suggested "thought breaks" in addition to coffee breaks for employees. He thinks it would free their minds of worrisome problems and, therefore, make them better workers. That may be true, or partly so. The question is: Could employers afford it? Serious thinking takes a lot more time than does gulping a cup of coffee.

A motorist in Wyoming, arrested for carrying out of date license plates told the court that he had "forgotten" to put on the new ones. His memory must have been very poor indeed, since the plates he was using were of the 1922 variety. He had used them for 34 years without being questioned by police or traffic officers. That fact should have won him an acquittal.

British commercial interests are working hard to bridge the uncomfortable gap between exports and imports, and they are making good progress. In May, the latest month for which there are statistics, a record export total of nearly \$800 million was reached. This was \$35 million more than the previous record established in March, but still \$100 million below import figures for the same month. The value of exports to Canada for the first five months of this year was 32% higher than for the same period in 1955.



SPECIAL ATTENTION FOR THE LIFE OF THE PARTY

Mr. Massey To The Doctors

Excerpts from an address by His Excellency the Governor General to the Canadian Medical Association in Quebec

In the last two or three generations there have been changes so sensational as to astonish even the layman. First, the tremendous increase in the amount of scientific knowledge directly or indirectly applicable to medicine and surgery. I do not know, it is not for me to say, whether these advances have shown more breadth than depth. It is however clear to all of us that the doctor has now penetrated to every corner and cranny of our physical being. It is superfluous to exhort the patient to tell his doctor everything. I would he possibly hope to conceal anything from him?

It is not of course, from the increase of anatomical and physiological knowledge alone that the doctor has profited. The advance of technical science has supplied him with the most astounding battery of instruments, tools, and machines for examining, measuring, weighing, analyzing and testing in every conceivable fashion.

STRANGE NEW WORLD

The old-fashioned patient who looked forward to a quiet chat with his old-fashioned doctor now finds himself spirited off and conveyed through a strange underworld of white enamel, white coats and white lights, a world in which his role is chiefly passive and his posture almost invariably horizontal. The ordeal, he sees, is his doctor, who asks him practically nothing—but who almost certainly does not tell him everything!

Seriously, it looks as if all things were now possible, or soon will be. There is nothing that the doctor cannot see, and with X-rays, Cobalt bombs and "wonder drugs" running repairs to the human frame and the skilful insertion of spare parts, almost nothing that they cannot do.

The increase of knowledge, the multiplication of techniques, has outstripped the capacity of the single individual. We are in the hands of the specialist and the team. I heard recently the comment of a man with small children: "We have no doctor; we have five specialists." His lament was that when he needed simple but found advice for an unclassified ailment, he did not know where to turn.

MEDICAL TASK-FORCE

A parallel predicament is that of the patient in the hospital catered to, and magnificently and intricately, by specialists, technicians, dietitians, internes, students in training, nurses, nursing assistants and nurse's aides; and, if need be, psychologists, psychiatrists and therapeutic experts, but who rarely sees a doctor and who cannot lay claim to any single angel in white as his nurse. He is treated and ably treated, by what might be called a medical task-force.

Would I go back to the old days of the overworked nurse in the small nursing home? No indeed but I wonder if the wealth of our scientific knowledge, our technical equipment, our valuable and essential organization are not some how threatening to obscure the personal needs of the man or woman who is sick and in trouble. Every good doctor has always

TECHNICAL AT WORK

ST. JOHN'S, Nfld. (CP) — The floating tuberculosis detection unit Christmas Seal left port here today to X-ray the chests of outport Newfoundlanders along the north-east coast. The little vessel, after visiting Trinity and Bonavista bays, will head for the Labrador coast.

The Age Old Story

God that made the world and all things therein, a King that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things. For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Bundesen, M. D.
PERIODIC TENSION CAN CAUSE NERVOUS ILLS

Seldom is a woman confined to bed because of premenstrual tension. Many are not even really inconvenienced.

Yet, this monthly buildup of tension is a common cause of female nervous disorder. And frequently the victims themselves are not aware of the impact their disturbances have upon friends and loved ones.

Just why this feeling of pressure builds up inside a woman as her monthly period nears has been puzzling doctors for hundreds of years. They still have not reached complete agreement.

Generally, however, it is agreed that it is associated with cyclic hormonal activities with changes in the blood levels of hormones considered a major cause.

Retention of water, associated with salt retention, undoubtedly plays a vital role in the disorder.

WATER OF QUIETNESS

The modest pond, grass bordered and tree framed, is still and noiseless as a sea of glass. By it the thirsty creatures, shy, untamed, the fox, the chipmunk—pause and pass.

Waters of quietness thus quench a thirst. The turbulence of river and vast lake cannot assuage, the least become a craving for sweets.

Any or all of these symptoms might be experienced by a woman during the week or so prior to her monthly period. With the start of the menses, however, the fluids are released and the tension subsides. The symptoms either disappear entirely or are greatly relieved.

While each case presents an individual problem, doctors now have a dozen or so weapons to help during this trying time.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

B. D.: Can anxiety and worry bring on a heart attack?

Answer: Anxiety and worry are thought by some to be contributing causes for the heart condition known as coronary thrombosis. This is a disorder in which the circulation to the heart muscle is blocked by a blood clot. However, these things in themselves will not produce this disorder.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
(June 20, 1931)

Right Rev. Joseph A. O'Sullivan, Bishop of Charlottetown, was welcomed by the congregation of the Church of the Most Holy Redeemer or yesterday on the occasion of his first official visit to the Church.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports crop conditions in the Maritimes as distinctly better than mid-June, 1930. The rain seasons delayed seeding to some extent and subsequent cool weather retarded growth, but the prospects are generally good in all lines of vegetables and fruits.

TEN YEARS AGO

(June 20, 1946)

The Juan de Fuca Crab, for many years the holder of the number one position on the menu of west coast seafood addicts, may have to yield his position to the Atlantic lobster as 2,000 Prince Edward Island lobsters are being shipped across Canada to trespass in the crab's territory on the west coast.

A very pleasant evening was spent in the Turf Room, Whitlock's Restaurant, by the associates in the poultry industry with Mr. Fred Nash, senior poultry products inspector, who has recently returned to his duties after a six year's absence overseas.

Hon. D. W.J.P. MacMillan has been re-elected a member of the executive of the Canadian Medical Association. He was also re-elected grand councillor of the Cancer Society. The medical convention was held in Banff.

The Poet's Corner

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Potato Rampant

The enthusiasm for diets has been such that the innocent potato has become suspect. "Potatoes are fattening", say some dietary pundits. Because housewives in charge of the menu usually are most diet-conscious this esteemed standby of the Canadian table has had less than its old honor.

Happily to hand is Nutrition Notes, issued by authority of Health Minister Martin. Triumphant vindication for the potato! "The place of potatoes in our Canadian diet is that they should be eaten every day by practically everyone. . . . This food value ability to serve as fuel, although that is their important contribution."

In case anyone is interested and can follow, the Notes quote the Canadian dietary standard which recommended for a 120-pound moderately-active woman "30 mg. vitamin C, 8 mg. thiamine, 1.1 mg. riboflavin and 7.5 mg. niacin". This complicated formula may be placed against the nutritive value of one medium-sized potato "supplying 21 mg. of vitamin C, 14 mg. of thiamine, .05 of riboflavin and 1.5 of niacin."

Not being able to follow such intricacies we accept the conclusion that "even at much more than the present price, potatoes would be a good food to serve on every table every day".

PUSH SUB-DIVISION

TORONTO (CP) — Suburban Markham planning board has approved plans for an exclusive subdivision calculated to rival the swankier outskirts of New York City. It was announced Monday. The 300-acre site will be divided into individual two-acre land parcels for sale to an exclusive clientele. They would enjoy all the amenities of a country club: a swimming pool, lawn bowling, tennis and a golf practice course.

FOREIGN OWNERSHIP

More than half of the shipping tonnage registered in Panama, Honduras and Liberia is Greek-owned.

Employers!

When renewing your unemployment insurance books complete a registration form for each insured employee

This year all insured persons in Canada must be registered, and blank forms, UIC 409R, are being sent to all employers for this purpose. If you have not received yours by June 25th write or phone your local

NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT OFFICE

Unemployment Insurance Commission

C. A. L. Murchison, J. C. Biscoe, R. J. Tilton, Commissioners

Remember: New 1956-57 insurance books cannot be issued without the completion of a registration form.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Human nature is that which makes you swear at the driver when you are a pedestrian when you are a driver. —Montreal Star.

The ability to sin differs among people. Yes, of course. For example, a short-armed fisherman isn't as big a liar as a long-armed one. —Stratford Beacon-Herald

If your feet are cold it may be because your head is uncovered. The physiologists of the Canada's Defence Board don't state it quite like that. But, they report that useful heat escapes from a lidless top, whether it be yours or the kitchen stove's. —Christian Science Monitor

A Florida farmer has been sentenced to jail for contempt of federal court. His offence was that he refused to sign a crop acreage report for the United States department of agriculture. The man figured it was none of the government's business what he had planted—at least, as long as it wasn't marijuana. For that they arrested him. Just as we were musing about the rights and wrongs of that situation we read that Georgia's attorney-general, Eugene Cook, had ruled that a man can fish in his own pond without a license. —Atlanta Constitution

This month's award for mixed metaphors must go to Prof. W.W. Rostow of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, a leading American expert on the U.S.S.R. Testifying before a U.S. Senate committee, on the present position of Russia, Prof. Rostow stated that the F-viet coming was faced with "the coming home to roost of certain chickens which they are still sitting on." One wonders if these unfortunate chickens were the same ones that were counted before they were hatched. —Ottawa Journal



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