The Guardian

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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."

The Steadfast Turks

Letters of "warning" from Soviet leaders to various governments have become commonplace. They differ from one another in a few unimportant details, but their central theme is the same: "If you don't watch out, we'll start a war."

It worked in last fall's Hungarian crisis. There is no doubt that failure of the U.N. to take effective action at that time was the fear of member nations—the United States particularly—that military aid to the revolutionaries would mean world war. It worked, too, as far as the United States was concerned, in the Suez crisis. What effect it had on the British and French is not as clear; but there is some reason to believe that it was at least a contributing factor to the withdrawal of their forces from Egypt.

The latest letter went to Turkey, where its threats were promptly brushed aside. Turkish leaders have left no doubt where they stand. They will not attack Syria without provocation. But if there is one thing certain in these confused times it is that the Turks will not allow themselves to be caught napping. If the Syrians, under Soviet pressure, set foot on one inch of Turkish soil there will be war, whatever the consequences. And if the present rulers of Russia understand Turkish history and traditions, they will keep that in mind.

Whatever may be said about the present Turkish regime—and it must be admitted that its form of democracy leaves much to be desired—the fact remains that Turkey is the only ally—with the exception of Israel—the West can depend on in the whole Eastern Mediterranean-Middle East area. Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Lebanon will accept all the American arms they can lay their hands on; but there is no certainty and, indeed, little likelihood that any of them would side with the West in the event of Communist pressure on the region, from either the Soviet Union or Syria. They are more likely to use the arms in a joint attack on Israel when they think they are strong enough to make the attempt.

Agricultural Exports

Factors contributing to the decline of the British market for Canadian farm products are the increased post-war competition from other countries, the high price of the Canadian dollar and, of course, Britain's shortage of dollar and gold reserves. These, however, as the Country Guide points out in its September issue, are not the only things to be taken into account. A very important factor, and perhaps the dominant one, is the increased efficiency of British farms.

"Last year," says the Country Guide, "Britain produced about a third more wheat than in the previous year. We sent Britain 54 per cent of the wheat imported and 67.5 per cent of the flour. Nevertheless, the total quantity of flour sold in Britain has fallen 19 per cent in the last nine years. Last year we supplied 80 per cent of the barley Britain imported which was, however, 5.4 million bushels less than she imported the year before. It is true that fully matured and branded Canadian cheddar cheese tops the British market in price. But one of the problems of the British farmer is the large supply of milk he must market. Indeed, he was warned recently that the dairy industry might not be able to take care of the surplus if much more is produced. Britain's production of carcass meats was one-third greater last year than pre-war. Also, she is exporting substantial quantities of eggs to West Germany and other European countries.

"It would appear," concludes the Guide, "that British efforts to save foreign exchange by cutting farm costs and raising farm efficiency by the use of forward prices, subsidies and national advisory services have been successful. The British farmer is fairly well protected now against abrupt changes in Government policy; and he may be expected to continue his efforts toward greater efficiency in the hope of securing a still greater share of the home market."

This effort to expand domestic production, which has met with much success in Britain, is being duplicated in all other countries which possess any measure of agricultural potential. Indeed, the aim of almost any country that might be mentioned is to become reasonably self-sufficient, agriculturally, over a period of time; and, of course, this is being encouraged and helped forward by the several United Nations agencies to all of which Canada contributes her share. It will be generations before the goal is even in sight—if, indeed, it can ever be reached—but for the first time in history an earnest attempt is being made to achieve it. This is all to the good, of course, seeing that at the present time over half of the world's population lacks the bare necessities of life. It does, however, in an indirect way and for the time being, add to the problems of the big producing countries, such as Canada.

The Yellow Fleece

Australia, the wool centre of the world, has produced a strain of yellow merino. Behind this development, says the National Geographic Society, is "a saga of royal monopoly, smuggling and careful breeding that has carried these sheep to prominence around the world."

The hardiest of all sheep, merino originated in North Africa and in due course became famous as the monopoly of Spanish royalty as a result of the Moorish invasion in the 12th century. There were 5 millions of them in Spain by 1770. Later they found their was to Saxony, Prussia and Austria. It was not until 1808 that they showed up in England, having been brought there by Spanish insurrectionists who had joined in the war against Napoleon. At about the same time the sheep arrived in Russia, the United States, South America and South Africa. They reached Australia in 1797, going by way of Holland and the Cape of Good Hope. The Australian count now is about 82 millions.

Merinos have prospered wherever they have found a footing, bearing out a prediction made by one of their owners in 1800: "Fine wooled sheep may be kept wherever industrious men and intelligent breeders exist."

Today more than 150 millions of the breed are on the world's pastures. But Australia is the first country to develop the yellow fleece.

EDITORIAL NOTES

During the course of his current itinerary His Excellency the Governor General will visit the French islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon. This is believed to be the first such visit.

* * *

The London Times makes two interesting observations concerning the Queen's impending visit to Canada: first, that it will be a "time of residence" rather than a visit; second, that it will be primarily as Queen of Canada that Her Majesty will journey to the United States. No doubt, these facts will be kept in mind by the Canadian officials who accompany her to Washington.

* * *

Our poor civilization always seems to be in trouble. For ten years it has been running a race with the atom bomb, and no one knows yet what the outcome will be. As if that were not enough trouble, a soil conservation expert has declared that the world faces famine unless immediate steps are taken to increase the food supply and prevent widespread erosion.

* * *

External Affairs Minister Smith is starting out on his diplomatic career with the high hopes and confidence of all Canadians. For a time his task will be no easy one, because of the fact that wherever he goes to represent Canada at international conferences he will be judged by whether or not he seems to have the abilities which were generally recognized in his predecessor, Mr. Pearson. It is always so when an untried man replaces one of long experience and proved talents.

Mm mm!

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of question of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Sir,—One of the main Tory arguments against the leaders of the Liberal Party was that many of them were too old, but now the Tory Leader has selected Dr. Sidney Smith, Ex-President of Toronto University, to replace Mr. Pearson as Minister of External Affairs, and Dr. Smith has admitted that his reason for accepting is that he is too old to continue as President of the University.

Another significant factor in connection with Dr. Smith's appointment is that it is an admission on the part of Mr. Diefenbaker that he did not have an elected member of his party qualifed to succeed Mr. Pearson as Minister of External Affairs, otherwise he would not have been obliged to select this old man.

Right Honorable L.B. Pearson was appointed to the Department of External Affairs in 1928, when he was about thirty, and he was employed in various capacities in that Department until 1948, when he was elected to the House of Commons as Minister of External Affairs. He is now a world figure and is it any wonder that the Tories are having trouble trying to replace him?

I am, Sir, etc.,
THOMAS V. GRANT

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
(Sept 19, 1932)

A committee meeting was held on Saturday afternoon at Summerside of the fishermen of the area to deal with the Oyster situation in Prince County. A resolution was passed to be sent to the Minister of Fisheries in which the fishermen stated they were strongly opposed to the leasing of the oyster areas and barren bottoms in several localities in Prince County.

Nine Mounted Police officers who spent two years in the Eastern Arctic Island within 700 miles of the North Pole were visitors to the City yesterday. The officers are en route to Montreal from St. John's, Newfoundland, and are going on a leave of absence which they are looking forward to with some expectation.

TEN YEARS AGO
(Sept 19, 1947)

Professor P. Philip Jansen, of the School of Engineering, University of Delft, Holland, arrived in the City last night after having spent the past three weeks inspecting marshes in other provinces. Professor Jansen will inspect marsh areas in the Province including the East River area near Pisquid. This survey is being carried on for reclamation of marshlands.

Mr. James Hutcheson, Assistant Traffic Manager, and Captain L.M. Hatfield, Superintendent, both of the Clark Steamship Company, Montreal, were in the City yesterday. Asked about the possibilities of having another ship assist the "Island Connector" in the transportation of produce to Newfoundland. Captain Hatfield said another ship would be put on when additional shipments warranted it.

MAXIMS

Happiness is a perishable fruit, which must be used each day, for it will not keep.

AUSSIE URANIUM

The uranium mine at Radium Hill, South Australia, exported $6,690,000 worth of uranium in the 1956-57 fiscal year.

Missile Defense Problem

By David McIntosh
Canadian Press Staff, Ottawa

Canada, the United States and Britain likely will speed up research into possible defence against the intercontinental ballistic missile, informants said Monday.

This problem would be particularly difficult for Canada because it would mean finding more scientific manpower. Defence scientists are already relatively scarce in this country.

Russia's announcement that it has successfully tested an intercontinental ballistic missile has created more consternation in the Canadian and American defence departments than any Russian weapon development in the last three years.

Unveiling of new Soviet bombers three years ago astonished American and Canadian intelligence sources and action to strengthen North America's air defences had to be taken immediately.

Some officials here estimated Russia tested its intercontinental missile about two years before Western intelligence experts had judged it would although it was known the Soviet Union was working feverishly to produce such a weapon.

NO ESTIMATE

Officials here declined to estimate how long it will be before Russia has an effective operational intercontinental ballistic missile.

But they said their original estimate of 10 to 15 years may well have to be scaled down.

Canada's Defence Research Board already is engaged in intensive studies of possible counter-measures against the missile, often referred to by defence scientists as "the beast."

DRB operational research scientists are co-operating closely with their American counterparts in these studies and to a lesser extent with British scientists.

Garnet W. Dunn, chief of administration for DRB, said earlier this year:

In the few minutes that the missile would require over our continent to target areas, radar equipment would need to pick up and identify the missile, track it in order to establish its aiming point and send commands to a weapon which likely would be a ground-based missile.

"The requirements will be for radar system of extensive range, equipment which will rapidly sort radar information and compute an intercept point and an anti-missile of considerable accuracy These problems now are being studied by our operational research scientists."

Canada's part in the three-nation research is understood to be confined to the electronics field—that is, detection of the missile by radar and possibly the guidance system for the counter-missile. The Defence Research Board has a staff of 600 scientists.

Officials have estimated that the DEW (Distant Early Warning) radar line in the Canadian Arctic would provide six minutes' warning of an attack on North America by intercontinental ballistic missiles.

The line is intended primarily at detection of manned bombers. Scientists said its radar range would have to be considerably extended and the line made completely automatic from detection of the missile to firing of the counter-missile before it could be effective against the intercontinental weapon.

Wake-up Call Services

By Howard Benedict
Associated Press, New York

The world is full of sleepy people—some of them so sleepy that they send themselves a daily telegram to make sure they get out of bed.

Western Union reports it serves as an alarm clock for nearly 160,000 persons a year — half of them in New York City.

Why so many reluctant risers are in New York is a matter of speculation, but one company official (who lives in New York) guesses that "New Yorkers work harder, play harder, and therefore sleep harder."

Los Angeles rates second with 25,000 annual subscribers to the wake-up service. Washington and San Francisco each have 16,000 and Chicago has 14,000.

ALL ELSE FAILS

Seventy-five per cent of the calls go to regular customers, who want to be called every day except Saturday and Sunday so they can get to work on time. Most of them would sleep through an alarm clock, a banging garbage can or a booming cannon, but a ringing phone seems to jolt them.

"Doctors say this is due to selective nerve reaction," said the company official. "The brain associates certain sounds with emergency. These sounds alert the nervous system even though a person is sound asleep. If a sound has no emergency association, even though it's loud, it leaves a heavy sleeper undisturbed."

The operator usually greets the customer with a simple: "Good morning. It's 7 o'clock. Time to get up." But a few persons put a more personal touch in their messages to themselves, such as: "Good morning, Harry. It's 7 a.m. and you should be getting ready to go to the office."

Besides the steady customers, some use the service to be awakened to catch a plane or train or to keep a fishing or golfing date.

PARTY-GOERS USE IT

Many telegrams are filled between 2 and 4 a.m. by persons who have been partying a little too much and fear they won't be able to wake up under normal conditions.

A woman with several members of her family ill at one time sent herself a wake-up telegram every hour to remind her to administer medicines at prescribed periods.

A bride-to-be, fearful of being left waiting at the altar after an all-night bachelor party for the groom, sent him this wire:

"Wake up dear. This is our wedding day. Rmember?" . . .

The Poets Corner

VACATION'S END

The sky if sun-filled, and the wide road calls,
While I, long dreaming through the endless days
Of humdrum task and these confining walks,
At last am free to seek whatever lies
Beyond the distant hills. I glimpse the sea,
Smelling of salt, and widening to far
Horizons where the gulls cry lonesomely,
And tall ships sail beneath a guiding star.
Westward the mountains beckon, ageless rock
White-capped with the eternal winter's snow:
And rivers wide. I revel that no clock
May pace my days. Yet, turning home, I know
The four walls of my house, which I did flee.
Reach out like friendly arms to welcome me.

—Frances Benham Johnson
In Edmonton Journal.

Hearing Ills And Their Cure

By Herman N. Bundesen, M.D.

Hearing defects in children can be cured or at least the progress can be halted in most cases. As with any physical ailment, the quicker you detect the trouble and begin getting competent treatment, the better chance you have of curing the difficulty.

Hearing difficulties or complete deafness might be due to any number of conditions.

Infected tonsils or adenoids, for example, can plug the eustachian tube with pus. And that can cut your hearing ability drastically.

SIMPLE PROBLEM...

Sometimes the problem is more simple. Wax in your ears may be causing the trouble. In this case it's usually a fairly simply procedure for a doctor to remove it.

I know of some cases of almost complete deafness which were cleared up in two minutes just by removing wax from the ears.

Hearing difficulties in small children sometimes are caused by tiny objects which they have pushed into their ears. Occasionally the pea, bean, or whatever it is, shoved so far into the ear that it can't be seen even by close inspection.

FOREIGN OBJECT

But, whether you can see a foreign object in the ear or not, don't search for the source of the trouble by probing the ear yourself.

You may injure the delicate structures and cause permanent deafness. That's a pretty terrible price for any child to pay for a parent's carelessness.

SIGNS OF DIFFICULTY

In my previous columns, I have given you an idea of what might be signs of hearing difficulty in your child—speech peculiarities, failure to respond to everyday street sounds, inattentive, awkward postures when listening and many, many others.

Now none of this advice will do good unless you follow it through by reporting indications of ear trouble to your personal physician or an ear specialist.

Don't make the mistake of going out and buying a hearing aid without consulting your doctor. As I have pointed out, maybe the trouble can be cured without the use of an aid. Also, some few types of deafness are not benefited by a hearing aid.

But if your doctor does advise an aid, then I've got some advice on how you can select the best one for your child's particular difficulty.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

F.D.: Does cortisone help cure cancer.

Answer: There is no evidence that cortisone is of help in curing cancer. It is primarily used in treating of asthma, allergic diseases and in certain types of arthritis.

The Age Old Story

Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

SNOW IN WEST

CALGARY (CP) — Light, wet snow fell on Calgary Tuesday and the weatherman says the situation may become worse before it improves. The snow melted as it hit the ground. It was the first snowfall of the autumn season.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Woman columnist says a thin girl should stay away from a striped wallpaper in a strange room. What is a thin girl doing in a strange room with striped wallpaper—Brandon Sun

The lady who collapsed when crossing the street merely suffered from the shock when a motor vehicle driver stopped and signalled her to go across.—Moose Jaw Times-Herald

Officials in Ipoh, Malaya, who have closed a girls' school because its students suffer a strange malady which causes them to scream, laugh, jump and dance madly, should have searched the place first for Presley records before taking such drastic action as closing down. —Edmonton Journal

The scientists are now busy working out the details of space travel, right down to the foam rubber mattress the passenger will recline on. Hence, we expect to see the queues forming at the ticket counters—Will TCA or CPA get the business? —but please remember not to let them sell you a return ticket. You see, the only thing that still has the scientists stumped is that, while they can get you into outer space, they don't know how to get you back.—Montreal Star

The majority of law-abiding drivers on the roads of Ontario have no fear of the police whether they are in plain cars or cruisers bristling with aerials, flashing beacons and "stop" lights. It is only those who break the law and then get caught that bleat so loudly in protest at the use of unmarked cruisers. —St. Thomas Times-Journal

A bridge player in Palo Alto, California, was dealt what was called "a perfect bridge hand," consisting of 13 clubs. He bid a grand slam, was doubled and redoubled, and of course won, scoring 1,780 points. Some years ago a member of a St. Thomas bridge club was dealt a perfect hand of spades. The excitement was too much for him. He lost his head, bid a grand slam in no trumps — and did not take in a trick!—St. Thomas Times-Journal

From the example we are setting to our children, highway speeding is likely to get worse before it gets better. On a recent trip to Calgary one driver, traveling at an even sixty miles per hour, was passed by no fewer than ten cars on one straight stretch, all of them exceeding the speed limit by from ten to twenty or thirty miles per hour. Of these ten cars, eight noticeably contained one child or more. —Lacombe, Alta., Globe

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