

Opposition," Sir Charles said, "is to exercise its vast influence in restraining vicious legislation, and in giving loyal support to the proposals of the Government which commend themselves as in the interests of the country, while initiating itself such measures for the commonweal as are neglected by the Administration."

The Shaw government has a formidable record of legislation to its credit. The Speech from the Throne is, we believe, one of the most constructive to be placed before the House in many years. But there is, as the Opposition sees it, room for improvement; and we think it has done a good job, on the whole, in making its points and discharging its obligations to the electorate.

It has not been backward, we note, in supporting the Government's plans for establishing industry in West Prince. But it has offered what it regards as constructive criticism in suggesting a \$1.25 per hour wage rate instead of the \$1.10 forecast in the Speech. It has suggested the establishment—surely long overdue—of a prison reform system; also the need for a director of fisheries training, of paying a subsidy on fertilizers for pasture growth, grain and hay, reducing fees for fishing boats hauled on the marine slip at Alberton, and other measures.

Also it has demanded more information on the financial activities of the Industrial Corporation for which more borrowing power has been sought, on fishermen's loan details, and other matters of public concern. The Government has given its reasons for not complying with these demands, and they may be perfectly valid ones. But the Opposition's right to present them is equally valid.

Supporters of the party in power would do well to attend to their own knitting, and let the Opposition do what it can to keep the Government on its toes. Frankly we'd like to see it a little more aggressive than it has shown itself to be. It may be its last chance before that election the Premier says he isn't thinking about, but which could be right around the corner just the same.

In the meantime, it is saddening to reflect on the number of children who are deprived of the benefits of fluoridation, and for whom its introduction, when it comes, will come too late. This is what prompted Health Minister Henry Wedge to speak out so strongly in the Legislature on the subject the other day.

"The teeth of the children of Prince Edward Island," he warned, "are in a deplorable state and there are not enough dentists to take care of them. Fluoride would reduce tooth decay by two-thirds and it has been proved to be a perfectly safe and inexpensive procedure." He cited what is being done in other provinces, and in the United States where 60 million people are drinking fluoridated water, and urged all communities with a water supply in this province to give consideration to the matter without delay.

Mr. Wedge is in a position to obtain the most expert advice on this subject, and there is no doubt that he has studied it from all angles before bringing the matter so emphatically before the House. It is not a new policy of his department, which like the federal health department and other provincial departments across the country has long been in favor of fluoridation. But he has committed himself to championing the issue personally, regardless of criticism which he is well aware may be levelled at him in some quarters. We would be failing in our own responsibilities if we did not warmly commend him on this score, and pledge him our full support in his efforts.

It's How You See It
It has been argued in the Legislature, with some heat, that the Opposition should be more constructive in its criticism of the Government. Mr. Pearson, we note, has been lecturing Mr. Diefenbaker on this point for some time now at Ottawa, though without much effect. The fact is that what may seem constructive criticism of a Liberal administration to a Tory speaker, sounds for all the world like "slander and scuttlebutt" to the gentlemen to whom it is addressed. That's the way with every government, more or less. A blanket indorsement of everything they did would rate full marks as a "constructive" Opposition effort, but in that case there wouldn't be any need for more than one party in the House.

The Opposition's job is to point out the sins of omission and commission which the Government has committed, as well as to propose more desirable courses of action. It cannot—in the Opposition's view—reform the sinner without first bringing him to repentance. Beauséjour quotes Sir Charles Tupper, in a farewell letter to the Canadian Conservative party on Jan. 17, 1901, pertinently to this effect: "The duty of Her Majesty's Loyal

"Nations," comments an exchange, "are said to get the governments they deserve but what did Canada do to deserve this Parliament?" Alas, it voted it in.

A bill has been introduced in the Ontario legislature to prevent motel owners from raising their rates in the evening when motorists are frantically searching for a place to spend the night. Many motels, notes an exchange, have never resorted to this practice but the public will welcome the action against those who have been trying to make the travelling goose lay two golden eggs at a time.



HOCKEY NIGHT IN CANADA

MR. PEARSON'S DILEMMA

Just Hasn't Got What It-Takes

Claude Ryan-In Le Devoir, Montreal

Despite his remarkable gifts and his long experience in public affairs, Mr. Pearson has shown himself unfit to rule. In the last few months he has made several deplorable decisions. He has shown in serious circumstances an astonishing lack of courage. No one feels secure under his leadership any longer.

How can this paradox be explained? A prime reason evidently lies in Mr. Pearson's past. The prime minister has been a diplomat, or a civil servant, almost all his life. However, there is a world of difference between a diplomat and a political leader.

The diplomat, as a general rule, applies a policy. When he participates in the elaboration of this policy, he does it on behalf of other men who in the end will have to take the responsibility for it in the public eye. The world of the diplomat is ideally one of nuances, compromises, grey solutions.

MUST BE RESPONSIBLE
The political leader is, on the contrary, the man on whom falls the responsibility for defining and defending policies. Even if he has not been the actual father of the policies, he must shoulder the ultimate responsibility and defend them in the face of public opinion.

Moreover, our political system rests on the assumption that the leader, having been placed at the head of the machine, must avoid making mistakes, avoid going against the me-

chanism or impeding the operation of the system once it has been put into motion. Everything indicates that this role does not suit a man who has been formed in the art of zigzag that characterizes the diplomatic service. As a public figure, Mr. Pearson is indecisive, unstable, changeable. In him the intelligent citizen and the subtle diplomat too often win out over the political man right in the middle of a tight battle.

A careful observation of Mr. Pearson's behavior also leaves the impression that the prime minister is a poor leader of men. Mr. Pearson is powerless to act decisively in cases where a rapid decision is necessary. With Mr. Pearson each affair is prolonged indefinitely.

KILLED THE MYTH
Despite his repeated errors

and the instability of his leadership, Mr. Pearson has won the sympathy of his members of Parliament and his colleagues. This supply of goodwill and moral support which Mr. Pearson enjoys has up to now prevented his close helpers and supporters from raising brutal questions on the quality of his leadership. In the worst moments of crisis, the same thing is finally said: "Mr. Pearson is still by far the best man."

After three years of experience, we are convinced this beating around the bush has lasted long enough. By his paradoxes and contradictions, Mr. Pearson has led the government and Parliament into impotence. With his own hand, he has killed the myth that not so long ago was created around his name. There is nothing left for him now but to draw the unavoidable conclusion.

PUBLIC FORUM

FRIENDLY SUGGESTION

Sir,—On several trips to P.E.I. these last two years I have been very much taken with the natural beauty of the whole island and always look forward to making the next visit. I would like, however, to make a couple of suggestions. This is the Cradle of Confederation as well as a terrific tourist area: would it not be possible to put on a real promotion in getting people to paint their houses? Surely this would be a great project for the Junior Chamber of Commerce or even a Government agency set up for this purpose. There are so many places which need paint and there are also so many disbanding farm homes and broken down barns which should be cleared away or burned down. These hard-looking properties are causing a blight on what is otherwise a beautiful beauty spot.

I believe the homes in the country areas are better painted than the ones in Charlottetown. Your capital city really needs a good paint job. Why not paint up for Confederation 1967? You would feel much better and the tourists would think it was terrific. Perhaps paint should be sold at cost price to anyone who is willing to paint their house.

I am, Sir, etc. J.R. MASON Dartmouth, N.S.

AN EXCELLENT SPEECH

Sir,—Within the past week I have been perusing and digesting the maiden speech in the House of Commons by our MP David MacDonald. It was a daring speech for one so young in the political arena. It was a sound speech. It was a speech that each of his constituents should read and understand. Not only should he read and understand but also prove his interest by giving him his unequalled assistance.

we immediately think of Patrick Henry. Again, "There is nothing to fear in life but 'fear itself,'" words spoken by Francis Delavero Roosevelt; and "Ask not what your Government can do for you but rather what you can do for your government"—the prophetic utterance of our beloved President Kennedy. The tag I would like to attach to David MacDonald's speech is "Too much talk and too little action."

Then reading his speech in Volume III, 1st section—27th Parliament—the same idea of too much talk and too little action is enlarged upon. In his remarks about ARDA he referred to the fact that this project was greatly oversold. In Mr. MacDonald's constituency, Prince County, much hope has been held out that community development would show signs of progress within the past two years, but has it done so? If not, is it because of lack of trained leadership?

An incident took place one year ago on March 17, 18 and 19 when the officials of ARDA held a seminar in the Westerner Motel, Alberton, 40 guests participating. Those were three stimulating days with panel discussions, the introduction of projects, the interchange of new ideas and the co-operation of all present gave indication of forthcoming community development. On Friday a committee consisting of a chairman, secretary, treasurer and four members sat down to form a West Prince community development organization. A meeting was to have taken place two weeks from that date. No organization was formed in spite of all the work completed at that seminar. Here is a perfect example of too much talk with too little action.

Mr. MacDonald makes an almost pleading request that his constituents will awaken to the fact that without their help, without their interest, without their participation in this community development his great effort will be in vain. Let there be more action and less talk.

I am, Sir, etc. ANN F. GAVIN Tignish, P.E.I.

Indonesia's Problems

By Boris Misher Canadian Press Staff Writer

Indonesia's domestic political disturbances have left her with little energy to pursue her policy of bringing down the Malaysian Federation, considered by Indonesia as an extension of British influence in Southeast Asia. This does not necessarily mean, however, that the heavily-populated and potentially-rich Southeast Asian nation has given up her determination to crush the young federation.

The political picture has been blurred in Indonesia since last October's attempted Communist-backed coup against President Sukarno, and subsequent events have done little to clarify it.

The crushing of the coup strengthened the army's position and left Sukarno in the middle of a power struggle between the left and the right. Military leaders then stood by or encouraged mobs to slaughter an estimated 100,000 Communists.

POLITICAL BALANCE
Sukarno, 64 and weary, continued to plead that there should be a place for the Communists in Indonesian politics to balance the right-wing military and Moslem organizations.

Last month he fired the defence minister, Gen. Abdul Haris Nasution, one of the anti-Communist leaders, and touched off a wave of unrest, student riots and demands for a break in diplomatic relations with Peking.

The students, apparently encouraged by the army and police, increased their anti-Communist demonstrations with shouts for the ouster of Subandrio, first deputy premier and foreign minister, as well as other cabinet ministers sympathetic toward the Communist Chinese.

Sukarno has been president of the country for more than 100,000 days since he and other revolutionary leaders proclaimed Indonesia a sovereign republic two days after the Japanese surrender during the Second World War.

He retained the title when the Netherlands recognized Indonesia's independence in 1949 after a four-year struggle. Sukarno proclaimed himself president for life three years ago. But Sukarno has failed to raise Indonesia, potentially the richest country in Southeast Asia, out of the economic difficulties that have plagued her since independence.

Hodgkins Disease

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen
Hodgkin's disease is a rare form of cancer involving the lymph glands of the body. It no longer is a hopeless condition. Victims who survive three years usually live from 10 to 20 years. The benign form (paraneoplasia) can be cured if treated energetically.

The cause remains a mystery. It strikes persons of all ages but its most common period of onset is in the late teens to the early thirties. Tumor cells develop at first in the lymph glands that are confined to one part of the body. The glands of the neck usually become swollen and initially the condition is detected when a biopsy is made. If all the neck glands are removed or treated with X-ray at this time, the disease may disappear for months or years. Many of the victims develop co-existing anemia, fatigue, loss of weight and appetite, itching, and nausea. Fever is sporadic. The enlargement of the glands is painless until they press upon neighboring organs. Those in the neck, armpit, and groin feel firm or rubbery; later they may become matted. Gland enlargement deep in the chest may lead to pain beneath the breastbone, cough, shortness of breath, and difficulty in swallowing. Now and then the large glands block off the veins coming from the arms and head causing a typical blueness of the face and neck.

The spleen may double or triple in size and the victim has a feeling of abdominal heaviness. The tonsils and thymus, also part of the lymphatic system, are often affected. Hodgkin's disease can be extensive. The symptoms vary from week to week or month to month. There is no orderly progression from one symptom to another.

On the plus side of the ledger is our knowledge that the tumor cells regress when exposed to X-ray or the victim received nitrogen mustard intravenously, or both. Other chemicals include: Cytoxan and triethylene melamine (TEM). Most of the victims report treatment when symptoms exist and live a normal life during remissions.

A Good Suggestion

Members of the Alberta Young Progressive Conservative Association have voted to delete

Our Yesterdays

(From The Guardian Files)
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (March 19, 1941)
An immediate start on the vast Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River basin power and navigation project was agreed upon by Canada and the United States in a joint wartime industrial step.

Hull, England: east coast factory and shipping city of 300,000 population cleaned up the wreckage of one of the heaviest German night attacks on British provincial centres.

TEN YEARS AGO (March 19, 1956)
Nearly 100 passengers and members of the crew of the 81-237-ton Queen Mary suffered injuries in a two-day 70-mile-an-hour Atlantic storm.

A panel of ladies from the Women's Missionary Society were guests of Trinity Men's Association. Comprising the panel were Mrs. Andrew Bagnall, Mrs. Frank MacLean, Miss Enid Morson and Miss Dorothy Auld.

Mr. Bracken, suddenly top man among the Tories, had hardly finished his acceptance speech at the 1964 Winnipeg convention when the Canadian Press wanted to know whether it would be "Progressive Conservative" or "Progressive-Conservative."

The leader of a national party never knows what will hit him next in the way of problems but Mr. Bracken, after thought, said no hyphen was required. The discussion of titles is interesting, but the country will be more interested in whether the party is progressive than in whether it calls itself progressive. There's lots to be done in the party before taking time to fret about names.

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