

A Generous Gesture

It is a matter of pleasure and satisfaction to all concerned that the Federal Government has undertaken to pay, not only an interim grant of \$250,000 to the Fathers of Confederation Memorial Foundation for architectural work on the centennial buildings to be erected here on Queen Square, but one-half the cost of construction of the buildings themselves, up to a maximum of \$2,800,000.

In making this announcement Prime Minister Diefenbaker said a condition of the buildings grant would be that the contract would not be awarded until the Government is satisfied that the Foundation has sufficient funds in hand to cover full construction costs.

As the Prime Minister said, participation by Canadians generally in this great memorial project is essential if the contributions are to be truly significant. His statements were promptly endorsed by Opposition Leader Lester Pearson and Mr. W.H. Herridge, House leader for the CCF-New Democratic Party group, thus indicating a unanimity of opinion rarely shown with respect to government policy announcements.

It is this evidence of enthusiasm and unanimity which is most touching. Frank MacKinnon, as chairman of the Memorial Foundation, has expressed the gratitude of that body for the generous grants that have been made available, and there is no doubt that this expresses the feeling of all our citizens. Since our Legislature is now in session, you will not forget policies there and put through a warm, unanimous resolution to the same effect?

Commonwealth Experiment

When the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan was drawn up at the first Commonwealth Education Conference at Oxford in July, 1959, it aimed, among other things, at founding 1,000 two-year postgraduate scholarships for outstanding students in universities throughout the Commonwealth. The first annual report of the Plan was published last November, and since then its rapid progress has been discussed in a broadcast by the editor of a British educational journal. Some of the facts brought out in this review are of wide general interest.

At the start, Britain promised 800 scholarships, Canada 250, and offers came in from other countries to make up the total. The scheme was under way in Britain, Canada and New Zealand in the autumn of 1960. Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia and South Africa followed in the spring of 1961, and by the opening of the Second Commonwealth Education Conference in New Delhi in January 1962, there were some 700 Commonwealth scholars resident in some fourteen or fifteen different countries. The target figure should be reached twelve months or so later.

So far there have been about 22,000 applications for the target figure of 1,000 scholars. Even this is not a very large number out of the whole Commonwealth, and one which the Plan could do with advantage. It is expected that, as the years go by, more and more of our citizens will need more money. One thing that can be predicted with some certainty is that it will be used in developing educational cooperation within the Commonwealth.

The basis of its administrative structure is not a central authority, but a series of bilateral agreements between pairs of Commonwealth countries. A remarkably efficient and speedy piece of work has been done on this basis, and may well serve as a pattern for Commonwealth co-operation in other important fields.

In numerical terms, the scholarships do not go very far to answer the shortage of trained manpower throughout the Commonwealth, but that has not been the principal aim of the scheme. There are other sources of aid for higher education, for instance 55,000 overseas students, mostly from the Commonwealth, are now attending British universities and colleges, as compared with something under 400 Commonwealth Scholars, mainly postgraduate. The Commonwealth Scheme is at the same time more ambitious and on a smaller scale; it is an experiment in academic co-operation as wide as the Commonwealth itself.

Getting Them Through

One of the hardest ordeals for a cabinet minister is in getting his estimates through the House of Commons. It is more of a free-for-all there than it is in the local Legislature, and a session rarely passes without some minister coming to grief at the hands of Opposition sharpshooters. Some entertaining comments on the techniques employed by ministers in this connection are given in the Ottawa Journal by Richard O'Connor, a press gallery scribbler of experience, which we take the liberty of summarizing here.

First, says Mr. Jackson, there are really only two ways of getting your departmental estimates through. You can "sweet talk" then pass a disarmed House, lured into comfortable relaxation by your charm, or you can bulldoze them through, amid the fury of political battle.

Either way, if you do it well, you are in charge; it's your show. But if you try to follow the "safe" middle course, administering neither soothing syrup nor biting acid to the House, you can be merely dull. Worse, you can lose control, and the House, taking charge, can walk you around for weeks.

By far the most professional experiment of the "sock 'em and rock 'em" method of jack-hammering estimates through the House is Works Minister Walker. He has treated the Commons with a "cream 'em rough" reputation solidly built on his years of criminal law, and he successfully adapted the technique of the courts to the Commons with his conduct of the Printing Press probe.

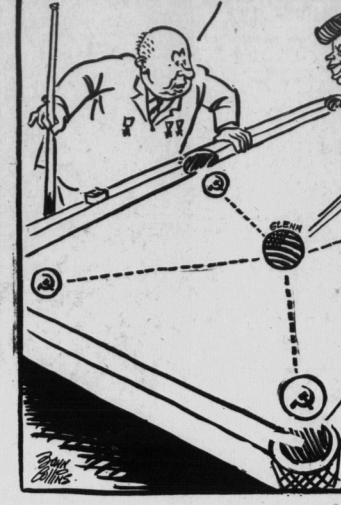
With his estimates, the Works Minister is uniquely on the spot. His are the only ones that spell out the departmental spending to the very last nickel, and on those things that are closest to any MP's heart—post offices, bridges, housing and all manner of public construction. Questions about them can go on and on, unless the minister can create an image—as Mr. Walker appears to be doing—of being so painfully prickly, as to be, like a porcupine, best left alone.

Former Liberal Air Minister C. G. "Chubby" Power even to this day remains the finest exponent of the parliamentary school of sweet talk. He got his estimates through by pleading guilty, in advance, of inadequacy, and inviting criticism. He would almost beg MPs to lash him for his awful shortcomings, and would plead with them to help him better measure up in the days ahead. It was a brilliant scheme. But it didn't always work; for MPs knew all along that there was nothing humble about Chubby Power, a political foe whom he could be deadly in the infighting when the gloves were off and no holds barred.

EDITORIAL NOTES

An electronic fault-finder, developed in 1960 for the North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board, is operating successfully in one of the most remote regions of the Highlands. Before the fault-finder was installed, it was extremely difficult to locate breakdowns on the isolated 2,500-foot Corryvreckan Pass—especially in winter when the area is covered with snow and ice. The new system has proved so successful that it has been ordered for use from the United States, Russia, the Scandinavian countries and Pakistan to have made special trips to Scotland to see the prototype of the plant in Edinburgh.

NICE SHOT—ER—COULD WE—ER—POOL OUR RESOURCES?



POOL TABLE

Emerging Into The 20th Century

National Geographic News Bulletin

Wars, inhabit the midland. The Nepal people are tribesmen armed with bows and arrows. CONSIDERED SCARED Nepal, which means "land of the gods," is studied with richly carved Hindu temples and Buddhist shrines. The official religion is Hinduism, but many people are Buddhists. In Kathmandu, more than 300 temples stand along the twisting streets and spacious squares. Bells clang and gongs thum through the shrines almost continuously. Saffron-robed monks and nuns, carrying prayer wheels and prayer flags, are seen everywhere. In the hills, a cow is murdered, punishable by death. Inconspicuously the palace has neon and fluorescent lighting.

British Bylections

By David Ouncie, Canadian Press Writer

A resounding electoral victory has beaten Britain's Liberals as the nation heads into a rugged and perilous life. Dick Taverne, 33-year-old London lawyer, boosted the Labour majority in Lincoln to 7,822 votes—a jump of 75 per cent over the 1950 general election. Political analysts were quick in advancing the broad implications for the future shape of British politics from this perspective. "Labour checks drift to the Liberals," says The London Evening Standard. Then its political correspondent the confident that the party could do as well in the next general election it could form a government with a majority of at least 50 seats. "Labour Triumphs at Lincoln," says The London Evening News. This paper adds that the Conservatives received was far more severe than expected. LIBERALS DID WELL Taverne easily whipped his Liberal opponents. But the Liberals, who contested Lincoln

for the first time in a decade, polled almost 7,000 of the more than 37,000 ballots cast. The Liberal candidate Patrick Furell got most of his votes from the Conservative share of the voting drop 15 per cent and that of Labour at 10 per cent. Party strategists preparing for the next by-elections, including three next week, now are trying to divine whether this is a sign of a more general disenchantment with Prime Minister Macmillan's government. NO PANIC The Conservative party gains no reason for panic. They advance the view that the government has had a run of misfortune, and that the result is a mid-term swing against the party in office. The best test for the Liberals, heartened by this week's result comes at Oxford in next week. They hope to win in this constituency just outside London. If this does happen, the Liberal revival they've been talking about would be well advanced to acquire a new momentum of its own.

Knososs Conundrum

Mitwaken Journal

For the archeologists, it is not South Vietnam nor the Common Market that is the problem; it is the Cretan era. Was this accepted cultural and historical period? Evans found ruins of the late Sir Arthur Evans, giant of the profession, describe a portion of it from insufficient evidence? The dispute is shaking the leaders of Britain, particularly in the former Cretan city of Knossos, in the early years of the century. Evans found ruins of a magnificent palace. From his "digs" he arrived at dates for 2,000 years before the Christian era. Archeologists had long accepted Crete as seat of an early Mediterranean civilization and cultural bridge between Egypt, Asia Minor and Greece. Evans produced an independent opinion. But the Liberals, who contested Lincoln

The Age Old Story

But new age God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him.

PROBE MASS KILLINGS

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. (AP) The Federal Bureau of Investigation is looking into a prisoner's case of mass killings on West Virginia's New River in 1959. The FBI was brought into the case Wednesday after a state grand jury requested another crime surprised city detectives by saying he and five friends robbed and killed 15 or 16 refugees aboard a small yacht and dumped their bodies into the sea.

Over-Exertion Must Be Avoided When Pregnant

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

DEAR DR. VAN DELLEN: What is the general medical consensus regarding skiing while pregnant (so long as the ski is not too fast)?

Most physicians advise pregnant women to avoid any activity in which there are sudden changes in momentum, jolts, or the likelihood of injury. Skiing fits into this picture although there is less risk during the first three months while the fetus is still in the uterus for three months. An expert could aid a little longer, provided she selected a gentle slope. But why take a chance?

The same can be said of ice skating, or riding a roller coaster, horseback, or a jeep over a rough road. Golf, tennis, ping-pong, and similar activities if done at a mild pace. Much depends upon the skill of the woman and the ease with which the pregnant can be carried on.

Pregnant women need exercise to freshen their blood and diversion. Those who do their own housework get enough exercise but the exercise also meets the needs of the majority. The most important consideration is to avoid anything that is tiresome, and overfatigue is not good.

The question of employment, travel, and bathing also comes up repeatedly. What has been said in this picture applies to work. No truck driving or operating air hammers, please. Long and heavy work, such as labor, and constant standing should be avoided. Many countries have laws concerning the employment of pregnant women. They must stop working six to eight weeks prior to confinement.

Cleanliness is encouraged. During the last three months a shower or sponge bath is preferred. The main objection to a tub bath is that the water temperature has been too high. It is the danger of slipping and falling that is the most important. Pregnant women are awkward or top heavy.

Dr. Van Dellen will answer questions on medical topics if stamped, self-addressed envelope accompanies request.

CHUSING IN THE SUN

S. P. writes: I have had two cancers removed so far. I would like to take a water cruise by ship. Do you think my skin could take the sun's rays, especially on the water?

Yes. Numerous protective salves and ointments are available that screen out some of the sun's rays. Sunbats also are on the market; they require a prescription and, in use, take about half an hour. You are a woman—several stores rebates. Have a good time.

START EARLY?

N. T. writes: Would it be wise to start children on a cholesterol diet?

REPLY No, but it might teach them to eat well balanced meals that are not topheavy in fatty products and sweets. But in the other hand, by the time your youngsters are 50, medical science may have found that the cholesterol level is related to a hormone rather than to the diet.

LE CELLS

Mrs. M.R. writes: If a person has lupus erythematosus, will it show up in blood tests?

REPLY Yes. LE cells are found in the blood of 70 per cent victims. Other blood changes can be detected, too.

SPOTS FROM GRIEF

E. S. writes: Could great grief lead to spots before the eyes in an older woman?

REPLY Yes, but a disorder of the retina is more likely than spots in the eyes. It is likelier cause in the older age group.

PREVENTION

M. F. writes: How do birth control pills work?

By preventing ovulation, the ovaries are put to rest in the same way as after an abortion. Pregnancy begins.

NOTES BY THE WAY

If it be true that "a little learning is a dangerous thing," most pupils and students are living dangerously. —Galt Report

About 19 times out of 20 when a person says, "Let's be realistic," he really means, "Let's be delusional." —Nanamoto F. e. e. Press.

The astronauts employ a terse vocabulary, for the most part, that is refreshing contrast to the pompous and many-voiced words so much in fashion even among educators nowadays. —Ontario News.

We can think of no more innocent way of bringing voters than printing all government checks in English and French languages, something French Canadians have wanted for a long time. It will cost virtually nothing and is a good way of emphasizing that Canada has two languages. Now if we can get the banks to cash them twice! —Hamilton Spectator.

Safety In The Air

Ottawa Citizen

The worst disaster in civil aviation history involving a single aircraft occurred in three days of each other. The first, near New York's life-size airport, occurred on the second day of the month. The second happened thousands of miles away in another continent. In each case the aircraft took place immediately after takeoff. The third, a Boeing 707, was the most meticulous care is taken in the handling of an airplane, by its pilots, its crew, its passengers, and its ground crew. The chances of human error or mechanical failure are reduced to an absolute minimum. Yet, in the past, episodes of early March may yield their lessons, and make their own contributions to increased air safety in the future. When as much is done to curb the incidence of death and injury on the roads, there will be cause for gratification indeed.

Burma Dictatorship

Montreal Gazette

The overthrow of Premier U Nu, the first time in the history of the overthrow of a military dictatorship for a constitutional democracy, does not seem to be a promising sign.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From the Guardian Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

(Mar. 12, 1937) A record and most unusual sight greeted the residents of Carleton on a recent fine morning in Ottawa. The overthrow of a military dictatorship for a constitutional democracy, does not seem to be a promising sign.

TEN YEARS AGO

(Mar. 12, 1932) The 14th class of air navigators to receive their wings at the Air Navigation School at Summerside, Saturday afternoon in a colorful parade. The presentation of Wings and Scrolls was made by a high ranking visitor to the Station, Chief of the Italian Air Force, General Di Squadra Aldo Orsi.

REMEMBER

Allan MacDonald and Walter Reid, of the St. Dunstan's University Debating team, won the Dominion championship held in Ottawa, Saturday.

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