

"Father Of The Commons"

In the British Commons last week Sir Winston Churchill was acclaimed as "the Father of the House." This, of course, was a case in which the House honored itself; but we have no doubt that Sir Winston was pleased at the enthusiastic applause which greeted the Prime Minister's tribute to him. His eyes must have twinkled when the Prime Minister referred to him as "a rock that resists the floods either of time or ennoblement."

It is customary for British Prime Ministers to be given earldoms when they have completed their service in the highest political office. In modern times there have been Earl Baldwin, Earl Lloyd George, and Earl Attlee. Queen Elizabeth is said to have been eager to confer one of the highest titles on Sir Winston. Or he could have had a dukedom which is reported to have been offered to him by King George VI after World War II—a title reserved, generally, for members of the Royal Family. But the great man has remained a commoner, accepting only the Knighthood of the Garter which does not preclude him from sitting in the House of Commons.

It is said that nothing would induce him to change his name except to become the Duke of Marlborough, which in English history is as rich and honored a name as Churchill. But there already is a Duke of Marlborough who is head of the Churchill family. Sir Winston was the offspring of a younger son of an earlier Duke of Marlborough. If his father had been an elder son and heir to the dukedom, Sir Winston most likely would not have become Prime Minister of Britain. And in that case the history of Britain and even of the world would likely have been different.

Another story is that Sir Winston has grandsons coming along who give promise of being Churchills of the future; and he is said to be anxious to avoid their being harassed and thwarted by hereditary barriers because their granddad took a peerage from a grateful nation. These hereditary barriers may or may not be removed in the near future. But Sir Winston, in the meantime, remains what he was—in a classification all his own on account of the fabulous service he has rendered to his country, and in his close association with the Commons over so many historic years.

The Butter Controversy

Agricultural price supports in thirteen years have cost Canada more than \$100,000,000, the bill for butter alone approaching \$20,000,000. Now the Canadian Association of Consumers has written Prime Minister Diefenbaker to ask why surplus butter bought to support prices is sold to the United Kingdom at 19 cents a pound less than cost, at 56 cents. Why not let home consumers have it at the low price, it is asked.

The Ottawa Journal deals with this question in an informative editorial. The tragedy of price support programs, it notes, is that they build up surpluses and if these surpluses are released on the home market at bargain prices the benefits of price support, bought at great expense, can be undermined. Canada could, but does not, sell agricultural surpluses on the home market at bargain prices. The consumers' association agrees that such a policy would involve the Government in purchasing all the current butter production—an uneconomic business—but argues that the time has come for a change in policy to allow a reasonable return to efficient producers and at the same time halt the decline in butter consumption.

"It is," says The Journal, "exactly this precarious balance that the Government planners seek, so often in vain, always haunted by the fear

that if the return is not sufficient the butter-producer will slam shut the barn door and go off to work at putting bumpers on cars. Truth is that while the consumers' association regards with concern the size of the present butter storage holdings, the Agriculture Department feels they are no more than 20,000,000 pounds beyond what will be needed by Spring. That 20,000,000 they are ready to sell to Britain—no more—and it does seem a limited quantity from a total production of 336,000,000 pounds in a year."

Sales at a loss of only 19 cents mean progress compared to more serious losses in the past. It is very unlikely, moreover, that Britain, which had paid the equivalent of 30 cents for butter from other countries, will soon again find them all beset with drought to the point that Canada butter at 56 cents a pound will seem a reasonable bargain.

Van Doren Confesses

Now Charles Van Doren, scion of a famous literary family and a member of the Columbia University faculty, has confessed that he was "deeply involved" in the television quiz show scandals and was given answers and even a regular script to memorize when he appeared on the supposedly unrehearsed programs. He was coached in mannerisms as well. He had testified, falsely to his innocence before the New York grand jury last year, he admitted.

The worst feature of this unsavory affair is not that the shows were run by hoaxers but that dozens, perhaps hundreds, of contestants, almost all of whom must have applied in the simplicity of good faith, were successfully enrolled in the deception. In Van Doren's case, he was persuaded by the producer that it would "increase public respect for the intellectual life, for the teaching profession," by making a good showing in the contest.

It is incredible that a young man with the intellectual background of Van Doren could have swallowed such claptrap, but there it is. He wanted to believe it because the monetary reward was so tempting, because others were doing it and because there seemed no great likelihood of exposure.

"It's marvellous," comments the New Yorker, "how long it went on, considering the number of normal Americans who had to be corrupted to keep the cameras whirring. In all this multitude, not one snag, not one audible bleat, not one righteous refusal that made the news. The lid didn't blow off until, years' afterward, a winner, disgruntled because he had not won more, was moved to confess and purge his guilt."

The turning of all these people into paid cheats was a monstrous offence; more damnable than the brainwashing perpetrated upon Communist victims because here it was done for filthy lucre alone. The television racketeers may get over it, for they have no great reputation to lose; but in the case of men like Van Doren, with promising careers in cultural leadership before them, one can only feel profound regret.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The opening of the first session of the new parliament in Great Britain has coincided with a level of prosperity so high that the Prime Minister has been able to promise lower taxes and a still higher standard of living.

It is unfortunate that so many difficulties are being encountered in construction of the new Hilsboro Bridge, but it would be much worse if the tidal damage had resulted in casualties among those engaged in this hazardous work. Sheet piling and other material is replaceable; human lives are not.

Plans for improvement in the federal marine search and rescue service have been announced by Hon. George Hees, Minister of Transport. His department will appoint co-ordinators for this service, to be attached to the existing RCAF Search and Rescue centres. Their basic task will be to develop a program which will increase the efficiency and availability of government and private vessels. Detailed study will be given by the National Defense Department to ascertain the value of employing additional or more up-to-date helicopter equipment. The fleet of the Transport Department will henceforth be known as the Canadian Coastal Marine Service and will operate under a new director of marine operations.



TIME TO CALL A HUDDLE

OTTAWA REPORT

Old Age Pension Rights

By Patrick Nicholson
 Don't look now, but I think Santa Claus may be preparing a very pleasant surprise for some of our oldsters.
 Prime Minister John Diefenbaker receives each day an avalanche of letters, telegrams, telephone calls and visits, from well-wishers, friends, cranks and hard-luck cases.
 The topic most frequently inspiring complaints and requests is the non-transferability of our old age pension.
 Hon. Waldo Monteith, our welfare-minded Minister of Health and Welfare, tells me that in his mailbox too, this is the Number One topic: pensioners who are unhappy because they must make their home permanently in Canada if they are to be able to draw the only income left to them after a lifetime of toil making Canada greater.
 "I have been made a life prisoner in Canada, without committing any crime and without trial," one old age pensioner complained to me.
TORIES HAVE HELPED
 Under the Liberal Government, a pensioner then drawing a pitiful \$40 a month was only allowed out of Canada for three months in any year. If he stayed away longer, he lost his pension for his period of absence. The Diefenbaker Government has recognized that this was an unreasonably short permissive absence, when one considers the cost and fatigue involved in the hounded and long journey to the Old Country, or to visit the married only daughter at some far community in the States.
 So one of the first legislative acts of the Diefenbaker Government was to increase this period of permitted absence to nearly seven months—with a maximum of six months in any one calendar year. But even so, the old age pensioner is still a "lifer"; he must come back to his permanent home in Canada to draw his pension.
 Our old age pension is a mixture of welfare state benefit and contributory pension. Yet it is, I believe, the only pension paid in Canada which cannot be spent wherever the beneficiary desires.
 The retired civil servant can quit Canada and spend all his pension in Florida; the army's old sweat can sweat it out beneath a sub-tropical palm tree where winter fuel and warm clothing are not costly budget items; the well-pensioned M.P. can live it up in Bali. All these are in part the beneficiaries of the Canadian taxpayer. Yet they are not dragooned to stay in Canada, where the climate and high living costs minimize their

Red China's Lonely Road

By David Rowntree
 Canadian Press Staff Writer
 Communist China is following a lonely road. Its border incursions against India are having one important effect: Pakistan and India are being brought closer together.
 For some months Prime Minister Nehru and President Ayub Khan, Pakistan's strongman, have been working to settle their differences peacefully. Recently they pledged once again to negotiate border disputes and refer to impartial tribunals those they can't resolve.
 That both countries are threatened by Peking's recent warlike moves was evident last week when the Communists clashed with an Indian patrol, killing nine border policemen and capturing 10 in the Kashmir.
INVASION POSSIBLE
 Ayub Khan said recently an invasion of the subcontinent some day isn't a hypothetical question. In such a case, he said, Pakistan would be bound to go to India's help and for that reason the issue of Kashmir, predominantly Moslem as is Pakistan but now annexed to India, should be settled quickly.
 Within India, Nehru has come under increasing criticism for his

Maritime's Coal Problem

Montreal Gazette
 The United Mine Workers of America fear a further contraction of the already depressed Nova Scotia coal mining industry. They want Ottawa to find new markets and to reserve markets that are now slipping away from them; they want the Dominion Coal Company to open new collieries rather than close three existing ones. In their brief to the federal government, they warn of increasing competition from imported coal.
 "We fully expect that a part of this market be allocated to Nova Scotia coal regardless of the cost to the federal treasury."
 This is understandable from men whose backs are to the wall in a fight for economic survival. It might seem almost unfair to recall a calmer statement a few years ago in the Gordon Commission report:
 "But obviously there must be some limit to the amount of assistance which can reasonably

Maritime's Coal Problem

be given to any one industry, no matter how important it may be."
DESPERATE PLIGHT
 The plight of the Nova Scotia mines is indeed desperate. In a year or so the diesel program, on the two great Canadian railways will be complete, robbing the mines of a market which in 1950 consumed 25 per cent of Canadian coal production. Western natural gas and oil are moving in relentlessly on eastern markets. The Seaway makes it even easier for cheaper American coal to compete in these markets. Production costs in Cape Breton's deep, undersea mines are prohibitive.
 Even though modernization from 1945 to 1955 increased production by 47 per cent, production increased at an even greater rate in the more accessible U.S. coalfields. The rising subsidies on Maritime coal shipments to

Poinfers For Mothers-To-Be

By Herman N. Sanderson, M.D.
 ALMOST everyone has advice for the expectant mother, so let me add a few tips, too. I am sure many of you mothers-to-be will find them helpful.
 First of all, make sure you get enough rest. At least eight hours of sleep is essential in most cases. In addition, take time out for several short rest periods or naps during the day.
GET OFF FEET
 Before you begin to feel weary, sit down for half an hour or so, and prop your feet up on a chair or table. Catnap if you can, or read or watch television if you prefer. The important thing is to get off your feet.
 Don't try to keep up your regular household schedule. Light household work is all right in most cases, but better check with your doctor to see just how much you should do.
LIMIT TRAVEL
 Don't travel much during the final three months of pregnancy. And don't venture too far from home or a hospital during that all-important final month.
 While many pregnant women experience the so-called morning sickness, not all of them do. Even for those who do have it, the condition usually disappears after the first few months.
NAUSEA PROBLEM
 In case you suffer nausea in the early morning, I think you might find that eating a small snack of cereal, toast or even crackers before you get out of bed may help to dispose of the problem.
 And since you are in the condition you are, I don't think your dutiful husband will mind serving your breakfast in bed, at least for a while.
TUB BATHS
 Generally, mothers-to-be can continue taking tub baths until the seventh or eighth month of pregnancy. After that, it's often best to take a sponge bath. Remember, when you do use the tub, keep the water comfortable, neither too hot nor too cold.
 I have written extensively in the past about the foods an expectant mother needs. So I'll sum it up briefly now.
PROTEINS AND MILK
 You must get enough protein foods such as meat, fish, eggs, beans and cheese. Drink plenty of milk, too, preferably a quart a day.
 As a matter of fact, unless your doctor advises otherwise you probably should have enough milk, water, coffee, tea and soup to give you two quarts of liquid a day. This should also help keep your bowels regular.
QUESTION AND ANSWER
 G.E.: Could salpha drugs be harmful to a baby if taken during the first two or three months of pregnancy?
 Answer: There is no evidence that salpha drugs taken early in pregnancy have a harmful effect on the baby.

YARD TAKES ON CASE

COLOMBO, Ceylon (Reuters)—The government announced Thursday that two detectives here to help in the investigation of the assassination of Solomon Bandaranaike, the late prime minister.
 of New Brunswick has accepted an invitation to be guest speaker at the Memorial Square ceremonies in Summerside on Remembrance Day and also at the Canadian Legion banquet that night. It has been learned. A meeting of the program committee was held last evening to finalize plans for the program.
 James Nicholson, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Nicholson, Cra-paud, is receiving congratulations on having received the Eliza-Jones Scholarship at MacDonald College, Quebec. This scholarship is awarded to students of the B. Sc. agriculture course on the basis of academic qualifications.

OUR YESTERDAYS

(From the Guardian Files)
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
 (Nov. 3, 1934)
 Mr. W.D. MacNeill, former P.E.I. newspaper man, and for some years news editor of the Halifax Chronicle until three years ago when he left the newspaper field temporarily, has accepted the editorship of the Island Farmer and will enter upon his new duties next week.
 For the past ten days several workmen have been employed at the drill shed removing the plank floor and preparing a foundation of crushed stone for a concrete floor which will be covered with mastic. In addition to the new floor, the offices are also being repaired.
TEN YEARS AGO
 (Nov. 3, 1949)
 Lieutenant - Governor McLellan

NOTES BY THE WAY

Nations worry about their trade relations. Individuals worry about relations they wish they could relate.—Lethbridge Herald
 Some men battle their way to the top, whilst others bottle their way to the bottom.—Calgary Herald
 Lucky Russians. Everything's going well for them these days. They've just named half the moon's surface and they can now sit back and chuckle, while the West tries to mouth such tongue-twisters as the Sovetsky mountains, the Lomonosov and Tsiolkovsky craters.—Toronto Telegram
 Having a troika and span of Russian horses in Ottawa is, to say the least, a novelty. Their unusual way of going—all three appear to be heading in different directions but manage unusual speed in one—may be familiar, to devotees of Russian films but, certainly none has appeared in Ottawa before. The three at the Winter Fair' out at the Coliseum were presented by Premier Khrushchev to Mr. Cyrus Eaton the Cleveland industrialist who sent them, with a Russian driver, to Ottawa.—Ottawa Journal
 A shrewd man, Newfoundland's Premier Joseph Smallwood, is said to have abandoned his plan for a Canada-wide tour crusading against Prime Minister Diefenbaker. A wise decision. Mr. Smallwood's grievance against Mr. Diefenbaker helped to elect him in Newfoundland, but on a trans-Canada scale it would become a pain in the Canadian neck.—Cape Breton Post

The Age Old Story

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The Poets Corner

LONG JOURNEY BY TRAIN
 Now it is Sunday. There is the sun. While above snow that fell in the night. Yesterday's mountains are flung from sight; Yesterday's world was a fugitive one.
 The man who swung his stable doors Is now nine hundred miles from where. Out the same window, in the same chair, I watch another farmer's chores.
 Place whirls like time. Who goes?—who stays? I pass in seconds their life of years; Yet something of the seen adheres.
 To hold me to the unknown ways.
 —Roland English Hartley, in the Christian Science Monitor

MAXIMS

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