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PAGE 6 WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1962

Edge Of The Precipice

Today marks ironically—the 17th anniversary of the coming into force of the United Nations Charter. World-wide preparations have been made to observe this anniversary as United Nations Day, for it is unique in that it is shared by all people of all nations.

In a bulletin received a few days ago from the United Nations Association of Canada, the need for re-dedication to U.N. Charter ideals was emphasized. At this critical point in history, it was felt that the present session of the Assembly would go a long way towards deciding whether it is to be strengthened or weakened in the years immediately ahead.

Since this statement was received, the world has moved perceptibly closer to a nuclear war than it has ever been. It stands, indeed, on the very precipice. This is implicit in the warnings sounded by President Kennedy of an offensive Soviet arms buildup in Cuba and the drastic action the United States has taken to meet this threat.

Let there be no mistake about what this action means. It is a blockade which could lead to a shooting war within the next few hours or days. Blockades are themselves an act of war, and the question now is how Soviet Russia will react to this one.

Mr. Kennedy was at pains to explain the urgent necessity for this move, in view of the threat involved to the whole Western hemisphere of a nuclear attack from the Caribbean. As Canadians, we have no other reasonable course but to support his program of counter measures. We may be more disposed than Americans to ask for proof of U.S. surveillance discoveries in Cuba, but it is inconceivable that President Kennedy would take the grave course he has done without being absolutely convinced of its necessity. We must accept his assurance as a tried ally and free world leader; we have no other course.

Meanwhile, we can only hope that events will not go beyond the point of no return until this matter has been brought before the United Nations. Today's anniversary would mean something indeed if the machinery of this world organization could go into action at once. In any case, it must provide diplomatic alternatives to conflict or be prepared to go out of business altogether. What, indeed, would there be left to build security of any kind on when the nuclear shooting started?

The Tie That Binds

It was only after he had founded a prosperous settlement in Prince Edward Island in 1803-4 that Lord Selkirk turned his attention to the Canadian west, acquired an immense tract of land in the Red River valley, and proceeded to send out settlers there from the Scottish Highlands. Islanders, therefore, have a sentimental interest in the celebration which the Manitoba Historical Society staged last Saturday, commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Red River settlement—particularly since it had as guest speaker Prime Minister Diefenbaker, who is directly descended on his mother's side from the Selkirk pioneers.

The Winnipeg Free Press, which never counts a day well spent without denouncing Mr. Diefenbaker's politics and all its works, had a

genial tributes to pay him on this occasion. For its rarity in our Winnipeg Liberal contemporary's columns, and for its interest to many of our readers on this occasion, we quote it here in part:
"In the years that have gone by since the first settlers arrived at the fork of the Red and Assiniboine, the face of the West has changed beyond recognition. In his own lifetime Mr. Diefenbaker has seen and been part of many of these changes; and through his chosen and highly successful careers, first in law, later in politics, he has made his own distinct contribution to the prairies and to Canada.

"Mr. Diefenbaker has the blood of Selkirk settlers in his veins. He is a man with a strong sense of history and tradition. He was born and raised, and has spent most of his life, on the prairies. It would indeed be difficult to suggest a more appropriate or distinguished figure to commemorate the arrival of our first settlers."

Mr. Diefenbaker's mother, incidentally, was a Bannerman. We had a governor of the same name in this Province in early days. Could it be that there is a family connection here which the historians have overlooked?

Mr. Douglas Elected

Most Canadians, regardless of politics, must have felt like applauding the victory scored by Mr. T. C. Douglas, New Democratic Party national leader, in Monday's federal by-election in Burnaby-Coquitlam. Mr. Douglas won easily over his four opponents, who seemed to have no better argument than the claim that the seat should go to a "local boy."

Well, we have risen above that sort of thing here in Prince Edward Island, when the occasion warranted; and what better representatives did we ever have than the late Hon. Col. Ralston and the late Hon. Charles A. Dunning? One was instrumental in establishing permanently the RCAF Station at Summerside, the other in establishing our car ferry service at Wood Islands. That was only incidental to the national services these gentlemen performed in the Federal Cabinet, but it did show the keen interest they took in the constituencies of their adoption.

Mr. Douglas, of course, won't enter the Diefenbaker Cabinet. But as leader of a national party his place is in the House of Commons. And, regardless of where he sits, there is no doubt that his ability and experience will be an invaluable asset to that body. Burnaby-Coquitlam won't regret having elected him, and the country will be the better for his decision.

The also-rans performed a good service, too; for Mr. Douglas would never feel quite happy if he had had to take the seat as a gift from the parties whose shortcomings he takes such obvious pleasure in denouncing.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The U.S. congressional election is only 13 days away. Opponents of the government have been referring to Cuba as the "dominant issue" of the campaign. President Kennedy has now said, in effect, "How right you are!"

According to an Ottawa despatch, the caseway consultants haven't indicated when they expect to conclude their engineering studies. What about that pre-election assurance that their work would be done, and the caseway started, within two years?

OUR YESTERDAYS

(From the Guardian Files)
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (October 24, 1937)
The Klamath Club was officially organized at a dinner meeting at the Canadian National Hotel last night. Officers elected were Norman Saunders, Roland Taylor and John Chandler. The first meeting of the club formed in the Maritimes within two weeks.

Once again, the Atlantic region shows the heaviest rate of unemployment, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and the Department of Labor. The mid-September figure of this area indicated no improvement from a month earlier. It was 6.9 per cent of the labor force compared with 6.4 per cent at mid-August. The percentage of unemployment in the other six provinces of Canada in mid-September was 3 per cent, one half that of the Atlantic region.



BACKFIELD IN MOTION

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Still Room For Bureaucratic Belt-Tightening

These economies totalling \$8 per cent of planned spending in the army, navy and air force this year, in addition, more bodies are hired for miscellaneous jobs. But despite the austerity cuts, despite the insistence on giving fewer tanks to the front lines, the government will be required to "Operation Belt-tightening" by its overgrown post-austerity budget.

A Strange Triangle

By Carman Cumming Canadian Press Staff Writer

The unclashed India-China war on the "roof of the world" is placing seemingly intolerable strains on the strange political triangle of Moscow, Peking and New Delhi. The three capitals, among them are controlling more than 1,000,000,000 people, for years and have been at loggerheads since the rug was pulled.

The advantages of doing so—of maintaining the old ties of friendship—have been overwhelming. All have big economic problems at home with out stepping on the toes of their neighbors. Now India and China have reached an impasse too big to go under the rug. And in these capitals are being forced to re-appraise their policies.

Slavery Is Not Dead

A century ago Abraham Lincoln freed slaves in the United States. But slavery is far from being banished from the earth. The United Nations says its figures for last year... Leaving aside the slave labor that may still exist in the Communist bloc, the United Nations... In 1956, Thomas Pitt-Fox, secretary of the British Anti-Slavery Society, estimated that there were 500,000 slaves on the Arabian Peninsula. A similar article in the New Republic by Rupert Whitcomb reports that 100,000 slaves exist in the Arab States and Africa, both in fully independent nations and in the protectorates of western powers... Saudi Arabia still the biggest slave dealing country. It even issued official slave dealer licenses. Journalist reports. In 1956, the United Nations... There is strong evidence to suggest that income from oil royalties — western oil royalties — is being used to fund slave labor... The French in the Sahara... It is still the practice to lure Moslems in Africa into taking... and market them for sale in the slave markets. French sources... several years ago established... the going price for girls up to 10 years of age was \$50 to \$100, for boys \$20 to \$40 and for pregnant women several thousand dollars... The UN must keep pressuring for its abolition.

Good Research Often Found In Small Places

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen G.O.D. research often stems from small and out of the way places. Dr. G.A. Oliver and Dr. G.L. Watkins gathered statistics on the prevalence of pertussis from 87 beds rural hospital in Boone, Texas, in 15 years, 1913-1928... Sixty children and 69 men and women over 60 were among the group with ruptured appendix. The only death occurred in a 78-year-old man... Ordinary pneumonia is a relatively mild disease, provided the inflamed organ is removed... There seems to be increased passive resistance to advertising sent through the mails on the long chance of getting an order from a potential recipient who may have moved without leaving an address or may not be interested if still there or may even be dead.

Direct Mail A Flop

Chatham Daily News
believed that better results will be obtained by dropping the direct mail method and spending the money on the newspaper or magazine advertising.

While this report is from the United States it applies to some degree in Canada. A year or so ago there was controversy over the subject of "junk mail" burdening the postal services and letter carriers cluttering up mailboxes and creating a nuisance. Presumably it is not uncommon for people to simply seal stamped, return envelope and mail it back. This means revenue and mail it back. This means revenue and mail it back. This means revenue and mail it back.

The Curious Hoatzin

National Geographic Society

Sink or swim, a young hoatzin is better off in the water than in the air. The unlikely bird lives in fallow overgrown swamps of the South American rivers. The young dove unhesitatingly into the water when danger threatens and even adults climb better than they fly. Airborne, they fall about like sailing helicopters before crash-landing in a tree. J. Lear Grimmer, associate director of the Smithsonian Institution's National Zoological Park, reports on the "Strange Little World of the Hoatzin" in the September issue of National Geographic.

Mr. Grimmer was puzzled by the hoatzin's unique characteristics, both anatomical and behavioral. He called it "Stinking Hannah." Ornithologists isolate it in a family and subordinate it to itself and debate its true relationship to other birds. Called "STINKING HANNAH," Mr. Grimmer made three trips to British Guiana to study the phasianid-like hoatzin. His wife Margaret learned of a curious, meaningful incident from Maurice Barlow, manager of a recent plantation. Seven hoatzins had built nests in an area scheduled for leveling. A bulldozer uprooted their trees. "As soon as we finished, those birds came back to the very spot they had occupied before." Mr. Barlow said, "even though the trees were uprooted and burned."

BULLDOZER DESTROYS NEST

In studying the habits of the hoatzin, Mr. Grimmer and his wife Margaret learned of a curious, meaningful incident from Maurice Barlow, manager of a recent plantation. Seven hoatzins had built nests in an area scheduled for leveling. A bulldozer uprooted their trees. "As soon as we finished, those birds came back to the very spot they had occupied before." Mr. Barlow said, "even though the trees were uprooted and burned."

"Wasn't there any vegetation left for them to eat?" Mr. Grimmer asked. "No," Mr. Barlow added regretfully. "I tried to chase them off, but they wouldn't leave. They apparently starved to death, though other hoatzins were living in plenty of vegetation more than a hundred yards away."

MUSCLE DETERIORATION

S.R. writes: What is meant by a weak heel muscle?

This is not a medical term. I assume it refers to a muscle that has undergone atrophy because of poor circulation or infection.

M.L. writes: Can a child get pneumonia from eating too many sweets?

No. Pneumonia develops from micro-organisms which are swallowed by the child.

REPLY: It might be the film is too dark, or the position of the camera is not large enough to cast a shadow on this film could be felt or diagnosed more readily by palpation.

REPLY: This is not a medical term. I assume it refers to a muscle that has undergone atrophy because of poor circulation or infection.

M.L. writes: Can a child get pneumonia from eating too many sweets?

No. Pneumonia develops from micro-organisms which are swallowed by the child.

Blue calendar of savings... with savings up to 44%... Canadian National... with savings up to 44%... Blue calendar of savings... with savings up to 44%... Canadian National... with savings up to 44%...