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Journal, knows that the seemingly solid earth may vomit molten lava, or quake most horribly, that ever long periods of time whole continents may rise from the waters or sink beneath triumphant waves.

But he is not so familiar with the concept of lands being loose from their moorings, slipping and sliding on the surface of a comparatively fluid core. The very thought of this possibility is enough to induce a queasy feeling. Like so much else in modern thought, the concept of terra firma seems to be only relative.

Undoubtedly, Prof. P. M. S. Blackett told the British savants, there have been large movements of the continents in relation to the poles. England used to be near the equator, and North America, too, has slithered northward. India and South Africa were once close to the South Pole. Only 170,000,000 years ago, Britain and the United States were probably 2,000 miles nearer together. Rock magnetism and rock formations affected by prevailing wind patterns provide much of the proof advanced for these assertions.

Knowledge of the migratory habits of the continents may bring some comfort, however, to those who fear that melting ice caps may flood all the lowlands of the earth. Extreme climatic changes must indeed have taken place, as evidenced by the ice-scarred rocks and ice-gouged lakes of the Gatineau Hills. But perhaps when coal was laid down in Spitzbergen or Antarctica, the steamy jungles of that time were in another latitude.

If indeed the continents take turns basking in equatorial heat or shivering in polar cold, the climate belts at least may be fairly stable. The idea that lands may go to the climates rather than vice versa will be reassuring to all who are content with slow changes in these matters and who like to think that there'll always be an Arctic as a cooler for the world.

Older people can advance many cogent reasons why they should not automatically be thrown out of employment on reaching a certain age. Life expectancy has lengthened; the cost of living is high; pensions may be meager, with their buying power reduced. An employe of many years' standing has accumulated valuable experience and is likely to be steadier than younger workers.

Some men and women quite easily and cheerfully make the transition from employment to retirement, having interests that they have needed leisure to pursue. Others find an alternative or part-time occupation. Still others, however, have been so wrapped up in their work that they are at a loss what to do, and their health may suffer. Dr. Hall's idea is that these people could be kept on in related if not identical activity. With a little planning, this policy could no doubt be more generally followed.

Prospecting for minerals has taken an upward turn in Saskatchewan. In September 1736 claims were registered as compared with 645 in the same month last year. Uranium and copper are the chief minerals sought. Each claim covers about 50 acres.

We have been expecting something like this for two months or more. Certain American restaurants are now serving "ballot-burgers". The customer can have one marked "Ike" or one marked "Adlai" according to his or her choice. At the end of the week the preferences are tabulated and duly reported to public opinion polls.

Thieves stole 3000 "Stevenson for President" buttons at party headquarters in a Pennsylvania town. The worst of it is they can show their loot right out in public without the slightest fear of being put under suspicion. Any American at all can wear a Stevenson button right now—the more the better, in the Democratic view.

An electronic computing machine costing \$1½ million has been given to Harvard University. Officials say that in a few seconds it can work out problems which it would take the human mind months or even years to solve. But that isn't its greatest achievement. It can actually write songs. The world has greater need of good song-writers than of electronic computers.

In Britain and France the shortage of foreign exchange reserves is considered a serious economic handicap. In West Germany, the shoe is on the other foot. A report from Bonn says that if exports continue at the present high rate the country will soon have more gold and foreign currency reserves than can be fitted into the economic system. The reserves are piling up at the rate of \$1 billion a year. Is everything possible being done by the Canadian government to expand our export trade in a market that has more gold than it can handle?



WITH ROSY CHEEK

OTTAWA REPORT

Facing The Convention

By Patrick Nicholson

OTTAWA. The December convention of the Conservative Party will have two tasks before it. The major one, which is the cause of the convention, is to choose a new leader to succeed to the important post vacated by the resignation of Hon. George Drew.

With a federal general election likely to be held just six months after the Conservative convention, both these tasks assume an imminent importance to all voters. While the second might be likened to the selection of the menu to be offered to the electors, the former might be regarded as any choice of the cook who will prepare that menu. Or, to use the word which would be appropriate to our second official language and would cover the two meanings, I should say that the former task is to select the "chef" who will lead the party and serve up the election menu.

Attention here has to date been concentrated upon the choice of a new Conservative leader. With Prince Albert's John Diefenbaker, R.C.'s David Fulton and Toronto's Donald Fleming as declared contestants, and with Three Rivers' Leon Balcer as a possible fourth candidate, the only debate here at present is whether the convention will need to make a second ballot before choosing John Diefenbaker. For it is regarded as a certainty that after the first ballot David Fulton will withdraw his name and throw all his support behind his western rival.

A NEW PLATFORM Speculation upon any possible new planks in the Conservative platform, or any possible change of emphasis on the old planks, will therefore tend to centre upon the thinking of John Diefenbaker. For although resolutions affecting the party platform will be voted upon by all delegates in free ballot, they are likely to be impressed by the attitude of so able an experienced a politician and statesman as their new leader.

Mr. Diefenbaker has been so consistent, never flinching and so impervious to even the strongest pressure of passing fancy, that it is possible to predict his stand upon any major issue confronting the nation, in either domestic or foreign affairs. In brief, I would forecast the following as the principle points upon which he would attack the

record of the Liberal government. 1. The increasing erosion of the supremacy of Parliament, and the progressive subservience of Parliament to the Cabinet and to the civil service.

2. The failure to pass into law a Bill of Rights to protect the rights of the individual citizen, and especially to protect minority groups against unjust domination.

3. The failure to combat the increasing domination of our industry and resources by American commercial interests, and hence the growing tendency for our industry and resources to be developed primarily in the selfish interest of those foreign business, rather than in the national interest of all Canadians.

4. To restore agriculture to its true importance to our national economy, and to ensure that farmers once more should receive a fair share of the national income.

5. The progressive extravagance of the government is not merely containing taxes at an unduly high level; it is causing them to be increased. Yet they are already so high that Canadian industry cannot keep export prices at levels competitive with the rest of the world. For this reason, we are unable to combat the Soviet bloc's world economic challenge, and we are likely to be driven out of every world market except the U.S. A.

6. A government has used the threat or the fact of compulsory arbitration to whittle down organized labor's right to collective bargaining. The position gained by the Labor Movement must be protected.

These might be some of the highlights of John Diefenbaker's personal election manifesto. They are six points which would attract widespread support among all voters everywhere in Canada.

Six States May Decide

By George Kitchen, Canadian Press

Six big states may hold the key to the Nov. 6 U.S. presidential election. These are the heavily-populated states which command big blocks of electoral votes. It is electoral votes—rather than popular votes—which determine the outcome of the presidential contest.

By law, each state has an allotment of electoral votes equal to the number of senators and congressmen it sends to Washington. The presidential candidate who wins a majority of the popular votes in a state automatically captures all of its electoral votes. Thus, the man who polls a majority of the country's popular vote doesn't necessarily win the election. Given enough big states, he could lose out on the popular vote and still win the presidency.

Between them, the key states command 181 of the 331 electoral votes. The six are New York, the biggest state in the union of 45 electoral votes, California and Pennsylvania with 32 apiece, Illinois with 27, Ohio with 26 and Michigan with 20.

AS THE BIG ONES GO To win the election, a candidate needs 266 electoral votes. Depending how they go, the key states could swing the election either to Dwight D. Eisenhower, the Republican president who is seeking a second term, or Adlai E. Stevenson, the Democratic leader

who is making his second try at the presidency. In the 1952 presidential contest, there was a countrywide sweep to Eisenhower and he captured 442 electoral votes against 89 for Stevenson. In the popular vote count, Eisenhower polled 35,336,252 votes and Stevenson 27,314,922.

This year, the Democrats are stronger in the country as a whole and the outcome may depend on how the big states go. This already is apparent from the way the candidates, with the campaign moving toward the home stretch, are concentrating their efforts in the thickly-populated big-city states.

Stevenson, the challenger in this contest, is expected to carry the traditionally Democratic states south along with some southern border states. If he does, this will give him 167 of the 266 electoral votes he needs to defeat the popular president. He then would need a couple of the smaller states, plus a few of the big ones, to put him over the top.

Eisenhower needs only to solidify his hold on the big centres and to shore up Republican defences in the rest of the country to remain in the presidency for another four years.

The Nile, M.D.

(Unesco)

The Owen Falls dam, completed two years ago, the produce power for Uganda's industrial development, is now proving a key point in the battle against onchocerciasis, or river blindness. The great dam stemming the White Nile not far from Lake Victoria is being used as a giant mixer of insecticides used to kill the simuliid fly, carrier of the disease.

Experiments carried out over a 40-mile stretch of the Upper Nile showed that it was possible to eradicate the simuliid fly by treating the river with a solution containing DDT. Realizing the strategic position of the Owen Falls dam, the Uganda health authorities decided to pour insecticide into the water rushing through the dam sluices. This operation is freeing lower stretches of the river from the insect pest.

Gifted Children

On consideration, Eleanor McRoberts, director of junior advancement training for public schools in London, Ont., says she is opposed to segregating the gifted children from the average. An association with students of similarly high intellectual calibre provides stimulus and produces better academic results, she contends, but it tends to steer gifted children off the track of social adjustment.

"We should cut out this 'let's she cute' and the 'what a strange boy' approach with a child of above-average intelligence," she advised by correspondence of parents of gifted children who want to be treated as such.

She says that while special classes might get the cream of the crop—children with intelligence quotients of up to 166—adults should not expect brilliant results of them. "Let's get back to treating them as people," she said. "We have to create the kind of atmosphere that will help a student be himself. One way to do it is to treat bright children as human beings, not as a brain."

PUBLIC FORUM

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

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

Once again, the Canadian Library Association is planning its annual celebration of Young Canada's Book Week, which will be held as usual from November 15th to 22nd. During this week, interested groups across the country work together to bring good reading to Canada's children.

Our 1956 Chairman, Miss Dorothy Rogers of the Calgary Public Library, has arranged for Mr. Edgar Osborne, retired County Librarian of Derbyshire, England, to be our Patron this year, you may wonder why an English county librarian has been asked to be Patron of a Canadian children's book week, but I assure you that the choice is an excellent one. In 1949, Mr. Osborne donated his lifetime collection of children's books, written during the previous two hundred and fifty years, to Canada, arranging to have it housed in the Boys and Girls House of the Toronto Public Library. These books, some of the only known copies, form the finest collection of children's books on the North American continent.

His reasons for making this gift are best expressed in his own words: "I make the offer because I realized when I was in Canada some years ago that the opportunity for people in the Dominion to acquire books of this character is lacking. . . . Mr. Osborne came to Canada in 1948 to make the presentation, and will be in Canada again for the celebration of Young Canada's Book Week in November of this year."

I am Sir, etc. (Mrs.) Joyce K. Sowy, Secretary, Young Canada's Book Week Committee

Medically Speaking

By Herman M. Bundezen, M.D.

SATURDAY MAY BE "D-DAY" Be especially careful tomorrow when you take your car out of the garage. For Saturday is "D-Day"—Danger Day—as far as motorists are concerned. Statistics show that Saturday is the most dangerous day of the week. Some 8,320 persons—that's more than one-fifth of the fatality total—were killed in Saturday traffic accidents last year. GREATEST TOTAL

In addition, 410,020 persons were injured on Saturdays. This also is the greatest total for any day of the week.

The most dangerous time of day—Saturday or any other—is between 4 and 8 p.m. Pinpointing it a little closer, the hour between 4 p.m. and 5 p.m. accounts for the greatest number of injuries and the hour from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. for the greatest number of traffic deaths.

Weekends in general are more dangerous than week days. Some 15,730 of the 37,800 persons killed on U.S. roads and highways last year met death on weekends. A total of 756,990 were injured on Saturday and Sunday.

The reason for this weekend carnage lies in the motoring habits of the American public. Every highway in the nation has its share of Saturday motorists who are determined to get to their weekend destination in time for dinner—even if the last 60 miles or so must be covered in one hour flat.

Year after year, excessive speed accounts for the majority of traffic fatalities. Last year it was blamed directly for 12,700 deaths. During these final few nice weekends of this year, let's take it easy. Dinner will wait.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

V. W. What would cause an excessive growth of hair on a woman's face at the age of 27?

Answer: The cause of superfluous hair is not known. It is probably due to some glandular disorder.

However, just what glands have been involved has not as yet been determined.

The Poets Corner

MOONLIT APPLES.

At the top of the house the apples are laid in rows. And the skylight lets the moonlight in, and those Apples are deep-sea apples of green. There goes A cloud on the moon in the autumn night.

A mouse in the wainscot scratches, and scratches, and then There is no sound at the top of the house of men Or mice; and the cloud is blown, and the moon again Dapples the apples with deep-sea light.

They are lying in rows there, under the gloomy beams; On the sagging floor, they gather the silver streams. Out of the moon, those moonlit apples of dreams And quiet is the steep stair under.

In the corridors under there is nothing but sleep. And stiller than ever on orchard boughs they keep Tryst with the moon, and deep is the silence, deep On moon-washed apples of wonder —John Drinkwater

MAXIMS

The humblest citizen of all the land, when clad in the armour of a righteous cause is stronger than all the hosts of Error.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files

TEN YEARS AGO

(October 26, 1946) The Hon. H. F. G. Bridges, Federal Minister of Fisheries, will visit this province next week according to information released in Summerside last night by Mr. J. Watson MacNaught, M. P. He will arrive at Summerside on Wednesday afternoon on a Department of Fisheries boat and will remain on the island until Saturday.

An enthusiastic meeting of artillery men was held at the Armouries last night when gunners representing both wars met together for the purpose of organizing an Artillery Association for Prince Edward Island.

The re-conversion of the railroad wharf is about two-thirds completed, according to officials, of J. P. Porter and Company, the firm of constructing engineers which has the contract for the work.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

(October 26, 1931)

Rev. G. J. MacLellan, D. D., pastor of St. Simon and St. Jude Church, Tignish, has been appointed to succeed the late Rev. J. J. MacDonald as pastor of St. Paul's Church, Summerside. Rev. Dr. MacLellan was formerly rector of St. Dunstan's Cathedral, and also rector of St. Dunstan's University.

The first potato boat of the season came into Summerside on Saturday. The ship is the S. S. Steinwald, Captain A. E. Evans, and came from Quebec carrying no cargo. She will load table stock potatoes for several parties for Havana, Cuba. Loading operations start this morning.

The Age Old Story

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

OLD PETS There is evidence that ancient man bred dogs as pets more than 7,000 years ago.

NOTES BY THE WAY

An utterly reckless headmistress in an English school has told them they should not wear earrings and now is trying to explain how earrings interfere with education. —Ottawa Journal

Much attention is paid to juvenile delinquents and incorrigibles. It should be recognized, however, there are plenty of adults of the same type. Indeed, there are adult delinquents who make the juveniles look innocuous in comparison. —Windsor Star

It was the Earl of Beaconsfield, Benjamin Disraeli, who said: "No government can be long secure without a formidable opposition." Electors would be wise to bear that in mind; unfortunately they do not always do so.—Brantford Expositor

There was a little story that "do-it yourself" is slightly, ever so slightly, on the wane. This is glorious news to the slippers-and-archarm chair brigade who not only couldn't do-it-themselves but suffered fractures and contusions when they tried. Now when friend wife declares that she needs new kitchen cupboards, the man of the house can curtsy explain that do-it-yourself is going out of style and would she please look up the name of a good carpenter in the classified.—Calgary Alberton

A block turbine has been put into operation at Beauséjour which can rotate 1,500 times a second and 90,000 time a minute—a new world record. The device makes it possible to observe the speeds faster than sound, to try out greases and oils, and to study the critical points of wear on objects and parts moving at these speeds. The rotation speed of the turbine can be adjusted and stabilized at any point between 1,000 and 90,000 turns per minute. It has an electronic stroboscope that makes it possible to see parts, as though they were stable while spinning.—France Actuelle

LONG LIVED The average age of people living in the Netherlands is higher than in any other country.

Civil Servant Wins \$2,500 For True-Life Story: "The Two-Edged Dagger" An Ottawa civil servant who once hunted Communist guerrillas in Malaya tells about his eerie experiences in November Reader's Digest. He is alive today only because of the strange power of a simple good-luck charm—a charm given to him by a native he was once ready to kill in cold blood. He tells the full true story of "The Two-Edged Dagger"—how he scored a native's superstition and how his superstitious saved his own life. His story won the Reader's Digest \$2,500 "First Person" Award and appears in the current issue. Get your November Reader's Digest today; 41 articles of lasting interest condensed to save your time.

HOW TO PACK for PARCEL POST. 1. Don't use flimsy shoe boxes—use corrugated cardboard cartons. 2. Use strong wrapping paper and tie with strong cord. 3. Print name and address clearly, completely and correctly on front of parcel IN INK. 4. Put your own name and address in the front upper left corner, and inside parcel. 5. Don't guess about weight—have your Post Office weigh parcels. FOLLOW THESE 5 SUGGESTIONS AND HELP SPEED YOUR MAIL! CANADA POST OFFICE

PLAN NOW... to have your renovation, remodelling, repairs, interior decoration, and maintenance done during the winter months when skilled workers and materials are available. Join your Community Campaign to INCREASE WINTER WORK and COMBAT SEASONAL UNEMPLOYMENT. For information, call your NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE.