

The Shadow of '57

Recalling the weaknesses that led to the Liberal party's defeat in 1957, the Montreal Gazette suggests that the greatest one—the one most responsible for the defeat—was the growth of the idea of indispensability. Such a belief is almost inseparable from arrogance and condescension. The party today, it adds, has undoubtedly benefited from the discipline of defeat and from its period in Opposition. A good part of the older and more committed members have gone, and many younger and more active candidates have appeared.

The party, being out of office, has also been able to make use of some of the men of talent it had, while in office, appointed to the civil service or other specific duties. Conspicuous examples are Mr. Mitchell Sharp, the former Minister of Trade and Commerce, and Mr. Walter Gordon, who held a number of offices and was chairman of three royal commissions.

But, says our Montreal contemporary, the party is still under an awkward difficulty. It has to ask the voters to put the party into office because in these times it is indispensable. And yet it has to make clear that it no longer labors under "that hallucination of indispensability"—as Senator Chubbly Power described it on one occasion—that gripped almost all its ruling coteries prior to the election of 1957.

"To claim indispensability with humility," says The Gazette, "is no easy venture in political psychology. Yet on its ability to make this difficult combination may rest the greater part of whatever success the party will have in winning back the public support that slid so dramatically away from it only six years ago."

Hon. Paul Martin, former Liberal Minister of Health, made a good try at doing this in his campaign speeches here yesterday. Mr. Martin is one of the ablest orators in Canadian public life today, and it will be recalled that he was a close competitor of Mr. Pearson's for the party leadership in January, 1968.

Some say that he could have prevented the shipwreck of the party's hopes in the election of that year had he been in command. Mr. Martin didn't give the impression yesterday that he harbored any such hallucination, but he did seem quite convinced—without arrogance, of course—that he headed for office under Mr. Pearson after April 8. Also that such a consummation, in the electors' own interests, is devoutly to be wished.

Be that as it may, it is pleasing to note that as the first of the "big guns" to visit our shores in this campaign—and as an old friend to boot—Mr. Martin got a deservedly warm welcome.

Planning Badly Needed

The need for planning in the use of resources has been highlighted in recent discussions about the Niagara Peninsula, one of the garden areas of Canada. Visitors are appalled at the parking lots and greenhouses which are displacing the orchards and vineyards there. The extreme case is stated by Reeve Lloyd Ford of Lindsay who told a real estate meeting in Ottawa the other day that so many acres of the most productive farm land is being covered by reckless urban expansion that food shortages are in prospect.

Commenting on this situation,

The Ottawa Journal notes that of more than 3,900,000 square miles of Canada only eight per cent is occupied by farm land, and that it is this area which is being eroded most heavily by the builder. Not all the arable land, of course, has been occupied. With about 100 million acres cultivated for the production of crops, it is estimated by federal officials that another 10 to 15 million acres can be considered potentially arable.

It may be assumed that much of this undeveloped land is not of very high quality for farming, or is inaccessible. So Canada has to consider making do with a productive land acreage not much larger than we have today. Good land has to be preserved and inferior or neglected land made more useful.

More planning of this kind would now be started if Parliament had waited long enough at the last session to approve organization designed to examine what the nation needs. Until men in power begin planning the use of resources, inefficiency will flourish and the best acres may vanish under arid macadam.

Invulnerable Missiles

In a tersely reported review of the military picture before the U.S. Congress recently, Defense Secretary McNamara gave some indication of a great change in the world balance of power that is taking place. The Soviet Union is now achieving a missile force which cannot be knocked out. Like the United States it is putting its big missiles underground in almost invulnerable silos, and its short-range missiles in submarine cruisers under the seas. This means that the United States cannot count in future on the deterrent effect of being able to hit the Soviet Union a sudden, knockout blow.

The American leadership has technically renounced a "first strike" in the past, on the ground that a free democracy is morally barred from starting a war. But this is an over-simplification of the problem. The United States is committed, as the Berlin and Cuban issues showed, to stop certain acts like the cutting of access routes to Berlin, which are not in themselves direct acts of nuclear war but which the Western powers would consider a clear commitment to violent aggression. The American strike power has thus been an active element in cold war strategy.

The Soviet Union, it is assumed from Mr. McNamara's remarks, will now be able to deter the United States, just as the United States has been able always to deter the Soviet Union. Instead of the Americans alone enjoying the advantage of a possible first strike, neither side can now brandish this weapon confidently. It may become useless to both.

This can make the future both easier and more difficult. Certainly it underlines the need for a high order of peace-minded intelligence on both sides.

EDITORIAL NOTES

A West German bulletin reports that there are 84 symphony orchestras, according to the latest count, in the Federal Republic and West Berlin. Munich has four symphony orchestras and Stuttgart three. All those counted are large enough to give representative performances of both classical and modern symphonic music.

Mr. Harkness says Mr. Diefenbaker isn't an expert on nuclear weapons, and that neither can his cabinet ministers. If you want to call it that, who are the experts? They are hard to find and harder to bring into any kind of agreement. Modern military weapons are a bone of contention even among the generals. The American air force chiefs dissent sharply from abandonment of the Skybolt missile, for instance.

It is nothing short of shocking, comments an exchange, that in affluent Toronto there should be 4,500 "dwelling units" with neither a bathtub nor a shower. This is but one of the grim statistics in a report on slums released recently by the Ontario municipal affairs department. In Ottawa, in the shadow of Parliament Hill, the situation is even worse. Of 5,385 dwelling units surveyed, 4,370 had "serious deficiencies" in sanitary and household facilities.

RUSSIAN SCIENTISTS BRING LIZARDS BACK TO LIFE AFTER BEING FROZEN FOR 5,000 YEARS—MOSCOW RADIO



By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen WE WERE asked recently whether the smog in London is different from that of Los Angeles. Yes, because the source of the pollution varies. In London, the basic fuel in London, gives off sulfur dioxide fumes when burned. This gas changes on reaching the air and turns into sulfuric acid when it comes into contact with water.

In addition from the same chimneys, carbon particles emerge and are carried together in small clumps. The sulfuric acid mist adheres to the clumps of carbon particles and is inhaled and become trapped in the lungs. This is the primary source of irritation. Nitric oxide, bright yellow, and ozone are the culprits in Los Angeles. The chain of events begins with nitric oxide. This is altered chemically by the oxygen in the air and ozone is produced when the pollutant is exposed to bright sunlight.

Weather conditions in London last December were ideal for trouble along this line. Smog usually appears when masses of the air have been cooled to the point where the air is saturated with water vapor. This is the case in London on Dec. 3 and soon becomes polluted with street dust and other contaminants. At one period, more than 100 persons were hospitalized. More than 100 persons died and 1,000 were hospitalized. This is the case in London when people have to breathe air that looks like pea soup.

It is interesting how well the city dwellers tolerate modern air pollution. Most victims of the smog are elderly persons or those with severe heart or lung conditions. On the other hand, air pollution is far from harmless. It is associated with important respiratory illnesses, including cancer, chronic bronchitis, asthma, and emphysema.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

Shortly after Admiral Byrd's notable polar expedition returned from the land of ice, someone asked one of the men what he missed most when he was a sailor. The answer was a brief reply.—Sarnia Observer. A sequel to the incident recently in Ontario, when a timber wolf attacked a farmer, has given weight to the argument that, in normal circumstances, a wolf will not attack a human. The Ontario Department of Lands and Forests has on record a few authenticated cases of this happening; but its officials say that there was a something funny about most of the ones they investigated.—Winnipeg Free Press.

Tests Looming In France By Alan Hare Canadian Press Staff Writer Striking coalminers represent the first symbol of the serious tests looming for the French government on the social front. Throughout the long agony of the winter in Algeria, the French union movement deliberately complicated the difficult problem of "decolonization." Social gains were lost in the process, in the national interest.

Now the miners are militantly demanding the government. The Roman Catholic, socialist and Communist unions for once are united in their demands. It is expected to have public opinion on their side. The prospecting how well the city dwellers tolerate modern air pollution. Most victims of the smog are elderly persons or those with severe heart or lung conditions. On the other hand, air pollution is far from harmless. It is associated with important respiratory illnesses, including cancer, chronic bronchitis, asthma, and emphysema.

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man cling to their unreasonable. WHEN DEFEATED In 1957 and 1962 general elections, the defeated ministers remained in office until the cabinet was reappointed. A senator named to the cabinet in 1957, following the June election, last year the PM replaced defeated ministers in August. Between defeat and departure for a minister is usually a matter of weeks. That is the practice. There are ministers appointed to cabinet while not members of either the House of Commons and Senate. Gen. A. G. L. McNaughton, most distinguished Canadian, was sworn as Minister of National Defence in November, 1944, and remained in the cabinet until August, 1945, when he was replaced by Mr. St. Laurent. The Prime Minister can recommend anyone, whether for a cabinet post but if that person is not in the Senate he is expected to seek election within a reasonable time and, if not elected, take his departure.

Unsatisfactory Answer Montreal Gazette Premier Khrushchev has replied to a letter from Lord (Bertrand) Russell, in which the Duke of Windsor, Sir Winston Churchill, Gen. McNaughton and Mr. Justice J. T. Thorson, the only Canadian who has engaged in hand to hand combat with a Brazilian hand.

economic crimes which have received wide publicity in the Soviet Union, and for which the Duke of Windsor, Sir Winston Churchill, Gen. McNaughton and Mr. Justice J. T. Thorson, the only Canadian who has engaged in hand to hand combat with a Brazilian hand. There are some 46 trials for economic crimes in the Soviet Union. More than half have involved Jews. Since July, 1961, at least 90 death sentences have been reported in the Soviet press. And nearly 60 per cent of those put to death have been Jews. The International Commission of Jurists has pointed out, this certainly shows "racial overtones."

Public Forum WCTU SUBMISSION Sir,—The receipt of a submission that has been made by the Provincial Government by the Women's Christian Temperance Union of Charlottetown. We, the members of The Charlottetown Christian Temperance Union on record as strongly opposed to the further relaxing of our liquor laws, which we feel are too lax now. How can we as a Christian society close our eyes to the danger of such a move? We are going to build up our society, not to tear it down. If liquor is sold by the glass in restaurants, the government will be completely changed. Our youth instead of ordering a glass of beer, order a glass of liquor with dire consequences.

We shall surely reap heartache and dishonor on our fair island, if we do not strive to tighten, rather than relax our present liquor laws. Sir,—As a recovery of law is good neither to eat, flesh, nor to drink wine, nor anything whereby by brother stumble, or be offended, or is made weak. 1 Corinthians 10:29. We are a man, smooth, that shall he reap. As God rules the universe, He surely will one day pass judgment on those who do not strive