

Comprehensive Brief

In its brief before the Royal Commission on Banking and Finance yesterday, the Provincial Government presented a particularly interesting suggestion for achieving co-operation between the four Atlantic Provinces in their bond borrowings. The proposal is that these provinces combine in their public offerings to obtain the best possible rate, and thus eliminate any element of competition between them in the financial markets.

It was suggested, also, that similar co-operation could be obtained between the federal and all provincial governments, counteracting the disparity in borrowing rates, not only among the provinces themselves but between the provinces and the federal government. This plan envisages a central borrowing agency under the direction of the provincial and federal authorities, which could borrow funds at regular intervals for loan to the co-operating governments at a rate calculated to recoup the borrowing cost, plus the expenses of issue and administration.

This method of co-ordinated borrowing would not be a compulsory affair—no province would be forced to borrow through the central agency; but it was argued that the interest rates to all the individual provinces would decrease as a result of the larger amounts offered and the considerably greater security base of the combined issue.

Reference was made in the brief to the difficulties which this province found in its search for money in 1959, and to other problems relating to banking and finance. Some 15 recommendations were outlined for the Commission's consideration, and would appear to be the result of much careful preparation on the part of the Provincial Treasurer, Mr. McQuaid, whom we congratulate on his presentation.

All Very Confusing

Liberal spokesmen are making a big issue about the devaluation of the Canadian dollar, and we have been trying painstakingly to follow their reasoning, but without much success. Why all the furor now, when the same people were clamoring for devaluation only a few months ago? At their convention in January, 1961, didn't they go on record for "new monetary policies that would stimulate exports and improve Canada's position by lowering the value of the Canadian dollar"?

Well, there is no question that since the devaluation of the Canadian dollar Canadian foreign trade has been expanding. As a result, it now seems possible that for the first time in eight years Canada will have an overall surplus in the current fiscal year. That, of course, is a matter for argument; but there is no doubt that the growing export trade is good for our farmers especially. The Western wheat growers are happy about it, and our potato exporters here should feel the benefit very materially. One shipper estimates that the gain will meet one-half our potato farmers' fertilizer bills. From the tourist standpoint, too, there can be no question as to the increased business that will accrue.

Having proffered such good advice, one would imagine now that the Liberals would be crowing about these results, and claiming credit for their achievement. But no! We find no acknowledgement in their current campaign that they ever favored the idea. They do claim, however, that

If the Conservatives had to devalue the dollar, it should have been "properly planned". That, Mr. Pearson claims, would have saved the country half a billion dollars, which the government has "poured out from the exchange fund" in an unsuccessful effort to hold the dollar at 95 cents. This money was lost to us, he says.

Here again we confess to being bemused. How was this money lost to our Canadian taxpayers? As the Ottawa Journal contends, when the government sells American dollars to support the external value of the Canadian dollar, all it does is exchange American dollars for Canadian dollars. The Canadian government does not spend a cent in the process; for every American dollar it sells it receives a Canadian dollar—still worth 100 cents in Canada. The treasury loses nothing. The Canadian taxpayer loses nothing. Not a cent is added to Canada's debt.

The Canadian dollar was pegged at its present rate with the approval of the International Monetary Fund, world experts who thought it a realistic rate. And, as The Journal points out again in this context, the Liberals who are raging against it now are the same Liberals who in 1949 pegged the Canadian dollar at 90 cents. Was that ruinous to our economy at that time, or was it sound financing? Mr. Pearson hasn't told us, but he should, since he has raised the issue. He really should, if he expects us to take him seriously!

Thirteen Too Many

Last year there were 13 deaths in this Province from "drownings"—the same number as for highway fatalities. This was a shocking toll, and points up the need for the national safety water campaign which the Canadian Red Cross has inaugurated and which is now in progress.

The Red Cross reports that out of the millions of Canadians who will be enjoying water recreation this season, it is probable that nearly a thousand will not enjoy them for very long. They are the ones who are destined to be victims in more drowning tragedies.

It is human nature to assume that this could never happen to one's self. That, indeed, is what accounts for the carelessness which too often leads to tragedies of this kind. The Red Cross does its best to inform Canadians of the hazards involved; but water safety is, after all, a very personal affair. It is only through the individual's response to water safety knowledge that the drowning statistics can be cut down.

Over-confidence in water, and fear of the water are the two extremes of approach. Somewhere in between is the correct one. Knowing and recognizing the hazards is what counts. In this sea-grit province there is no excuse for anyone not being water-wise. This summer, let's prove it by the precautions we take at all times.

EDITORIAL NOTES

It was bound to happen sooner or later. Two weathermen in Michigan who planned to play golf last Tuesday called off the match when they both predicted rain. But the skies were clear all day!

A new stamp is to go on sale in August to commemorate the centennial of Victoria, B.C. It will show a miniature version of the first stamp issued in what is now British Columbia, also the legislative buildings at Victoria along with sprigs of Dogwood, the provincial flower of the province.

An experiment in the daily use of television in the classroom is to start this fall in Nova Scotia. Under the plan, the province's Department of Education and the CBC will team up to broadcast 20-minute programs designed to instruct Grade 11 high school students in mathematics and science.

"Clumsy attempts to use newspapers as whipping boys," says the Timmons, Ontario, Daily Press, "are revealing evidence of growing apprehension within the politicians who whine. When a campaign appears to be going well, newspapers are enlightened institutions and their reporters and editors paladins of impartiality. But when doubt begins to gnaw and a politician's propaganda stock runs threadbare, it is one of the oldest tricks in the book for him to snipe at the press."



ANTIQUE FOR THE WHITE HOUSE

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

A Duty As Well As A Privilege

"Get out and vote on 18 June." That is the slogan of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, which in its present campaign urges every elector to exercise our democratic right to choose our government—a right as lightly valued by many of us who enjoy it, so desperately missed in the many unfortunate countries where it is denied.

So get out and vote on June 18, no matter how you intend to vote. And put not anything on your ballot paper except an X, marked in the appropriate space with black pencil. No comments, please, or yours will be among the one per cent of ballots disqualified and uncounted. The Chamber of Commerce might go further, and urge also: "Be a good neighbour—drive your neighbours to the poll when you go, or sit with their babies while they go."

There is not much more interest in 1962, 1963 and 1967, when one voter in every four did not vote. But in 1968 the apathy fell away, and in a recent turnout at the polls, more than four of every five qualified electors across Canada used the vote.

Dangerous Male Vanity

Red Cross News

Have you ever noticed the strange things that happen to the human male when he dons his bathing suit? All of a sudden, his chest expands to enormous proportions. His stomach protrudes. His back straightens out and his shoulders are perfectly squared. His figure stands like a monument. Within himself he has a veritable powerhouse of strength, a body beautiful on display, for the world to gaze upon.

Now he approaches the water. He casts his thoughts into the air. He looks at the water. He surveys the horizon with a steel-grey eye, head bodily to the brink. He pauses for a second or two so that all may look upon that beautiful physique, the form that is about to challenge the elements of nature. "Lookout water, man! Is about to invade your world and conquer you."

Now he knows what it is that causes all this self-admiration. Virtually disappears. The cause of his make-up that is parallel to a woman's vanity. Whatever the cause, the side-effects of this sort of behavior often turn out to be quite serious.

Picture a man in such a state approaching the bank of a river where he has never been before. Being preoccupied with his own ego, he dives straight in. This is a habit that is very in cartoons, but in real life

Hong Kong Puzzler

Milwaukee Journal

There is no way of knowing for sure whether the flood of refugees from the Communist China into Hong Kong has really ended or is just suspended. For the time being, the trickle of refugees is getting past Communist guards. The four months since the 100,000 persons into the already jammed British crown colony has had some beneficial results. It brought a pledge from President Kennedy that "several thousand" refugees would be permitted to enter the United States. This action, taken under emergency presidential power, was followed up by legislation relieving Hong Kong of its 1.5 million refugees. It is, however, a good will gesture. It should be followed up by legislation permitting more than 100 Chinese to enter the United States each year, which is the present quota.

The Chang Kai-shek regime in Formosa offers to accept all refugees from Red China wishing to leave Hong Kong. This is a major step. Up to now the nationalists have shown no eagerness to take in their countrymen. If they could

Incubator Saves Numerous Lives

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen "This is almost a sure thing," said Col. Glenn's three orbitals around the world. The machine is as complicated as a battleship but the premise is watched and handled with just as much care as a newborn infant. It may be a bit tick during the first 10 days, especially when the handle of incubator has only just flickering of life.

Who knows but what the life that is saved is a future Darwin, Napoleon, Voltaire, or Rousseau? All these geniuses had small beginnings. Victor Hugo was said to be a babe more than two pounds when born and Isaac Walton was so tiny he could be put into a quart mason jar. Bridget was a babe more than two pounds when born at Chicago's Mount Sinai hospital. Her color was a dusky red and breathing was not discernible. She was placed in an incubator and given artificial respiration. By the end of 30 hours, the physicians and nurses offered some hope she might live. She died just a month, her life was saved on several occasions by the quick thinking of a nurse and a hand apparatus to remove the mucus that blocked the throat.

Bridget was kept in a special incubator with piped in oxygen and a thermostat to control the temperature. The lines were given to the nurse and opened up the package needed to make the bed with but two motions of the hand.

The present was fed water first and then milk through a plastic tube. At 10 weeks of age she was given the first lesson to combat anemia. Meanwhile, she was weighed twice a week. She was fed from a rod leading down from a scale on top of the machine. At the age of three months, she weighed four pounds eight ounces and was ready to be taken home.

This is a tough beginning but it is surprising that the lives of these little ones are being saved with special equipment and advanced medical and nursing techniques.

Dr. Van Dellen will answer questions on medical topics and on the incubator. He will be accompanied by his wife and two children.

MAPLE TONGUE

J. H. Wright: I have a good friend whose doctor told him he has a geographic tongue. I can't explain what this means.

REPLY

In this condition the small projecting papillae are lost in certain areas, giving the tongue a maplike, or geographic, appearance. In other words, some parts of the tongue are smooth as if worn away and stand out in contrast to the normal areas covered with taller papillae. Geographic tongue has no significance.

RH NEGATIVE

M. K. writes: I am Rh negative considered a real blood type. No, even though only 15 per cent of our population is Rh negative.

Today's Health Hint

Forget about fed cues.

OUR YESTERDAYS

(From the Guardian Files) TWENTY - FIVE YEARS AGO (June 4, 1947)

Nelson Young, red commissioner, and W.R. White, Chief of Feed Division, Ottawa, were accompanied by the Chief Inspector LeLacheur on a brief visit to central parts of the Maritime Provinces. They interviewed W.A. Shaw, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, and Gordon MacLennan, seed and field inspector.

TEEN YEARS AGO

(June 8, 1952) At a meeting held in Cavendish, June 1, 1952, the Green Gables Golf Club was formed. G. McGillivray, superintendent of the 12-hole National Golf Club, was the man for the meeting. Membership is restricted to Island members only. The club plans to sponsor a golf tournament throughout the golf season, in addition to the Club Champion in July.

Much enthusiasm was displayed by the several representatives of outside communities and organized groups who were in attendance at the third annual meeting of Local Chairman of the Red Cross, held at Red Cross Headquarters Tuesday afternoon. Miss Iphigene Arsenault, Provincial Secretary, welcomed those in attendance on behalf of the Division and expressed the regret and concern at the resignation of Mr. W. K. Sharpe as chairman of the Provincial Committee.

NOTES BY THE WAY

There must be room at the top for the bottom in a crowded Brandon bus. Premier Burnham has met with the "Gang of Four" to discuss the cost of that.

An Eastern woman used a night club for \$2,000 because she was injured in a powder room. She wonders the New York Times.

There are 735 convalescing patients in the hospital. It is interesting to note on the extent to which power to pick and choose members of parliament rests in the hands of rural voters.

Just over half (51 per cent to be exact) of Canada's population lives in cities of more than 40,000 population. The 100 members of parliament, of 40.7 per cent of the House of Commons represent 38.1 per cent of the population.

When the federal election campaign was shifting into high gear, it was interesting to note on the extent to which power to pick and choose members of parliament rests in the hands of rural voters. Just over half (51 per cent to be exact) of Canada's population lives in cities of more than 40,000 population. The 100 members of parliament, of 40.7 per cent of the House of Commons represent 38.1 per cent of the population. An analysis of Canadian constituencies by population (according to the 1956 census) reveals disparity in voting power. The largest constituency in Canada, for example, is York-Scarborough, which in 1956 had 167,510 residents. The smallest

Vote Values Vary

The Printed Word

was the one in Medicine, Quebec, with 11,626. It follows that from the population point of view it takes one 145 York-Scarborough constituency electors to equal the vote of one 11,626 Medicine, Quebec. Nor is this disparity confined to inter-provincial comparisons. In Halifax, where a dual riding, it takes 3.75 votes to equal the force of one vote in the Antigonish-Yorkmouth, N.S. constituency. Electors of the Saint John-Albert constituency of New Brunswick find themselves with 2.25 times the advantage with the residents of Charlotteville, N.B. riding in Manitoba, while in the Antigonish-Yorkmouth, N.S. constituency, they are 2.25 times more populous than the Okanagan-Revelstoke constituency.

The next reapportionment of Commons seats will be on the basis of the 1961 census.

Courts - Martial

Globe and Mail, Toronto

Five members of the Canadian Army have recently appeared before courts-martial in Canada to be charged with the smuggling of opium or gold while they were serving with the International Trade Supervisory Commission in Peking, China. All the men — one officer and four other ranks — were sentenced to 30 days' detention and reduction to the rank of private. The major who admitted he had smuggled opium was sentenced to 30 days' detention and reduction to the rank of private. The other four were sentenced to 15 days' detention and reduction to the rank of private.

Desalting Sea Water

Ottawa Citizen

The Canadian subsidiary of a United States firm is to shape in a new project to extract fresh water from salt water. Israel is particularly involved, as one of its scientists, Alexander Zerbin, is the developer of what appears to be a much improved desalting technique. Figures given by the firm of Mr. David Karr, president of the Fairbanks-Whitney Corporation of America, indicate the progress that has been made in an important field of research. He says the price for desalting sea water has dropped from \$5 to \$1.75 per 1,000 gallons during the past 20 years, but the new project should make possible a further cost decline to below \$1 in the next 18 months and to 40 cents within seven years.

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