

**A Debt Recalled**

When Premier Lesage was here for the sod-turning ceremony at the Confederation Fathers Memorial Building site, he showed a lively awareness of the historic significance of the occasion. And it is worth noting that it will be Quebec and this Province which will share the honors in opening the Centennial celebration ball in 1964, with ceremonies that will be followed by other nation-wide observances right through to the end of 1967.

This is as good an occasion as any for recalling the friendly relations we in Prince Edward Island have always enjoyed with the big French-speaking province. One reason for this special bond of amity is that we have both been concerned about minority rights within the framework of Confederation—Quebec on religious and ethnic grounds, and Prince Edward Island on the basis of the original terms of the Dominion of Canada, with the consequent loss of two of our original seats in the Commons and the recurring danger (after every redistribution) of losing still more.

It was this common concern for minority rights that brought Quebec to our support, back about 1913, in an appeal to have the British North America Act amended to provide that no province's representation in the House of Commons would fall below its statutory number of Senators. This was how we were able to get our Commons membership pegged at a minimum of four; and our then Premier, Hon. John A. Matheson, never forgot the support and encouragement he received from the then Quebec premier, Sir Lomer Gouin, on that occasion.

If today there is a new understanding of Quebec's grievances over bilingualism and biculturalism, it may be to think that we have done something in this Province to promote it—if only to repay that debt of support to which we owe, indeed, our continued existence as a partner in Confederation.

We cannot go along with the extremists in Quebec or elsewhere. But they will be the ones who were there to enthusiastically celebrate the centennial events ahead. We hope to see many Quebec visitors here next year, and it wouldn't be out of place if we took the opportunity of showing how we regard their concern about minority rights, and the bonds of interest that unite us generally.

**Spuds Hold Their Own**

Some people hold the cabbage in contempt as a vegetable, other have a rooted objection to parsnips, while reactions to spinach are sharply divided between those who would eat it every day and those who think it should be inflicted only on invalids and infants. But for potatoes almost everybody has a liking, according to a survey made by a member of the psychology department of Leeds University, as reviewed in a recent British overseas broadcast.

Noted also in this survey was the fact that attitudes to vegetables change relatively little. Tentative efforts to study them at Leeds began in 1939, and in twenty-four years since then, potatoes have flourished as the monarch of the edible vegetable world.

A 1947 survey, during which 129 trenchermen were quizzed on their vegetable preferences, un-

earthed the fact that there were 99 different ways of preparing potatoes; but it also showed that if you like "chips with everything", you share this preference with a majority of British and American servicemen.

In 1943, a survey of 432 children aged between 8 and 13 showed that only one or two actually disliked potatoes, "but swedes, parsnips, turnips and marrow got the thumbs down sign from over 60 per cent of the children."

Carrots came next in popularity after the potato, with strong support for cabbage, cauliflower, onions and runner beans. There was a tendency to dislike anything "slimy, mushy, stringy or slippery."

Nearly twenty years later a mass observation survey covering five vegetables showed that children's taste for green vegetables increased as they grew older. And, for obvious reasons, poor people tended to like cabbage more than rich people did, and rich people showed a greater liking for asparagus.

But rich and poor alike acknowledged the sovereignty of King Potato. Let our railway officials take note of this, and see that there is adequate accommodation for transporting this precious commodity from Spud Island at this season!

As for the British people, we have a feeling that the more they get acquainted with the special qualities of Spud Island tubers the more anxious they will be to see that shipments of our Island french fries continue to reach them uninterrupted, at prices that will not have to be jacked up by reason of exorbitant freight charges.

**Both Have Aid Troubles**

Very much on display at this season is the great difficulty of implementing the assistance one nation might like to give another. Both the United States and the Soviet Union have found this to be the case in recent weeks.

The United States has been learning the bitter lesson in South Viet Nam. Despite large amounts of American military and economic aid—and despite the overthrow of the Diem regime—the situation has been sliding downhill as the Saigon government appears to be gradually losing its battle against the Viet Cong Communist guerrillas.

Another instance is the reported U.S. proposal to extend the scope of the American Seventh Fleet, which has hitherto been operating in East Asian waters, to protect the Chinese Nationalist island of Formosa from possible attacks by the Chinese Communists on the mainland. Some Indians welcomed the support; some took it badly. The Pakistanis objected, and Indonesia's President Sukarno saw it as an example of unwarranted American interference.

In Moscow, Mr. Khrushchev has had to watch from the sidelines as two top Chinese Communist officials "invaded" Africa, obviously on missions of winning friends and influencing people—for Peking's benefit and the Kremlin's loss. There were those who disordered by Ghanaian students in Moscow which gave the Soviets their second unpleasant instance of dealing with Africans. An earlier instance was the Soviet fiasco in the Belgian Congo.

Well knowing the propaganda damage which news stories and photographs of demonstrations of 500 African students in Moscow could do abroad, the Soviet Union nevertheless did not attempt to censor outgoing reports. But as it ruefully contemplated Chinese overtures to Africans abroad, plus African good will dissipating at home, it was in a good position to sympathize with Washington in dealing with the unexpected problems of helping needy nations.

**EDITORIAL NOTE**

Canada gathered about 35,000,000 bushels of apples this year, of which a considerable amount will have to be exported if they are to be used at all. It is curious, in this connection, to note that Canadians eat only about 20 pounds of fresh apples per head in a year while the average Swiss consumes 100 pounds, and in many of the European countries it is nothing for an individual to dispose of more than 60 pounds.



**INTERNATIONAL HAT STYLES**

**OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson**

**Cabinet Changes Not Unanticipated**

The long-delayed remodeling and reshuffling of the federal cabinet has now gotten under way.

These advisable changes have been set on by Prime Minister Pearson for so long that it is almost impossible to say when they might be expected his plans to become somewhat definite. But the latest available proposals are almost exactly in line with the predictions reported earlier in this column on August 26 and September 9 which have been subsequently widely copied.

As noted nearly two months ago, this column wrote that the pattern of the remodeling of the cabinet will largely consist of replacing some old war-horses by younger men.

"Senator John Connolly will be foremost among the new appointments," the column stated. "His likely post will be as Senator for Ontario." The column also predicted that Mr. Pearson would succeed Mr. Pearson as leader of the Liberal Party.

"I had in mind the traditional French-English alternation in the Liberal leadership," the column stated. "Quebeckers do not regard the Ontario-born Chevrier as a political immigrant into Quebec, as a true Quebecer."

"Postmaster Azeluis Daulton, who has been named as one of Commons with Paul Martin, is expected to be replaced," the column stated.

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**A Man We May Need**

In the Commons last week when Douglas Fisher, M.P. introduced a bill to establish the office of Ombudsman, only 23 other MPs out of a possible 264 were on hand.

This was a pity because an Ombudsman may be a most useful thing, just what Canada needs. It is a receiver of complaints. Anyone with a grievance against the powers that be, or some of them, may appeal to him.

He can discipline anyone, fire anyone or revoke any official act. He can prevent, or cause to be prevented, any action which is unjust or an abuse of power. He can investigate alleged injustices—and issue reports on the present and future American Administrators may well welcome the prospect of Britain taking the lead in this field.

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**PUBLIC FORUM**

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**Probable Aid BY THE WAY For Arthritis**

By Dr. Theodore R. Vandell  
 Indomethacin is a new British remedy for arthritis, including gout. There is no doubt that it reduces swelling and relieves pain. It is a powerful acute gout is dramatic and better perhaps than any existing product. But the use of the drug has not been perfected and a more time will be needed to evaluate the side effects.

Indomethacin is a non-steroid, anti-inflammatory, anti-pyretic agent. This means that it is not a steroid, does not corticosteroids or ACTH, and that it reduces swelling and fever due to inflammation. In this respect, it acts more like phenylbutazone, a well known and older anti-rheumatic drug.

Dr. F. Dudley Hart and P.L. Boardman of the Westminster Hospital, London, reported that indomethacin to 123 men and women suffering with a variety of rheumatic ailments. The patients were 58-year-old woman with acute rheumatoid arthritis, who was severely incapacitated by pain and spent much time in bed and not get out of doors. She developed a severe attack of indomethacin and relief was obtained in joint pain and swelling was a notable feature. The patient, without her knowledge, switched treatment to an inert but similar, inert, but inert, symptoms returned.

A 52-year-old man suddenly developed an attack of indomethacin. In 24 hours all the pain in the joints disappeared completely. In contrast, a 61-year-old man developed acute gout and also was given indomethacin. He obtained slight relief, but the joint remained painful and inflamed. One day later, he developed acute gout in another joint. This is mentioned to demonstrate that not everyone gets well.

Frequent side reactions are the usual problems for people using the drug. Juggling the dosage or the molecular structure of the drug may be a time-wasting exercise. The side reactions are more uncomfortable than the disease itself, but they are not dangerous. They include dizziness, drowsiness, and mild headaches after each dose. Other side effects include vomiting, giddiness, or diarrhea. A few became dyspeptic and had to stop the drug because of the gastrointestinal tract. For these reasons it is still in the experimental stage.

**The Storm Centre Shifts**

Montreal Gazette

For the next few years, the principal area of instability in the world may be Asia, especially Southeast Asia. And divided Europe, which has been such an area of tension for the past decade, may, in comparison, be relatively calm.

The war against the Communist guerrillas in South Vietnam is not proceeding well.

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**Man's Capacity To Survive**

Manchester Guardian Weekly

The mine rescue operation at Lengede (in West Germany), is surely one of the great "epic" stories of all time. After 14 days underground, 11 men who had taken refuge on a tiny island in the subterranean flood, were rescued by a rescue capsule in less than an hour.

For eight days after the flooding of the mine there seemed no chance that they could be found alive. The rescue party was constrained on the rescue of the three men known to be trapped in an air pocket in another part of the mine. Fortunately the insistence of some miners who had escaped to the surface, and who had seen men retreating from the water up a rising gully with no outlet was, after some delay, successful in bringing about an attempt to locate them.

The rest was slow but sure, extraordinarily skilful, and sometimes uncommonly lucky.

Can lessons learned at Lengede be applied elsewhere? The situation was unusual, but not unique. Mines are occasionally flooded, there was an instance in Belgium nearly a year ago. Earth movements may block mine passages, and cut off miners to whom fresh channels have to be made, as at Springhill in Nova Scotia five years ago.

In Great Britain, such techniques could very rarely be applied, but in other parts of the world, for the most part; so lead and tin: iron ore (imbed at Lengede) on the other hand, commonly found here or near the surface. Sometimes the rescue of lost or cut-off pot-holes may present a similar problem. But in any such instances the man: less loss of Lengede will hold, never give up hope, or effort, so long as survival is not inconceivable.

**Solar Furnace Aid**

Commonwealth Today

The hot, bright, Australian sun is playing a leading role in an experiment to produce solar energy at the University of New South Wales, in Sydney, Australia.

Scientists are using the heat to examine refractory metals and alloys, essential to space development, which they say, cannot be investigated satisfactorily by any other means.

Other scientists are using the heat to make a solar furnace, Professor C.J. Miner, head of the School of Physics, said. "The heat of the sun is being used to melt refractory metals and alloys to temperatures in special furnaces, but all conventional furnaces are incapable of doing this under test conditions and become contaminated, especially if helping occurs. Chemical action helps to cause discolouration. Often it is the crucible, rather than the test material, that cannot withstand the heat."

"Refractory metals can be melted under 'clean' conditions in high vacuum heating, but this is expensive and troublesome. At present, it appears that the use of solar energy is the best means of getting on with the job, and we are tapping the sun's energy for the first time."

The new solar furnace, a prominent feature of the university campus, consists of a 30-foot high four-legged structure. A flat heliostatic mirror, close to the top, reflects the rays of the sun to a paraboloidal mirror at the top of the tower. This, in turn, concentrates the solar heat on a small target area containing the metal alloy, mineral or other substance under investigation. Because the materials, as its own crucible, the melting area remains "clean" and free from all contamination.

**Our Yesterdays**

(From the Guardian Files)

**TWENTY - FIVE YEARS AGO**  
 (December 18, 1938)  
 ANTIGONISH, N.S. Dec. 28 (CP)—A group hospitalization plan indicated by the Prince Edward Island Drivers Club, Xaver University Extension department's co-operation remains to go into operation in Antigonish on January 1.

**VIRUSES: NEED LIVING TISSUE**  
 V.W. writes: What is the difference between bacteria and viruses?  
 Viruses are too small to be seen under the ordinary microscope. In addition, they cannot be grown in culture media suitable for bacteria, since they can multiply only in living tissue.

**LIVER DISORDER**  
 T.C. writes: Can a person with the liver cured in people who never touched a drop?

**REPLY**  
 Yes—through poison injections or transfusions.

**Today's Health Hint—**  
 Don't be an accident statistic.

**STILL POPULAR**  
 Neh, the Japanese classical stage dance which has many fans, was developed to perfection about 500 years ago.

**His Worship Mayor**

**A. Wathen Gaudet and Mrs. Gaudet**

**Will Hold Their**

**NEW YEAR'S RECEPTION**

**For Gentlemen**

**At The City Hall**

**On Wednesday, Jan. 1st, 1964**

**From 3:30 P.M. To 5:30 P.M.**

Callers are requested to provide themselves with visiting cards.

A new rink at Craupud was officially opened last night when a large crowd gathered for the ceremonies and the skating an enjoyable two hours in skating on a good sheet of ice.

Callers are requested to provide themselves with visiting cards.

**John J. Butler,**  
 Comptroller.