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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink." PAGE 4 TUESDAY, MAY 13, 1958.

The New Parliament

With the opening of Parliament, Prime Minister Diefenbaker faces perhaps the biggest test of his political career. There are serious economic and other problems to be dealt with; but over and above these is the responsibility stemming from the Government's overwhelming majority in the Commons. By custom and tradition, the Government of the day and its supporters sit to the right of the Speaker, Opposition members to the Speaker's left. But in this Parliament—with only 48 Liberals, 3 CCF'ers and not a single Socred—there are actually more Government supporters to the Speaker's left than Opposition M.P.'s.

Writing on this subject in the Montreal Gazette, Arthur Blakely recalls what happened after the Liberals had won a then unprecedented majority at the hands of the Canadian people. The scores of Liberal backbenchers who had arrived full of pride in their new majorities only to find that the Cabinet was determined to keep them on a leash well out of reach of time-consuming debate, fretted and fumed because the small Conservative, CCF and Socred groups—carefree about the length of sessions and anxious to discuss and oppose as best their limited resources permitted—actually encouraged their newcomers to speak and speak often. Before long, the monolithic Liberal majority was being used freely by an exasperated Cabinet to limit discussion by any and every device possible. It was during this period that the Conservatives repeated most frequently and most eloquently a phrase attributed to Lord Acton of which they became very fond during their 22 years in the wilderness: "Power tends to corrupt; absolute power corrupts absolutely." But the Liberals remained stubbornly unconvinced until March 31, 1958.

With Mr. Diefenbaker, let us hope, it will be different. Certainly he spent enough years as a member of a small, often impotent Opposition party to have acquired a thorough understanding—and a sympathetic one—of the Opposition's responsibility to criticize and to oppose. It will be harder as time goes on to keep this fact in mind, but it is essential that he and all his cabinet members do so. Whenever it seems to them that the Opposition has become a noisy nuisance, a necessary evil—when they tend to regard any criticism as malicious, insincere or specious, any prolonged debate as time-wasting "obstruction" or as a downright filibuster—then they will have outlived their usefulness and be on the way out. The press of this country can perform a worthwhile political service, as we see it, by keeping this dire possibility before them as a skeleton at the feast.

South African Segregation

Prime Minister Johannes Strijdom of South Africa thinks that something besides legal means will have to sustain the white race in his country in its efforts to remain supreme over the non-whites who make up more than two-thirds of the population. It is the amazing statement which Mr. Strijdom made in a recent speech: "We shall have to draw on our background of civilization over many centuries, on our religious faith, our intellect, our learning, our education and moral upbringing. Upon all these things depends the question of whether or not a Christian, white civilization will continue to exist in this country. It is my belief that it was for this reason that Providence transplanted from Europe the white race in Africa."

It is had enough in all conscience to keep native Africans and Asiatics in a virtual state of slavery—for that is what "apartheid" amounts to; but to attribute the situation to Divine Providence is surely a monstrous thing to do.

Segregation, as practised in South Africa goes far beyond separation of white from non-white. That is the least culpable thing about it. It is a systematic persecution of all non-whites. It keeps them in a continual state of servitude and poverty. It forbids their securing any but the most elementary education. It makes sure that they will never have opportunity of doing anything but the most menial work under terms laid down by their masters. It denies them all political and civil rights.

Apart from the moral questions involved—and surely there are several of these—isn't it a stupid policy? It certainly encourages every form of subversive activity; and it breeds hatred, violence and every other evil inimical to national wellbeing. And how can there be any degree of co-operation between South Africa and countries which are newly-independent—Ghana, for example—on the road to independence?

Yet, there are people who take the view that South Africa's secession from the Commonwealth would be a loss to the other members of the association! How they arrive at that conclusion is difficult to understand.

Fluctuating Prices

In the United States beef prices are higher than they have been for several years. This is due mainly to a shortage of cattle caused by prolonged droughts in the South and South-West. This situation, of course, has had an effect on Canadian prices which have strengthened greatly in the past few months.

There is, however, a disturbing factor. In a report just issued by the United States Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Benson, it is pointed out that prices are likely to fall as a result of "consumers' resistance". It is thought that prices are so high that consumers will turn to less expensive meats such as pork and fowl. Should that happen, the prices of these products will go up, and the same course of fluctuation will start all over again.

It is, of course, the old story of supply and demand. When products are scarce, their prices go up; when they are plentiful, their prices go down. It applies not only to meat products but to potatoes and practically everything else which farmers produce. It is probably true to say that most producers would prefer a fairly steady, medium price the year round and one year with another rather than a very high price one year and a very low one the next. But this, while it sounds attractive in theory, is not easy to put into practice. It involves complex marketing policies which are difficult to sustain, even when producers support them, as is not always the case. It is a pity, nevertheless, that some way cannot be found to assure the producers of fairly equitable prices without the uncertainties that go with fluctuating markets.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Congratulations and good wishes to the 27 Saint Dunstan's University students who will receive their degrees this afternoon.

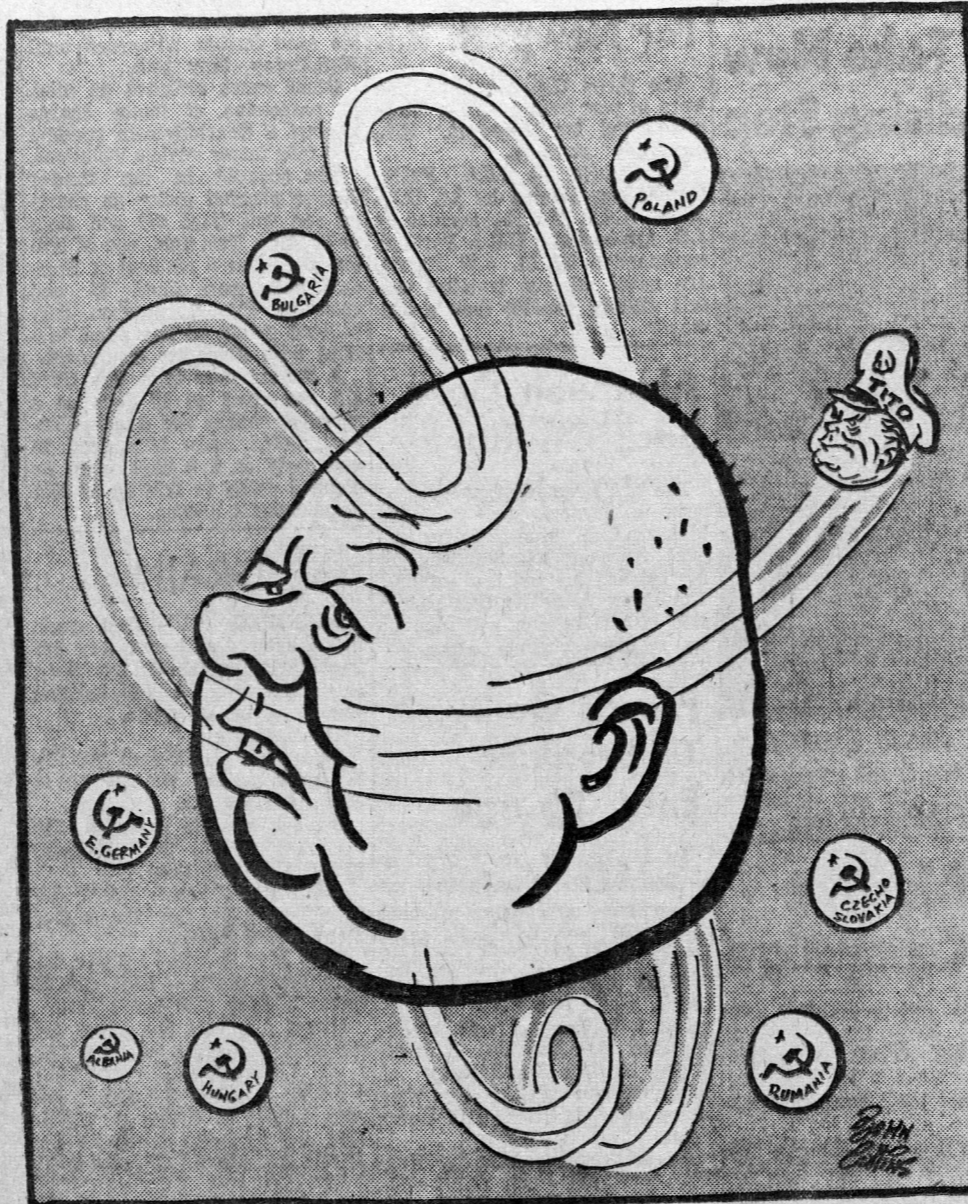
For the first time, cattle from New Zealand are entering the American market through West coast ports. 6000 head are expected to arrive this month.

A U.S. highway safety expert said in Victoria, B.C. that Quebec drivers are much less courteous and less capable than B.C. drivers. He had better steer clear of Quebec for a while.

It is reported that Dr. Hugh L. Keenlyside, Director General of the U.N. Technical Assistance Program, is retiring. Before going into international service, Dr. Keenlyside had had a distinguished career as a Canadian civil servant. From all reports he has given good service to the U.N.

U.S. Vice President Nixon has been having it rough enough in some places he has visited in Latin America. However, he will have the satisfaction of knowing that the courageous manner in which he has acted will be put to his credit at home. It might even strengthen his chances of securing the Presidential nomination two years from now.

It is fashionable nowadays in some circles to belittle the slogan of the late President Wilson popularized during the First World War. "To make the world safe for democracy." Mrs. Clare Booth Luce, former U.S. Ambassador to Italy, thinks it should be revived as representing the chief aim of the Western powers.



CAN'T GET THIS ONE IN ORBIT

OTTAWA REPORT

Cabinet Reorganization

By Patrick Nicholson, Special Correspondent for The Guardian

Ottawa: There has been a lot of speculation here about the manner in which Prime Minister Diefenbaker will finally reform his Cabinet.

This speculation centred around two points. First, the representation of Quebec in the Cabinet. During the past Parliament, when the Province had sent only 9 M.P.s to support the Conservative Government, no less than 3 of these were appointed to the Cabinet. A year earlier, when Quebec sent 66 M.P.'s to support the then Liberal Government, that Province had 6 Cabinet representation less than half as generous as that accorded under the Conservatives.

At this year's election, Quebec's voters increased their support of the Conservative Government, sending back 50 Conservative M.P.s, which is exactly two-thirds of the Province's M.P.s. Mr. Diefenbaker was expected to exceed the Liberal ratio once more and, in recognition of the high calibre of many of the Quebec Conservative M.P.s, appoint three new Quebec Ministers.

Then came the question of the representation of other provinces in the Cabinet. If Ontario merited

7 Ministers out of 61 M.P.s in the last Parliament, and presumably at least as many out of its 67 Conservative representatives in the new Parliament, is one Minister adequate representation for Alberta, which sent back Conservative M.P.s from all its 17 riding or for Nova Scotia, which likewise sent back a 100 per cent Tory representation from its 12 ridings?

CABINET CUMBERSOME? These speculations brought a further point in their train. With more Ministers being appointed to the Cabinet, and presumably with the three vacant Cabinet portfolios being filled, and perhaps new ones created, would the Cabinet attain an unwieldy size? If the purpose of any committee is to get things done, it is generally admitted that its ideal size would be five members. Larger committees became unwieldy, garrulous and time-consuming. Results suggested that in recent years the Liberal Cabinet was in some respects more like a post-mortem club holding long reviews than a forward-looking active executive committee. This has been confirmed by one of its members, Hon. J. W. Pickersgill.

It is a possibility that Mr. Diefenbaker, faced with mounting national and international problems in the economic and military fields, may decide to break with tradition. To meet the changed Canadian conditions, he may appoint a larger Ministry, by adding more Ministers to his previous total of 22, but segregate a small select group of perhaps 11 leading Ministers to form the Cabinet?

This smaller committee would be the executive and policy-formulating core of the Government, while the Ministry as a whole would be more of an administrative body charged with supervising the carrying out of the policies proposed by the Cabinet and subsequently approved by Parliament.

Isles of Seclusion

National Geographic Society

The Kermadec Islands, rising in the South Pacific 450 miles from the nearest land, have long exerted a magnetic pull on people who want to get away from it all.

The latest to be lured by their seclusion is a Californian, who has announced his intention of settling on one of the islands in early 1959. He declared that he wants his family to "live the way nature intended us to."

If he succeeds, he will be the latest in a long line of settlers who have braved the hardships of life on the Kermadecs. Each previous group has been forced for various reasons to retreat to civilization.

The islands have a fine subtropical climate and are uninhabited except for less than a dozen men stationed there to operate a weather and radio station.

The Kermadecs are part of New Zealand, some 450 miles away. They form a link in a chain of volcanic islands that extends 1,700 miles from mountainous New Zealand north-northeast to Samoa.

Geologists say the line represents a weakness in the earth's crust that allows hot magmas from the interior to swell up, thus producing islands.

In the Kermadec group, there are five major islands and many rocks and reefs. Raoul of Sunday Island, the largest and most inviting, was discovered independently in the 1790's by French and British navigators. Each party gave it a name. Although whalers sometimes

stopped for water and food, no one settled on Raoul until 1837. Two families managed to subsist by bartering water, garden produce, fish, and birds to the whalers for staples and clothing. Illness drove one family away. The other, frightened by an earthquake, hurried back to New Zealand. These pioneers left a lasting heritage. Goats they introduced ran wild, multiplied, and provided meat for future settlers.

Other adventurers tried the same life later but volcanic activity drove some away. Pestilence defeated the others. In 1861 a slave ship put ashore 200 south islanders suffering from typhoid. All the slaves died, and half the small band of settlers. The survivors fled on the first passing whale ship.

The most successful attempt began in 1878. A family named Bell, with several small children, took up residence that was to last through many hardships, only to end in defeat 36 years later.

The Bells hunted goats, fished, raised sheep and crops. Several times they were almost conquered, but they hung on. Finally, a tremendous storm in 1910 destroyed their home, farm, and most of their possessions. When the next ship came by—a year later—the family gave up the struggle.

But the spell of Raoul remained strong, and the Bells returned after a year in New Zealand. In 1914, their dream came to an end when the threat of German raiders in the Pacific forced them from their island for the last time.

Man In 8500 A. D.

Washington Star

The prospect that man in 8500 A.D. may have a hairless head, spindly legs and no toes hardly dismays us.

Indeed, some of our best friends in this year 1958 already are two-thirds of the way toward the 8500 "new look"—and we say this without checking on their toes. It might be wondered why it should take so long for this "evolutionary possibility" to become reality.

Dr. Jay M. Savage, biology professor at the University of Southern California, offers some logical reasons why it will happen, and perhaps only his timing is a bit off.

Dr. Savage points out, for example, that hair was meant to shield man from the elements. But with hats, hoods, umbrellas and closed vehicles, who needs hair? And all these substitute

things that protect man's dome have been with him for some time now—obviously long enough to produce a very large crop of bald headed men. And for a long time, too, man has been doing the less and less walking that Dr. Savage says will make his shanks more and more spindly.

As for the toes, Dr. Savage says they are getting shorter and shorter. We are not disposed to agree with this, because we really don't know. From the functional standpoint, toes do not seem to be used for much after one passes the age of drawing pictures with them on a sandy beach.

All in all, time goes pretty quickly, and tomorrow may look more like 8500 than even Dr. Savage expects.

Battle Still Far From Won

B. Herman N. Bundesen, M. D. WHAT is medicine's greatest challenge?

Well, we have to solve the secret of heart disease and, of course, we must find a preventive and a cure for cancer. But there also are many other problems facing our doctors and researchers. One of the biggest is the challenge of the virus.

Among all our infectious processes, virus diseases present the greatest unsolved problem. Viruses can cause at least 50 different diseases. While they seldom bring death, they do cause enormous physical and financial burdens to everyone. Each year about 5,000,000,000 men, that's five billion men—may be lost in this country because of virus diseases.

The average American can expect to be diseased from four to six times this year. TREMENDOUS PROBLEM. Most of you can expect to be affected by virus diseases for 10 per cent of your lives. If you live to the age of 65—and statistics say most of you will—you probably will spend 6½ years of your lifetime suffering from virus diseases. See why it's such a tremendous problem?

Virus diseases can be mild or serious. We generally accept such ailments as chickenpox, measles, mumps, colds, influenza and various forms of pneumonia almost as inevitable. The more severe forms include paralytic polio and even rabies, which, if not treated in time, is always fatal. LITTLE PROTECTION. Despite all our medical advances, we can provide effective protection against only five or six of the 50 virus diseases.

With the wonderful Salk vaccine we could just about wipe paralytic polio. With other activated virus vaccines we can prevent influenza and rabies. Vaccines made of active virus can prevent yellow fever and smallpox. And we can give temporary protection against hepatitis and measles by using gamma globulin.

But we can't prevent the common cold and the long list of other virus diseases. SOME ENCOURAGEMENT. However, a recent issue of "Public Health Reports" gives some encouragement. Dr. Frank L. Horsfall, Jr., physician-in-chief of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research in New York City, reports development of new synthetic chemical compounds which are "highly effective" against various viruses in experiments with animals.

Perhaps it won't be so long before we can prevent, treat and even cure virus diseases. QUESTION AND ANSWER. A T. One doctor told me that I had diverticulosis. Another said I had diverticulitis. What is the difference?

Answer: Diverticulitis is a disease in which there are small out-pocketings of the large intestine at various places. A person may have as many as one hundred of these. Usually, there are no symptoms from this disease. However, if inflammation occurs, the diverticulitis (the out-pocketings) become inflamed and infected and may cause bloody diarrhea with severe pain. There may be chills and fever along with these symptoms.

OUR YESTERDAYS (From The Guardian Files) TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (May 13, 1933) In the course of a tour of the Maritime Provinces, conducted with a view to searching out local talent for radio broadcasting and of co-ordinating the various Maritime broadcasting schedules, Mr. J. Arthur Dupont and Mr. E. W. Jackson, of the Canadian Broadcasting Commission, arrived in the City yesterday.

Definite arrangements have now been made whereby Dr. Henry Moyle, a graduate of Dalhousie University, will take over the offices and practice of the late Angus MacLean, M. D., Souris. Dr. Moyle attended Prince of Wales Colleges and took pre-med at Mt. Allison University.

TEN YEARS AGO (May 13, 1948) Inadequacy of the service provided Island shippers to Newfoundland, which has been the subject of much complaint among local shippers this season, was commented on last evening by Premier J. Walter Jones. He said his Government views with "seriousness" the sending of vessels here from Montreal, already partially loaded to carry farm produce from this province to Newfoundland.

Maritime Central Airways planes will probably begin flying lobsters to American markets from the Magdalen Islands, Sydney and even Newfoundland, it was learned last night. At present no plans are in sight to carry P.E.I. lobsters to Boston and other American cities by air.

WILD GEESE On the quiet seaside afternoon they came In brave formation, flying fast and high Above the sun's last brilliant burst of flame: I watched them span the pale green streak of sky. Then change direction, moving out to sea. With such a sense of purpose in their flight They seemed to reach toward infinity.

And now, long after they have gone from sight, I see them moving still in the mind's eye. Tracing the secret message that still brings In silent beauty to the tranquil wings. The memory of lost legendary wings.

—Douglas Gibson In the New York Times.

MAXIMS Suspicion is far more apt to be wrong than right; oftener unjust than just. It is no friend to virtue, and always an enemy to happiness.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

Two old mountaineers, sitting on a cabin porch were examining an ancient arm-piece. "Good shot gun that," said the owner, patting the rusty relic. "Its killed possum, coon, wild turkey, and squirrels. What's more," he added, "it got me two sons-in-law." —Ottawa Journal

A lady who found a whole raspberry in a pot of jam was rather surprised and wrote to the market asking if they were one short in their stock. She received a courteous letter in reply, thanking her, and saying there was no mistake, it was now the custom of the firm to put one in every pot. —Ottawa Journal

The Gordon Report asserts that fortune telling is a hazardous occupation. You can have your palm read for half a dollar, and you can have the Gordon Report for \$1,500,000 and it's all for fortune telling, and a kind of crystal ball sense. Only time will reveal the fallacy or accuracy of the Gypsy or the Report. In the meantime we go our way watching for the "tall, dark, handsome stranger," the "predatory blonde" and the spectre of American conquest. —London, Ont. Free Press

In memory of the part played by the Scots Guards in the Battle of Waterloo, a plaque has been specially designed for the North Gate of Hougoumont Farm, which they defended. Some 600 men were killed and 2,500 wounded but Duke of Wellington said afterwards: "You see, the Guards held Hougoumont." He knew that the fate of the battle turned upon the closing of the gates there. —Newsletter from Scotland

Mr. Truman's before-breakfast stroll on Sunday took him past the house in Washington where he used to live. He seemed happy enough to be outside looking in instead of inside looking out. It doesn't seem that anybody ever enjoyed being an ex-president quite as much as Mr. Truman does—all the more, perhaps, when he can inspect historic sites without responsibility and testify as he did before a Congressional committee without having to sign or veto any resulting legislation. —New York Times

The Age Old Story

The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him.

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