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chairman of the Commission On A Just and Durable Peace of the Federal Council of Churches, as the organization was then known.

Those Byelections

Monday's federal byelection results can be interpreted in different ways—either as straws in the wind or isolated contests of no political significance outside their individual ridings.

On the other hand, it is no secret that the Liberals were counting on capturing the Manitoba riding. They have no representation in the Commons from any of the four Western Provinces and they made a determined effort to secure the Springfield vote.

In Toronto, on the other hand, the prophets were predicting a Liberal defeat to the Conservatives. It seems that elections are still, like horse races, unpredictable.

Crow's Nest Pass Rates

Western Provinces are concerned about the criticism levelled against the Crow's Nest Pass rates, which recently were cited by Mr. R. A. Emerson, vice president of the Canadian Pacific Railway, as an example of the restrictions under which our railways today are forced to operate.

But there is another side to the story. The rates are, in fact, one part of an agreement between the C.P.R. and the Government of Canada. The railway agreed to build a line through the Crow's Nest Pass and to hold down its freight rates on export grain.

Points In An Argument

The Fifth World Conference of the National Council of Churches—an organization composed of most of the Protestant Churches in the United States—meeting in Cleveland a short time ago, recommended "reconsideration by our Government of its policy in regard to the People's Republic of China".

In support of its recognition of China suggestion, the Conference made these points: "(a) While the rights of the people of Taiwan and Korea should be safeguarded, steps should be taken toward the inclusion of the People's Republic of China in the United Nations and for its recognition by our Government.

(b) It helps to preserve a false image of the United States and of other nations in the minds of the Chinese people; (c) It keeps our people in ignorance of what is taking place in China; (d) It limits the functioning of international organizations;

(e) We have a strong hope that the resumption of relationships between the peoples of China and of the United States may make possible also a restoration of relationships between their Churches and ours."

One of the speakers at the Conference was Mr. John Foster Dulles, U.S. Secretary of State, who told the delegates, among other things, that "we invite consultation with reference to our principles and policies and are prepared to modify those policies when it seems that this is in the general interest".

EDITORIAL NOTES

Village Commissioners are said to be anxious to talk over with farmers the matter of Daylight Saving Time. That is the best way of reaching an understanding on this controversial issue.

The area surrounding the tomb of Robert Louis Stevenson on Mount Vaea in Samoa, has been declared a memorial reserve by the Government of Western Samoa. It was in 1890, recalls an exchange, that this imaginative and gifted writer went to seek health in Valima, where the natives, responding to his grace and charm, and venerating him as a chief, called him Tusitala. When he died suddenly in 1894 they bore his body in ancient ceremony to the top of the hill, 500 feet above the Pacific, where he had asked to be buried. "R.L.S." is less read now than he used to be, and more's the pity.



TRYING TO PULL DOWN THE CURTAIN

OTTAWA REPORT

Canada's Air Challenge

By Patrick Nicholson

Scientific development has brought us to one of history's sensational turning points in the progress of mankind. The perfection of large, fast airliners is putting air travel into direct competition with the cheapest long-distance rail travel.

This development, providing a abundant cheap and fast air transportation, presents Canada with a challenge which, seized courageously, could bring greater advances in prosperity and living conditions to us than to any other people on earth.

Our government perceives this opportunity and, through the national aviation policy, it is leading us to accept this exciting challenge. Our national airport program is reaching its construction peak one year before the big new jet airliners will come into widespread use.

At the same time, after a hectic decade of progress, airliner design has now reached a plateau, where no significant changes are foreseen in the next several years.

Mao Considers Retirement

By Joseph MacSweeney Canadian Press Staff Writer

Mao Tse-tung, a man of ruthless will and amiable countenance, has led Red China to the peak of its military, political and economic power.

It's hardly surprising therefore, that government leaders around the world are closely studying unofficial reports from China that Mao may step down as chairman.

Such reports have cropped up before and turned out to be wrong. But diplomatic experts say it may well be possible that Mao, who is 65, is planning to devote more time to the preparation of a theoretical work to explain Red China's vast programs.

It is pointed out that Mao, while a soldier and man of action, is also an intellectual, a poet, a prolific writer.

This man of paradox, while exuding rustic simplicity, wields more power than any Chinese emperor ever did and is driving his people into a barracks-type existence.

Forward Leap Western statesmen have frequently expressed doubt as to whether Mao will be able to make his new commune system work indefinitely, attacking as it does the ancient family traditions and character of the Chinese.

In Red China's "great leap forward," millions of people are being herded into communes, steel furnaces are being erected in backyards and peasants are marched to the fields like soldiers to a parade ground.

Joseph Stalin tried a similar system in Russia after the revolution—an attempt to fuse collective farms into all-embracing communes—but was forced to give it up by implacable opposition from the peasants.

Undaunted, Mao, the son of a peasant, is uprooting people from their homes and villages and resettling them in barracks on the job. Women work on farms, highways, dams, and in factories, mines, communal kitchens, nurseries and tailor shops.

Mothers turn their children over to communal nurseries and kindergartens. They no longer prepare meals at home but eat in mess halls, along with other members of the commune.

Says the People's Daily, party mouthpiece: "Individuality has absolutely no place. No longer does one find the phenomenon in which workers are members of the working class only when they are working and free people when they are off duty. Now there is all - round party leadership over the production, life and education of the worker masses."

Mao thus seems to have moved far from his position of a couple of years ago, when he enunciated the short-lived policy of "let a hundred flowers bloom" on the road to socialism.

markets in the realm of our perishable products.

GAINS AND ECONOMIES

Timetables and fare charts reveal the "why" of the swelling switch to air travel.

Today a crack transcontinental express train speeds from the federal capital to our west coast metropolis of Vancouver in 63 hours. But airliners make the same journey in only 12 hours.

Two years from now, a jetliner, carrying 125 passengers at the staggering speed of 550 miles an hour, could make that trip thirteen times while the express train completes a single journey.

Not only will the cheap and fast train slash the immense distances of our ten provinces; it will make possible the unlocking of the great Arctic vault, in which we hold treasures probably unmatched in the world.

OUR YESTERDAYS

(From The Guardian Files) TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (Dec. 17, 1933)

The large steam-heated warehouse on the railway wharf at Georgetown, where between 20,000 and 25,000 bags of potatoes are stored for shipment, narrowly escaped destruction on Saturday from fire which broke out un-

pressive laws have been applied to them over the centuries. They had not been in Paris, for example, more than a month before the bishop excommunicated them as "Sorcerers and fortune-tellers." All who had consorted with them fell under the same ban.

Many governments - ranging from that of Maria Theresa, Queen of Hungary and Bohemia in the 18th century, to today's Communist Russia—have tried to settle the wanderers on the soil. Few such attempts have been successful.

To give the Gypsy children some education, France, Russia, Morocco, and Sweden have organized mobile schools to wander with them.

Gypsies Travelling On

National Geographic Society

Today's dark-eyed Gypsy may live in an automobile trailer rather than a horse-drawn wagon. He may have abandoned his horse-trading ways for mechanics.

But despite the efforts of many governments to settle him down, he cannot resist the open road.

The number of Gypsies in the world is estimated between five and six million. Although some have established homes, others still roam through Europe, the Americas, Asia, and Australia, the National Geographic Society says.

Often the halt for the winter, but after the festival of St. George on April 23, when spring greens the prairie, they travel, as their kind has traveled for 2,000 years.

ENTHIC MYSTERY SOLVED Swarthy of complexion, with black hair and flashing eyes, the Gypsies do not lose themselves in local populations. For many years no one knew who they were, or where they came from.

They brought with them no history or literature when they first entered Europe in the early 15th century.

They were thought to be Egyptian (hence "Gypr-") or Persian, or Tartar, or a lost tribe of Israel, or perhaps the people of legendary Atlantis. Modern

Some "Don'ts" For The Cold

By Herman N. Bundesen, M. D. SNEEZE just once or twice and your friends and relatives will probably be telling you what to do for a cold. Just about every-

Well, I'm not going to tell you what to do. Instead, I want to tell you what not to do when you catch a cold.

FRIENDS' ADVICE The first "don't" is don't follow the advice of well-meaning but ill-informed friends.

From time immemorial many people have tried one cold remedy after another. They have starved a cold, they have fed a cold, they have tried fruit juice every type of drug that was ever advertised or advised.

SOME OF THESE cold drugs can alleviate symptoms and there is no doubt they have some value in treating cold symptoms.

But, after all these years, with all these various methods, we still have not found a cure for the common cold.

Another important "don't" is don't experiment with nose drops, inhalants, pills or medicine left over from a previous cold. And don't try drugs recommended by well-meaning friends.

NOT ALIKE All colds, you must remember, are not alike. The medicine you or your next door neighbor took the last time a cold attacked might not be any good at all for the next one.

Moreover, it might be down-right harmful unless it is properly used under the right conditions.

Don't put your hopes on drugs or methods that already have been proved valueless. And remember nose drops and gargles won't kill viruses in your nose and throat.

TOUGHENING YOURSELF Don't try to "toughen" your resistance to colds by sleeping on unheated porches or with the windows wide open or by taking cold baths. It won't do any good.

Such so-called hardening attempts have no bearing at all on the number of colds you might catch, nor upon the severity of them.

Don't expect to avoid colds by moving to a warm climate. Residents of the deep South catch colds, too.

QUESTION AND ANSWER P. K.: Some people say that keeping the windows open at night is unhealthy.

Answer: A sleeping room should be well ventilated but free from drafts. An open window not permitting a direct draft on the sleeper is usually advisable.

A few older people and individuals highly susceptible to colds seem to do better when they sleep without a direct breeze falling on them. But be sure you always have fresh air in your sleeping room.

The Age Old Story

I will give until him that is at the fountain of the water of life freely.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

Asked by the quizmaster on a TV show to name a great time saver, a woman contestant promptly answered: "Love at first sight."—Practical English Magazine

demeath the boiler room, adjoining the shed at the extreme end of the wharf. It was first noticed by the watchman, Frank Gottel, at 3 a.m. who notified the townspeople. The fire was extinguished by a chemical extinguisher.

The firemen were called out last evening for a fire at the residence of Mr. William Le-Clair, 86 Richmond Street. Considerable damage was done to the second and third floors on one side. The firemen had difficulty extinguishing the blaze which was making headway in the walls. Practically all the furniture was removed.

TEN YEARS AGO (Dec. 17, 1948) There is every reason to believe that P.E.I. will be linked up with the Trans-Canada Highway, Premier J. Walter Jones said last evening. The conference the Premier said, was held in Ottawa in camera, and nothing of a detailed nature could be released at present. He felt however that it had been a satisfactory meeting.

Mr. Bruce Ramsay, Summerside, is a patient in the Prince County Hospital, as a result of injuries sustained yesterday when he fell from a ladder to the ground while putting on outside windows at Coyle's new restaurant. His physician stated that there was some concussion and until X-rays were taken, it was impossible to say how serious his condition might be.

Over the lake there were flying. Owl's head was feathered. The tamaracks let fall a few. Rain that delighted you.

And your delight exclaimed: Water lap, the allowed. With unforgotten joy you. An amiable good-bye.

Because of you I can't. Gladness that I need to. At autumn's end, and autumn. The felicity of snow. —Bette Casselman in the Christian Science Monitor

CHRISTMAS

from Adella's

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The Poet's Corner

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