

A Rival Attraction

Royal commissions are supposed to function in a rarefied atmosphere above the smoke and din of partisan politics.

This causes our sturdy Liberal contemporary, the Winnipeg Free Press, to shake its head reprovingly.

And, of course, there is the prospect that the commission will be reporting to a government other than the one which appointed it.

But why should it be impeded or misdirected in the manner which the Free Press suggests?

Existing law provides, however, that price support shall be given at one half of parity, which now would be \$1.25, compared with prices around 82 for this summer's wheat in the future markets.

EDITORIAL NOTES

There's no question that election campaigns are getting too long.

France's Booming Economy

Few finance ministers could have had a more cheerful message than Valéry Giscard d'Estaing when he told the French national assembly

Another index of the surging French economy is the \$1.3 billion in foreign aid spent by the government last year, most of it to former colonies in Africa.

Last year personal incomes jumped 7 1/2 per cent and personal consumption rose almost as fast.

year the plan calls for total output to grow by 6 per cent. By comparison, the United States economy has been growing by 2 to 3 per cent annually in recent years.

Three developments are credited with being largely responsible for lifting France from the shambles of World War Two: American aid (\$9.4 billion worth since 1946); political stability restored by General de Gaulle after his return to power in 1958, and the stiff competition of the European Common Market.

But commentators note two dark spots to mar the generally favorable picture. These are rising retail prices and labor costs.

U.S. Wheat Referendum

As agricultural committees in Congress go to work on President Kennedy's message of Jan. 31 on farm legislation, the subject breaks down into four main categories—wheat, feed grains, dairy products, and cotton—each representing distinctive commodities.

These controls would be more binding than heretofore because they would regulate not merely the acreage planted but also the number of bushels marketed.

Wheat referendums in the past have approved acreage limitation systems, but by diminishing yields it is possible there may be difficulty in getting the two-thirds majority required for putting the present proposals into effect.

EDITORIAL NOTES

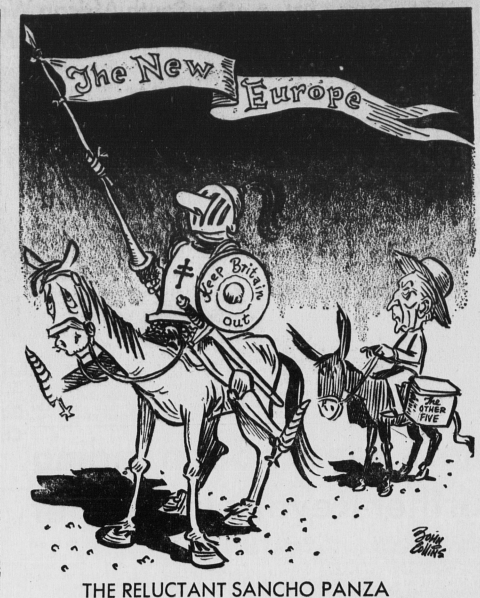
There's no question that election campaigns are getting too long. This one, comments the Ottawa Journal dourly, will have lasted a year, when it is over—if it's over when it's over.

Wanted: A Harp Mender

Today there is no longer a harp maker in the Principality of Wales.

It is not only the national emblem, but also the meetings of harp held in almost every town and village in Wales that need the harp; other organizations too are concerned in the revival of interest in the music that by tradition accompanies the language of heaven.

It is with some dismay that the Welsh Harp Society looks over its Welsh harps and finds over one hundred are broken and even jukeboxes resound but harps become fewer and fewer.



THE RELUCTANT SANCHO PANZA

LIBYA'S TRANSFORMATION

Turning Oases Into Boom Towns

National Geographic News Bulletin

WASHINGTON — Libyans, who have lived for centuries on the edge of poverty, now have a more pleasant problem in national prosperity.

The North Africans kingdom does not have a long history of oil. It was known and much imagined about Libya. Herodotus described strange tribes that ate locusts and lived in oases where cold, sweet water spurted from salt hills.

The P.M.'s London Visit

By Alan Harvey Canadian Press Staff Writer

Canadian Press Staff Writer rules out any hope of transforming the association into an economic unit similar to the European Common Market.

The trip was arranged months ago with the purpose of making the Canadian prime minister to have conferred upon him the honor of becoming a freemason in the United Kingdom.

Since then, Britain's attempt to join the European Economic Community has been frustrated by France, leaving British politicians uncertain of the next move.

After the breakdown of the Brussels negotiations, Diefenbaker said in Ottawa that Britain had chosen the Commonwealth as the common market.

Such attitudes are common among British ministers. There are many who hope that Britain, despite President de Gaulle's "no" to a free trade area, may be a later partner for Europe.

But until that time arrives Macmillan will be in the crumbs of Commonwealth content that Diefenbaker, and later the prime minister of Australia and New Zealand, can provide.

Wolves' Teeth To Stamps

Milwaukee Journal

In Ancient Rome, attracted customers dealt in antique, cosmetic, gold mounted wolf's teeth.

Today, trading stamps are big business. An estimated 77 per cent of all American families own trading stamps.

ANTS CODDLE BUGS

The eggs of the corn-root applied to the surface of the line by ants in the winter and returned to the surface in the spring.

Proof Is Lacking In Diet Theory

A DECADE has elapsed since the theory of heart disease has been publicized about cholesterol and low fat diets. Prevention of heart attacks in people the passage of years, we still have no proof that reducing cholesterol and fat in the coronary thrombosis or prolonging the life of a victim of a heart attack.

The logical explanation is that the factors which enter into play a role in the development of hardening of the coronary arteries are not the cholesterol and fat in the ordinary heart attack.

Obesity and high blood pressure also enter into the picture. In addition a magnesium deficiency and several nonfat nutritional deficiencies are implicated, such as excess salt, protein, and carbohydrates.

It is not clear how these factors differ from that in another. About extreme views in any single area and practice moderation in all things, including diet.

Cholesterol is not necessarily synonymous with coronary heart disease. An elevated level is not a sure sign the heart will "flee." But we cannot write off high cholesterol as an elevated level is a high risk factor.

At Independence, Libya faced a bleak future. It has changed that. Now Libya, land of hope in the saying: Bakra! Bakra! or "Tomorrow come the feast-days."

When Not To See Sweden

Cincinnati Enquirer

Sweden can be pretty stubborn. Certainly they are not going to give up their unique political system.

Sweden has been walking in the left, too. Their revoluting doors are backwards. This could entail yet another output in the great conversion process.

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Hard On Ancient Rome

Montreal Gazette

Few visitors to Rome can escape a feeling of humility, and the timelessness of things, when they gaze upon the remains and monuments of an ancient civilization.

Water and snow have entered into numerous cracks, fissures, and joints of ancient monuments and buildings. It has now frozen and begun exerting a tremendous and irresistible pressure of expansion.

Unsmiling CBC

Ottawa Journal

Short of the sadistic savagery of an American magazine's report on the Prime Minister's last week, there is ample scope for the lampooning of political figures within the bounds of decorum.

The CBC will get up and there will be a light bulb on the election personalities at all.

The CBC will be regrettable. We lament it particularly because we are to be exposed to battalions of television commentators, including newspapermen, who have no great background knowledge of politics but become solemn experts by virtue of seating themselves in front of a microphone before it.

Our Yesterday's

(From the Guardian Files)

THEY FIFTY YEARS AGO February 25, 1913 The Charlottetown Kinsmen Club commemorated anniversary night with their ladies night at an enjoyable and successful dinner at the Canadian National Hotel.

Charles Macdonald, Halifax, road construction engineer who has been in the service of the Nova Scotia Government for the last 30 years, has been engaged by the Prime Minister's Island Public Works and Highways Department.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

Home-made wine discovered in Great Britain. It is said to be made by getting juice from grapes, elderberries and other raw materials.

Among the planets of our sun, says a U.S. scientist, Venus and Mars would support "an intelligent form of life under slightly altered conditions"—and to "possibly" on Titan, too.

A woman applying for a job explained that her husband paid more attention to her than she did to her own life. It was because he couldn't talk to her.—Chatham Daily News.

Visitor: "If your mother gave you a large apple and a small one and told you to divide with your brother, which apple would you give him?" Johnny: "The big one, because if you don't give it to me, it's mine!"—Montreal Star.

In Sweden every farmer assesses his own farm. He puts a value on his land and buildings, and he pays taxes according to his own valuation. It sounds deceptively easy. There is a catch in it, however. One farmer who has valued his land at \$100,000 for tax purposes, sells his farm for \$150,000. He must immediately step in and take his own valuation.—Saratoga Express.

A professor of law was lecturing to his students. He said he had the facts on your side when fighting a case, hammer them into the jury on your side. He said he had the facts on your side when fighting a case, hammer them into the jury on your side.

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