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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."

FRIDAY, AUGUST 19, 1955

A Timely Book

A number of distinguished American economists, with the financial backing of the Woodrow Wilson Foundation, and in co-operation with the National Planning Association, have produced a book entitled "The Political Economy of American Foreign Policy". It is being published by Henry Holt. Much of the material, as might be expected, is technical in nature, and most of it is of interest chiefly to those who are responsible for the furtherance of the political and economic interests of the United States. Here and there, however, one comes across a passage which deals with matters of profound concern to the entire free world. The authors believe, for example, that the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) is being hindered by isolationist pressure in American industry, which persists despite the world outlook of the country's foreign policy. It is, of course, clear that if the United States—or any other country, for that matter—is to take advantage of the "escape" clause every time its own manufacturing interests are inconvenienced, the whole purpose of GATT will be placed in jeopardy. Indeed, one might ask if, in such circumstances, the agreement means anything at all, other than a piece of wishful thinking on an international scale.

Of particular relevance to the free world's political hopes and fears at this time in this passage: "The sooner we cease to 'export' the American standard of living, or the American way of life, or the American private enterprise system, the more effective our foreign policy can be." They might have added Western Democracy to the list of non-exports; for it is doubtful whether the peoples of the underdeveloped and so-called "backward" areas of the world are capable of absorbing Western political instruction, even if they cared to do so, which is by no means certain. It is doubtful, indeed, whether they have any particular interest in either Democracy or Communism, as such. What they do crave are better economic opportunities and a chance to improve their standards of living. If the West, with all its technological capacity, can help them attain these objectives, there is reason to hope that they may, in time, recognize the values of democratic institutions and seek to incorporate them into their own way of life. Perhaps that is the best the West can hope for. The worst it has to fear is that Communist propaganda, which says that American—or Western—Democracy is trying to buy its way into the customs and traditions of other peoples, will succeed in nullifying the entire cold-war strategy of the free world.

Delinquency Problem

Juvenile delinquency will be given special study by the first world congress on crime and its prevention which the United Nations is sponsoring in Geneva this month. The combined brain-power of hundreds of doctors, judges, prison wardens, research students, social workers and professors of criminology, comments the Ottawa Citizen, ought to illuminate the problem of young people who go wrong. But when technical language is interpreted in simple terms, the experts do not add much to what the layman knows from experience and common sense about the basic needs of the child.

Many books by specialists in various fields are pouring from the presses to explain what is alleged to be a growing crisis in juvenile delinquency, particularly in the big cities of the United States. Sometimes the theories clash, as when one authority insists that delinquency reflects mainly the desire of poor children to get recognition, while another denies that economic conditions have much to do with it. As expressed by Mr. Benjamin Fine, education editor of the New York

Times, the consensus is, however, that delinquents should be regarded as troubled human beings who react badly under "pressure from within and without."

But Dr. Lauretta Bender, chief psychiatrist at Bellevue Hospital in New York, doesn't think there is a crisis. She finds children have "an amazing capacity to tolerate bad parents and poor teachers, dreadful homes and communities." Few, she maintains, become delinquent and fewer still aggressive—proportionately, no more than in the last century. In her opinion, delinquency has a combination of causes inherent in modern society. It can be prevented by giving the child love and care, a sense of belonging, positive guidance, and meaningful moral standards.

The world congress might usefully report on the social factors and the pressures conducive to delinquency—overcrowding in modern urban life, for instance; and the spread of the false values evident in a good deal of current entertainment. Once identified, the broad contributory causes can be dealt with by social policy. But meeting the needs of children is still primarily the responsibility of the home.

Effects Of Radiation

When the dangers of atomic radiation were first talked about a feeling of horror went through the civilized world. The thought that hosts of children yet unborn might be afflicted with mental derangement as the result of a scientific discovery, which was intended in the first place as an instrument of destruction, was abhorrent in the extreme. Here was one good reason, surely, why the nefarious thing should never be used anywhere in the world.

It seems now, however, that the horror of the thought is wearing off. At least, that is the impression one might gather from a statement made at the current atoms-for-peace conference in Geneva by a British scientist, Sir Ernest Rock-Carling. In agreeing with other specialists who have warned of genetic changes brought about by radiation and resulting in "crops of idiots," he said "it is to be hoped that there may still be spots of extremely high intelligence which would be sufficient to leaven the lump." He then added: "It appears that, for the benefit of the race as a whole in the future, one mutation which results in an Aristotle, a Newton, a Pasteur, an Einstein, might well outweigh 99 that lead to mental defectives."

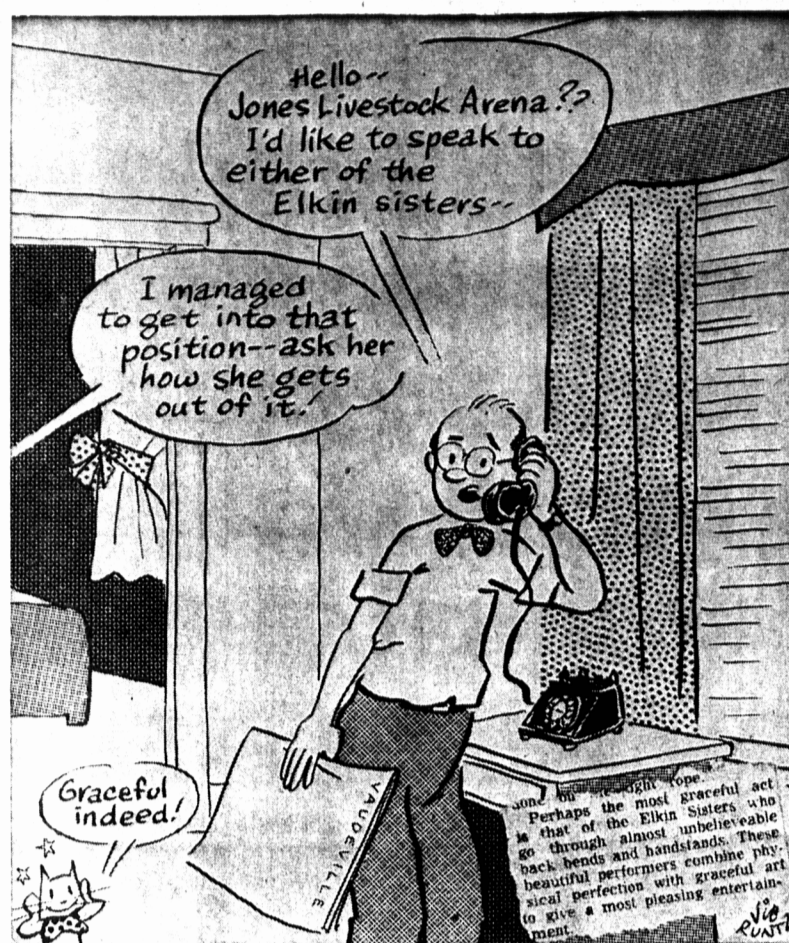
At this point a Swedish scientist explained that, while one change in the genetic structure is enough to produce an idiot, it takes several to produce a genius—which seems, incidentally and in a round-about fashion, to corroborate the old non-expert belief that lunatics and geniuses have much in common.

Does all this, being interpreted, mean that it doesn't really matter very much how many mentally defective children may come into the world as the result of atomic radiation, so long as the same process can be expected to produce, every now and again, an extraordinary intellect in the field of science or philosophy? It is hard to believe that anyone could possibly entertain such a callous view. Most people would say that even one mentally deficient child, to say nothing of "crops of idiots," would be a prohibitive price to pay for all the Aristotles mutations could produce in a thousand years.

EDITORIAL NOTES

While the Salk vaccine may not be the perfect answer to the problem of poliomyelitis, it is comforting to note that, according to Dr. Thomas Francis, who evaluated the trial inoculations last year, more than 8 million children in the United States, Canada, and Denmark, have received the vaccine without suffering any harmful effect.

"Both official meetings and unofficial gatherings during the (summit) conference were held in an atmosphere of co-operation and understanding. This establishment of personal contacts between the leaders of the four great powers has been of great importance." These words might have been spoken by President Eisenhower, Prime Minister Eden, or Premier Faure. Actually, they were spoken by Premier Bulganin of Russia. It's hard to tell these days who said what, without looking at the names, so much alike are the outward and visible marks of diplomacy.



Possible Unforeseen Developments

Car Driving Tests In Manitoba

By the Canadian Press

One of Manitoba's most dangerous occupations is probably that of the car-driving tester. The high-way safety branch must take out special accident insurance to protect him.

Sixty-one per cent of the people he drives with fail to pass the test. Of these, 77 per cent fail the road test and 18 per cent can't pass the written test. Most of the others can't see well enough to drive.

Of those who fail the road test 26 per cent drive dangerously while taking the test. Another 14 per cent commit serious traffic violations and 11 per cent can't park properly. Among the others, five per cent are so bad the test has to be discontinued before the driver and tester are exterminated. One per cent, or 78 persons, had accidents last year while taking the test.

In proportion, more Manitobans fail the driver's test than in any other province, and R. B. Baillie, commissioner of motor vehicles, says this is because the Manitoba test is harder.

KEEP ON TRYING

Hopeful drivers take the test as many as seven times in an attempt to pass, and as a result the percentage who can never get a licence because of poor performance is nearly negligible. Manitoba cars now total about 223,000, compared to 100,000 in 1945.

Since 1951 the tester has been keeping a careful scientific score on each driver tested. Before that it was simply a matter of driving around the block with the tester. If the applicant was lucky about the tester's personal reaction, he got a licence. Now luck doesn't enter; the applicant has to be good.

One reason so many aren't good enough, Mr. Baillie says, is that they don't realize driving is a job for experts only. One hundred per cent concentration and skill are necessary, he says. Accidents nearly always happen within split seconds.

The pattern of reasons for failing remains constant year after year, Mr. Baillie has found. The percentage failing for bad eyesight, and percentage involved in accidents, remain more or less the same every year.

Mr. Baillie says it is personality and attitude which make a good or bad driver. He doesn't suggest taking all bad drivers to a psychoanalyst, but says interviews with the 16 per cent who are the hard core of accident-prone drivers in the province have had good results.

McCann was being eased out of the Cabinet. Another denied explosion. Of course the Minister of National Revenue will not be elevated to the honour of a Senatorship just yet. Such political neutralisation of a controversial figure right on top of the concerted opposition attack would be tantamount to an admission that the Cabinet does feel that their colleague had behaved improperly in the Dempsey affair.

OTTAWA REPORT

Dog-Day Rumors

By Patrick Nicholson

Ottawa: These are the dog-days, when even news takes a holiday and editors the world over are hard-pressed to find items worthy of front-page prominence. The Scots have, as usual, evolved a sensible solution to this problem. They created their Loch Ness Monster. This not merely stands ready to show his curving shape on at least one otherwise newsless dog-day each year; the convenient monster also helps his creators by enticing many a tourist to come and spend his hawbies on the banks of Loch Ness. The one thing that can be asserted with certainty about the monster is that it will never trouble to show itself on a day when anything newsworthy has happened in any part of the world.

British Columbia has its Cadborosaurus which performs much the same services for that blessed province. Quebec has its devil who appears at country dances, always wearing white gloves so that his hell-hot hands won't burn his unknowing partners. Ottawa has now produced its own form of monster to fill the gaps in these hind-hurricane and hot-dog-days this summer. This monster has the habit of tormenting the Prime Minister's summer holiday, which he must find rather unpleasant. It is of course the Skutumpah-saurus and its activity consists of spreading joy by day a series of sensational rumours.

Most of us here recognize these old chestnuts as the Ottawa Press Monster chucks them at us each day. The subjects of the rumours evidently enjoy the attention paid to them by the Skutumpah-saurus. But that poor old Prime Minister at his country cottage down at Saint Patrick on the shore of St. Lawrence is fairly kept hopping, issuing denials as fast as the Monster shows his tongue.

KICKED THROUGH ROOF

One day the story is that there has been a split in the Cabinet this summer. Of course there has been a split, and not one but several. It would be a moronic group of twenty politicians from a full province that did not express divergent views on various subjects. But on the whole the Cabinet has presented an unsplit facade to the outer world. Nevertheless it was commonly believed here this summer that both the Prime Minister and his workhorse, Clarence Howe, were planning to retire. This story rattled the calm of St. Patrick and along came a routine denial.

Then came the report that Doc

CANT BUY SALMON

VANCOUVER (CP)—Parisian businessman Solly Klapsch says the dollar shortage is stopping France from buying more Canadian salmon. In a recent visit to the west coast M. Klapsch purchased \$16,000 worth of fish.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion of public affairs. The opinions expressed are those of the contributors.

TOO MODEST

Sir—I have just read the enclosed editorial on Old Home Week clipped from your famous newspaper.

I must ensure you for your modesty in stating that many visitors have told you that your Provincial Exhibition is unsurpassed by any exhibition on the continent. May I go along with them in stating (like Barnum) that it is the "Greatest Show on Earth"—Magnificent, colossal, stupendous. We have in Ontario two little country fairs—one known as the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto, and the other is the Central Canada Exhibition in Ottawa, but these fairs pale into insignificance in comparison with the great "Ex" on the banks of the Hillsboro River.

I visited your fair in 1952. The fine displays of manufactured goods like furniture, furs, fine clothing, electrical goods including gadgets for the home, dairy products, fruit, farm implements, automobiles, wild life, domestic animals, poultry, pure food, how to make this and that and do it yourself had me fabergasted. I feel the urge to visit it again so I am backing out my wheezy old Chev and am heading out the Montreal Road bound for the Island as fast as my ancient chariot will travel. Be seen' you!

I am, Sir, etc.,  
 R.G. WAY  
 Ottawa, Aug. 17.

Back Pay For Heroes

(Sherbrooke Record)

Thanks to a sharp-eyed civil servant, six of Britain's wartime "charioteers"—they manned mid-level submarines—soon will receive the equivalent of \$2,800 in back pay.

This civil servant, Victor Smith, discovered the Admiralty owed the seamen money when he was reading a book about the exploits of the heroes who ventured into enemy harbors in their tiny craft.

The book told how some of the sailors were captured and spent up to three years in Italian prison camps. Unlike other servicemen on special missions, their danger money—84 cents a day for officers and 64 cents for ratings—was stopped while they were in captivity.

Mr. Smith was incensed. He complained to the Admiralty and demanded: "What are you going to do about it?"

The Admiralty admitted a mistake that had been made "for reasons which cannot now be established, but which quite probably were due to the great secrecy surrounding these personnel at the time, the special allowances were not paid."

"My Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty are glad to say, however, that arrangements are now being made to have this mistake rectified and to thank you for bringing this matter to their notice."

To each of the six men the Admiralty will send checks varying between \$330 and \$716. One of the men is Lt. Rodney Dove, now living in Canada.

Mr. Smith commented about his victory over bureaucracy: "I suppose if more people like me, the Smiths of this world, took action there would be a lot fewer injustices."

PRINCESS O LAUNCH SHIP

MONTREAL (CP)—Princess Margaret will perform the naming ceremony when the liner Carinthia is launched at Clydebank, Scotland, Dec. 14, Cunard announced Thursday. The Carinthia is the third of four new Cunarders for the Canadian services. The Saxonia and the Invernaclady are already in service, while the Carinthia is scheduled to be completed in 1956 and the Sylvania in 1957.

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Bundesen, M.D.

DON'T TAKE CHANCES ON DRINKING WATER

I have some advice for you fishermen today, especially for those of you who hope to do some casting in strange streams on your vacations.

I am not going to tell you how to catch fish. Just about all of you probably are far better fishermen than I am. But I think a word of warning is in order about water—drinking, cooking and washing utensils.

That clear, sparkling, swiftly running stream looks mighty tempting to a thirsty fisherman. It is tempting all right, but it might not be safe.

Clear, sparkling water, contrary to popular belief, is not always pure. This is a dangerous standard for judging water.

Again, the popular idea that a stream purifies itself in flowing a certain distance should not be taken as an iron-clad certainty. A stream purifies itself in relation to its ability to absorb oxygen from the air. Thus, it is natural that a rocky-bottom turbulent stream absorbs more oxygen than a slow moving one. But it might not have absorbed enough to be safe.

SAFE WATER

A spring coming from sand and gravel formations generally provides safe water, if it is remote from any sources of pollution. On the other hand, spring water gushing from a rock crevice may be carrying the pieces—like lead, crevice rocks provide no filtration or purification.

You cannot tell water purity by taste or smell, either. Some water is not a bit harmful although it contains gases like hydrogen sulphide, which have an offensive odor.

Excessive amounts of common table salt or other minerals sometimes give water a brackish taste. Just remember that organisms that cause disease can not be seen and very rarely do they cause bad odors or tastes to water.

Most common diseases contracted from polluted water are dysentery and diarrhea and occasionally intestinal disturbances. Any of these can ruin a vacation or weekend outing.

So, don't take chances even if you think the water is pure. Boil it or sterilize it before drinking or using it for culinary purposes.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

Mrs. B. F.: Is there any medicine that will make legs fleshier? I have gained weight except in my legs.

Answer: There is no way of which I am aware of bringing about an increase in weight of a specific part of the body. Exercise might be of some value in building up the muscle tissue.

The Age Old Story

And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

The Poets Corner

MEADOWSWEET

Now in high summer how the meadowsweet  
 Lights wavering torches where we used to meet  
 In covert that re-echoed hollowly  
 The onrush and withdrawal of the sea

I'll put on the gown of green you chose me to wear,  
 I'll plait fresh flowers of meadow-sweet into my hair,  
 And I will go again where the salt winds blow again;  
 I shall not find you there.

Go where you please, my dear, gone as you came  
 When the pale meadowsweet was first aflame!  
 There'll be another with as frank a face  
 But truer heart to share the bystanding place

We'll laugh and kiss, and the shadow of that was you  
 Will never part the branches, never look through  
 Never know again the salt winds blow again,  
 Or the brightness break from the blue.

—Audrey Alexander Brown.  
 In the Montreal Star.

Mr. Sinclair's Accident

Windsor Star

Little incidents attest the easier international situation. As, for instance, when Fisheries Minister James Sinclair gashed his leg when a stairway collapsed at a drydock in Petropavlovsk in Siberia. He is on tour of fisheries facilities in the Soviet Union. A year ago some would have suspected sabotage, an attempt to "knock off" our capitalistic Mr. Sinclair. But now there is no such suggestion; it is regarded as just one of those accidents that can happen.

It must have been mighty embarrassing to his Soviet hosts. A jerrybuilt stairway, not capable of supporting the capitalistic visitor, isn't the best recommendation for Communist efficiency. Whoever was responsible for the faulty stairway would be in danger of being exiled to Siberia—except that is where he is anyway.

The popular Mr. Sinclair probably used a few English words even Russian interpreters never heard before. He will be able to boast, however, of being the only Western statesman carrying Petropavlovsk stitches.

1,736-PAGE PHONE BOOK

MONTREAL (CP)—Distribution of the largest telephone directory ever published in Canada started today. The 1,736-page directory contains 1,736 pages.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Numerous auto drivers complain that apparently many motorists do not watch their rear-view mirrors. If true, this is a dastardly habit—apart from being highly unwise due to the renewed activities of police on motor bicycles and in trailing cars. The rear-view mirror is considered by good drivers one of the most essential pieces of equipment in a car. A driver not automatically conditioned to checking his mirror never has the whole picture of the situation in mind. There is danger from behind, as well as in front. —Times-Gazette.

Judging from Hansard, not many M.P.'s read the classics. In that interesting publication a literary allusion is as rare as a Biblical quotation from the Kremlin. Not always was it so. The Fathers of Confederation, or most of them, knew their Bible and their Shakespeare, and the speeches of some of them, notably men like McGee and Howe, were literary delights. In our time the most deserted halls in the Parliament buildings are the halls and stall of the Parliamentary Library. It seems a pity, for the old masters said many things eternally apropos—and some less old are very worth while. —Ottawa Journal.

An unpublished composition by Beethoven, which has been discovered in the British Museum, is to be broadcast for the first time on November 8 in the Third Program. It was found by Jack Werner, a music editor and writer, who discovered the piece—an allegretto in E. flat for piano, violin, and cello—as "a valuable newcomer to the Beethoven chamber-music repertoire." Mr. Werner said that the original manuscript from which he transcribed and edited the movement was contained in a large Beethoven sketch-book in the British Museum. He added: "From the character of the neat handwriting and also of the music, this movement may, I think, safely be dated about 1784 (if not earlier)—that is, when the composer was about fourteen years of age." —Manchester Guardian.

One of the most comforting new dental drills that does its job things to come to our attention in a long time is the word that a silently and painlessly without anaesthesia has been tried out successfully in Toronto. The atom-powered submarine is already in existence; the United States and Russia are preparing to hurl man-made satellites into the heavens. But what significance have these for ordinary people when compared with this new promise that man may have his teeth drilled without anguish, real or imaginary? But the new drill changes all that. It doesn't grind, so there is no noise and no heat. Called the Cavtron Dental Unit, it uses ultrasonic vibrations of 29,000 cycles, a second to cut away the diseased part of the tooth, without actually touching the tooth. Abrasive particles suspended in a liquid—do the work. There is no perceptible vibration, no noise and no discomfort. —Ottawa Citizen.

COMMONWEALTH TOUR  
 LONDON (Reuters)—The Earl of Home, Britain's secretary of state for Commonwealth relations, will leave Aug. 30 for a two-month tour of the Commonwealth by air. It was learned Thursday.

VACATION FOR WINSTON  
 LONDON (Reuters)—Sir Winston Churchill is planning a month's vacation in the south of France beginning next month. Final arrangements have not yet been completed, but the former prime minister and his wife are expected to leave London about the middle of September. They will probably stay at the Cap d'Al, a villa near Nice belonging to Lord Beaverbrook, where Churchill has vacationed before.

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