

world leaders against resumption of such attacks. It is argued, and with reason, that the North Vietnamese are no more likely to yield to negotiations under pressure of massive bombing than was Britain under pressure of Nazi air bombardment during the Second World War.

It would be unfortunate if at this stage the door was shut completely against any prospect for diplomatic maneuver. Canada, Britain, France, Japan and Yugoslavia are among the nations which have pleaded for "patience and wisdom" in continuing to exploit the avenues of settlement.

Mr. Thant, at his press conference, was asked why the UN, as the world's chief peace-keeping agency, could not find a new formula for separating the fighters. The Secretary-General coolly replied that this was impossible so long as one side is not in the organization. UN troops or observers succeeded only when they have the tacit agreement of all parties to respect them as referees. Their helmets are worn more to show the blue than to deflect bullets. Since neither Viet Cong nor North Vietnamese nor Chinese yet respect this blue, UN policing would be suicidal unless agreement is reached with those parties beforehand.

This places a heavy onus upon Washington of continuing to make clear its good intentions, despite the provocations which have resulted in terminating the ceasefire in South Viet Nam.

Ottawa's Responsibility

Judging by newspaper comment across the country, there is mounting concern over the practice of holding federal-provincial conferences behind closed doors. Recently in a television interview, Prime Minister Pearson's attention was drawn to this matter. He said he would not object if some of these conferences were opened to the press and public "from time to time", but he did not appear to attach much importance to his remark. It came almost as an afterthought to a defense of the present practice of holding the conclaves in strict secrecy.

When asked whether he thought these conferences were inimical to the parliamentary system, Mr. Pearson said that decisions reached in secrecy by the provinces and the federal government had to be submitted to the legislatures and to Parliament before becoming law. On this point, as the Toronto Globe and Mail well says, the Prime Minister apparently still does not appreciate that the closed conferences make the real decisions on most important national issues and that the legislatures and Parliament merely rubberstamp them.

Nor did Mr. Pearson seem aware of the connection between the secrecy of the meetings and the immoderation of subsequent statements from provincial delegations. He was piqued about provincial criticism of the federal government following recent conferences, but did not draw the logical conclusion that if the meetings were open to press and public, provincial spokesmen could not distort what had taken place.

There are many other good reasons for having the meetings open to public scrutiny. Ottawa should take the lead in this matter, and we trust that the pressure for such action will keep mounting, both in the press and from our MPs who, like Mr. Macquarrie, are alert to the dangers involved in the course now being followed.

Quebec Babies

Quebec's brief to the recent conference in Ottawa on the Canadian Assistance Plan has a paragraph to which the Ottawa Journal directs special attention. It does so without comment, nor indeed is comment necessary. It reads as follows:

"By the way, may we try and lay to its final rest the old bugaboo about 'baby bonuses' being mostly a hand-out to that dangerously prolific creature, the Quebec French-Canadian, helping him perpetrate his 'revenge of the cradle'? In actual fact, Quebec's birth-rate has been going down steadily for many years, and is now (1963), at 24.4, lower than the Canadian average of 24.6, while in 1951 this Canadian average was 27.2 as against 29.8 in Quebec."

EDITORIAL NOTE

When it comes to running a port like Rotterdam, no one can beat the Dutch. According to a National Geographic Society bulletin, they even launder the harbor water. A barge called "Water Wiper," equipped with two long arms, cruises the harbor, skimming up floating rubbish and oil. The waste is separated from the water and stored in tanks on the barge. The cleansed water then is pumped overboard.



OVER THE THRESHOLD

OTTAWA REPORT By Patrick Nicholson

Is PM Planning To Shed His Mantle

Prime Minister Lester Pearson may step down in 1966, and be succeeded by Hon. Paul Martin. This glimpse into the crystal ball in a recent "Ottawa Report" has prompted widespread and diverse comment. While some object that this suggestion conflicts with the vote of confidence given to Mr. Pearson by the Liberal caucus, the Cornwall "Standard-Freeholder" quotes a high authority as saying that he is "fed up with politics," and concludes that "there may be ample reason for Mr. Nicholson to make this prediction."

Beneath Arctic Ice

National Geographic News Letter

The Weddell seal rides out Antarctic gales by taking a deep breath and slipping into the sea beneath six-foot ice for a nap. The great seals can remain submerged for half an hour or longer. They seek food at depths as great as 1,500 feet—the deepest dive known for seals. "Weddells are remarkable animals to be able to live on and under the ice of the true Antarctic seas," writes Dr. Carlston Ray in the January issue of National Geographic. "They feed underwater, yet must breathe and whelp on the surface. Holes, kept open the year round through constant use and sawing with their teeth, comprise their only links between the two worlds."

Our Yesterdays

(From The Guardian Files)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (January 25, 1941) Air chief Marshal Sir Cyril Newall, said to have done more than any other man towards building Britain's Royal Air Force, arrived in Halifax en route to New Zealand, where he took over office as Governor-General.

TEN YEARS AGO (January 25, 1956) The Commissioners of Sewers, and Water Supply, Charlottetown, in their annual report said they were not prepared to take steps toward the liquidation of the City's water supply. They recommended further consideration by the Commissioners immediately following the election.

Mr. T.J. Laman, Bedeque, was elected president of the P.E.I. Mutual Fire Insurance Co., at the annual meeting of the Company held in Summerside.

Pre-Budget Sing-Song

London Free Press

We're disappointed. The original story out of Ottawa had it that Finance Minister Mitchell Sharp was inviting all Canadians to pen him a note before February 12, submitting recommendations for tax and other changes to be incorporated in his first budget. "But the finance department has issued a statement asserting that 'infelicitous' wording may have been employed in the standard notice to industry, labor, and other organizations that their budgetary representations should be submitted by the February deadline."

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Vasomotor Rhinitis

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

Vasomotor rhinitis, a common nasal disorder, is triggered by nervous glandular, and physical factors. It is responsible for the sneezing and nasal congestion that some develop on entering a cold room or after breathing dry air, small amounts of smoke, dust, or irritating fumes. Over-indulgence in alcohol and certain foods does the same.

Vasomotor rhinitis also is traced to emotional factors such as anxiety, rage, feelings of guilt, resentment, and sexual excitement. The nasal congestion that bothers persons with a sluggish thyroid is related to the disease and may be relieved with thyroid extract.

The condition is closely related to allergic rhinitis. Heredity plays a role in both disorders and the two may be difficult to tell apart. Seasonal allergic rhinitis occurs at certain times of the year. Hay fever is the best example, but a like sensitivity to tree and grass pollen occurs earlier in the year. Perennial allergic rhinitis is non-seasonal and is caused by air-borne dusts, infective agents, foods, drugs, and other allergens.

The acute attack of vasomotor rhinitis resembles hay fever with sneezing, nasal obstruction, and mucous drainage. The eyes and throat may burn or feel irritated. The chronic form consists of partial or complete nasal blockage and is aggravated by acute nasal colds. Antihistaminic agents bring relief; the same applies to corticosteroids but they must be used for a long time. Nose drops and sprays relieve congestion but these products may backfire by encouraging swelling of the nasal passageway when the effect of the drugs is over.

The best solution is finding the cause and trying to avoid it.

BROKEN VEINS

J. H. writes: Can anything be done for telangiectasis?

REPLY: If you refer to ordinary spider veins, cauterizing the central point may be helpful in eradicating the defect. Congenital telangiectasis of the nose is more serious but many are helped by the surgical removal of 80 per cent of the nasal lining and replacing it with a graft.

TAPING RIBS

Mrs. T. writes: My doctor tells me that broken ribs are no longer taped. I broke a rib a year ago getting out of the bathtub and was not taped. I now feel fine. Please comment.

REPLY: The need for taping depends upon the extent of the fracture. In this respect, the procedure has not been abandoned entirely. Moreover, taping often lessens pain.

HERNIA SURGERY

H. F. writes: I am only 38, however, I have a hernia condition. Is it possible that I could undergo hernia surgery? I am getting rather feeble and find it difficult to walk.

REPLY: Try a truss. Surgery can be done and if the tissues are healthy and capable of holding in the hernial sac, it should be successful.

TIMELY OFFENDER

S. K. writes: Is it possible to have an allergy reaction every three weeks?

REPLY: Yes, provided the individual is exposed to the offending agent only at intervals of three weeks. This would be unusual, however, and I'm inclined to doubt that the symptoms in this case are due to allergy.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT

Constant fatigue should be investigated. (NOTE: All correspondence to Dr. Van Dellen should be addressed to: Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen, c/o Chicago Tribune, Chicago, Illinois.)

travel bargains

Charlotte town to:

Table with 2 columns: City and Price. Montreal \$14.00, Moncton \$3.20, Saint John \$5.00, Halifax \$5.40, Sydney \$9.00, Corner Brook \$16.00, Toronto \$20.00, Winnipeg \$34.00, Vancouver \$56.00.

These are examples of CN's new Red Bargain Fares. Sleeping car prices including complimentary meals are equally attractive. Call CN about the Red, White and Blue Fare Plan.

NOTES BY THE WAY

A man appeared at a newspaper office to place an ad offering \$500 for return of his wife's pet cat. Clerk: That's an awful price to pay for a cat. Man: Not for this one: I drowned it.—Hamilton Spectator.

The moment the little old lady entered the department store, a band began to play, a corsage was presented with a \$500 gift certificate, and she was pushed out in front of a television camera. "Our one millionth customer!" the master of ceremonies, explained triumphantly. "And now would you please tell us what you came here for today?" "Certainly," replied the little old lady addressing an audience of millions, "I'm on my way to the complaint department."—Montreal Star.

One of the objectives of the Canadian Highway Safety Council is to train young drivers for 60 years of resourceful driving. The Council is on the right track. One must be resourceful to last for 60 years on modern highways.—Fort William Times-Journal.

Pot-Bellied Animals

Windsor Star

"Pot-belly" now is a satirical phrase commonly used to describe the abdominal protuberance of an obese human male. And it is indicative of our modern society that there now are more pot-bellied humans than pot-bellied animals.

We note that cheese factories now are having difficulty getting rid of their whey. There is an association between the two facts. Farmers who sent their milk to the cheese factory used to bring home almost an equivalent amount of whey. This, mixed with meal, was the basis of pig feed. It appeared nutritious. Certainly the pigs enjoyed it and grew on it. But also they tended to develop pot-bellies. This was all right for "sow-belly" salted pork, for home use, lumber camps, etc., but it is no good for modern bacon hogs.

Greece As A Model

Milwaukee Journal

In eastern Europe Albania and Greece vie for the questionable honor of having the poorest natural resources for agricultural production. Yet Greece, of all eastern European countries, has been most successful since World War II in making the most of what it has. The Communist nations are running agricultural deficits. Greece, in selected areas, has surpluses. Its wheat surplus, for instance, puts it in a position of dicker to sell Bulgaria, potentially rich agricultural nation 500,000 tons of wheat.

Greece is a good example of what a nation can do if it gets and uses expert advice. It turned early to the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations for help. The first FAO mission, back in 1946, was to Greece. The FAO Radio Free Europe reports, faced up immediately to Greece's age old problem of soil depletion, erosion and population pressure on cultivated land. A land use program was developed—Greece concentrated on three basic export crops—fruit, wheat and tobacco. Intensified agriculture was undertaken in the plains areas. Improved seeds and strains of livestock were obtained, and land was heavily fertilized. Modern technology was increasingly adopted.

Dial A Curve?

Christian Science Monitor

No one can deny that this is the age of the pushbutton and the dial. It is natural that many people welcome this trend toward push and twist operation as a labor-saving gift. Those who doubtless are waiting eagerly for the "wrist-twist" instant steering which the Ford Motor Company has field-tested over the last year and is now studying further.

The dial would enable the driver to steer the car so easily that on a turn he can guide it with one finger. Arm rests would be provided for his comfort. (He would still have to watch the road.) We commend the ingenuity of automotive designers who are working on such improvements. But we hope the manufacturers will not rule out all manual operations. There are still many who enjoy them.

These are the folk who look upon driving an automobile not as a chore but as an art and a pleasure. For example, they prefer a gear shift to automatic transmission. They take an artist's pride in their no-grunt operation and their smooth-shifting rhythm. They scorn to use a button. We hope the manufacturers will give consideration in future models to this important minority. Some carmakers have done this in offering stick-shift models in this day of buttons. We hope they will always offer the option of a steering wheel, even though the future produces a computer-driven vehicle.

MOTOR REWINDING & REPAIRS

Storey Electric Ltd. 136 Prince Street, Charlottetown