

that the complete exhaustion of the fund now seems a certainty for 1962-63.

When the fund was established in 1941 it was intended to cover occasional unemployment only. Contribution and benefit rates were arranged so that it would be self-sustaining on the assumption that, in any given year, 12 per cent of the Canadian labor force might be out of work for brief periods.

Then, in 1950, the Unemployment Insurance Act was changed so that seasonal benefit, roughly 80 per cent of the level of the ordinary benefit, could be paid to workers who hadn't made enough contributions to the fund to qualify for ordinary benefit.

So, if the Government does maintain unemployment insurance payments this winter and the amount of money required is of the same order as that of the last five years, \$140,000,000 will be needed over and above the \$20,000,000 in the bank at the end of May.

The Advisory Committee has recommended, among other things, the increasing of contribution rates and the elimination of groups of married women, retiring persons and seasonal workers from the fund.

But these are politically unpalatable measures. The most likely arrangement ahead is believed to be some plan of splitting the fund into two parts.

Reporting to the United Nations General Assembly the other day, Sir Leslie Munro of New Zealand, the U.N. special representative on Hungary, revealed that while political terrorization has been somewhat reduced in that unhappy country, no change has taken place in the basic situation since the 1956 revolt.

The denial of the Hungarian people of the elementary right of self-determination is being rigidly maintained. They are still under the heel of Soviet troops, and there is "considerable evidence of continuous repression on certain groups."

The number of persons still in jail for political sentences is estimated at between 8,000 and 15,000.

The core of this problem remains the issue of the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Hungary. It is well that this matter should be put on the Assembly agenda, as has been done at the request of the United States. But, also, the Assembly displayed considerable coolness toward its implications. It is doubtful if a resolution on the subject will get the two-thirds vote required for its adoption, no matter how mildly it would be worded.

If this tyranny involved a new, emerging nation, it would be viewed with much more concern by the uncommitted Asian and African delegates. That is probably natural, given their bitter memories of white-race predominance in many instances.

The Western powers, however, have a duty of keeping the Hungarian tragedy before the world. If they can do nothing else they can at least keep on exposing it as an ugly example of Communist "colonialism."

EDITORIAL NOTE

It is shocking to learn, on the authority of the Canadian Pharmaceutical Association, that 100,000 Canadian children were victims of accidental poisoning last year, and that over 200 of them died.



STORM WINDOW TIME

THEY'RE REALLY THANKFUL BY L.L.

P.E.I. to Welcome Major A.A. Meeting

EDITOR'S note: This article is based on material prepared for broadcasting over CBC.

Just how much of thanks can be packed into the observance of Thanksgiving Day is due to be demonstrated in Charlottetown next weekend, with the holding of the 15th annual conference of the Atlantic Provinces Assembly of Alcoholics Anonymous, and the conference of Al-Anon Family Groups.

Few persons can have a clearer idea of their cause for thanks than those who have arrested the ravages of alcoholism... who have recovered from what was for them a sickness which threatened their lives and sanity... who have escaped from despair and moved toward serenity... and who have found their way to an effective and lasting place within society after living too long among the despised, the distrusted and the exploited.

THINKING TRANSFORMED Still, it is not the desire to jubilate over such things within their experience, but the effort to share them, that will bring to the gathering here some 400 or more men and women, drawn from about 100 Alcoholics Anonymous groups in the four Atlantic provinces, and from Al-Anon Family Groups.

They are parts of a still larger fellowship comprising all most 8,000 active AA groups in more than 80 countries. Together they are credited with enabling a half million or so compulsive drinkers to escape from the punishing effects of what was, for them, dire disease.

The movement—it isn't really a formal organization—has done the United States alone, year after year, and much less than that in Canada. No matter how long it has existed, it has never been unnoticed, it has served as the basis, the inspiration and the strength of its own complete reconstruction of the world's informed thinking about alcoholism.

WORTH HELPING All modern approaches to that problem, whether by medicine, psychiatry, religion or government, spring from discoveries established or made possible through the work of these men and women.

PUBLIC FORUM This column is open to comments by correspondents of questions of interest. The Guardian will accept and publish such correspondence on condition that all letters submitted are self-authored and are of a constructive nature. The Guardian is unable to take into consideration research letters submitted.

SENATE APPOINTMENT Sir.—In regard to Senate appointment I note in the Charlottetown Standard of a few days ago a number of names mentioned as future prospective Senators. We think there was one name omitted, Mr. Claude Delaney being lifelong supporter of the Conservative Party.

EDITORIAL NOTE It is shocking to learn, on the authority of the Canadian Pharmaceutical Association, that 100,000 Canadian children were victims of accidental poisoning last year, and that over 200 of them died. These deaths could have been avoided, and unless parents are constantly on guard they will show an increase in the next twelve months.

AM. SIR.—I am, Sir, etc. CHARLES PHILLIP Windsor, R.R. 1.

Sweating Illness Was Peculiar English Ailment

By Dr. Theodore S. Van Dellen THE CHAMBERS of a colonial town in the West Indies are extremely sensitive to adverse publicity. Bad weather, especially in the form of epidemics of serious diseases head the list of unpopular occurrences.

These civic organizations would have had the horrors had the sweating sickness, which occasionally breaks out in the death of great multitudes. The authorities thought the new scourge was not contagious but arose from "the general disposition of the air."

By continental Europeans in their own ideas. Kenneth Walker, in "The Story of Medicine," calls it "English sweat" and it was blamed on the English climate and lack of hygiene among the natives.

In addition, those living on the continent deplored the fifth and sixth centuries of the English. No wonder medical writers in that country published little about the disease, which it was called "a deadly and burning sweat" which invaded their bodies and their heads.

A contemporary account of the last epidemic (1551) was written by a physician (1551) who was living at Shrewbury. He was living at Shrewbury when 900 persons died within a few days. He wrote that "several bellies bled day and night."

It takes members who are not only recovered alcoholics, but who remember what they suffered, to stick to the main purpose; but it produces human beings who are unusually mature and attractive when they do. These qualities can be expected to stand forth in a weekend's conference sessions at the Charlottetown Hotel, and at the meeting to which the public is invited, Sunday night, at the Prince of Wales auditorium.

Wiser U.S. Cuban Policy By Carman Cumming Canadian Press Writer

After months of feverish debate, the United States appears to be working out a consistent, two-part policy with regard to Cuba.

Simply, the aim is to contain Communist influence in Cuba, further isolating it from the hemisphere, and at the same time to work for the overthrow of the Fidel Castro regime.

It also contained a less-often quoted corollary renouncing any interest in European conflicts.

Even the U.S. administration recognizing that the doctrine has no status as an international instrument, has been careful not to base its case too heavily on it.

The Rio Treaty, charter of one Organization of the American States, specified that an attack on one member would be considered an attack on all.

In any event, the apparent U.S. aim is to avoid an outright clash, while at the same time squeezing Castro into a position of weakness.

It may all seem a mystery, and perhaps like something that belongs to the East, where a man may exercise a sort of magic spell. Yet it is a serious matter, and one that Vinoba Bhave is able to probe.

Perhaps Vinoba Bhave has no more magic than other men. He may only have more faith in human nature.

NOTES BY THE WAY

"Drive-in banks were established," the banker explained to his son, "so that the cars could be used by real owners." —Wall Street Journal.

"I know I'm not really much to look at," her fiancé admitted modestly. "Oh, well," she philosophized. "You'll be at work most of the time." —Galt Reporter.

An anthropologist says the fate of the future will be commensurate by mental telepathy. He says this will end wars. Maybe so. But it will also end a lot of marriages. —Ottawa Journal.

You can't choose your ancestors. But that's fair enough. They would probably not choose you. —Niagara Falls Review.

Why was sobbing bitterly. Between sobs he told the teacher "I don't like school, and I have to stay here until I am 16." "Don't let that worry you," consoled the teacher. "You'll be at work most of the time." —Toronto Star.

The First 20,000,000

OTTAWA JOURNAL Confederation. But the Census Bureau says, although it is risky to make any predictions at all, two per cent a year would be a conservative estimate of the rate at which the population will grow in the next three or four or five years.

That would bring the number of Canada's people to 20,000,000 by about the end of 1962.

Over the past 30 years the annual growth in population has averaged about two per cent a year. In the 1930s, two per cent a year in the birth rate and immigration and made the rate of growth unusually low.

At 20,000,000 persons, Canada in 1962 would approximate that of the United States in 1945. It would be about equal to the latest count or estimate of the populations of Iran, Argentina and Burma, many (17,288,000) but less than the most recent count or estimate of the populations of Ethiopia (22,000,000), Korea (24,994,000) and Thailand (27,456,000).

Ryahn Tamarkin Goodman in the Christian Science Monitor

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