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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."

PAGE 4 THURSDAY, OCT. 10, 1957

"Formal Axiology"

At the Massachusetts Institute of Technology scholars in various fields have started a program in what they call a "Research Society for Altruism". The idea, stripped of pedantic terms, is how to find a workable approach to man's moral problems in these days of great scientific advancement. The answer to these problems, in the opinion of Dr. Robert Hartman, one of the philosophers attending the conference, is "formal axiology", which he interprets as the "theory of value".

"The only way to bring order from the chaos of human relations," said Professor Hartman, "is to make the same kind of systematic analysis as the founders of natural sciences have made in their fields." That thesis is open to debate; but, controversy aside, people of goodwill everywhere will wish the scientists and philosophers every success in their venture. The very fact that they recognize the existence of moral problems as distinct from scientific, political and cultural ones is, in itself, something for which to be thankful; for it is a belated admission that the advancement of science, from which so much was expected, has not been able to solve all the problems of human relations.

One wonders, however, whether their studies and deliberations will produce anything more practicable than those simple principles laid down in a Book which, after many centuries of controversy, remains the great textbook of moral and spiritual values.

"Blessed are the peacemakers. Blessed are the merciful. Whatsoever things ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them. Judge not that ye be not judged. If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men. If thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good. Owe no man anything, but to love one another. Be ye kind to one another, forgiving one another. Let all your things be done with charity."

Public Indifference

A few days ago civil defence exercises were staged in St. John's, Nfld. A total tie-up of city traffic was scheduled for five minutes in the afternoon and for a similar period in the late evenings when lights were expected to be put out both in cars and in homes. A great deal of work and planning preceded the event. Civil defence personnel, police, firemen and the St. John Ambulance Brigade had worked diligently to make the exercises effective.

Everything went according to plan—as far as participating officials were concerned. But as for public co-operation, a subsequent report says it was lacking. People went casually about their business as usual. Very few persons took shelter at the prearranged signal, and only a small number of motorists thought it worth while to stop their cars. In the evening the blackout was almost a total failure.

Similar stories have been reported from other parts of the country; and it must be most discouraging to civil defence officials and volunteer workers, many of whom go to considerable inconvenience to render a public service, to see their carefully made preparations come to nothing. The simple fact of the matter is that most persons do not take mock air raids, blackouts and the like with any degree of seriousness these days. Many of those who do co-operate do so from a sense of civic duty and not because they see much merit in the exercises. There is a widespread belief that in the event of atomic attack the best laid plans of civil defence would be useless. That may or may not be a reasonable view; but it is not ad-

mitted that arguments to the contrary sound not at all convincing. To encourage the public in this feeling of futility, the experts themselves do not agree on what civil defence might be expected to do in an emergency. The newly appointed Co-ordinator For Civil Defence in Canada seems to think it is worth something, as did his predecessor. But others equally well informed—Dr. Hugh Keenleyside, director of U.N. Technical Assistance Program, for one—say it is a waste of time and money. Certainly, unless and until the Federal Government can make a better case for it than has been made hitherto, the public will remain more or less indifferent.

Alert Practitioners

Pharmacists from all parts of the Island participated recently in a refresher course in Charlottetown. The course was sponsored by the Canadian Foundation for the advancement of pharmacy and was conducted in co-operation with the Maritime College of Pharmacy which is affiliated with Dalhousie University. Among the subjects discussed was the role played by pharmacists in the distribution of drugs as well as in consideration of newer agents used medicinally, such as anti-diabetic agents and vaccines presently being made available as preventative measures against various types of influenza. These matters are not of interest merely to one branch of our professional men in this Province; indirectly they concern us all, and the zeal shown by our Island druggists in keeping abreast of the latest developments is of service to the whole community.

Drug stores have an ultramodern look these days, and cater to many consumer demands; but the prescription department is still the most important part of the establishment. The prestige it enjoys rests, as it has always done, upon the well-founded confidence which the public has in the skill and knowledge of its practitioners.

EDITORIAL NOTES

In one place in the South machine guns have been set up to repel any federal troops who might be sent in to enforce court orders on school integration. This will suit Southern old-timers who have always argued that the war between the States has never ended.

Fishermen at Herring Cove, N.S., threw 70,000 pounds of herring back into the sea last Saturday because cold storage plants in nearby Halifax happened to be closed on that day. Meanwhile, hundreds of Newfoundland fishermen have had to stop fishing because of a bait shortage.

A man in Chicago who claims to have founded the "State of Celestial Space" has notified the Russians that their launching of a moon "violated" his territory. So far, he has not threatened to take the matter up with the U.N. He ought to do so, so as to give member nations an opportunity of agreeing on a solution to at least one problem.

More trouble is looming in the Far East. An Indonesian politician visiting China reports that he was "greatly impressed" by the progress made in that country under Communist rule. He says he is ready to work for "strengthened relations" between the two countries. To, all of which the masters of China will probably say: "What are we waiting for?"

Highway authorities in one of the States have set apart a certain stretch of the roadside for the convenience of motorists who might like to take a nap. Police protection will be provided. However, the motorists will have to provide their own blankets and pillows. At least, there is nothing in the announcement to indicate that the State will pay for these enticements to slumber.

Egyptian newspapers are predicting that Russia's launching of an artificial moon ahead of the United States will promote the "neutral tendency in many lands." What they mean is that countries which have been calling themselves "neutral" will now be encouraged to veer a little towards the Soviet bloc. In that they are probably correct; unless, of course, the Americans can send aloft a bigger and better moon within a short period. In the past, the contest had to do with bombs. From now on, apparently, the emphasis will be on moons.



THE BIG HELI

OTTAWA REPORT

Preparing Royal Welcome

Ottawa: Man and nature have combined to set a brilliant stage in Royal Ottawa to welcome the Queen on Saturday afternoon. Flags, bunting and elaborately painted wooden shields decorate every public building and lamp standard. Their motif of scarlet and gold is repeated lavishly on the autumn foliage, and the flaming maples on the distant Gatineau Hills appear like a huge red carpet.

The combination of Thanksgiving and the Queen's visit will give schoolchildren a four-day break, when the bands and the ceremonial and even the changing of Canada's own guard outside the temporary palace will give them a free show unmatched in North America.

Bandsstands have been erected in all sorts of unlikely spots. The sightseeing visitor, even the Queen herself, coming round any corner may unexpectedly find a hundred scarlet-coated musicians looting away. On Parliament Hill a huge stand for 225 bandsmen will be the scene of several concerts by the massed bands of the Canadian Guards, the Navy, the R.C.A.F. and Quebec's own "Van Doos."

The musical climax will be reached after the Queen has opened our 23rd Parliament on Thanksgiving Day. Then all these bands will be joined by the navy's artillery and the bells of the Peace Tower to render Tchaikovsky's thunderous "1812 Overture." In the glorious understatement of a civil servant, the climatic effect of the bands with actual cannon shots and the ringing of many bells should provide an unusual experience for music lovers.

The Queen, already no stranger to Ottawa, will also find that she is no stranger to the temporary Royal Bedchamber. A Government House official tells me that she will again occupy the Oval Room. This actually is

QUEEN AND FLU FLY

Ottawa is billed to be at the peak of the Asian flu epidemic by the time the Queen flies here. So the ranks of cheering children may be sadly thinned. Prime Minister Diefenbaker was found by test to be immune, but all other principal characters in the programme have been vaccinated against the flu.

Another medical precaution which has been taken is to make sure that uncontaminated water for cooking and drinking purposes will be available wherever the Queen will have a meal, in including her scheduled but unpublicized private Sunday picnic in the flaming Gatineau Hills. On her last visit she quickly fell victim to the Ottawa "tummy flu" — given a more expressive name by Ottawa's schoolboys — with discomforting consequences to a tight programme.

This flying Royal visit emphasizes how fast airliners have closed distances. Already the Queen's visit next to Canada — to open the St. Lawrence Seaway perhaps 15 months hence — is being planned here.

REALISM OF WAR

OTTAWA: At the request of the Western and Atlantic Provinces that are opposing the railways' application for a 10 per cent increase in freight rates, the Transport Board has adjourned the hearings until October 16.

The provinces have decided to call expert witnesses to give evidence on the finances of the C.P.R. and it will take two weeks to prepare their case.

The past week has been a strenuous but fruitful one for the provinces.

Two important issues and one minor one have been under examination. On all three, the eight provinces acted as one.

The first issue concerns what is called the C.P.R.'s "tax equalization reserve."

The phrase is meaningless but in simple terms this reserve arises in this way:

In 1952, Parliament amended the Income Tax Act to permit corporations, under certain circumstances, to charge accelerated depreciation. The C.P.R. was one of these corporations. And the effect on the C.P.R. was that if the company so desired a box car, which ordinarily would be depreciated five per cent per year for 20 years, could be depreciated at 10 per cent a year for 10 years.

Depreciation is an item which the C.P.R. is entitled to charge against freight rates. The public

The Freight Rates Hearing

Grant Dexter in the Winnipeg Free Press

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The Age Old Story

For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God.

Helps To Keep Ulcers At Bay

By Herman N. Bundenen, M.D.

It's a good idea to let off some steam every time you feel the need. It might keep you from developing an ulcer.

PICK PROPER PERSON

Of course, exploding at the wrong moment to the wrong person also might very well lead you to the unemployment line or the divorce court. But by wisely choosing the proper person to tell your troubles to, you generally can avert any serious consequences.

Emotional stress such as resentment makes the juices secreted by your stomach stronger. This can, and often does, lead to formation of ulcers. Therefore, a simple way to prevent this from happening is to get rid of any pent-up anger.

Say the boss bawls you out. Okay, you don't want to talk back to him, but you've got to sound off to somebody. Why not try your spouse?

Let her know what goes on in the office or plant, especially when something goes wrong. Most wives would be willing to share their husband's problems if they were only given the chance.

IF IT DOESN'T WORK

If this still doesn't ease your tension, you can take it out — secretly — on the boss himself. Get a picture of the boss or even the building where you work. Then go down to the basement or to your recreation room, hand the picture on the wall and hurl darts at it.

A couple of bulletpoints and your anger probably will subside. If this isn't practical, try whacking a golf ball or baseball anything (but not your wife) that will help you "get it out of your system."

The perfect solution is to sound off when the disturbing factor occurs.

Some of you more fortunate employees or employers can get away with it. But for the average guy, the one who can't say much without danger of losing his job, the best plan is to take your problem home where you can blow your top in private.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

P.G.: Can you tell me what causes a ringing in my ears?

Answer: This may be due to anemia, kidney disease or an accumulation of wax in the ear, as well as to an infection in the tube connecting the ear with the mouth.

It would be advisable to have a physical examination to determine the cause.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (Oct. 10, 1932)

Organized labour represented by the I.P.U. and the Unemployed Association came in conflict with out-of-town labour yesterday afternoon when about a score of men from rural districts on the invitation of the local contractor arrived at the Railway Wharf to load the S.S. Bata with potatoes. The result was that the local men went to work at the rate set by the Union.

One of the most successful swine sales took place yesterday in the Agricultural Hall under the auspices of the P.E.I. Swine Breeders Association. A large number of exhibitors attended, and practically every an-

BOARD PLEBISCITE

Sir,—If we farmers say No in the coming Marketing Board plebiscite, what will we have then? No Board? Or will we be expected to form a Marketing Board to suit ourselves?

We certainly need a Board with power to collect fees to promote sales and control diseases (we will never control ring rot without spending more money), and to see that the producer gets his fair share of the consumer's dollars, etc.

I think when the Government goes to the trouble and expense of a plebiscite we should be given an opportunity of stating what we want.

I am, Sir, etc.,

ELDON DRUMMOND

Freetown, P.E.I.

FIRE PREVENTION

Sir,—As I read from day to day the accounts in your valuable paper of many fires in our Province, to say nothing of ones outside our Province, I think that every community, large or small, should have more means of fire protection.

When a blaze takes place most people are helpless for want of some protection. During this Fire Prevention Week it is the hope of many citizens that a thorough investigation will take place by the proper authorities of rooming houses, apartments, places of amusement, etc. It is too late when a major calamity takes place to begin investigating. Now is the proper time.

Regarding our City Fire Department, I still think that a Salvage Corps like we had some years ago should be organized.

I am, Sir, etc.,

INTERESTED CITIZEN

Charlottetown.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Children might be taught better manners by separating them from their parents — or sending the parents to cultural schools.—Cornwall Standard-Freeholder

A 32-year-old woman in Britain complained to authorities that her husband is a Communist and is frightening her by threatening to send her to Siberia when he becomes Commissar of Deptford. We don't think it's very nice of the woman's husband, but he certainly shows originality.—St. Catharines Standard

Counting the women of church does not mean that at women need religion four times as much as men do.—Brandon Sun

Amid all the babble about intercontinental missiles, it's hard to know how much is ballistic and how much hallyhoo.—Rantford Expositor

Hamburg school children can now rejoice — if they delight in going to school. In the Hansa Fow — where there is, as in most German cities, a severe classroom shortage — the time necessary for the construction of a school building has been drastically reduced. Two weeks only are needed to actually erect the cross-shaped structure, a three storey, mass-produced building to accommodate twelve classes.—Bonn Bulletin

TEN YEARS AGO

(Oct. 10, 1947)

With almost 100 per cent of the City Teachers in attendance in annual convention at Rockford Square School yesterday, Mr. Hollis Jenkins, West Kent School was chosen President of the Organization. The Director of Education, Mr. L. W. Shaw, spoke on "Professional Leadership." As a learned professional, Mr. Shaw said, "we lack leadership. It is not possible to have the larger centres give more leadership to the other teachers in the province."

Rt. Hon. Francis M. Forde, Australian High Commissioner to Canada, was a weekend visitor to Charlottetown where he met with Premier J. Walter Jones, members of the Government and members of the Board of Trade. Hon. Mr. Forde was particularly interested in farming activities in this Province and took the occasion to tour the Island farm lands.

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