

THE GUARDIAN

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The U. S. Potential

The New York Times recalls that one distinguished world statesman, looking back on the history of the Second World War, remarked that "without the miracle of American production the United Nations could not possibly have hoped to win." That leader is still in office and doubtless still knows the United States' industrial capacity. His name is Joseph Stalin.

A few simple figures add weight to this timely quotation. On the day of the Pearl Harbor attack the United States possessed 1,157 combat planes and about the same number of tanks. Three years later it had produced 187,000 planes, 68,000 tanks, 1,800,000 trucks and 2,800,000 pieces of medium and large artillery. There is the measurement of the nation's productive capacity when it turns from butter to guns.

And the industrial capacity of the United States is far greater today than it was in 1941. Since then its total output has doubled and it possesses armament factories, or civilian factories which can be quickly converted to armaments, which had not been built or even planned at the beginning of the last war.

When President Roosevelt made his famous demand for 50,000 planes a year his figure was commonly regarded as impossible. But the planes were delivered. When Mr. Truman lays down his present rearmament programme he has not really begun to test the nation's ultimate capacity. That fact, well known to Russia, is probably the largest deterrent to general war.

The Great Illusion

Finance Minister Abbott has on more than one occasion made reference to the "buoyant state of the nation's finances." The inference is that the defence commitments of the next few months need cost the people of Canada very little because this year's revenue from taxation is likely to be far ahead of Mr. Abbott's budget estimates.

Such reasoning is both dangerous and misleading. As Monteith Douglas, director of the Canadian Tax Foundation, points out, "the inference that this result will make vigorous taxation unnecessary ignores the real character of the process which produces it. Extra taxation is not being avoided, but it is taking the form of a hidden levy operating without official acknowledgement on the pockets of everyone who complains of rising prices. To finance defence expenditure out of the delayed rake-off on inflation that can be collected through our highly geared tax structure is accurately described as a policy of fiscal 'kiting'." This illusion should be exposed and the process if possible arrested in the next Budget.

"The policy of production and stability that the defence program dictates," Mr. Douglas adds, "leaves a heavy burden of responsibility on the public conscience. This policy can be sabotaged, perhaps unwittingly, but quite effectively, by the action of powerful group interests organized to conduct their affairs on the basis of what the traffic will bear." Mr. Douglas does not name names. But Big Business, Big Labor and Big Government can scarcely escape the implications of his observations.

The Commonwealth Conference

The conference which opens at London today is the fourth informal meeting of leaders of the British Commonwealth since the end of World War Two. In 1946, the main area of discussion was the post-war situation. In 1948, it was the change created by the new Asian members—India, Pakistan and Ceylon. In 1949, it was the relation of the Commonwealth to the defence of Western Europe by means of the Atlantic Treaty. Now it is relations with Asia, particularly with Communist China.

As pointed out by the Ottawa Citizen, the problem of dealing with Communist China has been greatly complicated by Chinese intervention in the Korean campaign against the United Nations. Four Commonwealth countries, three of them in Asia, have recognized the Peiping regime. They are Great Britain, India, Pakistan and Ceylon. Four others have not: Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. The compelling fact is that the Commonwealth's interests lie deeply extended in Asia.

The most that can be expected at the London conference is that the whole prob-

lem of dealing with the new China, diplomatically and economically, will be canvassed thoroughly. By mutual understanding, as experience has taught, even such a problem as this will yield to honest efforts. The question of a peace settlement with Japan, in which the United States already is taking the initiative, affects vital Commonwealth interests. The question of organizing economic aid for Asia, particularly Southeast Asia, is already well in hand through the Colombo Plan. But it will have to be geared to the need, since time is running out. The resources of the Commonwealth may have to be mobilized for this purpose on a greater scale than anyone has foreseen.

EDITORIAL NOTES

A second thought on the question of the half-century's end brings the reflection that it is more comforting to think of 1950 as having been the last year of the first-half than the opening one of the second.

Textiles are in such short supply, says Montreal Gazette, that certain shirt manufacturers are toying with the idea of disposable paper collars to the point where they've secured samples.

An open winter would be a boon to the potato industry, permitting the lower water carriage rates to offset, in part, the comparatively low price being received for the tubers.

Pakistan's reported threat to boycott the Prime Ministers' conference has an unhappy resemblance to a fireman holding out for concessions while a blaze is in progress.

Everybody now would like to know whether that Spanish order for 700,000 bushels of potatoes is likely to materialize, or pass away like a fond dream. It is evidently up to the Federal authorities to decide.

Fredericton, N. B., hears that Lord Beaverbrook has bought the equipment of the long-defunct Daily Mail there and may establish a printing and book shop for presentation to his beloved University of New Brunswick.

The Land Valuation Board has been obliged to suspend operations because of winter conditions. On the other hand housing can only be properly valued when the rigours of winter make themselves felt.

It is not, perhaps, generally recognized that the present "instructions" to the Governor-General are so wide as to include even the granting of honours which has always been regarded as being retained as an essentially personal Royal prerogative.

France is not enthusiastic over the proposed rearming of Germany, nor is Australia enamoured of the proposed restoration of arms to Japan. Both these countries consider such rearmament a menace to their future. Canada, on the other hand, favours both, considering herself sufficiently protected against immigration from either country.

Increases in daily rates for registered graduate nurses on private duty have been announced by the Ottawa Community Nursing Registry. Effective Jan. 1, nurses will receive \$8 for an eight-hour day or \$1 an hour up to a maximum 12-hour day. Miss Evelyn M. Horsey of the Community Nursing Registry, in making the announcement, said that the increase came about after careful study of the higher cost of living and increased professional fees.

The Canadian Press reports an interesting case affecting farmers. The Ontario Appeal Court denied a New York man's action for \$3,300 damages arising from the purchase of a bull, now said unfit for breeding purposes. Mr. Lewis L. Strauss, former banker and until last April a member of the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission, bought the bull in November, 1948, from John Bowser of Newmarket, Ont. Strauss sought return of the \$1,800 purchase price, plus \$1,500 for "expenses." The court upheld an earlier decision by Mr. Justice F. H. Barlow of the Ontario Supreme Court, ruling that the bull was in sound condition when sold.

Marshal of France Joseph Jacques Cesaire Joffre, born this date 1852. He had a distinguished career in the army, and organized the defences of Formosa and Tongking now in the control of Chinese Nationalists. In World War I he was appointed Chief of the General Staff, an appointment implying supreme command in the war. While France and Europe were in direst peril he was the one who remained cool and unflinching, and he quietly organized "the Miracle of the Marne" which led to the German retreat and ultimate defeat.

Task For An Old Hand Should The Wolf Grow Aggressive



Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

WINTER MAILS

"The last ten days of severe weather has entirely disarranged the transmission of the mails. Through the medium of the 'H. Ingram', from Charlottetown direct to Pictou, and the packet from Georgetown direct to the same place, we were receiving them up to the 22nd December with almost as much punctuality as in the summer season. The 'H. Ingram', which left the Harbour on Christmas Day, was obliged, however, to anchor in the Bay outside during the storm of that and succeeding days. On Friday she attempted to make the passage, but was prevented by the drift ice from making much progress, and severe weather coming on, she became frozen in, just off Governor's Island. Several of the passengers and crew landed on Governor's Island on Sunday, where they remained all night sheltered only by a stack of hay, returning to town on Monday. The mails were returned yesterday, and immediately forwarded by the winter route of Cape Traverse. The Georgetown packet experienced a similar fate, having been frozen in, and compelled to return the mail bags on Saturday last; they were forwarded on Monday."—Hazard's Gazette, Jan. 2, 1856.

The Age-Old Story

For God speaketh once, yet twice, yet man perceiveth it not... Yes, his soul draweth near unto the grave, and his life to the destroyers. If there be a messenger with him, an interpreter, one among a thousand, to shew unto man his uprightness: then he is gracious unto him, and saith, Deliver him from going down to the pit: I have found a ransom. His flesh shall be fresh-er than a child's; he shall return to the days of his youth; he shall pray unto God, and he will be favourable unto him: and he shall see his face with joy; for he will render unto man his righteousness.

Carols In Fatigue

Our Society for the Preservation of Christmas Carols, we anticipate, will be in operation before the end of December. Several of the carols, we believe, are far more in need of safeguarding than the Christmas trees now being hunted annually 40 and 50 miles from this city. The trees have the security of distance; the carols, alas, are poured into every home by radio station every hour of the Christmas season. And carols, once worked to death, never revive and their family becomes extinct. We have, this last Christmas, heard carols of great joy tossed about by the comedians, mangled by barber-shop quartettes, muddled by crooners. They have been twisted, rubbed out, crushed and commercialized. They have been yelled to the dawn and moaned into the midnight. Every radio station, everywhere, has torn the silent night, spurred the kings of Orient, hustled the holly about its business and forced ashore the sailing ships that floated so kindly in quieter years. This endless toll for the carols, this mad haste to push them into situations, where they don't belong, will mean in time the death of Christmas song. The music hits of ordinary days have their weeks or months of popularity and vanish to be heard no more. We think the carols deserve a better fate and the safeguarding of the armor of good taste and reverence. Therefore we hope that among the charter members of the SPCC will be the CBC and its associated organizations.

ABUNDANT TALENT

A survey by the Ontario Government's community programs branch showed about 15,000 artists in Ontario in 1950. WASHINGTON, Jan. 3 — (AP) — A bill was introduced in Congress today to authorize President Truman to order construction of a new-type 60,000-ton aircraft carrier which can handle modern heavy planes. Hearing on it will start Jan. 5.

"As Expeditiously As"

(Montreal Gazette) The Canadian Government is to send a special force to take part in the defence and security of Europe. This is an important reversal of policy. Only some four years ago the Government decided to have no Canadian forces in Europe. Indeed, the withdrawal of the Canadian forces of occupation in Germany, was accomplished at the time "just as expeditiously as transportation conditions permitted." But now a Canadian force is to return. It may be said, of course, that conditions have changed. Things look different now than they did in 1946. The danger has become terribly real. Yet at the time that the Canadian force was pulled out of the danger of conditions in Europe was very well realized. Indeed, the decision to withdraw the troops was so pointedly criticized, that the Government, in defending its action, used such excessive language that some of it had to be corrected in Hansard. The danger was not only clear to people in Canada. It was plain then to Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower. He had led the western forces to victory and already he saw that the scramble to get out of Europe was disgracing the achievements of victory. In 1945 he was asking all concerned (including Canada): "Are we going so far in weakening ourselves in Europe that we are going to abandon unfulfilled the purposes for which we fought? Or are we going to have the strength to see the job through?" And he added that if the western allies, who fought together in war, were to lose the peace by a hasty retreat, this could only mean "humiliation and shame for us."

Air Training Plan

(Windsor Star) Probably exists Canada will become the centre of an air training plan for the 12 Atlantic Pact nations. If this should be, the prospect almost staggers the imagination. Canada would become one vast air plant, turning out skilled airmen not by the thousands but by the tens, or more likely hundreds, of thousands. One only has to recall the Commonwealth Air Training Plan of World War II to visualize the possibilities. That was restricted to the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand and Canada, though some Norwegian pilots also were trained here. From early 1941 when the Plan got into operation until the spring of 1945, 131,593 aircrew were trained. Canada provided more than half of these, or 72,835. There were 42,110 R.A.F. men, 9,608 Australians and 7,002 New Zealanders. Originally it was intended Britain would supply most of the aircraft. The expenses were to be shared pro rata and the recruits supplied proportionately. But the exigencies of war prevented Britain building the aircraft and most of the training was done in aircraft made in Canada or bought by Canada. Also, as some of the R.A.F. trained in Africa and elsewhere, and there was some training in Australia and New Zealand, Canadians formed the majority of the Plan's graduates, and Canada assumed most of the cost. It was a gigantic scheme, with 360 schools and auxiliary units established on 231 sites. It required a staff of 104,000 to administer the scheme. Then only four countries were involved, three of them of small populations. The Atlantic Pact nations are 12, including Canada and the United States. Three of these are populous countries, the United States, United Kingdom and France. Canada, of course, is an ideal location for such a scheme. The European partners are small in area. If war comes, their training bases would be open to attack, and there would be radar and other complicating factors. In another war, there will be long distance flying, training for which is not possible within the limited confines of Western European nations. The targets would be deep in Russia, necessitating much cold weather flying. Only in Canada could comparable conditions be secured for training. Canada proved its ability in administering the Commonwealth Air Training Plan. Its success was one still more out of proportion to the size. But a terrible danger has gathered over Europe, during the years in which the western allies weakened themselves. The question is not now one of getting troops out of Europe "just as expeditiously as transportation conditions permit." It is now, perhaps, a question of how they may be just as expeditiously returned.

The Poet's Corner

A JANUARY MORNING The glittering roofs are still with frost; each worn Black chimney builds into the quiet sky Its curling pile to crumble silently. Far out to westward, on the edge of morn, The slender misty city towers up-borne Glimmer faint rose against the pallid blue; And yonder on those northern hills, the hue Of amethyst, hang fleeces dull as horn. And here behind me comes the With woodmen's sleighs With shouts and clamorous squeakings; might and main Up the steep slope the horses stamp and strain, Urged on by hoarse-tongued drivers—cheeks ablaze, Iced beards, and frozen eyelids—team by team, With frost-fringed flanks, and nostrils jetting steam. —Archibald Lampman.

Notes By The Way

Why editors take to the bush: The local paper at Greenville, S. C., has a column titled, "It's About Time," and the other day a marriage notice got into it! —Ottawa Citizen. A man without active interests to occupy him is to be pitied. It is not uncommon to see such an one gliding in retirement. And it is not uncommon to see a man live but a few short years in retirement because he had never developed any interest outside his daily work — Halifax Chronicle-Herald. At this season of goodwill may there be kindly thoughts for the weatherman. He played dirty in November, launching many weeks prematurely what looked like the start of a bitter winter. But most of December has been delightful, a joy to feel and behold. With the temperature never very far from the freezing mark, Southern Alberta has been one of the balmiest spots in the whole country. Perhaps the early cold spell has made us more appreciative of the current weather treat. — Calgary Albertan. Canadians are pretty cocky about their country. They are even proud of their weather. The Englishman's complacency in the wetness of that country (the British growling about their rain is an inverted national snobbery) is outdone by the Canadian eagerness when the weather here is "typical." By typical they mean hot as the devil in Summer, radiant as a tapestry in the Fall, and cold as all-get-out in Winter. When Canadian weather lives up to its reputation, we as a race positively ooze self-satisfaction. — Peterborough Examiner. It seems churlish to turn on General MacArthur and criticize him at a time of military disaster. Unfortunately, it is impossible to keep complete silence about the General because he so signally fails to keep silence himself. Almost daily now in the American press he figures in special interviews expressing his views on the political aspects of the war in Asia. His opinions are plainly at variance with those of his Commander-in-Chief, President Truman. A mother, writing to a contemporary, asks it to use its influence toward discouraging young people staying out late. She says that nowadays it is thought bad form to start a party before nine o'clock at the earliest. She suggests that it would be better to have those functions begin earlier and close before midnight. The greatest argument against late hours that must appeal to young people who indulge in them is that many employers are inclined not to employ anybody who is known to be staying up late. Experience shows that good rest is essential to good work. The old custom of early hours was a sound one. All that is required to change present custom is a little more backbone on the part of some of the boys and girls. All parents favor reasonable hours. — Guelph Mercury. J. P. MacPherson & Son Men's Clothing That Fits SUITS - TOPCOATS - OVERCOATS 157 QUEEN ST. of the miracles of World War II, and contributed mightily to the winning of that conflict. This country is the logical place for another joint air training scheme, even on a much vaster scale.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

Professional cards for various practitioners including: A. Walther Gaudet, L.L.B. BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, Etc. J. S. TAYLOR Optometrist. Joseph R. MacMillan, L.L.B. BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, Etc. Chas. R. McQuaid B.A. BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, Etc. MacPhee & Trainor H.F. MacPHEE, B.A., K.C. E. SOMERLETT BARRISTER, B.A. Dr. A. L. MacIsaac DENTIST. Frederic A. Large, K.C. BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, Notary. Dr. W. R. Carson Chiropractor. J. A. McGuigan BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, Etc. J. A. Carruthers R.O. OPTOMETRIST. H. E. Doane & Co. Chartered Accountants. McDonald, Currie & Co. CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS.