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A Third Force

At a press conference in Ottawa on the occasion of his recent visit Prime Minister Robert G. Menzies of Australia revealed that he was not entirely satisfied with the Prime Ministers' Conference held in London several weeks ago.

Most Commonwealth leaders content themselves with emphasizing the "intangible" values of the Commonwealth structure. So far as we know, Mr. Menzies is the first to suggest openly that an occasional hard and fast agreement on practical issues would help to strengthen the association.

The trouble is, of course, that the Commonwealth in its present structure can hardly be expected to speak with one voice, except perhaps on theoretical goals which no one cares to translate into pragmatic action.

It may be—as has been suggested more than once—the Commonwealth is too big and should be cut down to a more workable size.

It Won't Build The Dam

In decreeing the seizure and nationalization by Egypt of the Suez Canal, President Nasser has performed an act of desperation which is not at all likely to accomplish its announced purpose.

The frenzied nature of Colonel Nasser's thinking, says the Christian Science Monitor, is illustrated by a little mathematics.

the Egyptian Government will obtain the income from the canal, which he places at 100 million dollars a year.

But this somewhat overstates not the net but the gross receipts of the canal operation. By the time Cairo pays salaries of the canal staff, maintenance of the long ditch, and interest and amortization on the obligations to stockholders, the remainder may not be a great deal more than the three million dollars a year it now receives for the concession it is abrogating.

Now the Nasser government sets its sights on construction of the fabulous High Dam on the Nile at Aswan, which would increase Egypt's cultivated acreage by perhaps one-fourth and supply electric power for great industrial expansion.

But the cost of the dam is calculated at 1.3 billion dollars, of which 900 million would come from within Egypt and 400 million be needed in foreign exchange.

So important is the Suez Canal to international commerce that its seizure by the Egyptian Government presents questions which conceivably might be taken to the United Nations or the World Court.

Words Of Caution

Sir Thomas Taylor, principal of Aberdeen University, Scotland, and one of Britain's greatest scholars, has had some pointed remarks to make with reference to the emphasis being placed on science in education, particularly at the higher levels.

"There are some things that this nation needs much more than science. We could do, for instance, with a lot more of simple honesty, simple loyalty and of simple keeping of bargains, all of which are fundamental in any society, ancient or modern.

That is something which, in these days when so much emphasis is being laid on scientific training and technical education, needed to be said. It is possible, as was the case in Hitler's Germany, to have a nation of people who are highly trained in technology, but who are not educated, civilized human beings.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Ross Seal, an inhabitant of the Antarctic, is reported to be the only member of the family that can pull its head completely inside its neck and keep it there for long periods.

It's an ill wind, etc. In North Africa a number of French citizens, weary of strife and uncertainty regarding the future, have inquired about the possibility of settling in Australia.



WE LIKE TO REMEMBER

Akrotiri Air Base

RAF BASE, AKROTIRI, CYPRUS—A twelve million pounds air base is rising here built on the site of an ancient buried city, and this with the nearby immense Combined Army and Air Force headquarters at Episcopi overlooking the blue Mediterranean reveal that Britain is here to stay or she would not be sinking such vast sums in these permanent quarters.

As for the nearby Combined Headquarters it is sited on hilly areas overlooking a gem of a Mediterranean landscape as beautiful as America's Pearl Harbour Hawaii. There are houses going up for the Commander-in-Chief of the Mediterranean Land and Air Forces: miles of highway through the hills; a tunnel through the rock to the sea for bathing; houses; sports grounds; barracks; churches; schools and everything required for Britain's "Aldershot of the Mediterranean" as soon as first rains of winter come, the landscape is a wild riot of beautiful flowers.

The contract for the work was signed with two British firms who employ many Cypriot subsidiaries - on August 15th, 1954. Work commenced on the 3 mile runway next day. Last January the first Handley Page Hastings transport plane touched down at 7.30 one morning - but not before Air Vice-Marshal C.D.C. Boyce the commander of RAF (Levant) had alighted in his Meteor jet at 7 a.m. to claim the honour of being the first.

In both cases the actions followed waves of nationalist feeling stirred up by the respective governments, and charges of foreign intervention and exploitation of native resources.

In both cases Egypt and Iran the right to nationalize, and both Nasser and Mossadegh stressed that there was no international dispute involved; that the nationalizations were purely domestic matters.

The British government was the biggest single shareholder in Anglo-Iranian, owning 51 per cent of the shares. The British government is also the biggest single shareholder in the Suez Canal Co., owning 44 per cent of the shares.

Britain did this in the Anglo-Iranian case, but Mossadegh, appearing personally before the council, succeeded in raising enough doubt among several legally minded members of the group to defeat the British strategy.

Man On A Stamp

It happened in New Brunswick in 1960. In those days, before Confederation, each province issued its own stamps. Hon. Charles Connell, postmaster general of New Brunswick, ordered a new series prepared in New York. The two-cent and ten-cent issues bore a portrait of Queen Victoria, while the seventeen-cent displayed a picture of the Prince of Wales, later Edward VII.

When news of this reached New Brunswick, there was general indignation. It was considered not only an unparliamentary display of vanity, but an affront to the Royal family.

Feelings ran so high in Fredericton that a riot broke out. Finally the postmaster general was asked to resign, and the Government hastily withdrew the offending stamp, replacing it with another carrying the Queen's portrait.

The Age Old Story

"For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succor them that are tempted."

SHOOT'S WIFE, SUICIDES

DETROIT (AP) — Police said a wealthy Detroit real estate investor shot his wife then fatally wounded himself Friday in the library of their home in exclusive Palmer Woods.

STATUS DIFFERENT

The big difference in the two cases is the international status of the two companies.

The Suez Canal Co. operated the canal as an international waterway, with ships of all countries using it daily, and its international status was recognized by many governments.

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Sudenes, M. D.

IT MAY HELP TO WALK ON A SPRAINED ANKLE. It may be better to walk on a sprained ankle than to immobilize it in a plaster cast for three to six weeks.

It all depends, of course, on how bad the sprain is. And only your doctor can judge which method—immobilization or exercise—is best for your particular injury.

Strictly speaking, a sprain consists of the tearing of only a few fibers of a ligament. Most of the ligament remains intact.

DIFFERENT TREATMENT

Should the ligament be completely torn, the injury actually is a rupture and needs much different treatment than the minor injury. Even doctors, however, frequently refer to such a rupture as a severe sprain.

Generally, when you stumble and twist your ankle, the sprain is a minor one. However, the usual swelling around the ankle joint sometimes makes it difficult for a doctor to determine whether it's a sprain or fracture.

TYPE OF SPRAIN

A little pressure above the area of the swelling usually answers the question. If a bone is broken the swelling will be great. If not, it will be relatively slight.

In this type of sprain, and in most other minor sprains, I think your doctor will strap the ankle to give a feeling of support and to help curb swelling and then advise you to exercise the ankle by walking.

DANGER OF ADHESIONS

If the ankle is immobilized for any length of time, there's some danger of adhesions forming between the ligament and the capsule. When walking is resumed, this might cause irritation which in turn can cause swelling of the joint and pain.

As for preliminary treatment of a sprain—before you can see your doctor—administer cold applications. Cold, it seems, diminishes the amount of swelling and bleeding into the tissues.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

Q: What are the symptoms of asthma? Answer: The symptoms are shortness of breath, with wheezing and coughing.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO Mr. John Fraser, Georgetown, was in the city last night en route to Ottawa where he accepted a position in the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

NOTES BY THE WAY

A survey shows that children are not afraid of dentists. Now it's time to survey the dentist's reactions.—Peterborough Examiner

Maybe it would be smarter to plant flowers in the lawn and grass seed in the garden where it comes up anyway.—Sherbrooke Record

The law designates the husband as the head of the house. It also gives the pedestrian the right of way over a truck.—Kitchener-Waterloo Record

A classified ad reads: "For sale—A crosscut saw by a retired woodman with newly sharpened teeth." Guess he doesn't need that saw any more.—Toronto Star

An automatic dining table brings the food dishes past the eater on a travelling belt. What if a fellow wants a second helping?—St. Catharines Standard

Geologists inform us that the world's mightiest range of mountains conceals beneath the Atlantic Ocean. This suggests that nature isn't really interested in ski resorts.—St. Catharines Standard

Ernest Hemingway, whose story, The Old Man and The Sea, is being filmed, has caught a giant marlin to play one of the leading roles—unless, that is, Hollywood decides at the last minute to substitute Esther Williams.—Hamilton Spectator

It is an odd characteristic of the Canadian people to suppose that all, or most of the good things, of life are for the young, and that those who have achieved maturity—or at least mature years—do not matter very much.—Peterborough Examiner

Upon returning from a trip to Canada, an Indiana man lifted the hood of his motor car and a pheasant hopped out of the space between his radiator and the front grille. The bird ran into a field nearby and disappeared. The motorist then remembered having seen a pheasant hen fly in front of his car at Port Huron, just across the St. Clair River from Sarnia, Ont., 300 miles away.—Cape Breton Post

In her suit for divorce, a Detroit woman complains that her husband's judo tricks interfered with her place in society. When high-toned company called, she said that Walter—that's his name—grappled with the unsuspecting guests. "After our friends were thrown to the floor several times," she moaned, "they would leave, never to return." At any rate, just try judo if you want to rid your home of unwelcome company.—Sydney Post-Record

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