

Slavery

While organized slavery, in the sense of actual buying and selling of human beings, has been outlawed in most countries where it once was a recognized institution, it still is being practised extensively in several areas of the world, notably in Saudi Arabia and Yemen in the Middle East and certain sections of Africa.

At present an international conference under the sponsorship of the United Nations is being held in an attempt to halt the cruel traffic. As might be expected, Great Britain is taking the lead in urging international control. If and when a convention is signed, as surely it will be, it will be lawful for warships and planes of the signatory powers to seize any ship suspected of carrying slaves or persons intended to be sold as slaves, to free the captives, and to bring the officers of the ship before a maritime court of one of the signatories for trial.

One would imagine that in this day and age there would be no opposition to this humanitarian proposal. There is, however, and it is being led by the Egyptian Government which pretends to see in the proposed law "an infringement of the sovereign rights of peoples." Yet, there are those who wonder why the British and French are hesitant about trusting to Egypt to honour its commitments! Surely, any government that regards the auctioning of human beings of whatever race or colour as one of the sovereign rights of a people can hardly expect governments which have respect for freedom and know its meaning to pay much attention to its protestations of good faith.

"Ladies & Gentlemen..."

A sociologist at Cornell University has come to the aid of those unfortunate souls who are called upon from time to time to preside over addresses, lectures, public meetings. Firstly, he advises them to see that the main speaker is made "socially comfortable." By that he means that both he or she (the speaker) and the audience should know the real purpose of the speech; and it is up to the chairman to give them that information. If this did nothing more than do away with the baleful and dubious assertion "I am sure we will all enjoy what Mr. Blank has to say," it would be a blessing. Secondly, he warns against "letting others usurp the speaker's time." This too is something worth heeding. The practice of encouraging "preliminary bouts," so common these days, usually results in making the main address something of an anti-climax. By the time the speaker gets going he finds there is little left for him to say. For a self-respecting speaker that must be the ultimate plunge in humiliation.

Thirdly, and perhaps most beneficially, the learned professor gives this precious bit of counsel, addressed primarily to the sponsoring organization: "Make sure that having a speaker is better for all concerned than not having one." O that this were normal procedure! What a lot of unnecessary grief, anxiety, boredom and plain physical discomfort would be avoided in every civilized community in the run of a year!

Cold War Progressing

Some surprising facts have emerged concerning the common cold, according to a release from the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, received by the Health League of Canada.

Colds are more frequent among women than men, and children have more colds than adults. Furthermore, adults in families in which

there are young children have more colds than those in families where there are only older children. The common cold is the leading cause of absenteeism reported among elementary school children, and this includes the little angels who come up with a special cold on the day when a tough exam is scheduled.

The five-year period from 1951 to 1955 shows a seasonal pattern; a rise in the incidence of colds from a minimum in summer or early autumn to a peak in midwinter, followed by a rapid decline to a level which approached the minimum level by late spring.

These five-year data relate to the recorded experience of the Navy and Marine Corps, which goes to show that the common cold is just as lethal for rugged marines and sailors as anyone else.

The statisticians, after confessing that until recently, research on colds had been desultory because the possibility of its control seemed dubious, came up with a ray of hope.

"In recent years, interest has been stimulated by the discovery of laboratory procedures which provide better means of identifying the causative agents of the common cold. The progress made in this area enhances the prospect of developing effective and new methods of therapy."

EDITORIAL NOTES

For the first time since the Bolshevik revolution the Russian Orthodox Church has been permitted to print bibles. 50 of them have been sent to the United States—as evidence, no doubt, of the new and better look in Russian foreign policy!

For some reason Canadians have been eating less bread in recent years. The per capita consumption in 1955 was approximately 100 pounds, 11 pounds less than 10 years previously. Meanwhile, wheat production is increasing all the time.

Canadian tourist literature evidently affects different persons in different ways. Among the more than 330,000 letters of inquiry received by the director of the Federal bureau in the first half of this year was this one from a lady in Texas: "Please send me money for transportation. Answer soon."

Another British adviser to an Arab government has retired from his post. He is Sir Charles Belgrade who for several years has been political adviser to the ruler of oil-rich Bahrain in the Persian Gulf. Sir Charles says he thinks his retirement might help to ease the present tensions in the area.

Entomologists meeting in Montreal have declared the black fly to be a worse pest than the mosquito. That's worth knowing, although it won't make the mosquito any more popular. Judging by the energetic activities of both species this summer, they don't appear to be worrying very much about entomological pronouncements.

The Philippines is the latest country to indicate uneasiness over the presence of foreign-controlled military bases on its soil. The government has asked the United States to hand over areas that are no longer needed for defence and not to build any new bases. The 1947 agreement gave the United States a 99 year grant of necessary facilities. The two countries are on the friendliest terms; but it seems that Asiatic nationalism is so strong these days that even a friendly country is regarded with suspicion.

Reports from Warsaw say that the national elections this fall will give Poles for the first time since the war something resembling a choice of candidates. Hitherto electors could vote for the person whose name was on the ballot or simply return the ballot unmarked; there was no alternative candidate. This year, although there will be only one name on the ballot as before, voters will be allowed to write in the name of another person if they so desire. The person chosen, however, must not be an anti-communist although he may be a non-communist. It's not much of a democratic privilege, but at least an improvement over the old system.



COMPROMISE OR---

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

IS IT FAIR?

Sir,—During recent years, I have observed much in national and international upheavals.—Iraq, Iran, Egypt, Suez, Hongkong, Korea, South Africa, India, etc., all former or present parts of the British Empire. Some remarks too, have reached my ears concerning England's "greed" in claiming so much of the world. Yes "greed" they called it. "What right had England to all these possessions more than any other nation of the World?"

Let's put it this way: Henry Ford became one of the richest men of the Industrial and Modern Machine Age. He began as a news boy selling papers by which means he is said to have earned and saved his first money. I don't think he had more than High School education—yet he mechanized industry and put the world on wheels in addition to his great wealth and extensive property—Oh yes, he did have something more than the average boy—God's gift of natural genius in mechanics and business—a rare combination—that gave him victory and success.

Can we say of him that he had no right to claim so much? Have you and I the license to condemn him for his wealth, honour and success, in so far as to try to seize it?

England's widely extended Empire compares strikingly with Henry Ford's business and success. England began as a small Anglo-Celtic island in the Ocean. Her first concern was civilization and education of her people and development of government at home. In this she made excellent progress and had established Democracy by 1688. Then the Industrial Revolution added it's toll to developments. But 1300-1700 A.D. had seen extensive expansion of the Empire all over the world. What had she more than other nations? Why did so many parts and countries develop under her command over the globe?

Like Henry Ford, England had a God-given gift that inland nations however clever, lacked—the gift of great and fearless seamen, whose greatness expanded from 878 when Alfred The Great built her first fleet and defeated his enemies on the sea. Her gift of "great seamen" is peculiar to people who live and undergo civilization cultures on such islands; yes "such" islands, for England has a number that contributed to the greatness of her seamen above other islands; but we shall leave these unique points for the present.

England expanded in commerce



SKETCH In the shadow of the barn Beside the brook A painter in a stained blue smock Reflects before his easel. He tips a brush with amber And careful as a farmer Plants the apple tree. In black earth and gold sun.

He steps back, squints, returns And spreads the green boughs On a cloud. The blossoms bud and open, A few fall to the grass, So swift. The growing of that May-time tree!

The painter does not know That on the canvas of his eyes Tree and cloud Bree and brook Include him too.

—BEREN VAN SLYKE, in the New York Herald-Tribune.

SOLDIERS CONVICTED WUERZBURG, West Germany (Reuters)—A United States court martial here Thursday convicted seven Negro soldiers of raping a 15-year-old German girl. The court then recessed until today when it will start deliberating on the sentence.

"The House Never Recovered"

Grant Dexter in the Winnipeg Free Press

OTTAWA: The pipe line crisis ended early in June. The session went on until August 14. But the House never recovered and never functioned as it must do if it is properly to discharge its duties. The elements of mutual confidence and consent essential to Parliament were lacking. The parties stopped conferring. No one knew how business would proceed. And when they did resume conferences, they disbelieved and distrusted each other. The Opposition opposed everything regardless of merit.

So things stood until ten days before the end. Then the dam broke and the accumulation of Bills and estimates went hurtling through like wreckage over Niagara. No one seemed to know or to care whether Bills were right or wrong side up.

Such a controversial measure as the tax on magazines was given all three readings and passed in less than three hours. Ordinarily it would have taken a week and, under steady fire, the Government might have dropped it. Estimated by the scores of millions were approved unregarded, unexamined and frequently unidentified. The chairman's voice became a kind of humming drone—"Carried," "Carried," "Carried."

STAYED HOME Many members went home on the weekend and stayed there. Attendance from Monday on shrunk from hour to hour as members packed up and went home. At one point only 33 members were present out of a House of 265. Indeed, in the final hours it became a nice point which the House would run out of first—members or business.

If the breakdown came early in June, the evidence of it abounds in the Hansard of the last two weeks. more rapidly than other countries of Europe because of her bred-to-the-sea seamen, born and cradled in that island nation—is that all? No. There was there, also, something of natural genius belonging to the Anglo-Celtic race that fostered progress or restlessness. They built ships, they won wars waged against their progress. They did not go out to seize and steal from other nations, nor to wage unprovoked wars, to seize lands from other nations. They did plant colonies for trade purposes all over the world—East, West, North and South—colonies for trade that grew and expanded into countries as part of the Empire. England often had to fight to defend her rights in these colonies, to hold them against rival trading nations.

Thus, Aden, Singapore, Hong Kong, South Africa, Gibraltar, etc., because of her fearless island bred seaman, who dared the uncharted oceans, with their dangers from savages, and all the privations that go with the beginnings of civilization in new lands. These, her seaman faced and made the countries that they are today—the envy of the land-bred people of other nations, who would now seize these parts and countries and call it "Justice" to divide the spoil, without a thought of England's great seaman who gave and risked their lives to bring civilization to them and start the growth of industries upon which they rely. Is it justice? Is it fair? They do not even offer England compensation for that which they would enviously seize. All countries had the same chance as England, excepting her island-bred seaman to build, and all used the same tactics.

When the Hudson's Bay Co. was called upon to surrender the lease upon the territories they had developed, England gave them compensation for the loss and sacrifice they sustained in opening virgin country to civilization. Should not England, among nations, claim similar compensation in recognition of the sacrifices paid by her seaman in bringing civilization and development to these parts and countries, now threatening seizure or separation?—Call it Justice?—I would not—no more than I would call it Justice for the public to seize the products of Henry Ford's work and genius. It is both unfair and unjust!

I am, Sir, etc. CITIZEN Summerside.

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Sundesen, M. D.

KEEP MEDICINE CHEST READY FOR EMERGENCY

ACCIDENTS and illness occur in every home. Are you prepared to aid a stricken member of your family even if he's suffered only a minor scratch or cut? Unfortunately many homes don't have the proper equipment to furnish adequate first aid. You owe it to your family to be prepared. Your medicine cabinet and first aid kit should contain the following articles recommended by the American Red Cross.

INDIVIDUAL PACKAGES

At least a dozen 1-inch compresses of adhesive in individual packages. The same number of 3" by 3" sterile gauze squares in individual packages.

Additional sterile bandage compresses of assorted sizes, all in individual packages. A roll of one-half inch adhesive tape.

Burn ointment. Calamine lotion, epsom salts, oil of cloves, aromatic spirits of ammonia and some bicarbonate of soda.

RUBBER STOPPER

If you buy spirits of ammonia in a bottle, be sure it has a rubber stopper. Ordinary cork will soon rot.

Some first aid equipment should also include a hot water bag and an ice bag. Allow either to dry thoroughly before putting it away after use. Rubber bags should be dusted with talcum powder before being stored away.

You should have a 3-inch splinter forceps for removing slivers and the like and, of course, a pair of scissors.

Some 1 and 2-inch roller bandages might come in handy, as will an elastic touque.

WIRE AND SPLINTS

Although broken bones, as any other serious injury, require immediate attention of a doctor, you might have need for some wire or thin board splints.

Castor oil or mineral oil for use in emergency treatment of the eyes can be kept on hand in a small tube.

It won't do you much good to have all these things if they are scattered throughout the house. Keep them all together so you'll be able to find them when you need them.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

T. E. S.: My baby has a discharge from the navel. What could be the cause? Answer: It may be some chronic infection present which has failed to clear up, or an abscess of the navel.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (Aug. 27, 1931) Workmen were busy giving the final touches to the Upton Air Port in preparation for Monday's show. The airport is located on the North River Road three miles west of the City at the top of Bell's Hill.

The destroyer H.M.C.S. Saguenay left port yesterday morning after a three-day visit here. During the three days parties and dances were held for the crew at Government House.

TEN YEARS AGO

(Aug. 27, 1946) Charlottetown on October 22-23 will be honored by a visit from Lord Rowell, Chief Scout of the British Commonwealth and Empire, who is making his first visit to Canada since his appointment last year. He will tour this country during the months of September and October.

Dr. W.P. Percival of Quebec City, Eastern Vice-President of the Home and School Federation, told a meeting today he hoped for an early formation of a Federation of Home and Schools in the province of Prince Edward Island.

MAXIMS

It is better to wear out than to rust out.

GERMAN MASTER SPY?

Alternating between a sanatorium at Heidelberg and the jail at Mannheim is a 47-year-old lawyer. He is Otto John, former head of West German Intelligence who "defected" to the Communists. Was he a master spy or a super-phony? Read the story in THE STANDARD this week. Get THE STANDARD—on sale now, complete with magazine, 12-page novel and 20 pages of comics. Only ten cents.

The Age Old Story

The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil; he shall preserve thy soul.

DRIVING TEST

Overseas visitors to Britain can take a driving test earning a certificate and a special "police-standard" badge.

NOTICE

An official visit will be made by Grand Master James W. Dunn, to Hillside Lodge, I.O.O.F. on August 28th. All members are requested to attend.

The Standard

ON SALE NOW

NOTES BY THE WAY

A lot of fathers who think they are saving up for their old age are really saving up for their daughter's youth.—Brandon Sun

A Chicago clock expert is said to have repaired 3,000 watches a year. For a busy man he has a lot of time on his hands.—Sudbury Daily Star

A whale's milk contains twice as much Vitamin C as cow's milk. Lovers of Vitamin C now know what they can do.—Peterborough Examiner

One good thing that can be said about fishing is that it drives all thought of anything else from the Gazette.

A pessimist is a person who feels bad when he feels good for fear it will feel worse when he feels better.—Galt Reporter

An Ohio man drank 16 martinis in one hour and 30 minutes, thereupon winning a \$20 bet. However he went outside the tavern after the feat and fell dead on the sidewalk. A fool and his money soon parted.—Fort William Times-Journal

A farmer was asked to dine with a city friend. When no blessing was asked, the farmer seemed surprised and asked if it was not usual to say grace before meals. His host laughed, "That is old-fashioned," he said, "educated people don't do that any more." The farmer admitted that some of those who lived at his farm didn't pray either. "Ah, then they are sensible and enlightened members of your family no doubt. Who are they?" The farmer answered: "They are the pigs."—Sarnia Observer

The world does move! We haven't seen a burnt-wood necktie holder in years and years.—Kitchener-Waterloo Record

One reason why there'll always be an England. Great Britain's shipping may be able to get along without the Suez Canal, but what are the Egyptian swimmers going to do without the English Channel?—Orillia Packet

It is announced that new methods of controlling the fall-out will make hydrogen bombs less deadly. Is it too much to dream that science, if it works hard enough, will eventually produce weapons capable of killing nobody at all?—Winnipeg Tribune

That report from Manchester about an old sofa being found to contain in the stuffing, a packet of \$3,150 in bank-notes is a remnant of an old song. Remember the one that recounts how relatives as all ribbed one beneficiary of a will because all she's left him was "the old armchair" and the chair turned out to contain lots of currency?—Brandon Expositor

There are 263 sitting members of the House of Commons. Not one vote in the past two weeks would more than 173 of them in their seats. Members are paid \$10,000 a year. When they voted themselves a raise they argued it was justified because sessions had lengthened and they were required in Ottawa for a large part of the year. Now a large number of them have said it isn't so. They will attend it, as and when they feel like it.—Toronto Globe and Mail

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SAMPLE TABLE		
CASH YOU RECEIVE	MONTHLY PAYMENTS	NUMBER OF MONTHS
\$105.75	\$10.00	12
\$208.38	\$24.00	18
\$104.68	\$7.00	24
\$78.56	\$6.00	24

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