

The "Craving For More"

The debate on the Speech from the Throne will occupy the limelight at Ottawa this week. But it will not be until the Budget is brought down that we shall learn how the proposed increases in pensions and other social security payments are to be financed. One matter closely associated with all these measures—with their value to the beneficiaries as well as the ability of the taxpayers to pay for them—will be the problem of gearing currency increases to the nation's wealth, in such a way as to curb the inflationary trend that is now worrying the economists.

This was a matter of great concern to Finance Minister Fleming two years ago. "In the post-war years in this country and in others," he said in his budget speech of March 31, 1960, "there has been a serious threat of inflation. Some people were actually led to suppose that chronic price increases were inevitable; others even suggested that they were desirable, or at least less undesirable than some imaginary alternative. Let us give no quarter to such defeatist doctrines. Inflation acts like a drug on the economic system. Even small doses breed a craving for more."

Unfortunately, the next year's budget showed that this drug habit was getting a still firmer hold on the economy. Borrowings had risen rapidly to finance existing expenditures, and there was an unprecedented budgetary deficit. An expansion of the money supply by more than a billion dollars followed in the year ending last November. Whether Mr. Fleming regards this as "undesirable" or not, it has proved self-defeating so far as curbing inflation is concerned. The latest Canadian cost-of-living index, at an all-time peak of 129.8, shows that Canada is beginning to pay the price of the failure to heed the warnings sounded by the Finance Minister himself in 1960.

What Will It Be?

An older British-European link than the Common Market is likely to get renewed attention this year. Nowadays over 6 million passengers and more than one-third of a million vehicles cross the English Channel each year. About half the passengers and one-fifth the vehicles travel by plane. By 1985 the number of passengers is expected to double, and the array of vehicles to increase to about two million. To meet such a challenge, over such a period, the airlines would require to boost their passenger-carrying capacity fourfold and their vehicle-carrying capacity twenty-fold—with ground facilities to match.

So the Channel tunnel scheme—first mooted 160 years ago—is gathering momentum. As envisaged by a study group which reported to the French and British governments last March, a railway tunnel would involve two parallel one-way tunnels with an internal diameter of 21-feet 4 inches and four cross-passages. The stations—near Folkstone and Calais—would be 44 miles apart. The tunnel length would be 33 miles, including an English land tunnel of 7 miles and a French land tunnel of 3 miles. The open approaches to the terminals would respectively total 9 miles and 7½ miles.

Conversely, if the governments declare for a road tunnel, the under-channel stretch would be 26 miles with road terminals 2½ miles behind Dover and one mile behind Sangatte in France. The road plan would comprise two tunnels of an internal dia-

meter of 36 feet, each with a road-way 29½ feet wide and with traffic lanes 11 feet wide.

If the two cabinets decide for an immersed rail or road tube, it could be built in units of a given length, prefabricated ashore or in floating docks, then towed to the working site. American consultants have prescribed four years for the immersed tube. The other plans envisage five years, but these estimates err towards conservatism.

A Channel bridge, though expensive, is also a practical possibility. Several arguments were raised against this proposal in the past, and one objection—the potential obstruction to navigation—still remains. One great advantage, however, would be the elimination of the ventilation problem.

It is estimated that the initial cost of a railway tunnel would be \$112 million. A road tunnel, depending on its size, would cost between \$129 million and \$153 million. A rail tube, \$113 million; a road tube, between \$104 million and \$115 million; a rail-and-road tube, \$201 million.

The estimated earnings have also been carefully worked out, showing that the venture would be profitable over a comparatively short period of years. More than that, a Channel project would immeasurably strengthen the communications of the embryonic United States of Europe, which is now seen not only as a desirable possibility, but a stern necessity if a free Western Europe is to survive.

Bolstering The U.N.

In a gesture whose significance was noted by an Associated Press correspondent last week, President Kennedy emphasized his support of the United Nations by flying to New York and lunching with U Thant, the United Nations acting secretary-general. They reviewed a number of matters pending before the U.N., but the specific topics were not disclosed. Undoubtedly, however, the meeting was intended by Mr. Kennedy to bolster waning enthusiasm for an organization which has proved exasperating to the leading Western powers in some recent decisions.

The trouble, as the London Spectator pointed out after the Goa incident, stems from the desire of too many governments to believe that the United Nations can be any more than the sum of its parts. It is not, and never had a chance of being, a World Government or anything like it. There is nothing mystical about its sessions, and nothing comes out of them that could not be predicted by anyone familiar with the views of its members.

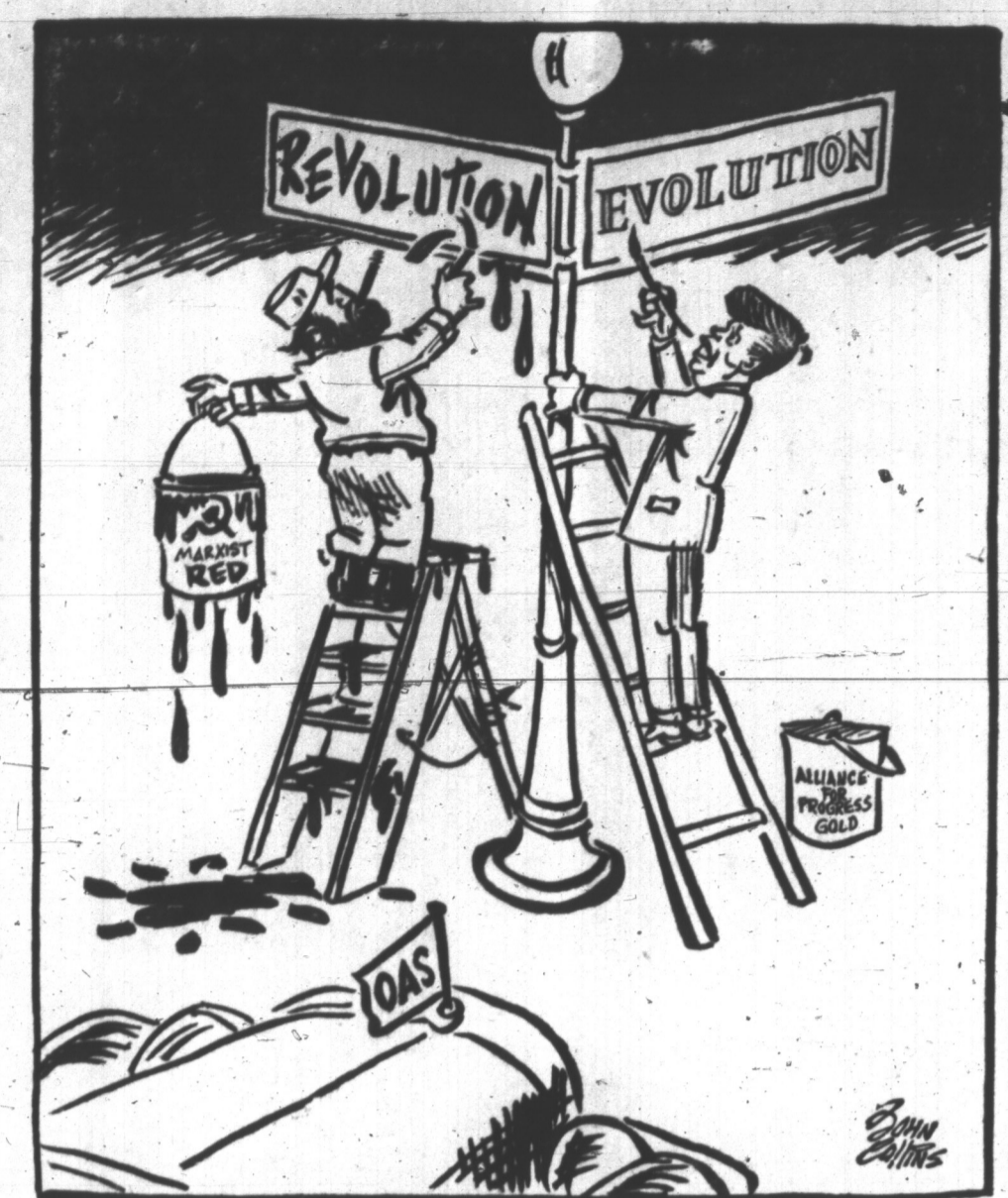
Communist nations behave like Communist nations, colonial powers behave like colonial powers, Afro-Asian nationalists, many of them new to self government, behave as one might expect they would. In other words, the nations behave selfishly, pursuing their own national ends. Of course the structure has become lopsided as the new nations have gradually increased their numbers within the organization; but this was inevitable from the start.

With all its imperfections, the organization provides the one place where the nations can meet and talk, on a global scale, instead of resorting to war on the same scale. Nations may continue to ignore the Charter when they feel like it—to a Hungary there is now added a Goa, and there will be other incidents of this kind—but it is, for all that, the best United Nations we have. And the best United Nations we have is also the best hope we have.

EDITORIAL NOTES

There was a hint in the Throne Speech at Ottawa about Senate reform. Was that why "new benches with plum-colored upholstery" were provided for senators and their guests at the parliamentary opening on Thursday—to cushion the shock, so to speak?

According to a report tabled in the Commons last week, provision has been made for the fee schedule for election officers, including the revising agents who were added to the list by 1960 changes in the Canada Elections Act. For eight days' work, these agents will be paid \$80. Their job will be to visit persons who complain of being left off electoral lists after numeration takes place and add them to the list. Previously persons whose names were omitted had to go before the courts of revision.



CROSSROADS FOR LATIN AMERICA

TERRORIST ACTIVITIES

French Frustration In Algeria

PARIS — How has the extremist "Secret Army Organization" (OAS) managed practically to take over control of the main cities of Algeria, and what is the French government going about it? The answers are painfully simple. The OAS has the basic support of the European population of Algeria, and has terrorized into obedience those who might have been liberal enough or spirited enough to oppose it. The French government has tried just about every means it can think of to penetrate the organization, curb it or bring it under control but virtually every move and every act has been sabotaged or frustrated by the fact that the population is on the right-wing group's side.

Conflict In Urundi

Ruanda-Urundi could become "another Congo," according to gloomy reports from Belgium's United Nations Trust Territory in the heart of Africa. With independence scheduled for 1962, outbreaks between Watutsi and Bahutu tribesmen have erupted periodically in the last two years. Marauding bands, mostly Bahutu, have recently roamed the Ruanda countryside burning huts and forcing villagers to flee for their lives. Though tribal conflict is less acute in Urundi, the territory's southern half, its Premier was assassinated in October.

DOUBLE STATE MAY SPLI

The two-in-one state is expected to split peacefully when the Belgians withdraw. Ruanda already has elected to be a republic, having deposed its king, or mwami. Urundi so far retains the old monarchy. But neither is endowed with natural wealth, and both face a common African problem—the disruption of deep-rooted tribal relationships. In many ways, Ruanda-Urundi has its own special needs and background. Landlocked, mountainous, and scenic, it is called the Switzerland of Africa. It covers about half the area of Ohio, and less than one fortieth that of the sprawling Congo, with which it was formerly linked for administrative and economic purposes. Ethnically, Ruanda-Urundi is closer to East Africa than to its

Critical Trade Period

The sign of relief with which European integrationists greeted the Common Market's agreement on a farm policy presages a critical period for Canada and other major world food exporters. For the six-nation European Economic Community, the accord reached after 40 days of tough bargaining meant the end of the severest crisis in its four-year history. With the agreement the six countries — Germany, France, Italy, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg—passed what most regard as a point of no return on their road to economic union.

For Britain, now bargaining to join the six, the agreement cleared away one of the biggest uncertainties confronting the negotiators. Ministers discussing the British application have scheduled Feb. 22 as the date for launching the exploration of the farm problem. This confronts the low-cost exporters with a big uncertainty. If the target price level is set too high, there is the danger that production by high-cost European farmers would increase to a point where the community would be able to meet its own requirements. Despite this, supporters of the community view the new policy as liberal and as a means of promoting freer trade.

Overweight Common Form Of Malnutrition

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen OVERWEIGHT is the most common form of malnutrition and it has been estimated that five million Americans are 20 per cent above their ideal weight. These extra million pounds of blubber must be shed and carried about every day of the year. What a waste of food and energy.

The treatment of obesity has not changed over the years, despite dozens of fad and crash diets. In 1945 I wrote, "The main cause of obesity is eating more food than the body requires. In regard to diet, I said, 'It is a means of sharp curtailment of carbohydrates and fats in some cases. In others, merely eliminating desserts and between meal tidbits will do the trick. The stomach may be fooled by consuming large quantities of lettuce, celery, and like vegetables.' This advice, written 17 years ago, is still good.

Most Americans eat too much. Studies show that 40 per cent of their calories come from fat. When the individual is inactive and resorts to the use of his car instead of his legs, he is likely to gain weight. Cocktails add to the calorie count. In my opinion, these practices explain why so many are overweight by age 40. It is a slow process — two to four pounds a year.

Some fatties started gorging during childhood and carried the habit into adulthood. Others overeat because they are nervous — nibbling, gorging, and drinking console them or reduce their tensions. Pregnant women who "eat for two" are asking for trouble. The glandular type of obesity is the exceptional form.

The best way to lose weight is to consume less food with every meal until smaller portions become a habit. This is the slow way but the best in the long run because it prevents a return of obesity.

Don't start reducing until you have given the idea real thought and have decided once and for all to consider it a major project. To make the step more impressive, see your physician about diet, calories, ideal weight, and other aspects of slimming. Then begin. (Dr. Van Dellen will answer questions on medical topics if stamped, self-addressed envelope accompanies request.)

PALM SCALING

J. T. writes: The palms of my hands are always scaling. What are the possible causes? REPLY Ringworm, psoriasis, neurodermatitis, and contact dermatitis (from contact with the steering wheel, broom, or other object that is handled), in the condition called keratoderma climactericum, there is a thickening of the palms and soles in women going through the menopause.

GARLIC AND ODOR

R. R. writes: Certain days in the month my husband has an odor that is sickening to those about him. His father has the same odor. My husband bathes regularly. He claims he notices the odor only when he uses garlic salt in the food. Could this be the answer or should he go to the family doctor for examination? He drinks and smokes and doesn't sleep very well.

REPLY

Garlic may be the answer.

COLD BRINGS CRAMPING

T. K. writes: What causes cramping of the feet and legs when they become cold? Is it dangerous if this happens often?

REPLY

Poor circulation is the logical cause. Examination would be needed to determine whether the condition is serious in your case, as we do not know your age or the nature of the circulatory disorder.

Today's Health Hint—Pedestrians are people.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From the Guardian Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
(Jan. 22, 1937)
Members of the Wo-He-Lo Club held a very enjoyable afternoon tea at the nurses residence, the Cupdall Home, yesterday. Guests were received by Mrs. George Wood, club president, and Mrs. Harry Cudmore, vice-president. Mrs. E. S. Chandler ushered and Mrs. Peggy Guilson and Miss Anna M... sourced tea.

TEN YEARS AGO
(Jan. 22, 1952)
The recently introduced consumer-packaged Island cheese has received a favourable reaction on the market. It was reported yesterday by Mr. W. R. Shaw, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, and distribution of the new product is being carried into effect as quickly as supplies will permit.

The Premier of the province of Prince Edward Island, the Hon. J. Walter Jones, today endorsed Brotherhood Week, a day commended the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews as the sponsoring organization.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Fellows like a girl who is pretty as a picture—unless she turns out to be merely another talkie. — Chatham News.

"My doctor reports that my condition is satisfactory," a hospital patient stated, "but he's much easier to satisfy about my condition than I am." — Nanaimo Free Press.

Instead of being their age, as they should, many oldsters make the serious mistake of trying to be the age they wish they were. — Woodstock-Sentinel Review.

A man down on his luck was panhandling on Broadway, when a milk-costed grudge dame stopped. "You should be ashamed of yourself, begging on the street like this," she scolded. "What do you want me to do, lady," the shabby fellow retorted, "open an office?" — Montreal Star.

The man without a country may be getting a break, considering some of the countries. — Stratford Beacon-Herald.

"The fact that men and monkeys have the same number of bones prove they are closely related," says an evolutionist who has the same number of eyes that a fish has. — Galt Reporter.

Critics of modern art often scoff that if a painting were hung upside down no one would notice. Well, that is what happened at the Museum of Modern Art in New York; 116,000 viewers didn't notice the mistake. But in this case there was a solid excuse. The picture was a Matisse, showing a sailboat and its reflection. In the most avant-garde words—neither "boastful reflection" would be recognizable as such. — Ottawa Citizen.

The Stand-Ins

Financial Post

If a vaccine for the common cold is found, and this now looks possible, the race may owe a debt to human guinea pigs in a hospital near Salisbury, England.

They are volunteers for injection of cold virus at the Common Cold Research Unit, set up by Britain's Ministry of Health. Humans must be used in these experiments, it seems, because the only other animals that can catch cold are chimpanzees—and chimpanzees are expensive.

The researchers have already made some important discoveries. For example, nobody ever gets a cold from exposure to rain—and chilling winds; it's the dryness indoors that encourages the bug. Another age-old belief goes out the window with the finding that susceptibility to colds has nothing to do with having or not having tonsils or adenoids.

The scientists have isolated and grown cold viruses; but they know now that several different viruses are concerned. What they are looking for is a vaccine that will cope with all of them at once; and they are hopeful.

A vote of thanks is surely due to those volunteers; but they are not without some tangible reward. They get free lodging, three hot meals a day, plus a pint of beer or cider, a newspaper of choice, 50c a day pocket-money and return fare up to \$10. Not as much as chimpanzees would charge; but still, all this and nothing to do all day, except catch cold, sounds almost like a holiday.

True Detective Stories

BBC London Letter

Those who tend to look on official reports as rather dry reading, might be fascinated by some of the true detective stories to be found in the annual report of Britain's official government chemist, Dr. David Lewis, whose laboratory is hidden away among the lawyers' chambers off London's Strand.

Speaking in the BBC General Overseas Service "Science and Industry" program about the latest report, science correspondent Nick Lloyd instanced "the case of the fainting aircrew" and the mystery of the coffin stains at Noneseuch Park.

Last year, said Lloyd, Dr. Lewis and his staff of 370 scientific detectives dealt with 327,450 samples, the bulk of them sent by the Customs and Excise department for analysis to help decide how much duty should be paid on consignments of tobacco, wines, spirits and other commodities liable to duty. But they also helped any other government department in need of scientific assistance.

SOUGHT EXPLANATION

It had been the Ministry of Works who applied for an explanation of patches of light soil found during excavations of a 12th-century burial ground at Noneseuch Park in Surrey, and chemical analysis had shown that they were probably the last signs of coffins long since destroyed by decay.

As the case of the fainting aircrew, that came from the Ministry of Transport. On a flight from Bombay to West Africa some of the crew temporarily lost consciousness, and fumes from a cargo of brightly colored plastic bangles came under suspicion.

The government chemist reported that they were indeed a likely cause, since a volatile chemical used to give their brilliant finish could react with the plastic base and give off dangerous fumes. Moreover, they contained material which had not been declared by the manufacturer in contravention of air safety regulations.

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ATTENTION

First Prince Liberal Meeting

Tignish Legion Hall,

Tuesday, January 23, 1962

8:00 P.M.

Speakers:

J. GEORGE MACKAY

and

ALEX. MATHESON

All Welcome

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