The Guardian

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PAGE 4 TUESDAY, NOV. 27, 1956

Tragic Disunity

Perhaps never since Stalin came to power has the free world had such an opportunity of dealing with Soviet Russia as it has today. Within the past few months, the impressive front of friends that Khruschev and Bulganin built from Indonesia to Yugoslavia has evaporated. They had received triumphal welcomes all across south Asia. They had healed the breach with President Tito of Yugoslavia; and even a month ago, though East-West relations were back in the cold-war groove, the Soviets were still on friendly terms with India, Indonesia, Burma, Ceylon—the neutralist bloc of uncommitted nations who seemed undisturbed even at the Soviet Army's first move into Hungary. They approved or regretted it; they refused to condemn it. But today the Soviet Union has hardly a friend or champion outside its own power borders—and, what may be of even greater significance, not too many within.

Marshal Tito has denounced its excesses in Hungary. India's Prime Minister Nehru and his Indonesian and Ceylonese colleagues have criticised it for the same reason. Communist parties in Britain, France, Italy and the United States have split wide open over the same issue. And the satellites, for all the surface harmony, are a seething mass of anti-Stalinism. Today Moscow's greatest fear may not be satellite revolt, not loss of Asian friendship, but opposition within its own borders to Kremlin policies and actions abroad.

This is a time when the free nations should be working in the closest harmony. Yet the United States—with Canada trailing along complacently—has taken this occasion to "de-emphasize" the Western Alliance, and completely stultify it in the Middle East—building up Nasser in Egypt, and transforming his smashing military defeat into a political victory at the expense of Britain and France, not to speak of Israel whose survival Washington is morally bound to guarantee. There is grave doubt now whether anything can be salvaged from the Suez fiasco—except the moral that peace cannot be bought by poltroonery. This is the tragedy of the present situation, that at a time when Soviet political power shows real signs of crumbling, the advantage to the free world has been whittled away by lack of leadership from the one source from which we might have expected it.

The tragedy, so far as Canadians are concerned, is heightened by the fact that if the senior Dominion of the British Commonwealth had shown a little moral backbone the result might well have been different. This, no doubt, will be pointed out by at least some members of the Opposition at the session now in progress at Ottawa. But to what avail? They will be voices crying in the wilderness. We know now where our Government stands, or rather where it doesn't stand, and where it stubbornly refuses to stand. And unfortunately, the world knows too. Only the unlikely chance of an adverse vote in the House would cause much of a ripple now beyond Parliament Hill.

Mortier Bay Project

For many years Newfoundlanders have been discussing the feasibility of a free port at Mortier Bay, a safe and commodius harbor on the South coast. In the old pre-Confederation days hardly an election was fought in which the proposal was not an issue. It never came to anything, partly because the necessary capital was elusive and partly because the politicians did not like to give it up as a political enticement when nothing better seemed to be at hand. It seems now, however, that Premier Smallwood is going into the matter with his customary vigour, and it is reported that the free port may at last become a reality.

The idea is to use the port as a great warehouse for the manufactured goods of Central Canada and the Northern United States, the grain of the Prairies and the ore of Labrador. All goods from any source would enter the port freely in the regular navigation season. Then, when the St. Lawrence waterway and the Straits of Belle Isle are closed by ice trans-shipment could be carried on from Mortier which, like all other Southern Newfoundland ports, is free of ice the year round. It would, of course, mean a tremendous lift for Canada's coastal fleet. Proponents of the plan say it is the only thing that can save the fleet from extinction.

A somewhat similar project has been under way in the Colon Free Zone in Panama for the last three or four years. Goods from practically every part of the world are piled up in warehouses there enroute to Latin American countries. Raw materials can be processed free of duty and other taxation until they leave for their destinations. This processing of goods has been talked about by the Mortier Bay planners, too, and that, of course, would mean an economic expansion of great proportions. But, first, the port itself has to be established, and that is what the Newfoundland Government is working on now with, or so it is reported, reasonable prospects of success.

Bad For UNESCO

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization has come in for a lot of criticism in recent years from people who wonder whether the work it does is worth all the money it costs. There have been rumours, too, that the Soviet Union and other Communist countries have been using the organization for the purpose of spreading political propaganda in the so-called "neutralist" states of Asia and Africa. A late report from New Delhi, where a meeting of UNESCO has been under way for several days, would seem to confirm these rumours. It certainly will not make the critics any less voluble in their complainings.

The report says that the Soviet and Arab representatives are bringing British-French "aggression" in Egypt into almost every discussion, on the pretext that military intervention in any part of the world is detrimental to the scientific and cultural heritage of mankind, which UNESCO was commissioned to uphold and develop. In vain have the Western delegates protested that UNESCO is not a political organization. The Communists kept harping on the Middle East situation and Western "imperialism." And, even after the Conference voted 36 to 22 not to debate a resolution condemning Britain, France and Israel, they insisted on keeping the delegates from getting down to their proper business.

This effrontery is all the more brazen in view of the fact that most of the money that keeps UNESCO going comes from Western sources. Perhaps the organization's critics have been right after all. Certainly, if it is to be nothing more than a platform for Soviet diatribes against its chief supporters, it may as well be disbanded and the money put into safer and more practical programs.

EDITORIAL NOTES

President Eisenhower is reported to have given General Naguib, Colonel Nasser's predecessor, a pistol. Now, if he were to give Nasser a couple of hydrogen bombs to do what he likes with, his place in Egypt's affections would be secure.

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275,000 gallons of whiskey have been seized by United States' Federal agents in a Mid-West city for non-payment of the federal tax. If the money is not forthcoming at a certain date, a dispatch says, the courts will order the liquor poured down the nearest sewer. That's a shuddering bit of news for a lot of people besides those who have money tied up in the business.

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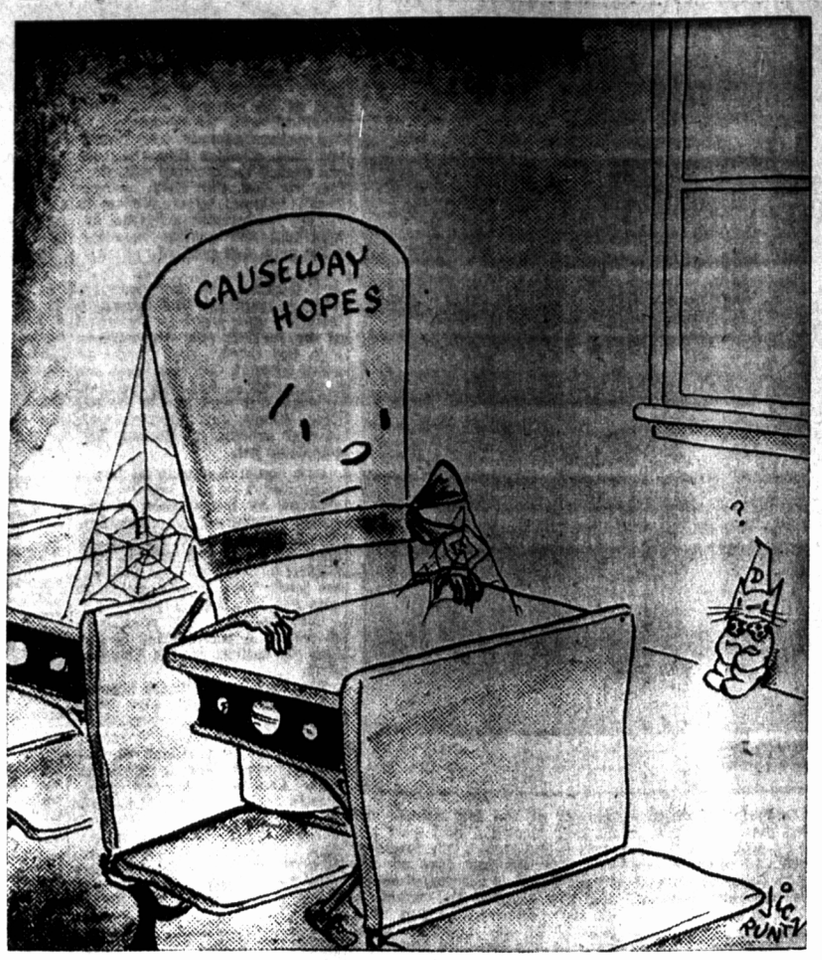
Following reports that Yugoslav members of the U.N. police force are instructing the Egyptians in military subjects, U.N. officials declared that there is no regulation against the visiting soldiers "fraternizing" with the Egyptians. Certainly not. President Nasser would never have sanctioned any such regulation, and he appears to be the real boss of the U.N. force. One of these days, if things go on as they have begun, he will put the whole force under his military command.



THIS ONE IS STILL WAITING TO FIND OUT IF HE PASSED

Turning The Other Cheek

Judith Robinson in The Toronto Telegram

The U-N order has gone forth forbidding all salvage work on freedom's lifeline which has not the approval of Col. Nasser. What typewriters can do will no doubt be bravely done to save Mr. Pearson's face. But as for saving anything more important, Dr. Hammarskjold won't have it.

So England and France can either quit Egypt or quit the U-N, the only two courses left open now to self-respect—or to self-preservation, if that remains possible for any of us.

The U-N wants to run the Mid-East show under Col. Nasser's stage management. Let it. U-N interference has made it impossible for Britain and France to do the necessary job they went in to do for us all. So France and Britain may as well cut either their Suez losses or their U-N expenses; and if it's Suez they may as well get out now and get out fast obeying with speed and thoroughness the U-N order received. It will be then for Washington to decide what it cares to do solo in the Middle East to protect American oil, and other interests from the ministrations of Dr. Hammarskjold. Because Mr. Pearson's typewriters won't really be very much help.

Events have proved that the threat to peace which the French and British governments tried to avert by action was real and imminent. Events have proved that the acceptance of U-N shackles bars effective action against any threat to peace.

Membership in the U-N is therefore getting to be a pretty costly luxury for nations like France and Britain who being under the gun of Communist aggression both at home and overseas must act before the gun goes off if they are to act at all.

There might still be hope in priorities if Dr. Hammarskjold were not so eager to prove to Col. Nasser without delay that the U-N secretariat is his friend; his and Moscow's.

Supposing U-N priorities were to be observed in Egypt; orders issuing from the ineffable Dr. Hammarskjold could then be obeyed in proper sequence. Britain and France are ordered to quit Egypt forthwith under pain of U-N displeasure. Fair enough, but everything in its turn. Rather more than three years ago the government of Egypt received a U-N order to cease and desist forthwith from denying the use of the Suez Canal to ships of Israeli registry. That is a back order still outstanding.

The Suez Canal being an international waterway in which, by international convention, the ships of all nations are guaranteed equal rights of passage, Egypt's denial of passage to Israeli ships was an illegal and hostile act. The U-N was right to ussue its order commanding Egypt to stop it. The U-N had a duty to the international law Egypt had defied. Its duty was to command obedience.

The command was issued; and Egypt paid no attention. None whatever. Not the slightest. From the hour, all those years and months ago when Cairo received the U-N ultimatum until this hour no ship of Israeli registry has been permitted by the Egyptian government to pass through the Suez Canal.

Yet this long disobedience has not made the Egyptian government unpopular with Dr. Hammarskjold. On the contrary. The U-N Secretary General has done more than turn the free world's other cheek to the dictator of Egypt's fist. He has turned its whole backside to his boot.

Keeping Nasser Appeased

George Bain in the Globe and Mail

Long, long miles the Rifles travelled from their far-off foothills base,
And from Scotland came the Maggie at a truly urgent pace,
She was readied as a trooper and her sailing was in sight,
Then the word was heard from Nasser—Maggie shall not sail tonight.

(Down in Halifax, the Queen's Own Rifles have a new marching song: Off We Go Into the Wild Blue Nowhere. And out there in Halifax harbor sits HMCS Magnificent with 3,600 dozen eggs, or some equally staggering number, on board. If they don't get this UN force organized soon, Halifax may have to evacuated).

Almost daily in the East Block Uncle Louis met the press,
They would say: "The troops are going?" and he'd always answer; "Yes,
They are ready and we're waiting for the UN's starting light."
Then the word was heard from Cairo —Maggie shall not sail tonight.

(Waiting outside the Prime Minister's office for the announcement that we would be sending clerks and typists to the Middle East, a reporter said it went without saying what ribbon would be given our troops for this campaign—a black and red one with a spool at either end. For second conspicuous act of gallantry there wouldn't be bars or clasps given; just carbons).

With our portables and standards we are off to gain the peace,
We shall wield a mean easier in the Middle East police,
We shall type and cut our stencils, meanwhile keeping out of sight,
For the word has come from Cairo —Maggie shall not sail tonight.

(Then someone suggested that since the good colonel is so sensitive about British connections—the "Queen's Own" in the Queen's Own Rifles is understood to have got his back up—the troops would have to be careful what sort of typewriters they took. Royals, for instance, would be out. Anyone turning up with a British Imperial would be open to immediate charge of carrying an offensive weapon!)

Stevenson's Future

By Heath Macquarrie

After the American election a reporter asked defeated Democrat Adlai Stevenson if he were interested in a thrid try for his party's nomination as candidate for the presidency. The weary and twice-defeated Stevenson replied: "I wouldn't be likely to accept the nomination if it were handed to me on a platter," he then added, realistically, "But I'm not expecting that to happen."

One feature of American politics which differs greatly from Canadian concerns the role of the defeated candidate. After receiving a set-back at the polls in the elections of 1949 and 1953 Progressive Conservative leader George Drew remained his party's spokesman and continued to face his opponent Mr. St. Laurent across the floor of Parliament. Had it not been for his illness he would have encountered his formidable adversary in a third national contest. The post of Leader of the Opposition is an important one, fully recognized and provided for in the law and custom of Parliament. In the United States no such position exists, and the man who misses his chance to enter the White House becomes a private citizen, unless he happens to hold a state governorship like Dewey or is a member of the Congress.

POLITICAL OBLIVION

By hard work and his brilliance of intellect Stevenson managed to hold some sort of role as unofficial party leader between 1952 and 1956 but after this second defeat he is likely to sink into political oblivion. He will have no national platform from which to press some of the serious and perhaps well-founded charges which he levelled at Eisenhower's foreign policy. Although it is almost a certainty that no other Democrat could have defeated the popular Eisenhower there is but the slightest possibility that Stevenson's fellow-Democrats will ever again consider him him for their party's nomination.

That such a man should not retain his leadership of his party is perhaps a pity and one of the unfortunate features of the American system. While the Democratic party has brought many new and able men to the forefront there appears none cast in the statesmanlike mould of the able and alert Stevenson. At this critical stage in world history his country could profit from his counsel on national affairs and America's allies might benefit from his farsightedness in matters of world concern.

It would be well if the victorious Eisenhower could make a place for his brilliant opponent in the national administration. But while much is said about the President standing above party there is little in his record of appointments to indicate that he is any less devoted to the cause of partisan patronage than any of his predecessors who made no claims of being non-political. Indeed his appointments to the higher foreign service offices shows none of the bi-partisanship that marked the administrations of Presidents Roosevelt and Truman.

MANY OFFERS

But while Adlai Stevenson is likely to fade away, from the active political scene there is reason to believe that his voice will still be heard, speaking out clearly and incisively on great issues of the day. He has had many offers of positions suited to his talents. Several great universities have asked him to become their president and as head of an institution of higher learning Stevenson would be superb. He has demonstrated his ability to think deeply and to speak clearly, gifts surely suited to a University head. Canadians, with whom Stevenson has always been popular, will hope that he will continue to give clear expression of his thoughts on the great issues daily facing his nation and the rest of the world.

The Age Old Story

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
(November 27, 1931)

For the past eight weeks work has been progressing with repairs to the car ferry "Prince Edward Island" at the firm of Bruce Stewart Ltd. Extensive work has been done to the engines, boilers and brickwork and new furnaces, boilers and an excellent modern refrigerator plant have been installed

The Schooner, "Victor W.T.", left Victoria yesterday morning with a cargo of 1750 bags of potatoes for the Harris Abattoir Company of Sydney, N.S. Captain D. Ferguson who is in command of the ship stated that while exportation showed potatoes with a less than average crop hay and oats were good.

TEN YEARS AGO
(Novrmber 27, 1946)

Hope of obtaining sufficient data on the movements of herring in the Gulf of St. Lawrence to enable fishermen to obtain larger quantities over a longer period is the principal purpose of the Atlantic Herring Investigation Committee which met here yesterday. This was the first meeting of the committee in Charlottetown since its inception

Beginning this week films are to be shown throughout the province illustrating the advantages to rural dwellers of rural electrification. The films will be shown under the direction of Mr. B. Chandler, and it tis understood an electrical technician will accompany Mr. Chandler to explain the technical questions involved.

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Bundesen, M. D.

FOR BABY AND MOM

BATHING a baby is often a real chore for a new mother. Sometimes, it presents a great danger to the infant. It needn't be, either, if you just remember a few fundamentals.

For one thing, make sure the water isn't too hot for baby's delicate skin. Best and simplest method of testing the water's temperature is to dip your elbow into it. The water is safe if it feels neither hot nor cold.

FIRM SUPPORT

Always support the back and neck of a young baby when he not lying flat. Remember, too, that an infant covered with soapsuds, is pretty slippery. You've got to grasp him firmly so he won't wriggle out of your hands.

Safety pins removed from diapers should be placed in a pin cushion or some such thing well out of the tot's reach.

The bathinet, tub or whatever you use to bathe him should be on a firm support. The dressing table should be against the wall.

USING TALC

Talcum powder is fine for preventing chafing. However, I caution against using any powder containing stearate of zinc. Be careful, also, not to let the baby breathe in the powder while you are talcuming him. When powdering his chest and neck, place your hand between the baby's face and powder can.

Baby oil can be used instead of talcum if you wish. Many mothers prefer oil since it protects a baby's skin from the urine and stool. In warm weather, however, talcum is preferred as a rule.

If you use oil, place a few drops on your hand or on asmall piece of cotton. Then pat it gently into the folds and creases of the infant's skin. Be sure to wipe off any excess oil.

You've got to wipe away excess powder, too, or it may cake and irritate his skin.

The more often you bathe baby the easier and safer it will become for both of you.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

R. T.: My lips get sore at the corners of my mouth. Could nail polish have anything to do with it?

Answer: It is not likely nail polish is the cause of your condition. Soreness of the corners of the mouth is usually due to a vitamin B deficiency, most often riboflavin or vitamin B-2.

NOTES BY THE WAY

For years now inventors have been inventing combination automobiles and airplanes. The trouble is that nobody so far has invented a customer who wants a combination automobile and airplane.—Winnipeg Tribune

There's one English girl who takes Dorothy Parker seriously. Somewhere or other, Miss Parker dropped a comment to the effect that "men seldom make passes at girls who wear glasses." This youngster, 16 years of age, plans a personal campaign to rid Britain of the "owl look." She doesn't like the nickel-plated spectacles supplied by the National Health Service. And she wrote to her local health chairman to that effect. —Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph

Tuesday, October 30, will go in Canada's history as a day of shock and shame. On that day the Government of Canada chose to run out on Britain . . . The Liberals have been carefully preparing the way for years, discarding the ties of ancestry and Commonwealth one by one, selling out our natural resources and our industry to the highest U.S. bidder. And now we have the ultimate sellout. They have sold out our decency and honor.—Calgary Herald

One of the thorniest questions remaining for those charged with the construction and operation of the St. Lawrence Seaway is the question of tolls. A decision that will satisfy the best interests of Canada and the United States, and also the foreign users of the seaway, would tax the wisdom of a Solomon. The benefits that will accrue to Canada and the United States from the project will be vitally affected by the answer. — Cornwall Standard

Since confederation there has been some 54,000 acres of barrens burned over to promote the production of blueberries. An acre of blueberry barren has been known to produce in Newfoundland some 1,500 pounds of blueberries. But allowing an acre an average production of 500 pounds and paying the blueberry picker at the rate of sixty cents per gallon this should mean at least $1,500,000 to the workers of this province. In the U.S. the state of Maine is the great production centre of blueberries. But in Maine the vast majority of the blueberry crop is of the cultivated type rather than the wild variety.—St. John's Telegram

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CONDENSED STATEMENT AS AT OCTOBER 31, 1956

ASSETS

Cash Resources (including items in transit)	$ 392,485,511
Government and Other Securities, not exceeding market value	653,636,675
Call Loans	155,093,865
Total Quick Assets	$1,201,216,051
Loans and Discounts	1,069,285,025
Mortgages and Hypothecs insured under the N.H.A., 1954	89,444,382
Customers' Liability under Acceptances, Guarantees and Letters of Credit, as per contra	31,531,892
Bank Premises	24,697,925
Other Assets	18,739,029
Total Assets	$2,434,914,304

LIABILITIES

Deposits		$2,279,097,420
Acceptances, Guarantees and Letters of Credit		31,531,892
Other Liabilities		11,494,355
Shareholders' Equity		
Capital Paid Up	$37,500,000	
Rest Account	75,000,000	
Undivided Profits	290,637	112,790,637
Total Liabilities		$2,434,914,304

STATEMENT OF UNDIVIDED PROFITS

Year Ended October 31, 1956

Balance of profit for the year before provision for income taxes but after making transfers to inner reserves out of which full provision has been made for diminution in value of investments and loans	$15,123,807
Provision for income taxes	7,232,266
Balance available for distribution	$ 7,891,541
Dividends	5,999,996
Amount carried forward	$ 1,891,545
Balance of undivided profits October 31, 1955	1,399,092
	$ 3,290,637
Transferred to Rest Account	3,000,000
Balance of undivided profits October 31, 1956	$ 290,637

JAMES STEWART, PRESIDENT

N. J. McKINNON, GENERAL MANAGER