

Thatcher Takes Over

The Liberals under Premier Ross Thatcher have finally taken over in Saskatchewan, after toppling a CCF administration on April 22 which had been in power for 20 years.

As was to be expected, Mr. Thatcher's new cabinet is composed of pretty green timber. While some of its members have had experience in the opposition benches, none has had experience in government.

Mr. Thatcher is fortunate, however, in that many of the Liberals elected last month are men of high calibre.

The new government's campaign pledges included a promise to lower the provincial sales tax from its present five per cent to four per cent immediately, and to three per cent as soon thereafter as possible.

Mr. Thatcher reduces the tax as promised, he will reduce provincial revenues by some \$8 million. This will pose quite a financial problem.

Like Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan was hoping for a better financial deal from Ottawa than it received at last November's federal-provincial conference.

Mr. Thatcher may be anticipating a better one now, having brought his province politically into line with the controllers of the federal purse-strings.

But as the Winnipeg Free Press sees it, another factor enters into the picture about which he may have cause for concern.

This is the fact that in recent years relations between Saskatchewan Liberals and the Liberal organization at Ottawa have been less than cordial, and that enthusiasm among federal Liberals at Mr. Thatcher's victory last month was more than a little restrained.

They distrust him because he was once a prominent member of the CCF; also because, in his fight against the CCF-NPD in Saskatchewan, he was forced into taking a right-wing position which is equally at odds with federal Liberal trends.

The federal organization's disdain for the Saskatchewan Liberals was shown by its failure to give Mr. Thatcher any help in the election campaign, and by its appointment of a federal organizer in the province without consulting Mr. Thatcher or his colleagues.

Since his victory Mr. Thatcher has let the federal Liberals know that he intends that he will be the provincialist in his own house.

If the trend which it would seem, will be the urgent need to support this independent attitude.

Gen. Foulkes' Reply

One of the complaints made before the Royal Commission on Biculturalism and Bilingualism was of discrimination against French Canadians in the armed services.

A vigorous rebuttal of this claim has been made by General Charles Foulkes, who was chairman of the Chiefs of Staff from 1951 until he retired in 1960, and who writes in the Toronto Telegram to say that "nothing could be farther from the truth."

The exact opposite, he contends, has been both the practice and the custom over the past 40 years. Owing to the chronic shortage of French-speaking officers in all services in both peace and war, they have actually received preferential treatment.

General Foulkes states that during the last war, lower standards of military proficiency had to be accepted in order to obtain the number of French-speaking officers required. Some French-Canadian officers rose from the rank of captain to brigadier. After the

war a new cadet college was set up in St. Jean, Quebec, for the purpose of assisting and encouraging more French Canadians to qualify for commissions in the armed services. The courses of study were especially designed to assist the cadets from the French classical colleges, where much more emphasis is placed on instruction in languages than on mathematics and science.

At the same time cadets from other parts of Canada are given special training in French so as to become bilingual before they leave the college. In the later years of the course French and English are used exclusively on alternate days of the week.

The requirement today for French-speaking officers is continuing to increase. Not only are they needed in the three French-Canadian infantry battalions, but are also required at NATO headquarters as attaches in European countries, in the Congo where French is the second language and also in former-French Indo-China where Canada participates in the truce commission.

These increasing demands for French-speaking officers tend to prolong the length of service of the bilingual officer and not shorten it as has been contended before the commission.

These statements by a responsible military authority are reassuring. They can be checked as to their accuracy, and no doubt the commission will take it its business to do so, and embody the results in its report.

The Money Problem

The convocation exercises at our institutions of higher learning are a reminder of the fact that despite a substantial volume of scholarship and bursary aid and easy-term loans, there is still not enough to guarantee that every qualified student can go to a university, and that this problem will get worse as the hordes of youngsters now in school start knocking on university doors, and as more students pursue graduate studies.

This point is made in a recent article in the Financial Post, which notes that summer employment—the obvious way of paying for a college education—is becoming less effective every year.

Automation is eliminating many of the jobs once done by university students. And unless more money is available to universities to cover their mounting operational costs, fees will have to be raised substantially.

Right now, cost to the student of a year at university ranges from an average of about \$1,352 in an arts or science course to \$2,465 in dentistry, according to the most recent DBS report on student income and expenditure. This cost includes fees, books, room and board and living expenses.

According to this report, based on a sample of Canadian university students in 1961-62, about 65.3 per cent of male students and 63.7 per cent of female students did not receive scholarship assistance. Of those who did, more than half received less than \$400. The percentage of male students reporting some interruption in their university education because of insufficient money ranged from 8 per cent to over 35 per cent. Only 18.2 per cent of all fees for arts and science students were met through scholarships, bursaries and loans of all types. Pharmacy was even lower with 17.1 per cent.

It seems that if we are to grapple with the question of higher education realistically—not only in this province but across Canada—funds on a great deal more generous scale will have to be made available. The problem is where to get them.

EDITORIAL NOTE

Shortage of domestic staff in Britain is reflected in the growing persuasiveness of advertisements for them in many newspapers. But few offer such unusual attractions as the following advertisement from the London Times of 50 years ago, quoted in a BBC broadcast recently: "A good cook is offered a magnificent view from the kitchen window of main thoroughfare with constant arrests, street accidents, ambulance calls, and other interesting incidents at all hours of day and evening."



WHITE HOUSE SUPERMEN

BRITISH COMMENTARY

NATO's Role In A Changing World

By W. N. Ewer, United Kingdom Information Service

It has become a habit to cast NATO Ministerial Conferences for the role of "crisis managers." This year's Spring meeting of the NATO Council was no exception. And in the event of the commentators were, as usual, wise of the mark.

There was no attempt at the Hague to call in question the structure or purposes of the Alliance. There was general agreement that its existence is essential and of enduring importance.

Nevertheless, there were signs of changing interests and viewpoints in the exchanges between government. And NATO is none the wiser for this. Every political organization like every biological organism, needs to adapt itself continuously to changes in its environment.

NATO's environment, the circumstances in which it exists, is changing rapidly.

The turning point was Mr. Khrushchev's peremptory demand, at the close of 1958, for the withdrawal of the Western powers from Berlin within six months. The NATO Alliance stood firmly in face of the implied threat.

And the Soviet Government "drew the correct deduction." The danger of a Soviet aggression in Europe faded. It has faded almost to vanishing point. And it is likely to remain there for some time.

That may be true, but it is not the whole story. It is not the whole story because it is not the whole story. It is not the whole story because it is not the whole story.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Guardian does not accept any liability for opinions expressed. All letters published are subject to editing and condensation. If necessary, the Editors are unable to enter into correspondence regarding letters submitted.

NO OTHER FILL? Sir—On driving around Victoria Park on Monday, May 18, and viewing the damage done to the breastwork and railings, I was very much amazed.

I speak of it as "Soviet" pressure on the West, rather than "Communist" pressure. For it is, I am sure, a profound mistake to regard Soviet policy as purely an instrument of Communist ideological aspirations.

That may have been true 40 years ago. Today it is no longer. For in both the Soviet Union and China, Communist movements have become predominantly the instruments of national liberation. Which is why there are now two Communist ideologies reflecting the nationalism of these two rival SOLIDARITY SACRIFICED.

And indeed, in the past whenever there has been conflict between Soviet policy and Communist solidarity, Communist solidarity has been sacrificed. Thirty years ago, when Stalin was already trying to come to terms with Hitler, Maxim Litvinov, explaining the desertion of the German Communists was very frank.

"We of course, sympathise with the German people, but German comrades but we Marxists are the last who can be approached with allowing our feelings to dictate our policy."

Communist political prisoners in Egypt today must be realising that Mr. Khrushchev could say the same.

Soviet policy is, as Stalin once said, "directed to the interests of the United Nation and nowhere else."

In the same way, it is not, for all the current professions of "anti-colonialism." It could hardly be more so. For, of all the 19th century European Colonial powers, Russia is the only one which was not an Eskimos driven by St. John's, Nfld. (CP) Town Labourer who was drowned early Wednesday on a dog-sled trip between two Bonaville and Makovik, according to a report reaching here. RCMP said Wilfred Semple and Dan-iel Jaravac, both of Makovik, were travelling by dog sled with three children when they apparently broke through the ice. The children escaped and continued on to Makovik to inform residents of the accident.

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Awards of Merit were presented to Ted Atkinson, Fredericton, in the portrait competition; Gil Collicott, Fredericton, and William Blackburne, Saint John, in the black and white commercial color class; and Gill Collicott, Fredericton, in the black and white pictorial competition.

Those New British Blades

London Free Press

In shaving, as in tree-felling the blade is slowed as it slices by friction which, transferred to the shaving process, makes it tug at the whiskers. This gives rise to the familiar feeling of having the razor catch and rasp. Gillette found a way round this some years ago by coating the edge of his Extra Blue blades with a gel of phony, silicones that act as lubricant.

Other lubricating films were also examined—and by other companies. Wilkinson Sword Company and Gillette both found that a coating of fluorocarbon lasted longer than any other one thing, but the process of melting in on to the blade destroyed the tempering of carbon steel. This did not bother Wilkinson, which was using the coil-rolling process to produce stainless steel blades.

Recently Wilkinson admitted that the stainless steel patents had been preceded by Gillette's by 6 months and that the company's chairman said it had to pay a royalty to Gillette for using the process. But, as Wilkinson's chairman said, the company was still first with its stainless steel blades. Wilkinson has set a pace that other razor sets reluctantly to follow or see its massive markets gradually eroded.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

People who insist to kill would be just annoying if they would only stick to killing their own.—Montreal Star.

There is a story, perhaps apocryphal, as to how the townships of Labrador and Melancthon got their names. It is said that the surveyor was an Irish Roman Catholic. He got so mad plunging through the moorlands in the name of the townships the worst names he could think of.—Windsor Star.

The Indonesians, having wrested West New Guinea from the Dutch, are trying to convince the natives that they are friendly. They have been broadcasting propaganda but New Guineans are unhappy with the programs. Indonesian announcements can't speak pidgin properly and are hard to understand. The Indonesians aren't playing "Indonesianising" but means cowboy music.—Milwaukee Journal.

John Bull's Mind

London Free Press

The results of Britain's "little general election" indicate that either the Conservative government or Labor is going to have an easy time securing a national mandate in the next event this autumn.

By-elections in four widely scattered and representative constituencies did not produce the landslide to Labor that the party's leaders had ardently hoped for. The Conservative government held on to three seats and lost one, a net gain of one for Labor, where it had anticipated at least two.

The most significant return was from Devon, a mixed farm and industrial riding of Southern England, and a marginal seat. Here the Conservative candidate withstood a serious Labor challenge.

It is the first real sign of a turning of the tide in favor of Sir Alec Douglas-Home's government.

On the other hand, the results continue to point to Labor's capacity for making major gains in the general election, probably enough to overturn the Government.

Some weeks ago Labor scored a gain from the Conservatives in a by-election at Luton, a prospering industrial town north of London. There were said to be 100 ridings in Britain where a net gain of one would ground like Luton, and one of them may be the Glasgow constituency of Rutherglen. It was there Labor gained its seat for the first time on Thursday.

The Conservatives' margin in the House of Commons today is 100 seats. Labor will have to take more than 50 of these, while holding what it has, to win.

The Douglas-Home Government is putting on a fighting front to convince the electors its program is essential to Britain. Its main appeal must be to the big new British middle class.

With the Liberal Party apparently unable to generate a real impetus, the result of a two-way battle between the Conservatives and Labor is much in doubt.

WESTERN PEAK

Mount Aconcagua in Argentina, rising 28,353 feet above sea level, usually is considered the highest summit in the western hemisphere.

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Wins Five Of Seven Trophies At Photographers Competition

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