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Mr. Green's mission

THE government's selection of External Affairs Minister Howard Green to head Canada's delegation to the United Nations General Assembly this week will allay much of the disappointment felt in Mr. Diefenbaker's decision not to attend the session in person.

Few of the world's statesmen are held in such high international esteem as Mr. Green and none has evaluated so succinctly and forcibly the necessity of the immediate resumption of nuclear disarmament discussions between the great powers.

It is to be hoped that Mr. Green will not attend the meeting in the capacity of an interested onlooker only, but will play a leading part in the proceedings. He has demonstrated his sincerity and may possess the ability of minimizing the effect of any heavy-handed ploy by Soviet Premier Khrushchev.

If the disarmament discussion—which is the major item on the agenda—deteriorates into a mud-slinging contest between the East and West, irreparable harm may be done which could easily develop into the first stages of a hot war.

It is possible that Mr. Green may be able to prevent this. He has already made Canada's position clear in calling upon all member nations of the UN to demand, on behalf of the people of the world, that the big powers put an end to their continuing threat of nuclear war.

It may fall upon his shoulders to reiterate this plea and bring to the attention of the two nuclear blocs that the United Nations is not the personal property of either the East or the West but is a forum for all and basically an instrument of peace.

—The Victoria Colonist.

Cutters to enforce safety at sea

When Transport Minister Hees announced in Lunenburg that six patrol cutters will be ordered for service on the east and west coasts and Great Lakes, some headline writers jumped to the conclusion that Canada is to have a coastguard service similar to that of the United States.

That is not the case, and Mr. Hees was careful not to use the word "coastguard."

The two vessels which will be assigned to the Pacific coast are intended to patrol waters where pleasure boats are concentrated, and to assist the RCMP in enforcement of rules for the safety of life at sea.

They will not be armed and they will not be concerned with customs enforcement.

With the great increase in pleasure craft in recent years, more inspection and traffic control are obviously necessary and the new cutters will fill that need.

The vessels which will likely be based in southern coast waters, will be administered by the Canadian Marine Service, set up by the minister last May to co-ordinate all the Department of Transport shipping activities.

The Canadian Marine Services is definitely not a coast guard but it will have important duties in the protection of life at sea. In view of the thousands of small pleasure craft which now ply our waters this becomes a most necessary function.—The Vancouver Province.

Teachers out of a job?

"During the month (July) there was a drop of about 50,000 job holders over 25 years of age. Many of these were school teachers who dropped out of the labor force for the summer months." DBS—Dept. of Labor release on employment.

Here's another wrinkle that needs to be ironed out of the statistics on employment.

Why should a teacher on vacation be considered as "dropped out of the labor force"?

With all the school boards in Canada screaming for experienced teachers, it's highly unlikely that any teacher is in any doubt, in July, about her ability to return to work in September.

Few teachers will accept the idea that teaching is a ten-month job, leaving them idle the rest of the time. The two summer months, they say, are needed for refresher courses, reading, reading exam papers, travel and other means of keeping the teacher's mental furniture up to scratch.

To count teachers "out of the labor force" in the summer is nonsense. It certainly understates the number of permanent, year-round jobs the economy is providing, and distorts the most common measure of unemployment: the percent of the labor force without jobs and seeking work.

That percentage can increase either as a result of an increase in the number of unemployed, or as a result of a decline in the total labor force. If the decline is overstated, so may be the percentage of unemployment.

The teachers themselves aren't sufficiently numerous to affect the figures greatly, but how many similar cases are there? How many jobs are wiped out statistcially while their holders are simply recharging their batteries?

This is another indication that a more realistic assessment of the job statistics is badly needed.—The Financial Post.

Less noise, please

It will be news to most people that an International Association Against Noise exists. The association publishes a journal called Silence. Its first conference was held recently in Paris, appropriately since the French, though reputedly talkative if not noisy, have done pioneer work in suppressing harsh, unnecessary sounds.

Honking of motor horns was forbidden in Paris some years ago. Now the French have a law imposing stiff fines for playing portable radios on public vehicles. The anti-noise people in France have just published a book, called Noise, which makes a devastating case against disturbance of the public quiet.

The author concluded, after extensive research, that the noice of big cities, from buses, subways, trucks, etc., is well above the traumatic or shock-producing level. A big Paris insurance firm found that soundproofing its offices reduced employee mistakes by 52 per cent and improved health by 35 per cent.

Noise can cause heart attack, migraine, urinary and endocrine disorders, nervous breakdowns and marital squabbles. Murder is hardly ever committed silently.

More power to the International Association Against Noise that quietly calls attention to this menace to health and happiness.—The Financial Post.

INTERPRETING THE NEWS

Meeting of powers may slow arms race

By HAROLD MORRISON
Canadian Press Staff Writer

The anticipated verbal battle between East and West at the United Nations General Assembly may finally give way to resumption of world disarmament negotiations.

When the Soviet Union first broke off the 11-power disarmament talks at Geneva and Soviet Premier Khrushchev called on the heads of all UN member countries to take up the issue, American policy-makers concluded that Khrushchev wanted to pray international politics with disarmament and turn the UN session into an anti-American forum.

President Eisenhower, who steps down from office next January, planned only to make a farewell speech. Other Western leaders considered shunning the meeting altogether.

Now India's Prime Minister Nehru has decided to attend and London informants report that Prime Minister MacMillan also may make the trip to the UN.

The present relationship between Khrushchev and Eisenhower is not conducive to resumption of personal negotiations. Despite repeated speculation that the UN session might be turned into a full-fledged summit meeting, the White House makes clear Eisenhower plans no personal talks with Khrushchev. It appears possible that both MacMillan and Nehru may exert pressure on both Eisenhower and Khrushchev to forget their personal feelings in the search for means to prevent an atomic holocaust.

Crabgrass blues

Crabgrass neurosis seems to be centered in the suburbs of larger cities and it is a subject which is getting increasing attention in the United States.

There was, for example, a learned study which appeared last year in the journal of the American Medical Association under the title "Psychomatic Problems in a Rapidly Growing Suburb." It included a study of ulcers and hypertension resulting from the effort to have a lawn without a blade of crabgrass.—Winnipeg Tribune.

A Bible Thought for Today

If ye . . . know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your only Father give good gifts to them that ask Him. Matt. 7:11.

The infinite love of our Heavenly Father is revealed in part by his amazing provision for our bodily well being. The slightest wound is healed by the magic of his wisdom and love. Each single cell of our bodies has powers and qualities that bewilder the most learned men. God's love is infinite indeed.

TUSSLING TWOSOME— Suzy and her brother Shad, had a short-lived tiff at Vancouver Island Dog Fanciers' Bench show at Victoria. The dispute over a bit of cloth was unnecessary however, as each won a prize ribbon of its own. —CP Photo.

POST MORTEM ON OLYMPICS

Flabby Canada must face facts, grow up before Tokyo in 1964

Keep secret

From The Victoria Colonist

Although the 1960 Olympic Games have drawn to an official close in Rome, we in Canada can look forward to their continuation for some months to come. For now is the time for our athletes and officials to display their combined prowess in the field of excuses and recriminations.

It is hard, on the showing of our Olympic team, with the notable exception of the UBC rowing eight, to justify Canada's shocking performance. We are big boys now that we have a population approaching 18,000,000. Yet Australia with a population half our size shamed us, as did little New Zealand with less than 2,500,000 people to draw from.

Denmark with a population less than a quarter our size topped our effort of 16 points with a respectable 51.

We are rich boys too. We are, in fact, the second richest nation in the world. We are well fed and well housed. We are not on a near-famine diet such as many countries are. Yet our athletes did little better than those of such perennially undernourished countries as Pakistan, Ethiopia and Greece. Even the underdeveloped countries of Iran and Turkey did better.

What does it prove? Above all else it proves that we are a nation of tenth-rate physical specimens. If the Duke of Edinburgh and the rest of the world had any remaining doubts about this fact, we have successfully dispersed them now.

Rather than risk a similar humiliation in 1964, we should seriously consider dropping out of the Olympics. It may also be advisable to withdraw from the next British Empire Games.

Let us not advertise our flabbiness more than we have to. Let us keep it a secret.

Should we bother?

From The Vancouver Province

As the first of a series of unpleasant incidents in Rome were reported, we wondered whether the Olympics were worthwhile. Today, after mournfully taking stock of the lamentable showing of Canadian athletes at the Games, we wonder whether Canada should bother to send representatives at all under the present set-up.

Canada ended with the unofficial standing of 26th place, out of 84 competing nations. We tied with Pakistan, where they play field hockey, but we gained less than half the points earned by New Zealand, and Turkey was far out of reach. The Province believes that this sorry showing was not due to the weak hearts and muscles of the athletes, but to the lack of organization and money behind them.

Canadian athletes could draw on a sum of $100,000 for their representation. Yet in this country there are nine cities supporting football teams with a budget of more than $500,000 each. This shows that there has never been any doubt that Canadians are sport-conscious, but they have never been encouraged to support their national athletes instead of their local teams.

International standards are fierce. Records have toppled and will continue to fall, and only the best can survive the gruelling pace. Canada cannot expect even a fair showing while there is lack of leadership, impromptu decisions and little financial support.

For better or worse, Olympic-standard sport is for organization-men. If we are not prepared to pay for that organization we should resign ourselves to our static role as watchers of local sport and stay away from the international arena. There might not be much ambition in the plan, but there would be less humiliation.

Inquest on Rome

From The Toronto Telegram

The 1960 Olympics closed in Rome today. The curtain has been rung down for another four years. There have been sensational performances, equally sensational upsets. Records tumbled wholesale. And now as athletes prepare to leave for home, big question for many is: what went wrong?

Many inquests will doubtless follow on why Canadian athletes failed to do better. Some will blame it on the climate, others on soft living. Athletes will be blamed (as they already are being) for going to Rome "just for a ball". But these explanations are mere face-savers. The plain fact is that if Canadian representatives performed indifferently in Rome, they were merely reflecting public indifference to athletics.

It is still unfortunately true that athletics is low man on the sports totem pole. Public support is almost non-existent. So are the field, track, indoor swimming pool and other facilities needed to make champions. Few people would want athletics made part of the state regime, as in Russia. But a country taking part in Olympic athletics cannot expect selfless dedication and iron discipline from its representatives if their only reward is to be public indifference.

To change this attitude will require a fresh approach, starting from the school level up. TV coverage of the Olympics showed that athletics are tense, vigorous and competitive. They can keep a crowd on its toes or make it hoarse from cheering. This country needs athletes to follow in the Olympic tradition of a Percy Williams. And it should reserve places for them in Canada's Sports Hall of Fame.

Competition counts

From The Christian Science Monitor

Lamentations heard in the United States, Britain, France, and elsewhere over some unexpected Olympic Games upsets don't make much sense. One purpose of the international contests is to get athletes from all nations to train well and put forth their best effort every four years. If this purpose is carried out successfully no one nation or group of nations should expect to dominate the games forever.

In several cases, expected American winners have lost in close competition, even though they broke world records while losing. This is not a sign of going soft or "choking up." It is more likely an indication that better quality training is reaching better quality athletes in many so-called underdeveloped athletic areas of the world.

Americans in particular, and western peoples in general, should begin to get used to living with the results of their announced aim of improving the lot of men in less developed countries. A better world presumably will mean that more Indians, more Japanese, more Brazilians will have the opportunity, instruction, home competition, and improved diet needed to win gold medals. And why not?

Instead of carping at any loss of athletic dominance, members of the world's largest alumni quarterbacking groups should help encourage young people in their countries to aim at breaking still more records.

It's the competition that counts; not the monopolizing. And certainly not ideological propagandizing. Healthy, good-natured nationalistic rooting is valuable. Win-them-all jingoism defeats the spirit of the Olympics and of brotherhood.

All Aboard with G. E. Mortimore

The two little brothers are much different from one another in temperament. The older boy with the green eyes rushes into new things and expects to do them exactly right, with no mistakes on his first attempt.

If he fails, he pouts and slams objects down, and goes away in a rage.

His small, brown-eyed brother stops and thinks deeply before he tackles any task. You can almost hear the wheels turning.

Then he goes about the task slowly and carefully. If he makes a mistake, it doesn't ruffle him.

"Yes, it's wrong," he says calmly, and sets about trying to do it right.

In the older boy I can see a kind of small caricature of myself, like a reflection in a fun-house mirror.

The younger boy gives me a picture of myself as I would have liked to be, cool and deliberate, seldom allowing emotions to fog the mind.

However, the younger boy does slip sometimes, and loses his temper. I'm glad he does. If he always preserved that unearthly calm, I would be worried in case I had been chosen to have a small saint billeted in my house.

As I raise my hand with a stick to administer a wallop, I catch the brown eyes turned up toward me, blazing with defiance. Even in moments of rebellion the little fiend has a charm about him that almost persuades me to let him off.

But it doesn't work. Whomp! Whomp! The little wretch goes away howling. In a few minutes, however, he will have forgotten the whole thing.

His green-eyed brother, in the same position, would stubbornly carry the grudge all day.

Even when he is in the right, the older boy has a trick of nagging and irritating people. But with the young one, it is exactly the reverse. Even when he is in the wrong he draws sympathy.

For the older boy, life is going to be a long, hard fight. But the younger one is certain to charm his way through. That's the unfair trick that nature plays on some of us.

gems of thought

The divine Principle which governs the universe, including man, if demonstrated, is sufficient for all emergencies.
—Mary Baker Eddy.

The ability to keep a cool head in an emergency, maintain poise in the midst of excitement, and to refuse to be stampeded are true marks of leadership. —R. Shannon.

With the classics

He that will not love, must be
My scholar, and learn this of me:
There be in love as many fears,
As the summer's corn has ears:
Sighs, and sobs, and sorrows more
Than the sands that make the shore:
Freezing cold and fiery heats,
Fainting swoons, and deadly sweats;
Now an ague, then a fever,
Both tormenting lovers ever.
—Robert Herrick.

The lighter side

A mild-mannered minister accepted the call to a church where many of the town's residents bred horses, and sometimes raced them. A few weeks later he was asked to invite the prayers of the congregation for Lucy Gray. Willingly and gladly he did so for three weeks. On the fourth Sunday one of the deacons told him he need not do it any longer.

"Why," asked the good minister with an anxious look. "Is she dead?"

"Oh, no," replied the deacon, "She won her race yesterday."

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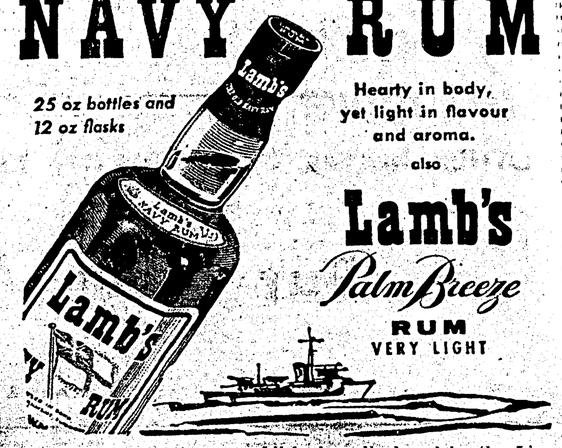

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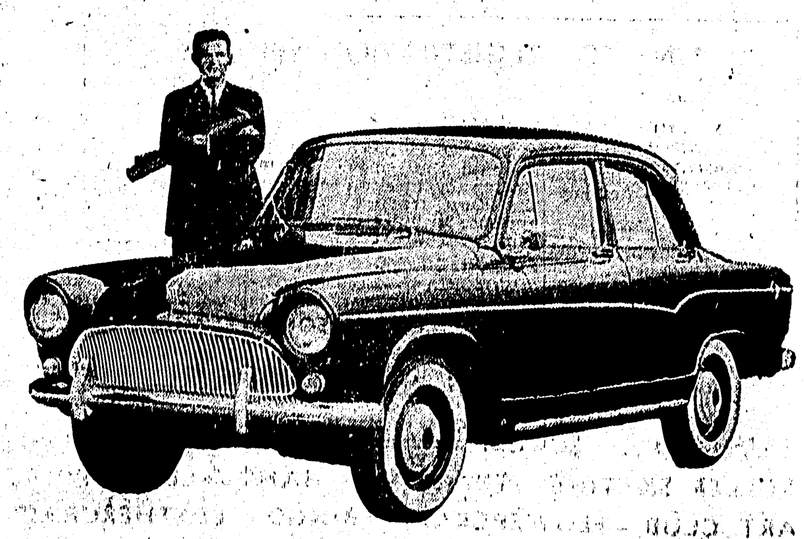

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