

Reassuring Trend

Although the threat of integration has seemed to hang heavily over the family farm in recent years, it appears now that this time-honored institution has been strengthening its position in North American agriculture. This is the view expressed in Country Guide, a Manitoba farm journal of national repute, which predicts that the family farm is a long way from being on the ropes.

Cited in this connection is a report from the United States Department of Agriculture, showing that about 96 per cent of all farms in the U.S. are still operated by individual farm families. These farms accounted for about 70 per cent of all farm marketings in 1959 as compared with only about 66 per cent in 1944.

Too much emphasis, Country Guide believes, is placed on depicting integration as a threat to family farm life. It is neither possible nor desirable to halt the march of progress or to return to the day of the horse and buggy. This is no reason for adopting a doctrine of despair, or crying out for protection against the developments that are taking place in society. Rather the need is to take advantage of the opportunities that are opening up each day.

Our expanding population has greater purchasing power and therefore is spending more money on food than ever before. The challenge facing farmers is to move toward expanded and more efficient production, and seek out better ways to serve the market.

The first of these objectives will be aided materially in this Province by the enlargement of the facilities at the Charlottetown station of the Experimental Farm, as announced yesterday by the director, Mr. Parent. The contribution this institution has made to solving our farmers' production problems has been great throughout the years. Now, with added emphasis being given to soil research, cereal and forage crops, and dairy cattle breeding and management, we can look for still more gratifying results.

These researches can all be said to be geared to preserving the family farm and making it more capable of survival in the years ahead. They indicate, too, that Ottawa is under no doubt as to the national benefits that will accrue from encouraging our producers in this manner.

Preparing For Trouble

Australia is suddenly waking up to the fact that it is face to face with a growing threat from the north. It comes from Sukarno's Indonesia, which is engaged in attacks on the newly created Asian nation of Malaysia and has quit the United Nations so that it can prosecute its aim more belligerently. Sukarno already holds control of half of the island of New Guinea to the north of Australia, and the Australian half is exposed even now to infiltration by Indonesia, armed by Russia and Red China.

An indication of how serious the defense problem is regarded in Australia may be judged from its decision to resort to peacetime conscription in order to raise the needed manpower. In the First World War, Australians rejected any kind of conscription in two nation-wide referendums. In the Second World War a wartime draft was adopted, but only volunteers could be sent to duty beyond the islands of Australia. Prime Minister Menzies has

now warned that "we must be prepared for all eventualities, including the defense of the New Guinea frontier."

Australians in token numbers are already with American forces in Viet Nam, and are in Thailand to help stem the southward thrust of Communism.

It is proposed to increase the active army from 22,750 to 37,500 by 1968, to step up manpower in the air force from 16,600 to 21,000 over the same period, to increase the navy from 12,900 to 16,700, and the military budget by about 50 per cent over the current rate.

These figures may seem small, but it is to be remembered that although Australia is a country of three million square miles—the size of continental United States—it has a population of only 11.2 million people.

Right now, according to the Australian Labor Party opposition leader, "the Indonesian air force could give us 24-hour notice, but if they came, we could not save one city. The destruction of Australian lives and property would be enormous." If the United States is forced, or in the end decides to pull out of South Vietnam, this danger for Australia from the north could quickly grow to crisis proportions.

We are providentially removed from threats of this kind in Canada, but we have had close ties with our old Commonwealth partner and have a right to be concerned at the gravity of the situation with which she, along with Malaysia—a newer partner—is confronted.

Blaming The Press

Mr. Colin Cameron, NDP member from the West Coast, has come up with an explanation of Parliament's miserable showing in 1964. As quoted in the Winnipeg Free Press, he attributes the fault not to the MPs, individually or as a body, but the newspapers, the radio and TV. These organs of communication were bent on presenting "a distorted picture of Parliament," he told a meeting in Nanaimo.

The only time a member makes news, Mr. Cameron complained, is when he makes a fool of himself, while the solid and important transactions of Parliament "are relegated to the back pages or are ignored." As a result, Mr. Cameron said he feels "a bitter grudge against the press of Canada for what they have done to your Parliament and your government."

This excuse for the undoubted decline of the prestige of Parliament last year, says our Winnipeg contemporary, may be balm to members of that body but it is unlikely to convince anyone else. Canadian newspapers gave their front pages to everything worthwhile that was transacted at the 1964 session. If one also finds many stories about crass and juvenile actions of many MPs, this does not mean that the press made up these stories out of the whole cloth. One need only refer to Hansard (11,350 pages in 1964) and judge for oneself the behavior of our parliamentarians.

The surprising thing, indeed, is that the press gallery men, whose business it is to provide parliamentary coverage for newspapers across the nation, were able to make as much sense out of this mass of verbiage as they did.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Britain has reason for complaining that her trade balance with Canada is far from right. This point was made by a United Kingdom spokesman at a Canadian Chamber of Commerce luncheon in London the other day. He said that although Britain is selling more than \$1,500,000 worth of goods in North America, Canada alone is selling more than twice that much to Britain.

Cut rates that will save U.S. phone users some \$100 million a year are to go into effect after Feb. 1. They will represent new bargain times for long distance calls, station to station. Daily from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. the cost will be \$1.50 instead of \$1.75. After 8 p.m. the bill will go down to \$1 and will be in effect from 9 p.m. until 4:30 a.m. On Sundays, all day, it will be \$1 instead of \$1.75. The American Telephone and Telegraph Company is to spend \$3.5 billion during 1965 to improve its services. In Canada these reductions are reported under study.



"IT'S SORT OF A CANADIAN VERSION"

THE SPEAKER'S POWER

Held Even After Parliament Dissolves

Toronto Globe and Mail

Parliament is composed of rules and conditions. Mr. E.F. Whelan (L. Essex South) said recently in the Commons that he was "amazed to find out how this institution we call Parliament was run." So are many others who were interested by his effort to end an apparent contradiction.

Mr. Whelan introduced a bill to give the Clerk of the House powers now held by the Speaker during dissolution of Parliament. It was "talked out" and got nowhere. What puzzled him, indeed appeared to irritate him, was the situation in which the Speaker held power after dissolution although the Speaker has to be an MP and there are no MPs when Parliament is dissolved.

NO VACUUM Mr. Whelan thought unconstitutional the clause in the House of Commons Act which says the Speaker of Parliament shall be deemed to be the Speaker until a new one is chosen. In other words the Speaker can go about deciding what members shall have what offices in the Parliament Buildings when Parliament is dissolved and exercising other powers.

Mr. Whelan, to be specific, was disturbed to find Hon. Marcel Lambert, Speaker in the former Conservative Government, checking on offices of members in the West Block after the 1963 election which returned a Liberal minority government. The fact is that Parliament long ago—as Mr. Lambert pointed out in the recent debate—recognized there could be no vacuum. Someone has to be available to decide who shall have office space. If this were not done, a new Parliament would assemble with none of the housekeeping arranged.

BEST SOLUTION To have such tasks performed by the Clerk of the House would involve that official, as Mr. Stanley Knowles (NDP—Winnipeg North Centre) pointed out, in decisions which are sometimes thought to be political. That would be intolerable. In other words Parliament from long experience makes sensible arrangements which may appear contradictory or unconstitutional. What we sometimes forget is that Parliament makes the constitution, the law

and the rules, and they seem to work. If it would now devise a system to make its men and

manner as good as its rules we'd sing merrily and hey no-ny no.

U.K. Auto Market Problem

By Harold Morrison Canadian Press Staff Writer

The most obvious move Britain could make, to offset the impact of the Canada-United States agreement on duty-free trade in automobiles, would be to establish major assembly lines in Canada to safeguard and enhance a North American market that takes about \$165,000,000 of British cars a year. But the British motor industry after a cold, hard look at Canadian opportunities, suggests this is impractical. A spokesman for the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders maintains the Canadian market is relatively small and seasonal. Distribution costs would be high because of the geographical distance stretching from Newfoundland to British Columbia.

British manufacturers find it costs less to ship a vehicle from Britain to Vancouver via the Panama Canal than it does to ship it by rail or truck from Eastern Canada. When the argument is raised that other foreign producers, such as the French, are taking up the challenge by establishing in Canada, the response is usually one of "wait and see." For Britain, the thought of shifting production to Canada is unattractive. This poses a major problem for Britain's export drive.

Having been shut out of the European Common Market through the veto of French Pres-

ident de Gaulle, Britain is becoming more sensitive of what other moves may be made in the world to establish trade blocs in which British goods may not find ready buyers.

There is some concern in Britain there might be developing in North America a nucleus of a common market that could spread from automobiles to other products. Britain, therefore, is likely to put up a stiff battle for her North American position. The British motor industry is pressing the government for support and the British position may harden when the U.S. comes before the General Agreement on Tariffs on Trade to seek a waiver to allow duty-free entry of Canadian vehicles. Canada allows British vehicles in duty-free while the U.S. charges the most favored-nation rate of 6 1/2 per cent. Some British manufacturers feel they can live with this 6 1/2 per cent. They are more concerned with Canadian anti-dumping regulations under which Britain cannot sell motor vehicles in Canada at a price less than the prevailing in the home market without paying Canada the difference in the form of a dumping duty.

There is some feeling in British quarters if Canada would make some concession in this area, the pressure against the Canada-U.S. vehicle agreement may ease.

Warfare In Miniature

Montreal Star

In some parts of Europe and Asia there are found beetles carrying the appropriate name "bombardier." When aroused they "fire" rearward, a sharp "pop" accompanying the action, a jet of poison which kills some other insects and smart human skin briefly. Many insects brew poison for their enemies, but these are the only ones which shoot it at tormentors and because of its nature, there can be few others, if any, who possess such an elaborate sort of armament. It involves a reaction very much like the explosion in a man-made gun.

The first theory, really a credit to its originator, who was a military surgeon, with one of Napoleon's armies, was that the active principle was saltpetre.

The truth was lately found out by a team of investigators at the German University of Erlangen-Nurnberg.

The bombardier beetle manufactures three chemicals, two forms of hydroquinone (an ingredient in photographic developer) and hydrogen peroxide. Since they would blow him up if he kept them together, he stores them separately until he gets ready to fire by mixing them in the "breach" of his gun. His aim, like that of the skunk, is good and he takes aim, unlike the human trikotnik artist, without the benefit of mirrors.

Variations In Blood Pressure Speaking for Myself

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

"What is my blood pressure today, doctor?" is one of the most common questions asked by patients. We suspect they are trying to conceal their concern. Some are satisfied when told the reading is lower, the same, or slightly higher. Others want us to be more specific. "What is it?" they often ask, and write it down for their records.

Readings taken every two minutes in the normal individual show a variation of 10 points. Knowing this may save unnecessary anxiety the next time the physician says the pressure has gone up or down 10 mm. hg. This means the reading is the same as before.

The blood pressure usually is taken under ideal conditions. The exception is when the person is concerned about the examination and cannot relax. The resting blood pressure is lower than it is when the person is active, tense, or excited. This is as it should be, because the body needs more blood under these conditions. The hypertensive differs from the normotensive in that there is a greater fluctuation in the reading.

New methods of automatic recording of blood pressure have made it possible to study variations throughout the day and night. Small instruments are taped on the individual, who goes about his business as the blood pressure is recorded continuously without the help of a nurse or physician. These readings are surprising because up to now we did not realize how much the pressures varied in the normal individual. For example, the blood pressure in some may fall to 80 (systolic) during sleep.

It is estimated there are five million hypertensives in the United States. The outlook is better when the blood pressure goes up after age 60 than before. The mortality rate increases when there is a coexisting obesity, kidney disease, or diabetes. It is encouraging to know there are many wonderful drugs available for treatment and that, since 1950, the death rate from this disease has dropped markedly.

SHE WANTS TO BE ALONE

S. W. writes: What are your comments on a widowed mother in her seventies who prefers the company of dogs and total exclusion of people except her daughter?

REPLY Some older people become recluses. Others detach themselves from society and prefer to be alone or limit their contacts to a relative or pet. If this woman is happy in her way of life, let her alone.

DIABETES AND SUGAR C. M. W. writes: My six-year-old niece uses three teaspoons of sugar on her breakfast cereal. Could this amount of sugar cause diabetes?

REPLY No. A disorder of the pancreas is responsible for diabetes. This disease involves the metabolism of sugars but is not caused by eating too much of this product.

HAY FEVER AND PNEUMONIA V. S. writes: Are people with hay fever more likely than others to develop pneumonia?

REPLY No, but should it happen, the combination is a toughie. Respiratory infections often trigger attacks of asthma.

(NOTE: All correspondence to Dr. Van Dellen should be addressed to: Dr. Theodore Van Dellen, c/o Chicago Tribune, Chicago, Illinois.)

North Meets South

Toronto Globe and Mail

Mr. Lemass met other members of the Northern Irish Cabinet at a tea party which followed the conference between the heads of state. Later a joint communique was issued which stated that matters of mutual interest were discussed and further meetings were planned.

The subjects discussed are believed to have included U.S. trade and tourism and the future of the Dublin-Belfast railway which is operating at a heavy loss.

REDS ELECT LEADER TORONTO (CP) — William Kashtan, 36, of Toronto was elected national leader of the Communist Party of Canada Tuesday by unanimous endorsement of the party's 62-member national committee.

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