

Published every week-day morning at 136 Prince Street, Charlottetown, P.E.I., by The Thomson Company Limited

FRIDAY, FEB. 25, 1955

Plain Speaking

United States Secretary of State Dulles, now in Bangkok, is quoted as saying "the time is ripe for plain speaking to prevent a reckless Communist miscalculation which could endanger the lives of many."

At the same time, the Communists cannot help recalling that there have been times when the plain words of Mr. Dulles lacked visible power to back them up.

This does not mean that Mr. Dulles likes to talk big and perform little; it means simply that foreign policy is not and cannot be a static thing like "the laws of the Medes and Persians which changeth not."

ficiently weighty or influential to persuade the Russians that they should listen to majority opinion in the United Nations and agree to rigid international control of any disarmament plan that might be worked out.

For better or worse Canada is a part—we hope an important and useful part—of the North Atlantic Treaty Alliance. Our interests and our hopes are the interests and the hopes of the whole community.

Hail The Welshmen

The showing made by our Schoolboy Curlers in Dominion-wide competition at Sydney, N. S. this week is indeed worthy of commendation and congratulations.

It is a far cry from 1887 when Charlottetown boasted its first Curling Rink, and a membership of 36. Today curling has caught on, not only as a sport for the more mature athletically inclined men to retire to, but for teen-agers and women.

As Dominion representative for Schoolboy Curlers in this Province Mr. F. R. McLaine might well feel proud of his charges. To Barry MacDonald, skip, and all members of his team will go the plaudits of our citizens generally.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Intellectual sign of the times: a new course on "control and use of atomic energy" has been instituted at the law school attached to Washington University in the United States capital.

There are few better loved poets than Thomas Moore, who died this date 1852. His "Irish Melodies" were first sung by himself at fashionable houses in London and Dublin, but they soon won public acclaim and have enjoyed undiminished popularity for over a century.

The latest voice to be raised in urging more systematic concentration on scientific and technological training on the part of Western peoples is that of the American Chemical Society. In a special bulletin it made the flat assertion that "the West is not maintaining its former technological superiority over the Soviet Union."

About fifty Oriental foods are now processed for the North American market; they include everything from baked earthworms to stewed rattlesnake and fried octopus.

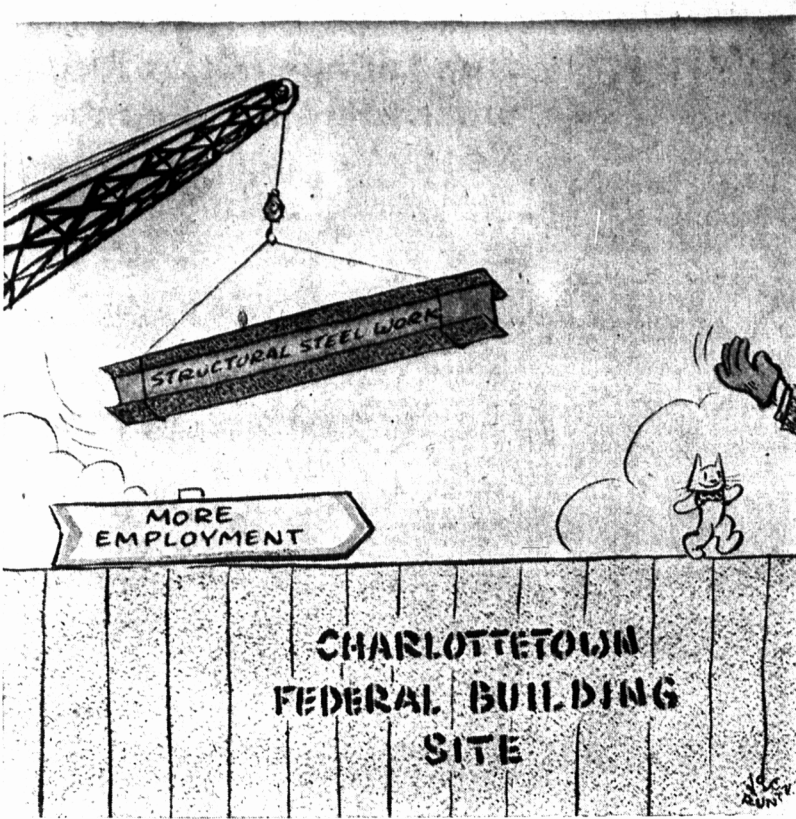
What Did He Mean?

Mr. John Diefenbaker, foreign affairs analyst for the Progressive Conservative group in Parliament, is a man of many parts; he is well respected by members of all parties and, there is reason to believe, in the country generally.

Just what would Mr. Diefenbaker do in the matter which, admittedly, is a most serious one? He surely is not hinting that Canada should take unilateral action with respect to disarmament; and, whatever confidence he may have in the present Government in general, and in External Affairs Minister Pearson in particular, he certainly is not naive enough to believe that Canadian diplomacy, of itself, is suf-

The Minister of Education is quoted as saying that "there may be room in the home for an antique piece of furniture, but there is no room for an antique text-book." He is entitled to his opinion, of course; but there are thousands of professional men—doctors, lawyers, theologians, educators, philosophers, mathematicians, etc.—who would disagree with him.

The Penticon V's, Canada's representatives at the International hockey games soon to be played in Duesseldorf, Germany, may or may not win back the world hockey title; but there is no question about their determination to make friends for Canada. When it was discovered that a mixed team of Germans and Swedes, facing the Canadians in an exhibition game, was shorthanded, the V's gave them three of their own players—and then went on to trim the Europeans 11-4.



Right Direction

OTTAWA REPORT

The Lawrence Controversy

By Patrick Nicholson

The first ripples of the great "Lawrence of Arabia" controversy have already reached here. The tidal wave which drowns that ripples and mocks the mocker will follow soon.

Under the title "Lawrence of Arabia," Richard Aldington has written a spiteful biography, obviously intended to destroy the legend surrounding that hero of the Desert War in 1914-1918.

The author is a deracinated Englishman who has long chosen to live in that Albion-hating Louisiana, the French Riviera. His attack on Lawrence has precipitated an angered chorus of critics, most of them eminent in public life and men who knew Lawrence personally; this gave them the advantage over Aldington, who wrote about a man he had never met.

The heavy artillery which this detractor aimed at the hero-aur of "The Seven Pillars of Wisdom" turns out to be little squibs. Their tone can be exemplified by this example. He suggests that Lawrence was motivated all his life by an inferiority complex stemming from his discovery that he was illegitimate.

The Aldington attack on Lawrence has proved a wonderful pre-publication build-up for "The Mint," such as only Hollywood hucksters dare to dream about. Lawrence's book, now published posthumously, would sell like hot cakes anyhow, thanks to the lime-light now focused on his name.

And the controversy which it is stirring up is out of this world. 99% of the comments agree with Lawrence in tearing apart the pre-war Royal Air Force and its high and low Brass, as it thoroughly deserved. The vocal 1% is largely those brass instruments post-pouting in their self-justification. The Royal Air Force is probably a very different place now, with a generation of war-baptized officers in the highest ranks.

"The Mint" clearly shows that the Battle of Britain was not the friction that our young pilots faced hostile officers. Shortly after that Battle, the Royal Canadian Air Force established its own formations in Britain, and Canadians serving in the R. A. F. transferred holus-bolus into the R. C. A. F.

"This is 'The Mint', written by No. 352087 Aircraftman Ross, John Hume. That name was the alias under which the hero of the Desert War started a peacetime life as a humble 'Erk'."

"The Mint" is Lawrence's account of Royal Air Force life, with particular emphasis upon its system of training recruits. Lawrence found it unnecessarily inhuman. So frank was his manuscript, and so Rababalian in its accurate reflection of the language of the R. A. F., that Lawrence stipulated that it should not be published until 25 years had elapsed. Thus any characters identifiable in his bitter comment would have died or at least retired before this revelation could revile them.

BEST-SELLING BOOST

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U. S. Bases in Newfoundland

By Stewart MacLeod Canadian Press Staff Writer

What Prime Minister Churchill asked Newfoundlanders to accept with "sacrifices... for the cause we all have at heart" has become one of the province's economic pillars. For the rest of the world it's a lesson in international relations.

In 1941 United States bases were established in Newfoundland under year-long leases. At the time they were criticized as the first infringement on sovereign rights, but accepted as "a sacrifice for freedom."

During the 14 years that have elapsed American military personnel and Newfoundland civilians worked and lived side by side without a public quarrel.

IMPORTANT INDUSTRY

Instead of being regarded as military installations, the bases are looked upon as an important industry, giving steady employment to nearly 4,000 Canadians, two-thirds of them Newfoundlanders.

Last year alone, the Northeast Air Command, which controls all U.S. bases in Newfoundland, Labrador and Greenland, spent \$30,578,296 in Canada, 90 per cent of it in Newfoundland.

It is not known how many American servicemen are in Newfoundland and officials decline to release figures. There were enough here last year, however, to donate \$52,000 to charitable campaigns. Some \$14,000 of this was raised by airmen in St. John's.

On the sporting scene Americans are playing a prominent part. The biggest upset during the 14-year stay came last summer when a team of oarsmen from Peperrell base, near the capital, took the rowing championship from Newfoundland crews at the annual regatta day.

RAISED FOR FEAT

Although this was the first time the title ever left local oarsmen, St. John's crews were loud in their

praise of the new champs, and the warring Americans publicly named regatta members for letters from competitors.

American teams are also entered in hockey, baseball and basketball leagues. At the community level co-operation between Americans and Newfoundlanders appears to be growing.

Recently officers from the Harlan air base, on the province's west coast, got together with residents of nearby Stephenville to form the Stephenville community relations council.

The council was organized to foster town improvements, but Northeast Air Command headquarters says it will show "the USAF is interested in the community; for the base is part of that community."

POPULAR IN ST. JOHN'S

In St. John's, residents and U.S. military personnel have always cooperated in a community work. Civic, church and service clubs are often peppered with American uniforms, and military clubs at the base are frequently addressed by their members.

There has seldom been friction between military personnel and residents, and most servicemen say they like living in Newfoundland. Some have even stayed here after being discharged.

But Newfoundland is losing some of its girls. Last year 115 local girls married U.S. airmen, about 35 more than in 1953. Nearly all of these make their homes in the United States.

It's only a guess how much money the United States government has spent in Newfoundland since the bases were established. Last year's total of \$30,578,296 was about \$5,000,000 more than in 1953. In 1951, the expenditure was \$44,000,000, nearly \$5,000,000 more

Medically Speaking

Herman N. Bundezen, M.D.

CAUSES OF BACKACHE

Backaches are one of the most common disorders adults can have, and this discomfort can be due to a variety of causes. Fortunately, we can usually relieve your pain even though we can't always correct the disorders.

Causes Little Disability

While this condition is present to some extent in just about everyone over the age of 50, it usually causes little or no disability.

You are most likely to suffer pain from osteo-arthritis in wet and cold weather. Heat usually brings relief. Just about any form of applying it may be used to relieve your pain.

Your back can be massaged vigorously following the heat treatments, but caution the person doing the massaging to go lightly over the tender areas.

Rest is important, too. If you can, take a half hour rest two or three times a day. Try to work these rest periods into your daily routine. And don't try any activity which will cause too much strain on the affected spinal joints.

Injuries and Infections

When pain develops in your back because of injuries or infections, it usually causes a sort of a protective spasm or contraction of the back muscles. This spasm itself might have a harmful effect, since it keeps the joints from moving, thus putting them under an increased strain.

When some of your muscle fibers or connective tissues, such as the ligaments, are torn, scar tissue gradually forms during the healing process. If there is too much movement of the tissues while healing is underway, the scar will be too wide or too large.

Limits Movement

If the injured parts are healed too closely together, the scar may be too short and thus limit movement. Furthermore, any slight strain may cause tearing of the scar tissue and your difficulty will begin all over again.

If fibers or tissues have been torn, you will have to remain in bed for some time. Put a board under your mattress to prevent sagging. It might be a good idea to fasten your legs to weights by ropes stretched over pulleys above your head. This will limit your movements considerably and speed up the healing process.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

T. M.: What are the symptoms of menopause?

Answer: During the menopause or change of life, there are such symptoms as hot flashes, nervousness, and cessation of the menstrual flow. Indigestion and disturbances in the circulation may also be present.

MOSLEM VISITS

KARACHI (CP) — King Hussein of Jordan will pay a state visit to Pakistan at the end of February, fourth Moslem monarch to visit this Moslem state. Earlier visitors were the rulers of Iraq, Iran and Saudi Arabia.

GAPS OF SHADE

CALGARY (CP) — Home-owners here have been asked to leave porch lights on at night to help light city streets until more adequate city system is installed. So far, the response has been poor.

The Poet's Corner

CATHEDRAL MUSIC

I entered a dim minister, where Aisles of praise and towers of prayer Fenced me round from all the strife

Of this illegible, blurred life: And I put from me, one by one, Riddles that because the Sun, And deep into oblivion hurled The undecipherable world.

And through the rich and jewelled gloom That rubied some crusader's tomb, There rose and rolled a golden wave: Surged reverberant down the nave: Ravishingly, with violence sweet, Stormed the earth from "neath my feet."

And left me, amid regions far, Desolate — cast upon a star. —Sir William Watson.

MANY FARMERS

NEW DELHI (CP) — New surveys show that of India's total population of 356,000,000, a little more than 249,000,000 belong to the agricultural classes. Of these, 71,000,000 are self-supporting individuals, the rest wage-earning or non-earning dependents.

NEGRO FORCED OUT

WAVERLY, Iowa (AP) — Air Force Capt. Virgil A. Daniels says "racial pressure" of neighbors has barred plans to move his family into a government-financed apartment here. Daniels, 37, father of three children, is the only Negro officer stationed at a nearby radar installation. He now must commute 42 miles round trip.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

How much is a wife worth to a man, if such value can be assessed in monetary terms? It isn't easy to estimate, and doubtless varies with the qualities of the wife. An unusual case arose in England when a widower sued for damages due to the death of his wife, through negligence, in a hospital. It so happened the man and wife were a dancing team, and the damages sought included a claim for loss of a dancing partner as well as a wife. In estimating the monetary compensation, Mr. Justice Devlin set the value of the woman, as a dancing partner, at £2,500, while assessing her value as a wife at £1,000. This leaves the implication she was a better dancer than a wife. It also suggests the widower might get another woman equally satisfactory as a wife, but would have difficulty finding one who also could double as a dancing partner. —Windsor Star.

Russian scientists have discovered the secret of longevity, or so a Leningrad radio broadcast says. A group of scientists working under Professor Miranov now set the normal life span between 150 and 180 years. There are in Russia, they say, 1500 people who are more than 150 years old and 35,000 who have passed the century mark. The secret formula, apparently, is to preserve the vitality and activity of the central brain, which is responsible for the major life processes. How this to be done is not disclosed. It must be known but it is to remain a Russian secret. We ourselves long ago devised a formula for ensuring long life—for Russians. Its effectiveness seems to be confirmed by the Soviet announcement. So far as we can recover, not one of the 1500 who have reached 150, or one of those who have passed the century mark, is in public life. This is in accordance with our own formula, which ran: If you want to live long in Russia, stay out of politics. —Montreal Star.

Six million Canadians had voluntary insurance against hospital expenses at the end of 1954. About five million persons were insured against surgical expenses and nearly four million had medical expense insurance. The estimates are based on projections of 1950-1953 survey figures compiled by the Joint Committee on Health Insurance. These record totals result from a continuation of the rapid growth of hospital insurance in Canada. During the three-year period of the surveys, the number of Canadians with hospital expense insurance increased 32 per cent, the number insured against surgical expenses rose 79 per cent, and the number with medical expenses protection more than doubled. Voluntary accident and sickness insurance is provided by over sixty insurance companies, by Blue Cross' hospital plans in eight provinces, by eight medical care plans sponsored by the medical profession, as well as by numerous insurance co-operations.

Once upon a time there was a nation that spread over much of the world. It was the centre for any painting in the world that was worthwhile; it had great musicians; it had authors whose works were read widely beyond its own shores. This country also had a tradition of civilized living which gave the world some of the finest wine men have ever drunk. It had chefs with a flair for experiment which amounted to genius. It had designers who clothed its women more attractively than any other country could. Out of the rituals of this civilization, there developed a fine army. This army went abroad, and with the help of hardy pioneers, built an empire in all the parts of the globe. Its colonizers ranged through the length and breadth of Canada and down the Mississippi to New Orleans. They also roved into the swamps of tropical Africa, along the coasts of India, and through the shark-infested seas of the Caribbean. The country was great and the warriors, built with its civilization. But this civilization grew into sophistication. Its logical political system grew into ossuistry. Its colonizers became exploiters. That country has suffered severe defeat three times in three generations. It now is so divided against itself that it cannot even elect a government to control itself or deal with its allies. Its prestige has fallen; its word is suspect. The glory has faded. France is falling. —Kingston Whip-Standard.

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