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

PAGE 4 TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 1957

A Ghastly Thought

A new potential danger has added to the nuclear-bomb testing process. A physicist attached to the United States Weather Bureau says he has reason to believe that prolonged testing of these horrible devices will contaminate the air to such a degree that rain will become less and less frequent and, eventually, stop falling altogether. To this, all that has been said in rebuttal by those who defend the propriety of the testings is that there is as yet no actual proof that this danger exists. They do not say that it is an absurd theory, but only that it remains to be scientifically substantiated. This is the same argument used against the proposal to do away with nuclear tests of all kinds on the grounds that they constitute a health hazard not only to this generation but to generations yet unborn.

It seems, therefore, that unless the conscience of mankind is soon aroused to such a degree that governments of all the atomic-producing nations will be compelled to give heed to the danger that confronts civilization, humanity will eventually, and perhaps before this century is out, find itself in a position where there will be no alternative to universal and complete destruction. Perhaps that is the role of our generation—to set in unrestrained motion the forces which will kill all that has been built up with such arduous toil and striving by successive generations—and to do it quickly.

The ending of a civilization is not, of course, a new thing. At least twenty others have had their day and ceased to be. But in all past instances a remnant was left to start anew. In this case, if the scientists are right in saying that atomic poison can linger on and over the earth for thousands of years—provided, of course, that the earth itself is not toppled—it is hard to see how any new start would be possible. Once the rains stop, there can be no life.

Perhaps this is an unduly terrifying picture, and perhaps it isn't. But isn't it a ghastly thought that in a period when knowledge is at its historic peak—or so it is believed—the human family should be seriously considering the possibility of its annihilation by its own hands?

Mr. Pearson's Explanation

An explanation of Ottawa's position at the time of the British-French intervention in Egypt is provided in a statement made by External Affairs Minister Pearson at a recent political rally. Mr. Pearson is quoted as declaring, in substance, that Canada must try to keep in step with both Britain and the United States and that when these two allies go different ways, as they did last fall, it is hard for Canada to know what to do.

This, obviously, was an attempt to justify Canada's lining up with the United States and the Soviet Union against Britain and France in discussions in the U.N. Security Council and General Assembly and to excuse the manner in which Prime Minister St. Laurent took it upon himself to chastise Sir Anthony Eden for taking steps to defend his country's vital interests in the Middle East.

The inference of Mr. Pearson's statement is that Canada will remain friendly with Britain just so long as the British and American Governments see eye to eye on international issues, but that when they are in dispute Canada will go along with the United States, regardless of whether British policy is right or wrong; this, presumably, because the United States is more likely than is Britain to be peeved over Canadian divergence and is in a better position to mete out punishment in one way or another. This goes a long way from the stand taken last fall. Then, Canada's disagreement with Britain and France

was purported to be based on moral grounds. Although neither Mr. St. Laurent nor Mr. Pearson actually used the word "aggression" in describing the intervention in the Suez Canal zone, both men left no doubt in anyone's mind that that was what they meant. Mr. St. Laurent expressed himself as "scandalized"; and Mr. Pearson spoke loudly in the U.N. General Assembly on the same general theme.

If—as Mr. Pearson appears to be saying now—Canada cannot afford under any circumstances to displease the United States Government when that Government is at odds with the British Government; well, that is one thing. It doesn't say much for the "independence" which Canadian officials never tire of broadcasting to the world; but at least it is a policy of a sort. There is nothing particularly moral about it, however; and to make it appear so is, one imagines, as politically difficult as it is ethically unsound.

Air Cadet Training

Wednesday will be an important day in the lives of hundreds of top Air Cadets across Canada. Falling during national Air Cadet Week, May 1st has been designated by the Air Cadet League as "Selection Day" for the special training awards provided by the League and the RCAF each summer. Two hundred and fifty of the Cadets will be granted RCAF flying scholarships covering 30 hours of actual flying instruction. The League will award up to 150 additional scholarships to qualified lads who do not fit within the RCAF quota. The four weeks' course will commence early in July at civilian flying clubs and schools spaced across the country. Successful graduates will qualify for the Air Cadet flying badge as well as private pilot's licenses.

One hundred cadets will be chosen for a seven weeks "Senior Leaders Course" to be held at RCAF Station, Camp Borden. Operated as a "junior staff college", the course will train cadets for future positions of responsibility with the squadrons. Another one hundred cadets will be selected for an Air Cadet Drill Instructors Course also to be held during the summer at Camp Borden. From this group will be chosen a 40-man precision drill squad which will compete with an American drill team for the General Beau Trophy at the Canadian National Exhibition on August 24th.

A total of fifty-eight cadets will be hand-picked for the League's top award—an exchange visits trip to the United States, United Kingdom or continental Europe. Six countries have joined hands with Canada in this highly successful "get acquainted" scheme.

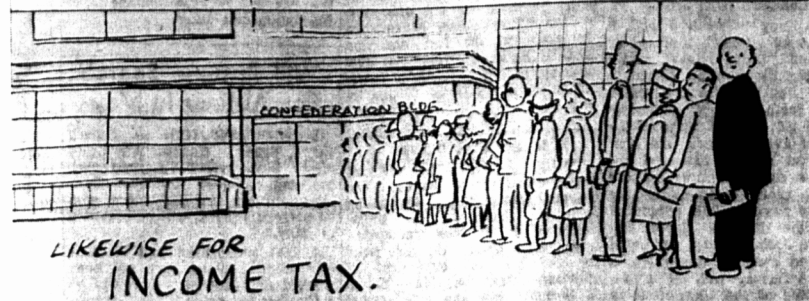
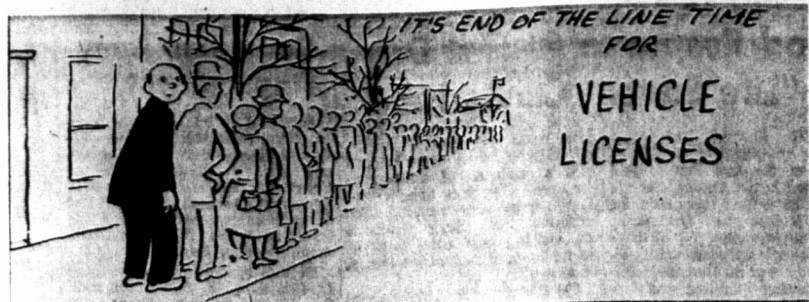
EDITORIAL NOTES

It's a little late for this season—we hope; but when another winter comes around motorists would do well to remember that heavily salted water is an efficient windshield deicer. So says a research organization.

According to a survey conducted by the Canadian University Post in Montreal, most students would like to work in Canada, all things being equal. Only 10% of those polled said they would like to go to the United States.

Sooner or later world opinion will compel the Great Powers to bring an end to nuclear bomb tests. The recent appeals by Pope Pius XII and Dr. Albert Schweitzer may hasten the taking of appropriate measures before it is too late to save the human race from self-inflicted destruction.

Animals, according to an Associated Press dispatch from New York, are now being enrolled as union members. A substantial number of performing monkeys, parrots, elephants, dogs, turtles and other furred, feathered and reptilian creatures engaged in television, stage and modeling activities have been granted membership in the American Guild of Animal Artists. Collective bargaining agreement calls for wage of \$50 a week minimum for all union members used as stage props; \$100 minimum for all union members who bark, chirp, meow, moo, neigh or growl; and \$150 minimum for union members who "cry, laugh or emote on cue." Canine union members retire on pension at 15 years of age, while union members who are turtles stay on the job until they reach 95.



BUT HERE'S ONE PLACE WHERE YOU'RE STILL IN TIME FOR A BETTER POSITION. NOW'S THE TIME!

Middle East Crossroads

By John M. Hightower
Associated Press, Washington

The United States will be deeply committed from now on to play a hand in the dangerous and violent game of Middle East power politics.

This commitment is a result of the decision by President Eisenhower and State Secretary Dulles to throw American power and prestige behind King Hussein in his fight to prevent extremists, spurred on by anti-western and Communist agitators, from taking over Jordan.

Until the United States cast its influence and the threat of its military power into the struggle on Hussein's side, it had some freedom of choice about whether to take part in any particular Middle East crisis.

From here on, however, the prestige of the United States will be involved in any new conflict within the area and its stature and effectiveness seem certain to be judged by the outcome.

Essentially this is a way of saying that whether by necessity or by choice the United States has become a Middle East power, taking over the position once held by Britain and France.

Three other results of the Jordanian crisis appeared either definite or probable today:

1. The Arab bloc, always united in opposition to Israel and which has shown considerable surface solidarity on Egypt's operation of the Suez Canal, is split wide open over the question of Jordan's future. Saudi Arabia and Iraq are supporting Hussein against Egypt and Syria.
2. The way the affair has gone to date, Iraq and Saudi Arabia are winning. This means, in particular, an increase in the stature of Arabian King Saud, counted as a strong anti-Communist and a friend of the United States. The stature of King Feisel in Iraq has also been enhanced.
3. The momentum of Egyptian President Nasser's drive to make himself leader of the Moslem world has been checked at least momentarily.

FOES STRONG

His failure to reduce Jordan to the level of a satellite or have his ally Syria take over large portions of it offsets the clear victory he has so far gained over the western powers in laying down his own terms for use of the canal, and making them stick.

Authorities here caution that the Jordanian situation is by no means resolved. They are greatly encouraged by evidence that King Hussein, in spite of his youth, is proving a strong figure. As one state department official expressed it, "He has shown his muscle." Yet the forces against Hussein are strong and must be counted as determined. Washington experts do not think they will take a defeat if they can avoid it.

Watching Tornado Alley

National Geographic Society

"Tornado Alley," the incubator of nature's deadliest storms, is being watched this year as never before.

Once a twister has bored down to earth, the only defense is to get out of the way. To save more lives, Weather Bureau scientists are devising new tools to quicken warning systems and learn more about the nature of the complex storms.

One new instrument forces potential tornadoes to flash their own alarm. Called a "pressure-jump indicator," it records the ominous rise in pressure that often signals the birth of a tornado in storm-breeding squall lines.

ROUND-THE-CLOCK ALERT

It is these long frontiers of thunder, wind, and rain that turn unstable air currents into roaring, spinning funnels of destruction.

This year, more than 100 pressure-jump indicators are being operated in the severe storm belt—Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas. The instruments have been set up in police stations, fire houses, city jails, and other places where attendants voluntarily keep an eye on them 24 hours a day.

If barometric pressure rises suddenly, a light goes on and a buzzer sounds until turned off. The observer alerts the nearest weather station by telephone.

Radar then starts tracking the dangerous squall line, according to Dr. Morris Tepper, chief of the Bureau's severe-storms research unit.

In recent years, the Bureau has organized a radar network among key cities east of the Rockies. Volunteer ground corpsmen in a danger zone scan radarscopes for any sign of the dark pendent cloud that rakes the earth like a giant elephant's trunk.

Spotters notify communities, which warn residents to take cover.

One obstacle in learning more about the mechanism of tornadoes is their habit of striking quickly, devastatingly, and locally. Delicate instruments can't withstand 500-mile-an-hour winds. Few persons caught in a twister can be expected to give a scientific account of what they see—even if they live through it.

STORM-HOPPING BY PLANE

Pilot James Cook, who flies under contract to the Bureau, is again storm-hopping out of Kansas City this season. Cook ventures into squall lines in a plane laden with instruments to record pressure, temperature, moisture, wind speeds, and other phenomena.

Not the least of a tornado's terror is its electrical display. Forked lightning—vividly outlined with yellow, green, blue, and purple—often dances against the dull glow of continuous sheet lightning.

At several stations, the Weather Bureau has installed special equipment to record the presence and direction of such a display. If two stations spot it, the storm can be pinpointed by triangulation.

Spring brings tornado weather. Though factors are numerous, the time is ripe when cold, dry fronts moving easterly from the Pacific overrun warm, moist air from the Gulf of Mexico. Under certain conditions, the slightest updraft may trigger one or a series of twisters.



ISLANDS

Islands are different country. Something more. Than straits and channels and the sweep of sea. Divides their beaches from the blunted shore. Some island thing, in moss and grass and tree. Nursed by the wind and rooted in gray rock. Stubborn as time and sharp as winter thorn— And something in the look and step and talk And touch of men and women, island born. An absent look. A listening in the eyes. As if they heard, in blood and flesh and bone, Between the breakers' rise and fall and rise Some word let fall between the sea and stone. But never ask me what. How should I know? I was born inland. Half a mile or so. —Charles Bruce in The Atlantic Advocate.

MAXIMS

A pessimist is one who feels bad when he feels good for fear he'll feel worse when he feels better.

PIONEER MAIL

The first regular Canadian postal service started in 1774 between Quebec, Trois-Rivieres and Montreal.

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Bundesen, M.D.

SOME MEDICAL ADVANCES

ANOTHER tranquilizer, and drugs designed to treat infections are among the medical advances I would like to discuss in our regular monthly review of medicine.

Compazine is reported effective in treating mild and moderate mental and emotional disturbances. Tested on more than 12,000 persons, it has been successful in treating anxiety, agitation, agitated depression, tension, insomnia, restlessness, senile agitation and post-alcoholic cases.

Mental Disturbances

It also has been used in cases of vomiting and nausea and is reported particularly effective in treating nausea and vomiting of pregnancy. Side effects are said to be kept to a minimum.

Clinical trials in a leading British children's hospital indicate that antibiotic neomycin is effective in treating infantile gastroenteritis.

This disease, also known as infectious diarrhea, summer diarrhea and cholera infantum, causes many deaths in infancy. It is a major medical problem in all institutions where infants are kept.

British doctors report that all of the 101 infants treated with neomycin became clinically well in an average of two days.

The drug chloroquine may provide easier treatment for creeping eruption, a parasitic skin disease southwest.

Clinical tests indicate the drug can penetrate the epidermis deeply enough to produce good results.

Such treatment would have an obvious advantage over standard methods of cauterization or excision of the active lesion, freezing with solid carbon dioxide or ethyl chloride and other means.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

I. P. M.: what causes severe pain in the knee?

Answer: There are several causes for pain in the knees. Arthritis is a frequent cause. Excessive strain on the joints, as a result of flat feet, might also produce the condition. Disturbances of the circulation might alpine surgeon may be advisable.

The Age Old Story

WE all, beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image... by the Spirit of the Lord.

THREE B. C. BY-ELECTIONS

VICTORIA (CP)—Three by-elections to fill vacancies in the British Columbia legislature will be held this summer or in the fall, after the June 10 federal election. P. E. I. Bennett announced they will be held in Burnaby, Delta and the Cariboo.

COSTLY CAIRO FIRE

CAIRO (AP)—Eighteen persons were burned to death in a fire which destroyed 325 mud and straw houses of Al Ahraz, a village eight miles north of here. Egyptian press reports said Saturday. About 1,000 persons were made homeless.

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OUR YESTERDAYS

From the Guardian Files
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
(April 30, 1932)

Pension allowances payable under the provisions of the Intercolonial and P.E.I. Railway Employees Provident Fund Act have been increased fifty per cent for the present year in the supplementary estimates. The minimum amount payable for the coming year will be \$30.00 instead of \$20.

The splendid concert put on by the Boy Scouts of the City, which was held in Rochford Square Hall last evening, received the excellent support of the citizens as was shown by an attendance which crowded the hall to capacity.

TEN YEARS AGO
(April 30, 1947)

Following a conference yesterday afternoon between the Provincial Government and members of the City Council, the City of Charlottetown has decided to inaugurate Daylight Saving Time. Premier Jones stated later that if the Council wished to go ahead on its own initiative and institute Daylight Time, the Government

NOTES BY THE WAY

A convention of U.S. Communists has been held in New York—but we have yet to hear of an anti-Communist convention being held in Moscow.—Chatham News

Searching through the pockets of an Eighteenth Century costume he had just bought at an auction, a collector in Leeds, England, was surprised to find a little cloth bag, containing grains. He sowed those grains in his garden and had the surprise of seeing gladioli of an unknown kind grow. Research in botany books showed that the species had become extinct 200 years ago.—Noir Et Blanc, Paris

"would not oppose it."

The heavily built ice-breaking ferry Abegweit built for service on the P.E.I.—N.B. route across the Northumberland Strait will be taking her trials soon. The ferry is expected to go into service early this summer, but will first have several months of open water operation.

The latest figures on Secretary of State Dulles' travels are out. Since January, 1953, he was covered 389,829 miles by air; 329,069 on foreign missions and 60,760 on domestic trips.—Milwaukee Journal

One wonders when some deliverymen and children selling tickets will learn that one short ring of the doorbell will bring the same person in a much more pleasant frame of mind than keeping the finger on the bell.—St. Catharines Standard

The Tom Mix westerns of a generation ago will not be turning up on television, a columnist reports, because they don't exist any more. Some of the Marx brothers comedies, more than one Douglas Fairbanks adventure epic, at least one of the better John Barrymore dramas—gone beyond recall. The explanation is that cellulose nitrate, which formed the basic component of most movie film before World War II, doesn't last.—Baltimore Sun

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