

Paying Castro's Price

It is reported that a deal has been reached between the Castro government and a Cuban exile mission for the release of 1,179 prisoners captured in the abortive Cuban invasion a year ago, and that 54 of these prisoners, the sick and wounded, will be flown to Maima tomorrow morning. They will be followed later by the others, after Castro's demand for indemnities totalling \$82,000,000 has been met.

This trade in human beings is deplorable, but it would be equally deplorable to allow the prisoners to rot in Castro's jails for lack of money to pay their ransom. The huge price involved would indicate that the Kennedy administration is underwriting the transaction, though not appearing officially as the payee. Indeed, it was in duty-bound to do so, since the invasion attempt would never have been made but for Washington's encouragement and support. And, possibly, it was Washington's failure to follow through with air support that doomed the attacking Cubans to capture. But the whole affair was a colossal blunder, diplomatically as well as strategically, on which Premier Castro has been capitalizing ever since.

Since his previous trafo-for-prisoners proposal, Castro has upped the price threefold. In his first offer the prisoners were to be released en masse provided a specified number of machines were bought by their well-wishers and sent to Cuba. In the new plan the prisoners have, following a trial, been fined \$25,000 to \$500,000 each, with alternative sentences of up to 30 years' imprisonment. If and as the fines are paid, prisoners may be released.

It is to be hoped that eventually they will all be ransomed, and for this episode brought to a close. Castro's treasury will be enriched thereby, but his callous resort to this form of extortion is not likely to enhance his popularity among his Latin American neighbors. Should Cuba's economy continue its precipitate decline, it is conceivable the ransom price could be beaten down; but that would take more time, and lower still further the prestige of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency responsible for the fate in which the Cuban pawns find themselves. Better to pay the shot and get it over with. And that, presumably, is what the Cuban exile mission has been authorized to do.

The General Won't Run

General McNaughton's announcement that he has no intention of entering politics has put an end to speculation that he might be a Liberal candidate in the next federal election. It is just as well. Whatever the merits of his criticism about the terms of the Columbia River treaty with the United States, and his right to a hearing on this issue, his chances in politics would be doubtful to say the least.

It is recalled that only recently another distinguished old soldier, Lt.-Gen. Charles Foulkes, former Chief of the General Staff, went after the Liberal Party nomination in Victoria, and failed. He should have taken it with ease, but was outmanoeuvred by a rival candidate who edged him out on a vote of 92-90. Which prompted General Foulkes to remark, after the event: "I don't think we military men are too astute when it comes to footwork in politics."

General McNaughton's political

...would be the anti for the King Government's anti-conscription policy in 1944, after he had returned from commanding the Canadian forces overseas following sharp differences with the Imperial General Staff. The General was induced to throw his weight against conscription and enter the King cabinet in place of Defense Minister Ralston, who had resigned over this issue. After being defeated in two elections he went on to other posts, outside politics, to render the distinguished service for which he was commended by Prime Minister Diefenbaker in announcing his resignation as co-chairman of the International Joint Commission.

In two world wars General McNaughton performed services to his country and to the cause of world freedom which it would be shameful for Canada to forget. And his peacetime record as well can easily stand comparison with that of his detractors. But he was just not cut out for the hustings. He is neither a penitentiary orator nor an affable back-slapper. He belongs to that class of gruff patriots for whom partisan intrigues are as mystifying as they are distasteful. As against the more successful practitioners in this art he might as well admit, as did General Foulkes on the occasion above noted: "We are like babes going to the wolves. We are just Red Riding Hoods."

Better for old warriors, unequipped for such combat, to keep away from the wolves' lurking places.

Too Much Snooping

Scientists, who stick their noses into everything from the atom to the universe, are now planning to listen in on the communications between whales. What good it will do them we don't know, but the Milwaukee Journal reports that this idea is in the wind, sparked by a conference the other day of the American Museum of Natural History on the use of telemetry in studying animals. Telemetry is the collection of scientific data and its transmission to a remote station.

Two agenda items, as above noted, was the monitoring of gossip between whales. A subsidiary of an aircraft corporation has thought up an oceanic robot, powered by a muffled airplane engine, which would sneak up on unsuspecting whales and report whatever noises they were making. The robot would be controlled by a mother ship. When it wasn't intruding on the private lives of whales, it could try to eavesdrop on porpoises. The scientists have an idea that these mammals talk to each other and feel no reluctance in trying to overhear them.

There is an old maxim to the effect that listeners never hear good about themselves, and are apt to get an earful of abuse to boot. Perhaps that is too much to hope for in this case, but it would be making the punishment fit the crime. There ought to be a law against this willful invasion of the privacy of inoffensive creatures who just want to be left alone! What they have to say to each other is neither here nor there, so far as we're concerned; and surely our scientists have enough problems to grapple with on earth without snooping around the ocean depths in this manner.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of no national or international importance. All letters are subject to editing and condensation where necessary. The editor reserves the right to enter into any correspondence regarding letters published.

A TRUING

Sir,—I should like to take this opportunity to pay a sincere tribute to the producer, the cast and all those who had anything to do with the production of "Oklahoma!"

To stage a production of this kind requires courage, imagination and above all, technical skill. It is no easy task to coordinate into one smooth flowing whole the efforts of 1200 able-bodied teenagers in dancing, singing and acting; but that was accomplished in "Oklahoma!"

The lessons learned in the classroom are important. The benefits derived from extracurricular activities are also important. I feel very fortunate that those who took part in this splendid production have derived benefits that will not soon be forgotten. Sincerely yours, Mrs. L. M. Dixon. I hope that it will long be a memory more worth while entertainments.

W. M. Sir, et c.

SATELLITE BUS



RICKSHAW BOY

ISRAEL BY ITSELF

No Support In The Security Council

M.F. In The Winnipeg Free Press

Overlooking the shore and the adjacent waters. The military advantage here is in favor of Syria, since the shore and the water 700 feet below sea level are dominated by the high ground on the Syrian side.

The armistice commission has conferred. Syria has been involved in the attacks on Israeli vessels on the lake, was occupied and destroyed, after precautions had been taken to ensure that no harm would be done to the inhabitants of the adjacent Arab village of Niqulla in the demilitarized zone.

Britain's Obligations

By Doug Marshall, Canadian Press Staff Writer

Britain has reassured the six Common Market countries that she accepts the political obligations as well as the economic benefits of market membership. Edward Heath, the lord privy seal, said in a speech before the Foreign Affairs Committee in London this week that Britain now is ready to help them draw a new political map of Europe.

Since negotiations between a federal system that preserves present national autonomy in favor of a confederation—a "Europe of the Fatherlands"—by France, Italy, West Germany, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg, the British have had to criticism in London and on the Continent that the political issues were being deliberately hidden from the British people because of the delicate problem of national sovereignty.

Planned Madness

Financial Post, Toronto

"If we develop and implement an aggressive preparedness program, it should be possible to establish within a few months after a possible nuclear attack a level of economic activity which would support a standard of living about equal to that of the 1930s, and that our present level."

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files TWENTY - FIVE YEARS AGO (April 13, 1937)

St. Dunstan's Dramatic Guild presented two one-act plays Monday evening. The first play under the direction of Mrs. Frederick MacMillan provided forty-five minutes of light comedy. The second play entitled "The" was written by McQuaid, a member of the Guild, was warmly received. All these taking received heartiest congratulations.

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"To all of this horrendous destruction of life and property the reaction of national planners is to investigate the range of possible economic bottlenecks which might occur. Speed up a national shelter program to preserve as many lives as possible, that is, however, simply not good enough."

Those who are responsible for the conduct of a country's defence policy must have a precise sense of how Spengler's dilemma would be caused by attacks of differing vicarities. But the lesson of Britain's particular case is "war-gaming" is, surely, to emphasize that nuclear war is the ultimate insanity of the human race and must be averted.

KILL 74 VIET CONG

SAIGON (AP) — South Viet Nam government forces killed 74 Communist Viet Cong guerrillas in widespread operations Sunday. The Viet Cong suffered 25 dead and six wounded.

Damage To Disc Is Often Result Of Whiplash

By Dr. Theodore H. Van Dellen

THE WHIPLASH injury occurs usually in the neck while in a stopped car that is struck from behind. The head is thrown forward and the neck is jerked backward. This happens only to the neck because it is much more flexible than the rest of the lower back.

But the term whiplash describes only how the neck is hurt. It does not tell what part of the structure is injured. It is important because the neck contains vertebrae, ligaments, tendons, fascia, blood vessels. To treat a muscle sprain, dislocated vertebrae, disk injury, a spinal ligament due to a whiplash injury is more meaningful.

One of the most troublesome of the whiplash injuries follows damage to the intervertebral discs between two neck vertebrae. The disk degenerates, the vertebrae come closer together and there is pressure on the spinal cord and nerves. The back of the neck is hurt because the head is moved up or down or to the right or left. There is a sharp pain in the neck as well as in the shoulders and arms.

Many victims of disk injury improve after the head is placed in traction or when a few neck exercises are done. In some cases several weeks. Surgery may be needed should these measures fail to relieve pain.

A surgical team from Johns Hopkins university perfected an operation in which the diseased disk is removed and replaced by a bone graft, obtained from the hip bone. It is shaped properly, cut into the space between the vertebrae. The graft fuses with the other bone and, in time, the individual is almost as good as new. Approximately 75 per cent are benefited markedly. From this procedure, 10 per cent there was no improvement.

Spasms and arthritic changes resulting from whiplash injury respond to heat, massage, traction or the use of a brace. Daily head bending exercises are helpful. Strengthening exercises, stretching the irritated flexor muscles.

(Dr. Van Dellen will answer questions on medical topics if you write to him at the above address.)

DIZZY ON WALKING

W. R. writes: I was hospitalized for 18 months because of a severe vertigo. I was left with only a slight limp of the left foot. But the thing is, I get dizzy on walking. I don't feel as if I would fall. Is this the result of the stroke?

REPLY

Possibly, the REPLY should not be blamed for everything that develops from now on. It should not be called an opinion that ought to be investigated.

PHOBIAS ARE NEUROSES

O. K. writes: Is a phobia considered a neurotic illness?

REPLY

Yes. Not only is fear abnormal but the reaction to the fear is greatly exaggerated. It is a phobia because the phobia is afraid to go into a small room or elevator because he is afraid of the dark and weak. He will sweat profusely and have palpitation when he is confined in a small space.

WEIGHT AND ASTHMA

W. R. writes: My doctor tells me I have asthma but my friends won't believe it, as they say I'm too fat to have this illness. Is it true that only thin people develop asthma?

REPLY

No. Asthma can come in all sizes, small, medium, and large.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT—

Self-surgery is needed from time to time.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

Whatever your station in life, there are always plenty of friends to tell you where to get off. — Brandon Sun.

It is quite difficult to get laboratory mice to inhale cigarettes. Mice are smarter than humans, apparently, in that they do not inhale. — Christian Science Monitor.

Opportunity would be much more enthusiastically welcomed when he knocks if it weren't for the fact that it is invariably accompanied by his tough twin brother, Work. — Nanaimo Free Press.

The current issue of the glossy propaganda magazine, Soviet Union Today, carries an article on life and hard work in the USSR. The article is written and notes proudly: "Women Hunter I. G. Banakhanova has been hunting rabbits and animals in Canada. So have a lot of women we know in Canada. — Toronto Star.

If we were to see an inmate of a race-horse track who were told that in five thousand persons had perished in the flames, we should be deeply moved. Such a nightmarish picture would be presented if all the fire tragedies across Canada during the past 10 years were gathered together in one place. — Hamilton Spectator.

Tawdry Protagonists

Cape Breton Post

THE famous romance of Owen Moore and Cleopatra has the virtue of poetry. Shakespearean blank verse, but seems tawdry when the protagonists are film stars enacting the two historic roles, who are unable to see the difference between the shadow and the substance.

It is a common notion that, for publicity purposes, screen stars in lovers' roles are expected to work up a real romance in the process of a picture being filmed. This is supposed to be good for the box office. Sometimes, the romance is no more than make-believe. The individual is almost as good as new. Approximately 75 per cent are benefited markedly. From this procedure, 10 per cent there was no improvement.

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Chairman, Farm Credit Corporation

OTTAWA

\$16,000 PER ANNUM

Applications are invited for the position of Chairman, Farm Credit Corporation, Ottawa. The Chairman is responsible to the Minister of Agriculture for the administration of the Farm Credit Act and for directing the activities of the Corporation with Head Office at Ottawa and Branch Offices throughout Canada. He is required to make recommendations to the Minister on matters of policy, organization and administration, and to maintain liaison with federal and provincial agencies and departments and Farm Organizations.

Qualifications include a broad and thorough understanding of agriculture and types of farming in Canada, a good appreciation of the credit needs of Canadian farmers and a number of years of administrative experience at the executive level in related work.

Applications in writing, giving full details as to background and experience, should be addressed to: DIRECTOR, ORGANIZATION AND PERSONNEL, CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONFEDERATION BUILDING, OTTAWA.

Please quote Competition No. 62-P-AGR-111.

To ensure consideration applications should be received by May 5, 1962.

Prison Romance

Fran McKearney is engaged to a man once listed as Boston's Public Enemy No. 1 and now serving a 36 to 46-year prison sentence in Walpole, Mass. The strange romance began when she sent him a Christmas card from Yukon where she worked as a secretary. Covert correspondence developed a bond of understanding that resulted in her going south to see him and in their becoming engaged. This Saturday, Weekend Magazine brings you the full story of their unusual romance and shows them hoping patiently for a possible parole and a wedding outside prison walls.

THE EVENING PATRIOT