

The Guardian

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Making Progress

There has been so much publicity concerning the refusal of the Soviet Union to come to any sort of reasonable settlement on disarmament problems that one very real achievement in the atomic field has not received the attention it deserves. This is the tentative agreement on President Eisenhower's "atoms for peace" plan. First suggested in the fall of 1953, the proposal made little headway for almost two years, owing to the Soviet Union's customary delaying tactics. In recent months, however, for reasons best known to themselves, the Russians have been co-operating with the Western powers in the search for a formula that would distribute atomic materials for peaceful purposes on a workable and equitable basis; with the result that negotiations have reached the stage where preliminary work on drafting a set of regulations for the new agency that will be set up is possible. This is the responsibility of a special 12-nation committee; and reports say that the Russians are putting only minor impediments in the way, a most unusual practice for them.

In September, representatives of all the 86 countries making up the United Nations will meet in an attempt to put the draft regulations in final shape. It is expected that, barring some unexpected delay, the necessary ratification by 18 countries, including at least three of the atomic materials distributing powers—the U.S.A., Britain, the Soviet Union, France, and Canada—will be undertaken about a year from now. Even if it is delayed for several years, the fact that the history making idea is making any progress at all is surely something for which to be thankful, considering the international vexations of our time.

Graduation Exercises

The graduation exercises at St. Dunstan's University take place today, and similar exercises will be held shortly at Prince of Wales College. These annual events are always a matter of great interest to the public generally as well as to the students and their immediate friends and relatives.

One reason for the high standard maintained at St. Dunstan's is its continued insistence on the importance of the humanities. This at a time when there is a common tendency in Canada and most other countries to crowd out of the curricula the subjects commonly associated in the public mind with academic learning. The argument that such learning is "impracticable" in this scientific day and age persists. Dealing with this matter in its report presented to the Dominion Government in 1951, the Massey Commission on Arts, Letters and Sciences makes this point:

"It is easy to forget that the liberal arts provide not the decoration but the fabric itself. The purpose of such great subjects as history and philosophy and literature, if we may tread a well-worn path, is nothing less than to teach the student how to think, to train his mind, to cultivate his judgment and taste and give him the capacity to express himself with clarity and precision. Nothing could be more practical than that. If we feel as many do that higher education shows a diminishing capacity to achieve these ends, we are without knowing it deploring the decline of the humanities."

At Prince of Wales as well as at St. Dunstan's every effort is made to keep a sound balance in this respect. And it is encouraging to note that educators across the continent are beginning to realize the dangers of over-emphasizing the physical or technical sciences. A recent survey in the United States, financed by the Carnegie Corporation and sponsored by the American Society of Engineering Education, gives clear evidence of this trend. It finds that engineering schools, for the most part, do not supply a sufficiently well-balanced course of training.

Students, it says, should receive "a minimum of 20 per cent of their educational time in the humanities, liberal arts and social studies;" and these courses "should extend throughout the four years, and not be offered as a one-year program to be got over as quickly as possible."

The reason, of course, is obvious. To go back once more to a truth enunciated in the Massey Commission report: "At the highest level every scientist must be a humanist, and every humanist a scientist." Pascal was equally celebrated as a philosopher and a mathematician. Leonardo da Vinci, chiefly renowned as an artist, was likewise the most gifted scientist of his day. Isaac Newton, known as a scientist, prided himself as a theologian. Many other great names could be added to the list. There is, undoubtedly, an urgent need for scientists and engineers in this modern age, but the need is equally great for avoiding narrow specialization. The balanced courses provided in our local institutions of higher learning are of paramount importance, whatever the student's objective may be. The broadening influence of his studies will remain with him throughout life, and he will go forth, in outlook at least, a whole man, with infinite capacity for assimilating further knowledge and experience. That is the kind of education we have prided ourselves upon in this Province, and it is the kind that makes Graduation Day so important in the lives of those participating in it.

Reactionary Insects

When DDT first appeared a few years ago it was hailed as the long sought destroyer of insect pests. And so it seemed to be—for a time. Especially in areas where malaria and typhus abounded, there was rejoicing that the disease bearing insects were due for extinction. On test grounds, mosquitoes were killed off by the million. However, according to a report from Science Service, the time of rejoicing may be coming to an end. It has been proved that in course of time insects build up their own defences against their chemical adversaries. D.D.T. and allied chemicals are losing their power.

The latest insect to reassert its claim is the housefly. Tests made in the United States and Denmark show that it is more than holding its own. The same can be said for lice, cockroaches, and numerous other pests. At a test made at the U. S. Agricultural Service in Beltsville, Md., a breed of flies has been developed which can thrive and grow fat in a tub lined with the most deadly form of DDT. Whether malaria, which has been all but wiped out in several Asiatic countries, will reappear in dangerous proportions, now that the mosquitoes are learning how to defend themselves, remains to be seen; but the scientists are a little afraid of the prospects.

Perhaps it is as Horace said so long ago in connection with another matter: "You can drive nature out with a pitchfork, but she will keep coming back."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Travellers whose lives are made miserable by various forms of motion sickness should take courage in a recent scientific pronouncement. The older one gets, it says, the less likely one is to get sick on sea or in the air.

Those who advocate more liberal liquor laws as an incentive to moderation are going to be a little put out over the news from Sweden. Six months after rationing ended there is a 50% increase in drunkenness, so statistics show.

Mr. Manning, head of the Social Credit government of Alberta, predicts that on June 20 his sister-province Saskatchewan will turn out the CCF and follow the example Alberta set 21 years ago. Such a head of optimism, remarks the Ottawa Journal, takes in a good deal of ground. In the old Saskatchewan legislature elected in 1952 the Social administration of Mr. Douglas had 42 seats, the Liberals held ten and the Conservatives one. Social Credit was not among those present. If the Social Credit, starting from nothing in the Legislature, can overturn the solidly-entrenched CCF and capture for itself the treasury benches in one election it will be an achievement to rank with surprising events in our political history.



FURTHER PRESSURE

OTTAWA REPORT

Automation Problems

By Patrick Nicholson

The Russian government has just formed a Ministry of Automation. The British government's Department of Scientific and Industrial Research has just issued a most thorough report ever compiled upon this new manufacturing process. The West German government is pushing the world-wide sales of the new push-button machinery, and underselling the States in this.

There is widespread fear of automation among workers. But it is the fear of the unknown. And as is frequently the case, the unknown can be shown to contain little cause for fear at all. Experts on automation say that it contains no threat to total employment. At worst, there may be temporary lay-offs during re-tooling. At best, the greasy sweating manual work-er struggling for \$65 per week, will be promoted into a white-coated supervisor earning much higher wages.

Operation of the automatic factory of the future will closely resemble the operation of a hydro-electric power station today. So these supervisors, working five six-hour shifts per week, will keep watch over robot machines working around the clock to turn out the finished article untouched by hand.

PLANS PREVENT CHAOS The change-over from the mechanical today to the automatic tomorrow will need planning and careful supervision. There will be no problems in the change-over, enslaved to a machine, will be the opportunity to learn the new skills which will bring them better paid and more interesting work. Older workers, settled in their ways, will find the change harder.

Everyone will have to learn how

India's Second 5-Year Plan

Associated Press, New Delhi

On April 1 India embarked on its second five-year plan, a \$15,000,000,000 offensive against the poverty and unemployment which had plagued this country for centuries.

The economic development "theme" is getting under way in an atmosphere of hope and doubt. The hope is generated largely by the success of the first five-year plan. The doubt resides in India's need to find more than \$1,500,000,000 in foreign assistance.

Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's government has set two main objectives for the second five-year plan: An increase of about 25 per cent in national income, and the creation of at least 10,000,000 new jobs.

With these goals before them, Indian planners decided an expenditure of 71,000,000,000 rupees (\$14,200,000,000) was necessary for the 910,000,000 population. This outlay includes 48,000,000,000 rupees (\$9,600,000,000) in the public sector, including state-owned industries and government public services such as health and education, and 23,000,000,000 rupees (\$4,600,000,000) in private industry.

Nehru's government, hard pressed to raise these sums, is planning higher taxes, export drives, public loans and possibly compulsory savings. The government has frankly told the Indian people that the drive for economic development will be a hard one.

The second plan, which is twice as large as the first, emphasizes industrial development and sets big targets for increased production of steel, cement and other capital goods.

The first five-year plan centred on agriculture, giving industry only about 42 per cent of the expenditure. But when the first plan was formulated India was facing acute food shortages. Now with the food shortages largely remedied India has set its sights on becoming a great self-sufficient industrial nation.

However, it will take many more five-year plans before it can be a really developed industrial country. Nehru and his aides already are talking of fitting the five-year schemes into broader 20-year blueprints.

Royal Palace Expenditure

London Economist

Old feuds around the Mountbatten name being what they are, it is not altogether surprising that two sections of the popular press have recently been testing their readers' reaction by lobbing bricks at palace expenditure; but it is surprising, and rather disturbing, that they seem to have been getting part of the reaction they wanted. Some M.P.'s report that they are getting several letters a week about supposed "royal extravagance."

It is right that royal expenditure, like all official expenditure, should be kept under close scrutiny; but the trouble about the present campaign is that it does not spring from scrutiny at all. The "complaints" have been a strange rabble. One item that the press has been complaining about is the royal yacht, which one source has suggested was ordered at the Duke of Edinburgh's instigation. This is nonsense. The plan for a new yacht was conceived in the reign of Edward VII, the idea of ordering it after the war was Lord Attlee's, and the yacht itself was laid down in 1948.

THE ROYAL TRAIN Rude fingers have also been pointed at the new dining car for the royal train, and extraordinary estimates of its cost have been bandied about. Once again, however, the idea did not in fact come from the Palace, but from British Railways. The royal train was due for a new dining car, for the old one was 57 years old. Another item, which has reached as far as a parliamentary question, is the Queen's Flight. It had been stated in the press that a Britannia aircraft had been ordered for the Flight, and the Duke had been criticized for his use of a Heron aircraft. Actually no Britannia has been ordered. Two ancient Vikings are to be replaced by two more Herons, as being most suitable for the short flights which form most of the royal journeys. There are also to be two helicopters instead of one, and

The Poet's Corner

He keeps an inch-worm in a jar And treats it like a movie star. The slaying of a centipede, He censures as a heinous deed. Man's inhumanity to mice Is something he decries as vice. He cannot see whatever for Men must recurrently make war.

When he's older, he'll prevent it, He simply plans to invent it. —Mykia Taylor in the New York Herald Tribune.

The Age Old Story

And it came to pass, as Jesus sat at meat in the house; behold, many publicans and sinners came and sat down with him and his disciples. And when the Pharisees saw it, they said unto his disciples, Why eateth your Master with publicans and sinners? But when Jesus heard that, he said unto them, They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick.

to employ the longer hours of leisure which will come with the new age. Let us hope that we will be able to find better outlets for this increased leisure than the horror predicted by one glorifier of the age of automation. That huckster, plenty which will be ushered in by automation, foresees our homes equipped with a television set in every room.

The coming of automation is a change which cannot be resisted. But planning between the Government, management and labour is essential to prevent the slight disruption of the change-over turning into a national disaster.

"There are some startling dangers ahead of us," said Allister Stewart, C.C.F. member from Winnipeg, describing automation in the House of Commons. "And they are dangers because our political and economic thinking still lags lamentably behind the technology of the age."

when a long-distance aircraft is wanted one of the corporations will lend one. Long before this campaign started, it had been said that the Queen had expressed the wish that the Flight should be re-equipped as economically as possible. It will in fact cost 300,000 pounds.

NOT ALTERED The general financial back-ground is even more startling: the annuities payable to the Queen for her privy purse and for her household, known as the civil list, were fixed at 475,000 at the beginning of the reign and have not altered. This sum includes 95,000 a year to provide a reserve margin for contingencies such as rising prices.

But the revenue of the Duchy of Cornwall amounts to about 90,000 pounds a year, and this, after providing for the young Duke (Prince Charles), is applied to reduce the cost of the civil list to the exchequer. The civil list does not include annuities paid to other members of the royal family, the Duke of Edinburgh's being 40,000. But some idea of the real savings that have been made in royal expenditure can be gathered from the fact that King George VI's civil list amounted to 410,000 pounds, and those of George V and Edward VII (whose pounds are worth four or five times as much as the Queen's) to 470,000 pounds.

Compared with any other era modern Britain is getting the panoply and the constitutional advantages of royalty very much on the cheap. SALK PROGRAM HALTED WINNIPEG (CP) — The city health department Monday cancelled a salk vaccination program in city schools for three weeks because of a shortage of the vaccine. Dr. R. G. Cadham, deputy medical health officer, said clinics scheduled in the schools between May 14 and June 4 have been called until further notice.

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Bundesen, M. D.

HEART MURMURS SELDOM ARE SERIOUS IN CHILDREN DON'T get excited if your youngster should develop a heart murmur. While it's always advisable to have a doctor examine him immediately, chances are that it really may turn out to be nothing serious. Innocent heart murmurs are very common among children.

RECENT STUDY In a recent study of several hundred children who complained of heart murmurs, 97.5 per cent were found to be of the harmless variety. And that was no snap judgment by physicians. The youngsters were kept under observation for six years. During that time, one third of the murmurs thought to be serious were found to be of a harmless nature.

RESULTS REPORTED These results were reported in the Southern Medical Journal by Drs. James L. Donahoe and Chester P. Lynxwiler, both of St. Louis. Innocent murmurs, the doctors report, are most generally found in youngsters between the ages of 8 and 12.

Basilar Area Innocent murmurs are usually heard over the basilar area. Generally, they are groaning in quality instead of being harsh or blowing. An important significance of this study, I believe, is that it shows the value of follow-up examinations.

MEDICAL CHECKS "I'd it not been for repeated medical checks, many of these youngsters, I'm afraid, would have gone through life in the firm belief that they had heart murmurs and would have lived their lives accordingly.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS Mr. T. R.: One doctor told me that I had diverticulosis. Another said that I had diverticulitis. What is the difference? Answer: Diverticulitis is a disease in which there are small out-pockets of the large intestine at various places. An individual may have as many as one hundred of these. Usually, there are no symptoms from this disease.

In diverticulitis, the out-pockets become inflamed and infected and may cause bloody diarrhea with severe pain. There may also be chills and fever.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (May 22, 1931)

The largest ship of her type in Canada, the new inter-provincial ferry "Charlottetown," was launched by Mrs. Charles Dalton, wife of Lieutenant Governor Dalton, at Lauzon, Que., at seventeen minutes after eight yesterday morning at the Davie Shipbuilding Yards.

Farming operations are in full swing in Tryon and vicinity. Some have finished their seeding, but most are just getting nicely started. Practically no potatoes have been planted as yet in fact, very few have started seed cutting.

TEN YEARS AGO (May 22, 1946)

The council of the Halifax Board of Trade supported an application by Maritime Central Airways, connecting Maritime Province cities, for a small Federal subsidy. Members said a small subsidy would be necessary to continue successful operation.

The fishermen of Miminegash have done exceptionally well fishing herring. The George Wain fish plant is filled to capacity, and a great many are being hauled by truck to his Summerside plant.

Where's The Best Place To Live?

In Toronto (and freeze in winter)? Florida (broil in summer)? California? An Ontario farm? This question nagged Canadian-born Robert T. Allen like a toothache for years.

June Reader's Digest condenses his new \$3.50 book "The Grass is Never Greener"—a hilarious report of his "research" in looking for the ideal place to live, and how he comes up with a definite answer. Or does he? Get your June Reader's Digest today: 38 articles of lasting interest condensed to save your time.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

If you wrinkle your face with smiles, folks are apt to overlook the wrinkles in your unpressed suit.—Chatam News

After a man has mastered the wolf at the door, he has been unable to keep the milk out of the clothes closet.—Galt Reporter

A columnist notes that more than 10 million Americans suffer from some form of mental disorder. But hasn't he failed to allow for the fact that this is a presidential election year?—Brantford Expositor

Unintentional cynicism from the social page of a British newspaper: "The couple were married yesterday, putting an end to a friendship which dated from the time they went to school together."—Edmonton Journal.

The rites and customs of primitive peoples appear strange to us. On the other hand, they must be mystified by our quaint Canadian custom of celebrating holidays by killing each other with motor cars.—Edmonton Journal

A Toronto lawyer recently spoke here giving tips on what to do in case of an auto accident. One of them was "never admit the accident was your fault." Judging from past experience, this was probably the most unnecessary piece of legal advice handed out so far this year.—Ottawa Citizen

A police car in the city of Buffalo had the right of way but the young lady in another car came to a stop to let the police cruiser get by. Made curious by such unheard of courtesy, the police strode over to the other car and asked to see the lady's driving licence. She had none, and so was hauled into court. The moral in this story is that one with no licence should keep on driving.—Fort Williams Times-Journal

New York has passed a law against water skiing at night. This is a statute which relatively few people will ever be tempted to break.—Edmonton Journal

The postal authorities' decision to "feature" British Columbia on a postage stamp celebrating our 1956 centenary is welcome recognition from the Ottawa government that BC actually exists.—Vancouver Sun

On the hatpeg allotted to each member of the British House of Commons there is a slip of pink ribbon from which to hang his sword. Members have not worried swords for years, yet the ribbons persist. They are supposed to be a link with our past. What, in fact, they are is a wretched nuisance to the cloakroom attendants who have to tie them.—London New Statesman

With gas on the brain the St. Laurent Government hardly can be expected to give thought to Maritimes coal and the industrial build-up of this region. We will think about that alone and for ourselves—and can be depended upon to do so. While the taxpayers' money, of which we have contributed our share, is loaned in order to pipe gas from the foot of the Rocky Mountains to Ontario.—Sydney Post-Record

Attendance and prices at the recent Calgary horse sale were a surprise to those who had been led to believe that horses are only history, except for a few who are numbers at the race track. There is a generation here that never experienced the happiness of living in a community where horses were companions. But more and more people are more anxious to give the horse the place it deserves in the relaxation program of their families and neighbors.—Calgary Alberta

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