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

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Now! Mr. Pearson

Sir Anthony Eden is a tired man, yet not so tired in body as in heart and mind. Perhaps it is too much to ask of the resources of a human soul to twice risk his nation alone in the world, in the short span of less than two decades.

Sir Anthony was Mr. Churchill's first lieutenant, chief guide and consultant as Foreign Secretary when Adolf Hitler, after conquering most of Europe, boasted to the world that he would dine in Guildhall, London, in a conquered England.

Today, we are led to believe, from some quarters, that Anthony Eden blundered, and that his Government is again alone. Do we, as Canadians, really think so? Hon. Lester Pearson became hero for a day when he advocated and obtained the United Nations police force which Britain had earlier sought in vain.

Britain has wisely decided not to withdraw her troops in the Suez until this force materializes.

Mr. Pearson should indorse her stand wholeheartedly. For there is little question but that the complete withdrawal of British, French and Israeli troops at present would leave Nasser with virtually everything of importance he has sought.

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Mr. Nehru's Contention

India's leading Communist, A. K. Gopal, has formally urged the Government to take the country out of the Commonwealth on the ground that "our membership gives the British prestige."

Nehru's contention that India's withdrawal at this time would "make world conditions much worse than they are already." That is arrant nonsense and it is childishly presumptuous of Mr. Nehru to argue otherwise.

The Indian Government has shown plainly in recent months that its sympathies, at least on the outside, are with the Soviet Union. The fact that the Indian delegation at the U.N. voted against a resolution calling for free elections in Hungary is ample proof of that.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Dr. Jonas Salk, discoverer of the vaccine that bears his name, wants all persons up to the age of 50 to take shots of the vaccine. He thinks that that would virtually eliminate paralytic polio by the end of 1957.

Evidently the icebergs down Antarctica way grow a lot bigger than the Northern ones. A United States ship sighted one the other day that was more than twice as big as this island. It was the largest ever reported.

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An American agricultural scientist has come up with the important discovery that, contrary to popular opinion, dogs "have no particular antipathy for pork."

The United States Agriculture Department's "Soil Bank" program, under which the Government pays farmers for keeping specified acreage out of production, is not receiving as much support as was expected when it was first proposed.

Macpherson on Prowl. By sheer good luck a cab stopped beside us and we hopped in and gave our address. "No good, brother," said the driver. "Can't make more'n four blocks up town."



NOT LIKELY, BUT --

When Parliament Meets

George Bain in The Globe and Mail, Toronto

Ottawa.—There has been some feeling that the coming emergency session of Parliament will be hardly more than a formality, the members voting with a minimum of fuss and talk the money needed to place a contribution of Canadian troops in the Middle East with the United Nations police force, and then quickly dispersing.

It is perhaps evidence of this feeling that a party of fourteen M.P.'s and senators has pressed ahead its plans to attend a meeting in Paris of the NATO Parliamentary Association regardless of the fact that Parliament almost certainly will have met before they are back.

Early in the last session, at which time alarm was fresh at the spread of Soviet influence via arms aid to Egypt, John Diefenbaker, as the Conservatives' Foreign Affairs critic, said that Canada should use its influence at the U.N. "to see to it that something in the nature of an international force is established to end that this dangerous situation (the growing tension between Israel and the Arab states) shall be obliterated."

CCF Leader Coldwell agreed and so in general did External Affairs Minister Pearson. He said that a force could not be used to protect and insure boundaries when there were no agreed boundaries — which he said Mr. Diefenbaker had suggested — but he went on: "A police force under the Armistice Commission to keep the forces apart while a peace solution is being sought, to patrol a zone between the forces is something else . . . I think there is a great deal to be said for trying to bring that kind of police force into existence in this disturbed area."

The idea of creating such a force at that time came to nothing. Parliament might usefully be told what became of any efforts that Canada made then to foster the scheme and where, how and whom they were frustrated.

Concerning matters of more recent occurrence, Parliament should be informed of the contents of the message which Prime Minister St. Laurent sent in reply to another from Sir Anthony Eden not long after the British intervention in the Middle East. It was called by a British writer, who claimed to have seen it, "blistering."

Prime Minister St. Laurent has denied this, his description of the message was: friendly, but frank. There may be differences of opinion as to what constitutes just frankness, but it has been possible substantially to confirm here that Mr. St. Laurent's message tained what amounted to a rebuke of the stiffest sort to the British Government for its action in the Middle East.

The message was one in which Mr. St. Laurent sought this concurrence of his Cabinet. Thus it was more formally than if he had drafted and sent it singly, an expression of the opinion of the Government of Canada. Canadians generally should be entitled to knowledge of that opinion; if it was as it is believed to have been, many, perhaps a majority, would not subscribe to it.

Containing policy, Parliament should be informed of the Government's thinking beyond putting a police force into the Middle East. It has been said often enough that the next step is to achieve a political settlement, but details on the means to that end have been decidedly scanty, and on the steps that might then be taken to ensure the peace. Thus achieved, details have been missing entirely.

Pressure Applied. Sir.—The writer, when a boy of 17, drove one day 40 miles with a drinking man. The man about seven hours including rests. In this time he did away with a flask of Scotch. No doubt he would have felt happier if I had joined with him. The arguments he used, to prove that I should drink were negative ones, such as, "It won't hurt you." When we got within sight of his neglected looking farm home, he swallowed the last in the bottle, hurled it away as though he hated it and gave me a short temperance lecture as follows: "Stick to your pledge my boy. Don't ever touch the stuff. It's just one of the Devil's ingredients."

Watered Politics. The rain played some havoc with the politicians. Mr. Stevenson was billed to address a number of open-air rallies, but the rain drove him inside. No sooner had Mr. Stevenson left than Mr. Nixon arrived. Since we were drying off at the time we neither saw nor heard them.

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Sundesen, M. D.

TUBERCULOSIS VICTIM / HAS HOPEFUL OUTLOOK. More persons are being treated for tuberculosis today than ever before. It's a good thing, it is because we are treating them that the TB death rate is now relatively low compared with what it once was.

Medical advances have slashed the tuberculosis death toll by 9 per cent since 1900—nearly 7 per cent in the last 10 years. There are now about 10 deaths per 100,000 population. That's about 1 per cent.

Great Advantage. Introduction of isoniazid in 1952 provided tuberculosis patients with a drug which could be taken by mouth. Since treatment of tuberculosis of the lung must be continued for at least a year, such simple oral therapy is of great advantage.

Use of such drugs has enabled us to treat thousands of tuberculosis patients in out-patient clinics after relatively short stays in hospitals. This saves the patients both time and money.

Drop in Price. Like most drugs, Isoniazid was fairly expensive when it was first placed on the market. In the four years it has been available, however, the prescription price in retail pharmacies has dropped about 70 per cent.

Even though some 400,000 Americans are suffering from active tuberculosis right now, the outlook for them is pretty bright — providing they get early and proper treatment.

QUESTION AND ANSWER. Q.—What is bronchiectasis? A.—Bronchiectasis is caused by a loss of elasticity of the tubes that lead to the air sacs of the lungs. Usually a severe cough is present, with the spitting of a green or bloody sputum. There is extreme weakness and generalized body disability.

ON LEARNING ENGLISH. When the English tongue we speak Why is "break" not rhymed with "freak"?

Will you tell me why it's true We say "see," but also "few" And the fashioner of verse Cannot cap his "horse" with "worse"?

"Beard" sounds not the same as "heard." "Cord" is different from "word," "Cow" matches "sow" but "low" is "lo."

"Shoe" is never rhymed with "foe." Think of "hose" and "dose" and "lose."

And of "goose" and also "choose." Think of "comb" and "tomb" and "bomb."

"Doll" and "roll" and "home" and "some" "pay" is rhymed with "saw"; "paid" with "said," I pray We have "blood" and "food" and "good," "Mould" is not pronounced like "could," Wherefore "done," but "gone" and "lone" Is there any reason known —Pierre Bourdonnais in the Toronto Star.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (November 23, 1931) The fall term of the Supreme Court opens this morning at Summerside with Chief Justice Matheson presiding.

Chief Jacob Sark of Lennox Island was in Charlottetown yesterday to visit Mr. W. Chester McLure, M.P., and Hon. Dr. McMillan, Provincial Minister of Health and Education on behalf of the Indians of Lennox Island and has been promised any aid they are able to give.

TN YEARS AGO (November 23, 1948) A recommendation that citizens decrease their consumption of electric light and power by from 25 to 30 per cent in view of the present difficulties at the Maritime Electric Company plant will be made by the Public Utilities Commission as a result of an investigation held yesterday afternoon by the Commission in the City Council Chambers.

Seven hundred and fifty-eight more cars of potatoes were ferried from Borden to Tormentine last month than for the same month last year, according to figures recently released from the office of the Superintendent of Canadian National Railways, Charlottetown. 1185 cars were ferried last month while 907 cars were ferried in October 1948.

NOTES BY THE WAY

People say a person who freezes to death experiences no pain or anxiety. Incidentally, those who say it may have never frozen to death.—Stratford Beacon-Herald

This year is a centenary. It is one hundred years since mauve, the first synthetic dye, was produced. And what would the motor car industry of today do without it?—Hamilton Spectator

The right attitude, it is said, is more important than mishap or drugs for the skin figure. We would suggest the right attitude is to push yourself away from the table three times daily while you are still a little hungry.—St. Catherine's Standard

Philip Cabot, a descendant of the great explorer John Cabot, plans to sail the Atlantic in a 71-foot lifeboat and arrive in St. John's, Newfoundland, by May 24. His reception in that old city will be a warm and enthusiastic one — provided he agrees that Newfoundland was the first landing place of his famed ancestor, not otherwise.—Cape Breton Post

One of the controversies in which we have no wish to participate, except to mention in passing that one side is so wrong that there is no need to identify it, is the quarrel between cat-lovers and dog-lovers, which flares up sporadically.—Belleville Intelligencer

In this country young people should have the claims of political life as an honorable calling placed squarely before them if disquieting trends are to be corrected in the popular mind and the art and science of government held up, as it should be, as a noble service to which youth might aspire without being subjected to lino-tuendo from the cynical.—Hamilton Spectator

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