

Ontario Post-mortems

In what could be called the understatement of the year, the Montreal Gazette says it can be expected that, with a federal general election to prepare for, the federal political parties will pay "some attention" to the by-election results in Ontario last week. They are doing that already, and drawing various conclusions.

The tendency to regard by-elections as indicators of political weather can, as the Toronto Globe and Mail warns, lead to erroneous results. It was expected that voting would militate against a long-established regime, and the Conservatives have held provincial power in Ontario for 19 years. But with all these factors taken into consideration, there are inescapable conclusions which Premier Robarts will have to draw when he examines what he chose to describe as "a little general election".

The total number of votes cast exceeded the balloting which took place in the five ridings in the last provincial general election of 1959. On that occasion, the Conservatives claimed roughly half of all the ballots. Last week's voting brought them 38.2 per cent. The Liberals, who scored 37.6 per cent in 1959, recorded 44.8 per cent. The CCF took 13.4 per cent of the votes in 1959 and their successors, the New Democratic Party—have now claimed 17 per cent.

In approximately the same number of total votes, the Conservatives were 10,356 down from their 1959 figures—registering fewer in each riding. The Liberals, with 6,314 more votes, increased their vote in every riding except Kenora, where their margin was eaten into by the New Democratic Party candidate. Even the NDP, although running a poor last in four of the five ridings, managed to better its showing in every riding except Eglinton, and added 4,032 votes to the 1959 total. But the CCF did not contest Renfrew South in 1959, so that this improvement does not quite give the true picture.

Both the Opposition parties contend that the figures reveal a waning popularity of the Conservatives federally as well as provincially. That is questionable. But they do seem to reflect, as our Toronto contemporary is at pains to point out, a shift on the part of the independent or floating voters. More and more, it would seem, in Canadian politics as at the United Nations, the appeal has to be made to the "non-aligned". Parties in power are finding these people "hard to reach, difficult to convince but politically, all-important."

Moscow's Headaches

In most year-end reviews of the state of the world, including our own, a somewhat grim picture was painted of Western prospects for 1962. Communism appeared to be still on the offensive in Southeast Asia. The Congo situation, although improving, remained a cause of extreme anxiety. West Berlin was still under ominous pressure; and all Latin America was a big question mark, where trouble could arise at any moment.

This was the picture, all right; but it failed to take account of the reverse side of the canvas, and of the world situation and prospects from the point of view of Moscow instead of Washington, London or other Western capitals. An effort to make this adjustment has been attempted by Joseph C. Harsch, noted correspondent for the Christian Science Monitor; and here are some of his findings:

First and foremost, it is to be remembered that the Soviets emerged from World War II with vast loot on both their major flanks, plus a

disembodied Germany and a devastated Europe on their western flank and, after 1949, an ally in China on their eastern flank. Stalin bequeathed to his heirs an empire secure on both its major flanks, and this was the chief aim of his diplomacy.

Compare that situation, which persisted until a few years ago, with the situation that prevails today. On Moscow's western front a resurgent West Germany is intimately involved in the great revival of Western Europe, now in process of being consummated in the European Common Market. If Canadian and American industrialists are concerned, as indeed they are, about competition from the Common Market, think for a moment how much more concerned Moscow must be about the rise on its western front of what may well become the greatest pool of wealth and power in the world.

This happens at a moment when Moscow can so longer be sure that Communist China can truly be called a Soviet ally. At best Moscow today holds a position of equal influence in central Asia against China. It cannot be sure that it can hold its own in Outer Mongolia, or that its Siberian frontiers are regarded in Peking as inviolate.

Moscow is not yet comforted by the immediate danger of a two-front cold war—but it cannot be sure that this condition will not emerge from the existing state of the world. The power pattern is much more fluid than it appears to the West. Khrushchev must beware lest he find his country squeezed between a West far stronger than Hitler's Germany was and a China more powerful than Japan ever was. Nor can he be sure that the new Europe and the new China will not some day reach toward each other across his own country.

Fantastic? Well, after all, the Chinese have just bought six Viscounts from the British and wheat from Canada and Australia. Who would have imagined that a few years ago?

Peace Corps Problem

When, in implementation of an election promise, President Kennedy established his peace corps a year ago, there were many doubters. The corps, to be recruited for work in undeveloped countries, seemed a visionary scheme; it wouldn't be accepted in many parts of the world, the doubters said. They have been proved wrong. So many countries have submitted requests for the corps' services that it is impossible to fill them all.

Numerically, there have been enough volunteers, but not enough of the applicants are immediately ready, suitable and available for training, and not enough have technical skills. Almost 500 of the first 750 corpsmen in training or overseas are liberal arts college graduates. Most of them have been assigned to teaching—and teachers are needed. But the projects also call for engineers, construction craftsmen, agricultural specialists, medical technicians, nurses and others.

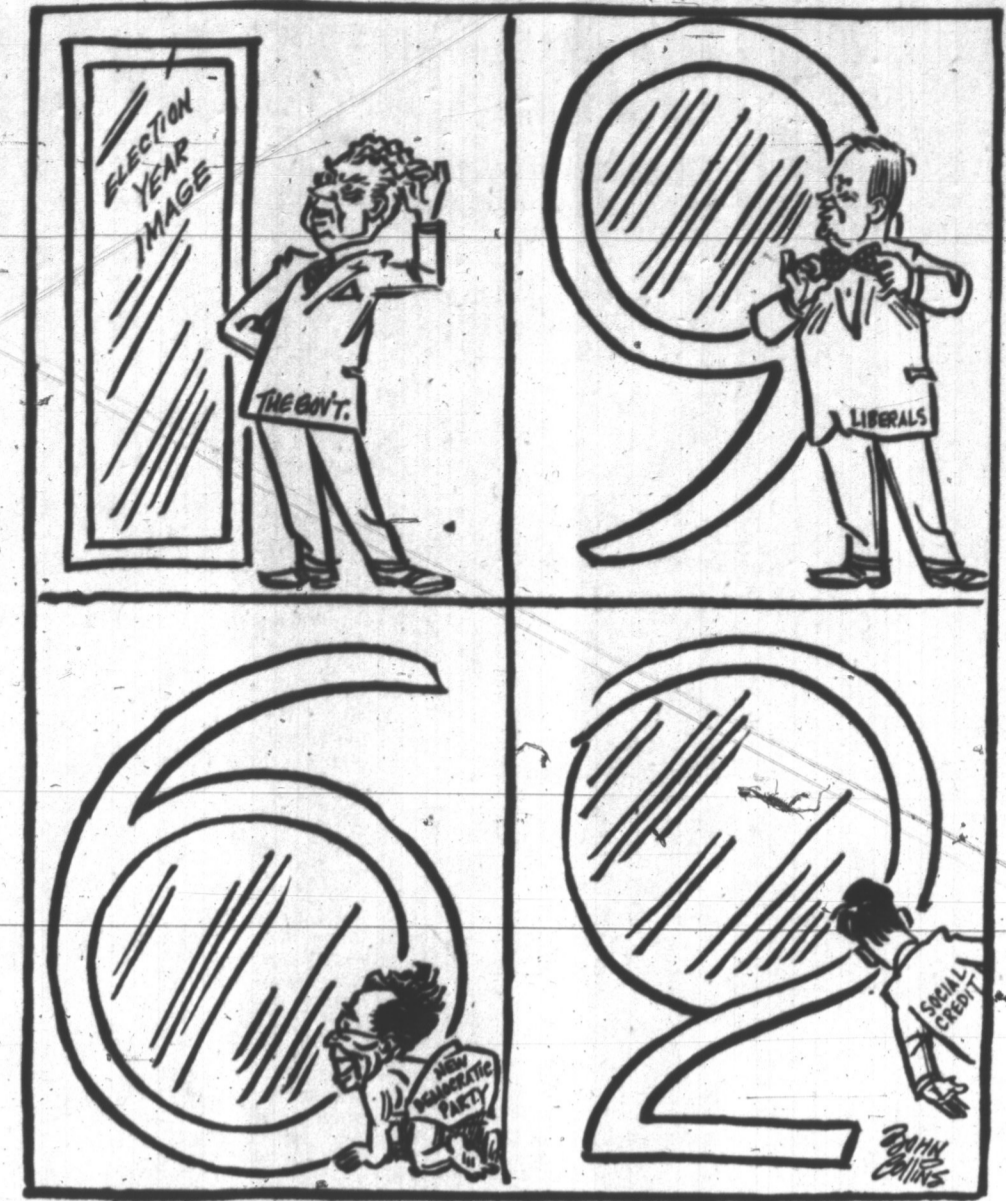
That is why although applications are coming in at the rate of 1,000 a month the peace corps has begun a recruiting campaign through labor unions, technical schools and professional societies. It is also the reason why the corps cannot approve more projects for sanitary systems, waterworks, farm improvement and public health programs abroad.

Willingness to serve, it has been found, isn't enough. The peace corps has to have people with heart, but it also needs those who know how to do things with their hands. This is worth taking note of, in the efforts which are being made in Canada to organize similar schemes for peace corps activities.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Women members of Parliament now have cut-rate beauty parlor privileges in a parliamentary barber shop that was formerly a male stronghold. Why stop there, suggests an exchange. What about steam baths and facilities for slimming exercises that might be required?

We all have our tax problems. In Malaysia, for example, a legislator argued last week that Moslems with four wives should pay less tax, because they are under extra heavy expense in housekeeping. But the finance minister couldn't see it that way. He said it would be unfair to the government.



"MIRROR, MIRROR, ON THE WALL--"

TANKS AWAY!

Kennedy Curbs Dangerous Berlin Game

Globe and Mail, Toronto

The decision of the United States Government to withdraw the force of tanks which it has been maintaining close to the border between East and West Berlin is described as a conciliatory gesture toward the Soviet Union. It is also a gesture toward prudence and common sense.

The tanks were dispatched to the border last October during one of the tensest moments of the Berlin crisis. The East Germans had prevented senior Western officers from entering East Berlin, in violation of the original Four-Power agreement, which guaranteed freedom of movement throughout the entire city to military and civil personnel of all four occupying Powers.

both they and their Russian opposite numbers have stayed close to the Friedrichstrasse for nearly three months. Neither unit has been involved in any trouble, but their very presence has increased the tension.

The Friedrichstrasse checkpoint is one of the places where fights between West German and East German police and civilians are likely to start, and the presence nearby of strong, heavily armed U.S. and Russian detachments greatly increases the risk of such an incident "escalating" into a bloody battle. The withdrawal of the

tanks is a prudent act, which diminishes the danger that a Third World War may start accidentally in Berlin.

The Allies of the United States have been concerned for a long time over the increasing influence of the Pentagon in the formation of policy, and they will be reassured by this evidence that the civil authority is asserting itself against the military. Whatever fateful decisions have to be made in Berlin in the next few months, the world will feel safer if they are made in the White House rather than by harassed local commanders.

Guesses About The Congo

By Joseph MacSweeney Canadian Press Staff Writer

It appears that the fall-back of right-wing secessionist activity in the Congo's Katanga province meant an unexpected slip in the face for the left as well.

Supporters of Katangan President Moïse Tshombe have long maintained the United Nations was playing a foolish game by restraining the avowedly anti-Communist leader and this leaving the country naked to Communist influence.

control over the territory June 31, 1960. But, said Bomboko, The Congo has a right to maintain its territorial integrity now that independence has been obtained even if its wealthiest component—Katanga—has doubts.

From the U.S. standpoint, the move served two purposes. It backed up the assertion by the Western Powers of their rights of access in East Berlin. At the same time, by inducing the Russians to move in their tanks, it demonstrated to the world the dependence of the East German Communist regime on Soviet protection.

Bomboko's point was that the Congo country as conceived by the Belgians may have been a mistake but there is no recourse now but to follow through.

indications now are that Giza, even though relying on the emotional appeal of the slain premier Lumumba, is slipping in the face of the unity movement led by central government Premier Cyrille Adoula in Leopoldville.

These points having been made, it might have been expected that the U.S. tanks would have been withdrawn to a less risky position. Instead,

Bomboko saw anyone explaining political developments in the equatorial Congo might just as well try to predict the course of tropical storms. It is a fact that what is happening just now in the Congo was foreseen by its foreign minister, 36-year-old Justin Bomboko.

But when there are those who say that Giza, secure in his lair 1,000 miles from Leopoldville in Stanleyville, capital of Oriental province, is merely waiting for a new tropical storm to break

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. All letters published are subject to editing and condensation where necessary. The Guardian is unable to enter into any correspondence regarding letters submitted.

FOR RETARDED CHILDREN

Sir,—I feel that a situation as reported in your paper should be clarified.

Reading In Bed

Ottawa Citizen

The correspondence columns of The Times of London have been enlivened recently by a discussion of the pleasures or otherwise of reading in bed. The letter writers seemed agreed that this occupation can be agreeable, but only if the reader can keep himself from freezing to death. In a country which remains largely without the advantages of central heating, these are not idle objections. And the correspondence erupted just when Britain was in the clutches of the worst cold spell in decades.

I think it should be made known that, as far as Montague is concerned, the school is run and maintained by donations from organizations and a group of parents, and interested persons who raised and are raising money to pay also keep the school going. We also raised the money to pay for the teachers' training. This is a costly project and we kept on our toes in order to maintain a healthy bank balance. I believe I am right also in stating that in Charlottetown too, the retarded children's class is run by the Retarded Children's Organization. We would only be too glad to have the local school board undertake the running of this room and so free some hard workers from a perpetual fight with finances.

Lord Birkett, who started it all, says he experiences no problem. He has no central heating, but he does have an electric fire-place in his bedroom, and he also employs either a hot water bottle or an electric blanket to warm the bed before getting in. It is with his book. On the coldest nights he wears a thick sweater as an additional reinforcement. Lord Birkett seems to be pretty well equipped; some of his less fortunate compatriots may have to rely on hot water bottle and sweaters alone.

SPARTAN CONDITIONS Then he ought to give a thought to the kind of book he is reading. If it is a travel book or biography he is bound to be wanting to consult an atlas or some other reference work. The well-organized reader will be armed with these when he slides beneath the blankets; there is nothing more exasperating than to have to shuffle in slippers down to the bookcase in the living room.

I am, Sir, etc. FRASER (MRS) V. H. FRASER Secretary-Treasurer, Board of Trustees Southern Kings Day Training School

It is a smoker, he will provide himself with the necessary supplies. Ah, but the fire marshal has something to say about smoking in bed. No pleasure can be perfect.

The Age Old Story Meditate upon these things: give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all.

Heart Disease Prevention Seen Moot Question

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen HEART DISEASE comes in many guises but the most common by far occurs after age 50. It stems from hardening of the coronary arteries—the passageways that supply the heart muscle with blood. The outcome is angina pectoris or coronary thrombosis.

Can anything be done to prevent heart attacks of this origin? This is a moot question but several suggestions might be helpful along this line. We know, for example, that some persons are coronary disease prone. They have certain findings that might be used as clues to provide a means of preventing heart disease.

These individuals have a high level of cholesterol in the blood, increased blood pressure or enlargement of the left ventricle of the heart. A person with all three of these signs is more likely to have a heart attack or a stroke in the future than are those with one or two abnormalities of this type.

The warning signals are detected by means of a physical examination, blood tests, and a chest X-ray. The checkup should be made early enough, in middle life (age 45 is not too early) to be of practical value. Examinations may be repeated every one to three years, depending upon the findings.

Is it possible to lower the cholesterol level through diet and medication? This is a lifetime plan because the level will rise as soon as treatment is stopped. Better methods will become available when we learn why the cholesterol goes up. High blood pressure responds to one of many available drugs.

The individual can help himself by making adjustments in his work and living conditions to lessen tension, anxiety, and responsibility. This plan also will help reduce the size of his enlarged heart. Obesity enters the picture because of the relationship of weight to the cholesterol and blood pressure levels.

(Dr. Van Dellen will answer questions on medical topics if stamped, self-addressed envelope accompanies request.)

PILONIDAL CYST

R. Z. writes: I have a pilonidal cyst at the base of my spine. In the morning it is small, but by evening it is filled with liquid. A surgeon I consulted said it is not malignant but ought to be removed and that I would have to lose three weeks from school. Since I have a scholarship, I can't afford this much time off now. Can anything be done to hold off the need for surgery?

REPLY I'm certain the surgeon can suggest temporary measures to tide you over the school year. Pilonidal cysts are not cancerous and there is no harm in waiting so long as the lesion is not causing too much distress.

WATER COOLER CHATTER

R. F. writes: I overheard some women talking at the water cooler. They said a woman could still have a period or two, even though pregnant. All my life I have believed otherwise. I feel stupid asking you this question, but would like to know if it is possible.

REPLY Yes, but it is unlikely unless a miscarriage is in the offing. One or two periods after conception are not rare. Instances have been reported of menstruation during the nine months.

PROMINENT BLADES

H. A. writes: Can anything be done about prominent shoulder blades in a 13-year old girl? She is somewhat thin but otherwise healthy.

REPLY This is common in thin children and usually disappears after full growth. It is less noticeable when the head is held high and the shoulders are back.

The Poets Corner

TO TEST OUR CHARITY Now as the winter waxes wild with weather Offside the warm walls of this excellent fold, The small things that once flocked and fed together In field and forest flee the sudden cold To test our charity: a home-steading rabbit Thumps the floor beneath the benevolent stove; An owl assumes a posture of old habit Beside a chimney tall as his late grove. Quiet in our evening books, we lift Occasional smiles of wonder. From their sounds We guess what guest has come now with his gift Of presence to a house which has no bounds When winter falls: below, between, above, We share an inn whose only rent is love. —Edsel Ford in the Christian Science Monitor

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NOTES BY THE WAY

Being held really makes life a lot easier. When company arrives, all you have to do is straighten your tie. —Welland Tribune.

It's sad to reflect that by the time a person gets old enough to watch his step, he is no longer going anywhere. —Chatham News.

Overheard on an elevator in a downtown Washington office of the extension department, said women now form 38 per cent of the student body, compared to 18 per cent in 1957.

If, as a survey claims, 1.9 Canadian families out of three are in debt, are we to assume that the third would be if it could get a credit rating. —Welland Tribune.

Prime Minister Nehru, in failing to practise the non-violence he preached, seems to have proved that Shakespeare was right when he said, "There was never yet philosopher that could endure the toothache patiently." —Ottawa Journal.

Engineers have designed a seat for astronauts which will sustain a 12,000-pound impact. An idea of what this means may be gleaned from the fact that the lady who sits down in a theatre seat where you've placed your Homburg hat, despite what you might think, an impact force of only about 8.000 pounds. —Detroit Free Press.

It used to be said that children should be seen and not heard, but now you can hear many of them farther than you can see them. —Woodstock Sentinel-Review.

Racing gave political parlance the term "dark horse." In England, generations ago, there was a sneaky practice of dyeing the mane of a well-known horse black and entering him in a race under a false name. It thus became customary to apply the term "dark horse" to any unknown horse that won a big race. —Hamilton Spectator.

A fisherman, Miles Johnson, of Bank Hook, Southampton, said at an inquest there that he had seen a man walking fully clothed into the sea, but he did not speak to him because "in the past when I have warned people about danger, I've been told to mind my own business." —Manchester Guardian.

Thousands formed queues for vaccination against smallpox in Great Britain as new cases of the disease were reported. Had they been waiting for an epidemic to start? Every child everywhere should be vaccinated. —Cape Breton Post.

Earth's Biggest Landmark

National Geographic Society

In a few years, an astronaut may test the long-held belief that the Great Wall of China is the only man-made feature on earth that would be visible to an observer on the moon.

new imperial palace to serve as guardians. On the outskirts of Peking, his capital, Ch'ing built 270 palaces connected by walled passages. They were furnished with tents, canopies, musicians, dancing girls, and 13,000 wives and concubines. To foil would-be assassins, Ch'ing never spent two consecutive nights in the same palace.

Parts of the 2,000-year-old wall are rubble, but long stretches are virtually intact. Chinese Communists recently started repairing some damaged sections of the crenelated rampart.

A somewhat caustic Chinese historian described Ch'ing as having a "high-pointed nose, slit eyes, pigeon breast, wolf voice, tiger heart, and a stingy, graceless, cringing character."

The Great Wall twists like a huge fossil dragon across north China from Shanhaikuan on the Yellow Sea to the desert fortress of Klayukwan, a distance of some 1,500 miles. The wall's winding, looping course actually covers nearly 2,000 miles, the National Geographic Society says.

Chinese savants painted unflattering pictures of the emperor because he burned all classic books and buried alive 60 scholars who objected to his policies. Ch'ing, who styled himself "The Only First," wanted history to begin with his dynasty.

Emperor Ch'ing Shih Huang Ti built much of the Great Wall in the 3rd century. B.C. Ch'ing was a remarkable ruler who united China by subjugating a group of warring states. He ordered weapons of the defeated armies to be melted and cast into 12 huge metal images. They were placed around the grandiose

Work on the Great Wall started in 221 B.C. The northern Chinese states had built walls along their borders before Ch'ing but he created the first unbroken barrier between a unified China and the barbaric tribes to the north. Invasion of Chinese provinces always had come from that direction. "Have no fear of the tiger from the south," a proverb advised, "but beware the rooster from the north."

OUR YESTERDAYS

From the Guardian Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

(January 23, 1937) A clock and a copper engraving of a miniature chart of Prince Edward Island was made by the Service staff Ottawa to Captain Frederick Anderson, Chief Hydrographer of the Hydrographic Service of Canada, on his retirement recently. Capt. Anderson was a Prince Edward Islander by birth.

PUBLIC WORKS PROJECT

The Great Wall also was conceived to provide work for the unemployed. Emperor Ch'ing marshaled an army of 300,000 workmen who included discharged soldiers, prisoners of war, criminals, princes of conquered states, dishonest public officials, and scholars who insisted on preserving the classics.

TEN YEARS AGO

(January 23, 1952) A group of admirers and well-wishers of Hal Gordon, Islanders' goalie for more than a year, gathered at P.J.'s at the close of business last night to present Hal and his wife with going-away gifts. The popular net-minder leaves today to join the high-flying Saint John Beavers.

Construction of the stone, earth, and brick barrier took 15 years. At least a million men worked on the project. So many workmen died that the Great Wall earned the grim title of "The Longest Cemetery in the World." Victims were buried in the wall to appease northern demons and serve as protective spirits.

THE APPOINTMENT OF MISS FELICE ARSENAL

The appointment of Miss Felice Arsenal as Director of Physical Education for the four city schools has been announced by the Charlottetown School Board.

Other dynasties extended and repaired the wall many times, but much of the foundation is the original laid by Ch'ing. Ironically, National Geographic points out, Ch'ing's epitaph does not mention his wall or unification of China. It states: "He burned the books, and he buried the scholars." The savants had the last word.

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