

Gesner, "and of their numbers, none are captured." Now they are all gone. But the seals remain. They constitute a resource well worth exploiting, if Mr. St. John is right in his calculation as to their numbers and the effects of their predatory habits on the fishing industry.

Terms With Egypt

Only now, after three years, have Britain and Egypt settled financial claims arising out of the Suez crisis. Agreements to restore normal diplomatic relations still hang fire.

The financial settlement was a compromise. Britain agreed to release Egypt's sterling balances (\$100 million) frozen at the time of the attack. Egypt will release some British property it sequestered and pay compensation, estimated at \$65 million, for the rest.

The job of straightening out tangled affairs in Cairo will be arduous. Some 378 British firms and agencies will be returned to their owners. So must more than 10,000 bank accounts. More than 10,000 Englishmen who left Egypt, and scattered around the world, must receive compensation.

The Cairo agreement, reached in great part through the efforts of Eugene Black of the World Bank, has political implications that may be more important than its economic aspects. It probably shows the desire of President Nasser of the United Arab Republic to move closer to the West. This follows closely on troubles he has been having with Communists in the Syrian area of the UAR and with Soviet Russia over Iraq.

However, as the Milwaukee Journal puts it, more than one agreement will be required to convince the West that Nasser is to be trusted. Britain was aware of that from the start, but it has taken our American neighbors a long time to realize it.

Full Automation

The United States—probably the world's—first fully mechanized post office is under construction at Providence, Rhode Island. It will be built and equipped by Intex Systems, Inc. of New York, a subsidiary of the International Telephone and Telegraph Company. It will cost about \$20 million. When built, Intex will lease the building to the Post Office Department for 20 years at an annual rental of \$1,400,000.

The mail will be handled entirely by machinery. One device will cull letters from larger pieces of mail, and another will face them in position to be cancelled at high speeds. Human operators at key boards will operate the machinery to sort the mail to its proper destination.

EDITORIAL NOTES

His Holiness the Pope has called on priests to "use simple words" in their sermons and not to preach merely for the enjoyment they get out of hearing their own voices. Other preachers, too, might do well to heed the advice.

The 1959 national campaign objective of the Canadian Red Cross will be \$6,128,630. This is the lowest objective since 1956 and a decrease of \$103,469 from last year's quota. None of the Red Cross services or programmes will be curtailed during the coming year, however. Provincial objectives are: Alberta, \$510,500; British Columbia, \$690,000; Manitoba, \$430,930; New Brunswick, \$138,000; Newfoundland, \$100,000; Nova Scotia, \$199,200; Ontario, \$2,450,000; Prince Edward Island, \$29,500; Quebec, \$1,250,000; Saskatchewan, \$330,400.—News of Red Cross.

Few will deny the validity of the warnings against inflation which Hon. Mr. Clark has sounded in the Legislature. But it is a problem by no means confined to Canada, as is indicated in the February news letter of the First National City Bank of New York. Here we learn that in 1940, the first year of social security payments in the U.S., the maximum monthly check for a retired worker was \$60. This has been raised over the years so that it now stands potentially at \$127. But in the meantime, consumer prices have doubled so that \$127 today has about the same purchasing power as \$60 did in 1940. The pensioner has gained nothing. As President Eisenhower said in his state of the Union message: "Inflation is not a Robin Hood, taking from the rich to give to the poor. Rather, it deals with those who can least protect themselves."



TESTING THE TEMPERATURE

OTTAWA REPORT

Civil Service Commission

By Patrick Nicholson

Commissioner Arnold Heene, "czar" of the Civil Service, has been despatched from his chardom, back to resume his former post as Canadian Ambassador to the United States. William Anderson, Conservative M.P. for Waterloo South, has drawn Parliament's attention yet again to the fact that there are still some civil servants who fail to recognize that they have had new masters since Right Hon. John Diefenbaker was chosen by the electors to be our Prime Minister 20 months.

These two events seem to be poles apart. But they may be closely related. To replace patronage by merit inside our civil service, Parliament long ago set up the Civil Service Commission. This consists of three Commissioners, who are appointed to hold office for ten years. All appointments and promotions within the civil service are made, with very few exceptions, by the Civil Service Commissioners, and not by the Cabinet. The purpose of this is to establish an impartial body of dedicated public servants, dedicated to the proposition of obedience to their masters, who are our elected government.

LIBERAL CHANGES
 Just before the 1957 election, one commissioner who had reached neither the retirement age nor the end of his ten year term, was compulsorily retired. Another, whose original appointment was allegedly a political saw-off to avoid a split electoral vote, likewise had not reached the end of his term but was transferred to be our consul in Boston. The third had recently retired on grounds of age but had not been replaced.

Thus all three posts on the **PUBLIC FORUM**

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

EDUCATION
 Sir,—I found the Hon. Keir Clark's address most interesting, but what I can not understand is why we should pay first class teachers high salaries to teach in primary class rooms and have permit teachers teaching or trying to teach Grade X. We have second and third class teachers doing a wonderful job in many of our country schools. My hat is off to them. They receive very little praise.

I think our first class teachers should only be paid higher salaries when they teach the advanced grades.

And may I add that this is the opinion of a great many country parents.

I am, Sir, etc.,
 A FATHER
 Port Borden.

THE HOSPITAL PLAN
 Sir,—I would like to ask, why you call this a Hospital Insurance Plan? The way I see it, it is only for the rich, and the poor still don't get anything. How can poor people keep up four dollars a month, especially those unemployed all winter?

The way I see this plan, the sickly ones will join. The well will take a chance on their own. I think the tax plan we need is the one where everyone would pay a little and everyone would be covered.

Don't worry about our U.S. friends. We pay a tax in their stores when we go there. I don't think they would kick for if they call this the poor man's vacation land.

I can say this insurance plan won't catch any votes for the Liberals in the country.
 I am, Sir, etc.,
 A FARMER
 Windsor, P. E. I.

Just before the 1957 election in which it was defeated. The way was open for it to appoint three Civil Service Commissioners, due to remaining in office, and hence in control of the civil service, for the ensuing ten years.

The Liberal Government appointed new Commissioners, each of whom had enjoyed close contacts with Liberal Cabinet Ministers in their previous posts.

Two of them had served on the personal staff of Liberal Prime Ministers; one had been chief private secretary to Mackenzie King who was a close friend of the Liberal heir-apparent. It requires little political savvy to guess that they were none of them noted for their friendliness towards the Conservative Party.

Mr. Anderson suggests that disloyalty to the new government is at work in some places within the civil service. Of course the whole tone of our bureaucratic machine is set at the top, notably by the Civil Service Commissioners and by the Deputy Ministers.

Confirming Mr. Anderson, reports reach Ottawa regularly of the nagging, stalling, baulking and similar tactics mentioned above. You yourself may have been victimized by them.

So observers here have wondered at the patience of the new government. How long would it take them to have their eyes opened? When would they throw out some of the straight Liberal political appointees such as, for example, a former Liberal Cabinet Minister who now serves as a deputy minister? The transfer of Heene to Washington may not be unconnected with the situation which Bill Anderson deplors. The new broom may be beginning to sweep.

De Gaulle And The Congo

By Joseph MacSwinee
 Canadian Press Staff Writer

The fatal tribal-political strife in the new Congo republic may mean more local trouble for President Charles de Gaulle and his French community of Nations.

The republic, until recently a colony, was one of the African territories vying to maintain links with France under de Gaulle's plan for a French "commonwealth."

The immediate cause of the trouble was a political clash between the followers of Premier Abbe Fulbert Youlou and Opposition Leader Jacques Opangault, but it soon developed into fighting between the Balali and Mbochi tribes.

RELAXED CONTROL
 This is seen as a result of the relaxation of French control over the internal affairs of the territory at a time when practically all of "black" Africa is in the process of turbulent and complicated change.

Increasingly heard are demands for a federation of the 12 newly independent republics, and this controversy also plays a part in the Congo fighting. One faction favors federation while the other opposes it.

These factions are allied with two major parties—the anti-federalist African Democratic Rally and the pro-federal Party for African Regrouping.

All this makes it clear that there is a danger of the trouble spreading—and it is not only in French territories that unrest prevails.

Brazzaville, where the current street fighting is taking place, is just across the Congo River from Leopoldville, capital of the Belgian Congo, where more than 40 Negroes died in a different kind of rioting last month.

IRONIC CONTRAST
 Britain also had encountered serious setbacks, and perhaps it is significant in an ironic way that the two colonial powers giving lead to the Africans from a political standpoint—Portugal and Spain—have met the least

Regression Of Cancer Studied

By Herman N. Bundesen, M.D.

Causes of spontaneous regression might well provide the clues we are seeking in our fight against cancer. Such cases, however, are relatively rare. Spontaneous regression refers to known cancer cases in which the tumor begins to diminish in size and gradually disappears without medical or surgical help. Some physicians insist that the only cases which can correctly be labeled spontaneous regression are those in which no medical treatment whatever has been used. Others say that it also refers to those in which treatment was considered inadequate, but the tumor diminished in size nevertheless.

FEW SUBSTANTIATED
 Many causes of spontaneous regression are reported, but doctors are able to substantiate relatively few.

In 1956, for example, two doctors studied records of 500 patients supposedly with spontaneous regression. They found "strong presumptive evidence" of such occurrence in only 47 of these patients.

Sometimes it takes years for the disease to disappear.

CANCER OF THIGH
 There was one case in which cancer of the thigh was found in a five-month-old girl. There was no doubt about its existence; the diagnosis was confirmed by at least 15 pathologists.

Surgical removal was impossible. So the doctors and the frantic parents just watched and waited.

When the girl reached the age of nine months, however, the tumor began to recede. In 1956 the girl was 13 years old and the doctors could find no evidence of cancer. I don't know whether they have followed the case since then, but I suppose they have.

WHAT CAUSES IT?
 Now it would be wonderful if we could discover just what causes these cases of spontaneous regression. Perhaps we could employ this knowledge to help stamp out this dread disease entirely.

But one discouraging fact is that no one factor seems to be determinant in all cases. There are theories about what causes spontaneous regression in individual cases, of course, but thus far we have no conclusive proof.

SOME THEORIES
 In one case it is believed an allergic sensitivity caused tumor regression; in another, constriction of the vessels supplying nutrition to the tumor might have been a factor.

In some patients we believe heat, either external or internal, might result in regression; in others, we think an alteration of the hormonal status might be involved.

At any rate, doctors throughout the nation are trying to determine the causes of spontaneous regression. When they do, we will really have something.

QUESTION AND ANSWER
 G.S.C.: Can anything be done to eliminate or remedy watery puffs or sacs under the eyes?

Answer: A complete physical check-up is advisable to determine the cause of this condition. It may be due to a local infection, an allergy or some other disturbance.

The Age Old Story

The Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another.

OUR YESTERDAYS

(From The Guardian Files)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
 (Feb. 21, 1934)

Mr. Cecil Palmer and Mr. Neil MacLeod, Fisheries Inspectors, made a trip in Mr. Reginald Pope's aeroplane on Friday and Saturday to Grand River to inspect the mussel mud areas, with a view to protecting the oyster beds in that vicinity.

Mr. Walter S. Grant, a past president and a past district governor was the chief speaker at Rotary's birthday anniversary dinner Monday evening in the main dining room of the Canadian National Hotel. Over one hundred attended this enjoyable function. President G. F. Hutcheson presided at the dinner meeting.

TEN YEARS AGO
 (Feb. 21, 1949)

At a meeting at the City Hall last night, Jack Morris was elected president of the newly organized Charlottetown Chamber of Commerce. Other officers include vice-president Frank Andrew; secretary, Dingwell Morrow; treasurer, Stanley Lancaster.

The general store of W. H. Bernard at Borden was destroyed by fire yesterday morning, causing loss estimated at \$10,000, partially covered by insurance. The origin of the blaze, which started in the rear of the building, was not determined. The Borden Fire Department responded to the call but could do nothing to save the store.

RED TRADE OVERTURE

MONTREAL (CP)—If Canada wishes to sell more to the Soviet Union she must buy more, says a Russian ambassador to Canada. Canadian exports to the USSR are 10 times greater than her imports from that country because of "a policy of discrimination," he told the Junior Investment Dealers Association here Tuesday night.

NOTES BY THE WAY

We can't help suspecting that the man from Lachine who has been convicted six times for practicing dentistry illegally has strong sadistic tendencies.—Ottawa Journal

Nasser accepts Russian aid but denounces the Communists. Apparently Moscow doesn't know the secret of how to buy friends any more than the Americans do.—Winnipeg Tribune

Our hope of confounding the Soviets in the future is strengthened by the word they have more gadgets in their schools than Americans. Nothing like a gadget to weaken morale!—Ottawa Journal

Japanese women prefer the kimono? That figure-hugging beautiful garment is disappearing except for ceremonies. Japan has now 4,510 dressmaking establishments, with 474,222 women and 817 men; all learn to make Western clothing; none kimonos.—Toronto Telegram

An English church is disturbed by a ghost which fiddles with the organ. This is small cheese compared to the Ottawa Valley farm which had a ghost in the well which shouted abuse at visitors.—Ottawa Journal

Inflation in 1953 reached new highs in various parts of the world. The price of a wife in the Kuku tribe of Africa, for example, rose from one to three cows.—Kitchener-Waterloo Record

Some University alumni pour out money with almost fantastic generosity to build a winning football team. We prefer the policy of Carleton Alumni Association which is making provision for scholarships for promising students in need of financial aid.—Ottawa Journal

A bed costing 2,500 pounds (\$6,875) was on show last week at the Furniture Exhibition at Earl's Court. Twin mattresses heated by automatic temperature control could be adjusted to various positions by pressing a button. Gadgets which can be operated in a recumbent position include two radios, a television set, a tape recorder, a teamaker and a tea service, an electric shaver (for him) and an electric massager (for her). A selling deputation from the manufacturers is visiting the Middle East.—The Times, London

MAXIMS

Whatever exalts hope will enlarge courage.

What's There To Hide?

The confusion and indecision which have brought civil defense in Canada to its present chaotic state show no sign of ending. The latest fumble is the Dominion Government's refusal to make public Lieutenant-General Howard Graham's report on his four-month coast-to-coast survey of the whole civil defense situation.

This report is of the highest interest, the gravest importance, to all Canadians. Yet, according to Hon. Waldo Monteith, Minister of Health and Welfare, they will never know its contents. Why not? He gives two reasons, neither of them adequate.

GENERAL GRAHAM'S REPORT
 The first is that General Graham (now Commissioner for the coming Royal Tour) is still a member of the public service. But surely that does not mean his report cannot be made public. If Mr. Monteith would like a precedent for tabling it in the Commons, he need go no further than the Canadian Economic Outlook for 1958, a report drawn up by economists of the Trade and Commerce Department and tabled last week—what is the essential difference?

His second reason seems to be that General Graham prepared the civil defense report on the basis that it would be confidential. But is this what the Government asked for? There was not the slightest intimation of it when Mr. Monteith announced plans for the survey last June.

AS A CIVILIAN
 M General Graham made such a study as a senior army officer reporting to the Minister of National Defense (he retired as Chief of Staff last August) there might be a case for secrecy. But in fact he carried out the assignment as a civilian on the staff of the Department of Health and Welfare, which is a different proposition entirely.

Canadians have a right to know what this report contains. They have a right to know (as seems unlikely) they have any civil defense protection, to speak of. They have also a right to know what happened to the millions of dollars spent on civil defense. In each of the past eight years, the Dominion Government appropriation for this purpose has been between \$6.5 and 7 million; in addition, the Provinces have spent large sums. What is there to show for it?

RAISES SUSPICIONS

By keeping back the report, the Government inevitably raises suspicions that it wants to avoid exposing a scandalous situation and facing the public on it—even though it inherited most of the present civil defense mess from the Liberals. But if it insists on secrecy, let Mr. Monteith at least make a statement to the House of Commons on the civil defense situation—a statement based on all the information available to him, including that supplied by General Graham. And, at the same time, let him announce what the government plans to do about it.

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