

Incredible Placemancy

How much longer are our citizens going to tolerate the conditions arising out of overcrowding at the Queen's County Jail, and the complacent attitude of the provincial authorities with respect thereto?

The jail breaks that took place recently because of lack of adequate room and supervision were bad enough. But prisoners are now being turned loose before serving their time at all—left to walk the streets, or go where they will—because the jail can't accommodate them. Some fifteen of these gentlemen, according to Police Chief Webster, are on the loose now, waiting their turn to serve the sentences imposed on them by the court.

Did one ever hear of such a thing before in this Province, or elsewhere in any civilized community, for that matter? If the story didn't come from an authoritative source—and it is endorsed by His Worship Mayor Gaudet who says, rightly, that the information should be made public—we would say that it had been lifted from the pages of some comic opera.

WHAT'S THE USE?—Police-men are asking what's the use of arresting people when they will be freed without serving time? The Magistrate has no official knowledge of them after they have been tried and sentenced; and the Attorney General—who has—says they will just have to wait their turn. First come, first serve. Most of them are in only drunks and "shouldn't be in jail anyway." If they decide not to wait, and decamp for destinations unknown, so much the better, apparently.

There is one hitch in this arrangement, which is conceded by the chief Crown officer to be unfortunate. That is "the inconvenience involved when a convicted person must be located and advised that there is room in the jail for him."

But why go to this expense and bother? Wouldn't a postcard serve the purpose of notification instead? Or perhaps those on the waiting list could be asked to call at the Police Station from time to time—at their own convenience, of course—and check on their accommodation problem themselves?

Tourists sometimes find themselves in this predicament during the rush season. To avoid disappointing waits, many of them book their accommodation well ahead. How about working out a priority system of this kind for our Queen's County institution? A chap who plans going on a binge, for example, and getting into trouble with the police, could phone in his intentions and have a cell reserved in advance. Regular guests could thus be provided for, leaving only the transients to be turned away.

STRANGE ATTITUDE—But we are far from suggesting that this is a joking matter. The Government, apparently, has no intention of bettering the situation by enlarging the existing jail quarters, and is waiting until there is an opportunity of negotiating for the transfer of prisoners serving six months or more to federal institutions. That may come next year, and it may not. In any case it is only occasionally, says the Attorney General, that the jail gets overrun in this manner. So why worry? Anyway, facilities there are "in good condition—probably in as good shape as they ever were."

The civic authorities are not

satisfied with this complacent view, nor do we think our citizens will tolerate it now that the matter has been brought into the open. If they do, they will have themselves to blame if a worse condition develops, bringing our whole system of law enforcement into disrepute. That is where it is tending, and it is surprising that the Government should view it in any other light.

Why Closure Was Shunned

Why, when the Commons was being blackmailed by a supply blockade for failing to recognize Creditiste Real Coquette as a party leader, didn't the Government invoke the rule of closure, thus putting a curb on the debate, instead of proposing to let it run day and night until the blockaders desisted? This scheme would have worked if the 13 dissident members of the Social Credit party were really determined to spell each other out and keep the House sitting indefinitely.

But closure would have done the trick in a dignified and practical manner, as provided for in the Rules and Forms of Parliament. Why, then, didn't House Leader Pickersill invoke it when it was obviously warranted in the public interest?

It's an old story, as recalled by the Ottawa Journal, and it goes back to the Government misuse of closure seven years ago, after which there was a demand that closure be abolished altogether. Last year, Mr. Pickersill was quoted as saying that "no government in its senses would ever again use the existing closure rule in our books."

In that statement, notes the Journal, was reflected the uneasy Liberal conscience over 1956. In the pipeline debate, when debate on the bill to grant a government loan was cut off amid scenes shocking to all who respect Parliament, the closure rule was abused. In the words of Dr. Eugene Forsey, an authority on Parliamentary practices, the rule "had been prostituted and a dozen other rules flagrantly broken."

When Prime Minister Diefenbaker later suggested a committee to "consider" dropping closure, the Liberals eagerly agreed. They would drop it forthwith. But the measure was intended to prevent just the kind of paralysis that Parliament was threatened with the other day. The Creditiste threat, withdrawn on that occasion, may be raised again on some other issue to hamstring the public business. Knowledge that the Government fears invoking closure will only provide those employing such tactics with an added incentive.

A Fine Achievement

Warmest congratulations to Mr. Stanley Willis, of Cornwall, on winning the Canadian plowing championship at the big matches in Caledon, Ontario, this week. This is indeed an achievement, reflecting credit upon the whole Province.

While this is the first award of its kind to come to Prince Edward Island, the Willis family has scored other noteworthy successes in plowing contests over the past few years. Mr. Willis' son Carl finished second in the Canadian competition in 1958 and he himself finished third in the Canadian match in 1956, going on to the world match in Pelee, Ohio, in 1957, where he was the top Canadian.

There are other Island families which have distinguished themselves in plowing competitions, as befits Canada's garden province and breadbasket of the Maritimes. And they will be the first to rejoice in the honor that has come through Mr. Willis' achievement on this occasion. It entitles him to represent Canada in the world contest next year at Vienna, Austria, where no doubt he will again give a good account of himself.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The government of Indonesia has officially changed the name of the Indian Ocean to the "Indonesian Ocean" on its maps. Now all the rest of the world will have to do is follow suit.

New possibilities have been opened up by an Ottawa construction firm, which has attracted national attention by winning a \$10 million West German order for 500 Canadian-built homes, with delivery to begin this fall.



SIU-BOAT IN TROUBLE

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Suggests 'Grievances Corrector' For Canada

New Zealand has recently instituted the parliamentary office of "Ombudsman" or "grievance corrector."

This development attracted the great interest of Social Credit leader B.N. Thompson during his visit to New Zealand last month, because he had himself attempted to introduce in a Parliament a Bill which would create the same post in Canada.

The Ombudsman originated in Sweden, and the idea has now been copied in Denmark, Finland and New Zealand. The world-wide trend to greater bureaucratic efficiency, coupled with parliament's delegation of law-making powers to the civil service, has created a need for protection of the citizen against error or negligence by the bureaucracy. Hence the post of Ombudsman or "Parliamentary Commissioner" has been designated to ensure justice for the citizen.

The New Zealand Ombudsman, Sir Guy Powles, has reported that during his first 336 months in office he received 346 complaints from private citizens.

COMPLAINTS JUSTIFIED

Some of these complaints were not proceeded with, on preliminary inquiry and discussion with the complainant. Others referred to matters not within the jurisdiction of the New Zealand Parliament, such as municipal affairs, and others which were the concern of the Ombudsman. But 117 cases were completed, and 22 cases concerned the department of National Revenue, and were complaints about taxation. 28 referred to injustices in the administration of social welfare. 15 related to customs duties, 15 involved health matters, 9 related to education; while labour was concerned in 7 cases, justice in lands and surveys in 5, and the police in 7. This gives an idea of the broad field of responsibility, and explains why, as Bob Thompson told me, the new office is proving most valuable in the opinion of New Zealand politicians.

Many Canadians depend upon their own O.P.P. for redress of any grievance they may have against a department of the federal government. But as Bob Thompson reminded me, a M.P. can only advise a desired and just result if the civil servants concerned will cooperate with him. But if they dig their toes in, there is nothing an M.P. can do. Unlike an M.P., the Ombudsman has the power to investigate a department and examine all relevant files. He can get at making out the facts in the same manner as if they had never been made known to the Minister in charge of a department.

CANADA COULD USE ONE

Sir Guy Powles made one very interesting comment in his first report. He discovered many patients in hospitals are not always made fully aware of the implications of certain medical

operations, so the surgery does not undergo serious consent to give full protection to the patient—nor for that matter, to the surgeon. But this field is removed from the more usual activity of an Ombudsman.

Sweden has had this office for a long time and has found it very satisfactory. In countries familiar with the office, discussion or positive steps have concerned the extension of it beyond just government administration, so that there might be a Justice Ombudsman, or a Military Ombudsman.

Canada might also have had this evidently very useful public servant at the suggestion of Bob Thompson, but for a somewhat

narrow-minded interpretation by the Speaker of the House of Commons. He ruled out of order, on the grounds that only a Cabinet Minister may introduce a bill which would call for the expenditure of the taxpayer's money. But Mr. Thompson's bill was specifically framed to obviate this, by proposing that a Judge of the Supreme Court, who is already on the public payroll, should be appointed as Ombudsman.

The success of this office in other countries, and the need for it here, will possibly lead to some other steps to institute it here.

ADD TROOPS

DARJEELING, India (AP)—Communist China increased its troop strength about 60 per cent along India's northeast frontier since the last war, according to the report of a Communist official.

The Clock Runs Down

New York Times

To warm-blooded creatures, such as people, the crisp, cool days of autumn are invigorating. The step quickens, the eye brightens and life takes on new vigor. But to the cold-blooded ones, such as insects, who are at the mercy of the sun rather than their own inner fires of life and energy, time begins to run out when nights turn frosty. Within short days, their clocks begin to run down.

You hear it in the evening in the slow tempo of the stridulating ones, the katydids and the crickets that were so insistent only a few weeks ago. Now their chorus diminishes. When they rasp at all it is with the deliberate tempo of a weary fiddler slowly drawing a worn bow across the fraying strings.

You see it in the morning, before a late sun has warmed the day. The humbly that sought haven in a bedraggled blossom crawls pathetically out to warm his joints and rears his sluggish vitality before seeking a belated breakfast. You watch a slow lumbering beetle, arthritic with the cold, making his painful way among the withering grasses and weeds. The stiff-legged ant is a sluggish, the wasp is almost creaky and the grasshopper

has no hop in him till almost noon.

Briefly, when the sun has asserted itself by early afternoon, life is almost normal. For a few hours flies buzz, ants hurry and late gnats dance like lively moles in the mid air. Then evening nears and the buzz, the haste and the dancing are at an end. We, warm-blooded and invigorated by the season, welcome the change and even celebrate it. The cold-blooded children of summer, the insect horde, have had their day in the sun.

FACE STRIKE

NEW YORK (AP)—Mayor Robert Wagner has asked officials of the League of New York Theatres and Broadway musicians to meet with him Thursday in an effort to avert threatened strike Monday.

The American Federation of Musicians (AFL-CIO) has threatened to strike Monday shows if no contract is reached with theatre owners.

YACHT CENTRE

Coves, at the mouth of the River Medina on the Isle of Wight, is Britain's main yachting centre.

Lung Cancer On Increase

By Dr. Theodore R. VanDellen
 Carcinoma of the lung is becoming one of the most frequent of all cancers. Approximately 2,500 Americans die of the disease in 1950; 18,000 in 1952; 29,000 in 1956; and 44,570 in 1960. These figures explain why so many are concerned and what some are doing about the cause. Similar increases have been noted in other countries.

Several months ago, a Georgian woman wrote me heret to much about the relationship between smoking and lung cancer, and not too far from the truth. The malignancy develops in the lining membrane of the bronchi rather than along the edge of the lung where contact with polluted air is most direct.

The manifestations vary with the location of the growth in the bronchial tree. A small lesion in the windpipe or a large bronchus may lead to cough. This may not be appreciated by an individual with a cigarette cough until more and more mucus is raised or the sputum becomes streaked with blood.

Tumors deep in the lung may reach considerable size before they produce symptoms. This means cancer can exist for some time before causing discomfort. Chest pain usually is a late symptom and denotes spread of the lesion toward the edge of the lung. Fever, weight loss, shortness of breath, and weight loss are signs of an advanced stage.

Most lung cancers can be seen on chest X-rays but additional studies are needed when abnormalities are noted, because other diseases can mimic cancer. The next step is to study the sputum for cancer cells and, if the result is negative, a bronchoscopic examination is recommended. A tube is passed through mouth into the bronchi to obtain firsthand information about the tumor. If a piece is removed for biopsy. A small neck gland also is taken out for the same purpose because cancer often spreads upward into the lymph nodes.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

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France And The Future

By Jim Peacock
 Canadian Press Staff Writer

The United States and France apparently are as far apart as ever in their basic thinking on the best means of attaining a united Europe and a strong Atlantic alliance.

But the visit of French Foreign Minister Couve de Murville to Washington for two days of private talks with President Kennedy may have given each side sufficient insight into the other's feelings to at least temper reactions to future utterances by each nation's leaders.

It is clear, however, the tendency has been for each side to interpret as hostile almost every move or statement by the other.

Our Yesterdays

(From the Guardian Files)
TWENTY - FIVE YEARS AGO
 (October 11, 1938)
 COLUMBUS, O., Oct. 11 (CP)—Colby C. Lewis of Frostown, P.E.I., won reserve grand championship at National Dairy Show today with his three-year-old Holstein bull, Rooker Face the Great, and was placed second in his class in the field of seven.

R.J. Deachman, MP, Ottawa, accompanied by Mrs. Deachman, arrived in Charlottetown via the S.S. Hochelaga yesterday. Mr. Deachman is gathering material for articles in the Toronto Star, and is particularly interested in agricultural conditions.

TEN YEARS AGO
 (October 11, 1953)
 VICTORIA, B.C. (CP)—A bill to reduce passenger car license fees by 10 per cent and give police the right to order slow-moving cars to speed up, was introduced by the government in the legislature Wednesday night.

V. Leigh Dingwell recently returned from the engineering department of the Island Division, Canadian National Railway. The retirement of Mr. Dingwell from the CNR at such an early age is due to a permanent injury to his right leg as the result of an accident involving a railway motor car.

The French minister was reportedly to have come away from the talks convinced that France must prove to the U.S. that her independence and nationalism line will not injure the Western world.

REPORTS INTENTIONS

The U.S. participants got a first-hand report on the French intentions to pursue both military and politically an independence from Washington and apparently came away persuaded that de Gaulle does not want a close relationship with the U.S. on any terms.

The talks, however, were said to have left no doubt in Washington that France—while having a radically different concept of the Atlantic alliance that held by the U.S.—is firmly with the West against Communism and has no interest in neutrality between East and West.

With promise of solidarity in case of danger, both sides now may place more effort toward containing the dispute and cooling tempers.

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PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Guardian does not accept responsibility for opinions expressed by correspondents. Letters published are subject to editing and condensation where necessary. The Guardian is unable to return letters unless accompanied by return address.

IN APPRECIATION

Sir:—We should like to thank the good people of Alberton for making our stay in their summer so pleasant and memorable. We should like to give a special "thank you" to the man who stayed more than an hour after his time to telegraph a wire in Dutch to Sir Guy Powles, our caretakers at the Jacques Cartier park who may remember making out the form in the health center corner of the park.

We are, Sir, etc.,
 Louise and Derek Worthington,
 Peterborough, Ont.