

A Last Remover

It will soon be over now but the shouting—or the gnashing of teeth. There won't be any more political harangues, except in the Legislature, for some time at least. A last-minute spate of letters on campaign issues has reached our desk for publication, but we see no useful purpose in running them. By this evening the issues will have been resolved by the voters. Today is the day for action.

All that remains now to be said is to emphasize, once again, the importance of getting out a large vote. Not the partisan vote which will be forthcoming in any case. But the non-partisan vote, without which there will be no real assessment of the issues at stake, no true reflection of the voice of the people. Partisanship is all very well in its place. It is the sparkplug that gets election campaigns under way. It is what raises campaign funds and provides all the fireworks. But unless the mass of the electorate preserves a judicial calm in weighing the rival claims of the candidates, and votes conscientiously for what it believes to be in the best interests of the country, the whole affair will be a costly farce.

Weighing and forming opinions about the rival claims, we repeat, is not enough. It is the votes that will count. We need hardly add that this voting business has been a dear-bought privilege. We didn't have to pay the price, but our forefathers did. We can throw it away easily enough. We can be cynical about it. But after today, if we don't exercise it, we had better keep our mouths shut about the kind of government we may get for the next few years at Ottawa. We may get what suits us in any case; but at least we shall have the chance, today, of making our views count.

A Peck Of Troubles

"For the first time since he entered the White House" writes James Reston in the restored New York Times, "President Kennedy went to be on the offensive." Another prominent journalist, Robert J. Donovan, chief Washington correspondent for the New York Herald Tribune, says the President is "strangely becalmed, and the high prestige of January is being eroded." Stewart Alsop, writing in the Saturday Evening Post, concludes: "The mood of Kennedy's Washington today is a puzzled, frustrated and—below the bland surface—angry mood."

What's the reason for these and other pointed criticisms? Mr. Kennedy's difficulties are considered to be not all of his own making, and some of them seem to be accepted as immutable facts of politics, like General de Gaulle's intransigence, and Congress's lethargy. But the liberals seem to feel that he over-sold his administration in the 1960 campaign pledge to get the country "moving again," and that he has failed, somehow, to communicate his own sense of urgency to the public.

His tax program is in trouble. His foreign aid program is in trouble. Unemployment is growing. In Washington Congress is taking recess from the burden of not having passed any of his bills. In Paris, President de Gaulle keeps saying "non" to his grand design. In Moscow, Mr. Khrushchev gives orders to keep troops in Cuba. In Latin America the Alliance for Progress has bogged down. And in Canada,

as a Washington commentator puts it, "an election precipitated by a State Department memorandum is swelling to an uncertain climax over a McNamara statement." Quite a peck of troubles. It makes us understand why Washington can be jumpy at times, even with old friends on this side of the border. Whichever way today's election goes in Canada, and whatever need we may feel for asserting our independence at times, let's hope that there will be no further deterioration in our mutual relations. The causes of present friction may well be due to the fact that the political pot is beginning to boil in the United States. The heat is being turned on; the administration is beginning to sweat. Soon its opponents will be going into their wardrobe throughout the land, and neither side will have time to think about our injured feelings. We shall be wise, in the circumstances, if we forget about them too.

Ontario Farm Problem

In this Province we are much more concerned with the problem of unused farm land than with that of farm land absorbed by industrial and commercial expansion. But the latter problem is becoming acute in Ontario. A specialist at the recent annual meeting of the Ontario Association of Real Estate Boards warned that, at the present rate at which Ontario farm land is being sacrificed for these purposes, the province may not be able to feed itself by 1980.

Ontario, it is estimated, has eight million acres of crop-producing land, of which some is merely marginal. But that land is disappearing at an annual rate of between 600,000 and 800,000 acres. A representative of the Federal Department of Agriculture suggests that ARDA provides a remedy in the way of machinery for federal-provincial co-operation in land use; but, unfortunately, the elaborate machinery seems to be minus a motor.

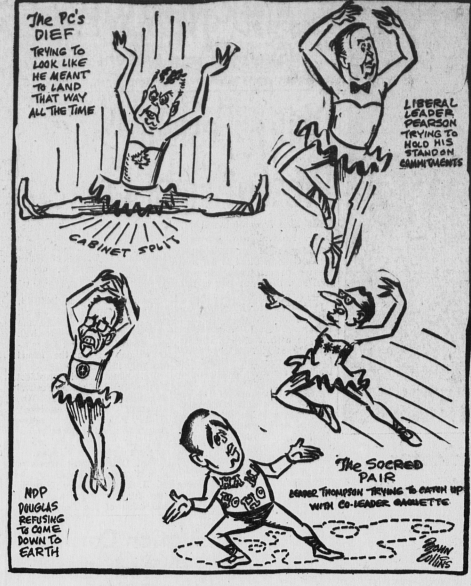
This is the view expressed by the Chatham Daily News, which goes on to say: "The Metro jungle continues to grow, unhindered, creating ever more monstrous problems of transportation, supply and social communication. Each year at the Niagara fruit belt diminishes. Each year more farmers are pushed off their fertile land by suburban taxation, often to struggle with less fertile soil farther from their markets."

Will the expansion swallow more fertile soil? It seems likely. One Toronto real estate executive, who sees no decline in the present trend, predicts that "as inexpensive land in major metropolitan areas becomes scarce, many of these new industries will seek opportunities in rural areas. Space for industry will be a problem facing many communities." Needed, evidently, is a policy that will encourage urban and industrial growth on land that is not suited to agriculture, and the placing of curbs on the now unrestrained spread of urban monstrosities. But no one seems to have come up with an adequate answer to this problem.

EDITORIAL NOTES

A battle over a proposal to fluoridate New York City's water supply is looming up. Unlike in 1957 when the proposal went down to defeat, some observers say it has better prospects this year. Their appraisal is based on changes in opinion and political climate that have taken place in the six years since. Mayor Robert F. Wagner predicts that fluoridation will win this time. In any case, the result will be awaited with widespread interest.

Every year many Canadians move to the United States to live and work. They do so for a variety of reasons, but especially because of a wider range and greater number of opportunities. There is also, of course, a flow of Americans to Canada. But the emigration of Canadians to the United States is, on the average, four or five times as great as the immigration of Americans. And, as Mr. Carl Pollock, President of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association said in a recent address, this must be considered an "adverse balance," along with that which exists in the field of Canadian-American trade.



OUR NATIONAL BALLOT

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Noteworthy Movement In Penal Reform

My curiosity was aroused by the news that a man in England, serving a year sentence for armed robbery, had been sentenced to death for a murder, committed in a department store while he was living in a hostel towards the end of his sentence. This was the first time I had heard of prisoners living in hostels, and being permitted to move freely in the local community. This post-war experiment in Britain permits prisoners, serving at least four years to qualify by good behaviour for special pre-release privileges. During the last months of their sentence, they are accommodated in special hostels within the prison walls, the better type of prisoners, screened from other prisoners. Attached to it is a special pre-release camp, to which selected inmates are transferred during the last weeks of their sentence. This camp is like any B.C. forestry camp. At the men continue any vocational training they were undergoing in the prison, and they enjoy progressive gun-free liberty. They hear talks and participate in seminars run by the police and by private welfare agencies. They are registered at the employment office for jobs after their release. Many of them are permitted to take regular jobs outside the camp, which are made available by co-operative local businesses. The vocational training provided at the forestry camps for B.C. inmates for prisoners are so admirable that local citizens come into the prison to take night classes there, after the regular students have finished their normal work.

These electronic developments may reduce the need of normal diplomatic channels. Just as Kennedy's direct negotiations with Khrushchev reduced the use of Britain and other countries as go-betweens, so the teletype operation may reduce the intervention of the state department in White House decision-making.

However, the state department has been using a direct Kennedy-to-Khrushchev line where there had been consideration of a direct Kennedy-to-Bush line—whereby the two could converse with the aid of interpreters, thereby reducing sudden decisions without consulting diplomatic advisers. The language barrier is considered at the thought that war might be declared through a sudden fit of diplomatic temper by the two leaders. The teletype provides more room for reflection. Another proposition is that the teletype machine is not likely to be near Kennedy's desk but probably some 500 miles in the Pentagon—in the national command centre. Messages coming in or going out of this centre would be available to the secretary of state as well as the president.

Another Hopeful Sign

By Harold Morrison

Instantaneous communications certainly would be helpful to clarify a misinterpreted nuclear action that otherwise might bring instantaneous nuclear response — and disaster. Both camps therefore welcome the teletype agreement. LANGUAGE BARRIER The language barrier still remains, tending to slow up the communications link, but U.S. and Russian teletype operations one day may be accomplished by a computer-translation code. An amount of message into English on its arrival in Washington, or an English message into Russian on arrival in Moscow.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion of any subject of public interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents. Letters accepted are edited and condensed where necessary. The Guardian is not responsible for any correspondence returned to its contributors.

NOT SKINNED ALIVE Sir—I understood while we were in the hospital that someone inserted something in The Guardian concerning seal hunting and methods of killing, and gave the public the impression that seals were skinned alive.

This definitely is not the case to my knowledge. In fact I can't understand how it could be done. The method of killing is to stun the seal, then bleed it and finally take the skin off. In our company we bleed three or four at a time and then proceed to skin. I don't think that any animal has ever been bled out. Personally I would be only too glad to pay the way for any representative to go out on the ice and see how this operation is carried out. My personal opinion is that the seals are killed as painlessly as anything that is killed by humans, whether fish or animal. I am, Sir, etc. ARNOLD GAUDET Member Matthews sealing party Tignish, P.E.I.

Tougher Laws Used To Combat Soaks, Accidents

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen M.D. Many medical and lay experts hope to combat the problems associated with alcoholism and traffic accidents by a new means short of a new Volstead act. The idea is to prohibit anyone from getting together with violators. No one has suggested this in any form which was faced by one foreign motorist who caused a death.

Czechoslovakia has a new law ordering the confirmed drinker to consult a physician, whose condition endangers the state or interferes with his work or family life. In addition, the alcoholic may be forced to undergo institutional care if the physician deems it necessary.

But this is only part of the law. The toper's wages are paid in part to his dependents if he cannot control his addiction and it creates a hardship for the family. In addition, he is fined or transferred to another job for six months if he expends his money in drinking, or road accident traceable to drinking. The Czechs feel the personal and social problems which imbibe and then engages in an activity that is potentially dangerous to his fellow citizens. The penalty may be a year's imprisonment.

British traffic policemen carry phials containing a chemical reagent through which any suspected drinker is blown. If the material changes in color, the individual is taken to the police station for a more accurate test.

The drunken driver was described at the United International Conference on Alcohol at a Road Traffic as egotistical, antisocial, undependable and defiant. The only defence we have against this group is either the police or only at a more accurate test.

Alcoholics have a high accident rate. Moreover, the incidence of suicide among them is also high. Dr. Melvin L. Seltzer of Ann Arbor, Mich., believes that the best method of dealing with these men is to confine them to a special facility for a more accurate test.

E. D. SNEEZY: My husband always has sneezed very hard—so much so, it tires him out. The other night he sneezed twice and fell to the floor. What happened? Did he cut off his own wind, break a blood vessel, or what?

REPLY The sneezing reflex, like the cough reflex, may lead to unconsciousness occasionally, especially when the sneeze is violent. Now and then, stroke ensues.

PARALYZED EXTREMITIES V. T. writes: What is the difference between paraplegia and quadriplegia? Both legs and quadruplegia involves both arms and legs. In addition, the muscles of the bladder and bowel are involved. Injury to the spinal cord usually is responsible.

DIABETES AND DRINKING R. C. writes: Is it dangerous for a man who is taking diabetes pills to drink alcohol?

REPLY No, provided he uses discretion and includes the caloric value of the cocktail in the diabetic diet.

COFFEE IS COFFEE J. F. writes: Does instant coffee keep the kidneys warm?

REPLY No, instant coffee has the same effect on the kidneys as regular coffee.

TODAY'S HEALTH HIN-TIPS How do you get older and prolong the flame of vitality.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Every married man owes it to his family to be successful in the tax collector. — Hamilton Spectator.

A clothing manufacturer was asked why women's slacks are fashionable. He said, "Because they are fashionable." "That's a reason for everything if you dig hard enough to find it." — Ottawa Journal.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police have turned to poetry to deal with criminals. After reading a few of the limericks, a Canadian will believe Canada's finest have introduced a new crime in the country. — Fort William Times-Journal.

In case any wife should feel she has had to sacrifice a good deal to a husband's passion for curling, there is recommended reading in the account of young Queen Victoria and the Prince Consort, which was introduced in the game in 1842 in a Scottish palace. Their host was an enthusiastic curler. The Prince and his wife, who gave the Prince a fine pair of Atlas granite curling stones, which were inscribed with a suitable inscription. When the Queen displayed interest in the game, the Prince, the game, the gallant Earl demonstrated with curling stones on a polished floor for the palace. — Ottawa Journal.

"The Sun is one of the most deceptively stars in the Milky Way," says an astronomer who ought to be ashamed to speak so disparagingly of a heavenly body. "The sun is a star, and I am a man," — Chatham Daily News.

A visitor from Russia says there is no name for smog in his language. And just when, at last, the U.S. had found the word, it was perfectly happy to let the Russians claim they had invented. — Calgary Herald.

Going His Own Way

Canadian Press Staff Writer

Was the timing of the reported French nuclear test in the Sahara intended to make more news for the British? France's determination to re-pledge outside any Atlantic nuclear pact, the United States, which maintains control of the trigger?

Coming as it did virtually on the eve of the Earl of Home's appointment before the NATO permanent committee in Paris Wednesday, it has brought suggestion that it may have been intended to indicate there is no hope in the re-pledging France had adopted a shared NATO deterrent. Lord Home, British foreign secretary, has said that the agreement before the North Atlantic Treaty Organization is not a

conference meeting and called for a speedy start on plans to set up a NATO nuclear force. U.S. SUPPLY PUNCH Such a force would be supplied with nuclear warheads from the United States, while whom, Home stressed, Europe must maintain close relations. President de Gaulle, seeking to make France a leader in making Europe a nuclear power, has said France has no interest in participating in the multilateral Atlantic nuclear force proposed by the U.S.

De Gaulle is known to look with disfavor on British Prime Minister Macmillan's agreement with President Kennedy to have Britain supply nuclear U.S. Polaris nuclear submarines. The French president has said this tends to increase U.S. influence in Europe, influence to which he is opposed.

He has been cool to proposals for an Atlantic nuclear force armed with U.S. nuclear warheads and involving U.S. participation and, ultimately, U.S. control over the nuclear weapons. The proposals, however, were discussed in Paris with U.S. envoy Livingston Merchant. That these talks have done little to change the French position, says a source in the French Embassy.

FRANCE STAYED AWAY In the fact of the importance attached to the NATO meetings and the attendance by Home and foreign ministers of France's five European Common Market partners, de Gaulle's Foreign Minister Couve de Murville stayed away. He also missed a luncheon with the six foreign ministers later at the British Embassy. If more proof was needed of the French determination to create a separate nuclear force—which, perhaps, de Gaulle feels will make France the dominant leader in Europe—what more emphatic way to provide it than with a nuclear test on the eve of the important NATO meeting?

A number of new and larger restaurants are being planned in downtown street corners to take care of the litter which accumulated on the streets when carelessly thrown away. These containers serve a good purpose if recognized and taken advantage of by our citizens.

SAVING PAYING BILLS BORROWING

It takes will-power — but it helps to have an objective — like getting married. The trick is to put something away regularly, and keep your Savings Account strictly for saving. You can, with Royal's 2-ACCOUNT Plan. In addition to your Savings Account you have a... PERSONAL CHECKING ACCOUNT, for paying bills. It can save you money. Check on Personal Checking Account, which has no monthly service charges, and you can keep track of every bill. You may need cash for a new car, a TV or some other major expenditure. You can get a loan on your savings but you get a Royal TRIMPLAN Loan instead. Rates are most reasonable. You can get a loan on your savings but you get a Royal TRIMPLAN Loan instead. Rates are most reasonable. You can get a loan on your savings but you get a Royal TRIMPLAN Loan instead. Rates are most reasonable.

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