

Another U.S. Headache

With its current involvement in the Panama Canal zone controversy, this is an inopportune time for Washington to get into a dispute—even a minor one—with Cuba. And there is no knowing at present whether the Castro government's action in cutting off the fresh water supply to the U.S. Guantanamo naval base on Cuba may not be part of a Communist scheme to stir up more trouble in the Caribbean area.

The action was taken in retaliation for the arrest of 36 Cuban fishermen for sailing into U.S. territorial waters. President Johnson states that the Cuban action had been expected sooner or later, and that contingency plans were already in force to keep the big base supplied with water indefinitely. Seemingly a greater threat than the water shortage, however, is the danger of a new American-Cuban controversy growing and involving prestige and cold-war rivalry on the part of the United States and Russia. The Soviets have butted the already wary with a warning that seizure of the fishermen and their boats off Florida could lead to "disastrous consequences."

The difficulty now is that even if the U.S. wanted to release the Cuban prisoners, it could hardly do so in the face of Castro's threats. There will have to be a trial in the ordinary course. The secretary of the Cuban embassy which handles Cuban affairs in the absence of U.S. diplomatic relations is arranging for counsel for the prisoners, and the Florida authorities have emphasized that they will cooperate with the U.S. state department in handling the case.

But it could be that if this source of friction hadn't arisen, some other excuse would have been found for reviving the old Cuban grievance over the retention of the Guantanamo base in U.S. hands. It is held legally, under treaty; but so was the Suez Canal by the British and French. President Nasser seized and nationalized it. In the case of Egypt, Castro has always regarded the Guantanamo treaty as an affront to Cuban sovereignty, and this may have been one of the matters that took him on a junket to Moscow recently.

Our Far North Bases

The Defense Department has announced the abandonment of the RCAF bases at Resolute Bay on Cornwallis Island and at Fort Churchill, Manitoba, also the withdrawal of the army from Churchill and the Alaska Highway, the reduction of operations at Frobisher on Baffin Island, and other retrenchments with respect to the maintenance of far north bases.

It may be that this action is warranted on grounds of economy, but grave doubts are raised by the report that it was ordered despite the advice against it from members of Defense Department officials and despite the official disapproval of such an expert as R.J. Sutherland, a member of the Defense Advisory Board who was a special adviser to the Defense Minister in 1962. Mr. Sutherland warns, as have others, that Canada's legal claim to her Arctic islands is not beyond question. The claim will be weakened by the impending retreat from Cornwallis Island and Baffin Island, at a time when great enterprise is being exerted by the Soviet Union in its own Arctic areas which come close to Canada at the top of the world.

old CCF Party in the preceding six elections. In the last provincial election in British Columbia the results were equally disappointing. And in the last federal contest, though running up a million votes in the country, the NDP elected members in only three of the ten provinces. In areas where the concentration of labor votes was formidable—as in many of the industrial cities of Ontario—the labor vote was not really delivered.

In the circumstances, perhaps the Liberals are not as much concerned about a merger with his party as Mr. Douglas fears. But he is warning them off, just the same. His low opinion of Liberal political morality seems to be pretty much that of Mr. Diefenbaker's.

Mr. Douglas, however, does concede that "if the day ever comes" when large numbers of Liberals accept socialist policies, and start fighting for them, there will be room for discussion about a merger, "but not one day sooner." The Tory leader doesn't hold out even this hope of reconciliation with the Grits. We gather, from his casting of them at his party's convention this week, that he regards them as being quite beyond redemption.

Foolproof, But...

It is ironical that what failed in the latest U.S. "Ranger shot" was thought to be a foolproof mechanism—in the \$28,000,000 spacecraft—a dual device that was both self-starting and capable of responding to a signal from the earth. Something, presumably, that the experts took for granted would work with flawless precision. But it didn't, and after a perfectly successful 66-hour trip from the earth to the moon the thing failed to transmit any photographs, and the experiment was a flop.

This prompts an exchange to speculate on whether an equally simple switch couldn't fail when America's two first astronauts prepare to make a lunar landing. Would such a sacrifice, it asks, be worth its cost? There are no infallible men or machines, and there never will be.

But that isn't the worst of it. What if some supposedly foolproof gadget set off a nuclear blast and provoked a nuclear retaliation? Military authorities assure us this couldn't happen by mistake, but how can they be so sure? The fate of the Ranger VI spacecraft, through a mishap of just this kind, speaks for itself.

Up to now the United States has spent \$168,000,000 on the Ranger project, only to see six straight failures of one kind or another. And this is only the beginning of the Gemini and Apollo programs designed to land astronauts on the moon before this decade is over. The total expenditure will run to some \$40,000,000,000; and there must be many people in the United States, as well as in other parts of the world, who are asking how much genuine scientific value there is in so extravagant an undertaking, and how much of the American effort is being expended simply for prestige purposes.

Spurning The Grits

NDP Leader Tommie Douglas has denounced as subversive the rumors of a political merger between the New Democratic Party and the Liberals. It's all a plot by the Liberals, he says, to demoralize the NDP faithful and destroy their party unity. Liberal leaders are going out to see if unions with the NDP can be arranged provincially and, from that, the Liberal strategists would move in with their usual caution towards federal association.

But that is just their way of weakening our morale and fragmenting our local or regional efforts. Certainly Mr. Douglas and his lieutenants have troubles enough, without taking on an added risk of this kind. They have been disappointed at the limited support received from labor organizations. Some 218,000 workers belonging to unions, or locals of unions, have decided formally to affiliate with the NDP—but that is only about one-fifth of the Canadian Labor Congress's 1,080,000 members. In the last provincial election in Ontario the NDP won a smaller percentage of the popular vote than the



CHOPSTICKS TAKE PRACTISE

FACING THE CONSEQUENCES

Independence Or Integration?

Globe and Mail, Toronto Canada played a leading role in the creation of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, to which we readily surrendered a great deal of our sovereignty in the field of defense policy. As Minister of External Affairs and now as Prime Minister, Mr. Lester Pearson has consistently, over the years, urged the broadening of the alliance to include economic and political affairs. He says in his way, that we'll mean, presumably, a further surrender of sovereignty on Canada's part.

British Tory Dilemma

By Alan Harvey, Canadian Press Staff Writer

The death-wish in British politics seems to have changed allegiance. With a general election only a few weeks away, offered comfortably close, Prime Minister Sir Alec Douglas-Home, Conservatives are showing the craving for self-destruction that goes to the hallmark of the opposition Labor Party.

Internal feuds between Labor's left and right wings were the splitting headache of British socialism. Now the Tories are holding a hangover head, and with the election likely to take place in four months there isn't much recovery time. It is a poignant situation. Ironically, the Tories divide themselves on their strong sense of party loyalty.

Our Yesterdays

(From the Guardian Files) TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (February 8, 1939)

Mr. George Ives was elected president of the Charlottetown Trades and Labor Council at an organizational meeting held in the Ontario officers included: first vice-president, Hugh Fisher; second vice-president, Stewart Ives; secretary, John Gordon; treasurer, George Avery; councilors, Arthur Wright, Neil Higgins, James Coyle and Keith Johnson.

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The largest number of voters in many years is expected when City electors go to the polls to select a Mayor and seven Councilors. There will be an election in every ward excepting Ward 10, which is a non-voting ward.

Control High Blood Pressure

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen John had known about his high blood pressure for at least 10 years. It never bothered him and he felt no need for medication. Shortly before his sixtieth birthday, his family noticed a change in his intellect and behavior. He was unable to make decisions, used poor judgment, and became forgetful and unsteady.

The deterioration was caused by hardening of the arteries of the brain. Occasionally, a longstanding high blood pressure is responsible for such degeneration. But such degeneration is not good subjects for early treatment of hypertension. At one time we thought the height of the blood pressure was not as important as what the elevated pressure was doing to the eyes, nervous system, heart, and kidneys.

We now know that lowering high blood pressure by itself is not the best policy. We have the drugs to do it and there is no advantage in waiting for involvement of the vital organs. By then, it may be too late. Those who are careful and conscientious can be depended upon to follow directions to the letter. But people who are overworked, the alcoholics, the over-eaters, and the easily depressed—are not good subjects for an elaborate program. They require a simpler plan such as a one-day, long-acting tablet or capsule.

It might be wise for someone in the family to learn how to take the blood pressure. A daily reading helps convince the person that the remedy really works, even though side reactions may occur. A day-to-day determination is a better index of the efficacy of the regimen than a single test in the physician's office, especially if the individual happens to be upset that day. In such instances, the evaluation of the dosage would be based on unrealistic conclusions.

Prince of Wales College

The Canadian Opera Company

Gala Centennial Concert

Canada's leading singers in an evening of great music

P.W.C. Auditorium Tickets at: Miller Bros. Friday, Feb. 14 Tombs Music Store at 8:30 and the College

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RYNDAM Thrift Season Sailings To Southampton, Le Havre, Rotterdam From HALIFAX: Feb. 19, Mar 18 From NEW YORK: 2 days earlier

See your Travel Agent or Holland-America Line 71-79 Water St., Halifax, N.S.



* 25% REDUCTION

Inquire about the possibility of joining one of the "Winter-Spring Vacation in Europe" Group—on Eastbound sailings, March 18.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The teacher was testing the knowledge of the kindergarten class. Slipping a half dollar in the desk, he said "Here's a penny. What is that?" Instantly, a voice from the back of the row said "That's a quarter." Zambiar is being applauded for not changing its name as it emerges into independence. But when you've got a name that begins with Z, there's no point in trading it for one that begins with A. Calgary Herald.

People weary a lot over troubles that never happen, but they derive a lot of pleasure out of anticipating enjoyable occasions which never occur. Woodstock Sentinel - Review.

When the price of liquor goes up, there are a few squawks and some mild assertions that there is no justification for it. But let the price of bread or milk increase and there will be howls like high heaven about it. Windsor Star.

Making Bread

It is interesting to know that for centuries before man accidentally discovered that sour dough would give raised bread, human beings ate rye, millet, oats and barley. Today some 70 per cent of the world's population depends primarily upon cereals, including corn. The most important herb on our planet.

To the Egyptians goes credit for discovering leavened bread, and ever since that unknown day raised bread has been a favorite food of so-called civilized countries. Can you remember when Mother made bread? Remember she measured the ingredients and then on a floured board on the old table beside the kitchen sink she grates and grays it. It was put to rise in a 1-4 size enamel dish and covered along.

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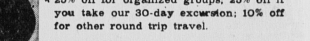
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PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

EASTER BEEF SHOW AND SALE

THURSDAY, MARCH 12th—and FRIDAY, MARCH 13th, 1964 Show—1:00 p.m. March 12th Sale—1:00 p.m. March 13th ENTRIES CLOSE FEBRUARY 21, 1964

Steers only and must be dehorned. Not more than 3 steers from any one homestead. (4-H entries excepted). Required weight will be 650 to 1100 pounds.

Additional Class this year will be a group of three with one group per farmstead in addition to regular classes.

All animals must have been born on P.E.I. and in owner's possession by Oct. 1, 1963.

Regulations and entry forms available from: P.E.I. EASTER BEEF SHOW AND SALE Dr. H. H. Kelly Sec'y. P. O. BOX 3000, CHARLOTTETOWN

Entries should be accompanied by \$1.00 per animal entry fee

BEEF BREEDERS AUCTION

FRIDAY MORNING, 10 A.M.—MARCH 13, 1964

Of Pure Bred Stock, limited to a total of 30 animals. These animals must be from a list of breeders and must have been owned at least 3 months by the Island seller.