

Pension Plan Prospects

Prime Minister Pearson is quoted as taking a firm position on the existing terms of his government's contributory Canada Pension Plan, and as indicating that the legislation will be launched early in the session. It will be referred to a Commons committee where witnesses for outside interests—including officials of insurance companies and others who operate private pension plans—can be heard. But apparently it is intended to adhere closely to the amended terms of the plan as they were outlined to the provincial premiers in January.

It is to be hoped, in the interest of all concerned, that despite political differences the Roberts government of Ontario and the Pearson administration at Ottawa will come to a working agreement on this important matter. A lot of harm was done by Health Minister Judy LaMarsh in her partisan campaigning on this scheme during the last Ontario election. Mr. Pearson has taken a more conciliatory stand, but he needs to remember that without Ontario's co-operation there can be no prospect of success.

This is true because of Quebec's refusal to participate. Queried on this point in the Commons on Thursday, Mr. Pearson conceded that Premier Lesage "had his own views." He had opted out of the plan for a few years. This was a matter for provincial decision. But the Prime Minister maintained that "it did seem more important at this time what members of Parliament themselves thought of the plan."

More important in what way? If both the big central provinces—representing almost two-thirds of Canada's population and a large proportion of its taxable wealth—were to find the plan unacceptable, what then? How could it conceivably be put into effect on a national basis? Where would the revenue come from to finance it?

That is what makes Tory Ontario's concurrence in the implementation of the liberal election promise so necessary. This concurrence is not forthcoming, all the thinking, talking and voting by Parliament won't make the scheme workable.

A Village Of Their Own

Every civilized community is aware, now, of the need for providing for handicapped children. We have come a good way ourselves, in recent years, in this laudable endeavor. And we have no doubt that all concerned in the movement locally will be encouraged to learn of the wonderful plan that is being launched in the west of England. There, a special village for the handicapped, including thalidomide babies and others with serious limb disabilities, is to be built.

The basic aim, as outlined in a recent British broadcast by the architect of the scheme, is to provide a complete village community for children who will live there for a long period before moving into the outside world. The intention is to have roughly equal numbers of physically able children, who would otherwise be in orphanages, and handicapped children.

The design envisages a "long meandering village street" with homes opening directly on to it as the special core of the whole scheme, just as the street in an ordinary village is its social core rather than

its community centre. Each home will house approximately 15 children with a home mother or home parents. The street will be completely enclosed, and the children will be encouraged to traverse it even when weather conditions outside are bad.

Besides a family environment in the homes, there will be full educational facilities so that the children can be trained to follow an occupation, not simply as therapy, but as a means of becoming fully integrated members of society and in due course earning their own living. There will be an interdenominational community centre chapel, and full physiotherapy, hydrotherapy and speech therapy facilities. Very young children with multiple limb disabilities who need constant attention, will be housed in an intensive care unit, but the hope is that at the earliest possible moment they will become members of a family and live in a family unit.

Many a more widely-touted scientific development has fallen short of this project in terms of human values. And it is on this basis, historians agree, that we are most likely to be judged by the generations that come after us.

Hope For Cyprus Break

There is now a chance that a resolution representing the first major break in the Cyprus impasse may be given favourable consideration by the United Nations. This initiative is not being prepared for presentation by any of the big powers, but by Morocco, which is neutral to the dispute and therefore above suspicion of harboring ulterior motives.

The crucial issue now is how to satisfy Greek Cypriot demands for Security Council guarantees of the island's territorial integrity, without abrogating Turkey's treaty rights of intervention on behalf of Turkish Cypriots.

For most of last week this thorny question appeared virtually insoluble. It may yet wreck the peace-keeping plan of Secretary-General U Thant, but there is "cautious optimism" that agreement can be reached along the lines now proposed.

The Moroccan resolution would authorize a peace-keeping force from Commonwealth and neutral nations. It would ask the Secretary-General to assign a mediator to work on the long-term problem of relations between the Greek and Turkish communities on the island; and it would probably guarantee the territorial integrity and independence of Cyprus in a general manner that would be offensive to either side, or contain any hint of abrogating the treaty under which Turkey, Greece and Britain retain rights to intervene in Cyprus to prevent communal terrorism.

If this hitherto unobtainable compromise can indeed be reached, it may save not only further bloodshed but a disastrous breach in the NATO alliance.

State Of Quebec

The Sherbrooke Record strikes a right note when it expresses the hope that the rest of Canada does not get all bristly again over the decision by the Quebec Liberal Federation to use the term "state of Quebec" in English. It really doesn't mean a great deal.

Looked at one way, there isn't much difference between a state and a province. English-speaking Canada has generally tended to assume that when Quebec uses the term "state" it is referring to a separate country; but there is no valid reason for such an assumption. There are many states to the south of us. No one would suggest that each of them is a separate country.

"Besides," adds our Sherbrooke contemporary, "what a small group like the Quebec Liberal Federation decides to call Quebec is as binding as what the hockey fans at the Forum call some of the players."

By the same token, if Premier Lesage wants to call himself the Prime Minister of Quebec, what of it? We don't see much sense in it, but Quebec people evidently do. Mr. Lesage was addressed in that manner, we recall, when he was down here for the sod-turning ceremony at our Confederation Memorial Building site.



THE JUDGMENT OF PARIS

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

England's Most Fabulous Money-Makers

What our Ministers of Finance and Trade desperately need to do, to bale them out of the deficit in budget and in balance of trade, is a Canadian query of Beatles.

These four pop-top music-makers from England's Merseyside are currently the world's biggest money-pullers in the field of entertainment. First Theatre let's it, then discs, quickly followed by wigs, now T-shirts, pajamas, dolls and hats, and soon Beatlemania items are some of the assortment of merchandise being sold to customers who ask only that it shall bear a Beatle name. This mushrooming boom has already hit Britain, Germany, Canada and U.S.A.; it will soon be spread through sales offices in France, Japan, Australia, South Africa and elsewhere.

Teen-agers and their parents in U.S.A. alone will spend an estimated \$50,000,000 on assorted Beatleware this year. Many of these products are made in Britain and exported to the rest of the world, which is manufacturer elsewhere, the golden stream of royalties pours back to Britain.

The Beatles, in fact, are a super George Heese salesman for a wide cross-section of the nation's industry, in Britain and elsewhere, which is quite incidental to their Mersey Beat music.

World-wide sales of their recordings alone totalled \$160,000,000 last year. Canada has a share of the boom to date consisting of record sales, now being pressed at the rate of 8,000 a day at the RCA Victor plant at Smiths Falls near

here, and Beatle wigs selling in Toronto at \$29.29 each.

The record sales in this capital were described to me as "fantastic" by a harassed sales manager, as the Beatles hold the three top places on Ottawa's Hit Parade ("I want to hold your hand", "She loves you" and "Roll over, Beethoven") and the two top places for Top and Pop albums ("Beatlemania" and "I want to hold your hand").

These four happy and who would be seventeen-agers used to make \$20 a week in a jazz cellar in the tough part of Liverpool since the murky Mersey River. Today they command up to \$10,000 a week. Ed Sullivan was inundated with requests for 50,000 tickets for his TV-seat auditorium when the Beatles were first scheduled to appear on his popular Sunday night television variety show.

Last year each Beatle made an estimated \$300,000, on which the British income tax would have been a mere \$28,681. They could have \$56,361 that by making their home and headquarters in Canada.

Prime Minister Pearson was leading political thinkers. His appointment as ambassador to Paris sets a skilled and subtle mind to work in a sensitive France.

If Canada is seeking a dialogue with President Charles de Gaulle, Leeger is one man who has the intellectual equipment without resorting to the face of Gaullist logic and rhetoric.

At 50, Leeger is one of the most experienced Canadian career diplomats and one of the external affairs department's

being less than facetious when he suggested that Britain should export the Beatles to Canada to remedy the trade imbalance between our two countries. Britain would have to lose such a popular goldmine, but Finance Minister Gordon, Canada's top taxer, must be jealous of the enormous revenue which these Top Tops are pouring into the British Treasury. For their "Mersey Sound" has turned out to be the best of thriving industry, as well as a teen-age heart-throb.

NO SOAP M. writes: What is meant by the expression, "You have no soap to fight with"? Does it mean anemia or that the person is a general washout?

REPLY I've heard of soft-soaping, soap operas, and soapbox orators, but I've never heard of soft-soaping as a noun. It is a verb, and it means to talk about as new to me as a

Coronary Research

By Dr. Theodore R. VanBelle Every year, one in 100 middle-aged men develops coronary artery disease. It may present itself as a heart attack or as angina pectoris, with pain in the chest following exertion or excitement. The most common findings come from a health survey among 2,000 employees of the Western Electric company of Chicago.

The heart study was directed by Dr. Oesley Paul of the Northwestern University medical school. These heart problems were more common in heavy cigarette smokers and coffee drinkers. The amount of cholesterol in the blood also played a role in that those who developed the cardiac disorder had the highest readings.

But diet did not appear to be the level. The cholesterol readings were seasonal—highest in winter and lowest in summer. The reason for this is not known but heart attacks are more prevalent during cold weather.

Physical activity on or off the job does not influence the development of heart attacks. This is understandable because the basic cause is hardening of the coronary arteries. Most victims of thromboses are affected when sitting quietly, resting or sleeping.

Many cardiac surveys are being conducted in the United States. They are financed through the heart associations and other interested organizations. Some of the projects are beginning to bear fruit. The majority report similar findings indicating there must be something to the observations.

High-risk factors increase the chance of a heart attack. These hazards include a blood cholesterol level above 260, elevated blood pressure, overweight, and heavy smoking. The possibility of becoming a statistic goes up another notch when a combination of two or more exists. Heredity enters the picture when there is a family history of hypertension or coronary disease.

More than 100 telephone and electric light poles were pulled down in the past few years by the weight of ice on the wires. While the silver thaw brought beauty to the average person, it brought a lot of overtime work to linemen of both companies.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Many a popular singer is a fellow who sings through his nose by ear—Calgary Herald.

Members of the Walsh street family were talking about Lent and what it meant, father discussing on the subject of personal sacrifices many people made during the Lenten period. The year-old daughter who had been listening attentively finally asked a question. She inquired: "Daddy, could I give up school for Lent?"—Fort William Times-Journal.

Before marriage, he talks and she listens. After marriage, she talks and he listens. Later, they both talk and the neighbors listen.—Calgary Herald.

Tobacco men can be happy about one thing: the worst it will do is to be hoped that they will now cease blowing up statistical smoke screens to try to prove that cigarettes don't hurt anyone and concentrate their resources on finding out just what it is in tobacco that is so injurious.—Stratford Beacon Herald.

Nazi Suicides New York Times

Six years ago the 11 states of West Germany began a concerted drive to bring to justice those Nazi war criminals who had not been prosecuted by the Allies in their post-war trials. To track down the criminals the German government formed the Central Office for the Prosecution of Nazi crimes. The office has thus far systematically studied 650 cases and traced over more than 200 to state prosecutors; 60 cases have been tried so far.

Two weeks ago the Central Office investigators presented evidence that clearly implicated a high official of the Ebnart Government as a participant in the mass extermination of Jews, on Feb. 2, Edward Peters, the Chancellor's personal secretary, had handed himself in his Bonn cell, on Feb. 2, Edward Peters, the Chancellor's personal secretary, had committed suicide. Dr. Werner Heyde, 61, who was to have been tried at Limburg, had been in the "mercy killings" role in the "mercy killings" of more than 100,000 mentally retarded Germans, hanged himself in his cell with his belt on Thursday.

Heyde's death followed by a day that of Friedrich Tillmann, also to have been tried at Limburg, in an eight-story fall in a Cologne; prosecutor Fritz Bauer said Tillmann's death was a "probable suicide." Members of the prosecution staff charged that the deaths were the result of a conspiracy. One attorney said: "I suspect there are many doctors who are interested that their names and work during the Third Reich do not become public property."

Of the four men accused in the "mercy killings" case, only Hans Heilmann remains. Bernhard Böhme fled the country last August. Whether the Limburg trial will go on as scheduled is not certain. But the work of the Central Office continues. It has until next May to bring accused criminals to trial; then the statute of limitations will expire. But any case under way by next May will be prosecuted to the finish, and it is believed that by then as many as 700 cases, involving more than 1,000 persons, will have been instituted.

PUBLIC FORUM

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GOVERNMENT HOUSE

Sir—To the many who admire the Government House in winter garb, the following may be of interest. An article by Henry Smith in the P.T. of 1921 is preserved in a scrapbook belonging to Mr. E. MacNutt. The article says: Under a statute passed 1831, the following were named as a Commission to arrange for the building of Government House in Charlottetown: Messrs. John Wright, Ambrose Lane, John Brecken, Daniel Brennan, G.R. Goodwin.

In 1833, this Commission let a contract to Isaac Smith, Henry Smith and Nathan Wright, for the construction of Government House (which probably comprised only the centre block), cost £2,264 (approximately \$7,900). Building was completed in 1834. The first occupant was Sir A. F. A. Young, who died there in December, 1836. I am, Sir, etc., M.B. Charlottetown.

Trans-Canada Highway—TCA style!

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