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

PAGE 4 FRIDAY, DEC. 28, 1956

"Inasmuch..."

There are times when police officers have to be stern and perhaps a little rough. Their duties often take them into circumstances where tender-heartedness is not a virtue.

In Milwaukee a patrolman who helped a little blind girl across a busy street heard a story of childish disappointment. The little one, when asked what she wanted for Christmas, replied that she had sent her order to Santa Claus but she did not suppose it would do much good.

Meanwhile, in Everett, Washington, a little boy who had been collecting bottles in the railroad yards, hoping in that way to make enough money to buy a Christmas present for his mother, was run over by an engine with the result that both his legs had to be amputated.

In both instances and others like them which go unrecorded the divine dictum finds its way into the consciences of the givers: "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me."

Commonwealth Progress

Surely the United Nations must now be aware that while Russia is keeping satellite countries in line by the application of brute force, Britain is moving steadily ahead in giving independence and free government to many colonial territories.

The Gold Coast, in Africa, will on March 5 of next year become an independent territory with full self-government.

Once law and order are restored in Cyprus, the British government plans to introduce a new and liberal constitution by which Cyprus will be given a wide measure of self-government.

The Maltese prime minister has been called to London for talks on a new draft constitution scheme, to be followed by a new general election in Malta.

The new British Caribbean federation, made up of many West Indies islands and territories, is being established with its own legislature and all the necessary powers of self-government.

A new constitution, granting independence to Malaya, is being prepared, and it is hoped that it will be passed by the British parliament early in the New Year.

The chief minister of Singapore will visit London in the near future to consider further advances towards independence for that territory.

A conference to review the present constitution of Nigeria and to plan further advances towards com-

plete self-government, is to be held soon.

All of these events combine to show that far from being imperialistic in its outlook, Britain is going further than any other country in helping Commonwealth peoples to become independent.

Service Under Arms

To find out why Canadians serve in the armed forces of their country, the National Defence Department's Bureau of Current Affairs held an essay contest, and the prize-winning entries have just been published.

There are, of course, many personal advantages and satisfactions in serving. Several writers commend the trades training that is provided. They appreciate decent pay and security. They like the comradeship of the forces and "the sense of belonging to a team, of supporting and being supported by others."

But beyond considerations like these there is a feeling that the armed forces are contributing to the welding of a Canadian nation. Those who serve abroad "have the chance to extend the bounds of friendship," to back up their government as ambassadors to other people.

The volunteer citizen-soldier feels, finally, that it is a patriotic duty to stand on guard for Canada's free way of life in a dangerous world. Canadians can be proud of the enlisted man who sees his job as a public service.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Egyptian snipers have already used small units of UNEF for target practice. What will happen when Egyptian forces start shooting at the main body of the U.N. force? Will there be retaliation? Or will the U.N. merely pass a resolution asking Egypt to admit undertakers?

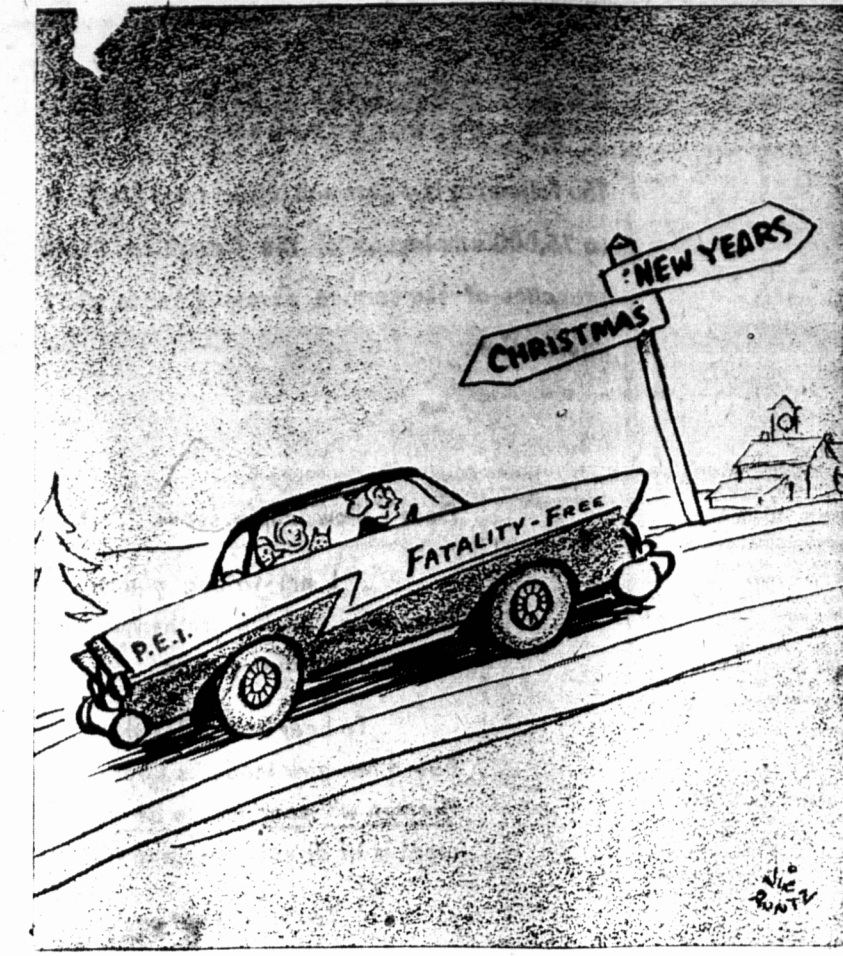
An Egyptian newspaper has charged that Sir Anthony Eden "spent huge sums of money on propaganda aimed at defeating President Eisenhower" in November's election. Any day now we can expect to hear that a Congressional sub-committee has been appointed to inquire into this alleged un-American activity.

Senator Francis Theodore Greens of Rhode Island evidently doesn't believe in early retirement. He attended the recent NATO meetings as an official representative of the United States and in January he will take over the Chairmanship of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He is in his 89th year.

The United States Ambassador to Egypt is said to be having difficulty in getting the Egyptians to understand the "complications" of United States' foreign policy. That, however, must not be taken to mean that the Egyptians are lacking in intellectual strength or political astuteness.

A group of 200 Buddhist scholars in Japan is now compiling and editing a 10,000-page encyclopedia on Buddhism in the English language. The project, initiated by the Buddhist Council of Ceylon on July 6, 1955 to commemorate the 2,500th anniversary of the Buddhist Era, is scheduled to be completed by July, 1957.

Described by Dr. F. Cyril James, Principal of McGill University, as "one of the greatest projects ever contemplated for the wellbeing of mankind", research into ways and means of irrigating the barren areas of the world is about to begin. It was made possible by a \$2 million bequest from the late James Henry Brace, internationally-known engineer and President of Fraser, Brace Engineering Co. Ltd.



SO FAR, SO GOOD

OTTAWA REPORT

Promotion For Maritimer

By Patrick Nicholson

OTTAWA: Dan Wallace, 46 year old civil servant from Nova Scotia may be developing into a new "grey eminence" behind the Prime Minister's throne.

He has just been appointed "executive officer" on the Prime Minister's personal staff. The official announcement says that he will "undertake various special projects on behalf of Mr. St. Laurent and will gather and analyze information for the Prime Minister's use."

This sounds very like the brains-trusting and speech-carrying role so long and so ably carried out by former civil servant Jack Pickersgill, now Minister of Citizenship and Immigration.

In 1946, Pickersgill was a routine lowly-paid secretary in the Prime Minister's Office. He was given a big step-up in status and salary by Prime Minister Mackenzie King, as a farewell reward for faithful service, just before that P.M. retired.

One brain-truster believed to be about to leave this group and even this capital is Ken Taylor, deputy-minister of Finance. He, it is believed, is shortly to be appointed to fill the role of ambassador in our diplomatic service.

December 25th is nine months previous to October 6th. This former date is believed by many to have been when the Angel Gabriel paid his visit to Mary. So, is it not probable that Christ's Birthday was October 6th, B.C. 4, rather than December 25th?

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PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

"WHICH DAY IS CHRISTMAS?"

Sir, — In Saturday's issue of The Guardian, I read, with much interest, an article by Richard Henry, bearing the caption, "Which Day is Christmas Day?"

According to the chronology of the Great Pyramid of Gizeh, as so ably presented by the noted Dr. Davidson in book form, this date, December 25th, appears to have been adopted for the first time in the 4th century (after Christianity had been legalized by the Roman Empire).

The transition from paganism to Christianity was made easy by the adoption of old pagan dates for Christian festivals — December 25th was already a date sacred to Osiris.

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A SCOTSMAN'S AMERICAN LOG

By Wilfred Taylor of The Edinburgh Scotsman

Wilmington, Delaware — We write these words sitting at a desk in front of a circular window in a book-lined bedroom in a charming old Pennsylvania farm-house, a few miles across the State line from Delaware.

Then there is the business of class structure. The great mass of Americans consider that we are class ridden in Britain and they proudly point to their own gospel of rugged individualism. They may take pride in their system of opportunity for all, but at the same time we are reaching the view that there is more individualism in Britain, in the sense that the individual can enjoy a privacy and a freedom from social sanctions to a greater extent than we have in this country.

We are looking out of the round window, through the bare branches of a tree, to a peaceful green hillside and we feel that this is as good an opportunity as any on our sixth Sunday in this country, to make a rounded assessment between preconception and perception. We have now got used to some of the inessential differences in living, to the ice-water, to the small bath-tubs, to the early hours which the average American keeps, to the virtual domination of cigarettes with tips, and so forth.

Now we are becoming conscious of some of the deeper differences between the English speaking nations. In a way we are glad to be a Scot here because Americans, a courteous people, sometimes speak their minds more freely to a Scot than to an Englishman.

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Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Sundesen, M. D.

ABDOMINAL NOISES HELP DOCTOR DIAGNOSE TROUBLE Ever listen to your stomach? You'd be surprised at what it has to say.

The growls and gurgling of abdominal organs which a physician hears through his stethoscope generally give him a pretty good idea of what is going on inside. They aid him in diagnosing various cases.

Origin of most of these sounds can be classified as active or as passive. Active sounds are noises caused by the passage of contents of the intestine and contractions of intestinal musculature.

When this is heard, but there are no active sounds, it usually indicates that paralytic ileus is present in some degree. When fully developed paralytic ileus has a characteristic "melody" of high-pitched sound as a few gas bubbles rise to the surface of a tense loop of intestine shifted either by respiratory or external movements.

Incidentally, the pitch of these various intestinal noises is another distinguishing feature. This varies from the low rumble which is undoubtedly less embarrassed many of you time and time again, to a high pitched "beep" of an intestinal wall tightly stretched.

In cases of acute intestinal obstruction, high-pitched notes will be produced by the tense gut. In chronic obstruction, however, the pitch is low because the bowel is not distended.

Abdominal noises also are an aid in diagnosing stages of peritonitis. Increased activity of the gut is noticed in local peritoneal irritation. The sounds of intestinal movements spreads as peritonitis advances.

The general peritonitis, intestinal movements halt completely and there are no sounds at all.

J.A. What prevents a fracture from healing? Answer: It may be due to improper setting, scar tissue or soft tissues improperly located between the healing sites of the broken bones.

Sometimes failure to consume a diet adequate in vitamins and minerals may be at fault. In addition to the person, the more prolonged the healing process.

Two English speaking nations still have different rooted superstitions about one another and these superstitions determine, up to a point, thinking at a time of crisis like this. Even conservative Americans with a deep love for Britain find their thinking partly coloured by these superstitions and we, undoubtedly, have our views on Americans tinged with our congenial beliefs about them.

The best way of enlarging our knowledge about one another is to spend more time in one another's homes. The organizations devoted to mutual understanding, do a great deal but they cannot clear away a residuum of honest doubt. If only it was possible for more people in Britain to come to this astonishing land at this time and to meet Americans in their own homes and to talk things out in an atmosphere of kindness something worthwhile would be achieved.

NOTES BY THE WAY

People who find life empty should try putting something into it. — Galt Reporter.

Now hydrogen bomb tests are planned for our bad weather. Before this it was gunfire, then sun-spots and earlier than that, the government, which everyone found easier to believe. — Hamilton Spectator.

A mother suggests that snow-shovelling should be made an event in the winter Olympics, so as to capture the interest of the younger generation in this vigorous outdoor activity. — Edmonton Journal.

No more homework for French school children between the ages of six and 11 years. This is the glad news from Paris: A government decree says that the teachers of France must set aside one hour so that the children can do their homework in class. This is to say, what once was homework has become schoolwork. — Cape Breton Post.

Political principles are like bedcovers to be replaced, changed or even discarded altogether, according to the weather. The more mature a party is the less truck it has with principles, for government is the art of the possible — in a world of people, not of principles. — Peterborough Examiner.

Is there any place on earth except the American desert where temperature fluctuations are as great as in Calgary? A 30-degree variation between day and night readings is common here. Winter or Summer. But from 60 above on Saturday to 30 below on Tuesday is a bit unusual, one being a record high and the other a record low for the respective days. — Calgary Albertan.

Radio and TV do little original "covering" and "reporting" of the news. Their efforts are confined to the spectacular event. Aside from that it amounts to reading the reports that come in over the wires and reports written by newsmen. Of course, these are well larded, at times, with the so-called reports from "special correspondents" in various places. But at best radio and TV news programs are bulletinized affairs.

The nuts and bolts — the meat of the news — must be obtained from the printed report in the newspaper to get a clear picture. — Editor and Publisher, New York.

businessmen what they thought of H. Mencken who spent most of his life in Baltimore. Mencken of course was an American who had a respect for almost nothing. The businessmen hadn't a very high opinion of Mencken the iconoclast and mocker. He was an American individualist, all right, but he made a mistake in exercising his individualism at cherished American institutions, a heresy from which not all his incomparable skill as a writer could rescue him.

The two English speaking nations still have different rooted superstitions about one another and these superstitions determine, up to a point, thinking at a time of crisis like this. Even conservative Americans with a deep love for Britain find their thinking partly coloured by these superstitions and we, undoubtedly, have our views on Americans tinged with our congenial beliefs about them.

THE RIGHT IDEA By now we have talked with hundreds of Americans. We are old enough not to mind being snubbed or rebuffed. And not once has this happened to us. Driving in Washington from an exhibition of American bath tubs through history to the station we chatted a way, as usual, with the driver, a young negro. As we pulled up to the station we recited to him the two memorable sentences from the Arboth Declaration, the ones about fighting not for glory of riches, or honours, but only and alone for freedom which no good man surrenders but with his life.

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Sixty percent of the food at banquets is wasted, and ninety percent of the oratory. — Brandon Sun

Hungary proves that the United Nations know how to face a crisis with resolution — upon resolution. — Detroit Free Press

Little voice in a department store: "That's not the real Santa Claus. The real Santa Claus has a nylon beard." — Winnipeg Tribune

Headline, "China doesn't know where United States standing." That makes two of them. — Toronto Star

Look out for a plague of traffic tickets, what with these new cars that look like they're going about fifty-five when they're parked. — Brandon Sun

At the side of the road a woman looks helplessly at a flat tire. A passerby stopped to help her. After the tire was changed, the woman said, "Let the jack down easy. My husband is sleeping in the back seat." — Capp's Weekly

A certain tribe in Africa, according to a travel book, wear barrels for shoes. This must make it impossible to tell whether they are on their way to or from the tax office. — St. Catharines Standard

The minister for air, Mr. A.G. Townley, has announced that a leaping kangaroo will replace the centre red spot in the roundel on R.A.A.F. and R.A.N. aircraft. He said the change was to give a definite Australian insignia for all Australian military aircraft. Australian News Letter

One expense we can control. It is out of the hands of the insurers. Accident-free driving will bring down insurance rates — in addition to its other and more obvious benefits in personal safety. Year after year, repairs are more costly and liability awards in our courts are more lavish. The remedy is in our own hands. — London Free Press

A citizen of Allen, Norway, who sailed down the fjord with his German Shepherd dog, learned what devotion dogs are capable of. The boat having capsized, the dog managed to drag his master, who could not swim, to the shore. The canine did this after freeing itself of the rope which tied it up. The master had intended to drown the dog. — Public Madrid

FOR A JAPANESE PRINT O little man whose slender bark floats perilously near the sky Beneath a lemon-rind of moon— What cries the wind as it goes by? What sing the rushes, pencilled dark In spears and bronzy, tasselled heads Upon what plaintive minor note The ripples stroke the reedy beds? And what your dreams O little man. O faded, lost and hapless soul, Forever caught in sleep and reeds Trailing a painted fishing pole! — Lenore A. Pratt.

OUR YESTERDAYS From The Guardian Files TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO December 28, 1931 A formal inquiry into the circumstances of the fire which destroyed Falconwood Asylum on December 14, was commenced yesterday in the House of Commons. Chamber before Mr. Charles A. Beir, Provincial Fire Marshall, in the presence of Hon. J.D. Stewart, Attorney General.

The Festival of St. John was fittingly celebrated by the Masons of the City last night when the annual banquet and installation of the officers of St. John's and Victoria Lodges was conducted with Past Grand Master G. Full as installing officer.

TEN YEARS AGO (December 28, 1946) An early morning fire at Summerside today destroyed a two-storey wooden building on the waterfront, owned by Maritime Distributors Limited. Origin of the blaze, discovered at 1:30 a.m. is unknown. Mr. Hazen Phillips, Chamber Manager, estimated the loss of building and equipment would be approximately \$10,000.

Assurance that consideration would be given to his request for removal of the ten percent excess tax on furs when the Federal budget is being prepared has been received by Mr. W. Chester S. McLure from Hon. D.C. Abbott, Minister of Finance.

GREAT SAILOR Captain George Vancouver, the famed 18th century navigator, entered the Royal Navy at age 13.

MAXIMS Dogs love us too much. What pleases me in eating that they show a proper spirit is only loving us as much as we deserve.

CREW RESCUED OSLO, Norway (AP)—The Far-east coastal radio said Wednesday night the crew of the sinking Norwegian ship Sunlong has been rescued by another Norwegian vessel, the Borre. The men were reported rescued in good condition after being adrift six hours.

BANK APPOINTMENTS MONTREAL (CP)—G. Arnold Hart has been appointed general manager of the Bank of Montreal, succeeding Arthur Jensen who becomes executive vice-president.

RELEASING NAVAL BASE TEL AVIV (Reuters)—The Israeli navy has established a naval base at Elath, Israel's Red Sea outlet, the evening newspaper Mavris says Wednesday. The navy says the first Israeli warship, a frigate bought from Canada several years ago, reached Elath Tuesday.

RELEASE KIDNAPPED MAN PALERMO, Sicily (Reuters)—Bandits Wednesday released a wealthy Sicilian landowner Silvio de Cristina, 72, after his family paid about \$48,000 ransom. Bandits kidnapped the elderly man Nov. 14 and held him captive six weeks after asking 30,000,000 lire (\$48,000) for his release.