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

THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 1956

Middle East Crisis

Evidence that the crisis in the Middle East is nearing a decisive turning can be seen in the strategic motions that are being made, as on a vast checker board, by the world powers. The American government has called two key men back to Washington. Ambassador Bohlen from Moscow and Ambassador Wadsworth from Saudi Arabia.

In Washington, Senator Alexander Smith of New Jersey—a close administration supporter—said he believes Congress ought to arm President Eisenhower with power to act in the Middle East just as it did in Formosa a year ago.

A New Second Ticks

Surer than death or taxes, the seconds go by. This year, however, the most fleeting dimension of everyday life will be slightly changed from what it was in 1955. Astronomers have given it a new length. The old familiar second was defined as 1/86,400th of a day, measured by timing the revolution of the earth.

The trouble with the old hunderd second is that it won't stay the same length. Day by day, world time is checked by observatories whose extremely accurate instruments mark how long it takes the earth to turn once on its axis.

EDITORIAL NOTES

President Roosevelt died this date, 1945.

Nowhere can arresting slogans play a more helpful part than in preventing highway accidents. In Greenville, Ohio, there is a police station sign which pleads: "Drive carefully—you may hit one of our customers."

For some time now some 50 geese have been taking advantage of open water extending from Cardigan bridge up the river to the highway. Some Cardigan residents are speculating on the feasibility of making this beautiful waterway a permanent sanctuary for wild fowl.

Some years ago the International Bureau of Weights and Measures in Paris, world guardian of standards of length, weight, and time, decided the problem had become critical. It began formulating a new second. Late in August, 1955, the International Astronomical Union met in general assembly in Dublin. It approved a new definition of the second.

and for world-wide use, the final outcome of a long series of meetings. The new second is based not on the turning earth, but on the time it takes the sun to pass from vernal equinox across the skies and back to vernal equinox as the earth swings once around its home star in a year.

This is the "tropical year" of astronomers, the year of the seasons. It is similar, but not quite the same, as the "sidereal year," which is the actual time it takes the earth to follow its orbit around the sun. The tropical year is about 20 minutes shorter. It was necessary, finally, to choose a particular tropical year as a master yardstick. For various reasons, including more accurate measurement, the tropical year for 1900 was chosen—new guide for the most nearly accurate time yet kept by man.

Hutterite Colonies

The Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities has called for legislation to restrict the size of Hutterite colonies and isolate them from one another. A fundamentalist sect whose members adhere to the early Christian practice of communal ownership of goods and properties and to a rigid code of morality, Hutterite colonies have existed for many years in the Canadian West. They are industrious, hard working, honest and help one another, but, like the Doukhobors, they hold themselves apart from other Canadians, and show no indications of integrating. Hence the movement in the three prairie provinces for restrictions designed to prevent them from securing blanket control of extensive areas.

In 1947 Alberta passed legislation restricting the right of Hutterites to make further land purchases. Similar measures are being proposed in Manitoba. In Saskatchewan, where the Association of Rural Municipalities is urging similar action, there are three Hutterite colonies, with a total membership estimated around 400.

Unlike the Doukhobors, or, at least, the Sons of Freedom branch of that sect, the Hutterites are peaceful and law-abiding. In the war years, they made themselves unpopular by their pacifist attitude, which is an outgrowth of their religious beliefs; and it is claimed they do not support or send their children to the public schools.

So far as Saskatchewan is concerned, the legislation proposed would violate the Saskatchewan bill of rights, on which the CCF government of Premier T. C. Douglas has preened itself. A clause in this document states that every person shall have the right to own or rent land "without discrimination because of race, creed, religion, color or ethnic or national origin of such person or class of persons." Citizenship, however, entails obligations, dictated by the needs of the country as a whole, which the beneficiaries of Canadian citizenship must fulfill.

The incident emphasizes the shortsightedness of admitting the shortsightedness of admitting to Canada people or classes of people who will not integrate themselves with the country as a whole. In the case of the Hutterites, as with the Doukhobors, the mistake has been made; and the most realistic course is to treat them fairly and justly.



POSSIBLE UNFORES EEN DEVELOPMENTS

Schweitzer's Thirty-Year Debt

By Harold Garnet Black, L.L.D.

The serious minded group who came together at Aspen in the Colorado Rockies in 1949 did so to meet and honor Albert Schweitzer, a foreigner who long ago gave up a life of ease in Europe for the sake of suffering humanity in the heart of Africa.

Before he was thirty years old, he had won three advanced degrees—doctor of philosophy, doctor of music, and doctor of theology—and later was to become a doctor of medicine. He had also distinguished himself as one of the world's greatest organists, had given the funeral oration on Nietzsche before the Sorbonne in Paris, had authored several volumes on philosophy and theology, had become the most scholarly interpreter of Bach in his biography of that "musical-poet", and was organist of the Bach Societies of Paris, Strasbourg, and Barcelona.

With such a background of learning, one wonders why he gave it all up to become the world's best known missionary.

REMARKABLE STORY

Upon graduation he and his wife, whom he had married the year before and who had been in training for a nurse, began their perilous journey into the jungles of French equatorial Africa. The work of the Schweitzers in that Trader-Horn country during the past forty years, and the development of his "reverence for life" philosophy make one of the most remarkable stories in all missionary annals. The Greeks used to say that words have wings. No better illustration of the truth of this saying can be given than that of the article on the Congo, whose words winged their way into the soul of a man named Albert Schweitzer, changed his entire career, and made his name an honored household word wherever Christian missions are spoken of or discussed.

Frobisher Bay Base

By Dave McIntosh Canadian Press Staff

FROBISHER BAY, N.W.T. (CP)—One is given pause here to wonder about Canadian sovereignty in the Canadian Arctic.

One of the first things to strike a Canadian visitor to this Baffin island air base is the United States Stars and Stripes flying over the administration building alongside, not a Union Jack or Red Ensign, but the USAF Ensign.

The station, which is completely self-sustaining for a year, sits atop one of Baffin island's thousands of barren, windswept hills. It comprises 26 buildings, 23 of them joined by passageways. The radar site could provide three or four hours' warning to the United States of any air attack on North America across the polar regions. It has the capability of controlling the operations of jet intercepter planes, which raises the possibility that Frobisher might become a fighter base.

Frobisher, whose buildings are the familiar wartime barracks blocks, black with age, now has a strength of about 600 but this number varies widely. In the summer, American soldiers move in to unload sea cargo for the DEW line.

U.S. EQUIPMENT

Canadian and American newspaper men on their DEW line tour were transported in a U.S. Air Force Globemaster though the original plan was to use two RCAF

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

(April 12, 1931)

The Bonshaw-Charlottetown water route was opened today by the motor boat "E. Nancy Lea." The first trip down the river this season was made in good time. Besides twenty-five passengers there was considerable freight including 100 cases eggs, pork, potatoes, beef, etc.

TEN YEARS AGO

(April 12, 1946)

Mr. D.A. Clark, president of Clarke Steamship Company, arrived in the City last night, on business connected with the new steamship service shortly to begin operating between Charlottetown and Newfoundland. The "Island Connector" left Vancouver a few days ago and will arrive at Charlottetown within a few weeks to open the service.

DEBATING COMPETITION

The P. E. I. Junior Farmers are again sponsoring a Debating Competition which is open to all 4-H Club members and all rural young people under 31 years of age. If your Club or Organization is interested in Debating, please contact Allan Palmer, Box 9, Department of Agriculture, Charlottetown.

All Entries Close on April 17.

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Bundesen, M. D.

OBESITY SHORTENS LIFE

Obesity is a health hazard for anyone, but it presents a special problem for flyers. This doesn't mean that stout passengers are in any danger while flying in our big commercial airliners with their pressurized cabins. However, the recent death of two passengers in Air Force jets following loss of pressurization at a high altitude, points up more of the dangers of being markedly overweight.

INTO BLOOD STREAM

Even worse, these freed gas bubbles are washed against becoming overweight. You are considered overweight if you are 10 per cent above the normal weight for persons of your age, height and body build.

AVERAGE WEIGHT

And whether you are a flyer or not, the death rate among obese persons is about 50 per cent higher than it is for persons of average weight. Obesity definitely shortens your life expectancy. Yet about one-fifth of our population is overweight. As you can see, it is a pretty big health problem.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

Miss D.M.: I have poor circulation. Could this be caused by a thyroid condition? Answer: Sometimes a lack of thyroid hormone may be at fault in circulatory difficulties. However, this is not often the case.

The Age Old Story

For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud: that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: so shall my word be that shall return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

DORVAL BUSIEST AIRPORT

OTTAWA (CP)—Montreal's Dorval airport shot up to first from fourth place to supersede Vancouver as Canada's busiest airport in 1955. Edmonton continued in second place. Vancouver fell to third and Toronto's Malton slipped to No. 4 from the No. 3 slot the transport department reported Wednesday.

FAMOUS FALLS

The Chaudiere falls on the Chaudiere river, four miles from its mouth opposite Quebec city, are 130 feet high.

If people had been meant to take all those hypodermics, surely nature would have equipped humans with intake valves. — Chatham News

More dependable than the robin as a harbinger of spring is the amount of slush and mud tracked into the house.—Farmer's Advocate

Bob Hope didn't get into Russia on his recent trip. This is probably just as well because the Kremlin is booked solid with comedy acts.—Orillia Packet.

In a television drama a bank employee was foiled in his flight with a million dollars in stolen money because he missed aeroplane connections. It might make a good slogan for a competing medium of transportation: "Next time, abscond by rail."—Hamilton Spectator

The stroke of a thousand bonfires rising from the backyards of newspaper premises all over the country has its origin in the tons of this unsolicited material that clutters up the mails every week in the year. The great bulk of it comes from government departments in the form of press releases and such useless tripe that nobody bothers to read except perhaps the hacks who write it.—Port Elgin Times

In the early years of soybean cultivation in this part of Canada, the future of the product as a source of plastics was one of the encouragements. This outlet never did develop to any great extent, although Henry Ford the Elder lent his patronage to it. Yet soybean cultivation continued and expanded. Now Canadian growers are told there is a good demand for the beans in Europe, because of damage to olive trees. Chemistry can change the supply sources in production of plastics, but the need for oils remains steady.—Windsor Star

Pedestrians have rights which are often invaded by motorists. Once a pedestrian is in an intersection, he has the right-of-way. Yet very often at an intersection where there are no traffic lights, motorists will head straight for a pedestrian as if he had no right to be on the street at all. Moreover, an Ontario court has ruled that even if a pedestrian is crossing against a red light, he has the right-of-way once he is into the street. And he certainly has the right-of-way when, crossing on a green light, he is met by a car making a right turn.—Ottawa Citizen

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