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Good Work, Gentlemen!

Last October, when the CNR sleeping car service between Charlottetown and Moncton was discontinued on the ground of economy, we expressed the hope that our federal members would take strong exception to this move, which was evidently intended to be permanent.

That is to say, it will be if the service is in line with modern requirements. The reason given by the Railway for discontinuing it last Fall was that it was not being patronized, and that as a consequence a \$15,000 annual deficit was being incurred.

This seemed a convincing argument, until it was pointed out by Hon. B. Earle MacDonald, Provincial Treasurer and a former railway man, that the trouble lay with the service, not the patronage.

Mr. MacDonald also pointed out that on the Halifax run one-half the sleeping car space is sold in Halifax and the other half in Moncton.

These are points to be kept in mind when the service is restored this summer. If revenue is what the management is looking for, it must be prepared to give the service which is standard in other parts of the country.

What is the cold war costing Canada? This is a good question to ask on the eve of the Geneva conference of foreign ministers. The Financial Post has dug into the Blue Books for the answer, which is a pretty staggering one.

For defence, defense production and civil defence, Ottawa is planning to spend this year a total of \$1,705.8 million. That's \$100 apiece for every man, woman and child in Canada.

A breakdown of defence expenditures by the Canadian Industrial Preparedness Association shows the major divisions as follows: Navy — \$287.5 million or 17%; Army — \$448.9 million or 28%; Air Force — \$811.3 million or 48%.

Even with generous allowance for 20 years of inflation there is quite a contrast with the last full year of peace in 1938 when total defence cost less than \$33 million and the major items were: Navy — \$4.3 million or 13%; Army — \$17.2 million or 54%; Air Force — \$10 million or 32%.

The Wrong Approach

We do not recall that the right of the Executive Council at Ottawa to grant clemency has been questioned in the past. But when it reaches the proportion of 21 commutations in 27 death sentences the people, including judges, have surely the right to ask if capital punishment has not been virtually abolished in Canada by government order rather than by the law of Parliament.

The public will fail to see why. If it is within the jurisdiction of judges to pass death sentences it is also within their jurisdiction to make critical comment, if necessary, on the practice of the government in commuting the sentence.

Of the 21 commutations made since 1957, there were jury recommendations for mercy in only six cases. This does seem to run counter to government action and calls for explanation rather than criticism of those who may express concern at the abuse of the right which the government exercises.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Russians have a new title for Sir Winston Churchill. A radio news commentator recently referred to him as the "godfather of the cold war."

New Brunswick's Premier Fleming has confirmed a widespread rumor that he has been offered—and has declined—a Federal Cabinet post.

It was a nice gesture on President Eisenhower's part to invite former President Truman to a White House dinner for Sir Winston Churchill.

Mr. Adlai E. Stevenson thinks that that European fears that the United States might withdraw from Europe may have weakened the Western alliance. "I wonder," he told a group of University students the other day, "whether the fear of American withdrawal from Europe and its affairs has not become a real enemy to thought, manoeuvre and flexibility on the Western side."

Deputy Minister Sevigny complains that the House of Commons rule against reading speeches is almost impossible to enforce. "A certain tolerance" has grown up, which makes enforcement difficult.

Lawyers are often asked how they can in conscience defend persons whom they believe to be guilty. The short answer to this question has been given by Baron Bramwell, an English judge noted for his common sense as well as for his legal learning.



Fleming Under Full Sail

Arthur Blakely in the Montreal Gazette

You can take it for granted that for some time to come the Liberals will think twice before they

PUBLIC FORUM

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

STUDENTS' UNION PROTESTS

The actual showing of a particularly objectionable film in a public theatre and the equally lurid advertisement that prepared the way for it brought the attention of this community to a grave problem existing in its midst.

By what exercise in logic the Opposition arrived at the conclusion that monetary policy would be a profitable area for further exploration remains something of a mystery.

However that may be, Mr. George McIlraith (L-Ottawa, West) got the Liberals off to a flying start with a 9-minute oration in which he charged that the Government's monetary policy was "ill-conceived and irresponsible for the largest Canadian peace-time addition to the national debt."

On Monday night, Mr. Fleming began his object lesson. He rose to participate as the last speaker of the evening.

Mr. Fleming enjoys the reputation of being a careful, painstakingly thorough man. And on this occasion, he more than lived up to that reputation.

At appropriate points, he read lengthy passages from Bank of Canada annual reports of other years. At others, he read into the record long extracts from the Bank of Canada Act.

He defined and explained chartered bank rates. Treasury bill rates, and money supply. He produced an account of changes in Canadian, U.S. and British bond prices—in the case of the former not hesitating for a moment to refer to the facts and figures of two and three decades ago.

It happened this way. On Monday last, the Government introduced a supply motion. By seizing the opportunity to move an amendment, the Opposition can force, for a limited number of times each session, a two-day debate on any aspect of Government policy of their choice.

Anytime when the supply motion was moved last week, the Liberals, deliberately and with malice aforethought, followed up with a want-of-confidence amendment which doomed the House times each session, a two-day debate on monetary policy.

The Opposition critics who sat it out were literally overwhelmed by the sheer weight of material under which they were buried. Despite their best efforts to maintain a show of alert, aggressive interest in the debate which they had themselves launched, they found themselves nodding frequently.

They groaned, complained, protested. But the speech went on. Some of them said later that during the latter stages, Mr. Fleming's voice—especially when he was supplying his more generous doses of figures and statistics—had an almost hypnotic effect.

There is not the slightest doubt that Mr. Fleming's marathon was a masterpiece of its kind. It was a genuine tour de force. For many Parliamentary sessions to come, this three-hour speech will be a mine of information about Canadian monetary policy, its past, present and future.

Weather Bureau scientists are increasingly hopeful that man will some day conquer the tornado, the rotary storm that kills scores of people and causes millions of dollars worth of damage each year.

A tornado may begin when a cool, dry air mass moves over warm, moist surface air. An unstable build-up of energy is created, because cold air weighs more than warm air.

So far, science has devised no real defense against the vicious spinning winds, except to get out of the way. But new tools and techniques are providing better warnings and advancing knowledge, the National Geographic Society says.

One valuable instrument forces potential tornadoes to flash their own alarm. Known as a "pressure-jump indicator," it records and signals the ominous rise in

pressure that often means the birth of a tornado. Radar can spot tornadoes. The first widespread network of storm warning radar was established in Texas in 1954.

Tornado control is still a dream. Weather experts have discussed the possibility of seeding clouds with rain-forming chemicals, thus releasing cloud energy before the deadly cone develops.

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Small Factor in Epilepsy

By Herman N. Bundesen, M.D. Contrary to general belief, epilepsy doesn't "run in the family." There is some hereditary influence, but not nearly as much as the public apparently thinks.

ONE IN 40 If one parent is epileptic, the chances of having an epileptic child are about one in 40. If neither parent has this disorder, the chances that one of their children will become stricken are only about one in 200.

However, parents can be normal and still be genetic carriers. If both parents are carriers, they are more likely to have an epileptic child than if one parent were an epileptic and the other perfectly normal.

Epilepsy is more common than most people believe. It is as common as diabetes or active tuberculosis and it is four times as common as polio.

Although we don't have exact figures, because many epileptics just don't reveal their condition, nor is it reportable, it is estimated that between 640,000 and 1,700,000 persons have epilepsy.

WHAT CHANCES? What are the chances for improvement? In most cases they are pretty good. Almost one-quarter of all epileptics have spontaneous or therapeutically induced remission lasting from one year to five years.

HELP IN DRUGS By using anticonvulsants and other drugs we can help 80 to 90 per cent of the epileptics to enjoy complete or at least partial freedom from seizures.

QUESTION AND ANSWER Mrs. M.M.: Is burning on urination caused by certain food or does it come from other trouble?

Answer: Burning on urination is not usually caused by food, although food may aggravate the condition. The underlying cause could best be determined by your physician.

OUR YESTERDAYS (From the Guardian Files) TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (May 7, 1928)

Workmen have been employed for the past week on the Queen Square Gardens. The oval of ground encircled by the driveway south of the Provincial Building has been cultivated and sowed with grass seed.

TEN YEARS AGO (May 7, 1948) The refusal of the Fisheries Price Support Board to buy East coast fish from this year's pack is the most serious blow that P.E.I. fishermen and their families have been dealt in the past ten years.

Plans for civic development in the Brighton area were dealt with at a special meeting of the City Council last night. The construction of a street running parallel to North River Road is planned along with the laying of water mains and sewage drains.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

A New York newspaper relates how women may lose weight by undergoing hypnotic treatment. The same result can also be achieved by eating and drinking less.

The U.S. Aeronautics and Space Administration says that most of the men volunteering for a trip to the moon are married. This has nothing whatever to do with the noble institution of marriage.

Few cities in the world—a and none in Canada, though professional acting companies have foot holds in a few of the larger communities—can look forward to so rich and varied a season of professional theatre as does Vienna.

Epilepsy is more common than most people believe. It is as common as diabetes or active tuberculosis and it is four times as common as polio.

It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.

The Poets Corner METAMORPHOSIS A thousand years from now I shall be One with the wind whose prow Furrows the sea.

My Monument shall rise, A poplar, tall And silver, where the skies Are communal.

And every breathing thing Will be my own Survival. Love will fling Aside the stone.

properties involved are the Peake property, the Power property, the Goodwill property and the Platts property.

Information and reservations from any Canadian National Passenger Representative. In Charlottetown—Station Ticket Agent, Tel. 6627, or Morton Dew Ltd., Tel. 8541.

FOR HAPPY, COMFORTABLE HOLIDAY TRAVEL GO by TRAIN No worry, no strain—sit back and enjoy every mile of your trip!

VICTORIA DAY May 16-18 Week-End LOW FARES—GOING FROM 3 A.M. FRIDAY, UNTIL 2 P.M. SUNDAY

Return Journey to Commence Not Later Than Midnight, Monday.

Information and reservations from any Canadian National Passenger Representative. In Charlottetown—Station Ticket Agent, Tel. 6627, or Morton Dew Ltd., Tel. 8541.

MOTHER'S DAY is May 10th Give Mom Useful Gifts from Rogers Gift Centre

MOTHER'S DAY CUPS Beautiful Bone China cups that Mother will cherish always. They're specially marked for Mother, and come in a number of smart patterns. They're specially priced too.

WOODEN WARE by Baribocraft Be sure to see the large selection of Wooden Ware at the Gift Centre. There are Lazy Suzans, 16" & 14" Trays, Meat Boards, Salad Bowls (large and individual) Cheese Boards. Mother will really like one of these handsome yet useful wooden utensils.

SALAD SETS These good looking sets include a large bowl, 4 individual bowls, 4 servers priced at 10.50 & 13.80

There are many useful gifts on display now at the Gift Centre. Cake plates Handy Household Gadgets. Ornaments of all types

THE ROGERS HARDWARE Company Limited "If It's Hardware We Have It" 137 Queen St. Dial 8501

MAXIMS

Whoever degrades another degrades me.

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