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"The strongest memory is weaker
than the weakest ink"

PAGE 4 FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1964

Soviet Intervention

Last week Soviet Premier Khrushchev promised wholehearted Soviet support for the Cypriot struggle "against NATO plans for liquidating Cyprus as a sovereign state," and now the foreign minister of the Cypriot government has stated that he signed an agreement on Wednesday for military assistance from the Soviet Union "with no strings attached."

This could lead to a serious situation indeed. It has prompted Prime Minister Pearson to call in the Soviet ambassador at Ottawa to discuss details of the agreement, but the full measure of its terms remains unclear. Canada, as the main contributor in personnel to the 6,200-man United Nations force in Cyprus, has a vital interest at stake in the deal. Last week the U.N. Security Council voted to extend for another three months the force's mandate in Cyprus, but the vote was preceded by days of deadlocked behind-the-scenes negotiations on the terms of the extension, and the final resolution was much weaker than Secretary-General U Thant had requested.

Until now it has been believed that Khrushchev would reject an arms deal with Cyprus because he did not want to risk a quarrel with the United States on this issue. But if such a deal has now gone through it must be supposed that the age-old Russian ambition to break out into the eastern Mediterranean and the Persian Gulf has greater influence. Stalin pursued the same goal in 1946 and 1947 with his attempts to take over Iran, Turkey and Greece.

With Cyprus torn by internal discord, Khrushchev may consider this an opportune moment for trying to succeed where Stalin failed. In any case, the new agreement spells trouble for the NATO alliance, and for U.N. peace keeping operations as well.

Misguided Campaign

The Atlantic premiers, at their meeting this week in Halifax, wisely decided that more public interest in the hoary proposal for a union of the Atlantic Provinces would be shown before any joint study of the matter was advisable. They agreed, however, on closer economic co-operation, which is both reasonable and desirable.

Let us hope that they will concentrate on this, and forget the pipe dream of a political union which was subjected to a careful analysis by the Rowell-Sirois Commission a quarter of a century ago, and found to be as impracticable as such dreams usually are.

The commission at that time didn't pinpoint the particular disadvantages that would accrue to this Province in the loss of our present representation in the Senate and House of Commons, nor pegged under the British North America Act. It considered only the interests of the Maritime Provinces as a whole—Newfoundland being outside Confederation at that time. But its findings, from this standpoint, were equally conclusive.

THE SAVINGS ANGLE—Even if the substitution of one province for three resulted in a saving of a full two-thirds of the total cost of legislation and government (which is more than would be possible) the saving, it was found, would amount to only about 4.3 per cent of the current expenditures for the three provinces.

Moreover, this prospective saving would be still smaller when several local factors were considered. In all three provinces the salaries of ministers and officials and sessional indemnities for members of the Legislature were low, and a larger government unit would probably involve higher sessional indemnities, higher salaries for Ministers of the Crown and officials, as well as larger travelling expenses.

Cost of social services and education in the region were also low, and might be expected to rise whether or not the provinces unite. The credit rating of the Maritimes was good, however, that little if any saving in interest charges on public debt could be expected.

PROVINCIAL LOYALTIES—

The commission found that provincial loyalties are more deeply rooted in the Maritimes than in the Prairie Provinces because of their longer history as separate provinces. It also found it significant that each of the Maritime premiers, when requested by the chairman for his opinion of union, took a negative view and said he believed that there was no large measure of support for it among the people of the three provinces.

Some individuals and corporations having to deal with more than one provincial government, the report noted, would find their costs decreased had they to deal with one government instead of three. On the other hand the cost of attending a more distant provincial capital to conduct their business with the government would be greater.

Undoubtedly there would be some savings in federal governmental costs by union of the three provinces into one larger unit. How far the offices and officials maintained by Ottawa could be replaced by one set of offices and officials in the new provincial capital, however, it was impossible to say. There would be a saving in the salaries of Lieutenant Governors, and certain of the chief federal officials in the province might be able to assume duties over the larger area; but it seemed probable that most of these officials would, for the sake of efficiency and public convenience, require to be retained in the new larger unit.

For the most part, these findings are as pertinent to the issue today as when they were set forth in the royal commission report of 1940. They deserve more study than they appear to have received in some misguided quarters.

The Page Boys

The Page Boys in Parliament have found a champion in Steven Otto, MP for York East, who complained in the Commons the other day about the way the education of these youngsters is being neglected. Working the hours they do, there just isn't time, and frequently not even energy, left for study. Then, even worse, when they are too old to be Page Boys, Parliament simply turns them loose.

"Have we become so callous, so hard that we do not even notice such things?" Mr. Otto demanded of his parliamentary colleagues. "We worry a lot about education, but here we are, primarily responsible for many of these lads going out into the business, commercial or industrial world without the kind of education required today to compete in this technological age."

It's a long, long day for them," Mr. Otto said, "for often it must be 11.30 or even midnight before they can get their buses and reach home. Is that any time to begin study? Then they have to be up at 7.00 and 7.30 to get to their morning commercial courses, the bare half day in school that we as their Parliamentary employers, allow them."

For all this, the Page Boys get \$129 monthly and a daily meal in the Commons cafeteria, with free milk in mid-afternoon. "What happens when they literally grow out of their jobs? A few catch on as Parliamentary messengers or even clerks. Others go to sea, seek their fortune in the non-political world. Despite the fact that they brush shoulders daily with statesmen and politicians, few ever show interest in the possibility of a career in the Commons.

Could it be that they pass the saturation point in this phase of their adolescent studies?



MONUMENT TO UNO WHO

NEW CRASH PROGRAM

Quebec's Revolution In Education

Globe and Mail, Toronto
Quebec's crash program of secondary educational reorganization and construction is one of the most important aspects of the so-called "quiet revolution" that is happening in the French-Canadian province. It is an aspect too little understood outside Quebec, where opinion tends to be distracted by more controversial political statements on constitutional matters. Yet the massive program of reform and expansion that Education Minister Paul Gendreau is leading, has in itself the key to the removal of many of the grievances of French people in the Canadian environment, thus tending to reduce the climate of political extremism. The present Quebec mood of dissatisfaction with the Canadian federal structure stems from a new self-consciousness and self-confidence, and a revived sense of French dignity and pride. It should also be noted that, while demanding a more powerful place in Confederation and greater respect for its institutions, Quebec is working strenuously to equip itself to deserve a more positive role.

THE OBJECTIVE
The crash program was announced last spring in a Government White Paper projecting expenditure of \$120 million on secondary school building by the beginning of April, 1967. The objective is to provide facilities throughout the province so that every student will have secondary education within reasonable distance of his home. Mr. Gendreau's immediate problem is to establish patterns of regional centralization necessary for more elaborate educational facilities. To do this, he must overcome a considerable public resistance based on the reluctance of local communities and individuals to surrender traditional prerogatives.

He has now embarked on a three-month campaign to convince both the public and Quebecers. At the same time plans are prepared in the hope of allaying the public's uneasiness before next Spring. This will allow about two years for actual construction. Although it was not unduly emphasized in the announcement, the fact is that Mr. Gendreau is in a hurry primarily to take advantage of a federal subsidy offer due to expire April 1. In this program, the federal government will emphasize technical and vocational training schools, and for these, Ottawa has made ready to pick up 75 per cent of the bill.

TO BE COMMEMDED
This readiness to co-operate in the construction of a new television camera. Theatrolfilm, however, photographs and records an event by the light of a powerful television camera. Spectators at stage plays, night-time spectacles, sports events or any once-in-a-lifetime affair. An electronic television camera. Theatrolfilm, however, photographs and records an event by the light of a powerful television camera. Spectators at stage plays, night-time spectacles, sports events or any once-in-a-lifetime affair.

Arabs Talk And Talk

Milwaukee Journal
The second summit meeting of Arab states has ended with no earth shaking decisions and with what apparently is continued failure of President Nasser to talk his way out of the Arab-Israeli dispute. The Arab states are still in the process of making their minds up as to whether they should support Nasser's position or not. The Arab states are still in the process of making their minds up as to whether they should support Nasser's position or not.

Hold That Phone!

Ottawa Journal
An electronic telephone system being installed in part of New York City has been called "the greatest forward-looking telephone communication since the introduction of the dial telephone." It is a system that allows a user to hold a telephone executive, the new system can do "almost anything." Housewives out shopping will be able to phone home and turn on the oven electronically. Couples going out to a bridge party will be able to call home and get their calls to the phone where they are going. Callers who get stuck in traffic will be able to call for the phone to complete the call. When the line is clear, the phone will ring.

Medical Browsing

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen
Pump bumps at a nuisance to many women. In a few, these bony lumps on the heels are incapacitating and have to be removed surgically. There must be a congenital element in this disorder because not all women who wear footwear with closely contoured heels develop these growths. Those born with prominent heel bones are more likely candidates for irritation or bursitis on the tendons Achilles and the heel bone. Relief may follow proper padding or wearing a different style shoe.

I often am asked by readers of this column whether cataract surgery is safe and effective in the elderly. This disorder seldom occurs before age 50. Full development of the cataract varies from months to years, which means that the person is not too young by the time surgery is needed in suitable cases (those without complicating factors) good if not perfect vision may be expected in the elderly.

For various reasons, it is good to examine the candidate for any abnormalities that might lead to an unsuccessful result. Aged people have changes in tissues and organs that must be evaluated. Many a veteran preparation of the patient is met with meticulous care.

Not in primitive countries. One reason is that these people are often ill and malnourished. They don't live long enough to have heart attacks. I have seen a few of these people who are ill and malnourished. They don't live long enough to have heart attacks. I have seen a few of these people who are ill and malnourished.

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ALCOHOL AND SEIZURES
No, but epileptics should avoid alcohol because drinking is likely to aggravate the condition. On the other hand, convulsions may be associated with 17-seizure intoxication. In addition, the brain may deteriorate so much in chronic alcoholism that convulsions occur.

Medical Browsing

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The hiatus in high policy matters during elections is normal practice in elections anywhere, applying a brake for the simple reason that broad changes may be coming in personnel.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

What can be more interesting in September than to walk past a sign saying "October is Safety Month"—Ottawa Journal. The mind is a wonderful thing. I'm born and never stops until you stand up to speak in public.—Sarnia Observer.

People of the Soviet Union don't take enough babies. The government newspaper Pravda complains. Having forsaken God, the poor people do not understand, perhaps, that cleanliness is next in the line of priorities. Will William Timmes' Journal.

Summer Visitor—"I do hope you keep your cows in a pasture," Milkman—"Yes, madam, I have been told that pastured milk is much the safest."—Montreal Star.

The lowliest private in the West German army may now be starting in a civil court against any military superior who gives him an order which the private deems offensive to his honor. The private is remembering his war days, but wonder how we could have a private in a Mr. Wood's Sunday school has a missionary there.—Montreal Star.

Awaiting The Outcome In U.S.

By Arch MacKenzie
Canadian Press Staff Writer
The United States election campaign as usual has put some Canadian-American problems into a state of suspended animation. The wheels continue to go around on contacts along a border that may be undisturbed because removing an opaque lens does not improve other eyes.

MALE CORONARY DISEASE
P. L. writes: Are heart attacks more common in other countries as in the United States? Not in primitive countries. One reason is that these people are often ill and malnourished. They don't live long enough to have heart attacks. I have seen a few of these people who are ill and malnourished.

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