

More Heat Than Light

The Government's \$10 monthly pension increase legislation has only reached the preliminary resolution stage, and already it has caused more bitter controversy than has been heard in the Commons since the celebrated pipeline debate. Liberals have been accused of gyping the pensioners by not giving this increase immediately after the federal general election. It is also contended that a definite promise was given to increase the pension without resort to higher taxes.

Whatever the merits of this controversy, it does not seem that there is opposition to the pension increase itself. That question was ignored in much of the debate, and the public can be excused for being bewildered at all the side-issues that have been raised.

What purpose, for example, was served by Opposition Leader Diefenbaker's amendment to make the raise retroactive to the election date, April 8? Under the terms on which the increase is to be given, this would involve a further boost in personal income taxes. The amendment was rightly ruled out of order on the ground that only a cabinet minister can propose government expenditure. Mr. Diefenbaker could have made his point by urging the government to adopt his proposal without putting it to a vote. As an old parliamentary hand he was well aware that his motion was irregular.

Ruled out on the same ground was an amendment by Creditiste Leader Real Caouette that would have the pension begin at age 65 instead of 70, with means-test old age assistance payments starting at age 60 instead of 65. Motions of this kind are propaganda stunts intended rather than "split the ears of the groundlings" than to obtain governmental action. If they succeeded in passing—or even in being put before the House by the Speaker—they would violate parliamentary custom and create a precedent that would cause no end of trouble.

Of course, the Government has encouraged a partisan approach to this issue through the antics of Health Minister Judy LaMarsh in the Ontario election campaign. The demand for Miss LaMarsh's resignation went a little too far, but it was understandable in the circumstances. However, her example on the hustings is not one to be emulated on the floor of Parliament. The Opposition would do well to remember that what the public is waiting for now is action, not a further indulgence in name-calling and shadow-boxing.

U.S. Second Thoughts

Canada's big wheat deal with the Soviet Union continues to be a major theme of discussion at Washington. According to a New York Times correspondent, the possibility of making a similar deal has developed into one of the most fascinating American policy questions in the recent history of the cold war.

Proponents of the deal say it would help relieve the huge U.S. surplus wheat problem, right the serious balance-of-payments problem and check the outflow of American gold. From the humanitarian angle, it would contribute to melting tensions between the two countries. It could also be used, according to some Washington sources, as propaganda against the Communists by showing the superiority of the

American free-enterprise farm system.

But any deal to sell U.S. wheat to the Russians would have to clear some formidable legal hurdles. The commerce department, which carefully controls exports to Communist countries, would have to grant a special license. The justice department would have to grant an exemption from antitrust laws, so that private grain dealers could deal with the Russians in a group. Finally, the agriculture department would have to approve an export subsidy in order to make U.S. wheat available at the much lower world market price.

This last hurdle is easily the hardest for the administration to take, because the price-support program pegs the domestic price of wheat at approximately \$2 a bushel—around 60 cents above the market price for the rest of the world. The government issues "payments in kind" certificates to exporters to make up the difference.

Opponents of the deal—and there are still a few of them around Washington—argue that this would mean using American taxpayers' funds to subsidize Russian consumers. There can be no doubt that Russians would be buying the wheat 60 cents cheaper than American consumers.

However, it may be that the possibilities of a U.S.-Soviet wheat deal have already petered out. Premier Khrushchev is reported in the Moscow press as saying that the supplies now coming from Canada and Australia should be enough, if economically used. This hint that he won't need U.S. wheat may be just the thing to spark another hot argument on the subject in Congress!

The Pressure Grows

As the Winnipeg Free Press sees it, British Columbia's re-election of the Social Credit party on Monday added a third provincial government to the pressure group of Ontario and Quebec which has been seeking to coerce the national government. Indeed, Premier Bennett's demands for more federal revenue far exceed those of Premier Roberts or Premier Lesage and, if granted, would bankrupt the national government or raise Canadian taxes in total by almost 50 per cent.

The Free Press quotes an interview with Mr. Bennett in the Vancouver Sun to prove its point. The national government is told therein to stop collecting income, corporation and estate taxes. "We want eventually," says Mr. Bennett, "all fields of direct taxation returned to B.C." Generously, however, he does not expect this money "in one fell swoop." It can be turned over to him progressively to avoid the disruption of federal finances. Ottawa will be starved, but slowly.

It does not necessarily follow, adds our Winnipeg contemporary, that Mr. Bennett has taken leave of his senses, as his statements seem to indicate. He is not seriously expecting any national government to commit fiscal suicide. He was merely playing politics to win another election. But he has clearly indicated what his line of policy will be. The three largest provinces, in queer alliance, can present the national government with a formidable challenge on this score—much more formidable than any presented by the parliamentary opposition. It must be resisted if the nation, and the taxpayers, are to survive.

EDITORIAL NOTES

A language laboratory to stop British businessmen using "school-boy" French has been announced by the director-general of Britain's Institute of Directors. Using the most up-to-date electronic equipment it will endeavour to teach colloquial French, German, Italian and Spanish in three weeks. Russian and Portuguese courses will also be offered if the demand is sufficient.

Providing the Senate at Washington approves, income taxpayers in the United States will have their tax payments cut by about 20 per cent next year, involving a total reduction in taxes of \$11 billion. This, notes an exchange, puts into action the same type of proposal made by Prime Minister Pearson when he campaigned for office in the 1958 election. But that was a long time ago.



STARTING THE SECOND HALF

Ottawa Report by Patrick Nicholson

Tory Toronto's Return To The Fold

Whatever happened to Tory Toronto?

Politicians of all parties here have been stunned by the contrast between the vote Ontario, and especially Toronto, voted in two elections this year. In last April's federal election, a massive Liberal sweep cleaned all the Tory candidates out of "Tory Toronto," and attracted 45 per cent of the votes in the whole province. But in the provincial election last week, an even more impressive Tory sweep completely turned the tables.

The 18 federal ridings which make up Greater Toronto returned 16 Liberals and 2 New Democrats in April. But last week, the 20 provincial ridings which cover that same area saw those two parties win less than one-third of the seats between them. Easily tabulation of all the votes cast in Ontario in last week's provincial election show that the Liberals received only 34.7 per cent of the province's total vote, while the Liberals won 45 per cent.

WHAT THE FIGURES SAY If Ontario had voted in April as it did in September, the Conservative Party would have 15 more seats. The returns from Ontario would have been 42 Conservatives, 11 Liberals and New Democratic M.P.s. As it was of course, the lower Tory vote cut the party down to 12 mere 27 victories in Ontario. This was the fourth lowest total which that party has won in all the 26 general elections since Confederation.

What a change in Ontario alone, the federal election in April would have yielded a very different result. There would have been only 14 Liberal M.P.s in the House of Commons, and the Tory candidates would have won up to 110. The swing ridings which would be returned had Conservatives are Brampton, Brant-Haldimand, Carleton, Durham, Essex South, Hamilton West, Hastings South, Lambton-Kent, Leed's, Lincoln, Norfolk, Northumberland, Renfrew South and Wentworth.

In two of those Conservative Cabinet Ministers tested: Hon. R.A. "Dick" Bell in Carleton, and Hon. Ellen Fairclough in Hamilton West. Those as well as the Tory candidates in the other 13 swing ridings would all have been elected had Ontario voted in April as it did in September.

Many of the voters in provincial elections in a way that contradicts their federal vote. But that's not the point. It is this as the full explanation why the equivalent of 385,000 voters in Ontario switched their vote between April and September. This was the number that, after changing their minds, voted for Liberal or New Democratic or Social Credit candidates instead of the Tory fold last week.

FADED IMAGES BLAMED John Winterweber, the provincial Liberal leader in Ontario, announced his resignation from that post after the defeat of his party and himself in last week's election. But already in Ottawa he is seen as not being the lone casualty of the Ontario election. An indirect casualty, it is thought here, will be another John Diefenbaker. The Conservative federal leader who was elected in April. Only the massive disenchantment of Ontario voters with his leadership can account for the popularity Ontario vote. It is being said on Parliament Hill. Even senior Tories who also believe Mr. Diefenbaker during the sensational "Battle of Principles" last February are now expressing their conviction that their party must choose another leader before it is to have some hope of recovery. It has been proved conclusively that Ontario has not turned Liberal predom-

inantly, but the April vote revealed that the Diefenbaker

"vision" is a prickled bubble in the eyes of Ontario's citizens. The Wheat Belt Vote Richard Jackson in the Fort William Times-Journal

Last year the Prairies, loyal to John Diefenbaker, held against Liberal erosion of Conservative strength, giving him a minority that worked until Social Credit pulled it down. And this year, the West was the rock-hard dyke again that stopped the Liberal tide short of what otherwise would have been a sweeping majority.

Both times, the Prairies, usually fierce, backed the Liberal swing, simply because John Diefenbaker, his Agriculture Minister Alvin Hamilton and his empty Wheat Belt had sold enough to Red China to solve the problem of the surplus that has plagued the Government since way back when the bumper crop was invented.

Just look at their voting record. Was the time, and not so long ago, in the days when the Prairies were the private preserve of Liberal Agriculture Minister James G. Jimmy Gardiner, that Conservatives went as scarce as whooping cranes. ALWAYS MORE Jimmy was a tremendous performer as the special pleader in Parliament for the Prairie wheat farmer. So well could he storn in anger and weep in pity over the awful plight of the grain men that Grand Opera itself might have been envious of such deep emotion.

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Meniere's Syndrome

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen A 58-year-old Brooklyn man had a rude awakening a bout three weeks ago. He woke up out of bed and discovered I could not hear. I was so dizzy it was impossible to stand. My left ear was ringing, and I was perspiring profusely. The doctor said it was Meniere's disease and gave me some pills. I'm improving except that the noise in the left ear is still present. Tell me, doctor, is there a cure for this disease?

The majority get well but there is no way of predicting whether there will be a recurrence. Dizziness may last five minutes and disappear forever or come and go over a period of weeks or months. Hearing may be distorted and distressing sounds are noted in the affected ear, such as whistling, whirring, grinding, roaring, humming, or an interplay of whistles and bells. Nausea and vomiting also occur when dizziness is marked.

The labyrinth of the ear is involved in Meniere's syndrome. This structure plays a role in maintaining the sense of direction as part of the hearing apparatus. The cause of Meniere's disease is not known except that the circulation is disturbed or there is increased tension of the fluid going through the microlabyrinth canals. In some instances, symptoms are preceded by a severe infection in the ear or other vasodilators help improve circulation.

Vertigo often is relieved by motion sickness remedies such as Dramamine, or Valium, or Marezine as well as by other drugs such as Benadryl, atropine, or scopolamine. Nicotine and other vasodilators help improve circulation. Some come along with the 56 election, with tough, blunt old C. D. "Trader" Howe campaigning in the wheat country.

At a Liberal campaign rally in rural Manitoba, he poked a well-fed farmer in the midriff, observing in his tart non-sense way that the man didn't look to be exactly starving. And when somebody boomed him, the "Trader" accused him of being a C.C.F. Turned out though, he was Liberal constituency campaign chairman, and John Diefenbaker and his Liberals went from bad to worse. Remember, just before they cast their ballots in some over-exaggerated farmer blasting his new TV set with a shotgun, was just because old "C.D." was making an election pitch on the screen?

ALVIN'S SUCCESS Jimmy Gardiner had done well by the farm country, but John Diefenbaker and his boy Alvin Hamilton did better. Alvin sold so much wheat that the disesteemed Liberal said I claimed you couldn't walk into a Western farm kitchen without saying I'd kick the doorway clear of Government cheques. But now the Russians have policed farmers in their own \$500,000,000, giving Trade Minister Michael Sharp, the "Trader," a most incredible political victory. Alvin's success has been so much that it has made the old story all over again.

"Alvin" will be asking any day now West of the Lakehead, "Alvin who?"

WOODSTOCK, N.B. Oct. 3 (CP)—The province's largest district received a dollar 3-barrel for their tubers today. The price a month ago was only 40 cents a barrel.

TEN YEARS AGO (October 3, 1953) EDMONTON, P.E.I.—The Nova Scotia village of Spry Bay lived up to its name when it produced A.W. Josey. He will celebrate his 100th birthday here Saturday. Mr. Josey was present when the first lobster was caught in the Bay of Fundy in 1870. He is now 100 years old.

NOTES BY THE WAY

A New York judge says that trashy novels have a place in our society. Yes, the ash can—Ottawa Journal.

The editor of Pravda says, that painters of abstract art are not to be taken too seriously. We didn't know that he had even heard of Social Credit.—Edmonton Journal.

A Montreal corporation has experimented with courses in French conversation for its personnel and found them "spectacular." Any course that worked would be a spectacular contrast to the 1-e-a-hing of French in most Canadian schools.—Ottawa Journal.

A bargain sale is a place where a woman can ruin one dress while trying to get another.—Chatham News.

A Pembroke man was involved in a minor traffic accident and was found by the police to have a driver's license. Half an hour after he was given a ticket he reappeared at the accident scene with a borrowed truck with which to tow away his damaged car. He was charged with driving without a permit. We hope he doesn't think the policeman was picking on him.—Hamilton Spectator.

Use of the reasons why the United Kingdom is contemplating changing to decimal coinage is undoubtedly being given more credit.—Ottawa Journal.

Some married men give dictation at the office all day long—and then go home and take dictation all through the evening. "Why, nothing makes me do it, Miss," he replied grandly. "I'm a volunteer."—Financial Post.

There is little to stir the pride in any of the collection of red, white and green maple leaves, or in the mixture of red, white and blue squares, oblongs, strips; circles and half-circles that form the basis of design for many of the entries published. Some of the striped designs submitted should have been sent to window awning manufacturers rather than to a contest for a national flag for Canada.—St. Thomas Times-Journal.

Week-End Specials From Cudmore's & P.J.'s Ltd. ISLAND GRAVENSTEIN APPLES 5 LB. 49c

Washed Carrots 3 lbs. 25c, Cranberries 49c, Washed Parsnips 2 lbs. 25c, Sauer Kraut 39c, Large Island Cabbage 19c, Island Beets 4 lbs. 25c

Island Bartlett Pears 6 QT. BASKET 99c, KING COLE COFFEE, 1 lb. tin 69c, GIANT SIZE Sunnyside 28 oz. tin, Surf Breeze 69c, Kraft Peaches 39c, Ogilvie's Rolled Oats 5 lbs. 79c, Cheese Whiz 63c, Lux Soap 5 bars 49c, Gold Glory 20 oz. tin, Pineapple 2 for 39c, Juice 48 OZ. TIN 33c

LIBBY'S TOMATO JUICE 20 oz. tin 2 for 39c, Libby's Sliced Beets 39c, Libby's Ketchup 11 oz. jar 21c

MINIT STEAK 69c LB., Canada Packers Superior Sausages 49c, Maple Leaf Bologna 1 lb. 33c

Chicken In The Basket 2 LB. 99c, P. J.'s Ltd. Cudmore's DIAL 4-8585 and 4-8586, 1-3813, FREE DELIVERY COD ORDERS ACCEPTED

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