

Are We Too Complacent?

Premier Shaw foresees great possibilities for the Atlantic Development Board, and believes that it will tie in very well with our own development activities. That is something devoutly to be wished. There is no question as to our need for all the assistance we can get along this line, or of the fact that every measure taken for the improvement of conditions in the Atlantic region will be of benefit, directly or indirectly, to the whole area.

There has been liberal criticism to the effect that the board, as it is to be constituted, will be an advisory federal agency with no executive powers. We are not too keen whether this is "political" criticism or not, as the Premier suggests; but we do think that at this stage, and in view of the trend of the discussion in committee on the legislation has taken, it would certainly be unwise to put executive authority in the board's hands.

Premier Shaw says he does not feel that our causeway claims need be overlooked, although "certain attention was paid to it by speakers commenting on the House this week." What we are concerned about is the nature of the attention these claims received in the discussion, and the fact that the Government's policy with regard to the building of the causeway was so positively ignored.

Why, we keep asking ourselves, should this board, which is to advise on the drafting of future policy for Atlantic development, assume that the Government needs any advice from it about the feasibility of our causeway project, or of the priority it should hold? Wasn't this issue settled when the Prime Minister promised to build the causeway without further delay? Why all the double talk on the subject from Revenue Minister Flemming in introducing the board legislation? What we expected from him on this occasion was what Premier Shaw said yesterday in his press statement: namely that the building of the causeway is a "definite commitment" of the Federal Government, and that consulting engineers are even now working on the final plans for it. "There is no doubt about that," says the Premier. But Mr. Flemming's statements quoted in these columns yesterday indicate that he has quite other ideas on the subject.

This is what our island federal members should be concerning themselves with at this time. The issue has caught them off base. There are interests working overtime to get top priority for a quite different project on the new board's agenda, and they've been doing a good deal of subgrading on it at Ottawa during the past few days.

Guff And Mr. Lewis

It is refreshing to hear a politician own up to his own shortcomings while criticizing those of others. No, this hasn't happened in our provincial campaign, that we know of; but it did happen the other day at Ottawa. Mr. David Lewis, able NDP member for York South, admitted that he with other politicians was guilty of talking too much "guff" at election time.

This is worth a direct quote: "I am convinced it is the case," said Mr. Lewis, "that the average Canadian will have a much sharper interest and will know a great deal more about it if the parties are talking to him about it if he listens to much less of the guff—and I am as responsible for it as any other member; I can claim no innocence on that score—to which he now listens."

To treat this politicians' disease—which the Oxford Dictionary defines as empty talk—Mr. Lewis proposed a measure which would limit their expenses and opportunities. It would provide that certain specified expenditure by a candidate in a federal election, including television, radio, travel within his constituency, and the printing and mailing of some literature, be paid out of Government revenues.

Any additional expenditures by a candidate would be limited to a specified amount calculated on the basis of voting population. Every candidate or his organization would be required to make full and accurate disclosure of all moneys received and all expenditures incurred in respect to a federal election.

Mr. Eldon Woolfman, another lawyer who is Conservative member for Bow River, said he would have gone along with Mr. Lewis if he had been guided by his heart. But the House had not heard the whole story. "The last election cost us \$10,500,000 more or less," he said, "I ask members to keep that fact in mind, then add the total candidate expenses to the cost the country pays and think what it will cost the taxpayers."

Mr. Lewis' views got better support from some Liberal members; but his resolution was eventually "talked out," which meant that it was still being debated when the private members' hour for that day ended. It won't likely come up again this session. And that's a pity. For this idea of putting limits on guff intrigued us and we were hoping to learn more about it as the debate proceeded.

The other members who spoke didn't touch on that subject at all. They didn't mention the odious word used by Mr. Lewis, or indicate that they had heard it. He was the sole performer on this theme. His confession of his own sins of commission was left to fend for itself on the guff-strewn pages of Hansard, where it will go down to posterity like a fly embedded in amber. "How did it get there?" future politicians will ask, as they thumb through the mired ed records.

Mr. Lewis by then will have passed on to his final reward, taking his penitential deed with him. Wearing it, perhaps, as his proudest decoration. For it is only in this world that guff passes for wisdom, or where there is any shame attached to disowning it.

Encouraging Report

It is reassuring to note, from a report by Mr. R. H. Tivy, general superintendent of transportation, Atlantic Region, that the Canadian National Railways is showing the benefits which the shippers and the railway itself are deriving as a result of the modernization program now being pursued by the CNR management. Total freight tonnage handled in September on the lines under Atlantic jurisdiction of Moncton headquarters topped a figure close to one million tons. This was an increase of 15.5 per cent on the total goods transported in the corresponding month of 1961 and also above the five-year average volume, as well as being the highest figure set for that month in some years.

The speed of freight train movement has also been markedly accelerated to what is practically express train schedules. The resultant effect is that goods destined for Atlantic region goods points to Upper and Western Canada, and vice-versa, are being delivered at destinations much more expeditiously than in the past.

EDITORIAL NOTE

A Swedish bacteriologist has warned that lethal bugs may lurk even in the celestial orbs. He recommends that spaceship crews bound for Mars or the moon take a doctor along. "But even the world's greatest bug expert," comments the Financial Post, "might be no use at all. The 'intelligent beings' on Mars, if any, may well include large or small bugs of genius IQ and great ferocity, wholly unknown to man and impervious to his science."



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BRITISH COMMENTARY

China's Cynicism Towards India

United Kingdom Information Service. The Chinese Government is posing before the world as one seeking a just and equitable peace, but in reality it is a cynical power. It has not only refused to meet with India, but has also constructed a military road across the border in the area of its own province of Sikkim. It is only when the Indians had found that diplomatic approaches over a long period were having no effect that they took practical steps to exercise their authority in the area. The Chinese responded to this with their massive double assault in Ladakh and in Nech. The reasons for the timing can only be surmised. There was, of course, the need to get in the blow before the onset of winter conditions. The decision to attack at this time may also have been unconnected with the worsening of Peking's relations with the United States. But the fact is clear. This whole operation (including the pre-emptive strike on the border and negotiation offer) is part of an aggression which began as long ago as 1955. It has been a deliberate and carefully devised scheme to force India to accept the loss of a large area of territory under duress. These are the facts. The posture of a peace-loving China offering generous terms to a defeated India is the purest hypocrisy.

Stevenson Under Fire

Canadian Press Wire. Adlai Stevenson may be on his way out as a power and influence in the Kennedy administration. The Canadian press has raised the stature of those who advocate a tougher line against Communism. The purportory support President Kennedy gave to Stevenson's struggling defence against a magazine article (Saturday Evening Post) attack appears to be an indication that the man who twice sought the presidency and failed is losing his influence with the administration. Stevenson may continue as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations but the magazine article, accusing him of having been a Communist agent before the president decided to appoint him, has undoubtedly determined his standing. The trend seems to follow the path of Kennedy's ally, Chester Bowles, another liberal who quarrelled with the more conservative elements of the Kennedy team. Reports of Bowles' expected removal as ambassador to the Congo have been denied amid public whisperings of his ineffectiveness until he was announced that he was switched to a White House post that now has proven obscure and without influence. Both Chester Bowles and Adlai Stevenson have advocated peace and disarmament, but it appears to be out of tune with the times in the United States. Stevenson appeals to the intellectual. He thinks in terms of an eventual world government, or something akin to that, and believes the Communists can be brought into the world community through peaceful persuasion. But Kennedy's hard-line policy on Cuba put off. He got the Soviet nuclear weapons out of Cuba without war. He forced the Russians to retreat. Bearing some great misadventure, Kennedy's election in 1964 appears assured. He now can afford the luxury of reorganizing his cabinet. Stevenson may continue to speak at the UN; may continue to attend cabinet and national security council sessions, but his words may lack the authority they once had.

Edern In Perspective

Cape Breton Post. Sir Anthony Edern is an identification, has lost its lustre of recent years. Politically, he has been in eclipse. The name which has been resurrected in the forefront of world events has been further diminished by the fact that he has been out of the picture so, it's fair to predict that so, in the perspective of history the name Anthony Edern will be relegated to a footnote. This is not a pessimistic estimation here it is that eventually he will tower in the long view of the future. The inforious Zog venture in which Britain and France joined with Turkey would have succeeded had it not been for the United Nations under U.S. leadership turned thumbs down. It led to Edern's political downfall when he was British prime minister. There followed his resignation and a series of critical operations that sapped his strength. He now sits in the House of Commons. Today a background figure, Lord Avon as Edern now is, has been rehabilitated. In spite of the dramatic events in which he figured at a time the dictators were coming to the fore, Edern's hope and he was implacably opposed to them. His latest book, "The Dictators," is a book which has become an essential source of reference for historians. It is a book which provides a full and authoritative account of how and why Prime Minister Chamberlain re-

Changing Habits Is Not Desired For Aged People

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen. SOME of our readers disagree with statements we make. They make usually are personal rather than medical. For example, an Erie, Pa., woman was treated for a long time by me, to a 75 year old man who smoked 12 cigars a day. I could see no reason why he should stop and said so. I have found, through training, that most elderly people are foolish and sometimes fail to change the habits of elderly people so long as these habits give them enjoyment and do not aggravate existing diseases.

The shocked reader wrote, "In this disagree, as I think everyone of my age should use common sense in such matters. Furthermore, do you know how much this costs? My husband gets five cigars for 40 cents, which, with tax, at 10 seven days, \$5.00; and for four weeks, \$20.00. This is a fortune for my little pension. A message you come along with the thought that my efforts are for nothing. I had to give up many things because of the cost of smoking, so why should he be allowed to do as he pleased just because he is old?"

This may be an economic problem but it touches on the medical because the happiness and health of a couple are at stake. Retirement means a reduced income for many, as well as the inability of the husband and wife. All of this should be compensated for by a living more leisure time. It is a blessing for those who plan for retirement, but when a husband is neglected to consider his expensive habit prior to leaving the job. He should have planned to control the smoking habit five years before retirement.

But there are two sides to every argument. The husband may feel he can afford 10 cigars a day, and the wife may be maintaining pleasure. We might even go so far as to say that the wife's habit is not just not just to the retirement income.

Dr. Van Dellen will answer questions on medical topics if stamped, self-addressed envelope, please, to: Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen, ANEMIA. J.M. writes: Is anemia a disease? REPLY: Yes, if the word is used in its broad meaning. In this respect, anemia is a disease, which is a reduction in the number of red blood cells and or hemoglobin in the blood. Send a stamped, self-addressed envelope for leaflet on anemia which describes the various kinds.

ALWAYS CHEILY. C.M. writes: Always feel cold and wonder if my blood pressure 120/80 could have anything to do with it? REPLY: No; your blood pressure is not related to low metabolism and poor general health. It may be related to a normal or your thyroid underactive.

BOMBARDMENT. A.N. writes: How does radioactive iodine help the thyroid? Each particle acts like a miniature X-ray machine, giving off rays that depress or destroy cells of thyroid tissue. The isotope is most useful treatment cancer of the thyroid gland.

TODAY'S HEALTH HINT. When you get up in the morning, or skin, roll over if it looks as though you are going to hit a stationary object.

Our Yesterday's

(From the Guardian Files) TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO December 7, 1937 Twenty-two Prince Edward Islanders known around the island were studying a practical course in forestry at the Acadia Forest Experiment Station in Sunbury County when the youth training plan will return home to be of service to their province.

Edgar Shaw, K.C., Charlottetown, has been appointed County Court Judge for Prince Edward Island. He was appointed by Justice Minister Lapointe.

TEN YEARS AGO December 7, 1927 Looking back on what was the causeway at Canis, N.S. is built, Premier J. Walter Jones says that the causeway between here and Sydney will increase greatly as Island progress. He says that the causeway North Sydney on their way to Newfoundland, rather than travel by rail.

Far-reaching plans for the development of the province on the Exhibition Grounds a road under construction by officials was presented. It is believed that the buildings will be used by the time Old Home Week is held next year.

STROMGANG DIES IMPERIA, Italy (AP)—Ercolo Bignardi, 60, known around the world for his stromgangs acts, died Wednesday. In his youth he was a world champion all Greco-Roman wrestlers and stage-weight-lifting and stromgangs shows.

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Buying Surplus Uranium

The Atomic Energy Commission has had a difficult decision to make in connection with a proposal it has just extended to uranium producers. The United States Government already owns more uranium than there is any visible use for in the next several years. It is buying surplus uranium contracts at \$8 a pound under contracts made in 1950. The surplus uranium material costs about \$5 a pound to produce; so there is a tidy profit. But the stockpile of atomic weapons has reached a point where little or no further uranium is needed for that purpose. And peaceful uses of atomic power, such as for generating electricity, still appear to be five or 10 years in the future on any economic basis. Meanwhile, the AEC considers it desirable to keep its uranium mining industry going at least in a standby condition. To this, it has proposed to producers that it will extend their contracts to 1970 if they will deliver some of their presently contracted production until after 1960.

Stockpiled silver which the government bought two or three years ago in a controversial program to help the metal mining industries has begun now to be sold. But the government is known uses of silver did not carry any temptation to pile up surplus silver, and the government's capacity to absorb. Let's hurry along with a peaceful uses for uranium.

Reds Still In Laos

Milwaukee Journal. Six months ago an uneasy peace came to an end with the installation of a coalition government headed by neutralist Prince Souvanna Phouma, flanked by Gen. Phoumi Nosavan, a rightist, and Prince Souvanna Phouma, a leftist. The idea was to reunite the country and end the civil war which had been a struggle between east and west. There has been no real unification of Laos since then. Only a few days ago threatened to resign because his left and right wing vice-premiers were not cooperating with him. The biggest news item, however, is the inability of the international coalition government, led by Gen. Phoumi Nosavan, to verify the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Laos. It has been out of 666 Americans and 403 Philippine technicians. But it has verified the fact that a

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