

Potato Tariff Change

The extension of Canada's seasonal tariff on United States table stock and seed potatoes from the current six-weeks period to a year-round basis goes a long way in meeting the objections of our potato producers and shippers to the disadvantage of the existing situation. It will, it is believed, place Canadian growers in a better position than they have enjoyed for many years. In exchange, Canada has agreed to a 40 per cent reduction in the U.S. seed quota, but our potato men are satisfied that this will not cause any undue hardship to the Canadian exporter.

There is also provision for the continuing duty-free admittance of American new potatoes from January 1 to June 14. The effect of this provision is more uncertain, particularly as to the result during the April-June period. On the whole, however, our potato spokesmen seem reasonably satisfied with the terms announced yesterday by Finance Minister Harris.

The tariff change represents a great deal of hard work on the part of our potato organizations, Horticultural Council, Agriculture Federation, Department of Agriculture and others interested, and proves that representations of this kind can achieve concrete results, if based on just grievances and advocated vigorously and intelligently.

Weak Argument

It has been argued in the Commons that if it is wrong for Cabinet ministers to interfere with CBC programs in any way it is equally wrong for members of Opposition parties to express criticism. The argument is not sound. This is one instance where it is not true that what is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander.

The CBC is responsible to Parliament, not to the Cabinet. This fact, in itself, makes it permissible for any private member of Parliament, whatever his political label, to express approval or disapproval of any particular program. This, moreover, is a right that belongs to any and every "private" citizen. This is not political interference.

Cabinet ministers, on the other hand—the whole 19 of them—are in a different position. They are citizens, to be sure, but they are not "private" citizens in the general interpretation of that word. They represent political power; and between political power and political interference in free expression of opinion on a publicly owned news medium there is a very thin margin of safety which it would be easy to break down. This is not to suggest that all Cabinet ministers if given an inch would take a foot, as the saying goes. Nor does it mean that the Prime Minister himself, when he wrote to the chairman of the CBC Board of Governors protesting the content of a political commentary, deliberately intended to interfere with the right of free speech. But there is always that possibility, unless it is removed by making clear to the 19 that they must be prepared to let others do what criticizing is helpful.

British Emigrants

The news of impending air-lifts for British emigrants bound for Canada seems to have created the impression in some quarters that most of Her Majesty's subjects in the United Kingdom are anxious to get away from it all. Actually, many of the emigrants, according to their own testimony, are leaving much against their will. In all likelihood a goodly number will return once they have discovered for themselves that Canada, too, despite its expansive mood, has economic problems, that it is by no means a land where money grows on trees. It has been shown that, statistically, the emigration is good for Britain, too, in that it helps to relieve the pressure of population which for some years has been a serious balance.

The current exodus is mainly, perhaps altogether, a matter of economics—taxes, to be exact. And there are signs that in the Budget which he will bring down next week, Mr. Peter Thorneycroft, the new Chancellor of the Exchequer, will have some good news for over-burdened tax-payers (and this is one instance where the adjective "over-burdened" really means what it says, for there is no question that Britons are the most heavily taxed people in the free world). Should this much talked about and hoped for tax relief become a reality, especially among the wage earning classes, a sudden drop in the scale of emigration can be expected.

Meanwhile, since large numbers have apparently decided to move, it is to Canada's advantage that they are coming this way; although, of course, for the first few years after their arrival they can be counted on to proclaim in season and out of season, in good report and evil report, that everything is done much better in the "old country." That is characteristic of Englishmen, Scotsmen and Irishmen who leave their homelands and seek their fortunes abroad. All it means is that the "old country" is still their spiritual home. It is no reflection at all on the social and economic pattern of Canada.

Tragic Affair

There seems no doubt but that the suicide of Mr. Norman, Canadian Ambassador to Egypt, was a direct result of the renewed attack by a United States Senate committee on his alleged former Communist connections. These charges were repudiated in Canada and there is no reason to doubt the assurance given by External Affairs Minister Pearson that for eighteen years Mr. Norman served his country with loyalty, devotion and ability. During recent months he was under great pressure at Cairo, working at times round the clock. Members of all parties at Ottawa yesterday endorsed Mr. Pearson's view that "the combined effect of overwork, overstrain and the feeling of renewed persecution on a sensitive mind and a not very robust body produced a nervous collapse, the tragic result of which has brought to me personally and, I am sure, to his colleagues and friends, both shock and grief and a sense of great loss." That, we feel, will be the sentiments of Canadians generally.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Indian election results won't be known for some time yet, as there are still quite a few districts to be heard from. However, Mr. Nehru's party already has elected him Premier; so his chief worry is over.

\$25 bank notes are very scarce, says an official of the Bank of Canada. A good many Canadians would say that there are times when notes in the other denominations are not too plentiful.

Only three Newfoundland ships are engaged in the seal fishery this spring. It's a far cry from a hundred years ago when 400 ships large and small went "to the ice."

Returning from a visit to Moscow, Premier Kadar of Hungary said that Soviet troops would be kept in Hungary "for as long as necessary." That means, of course, for as long as Mr. Nikita Khrushchev thinks they should stay.

A Canadian Press dispatch says that the Government of Canada has borrowed \$125 million on bills due June 21. There is, no doubt, good and sufficient reasons for it; but to the layman it is a mystery why a government should want to keep on borrowing money when it has a surplus of two or three hundred million dollars on its hands.

Newfoundland imports the bulk of potatoes consumed in the province. This, however, is because of shortages in the local variety. It has nothing to do with quality. In fact, according to an editorial in a recent issue of the St. John's Daily News, the local potatoes demand a better price than the imported ones, for the simple reason that they taste better. P. E. Islanders may be a bit sceptical about that claim, but that's the way it is. The Government hopes that with a little encouragement Newfoundland farmers may soon be in a position to raise at least a million barrels a year.



COUNTER-CLAIM

UNITED KINGDOM OPINION

Back To Trouble

By "Onlooker" of the London, England Bureau of Thomson Newspapers

Looking as if he had never left sunny Britain, the Prime Minister Mr. Macmillan flew back from Bermuda this week to face a pile of trouble only slightly smaller than the one he left behind him. True, the Cyprus picture looked easier, although the release of Archbishop Makarios has shocked the Briton-in-the-street. On the other hand, the shipbuilders' and engineers' strikes, which were just threats when he left, have become actualities.

Mr. Macmillan has brought back however, some (but not much) substance for the shadowy question mark as to when the British will get the American guided missiles that have been promised as a result of the Eisenhower-Macmillan talks. Service chiefs here are cynical about the promises. They know that the type of intermediate range missile wanted here—of a range of up to 1500 miles—are still in the development stage, and it will be a pretty safe bet to say that it will be around 1960 before the first British serviceman fires the first imported missile.

NEW SKILL I went out to London airport to see Mr. Macmillan arrive back from Bermuda, and I could not help noticing that he is getting easier, more graceful in his actions and in the way he deals with the Press since he took over Sir Anthony Eden's hot seat.

He has a new skill. He may be as evasive as most British politicians are, but he is gaining the admiration of the Press as an individual.

Macmillan pronounced himself "delighted" with the deal he has made with Canada. It will help Britain's fast-growing atomic power programme—the most advanced in Europe—along considerably.

For some time past the Piccadilly has been lucky for shows and the sort of runs they have had, so one can hope that the luck will hold for the Canadians' debut. But other theatres are in quite a mess now and not only owing to the quality of their material, either.

The villain in the case is entertainment tax—not as heavy as it is on the cinema, but still making a great difference in takings. A large theatre here has just closed, and the management of it declares that he could have kept running had he not had to pay entertainment tax which took no less than \$280,000 from the theatre in the two past years.

But London is especially burdened right now with too many large theatres, built in the days when the theatre was practically the only form of entertainment. And the only type of entertainment to fill these 2000-seater showhouses these days—usually an imported American musical—comes along all too seldom.

And any financial "fat" that a theatre may gain when (as the Theatre Royal in Drury Lane here did a few years ago) it houses a successful musical like "Oklahoma!" can all be whittled away by one semi-flop.

Libya's Key Position

National Geographic Society

WASHINGTON — Marines once defied Barbary pirates on the shores of Tripoli, forever linking the United States Navy to Libya-in song.

The pirates have long since passed into history, but one fact never changes. Libya remains a crucial spot in world affairs because of its strategic place on the Mediterranean.

Situated between Egypt and Tunisia, Libya has a 1,050-mile coastline. A shore-hugging road connects the two frontiers. Libya's total land area of 679,358 square miles—nearly a fifth the size of the United States—cuts deeply into the Sahara. It is a large country, but hot and bitterly dry, so most of its 1,000,000 people live in green oases along the coast, says the National Geographic Society.

ONE OF THE YOUNGEST Though greatly dependent on helping hands, Libya in 1951 won its independence through the United Nations. The United States and Britain maintain bases there, in turn giving aid to help bolster the nation's struggling economy.

Independence came to the Libyans after some 3,000 years of domination by Egyptians, Phoenicians, Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, Arabs, Spaniards, Turks, and Italians. After World War II, Britain and France administered the kingdom's three distinct provinces.

These provinces—Tripolitania, Cyrenaica, and desolate Fezzan—

make up the domain of Libya's King Mohammed Idris El Senussi. He lives in Benghazi. The seat of government is Tripoli, a modern walled city.

The coast of Tripolitania is Libya's most fertile region. Water from the steep slopes of the Gebel Nefusa range flows beneath sand on its way in the sea. Inhabitants, mostly Arab and Berber, thus have a means of irrigating barley, vegetables, and groves of figs, olives, oranges, and dates.

The coastal strip retreats to mountain country where farmers and herdsmen live in huge man-made caves. Beyond it is the Hamada el Hamra, a desert plateau of rock swept and polished by wind.

OLD TRADE CARAVANS Most of the Fezzan's sparse population lives in such oases as Brach, Sebha, and the old provincial capital, Murzuq. An old Turkish fort still stands in Murzuq, a walled city where Libya's distinctive racial types meet and mingle. There are blue-eyed Berbers from the north and east; dark-skinned Central African tribesmen; the princely-wielded Tuareg horsemen of the desert.

Desert tribes roam the rest of Libya. From the Fezzan's famed Sen of Worms, a body of water that bristles with tiny gold-budded shrimp, to the oasis of Giarabub in Cyrenaica's Libyan Desert, nomads tend their herds and engage in caravan trade.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion of current events of national interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

ON PAINTING IN P.E.I.

Sir.—There are only a few persons in Charlottetown who can paint. Maybe a half a dozen, persons whose technical knowledge of painting amounts to something more than the usual self-taught Sunday painter's draughtsmanship; and four of these few are presently exhibiting a number of their paintings.

Their respective techniques are remarkably akin, Miss Lowe's differing slightly, and so is their artistic vision. The style of these paintings is something of a post-impressionistic one, softened down by what is usually termed "Canadian temperance" (not necessarily a virtue, but more often a lack of courage or boldness); it is furthermore very much influenced by the art of some Canadian landscape painters of the beginnings of this century.

All four painters paint honestly, and the results are honest. Not great. There is something very timid, very shy about these landscapes, which are all too often only "charming".

Prettiness and great art have never gotten along too successfully, and I fear that most Maritime painters paint pretty landscapes, rather than beautiful landscapes. Moreover, landscape painting, which has had its glories—Constable, Monet, is certainly no longer one of the important living forms in contemporary art; and, personally, I much prefer the excellent photography that has now replaced landscape painting. What most people don't see, is that photography because it is done by hand, but only because it says something that the photograph cannot say. Many of the landscapes exhibited do not say much more than camera works would.

On the other hand, figure compositions demand more skill, more knowledge of drawing, and weaknesses in them are always more obvious than in landscapes. I don't think that we are ready to give Canada another Harris. There are no young artists in Charlottetown and I can very well understand why they will exile themselves to Toronto and Montreal whenever they appear.

The art of Painting is so unimportant in our Province, there are so few who understand and love good painting, that any exceptional painter would find himself in a desert. Unfortunately radio cannot diffuse good painting, it is diffusing good music. The few artists who are exhibiting, and whom I have the great pleasure of knowing, are doing all they can to prompt this particular activity of the spirit. But this is Italy or France, New York or Mexico, and I'm afraid that the sale of cheap P.E.I. landscapes to tourists hungry for any kind of souvenirs, will remain, with the sale of Presley records, the only important art activity for a long time to come.

Maybe one should not hope for anything better, but one, at least, has the right to deplore this impossibility of hope.

I am, Sir, etc., (REV.) ADRIEN ARSENAULT St. Dunstan's College.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From the Guardian Files TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (April 6, 1932)

Notice appeared in the Royal Gazette recently announcing the formation of a new corporation, capitalized at \$100,000 to be known as the Associated Shippers Inc., P.E.I. Associated with the firm are John A. MacDonald, Matthew and MacLean, Austin Scates, Poole and Thompson, Joseph Read, Simmons and MacFarlane, G. Elliott, F. Russell Clark, W. N. Wilson and M. G. McNeely.

Premier Stewart and Hon W.J.P. MacMillan, Minister of Health and Education, leave this morning for Ottawa to attend the Inter-Provincial conference which meets on April 9th.

TEN YEARS AGO

(April 6, 1947)

The 3,700-ton Swedish Diesel ship, B. O. Borjesson docked at Georgetown yesterday morning to load potatoes for the United Kingdom. The ship, which is the 1947 navigation season in this province, one of the earliest openings on record. The freighter was escorted into Georgetown Harbour by the icebreaker Saurer.

The housing shortage, which is

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Bundesen, M.D.

LEARNING TO EAT TALK FEEDING a cerebral-palsied child correctly is probably one of the best ways to help him talk. To realize what a palsied child is up against, try talking without moving your tongue, lips or throat. It's a tough job.

The movements a person must make in eating a good dinner are the best exercises possible for aiding the use of these parts so vital to speech.

Before any child learns to speak, he must first learn to suck, chew, swallow and blow.

A good speech therapist makes use of these actions when training a palsied youngster. And a good feeder can be a good speech therapist right at home.

When feeding a young cerebral palsy victim, place only a small amount of food on a spoon. Make the child use his lips to remove it. Don't make him use his teeth to take food from the spoon and don't permit the utensil to scrape against his upper teeth.

MOTION OF JAWS Advise the youngster to chew. In some cases, it may be necessary to move the child's jaws in an up and down motion to show him what you mean.

Also, tell the child to move the food around with his tongue. Don't place the food in the centre of his mouth. Instead, place one spoonful on one side and the next on the other side.

Now don't be too anxious to help the child in all his eating. For example, don't break off pieces of toast for him unless he can't manage it by himself. It's better to let him bite off pieces if he is able.

PRaise HIM Like any youngster, a palsied child likes to be praised for doing things correctly. Don't scold or punish him when his eating becomes sloppy.

A victim of cerebral palsy can't help a spastic tongue or a weak atrophied tongue. It's up to you to remind him to keep his lips closed and to use his tongue to push the food around.

If there is a palsied child in your home, you can do a lot to help him right at the dinner table. QUESTION AND ANSWER

Mrs. T.A.F.: I am 65 years old, and my blood pressure is 180. Is this too high? I was told that Epsom salts might bring it down. ANSWER: Blood pressure of 180 is considered to be above normal. I know of no evidence that Epsom salts are useful in the treatment of high blood pressure. Better see a doctor.

The Age Old Story

Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation.

The Poets Corner

ON A LIBRARY BOOK OF POEMS With fond, bright eyes, he ranged the spiraling spheres; With passion and pain he plumed man's tangled lot. Yet only three, in forty-seven years, Had read his luminous book that fame forgot.

And I, the fourth, who gravely bore it home, Felt the old tragedy of beauty lost— The wild land's-end that unwatched breakers comb; The intricate fading jewels of the frost.

But surely he who forged this love-line, If interviewed somewhere in paradise, Would scarcely sigh to know, but smiling, press Starward to nobler song in wider skies.

—From the New York Times.

MAXIMS

Long ago I made up my mind to let my friends have their peculiarities.

becoming a serious problem in Summerside with the reopening of the airport, will be alleviated to some extent by the construction of a large three-story brick and steel apartment building which will contain twenty apartments. The building is being constructed by Mr. T. D. Morrison.

NOTES BY THE WAY

No wonder women usually look better than men. Look how long it takes them.—London Free Press.

Moscow says dogs fired into space by rocket have returned to earth unharmed. One would like to know what the dogs think of such an adventure, however.—Edmonton Journal

A New York man heard a strange noise in his 1948 car and found a cat under the hood. He was lucky to have a purr in that kind of a car.—Kitchener-Waterloo Record

The Society of Automotive Engineers had its annual winter session in Detroit, recently. The program of technical discussion does not include a remedy for a tail fin on 1957 models that has been backed into a tree.—Sarnia Observer

The young and the elderly are said to be our two big problems. And with youth lasting so long, and retirement coming so early, there's hardly anybody left in between to do the worrying.—Hamilton Spectator

Last year the Canadian mails carried \$5,541,000 worth of government mail for nothing. It would be interesting to know how many Christmas cards, bundles of dirty shirts and public relation handouts were included in all that.—Peterborough Examiner

Miss Mag Cournoy, a Parisienne, says "men find plump women much more appealing than their slender sisters." We assume she doesn't mean this in a cannibalistic context. She may not be entirely unbiased on the subject as she weighs 230 pounds but there is something to what she says.—Windsor Star

The civic traffic committee has proposed that the city pass a by-law specifically prohibiting the splashing of pedestrians by motorists. At present it is possible to charge splashers only under the "careless driving" section of the Highway Traffic Act, but penalties are fairly severe. If a civic by-law would help the police to prosecute splashers, it might well be added to existing laws.—Ottawa Citizen

Alberta Social Crediters, happily anticipating their \$20-a-year-dividends from the provincial government, must have been rudely shocked by the national revenue department's announcement that the payments will be subject to federal income tax. Bewilderment was probably added to shock when this was followed by a ruling that the British Columbia government's \$28 annual payments to homeowners are not taxable.—Edmonton Journal

Statisticians have estimated that to glance away from the road when driving 40 miles an hour is equal to driving blind for 58 feet. And a lot can happen in that distance.—Oshawa Times-Gazette

The Chinese Government has called upon the peasants to eat less. For some millions of them that will be quite a trick!—Brantford Expositor

In trying to solve his problems, man doesn't spend nearly enough time trying to find a solution to the underlying cause of many of his problems, that is, the carelessness of human beings.—Kitchener-Waterloo Record

A British doctor has attacked the hot bath as an anti-social habit that should be discouraged. He declared: "It is an obvious fallacy to think that frequent immersion in hot water has any hygienic value whatever." No matter what else he may be, Dr. Drake is obviously a boy at heart.—Winnipeg Tribune

In this mechanical age when the typewriter has almost entirely replaced handwriting, it may be a natural consequence that penmanship has become next thing to a forgotten art. Good handwriting is so seldom seen today that when a sample does bob up, it becomes almost a collector's item.—Svan River Times

An unusual exhibition which opened at the Bridlington public library last week is made up of books damaged by borrowers. Some of the books have been maulled by dogs and one has a number of pages stuck together by the yolk of an egg. One has been left near a fire and the pages are burnt, and a number of others have writing on the pages. The centrepiece of the exhibition is a book open at the title page. Written in large letters in ink across the page are the words: "Fish and Chips in Oven. Make some fresh tea."—London Times

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