

It will be interesting to note the reaction, if any, of the City Council to the proposal of one of its members that it should resign in a body because of some criticism of its activities in the press.

Most people are aware that Council duties are more onerous than that, any way that you think that if deemed necessary, would be quite in order.

Public life is beset with criticism. Men in the past have labored in it for honor and not for hire, but they did not feel that reason that they should be set on their heads, or that they should escape criticism and even abuse at times from those who disagreed with them.

The present City Council has had comparatively little experience in the kind of sharp criticism which is leveled at most democratic governments.

Guinean Spending Spree According to a recent news report, Russia has sold two snow plows to the government of Guinea, the former French colony in equatorial Africa, which is now on its own and engaged apparently—in a hilarious spending spree.

According to the same account, the Guinea government was also induced by its American friends to purchase some million screwdrivers and 35,000 bathroom fixtures, proving again that it's enterprise that counts in making sales, and that customers are where you find them.

Such purchases doubtless help to make free Guinea the envy of such African lands as are still under the cruel heel of wicked imperialists. That may have been a strong point in the Soviet selling campaign.

Miss Whittom has been appointed to the Senate, says the Ottawa Citizen, which is the result of wishful thinking on the part of members of the civic board of control.

Now should we rush to the conclusion that the Guineans have got the worst of this bargain. They may not be able to put to use the products of civilization they have acquired, but use is not everything. There are other values in life, also why do our millionaires spend fabulous sums in acquiring art treasures? Think of all the "useless" things that shrewd gentlemen, Lord Beaverbrook has bought in the course of his career! He hasn't taken a fancy to snowplows, screwdrivers and bathroom fixtures as collectors' items, but that's because they're not rarities in this part of the world. If he were a Guinean, now...

There is much more sense, too, in making these things symbols of national status than murderous weapons of destruction, which far too many new nations rush to acquire at any cost to their meagre economy, and which unfortunately the Soviets also have among their exportable commodities.

Ottawa And Education

At least one voice, we note, was raised at the Canadian Conference on Education in Montreal this week in favor of the Federal Government paying some of the costs of education. Dr. J. Frank Leddy, vice president of the University of Saskatchewan, was the speaker at the closing session of the conference on Thursday, said education is too important to be held back by constitutional wrangles over whether the provinces should retain jurisdiction in education matters.

The Federal Government, he pointed out, already gives grants to universities and technical training schools. There was no reason why this could not be done for elementary and high schools without offence to minority rights. Provincial and municipal taxes are no longer adequate to finance a school system that must expand if Canada is to survive. Any country in which education was in trouble was a country with no future. "If we are slow to accept this lesson," Dr. Leddy added "there are others in Moscow or Peking whose vision is so not confused."

From other conference reports that we have seen, Dr. Leddy's appears to have been a voice crying in the wilderness. The old enthusiasm among educationists for federal grants for education appears to have died out. Politicians, evidently, don't like to tangle with the question which is Canada is to survive. Any country in which education was in trouble was a country with no future.

The smaller provinces particularly are in need of aid in maintaining a proper minimum standard of education throughout the country. Of course this is a federal responsibility, and the longer it is ignored the more disastrous the results will be. This Montreal conference should have spoken out loud and bold on that subject, not in tones so muted that it was with difficulty we could catch them at all at this distance.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Sales of a new U.S. four-cent stamp commemorating Colonel Glenn's orbital flight have been such that the postal authorities are unable to keep up with the demand for special first-day issues. 100,000,000 more of the blue-gold stamps have been ordered, boosting the total printing to 320,000,000. The previous record first-day cover issue was for the 1960 stamp marking the 50th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America. The total for that stamp was 1,200,000.

The tantalizing rumors that Mayor Whitton may be appointed to the Senate, says the Ottawa Citizen, which is the result of wishful thinking on the part of members of the civic board of control. Miss Whittom has been Woman of the Year on a number of occasions, and has much support among women's organizations across the country. Politically, the appointment could not but strengthen Prime Minister Diefenbaker's hand at the Ottawa paper. The appointment would constitute a measure of Senate reform, without the necessity of amending the statutes. Certainly, it is doubtful that the Senate would ever be quite the same after Miss Whittom made her presence felt.

Charles H. Phillips Marjorie.



THOSE DANGEROUS FIRST STEPS

BRITISH REPORT

Peace Prospects In Congo And Angola

United Kingdom Information Service

One is afraid to be too optimistic; there may still be many troubles ahead for the Congo, but there is no question that the prospects are far better than they were only a few months ago.

The Adoula Government seems to be in a fairly effective control over five of the six provinces; indeed, over the northern part of Katanga as well. Mr. Gienga's rival government in Stanleyville has collapsed. There has been no resumption of fighting in a wide area around Elisabethville. Negotiations go on between Mr. Adoula and Mr. Tshombe.

It is too soon to be quite sure that they are going to succeed, but the chances are better than ever before. Mr. Adoula has a bold the United Nations Assembly to support his case.

PUBLIC FORUM

This section is open to discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Guardian reserves the right to edit or omit any material where necessary. The Guardian is unable to accept any correspondence through the letter columns.

SCHOLARSHIP SUGGESTED

Sir—I am one who was distressed by the fact that such a highly respected citizen and a successful surgeon as Dr. R.F. Seaman could come to the end of his life and receive scarcely a word of tribute for his great life of service.

I have known and been associated with some close associates, with kind, unselfish, and helpful men in the Mar- times; but I have never known a more selfless, humble doctor than Dr. Seaman. He would stand out of bed at any time of night to attend to the needs of the poorest patient and appear to feel it a privilege to do so. As for his financial reward, he never thought of it. In fact he had received fees for most of his services he would have been happy to continue to do for men there are many people in this province enjoying a good health who owe their lives to his skillful surgery.

It is fair to let such a man go with nothing done to perpetuate his memory? I humbly suggest that friends, admirers and ex-patients be given an opportunity to contribute to an endowment fund for a scholarship for P.E.I. medical students. I would be glad to call for the R.F. Seaman Memorial Scholarship.

I am, Sir, GEO. W. TILLEY Sunbury, P.E.I.

FOR SENATE VACANCY

Sir—I want to support Claude Delaney as a candidate for the Senate vacancy that everyone agrees should come to Prince County.

Mr. Delaney has been a strong supporter of the Conservative Party and has given more consistently loyal service, particularly through his political affiliation, than most men in this province. He is a great community man and one who is admired and respected by everyone, regardless of their political affiliation.

I believe, Sir, that the party should honor a man of Mr. Delaney's type. I am, Sir, CHARLES H. PHILLIPS Marjorie.

Old Age Leads To Withdrawal

By Some Persons

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen MANY older persons withdraw from society gradually and occasionally lose themselves completely from relatives, friends, and neighbors. This withdrawal process, which is a natural psychological process, was first described in a paper by a group from the University of Chicago about five years ago. It is a healthy elderly men and women.

The pattern is variable and some others remain relatively close to certain people and modify their withdrawal. It begins during the sixth decade and results from a changed perception of life. There is less desire for approval and the typical rewards of work and kinship.

As this shift in perception and feeling occurs, an eastern, self-centeredness increases, which widens the gulf between the person and his environment. The number of hours spent in the company of others decreases and the person finds more and more satisfaction in his confined sphere.

An important feature of the theory is that the individual is pictured as participating with his relatives and friends in a mutual withdrawal. He is not being deserted by others. He is driven by some inner force to fade out of the picture in order to limit his contacts and to conserve his strength.

Many people feel guilty about the way they neglect grandma or grandpa. But there is a good reason for this, says Dr. Van Dellen who is responsible for the gradual retreat from them. This retreat is a sign of considerable aging because it sounds as natural. It represents a withdrawal from the social judgment for others. Is it normal or a psychologic process? This is difficult to say because the condition has been observed in older persons who are up and about and which are not responsible for the gradual retreat from them.

Another African problem on which there has been misunderstanding of the British Government's attitude is that of Angola. There seems to be a wide belief in Britain that the Angolan people are self-determining and independent. It is surprising how few articles deal with the people, even though they take apart by the barrel.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From the Guardian Files TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (Mar. 10, 1937)

What it would be the first affair of its kind to be held in this province was staged on Saturday afternoon, under the auspices of the Philatelic Class of the Charlottetown Baptist Church, in the form of a Fashion Show of Home Knitted Wear and Apparel. Attractive children as well as grown-ups composed the models in selected designs and Miss Helen Calvert presided alternately at the piano.

TEN YEARS AGO

(Mar. 10, 1952) A prophetic sign of a new high school to be erected in Charlottetown, and that the census of households and families would be taken, in order to determine their opinions in this regard, was made in the meeting of Charlottetown Junior Chamber of Commerce, last Saturday, when John Stern presided.

William Agnew was elected president of the Y's Men's Club at the annual meeting held last night at the Y. The meeting was presided over by Dr. R. H. Barrett who was presented with a painting by Jack MacLeod in recognition of a new name for the club.

The Age Old Story

For our light afflictions, which are but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.

Public, Not Politicians, Comes First

Enough criticism of the press has been heard during the past session of the legislature to inspire M. Alban Farmer (P.C.—Charlottetown) to write a paper on an indication of something.

It certainly is. Among other things, it indicates that human beings are fallible; that they find it fairly easy to misunderstand each other; and that it is the normal procedure of politicians to get into the press as a scapegoat or whipping boy.

On the whole, it's probably not a bad habit, either. At least, although I'm not a fellow who ordinarily gets much pleasure out of being kicked in the teeth, I might as well consent that I enjoy most of the thrust and parry within human dialogue—the use of the word "accident" to make them weapon—when he becomes conscious of some of the things that he is doing.

SOME SOUND, SOME SILLY Whether criticism is sound or silly, it strikes me as being a sound thing to do. It is to use the avenue of legislative reform to get it off their backs. It is to open where they will have to stand the test of public examination.

MATTER OF DUTY In the case of Mr. Shaw, Opposition Leader Matheson, Provincial Treasurer McQuaid, Mr. Monks, Mr. MacKay, Mr. Smith, and several others, along with Mr. Farmer, all have been reported in some way or another to have taken to the press to say about the press, probably is more important than any other issue. At the municipal level, too, Councilor Giles lately has been using his voice in such other targets as has attracted his fire.

Of course, I am not arguing that papers show any excess democracy in printing such material. Rather, it is their duty to do so, whenever it has news value and serves the readers' right to know. Even so, their acceptance of this duty goes some distance toward making their job a more difficult one.

QUICK CORRECTIONS As for the other criticisms of the press heard in the legislature, if it is my notion that most of them were self-serving or self-protecting, so they don't require much specific discussion. In cases where mistakes were made in the press, corrections followed swiftly, supported by an expression of regret for the error and an assurance of agreement.

That negating is a high-price word, but it is a word that a democracy unless many with the ability to talk back, and at least a few ready to stand up to that sort of talk.

DRUG STORE OPEN

THIS WEEKEND

STEAD'S PHARMACY

Will be open Saturday afternoon and will be the only Drug Store open Saturday evening. "Open All Day Sunday and Sunday Evening." DIAL 4-1313. FREE DELIVERY. Stead's Pharmacy, 315 Main Street, West St. Mayfair Theatre at Murray River, for sale... as complete unit or in separate parcels. Theatre can be moved to another location. Excellent projection equipment—3D—stereoscopic sound—418 theatre seats, condition like new. Original cost \$75,000. Mail letters to Robert G. MacLeod, solicitor, P.O. Box 522, Charlottetown, by March 19, 1962. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted. BRUCE H. YOEL, Secretary, Mayfair Theatre Corp.