

Enforcing The Rules

Since parliamentary rules are applicable to provincial legislatures as well as to the House of Commons, there will be very wide interest in the efforts which this session to put a curb on irrelevant questions.

The question period gives members an opportunity to ask questions of the cabinet and is certainly one of the fundamental rights of Parliament; but the trouble is that the period may be used for all manner of purposes, not directly or simply related to obtaining information.

These rules, as defined in Beauchamp's authoritative work, "Rules and Forms of the House of Commons of Canada," sufficiently indicate the range of questions that are outside the proper narrow limits.

According to the Montreal Gazette, the new Speaker's determination to return to the rules has been made all the more difficult because his immediate predecessor in office, Mr. Roland Mitchener, allowed the members wide latitude in questioning. Mr. Lambert, in consequence, is resisting not only the long and loose practice of the years, but the fact that members have been accustomed to a very recent latitude.

However, it is to be hoped the Speaker will stick to his guns. If the rules are too strict they should be changed, but that is not his business. It would be a strange requirement, as The Gazette says, that he who is appointed to uphold the rules should be resentful for enforcing them.

Japanese Example
If necessity is the mother of invention, the Japanese are surely among its brightest offspring. They have proved this in their tremendously expanded trade and industrial activities. Now, a new generation of young farmers in Japan is creating a virtual revolution in the nation's foodstuffs, and they are doing this by making an intensive study of agricultural methods in such diverse countries as Canada, Switzerland and Denmark.

although only about 17 per cent of the mountainous little islands were arable, and many little farming villages depended solely on rice farming. Today, Canadian wheat is increasingly supplanting rice as a staple. Many other types of foodstuffs have also been introduced and young farmers are scattered all over the world, studying other countries' farming methods.

For example they are studying the cultivation of hops and cherries in relatively cold climates such as Canada's, the use of mountain slopes for cattle-raising as in Switzerland, and the planting of trees on mountains as in Denmark. Some of the results have already been spectacular. A poor village in the mountains of Karuzawa turned rich quickly when a young farmer showed them how to grow soft and delicious cabbages in the rich volcanic soil of their region. Last year, this little village of 3,000 people made a profit of \$22,000.

Ingenuity has been the clue to most of this agricultural progress. One region profited by learning to cultivate mushrooms on the trunks of chestnut trees. Another village prospered by cultivating tropical fruits and flowers in greenhouses which utilized the heat from a nearby hot spring spa. Still another area learned to draw valuable by-products from seaweed. Other regions have imported black tea saplings and some have learned to produce red, green and yellow apples.

Population pressure is one thing which forces the Japanese to exploit every means of sustenance at their command. But their example can be an inspiration to other, more richly endowed nations. Especially is this the case in the remarkable adaptability to change which the Japanese have shown, despite the long centuries of tradition behind their ways of life.

Canada's Voice Raised

We note, with approval, that the Canadian Government remains "unequivocally opposed to all nuclear weapons tests," and that our attitude was again being placed strongly before a United Nations Assembly committee by the Canadian delegate, General Burns.

Canada is striving, with other nations, to achieve a halt in all nuclear weapons tests by Jan. 1, 1963 or earlier. It is supporting the proposal for an immediate test ban in the atmosphere, outer space and underwater, also for an international agreement which will provide assurances that no further tests are carried out and that all states live up to their obligations under the treaty.

It may be asked, what good will this be? The big nuclear powers are going ahead with their tests, regardless of world opinion. It is argued that a treaty would give no assurance that states were living up to their commitments. But as long as the negotiators concentrate their attention on the disadvantages of their security which might result from a particular system of inspection, the longer it will be before any progress is made.

When these disadvantages are seen in their proper perspective, against the graver prospects of continued testing, the necessary conditions will exist to bring an effective test ban to reality. It is Canada's view, as it is of many other nations, that if the negotiating powers can readjust their thinking in this way, new agreements, acceptable to all sides, could be achieved.

EDITORIAL NOTE
Mocow may be ahead in the space race, but it still can't keep its parks and squares from being plagued by pigeons. Literature and Life, a Soviet newspaper, says it's time to stop talking about the pigeons and do something about them. The Mocow city council tried; it passed a stern resolution condemning the pigeons. But the birds pay no attention. As the Milwaukee Journal suggests, either they can't read, or unlike citizens of the Soviet Union, they're not frightened by official proclamations.

MONTAGUE RIVER SCENE

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Liberals Feel Seared Robbed Them

The 25th Parliament of Canada is rapidly becoming remarkable for the outstanding prominence of the Liberal and Social Credit groups, and accorded to by the other Opposition parties.

The Social Creditists first appeared on Parliament Hill in 1953, when they almost swept Alberta and also elected 170 M.P.s from Saskatchewan. Through the next 22 years and five elections, the House of Commons always had its small Social Credit group, always with an Albertan hard core.

Since 1960, reports of Credit-Liste activity in the province of Quebec have been filtering through the media. The big party membership was being built up; their leader was using TV a great deal and attracting enthusiastic audiences; his name, Real Caouette, rang a faint bell in recollection in Ottawa.

Need for a more efficient and more effective administration against possible bad effects from new drugs has been made manifest in a British medical journal. The doctor has a good point. In recent years the machinery of drug licensing in the United Kingdom has become very fast - dangerously fast.

The party which had been disparaged as "the wild man of the woods" now owns more than one-third of all the seats in Quebec and, with small reinforcements, could be elected to a record 30 M.P.s in Ottawa.

THE BREAKERS IN AUTUMN
They sing lullaby to Autumn. The breakers in the Bay: The golden plenty of the trees Tipping the early spray. In the riches of the sunset, The breakers' hunders bound, but are by instinct to get in back to the place whence he came.

Self-Discipline Is Said Needed To Stop Smoking

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen
"Self-discipline is the only way to stop smoking," writes K.G.K. "a doctor with your recent statement of stopping was important to my case. To say to myself I never again would smoke was impossible. I decided to stretch the habit until noon, and then until noon."

After ending one day with smoking, it was a little easier the second day. In my pocket I had a considerable amount of cigarettes. I would not smoke before breakfast. Later, I decided to stretch the habit until noon, and then until noon.

When the mind is occupied, the individual is less likely to dwell on his own problems. A great editor has said in a word when he said to the patients in a hospital: "I am not a doctor, but I am a patient."

ANGER AND ANGINA
W.M. writes: After reading your article on attacks of anger and after getting angry, I would like to clarify a point. One person who does not have hardening of the coronary arteries is affected in this way?

It is through the unions that this depraved and outdated practice should be abolished. Organized labor ensures that Canadian workers are paid a fair wage. In a society as wealthy and well-fed as ours, a genuine labor campaign to end tipping would find support in many quarters.

Speedier Information
Sarina Observer
Observers for "research" purposes. In the case of thalidomide, apparently there was disturbing evidence of its ill effects in premature tipping. But the grim, surely unpleasant on the faces of waiters or bellhops still has customer dining in his pocket with the result that he is often paying 20 per cent over a meal and accommodation.

The Pigeon Post
Montreal Gazette
A flock of 2,000 pigeons will be released from Aachen, West Germany, this month to mark the birth 112 years ago of the 100 millioners new agency. In 1850 Paul Julius Reuter ran a pigeon-post news service between Aachen and Aachen before the two cities were linked by telegraph.

MOTHER ATTACKS GIRL
MONTREAL (CP) - Police said Wednesday a 10-year-old girl told her she was attacked by her mother after her mother accused her of stealing the "had to" do. The girl, who lived in a neighbor's apartment, suffered minor head injuries and was taken to a hospital for examination for her.

NOTES BY THE WAY

People with time on their hands spend so much of it with people who haven't - Brandon Sun.
A large dog entered a London bus since nobody paid his fare the conductor tried to put him off. The dog became angry, bared his teeth and chased the conductor off the bus. Passengers were evacuated by the emergency door. A policeman held the dog off the bus with a bone. The dog grabbed the bone and jumped back onto the bus again. The bus was forced to return to its garage with the dog still aboard, and it required three hours for SPCA officials to coax him off - London Express.
We like the cosmopolitan restaurant signs on Number 2 Highway east of Nanaimo. They feature "French cuisine," "specialty, Hungarian Goulash," - Hamilton Spectator.
These well-fed people who spend their time devising (with punishment and humiliation) the unfortunate seem to be that a vast and impenetrable divides them from the unemployed, that they are almost separate races. Yet daily experience reminds us that life is full of the human varieties, and that those who are prosperous and independent today may tomorrow be dependent on charity - Toronto Star.

The Laos Experiment

The experiment in neutralizing Laos is now entering an exceptionally interesting stage. When the deadline came for withdrawal of foreign forces under the treaty agreement all American and Communist troops remained inside Laos, and angrily announced that American withdrawal would not be completed until the Communists did likewise.

OUR YESTERDAYS
(Taken from The Guardian Files)
TWENTY - FIVE YEARS AGO
(October 16, 1937)
Miss Mabel MacLennan, Charlottetown, has left for Boston, Mass., where she has accepted a position as dietitian in the Massachusetts Osteopathic Hospital, Jamaica Plain.

THE CHIEF OF THE ST. B. Air Marshal W.A. Curtis, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., E.D., and Mrs. Curtis arrived in Summerside last evening for a brief visit at the RCMP Station. Air Marshal Curtis is the first and only chief of the Air Force to have served in all three armed services.

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