

Tell It To Ottawa!

Provincial Liberal campaigners are quoted as emphasizing the need for more low-cost homes, for our farmers and fishermen as well as for urban residents, through Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation financing. This is a sentiment with which we have no doubt that all our people are in accord. But unfortunately it is Ottawa that sets the pace in this program, and all the glowing assurances of local party candidates will amount to little unless there is a change of policy on the federal level.

In the House of Commons it has been complained that only people who are fairly well off can afford to buy new homes even at the Corporation's mortgage rate, currently 6 3/4 per cent, which is about 1 per cent below that usually paid for conventional mortgages. The average income of these borrowers was \$6,375—well above the national average income. Thus those who had most benefited under the National Housing Act were in the higher income brackets, a situation which Professor James Murray, in a study of the Ontario Association of Housing Authorities, called "socialism for the rich and private enterprise for the poor."

Professor Murray's study estimated that by 1980 the need will be for 1 million low income dwelling units and an additional 1 million units for so-called moderate income persons earning between \$3,000 and \$4,800 a year. The output to date has not even scratched the surface of the needs for publicly assisted housing in Canada.

What is Ottawa doing to cope with the situation? Last year federal loans were made available for 31,500 units of the record 166,000 starts. But the total figure is expected to decline by 15 per cent this year. The president of CMHC himself is quoted as predicting that as many as 35,000 fewer homes would be built this year than in 1965.

The National House Builders Association has launched an all-out campaign for action to meet what it calls a crisis in the supply of mortgage money. The Toronto Real Estate Board has also called for federal funds to be made available immediately for mortgages, claiming that unless they are forthcoming "the nation's house-building industry will be afflicted with bankruptcies and mass unemployment." House-building activity slumped 37 per cent last month, it said, blaming the drop on what it called "the critical shortage of mortgage funds created by federal government indifference and neglect."

A debate has now been launched in the Commons on the subject, with results which will not be determined until this evening. What the Opposition is demanding, it seems, is the very policy of "Action Now" for which our provincial Liberals have been clamoring!

A Health Problem

Nearly a decade has passed since Halifax, with little fanfare, began to fluoridate its drinking water. Now the Nova Scotia government has decided to go a step further towards province-wide acceptance of fluoridation. Health Minister R.A. Donahoe has announced that assistance grants will be considered for municipalities which are prepared to embark upon the plan. Each approved application will entitle the municipalities to a grant covering 50 per cent of the capital cost of the required equipment.

This province hasn't made any move along this line, and neither party in the current election campaign has had anything to say on the matter. For years, however, our

provincial health department has recommended the value of fluoridation, and Health Minister Wedge was outspoken on the subject at the last session of the Legislature.

We note, too, that at Saturday's annual meeting of the Prince Edward Island Dental Association a resolution was again passed, urging every community in the province with a communal water supply to introduce fluoridation. The dentists said it is only by making use of this simple, inexpensive method of reducing tooth decay that there can be any hope of meeting the demands for dental treatment. There are not enough dentists in the province to cope with the present demand for their services, and this shortage is general throughout the country. The clinics for topical fluoride applications on children are well supported, but unfortunately these too may have to be severely curtailed because of the lack of dental hygienists to operate them.

We trust that both our dental and medical organizations will continue to keep this issue before the public. They are the only ones who can speak with authority on the subject, and we believe that eventually their views will prevail. But time is running out, and the problem is getting more serious.

Refunds To Candidates

Many candidates in the June 5 Quebec election enjoy an advantage over their counterparts in this province. They will be refunded about \$3 million under the first election act in Canada to subsidize campaign expenses from the public treasury. The Quebec act also limits spending by parties and candidates, and requires a strict accounting of expenses. Provisions for refunding candidates have already been operative in by-elections, but the current campaign is the first general-election trial of the statute.

In Quebec there are 108 ridings and 3,190,904 electors, according to the enumeration just completed. Each party is limited to election spending of 25 cents per elector in the total of seats it contests. Each candidate may spend up to 60 cents a head on the first 10,000 voters in his riding, 50 cents a head on the second 10,000, and 40 cents a head on the number above 20,000. He may not contribute more than \$2,000 out of his own pocket to his campaign.

Refunds are paid to candidates, but not to parties. The way the act has been written, candidates may qualify for refund only if they: (1) win their ridings, or (2) are members of the governing Liberal party or the official opposition Union Nationale party or (3) get 20 per cent of the votes cast in their ridings. The minor parties bitterly resent the advantage given the two major ones, under some tricky wording which singles their candidates out for refunds without naming the parties. The effect is to enable Liberal and UN candidates to borrow from the bank since they are sure of post-election repayment of part of their expenses.

The Quebec experience is being closely watched by the federal inquiry committee into election spending. It is said that a similar procedure for imposing limits and providing refunds is a distinct possibility at the Ottawa level before the next federal election.

China Threat Grows

It is now apparent that the early reports on Communist China's latest nuclear explosion were based on wishful thinking rather than facts. Both the U.S. State Department and the Japanese Meteorological Agency at first downgraded the potency of the detonation in western Sinkiang. The Japanese now estimate from the fallout that it was about 200 times more powerful than the first test in October, 1964, confirming Peking's announcement that its latest device contained hydrogen-bomb material.

This underlines Prime Minister Pearson's recent warning that renewed efforts must be made to bring Red China into the family of nations before it is too late. As the Milwaukee Journal notes in this connection, it took the United States seven years to move from an atomic bomb to the hydrogen bomb. It took the Soviet Union four years. It has taken China 20 months, assuming they really did develop a thermonuclear device. There is no secret left. Any number of nations willing to spend the money can become atomic powers. However recalcitrant China may be, it is vital that some way be found to bring it into the dialogue seeking peace and disarmament. No nation can be allowed to roam the world as a lone wolf with hatred in its head and hydrogen bombs at its command.



A TIGER IN HIS TANK

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

The Issue In The Munsinger Case

The simple, frank truth is that, at the Gerda Munsinger inquiry in Ottawa's Centennial Tower, a Prime Minister of Canada has been on trial.

Too many people have pussy-footed too long about the real issue at that inquiry. A camouflage of words has been thrown up: a smokescreen of sexy sensation has been laid down. This has confused the opinion of correspondents by rules which the presiding Supreme Court judge was empowered to create at whim and seemingly without regard for courtroom practice.

The course of the inquiry suggests that it is little concerned about who slept with whom; or whether the woman in the name role was a prostitute as the RCMP allege, or a princess as one witness alleges; or to determine the truth between the conflicting statements of Prime Minister Pearson speaking in

the House of Commons and RCMP Commissioner George McClellan testifying on oath at the inquiry.

What has been witnessed by the eighty or so in the audience, the horde of journalists, the few MPs and wives of ex-cabinet ministers, and the handful of the public, has been nothing less than the attempted assassination-by-trial of John Diefenbaker by his political opponents.

IS IT "SECURITY FIRST"? Those Liberal opponents care little for the security of Canada. If they do, why did they admit Gerda Munsinger to Canada as a security-cleared immigrant? If they do, why did they not open an enquiry when they first learned about her case over three years ago?

The RCMP have testified at this hearing that they obtained no evidence, despite their round-the-clock surveillance, that Gerda was ever engaged in espionage or subversive activities during the few years she passed as a domestic servant in Quebec City and as a clerk in Montreal. But the RCMP have testified that she was a Soviet spy, a prostitute and a petty thief in Germany before she was admitted to Canada in 1955. One might ask why, with that record, the then Liberal Government admitted her to Canada as a welcomed, passage-paid immigrant, after she had been refused admission to USA. Should the then Minister of Immigration, J. W. Pickersgill, be questioned at the inquiry on the

grounds of dereliction of duty by himself and his staff?

DIEF BEING JUDGED

The objective of this unique and frighteningly illegal "trial" seems to be to pass judgment on the judgment exercised by Prime Minister Diefenbaker when this case became known. Yet the results fully vindicate his judgment.

When the RCMP reported to Justice Minister Fulton that a cabinet minister was associating with a female with undesirable connections, he properly reported this at once to the Prime Minister. Mr. Diefenbaker decided upon the course of action to be followed. He ordered the minister to break off the association, and this was done. He decided to take no other action pending the woman's intended early departure from Canada, and she left, never to return. National security did not suffer as a result of that exercise of judgment—which had to take into account factors of a national, racial, personal, practical, and political character.

The simple fact that national security did not suffer is ample vindication of Mr. Diefenbaker's judgment. What other steps could or should he have taken, which would have achieved more complete protection of national security, when absolute protection was anyhow attained?

This simple point is surely the kernel of the case, and it seems to reveal in stark clarity the barefaced outcome of this Trial of John Diefenbaker.

The Sunk Islands

Winnipeg Free Press

The Falkland Islands are no more. That is if you live in Argentina. By a stroke of the pen the Argentine government erased from all maps this ignominious name reeking of foreign occupation, and announced that anybody wishing to travel or write to the Falkland Islands will have to use the name of Islas Malvinas, Republica Argentina.

Any mail addressed to the Falkland Islands arriving at an Argentine post office will be returned to sender with the annotation: "Destination unknown." Mailbags arriving in Argentina from overseas will be similarly treated, the returned mail carrying a specially prepared tag stating that the return of the mailbag is not prejudicial to Argentine sovereignty over the Islas Malvinas, occupied by Great Britain "by virtue of an act of force never accepted by the Argentine government."

These islands, states the tag, as well as South Sandwich Is-

land and South Georgia "form part of Argentine territory and are within its dominion and sovereignty."

It is perhaps fortunate for those Argentinians who may wish to write or travel to the Falkland Islands that there are mail from overseas addressed to the Falklands is routed via Uruguay, so the Argentine post-office will not find much use for those tags it has so carefully prepared.

However, sooner or later the fate of these islands—which were discovered by the British navigator John Davis in 1592, claimed for Britain by Capt. John Byron in 1768, and which are now a British colony largely populated by descendants of British settlers—will undoubtedly land in the lap of the United Nations committee on colonialism. One more trouble for this troubled world.

And It's Tax Free

Guelph Mercury

Some figuring done by a home economics department in a American state college concerning a housewife's actual worth on the labor market is supposed to help the average husband appreciate what a jewel he has in the little woman. The girls in the department laid it on the line to husbands with a price tag attached to every duty performed by housewives as a labor of love.

Included in the weekly schedule of rates were such items as cooking, table setting, serving, at \$2 an hour (\$50); dishwashing, at \$1.25 and hour (\$17.50); child care, at 50 cents an hour (\$17.50); routine housework, at \$1.25 an hour (22.50); laundry, and ironing, at \$1.25 an hour (\$12.50); miscellaneous (\$30).

Dollar value of these services amounted to \$150 a week, or \$7,800 a year. And these are only the essentials. Men were reminded that their wives also perform advisory services, act as a charming hostess, alter clothing, take care of

Medical Browsing

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

Many old medicinal were obtained from trees. None are recommended today but it is interesting to speculate why they were selected. The powdered bark of the cork tree was taken in warm water to stop bleeding from the mouth, nose, and bronchi. Pitch (cedria) from large cedar trees was said to relieve toothache and lessen the pain of extraction.

The juniper was a tree full of remedies. According to Industrial Medicine and Surgery, the seeds were prescribed for pain in the chest and abdomen. In addition they relieved gas, and the bark of the cork tree was taken in warm water to stop bleeding from the mouth, nose, and bronchi. Pitch (cedria) from large cedar trees was said to relieve toothache and lessen the pain of extraction.

The cause of the mental disorder schizophrenia is not known but there is reason to believe that it is of chemical origin. Biochemists have been studying the blood, tissues, secretions, and excretions of victims of the disease and the only clue is a pink spot that develops in their urine when a certain chemical DMPE is added. A group from the University of Liverpool tested 391 normal individuals and the pink spot appeared in only one. The test was positive in 46 of 84 schizophrenics and absent in 17 with other forms of mental disease. The pink spot also was absent from the urine of 20 close relatives of three schizophrenic patients. No one, except that chemical differences exist.

Footprints are not as accurate as fingerprints for identifying newborns. Dr. Kenneth S. Shepard, a California pediatrician, collected 51 sets of newborn's footprints and had experts compare them with patterns taken five to six weeks later. According to his report in Medical World News, they could do so in only 16 of the 51 which is not conclusive enough to stand up in court.

According to Dr. Shepard, the practice of footprinting is a needless expense and waste of time. He recommends wrist bands that are attached to the infant in the delivery room. A tattoo that eventually disappears is better. Several years ago we reported on the use of the ear as a means of identification. We assume it has fallen by the wayside because it did not improve existing methods and was more difficult to do.

HYPERTHYROIDISM Mrs. C. writes: Must an overactive thyroid gland be removed?

REPLY Not necessarily. Medical treatment is adequate in many instances. The decision must be made by the physician in attendance.

SPIDERS W. F. writes: Why do some people have spider veins and others are not bothered? Some individuals stand all day and don't have them.

REPLY The cause is not known except that such patterns may run in families. Many of these people have thin skin and the veins are more noticeable.

MORE LIKELY Mrs. O.C. writes: Does angina pectoris always lead to coronary thrombosis?

REPLY Not always, but the individual with angina pectoris stands a greater chance of developing coronary thrombosis than persons who have never encountered the symptom.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT—Chronic fatigue demands investigation.

(NOTE: All correspondence to Dr. Van Dellen should be addressed to: Dr. Theodore Van Dellen, c/o Chicago Tribune, Chicago, Illinois.)

Our Yesterdays

(From The Guardian Files)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (May 17, 1941)

Robert Irwin, 76, former Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia died at his home in Shelburne, N.S., yesterday, following several months of ill health.

Vichy Government circles expressed the greatest surprise that President Roosevelt's declaration on French relations with Germany "interpreted Marshal Petain's broadcast as putting French colonies at the disposition of Germany."

TEN YEARS AGO (May 17, 1956)

D.W. Sewars of Summerside was elected president of the Maritime Professional Photographers Association at the annual meeting at Shediac, N.B.

Two of the Island's most popular Scottish entertainers, Heather and Tommy Burke left by plane, accompanied by their mother, Mrs. Wilfred Burke, on a flight to Scotland. While there, they were to attend the College of Piping in Glasgow, and take lessons also in Gaelic and Highland dancing.

FIREMEN NEEDED HELP CALCUTTA (AP)—A fire engine answering a call in Assam state caught fire en route when the gas tank exploded, injuring four firemen. A second engine put out the fire and went on to the village, where several bamboo houses were already destroyed.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

There's no one dumber than a person who's already heard your best party jokes.—Hamilton Spectator.

Dr. Virtor Kassel of Salt Lake City, an expert in the medical care of the aged, has suggested that polygamy should be made legal for persons over sixty. A fellow with three wives wouldn't be spending all his time trying to organize enough people for a bridge game.—Port Arthur News-Chronicle.

The New York police are hunting for a famous New York beauty who has disappeared. We suggest that perhaps she washed it off.—Niagara Falls Review.

"Mother," said little Tobey, "today our teacher asked me whether or not I had any brothers and sisters, and I told her I was an only child." "And what did she say?" asked his mother. "She said, 'Thank goodness!'" — Montreal Star.

"Mother," said the little boy, "will you help me with some words? Is it correct to say you 'water a horse' when he's thirsty?" "Yes, quite correct." "Then (picking up a saucer) I'm going to milk the cat." — Edmonton Journal.

Something In Common

Toronto Globe and Mail

There was something just a trifle wistful about the words Prime Minister Lester Pearson had for a group of high school students in Ottawa, Canadians, he said, were in too much of a hurry to have all the nation's problems solved at once.

"We want clear-cut decisions, but many of the problems that we face in Canada and in the world today are not black and white. You cannot make quick, clear-cut decisions about everything. There is very little time for tranquil thought today. I often think, we get impatient if we miss the first segment of a revolving door."

This is the Prime Minister who, just a little over three years ago, had come to office with a promise of Sixty Days of Decision. Whose most scathing condemnation of the Diefenbaker regime was that it had not only been indecisive, it had been in a state of stagnation. Who promised the people of Canada in his first speech as their Prime Minister, "It will not be an easy time, but it will, I pledge you, be a time to excite the daring, to test the strong and to give new promise or the timid."

Three years in a revolving door. Yes; one can picture Mr. Pearson thus. A basically thoughtful, charitable man, trapped first by his ill-considered Sixty Days of Decision, buffeted then by the disaster of Walter Gordon's first budget, bounced from scandal within his party to new scandal, tempted into last November's needless election in the hope of a majesty, limping back to Parliament Hill without it.

And all around—decisions, decisions, decisions crying to be made, a pile-up of years of too much bitter talk, too little action.

Yes; Mr. Pearson would probably be glad now to trade in his old slogan for Sixty Days of Serenity. Perhaps between the appointment of the next commission and the day it brings down its report, would it give him time to shape the thought that he and his old antagonist have one thing in common? A deficiency fatal to leaders; the inability to decide and having decided to act.

It isn't diving into the revolving door that traps a man. It is not being able to find a way out.

Necessities vs. Luxuries

Milwaukee Journal

Most things are relative. That goes for necessities and luxuries. Yesterday's household fills become tomorrow's musts; one land's novel is a castle somewhere else.

So it was no small assignment when the Milwaukee county welfare department recently decided to set down guidelines listing household items that, relatively speaking, are necessities and, therefore, could be given to a family on relief. The resulting document is four pages long and enumerates 151 items.

The kitchen is the most demanding room, calling for 85 items, all thoroughly described, down to the last egg beater, can opener and mixing bowl set (seven, eight and nine inch sizes). The living room can have aavenport, the bedroom an alarm clock, the bathroom a toothbrush holder and the laundry room six dozen clothespins. If there's a baby in the house, the guidelines allow a "crib, stroller, high chair, play pen and potty chair."

The county welfare board, which reviewed the list, came up with a few practical additions, such as a plunger to unclog drains. On the other hand, one proposed frill, contour bed sheets, was eliminated. Citing this wife as authority, one coun-

ty supervisor reported that when these tight fitting sheets tear, there's not enough material to sew them back together. Regular sheets were duly substituted.

Had the list been drawn up 20 years ago, nobody would have thought to include a 13 cubic foot refrigerator, range with thermostatically controlled oven and electric toaster—but they're on the list today. Who knows what might be on the list 20 years hence? Perhaps a color television set, automatic dishwasher and pastel Princess telephone!

FIND MARKET FOR MILK NEW DELHI (AP)

Detectives say they have tracked down a gang which stole 25,000 pounds of dried milk donated by the United Nations' Children's Fund to Indian schools. The thieves used forged papers to collect the milk from school warehouses.

FAMOUS FOR BRANDED INSPECTED STEAKS

GOOD ON MONEY ZAKES BACK

ATTENTION ALBERTON RATEPAYERS

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By order of Trustees.

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