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Consider the Candidates

NO DOUBT there are many important things happening around the world that are worth profound comment but mid-summer is a difficult time to think about them. It is much easier instead to contemplate the vacation just ahead or just behind, preferably the former.

Sitting in an editorial chair, one realizes that many others are thinking the same thing. The inflow of mail dwindles to a desultory trickle. The big promotion ideas, the campaigns, the handouts and the advice, free or chargeable, become so scarce that the surface of the desk often becomes visible. The people with all the tremendous thoughts have forgotten them for the time being and become just as human as anyone else as they stare gloomily from an office window or loaf luxuriously where the sky is open and the air sweet.

The exceptions during this particular summer, of course, are those who have been guiding the affairs of our country, or are seeking to do so. Under a July sun it is hard to believe that men and women across Canada are fighting for their political lives. Yet the truth is that an election campaign is in progress which is as important as any in Canadian history.

Some predict that those elected will reflect the mood of the people at such a time and that they will be the politicians who can perform best on the baseball diamond or put on a good show at a picnic. We hope this will not be necessarily so. A good pitching arm or skill at organizing egg-and-spoon races is not a substantial qualification when affairs of state are being discussed.

A more optimistic view is that the summer lull will give us a better chance to concentrate on what the various candidates are talking about. In any case, it promises to be a season of considerable heat, political and meteorological. There should be no dearth of conversation about the climate in either respect.

New Type Artificial Limb Claimed Closest Ever Made To Real Thing

KUSTEIN, Austria (Reuters)—British and United States surgical experts are studying a type of artificial limb manufactured here which is claimed to be the closest yet to the real thing.

The inventor is small, wiry Fritz Striede, who began making artificial limbs at Jena, in the German province of Saxony, and moved his plant to Austria in 1926. In 1932 he began to develop the limb he now is making.

Striede has sought to imitate

closely the mechanism and shape of the human leg. The thigh and calf pieces are held together only by tough flexible bands.

A unique feature of the Striede limb is that it is held in place only by the muscular action of the patient's stump, which fits inside the hollow thigh or calf piece, depending on the point at which the leg has been amputated. Each hollow attachment must be made individually to ensure a perfect fit. There are no belts, shoulder straps or bindings.

In other types of artificial limbs, the stump muscles, having no positive function in walking, atrophy and become useless. But in the Striede limbs the muscles, through having to work, become healthy and strong again.

Usually only about two or three weeks' training is needed before the patient is able to use the stump muscles to hold on to the artificial leg. Thereafter the effort needed to hold on to the limb with the stump muscles is slight. Yet when the wearer relaxes the muscles, the limb can be taken off without any trouble.

To show the manoeuvrability of the Striede limb, one patient knelt without any support, bending both legs, one artificial, the other her own, completely double.

"You never have the impression of having an artificial leg," she said. "You think it is your own because the muscles are working."

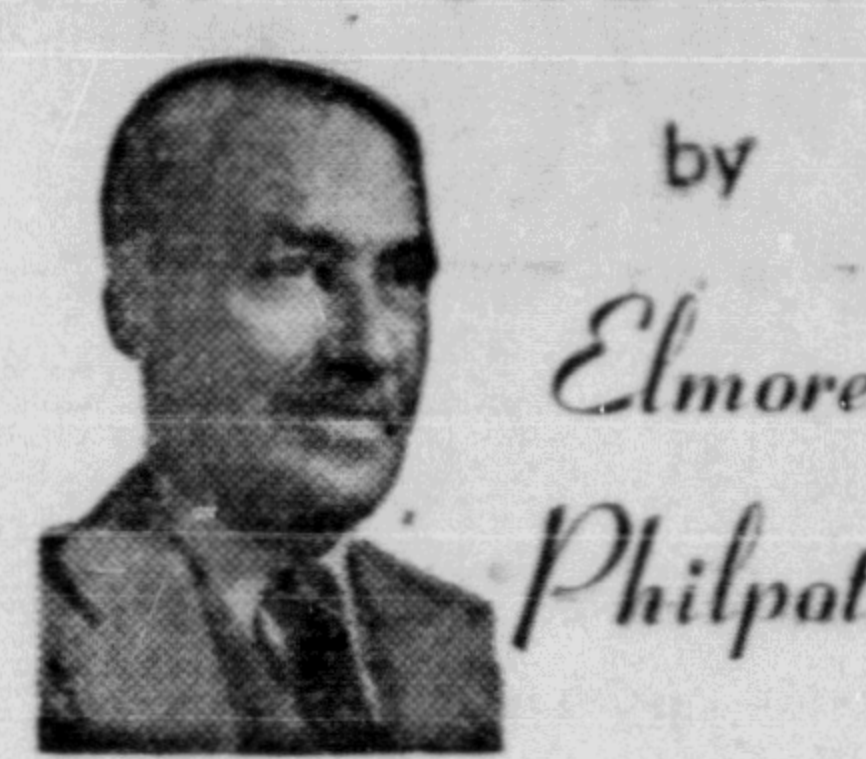
The cost of a complete Striede leg for a thigh amputation is about \$112. Patients wearing Striede limbs can ride a bicycle, drive automobiles, run and carry out normal occupations.

Nehru to Meet Pakistan PM

NEW DELHI (AP)—Official sources said today the Indian prime minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, will fly to Karachi July 25 for a two-day meeting with the Pakistan prime minister, Mohammed Ali Jinnah.

They will continue discussions begun in London at the recent Commonwealth prime ministers' conference in an attempt to solve the Kashmir dispute and other issues, the sources said.

As I See It



Great Canadian Dream

THE RT. HON LOUIS ST. LAURENT seems to me a far more towering figure than the "Uncle Louis" election legend make him out to be.

"Uncle Louis" may stand in many minds for the kind of welfare state that the Liberal administration has established—social welfare without socialism. No doubt there is more of it to come.

But as I see it, that is the smallest part of what gives the present prime minister the hold he has on the affections of Canadians.

There he stands, in the flesh, the very living proof that the great Canadian dream is coming true.

WHAT IS the great Canadian dream?

Surely that this young nation, composed in the main of two races which were Europe's bitterest and most prolonged enemies, are no longer living together in Canada in the uneasy state which Andre Siegfried called "modus vivendi without cordiality."

Year by year there is more trust and more cordiality between the French and English speaking sections of this two-race nation. Year by year there is better feeling between the Catholic, Protestant, Jewish and other sections of the population. Year by year the different cultures in Canada tend to blend better together, as the various colors do in the maple leaf in the woods of Quebec and Ontario.

Each little patch has its own identity, but all together add up to something even as inspiring to every true Canadian as are to others, the rose, the thistle, the shamrock, or the "lilies of the fields" mentioned by the Greatest Teacher of all.

I WAS BORN in 1896, the same year as the great Sir Wilfrid Laurier came to power after the very long Conservative rule. The history books show that Laurier came into office when this country was on the verge of a wide open split, on a most dangerous issue in a two-race, two-language, two-religion country like Canada.

Laurier dissolved that dynamite-loaded crisis by something far more important than a document called "sunny way."

As I grew up, I saw the great Laurier in action, tall, straight, slim, with his noble face and white hair like a plume. I saw his great, rugged successor Sir Robert Borden, who carried the truly awful load of the First World War. I watched Arthur Meighen in action, with his mind like a razor and tongue like a lash. I saw Bennett, who got more blame than he deserved, and of course we all saw King, who, in my estimate, will go down in history as one of the greatest, truest democrats of our times.

But the greatest of them all, I believe, is Louis St. Laurent. For he surely has just had his political opponents pay him the greatest compliment that was ever paid to a Prime Minister running for re-election.

Even the Tory front benchers are now trying to get him to pledge himself that he won't quit before another full term in office.

Pearson Urges Korean Talks

GORE BAY, Ont. (P)—External Affairs Minister Pearson, president of the United Nations general assembly, said Monday night the assembly must meet eventually to discuss the Korean situation.

Mr. Pearson, who has kept in close touch with international developments while campaigning for the Aug. 10 federal election, told a Liberal party rally in this Manitoulin Island community that the assembly must hold the session to discuss armistice in Korea if one is signed, or what to do if one is not signed. He mentioned no dates.

The meeting would be "the testing time of our unity and co-operation in the interests of world peace."

Mercury is the smallest of the planets, and the nearest to the sun.



YOUNG ETHIOPIANS are being trained by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) to man Ethiopia's airlines. Muller Nielsen, Danish member of an ICAO aircraft maintenance team, supervises a student in a workshop school in Addis Ababa. Other ICAO teams train newcomers as radio operators and weathermen.

VICTORIA REPORT

by J. K. Nesbitt

Few political leaders in our history have had the astonishing success of Premier W. A. C. Bennett. Results of the June 9 election are a tremendous tribute to him and his Social Crediters. There's no other way of looking at it. There's no use saying they sneaked in; that the whole movement's just a flash in the pan. It's none of these things. Social Crediters didn't sneak in, they were elected by more people than ever elected a B.C. government before; the movement is no longer a flash in the pan; it's here, in government, for eight or 10 years.

Only sour cherry in the beautiful, beautiful Social Credit pie is Oak Bay, where the Minister of Finance, Mr. Gunderson, lost to Liberal P. A. Gibbs. Mr. Bennett wants Mr. Gunderson to continue as Minister of Finance. He no doubt will do so. There's no rule to say a cabinet minister must also be an M.L.A. It is customary, of course, but a man can carry along in the cabinet, but cannot take a seat in the House.

The Premier doubtless knows it would be unpopular with the public to have a Social Credit minister resign his seat so that Mr. Gunderson could run. This happened twice last year, when Mr. Gunderson and Attorney-General Bonner were first seated. However, a little of this goes a long way.

At the autumn session of the Legislature, the Premier could have two or three extra seats added to B.C.'s 48—and could have by-elections in the new seats before the spring session. In this way he could easily get Mr. Gunderson into the House.

Oak Bay's Mr. Gibbs has a high place in B.C. political history. He's a giant-killer. If ever there was one, he has now beaten two Ministers of Finance—Mr. Anson in 1952, Mr. Gunderson this year. He has beaten two Conservative chiefs—Mr. Anson last year, Deane Finlayson this year. Thus, diminutive Mr. Gibbs is a man of vast political accomplishment.

This column has mentioned before the extraordinarily methodical way the public has been eliminating Liberal and Conservative parties. In the 1952 election four Conservatives were elected, and six Liberals. This year, one Conservative and four Liberals. Thus, the determination would appear to be first to eliminate the Conservatives, then the Liberals. This year the Conservatives took a 75 per cent cut in House representation, the Liberals a 66 2/3 per cent cut. And, if Dr. Giovando should finally lose out in Nanaimo, that's the end of the Tories in the B.C. House.

I went to a meeting here for Conservative leader George Drew. There was something very sad, yet very grand, about the people who sat on the platform. If ever a platform symbolized political defeat, it was that platform—and yet, there they sat, defiantly, courageously; no deserting of the sinking ship for them, no fleeing to Social Credit in the Tories' hour of need.

Most conspicuous among the defeated ones was Herbert Anson. The thought flashed through this reporter's mind that what a shame it is that the gambles of political life have

silenced this finest political speaker in B.C.—yes, the very finest, even if you can't agree with what he says. There he sat, mutely, in the shadows, while others spoke, and if they were good, Herb Anson could have been far, far better—and this includes polished political orator Drew himself. What a shame, and all because Herb Anson is a Conservative.

Deane Finlayson, defeated B.C. Conservative leader, was on the platform, too. He's a pleasant young man, and everyone but the impersonal voters likes him. Chairman Haldane, introducing Mr. Finlayson, said: "Perhaps he's not so well known to you now, but in a few years you will know him as the Prime Minister of British Columbia. Well, now, there's optimism for you."

Young Mr. Finlayson blinked at this, and was no doubt astonished. Then, his hopes soaring more, he said, and quite modestly: "I would be hesitant to make any prediction, but I know—indeed I feel in my bones that it will be in due time."

Russians 'Execute' 46 German Police For June Riots

BERLIN (AP)—The West Berlin newspaper Telegraph said today 46 Communist German "people's police" have been executed by Russian firing squads for "disobeying orders and resisting the Red Army" during the June 17 workers' revolt in East Germany.

No source was given for the report, which is considerably higher than any previous estimate of the number of police executions. Refugee reports have confirmed that the Red German police proved in the uprising that the Russians could not rely upon them against their own people. They often refused to fire on rioters and sometimes even joined the rebels. Some 500 have fled to West Berlin in the last month.

Demonstrations in front of empty food stores were reported in many sections of East Germany. The harvest, which began last week, is expected to be slim because so many experienced farmers have fled to the West, and those remaining have been hampered by Communist red tape and lack of equipment.

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Scientists Now Can Track Tornado in Sky

STILLWATER, Okla. (AP)—A U.S. scientist says tornadoes now can be identified and tracked across the skies.

A mechanical system of tracking the twisters, developed by Dr. H. L. Jones of Oklahoma College, now can be brought out of the laboratory and used to warn those in the path of the onrushing tornadoes.

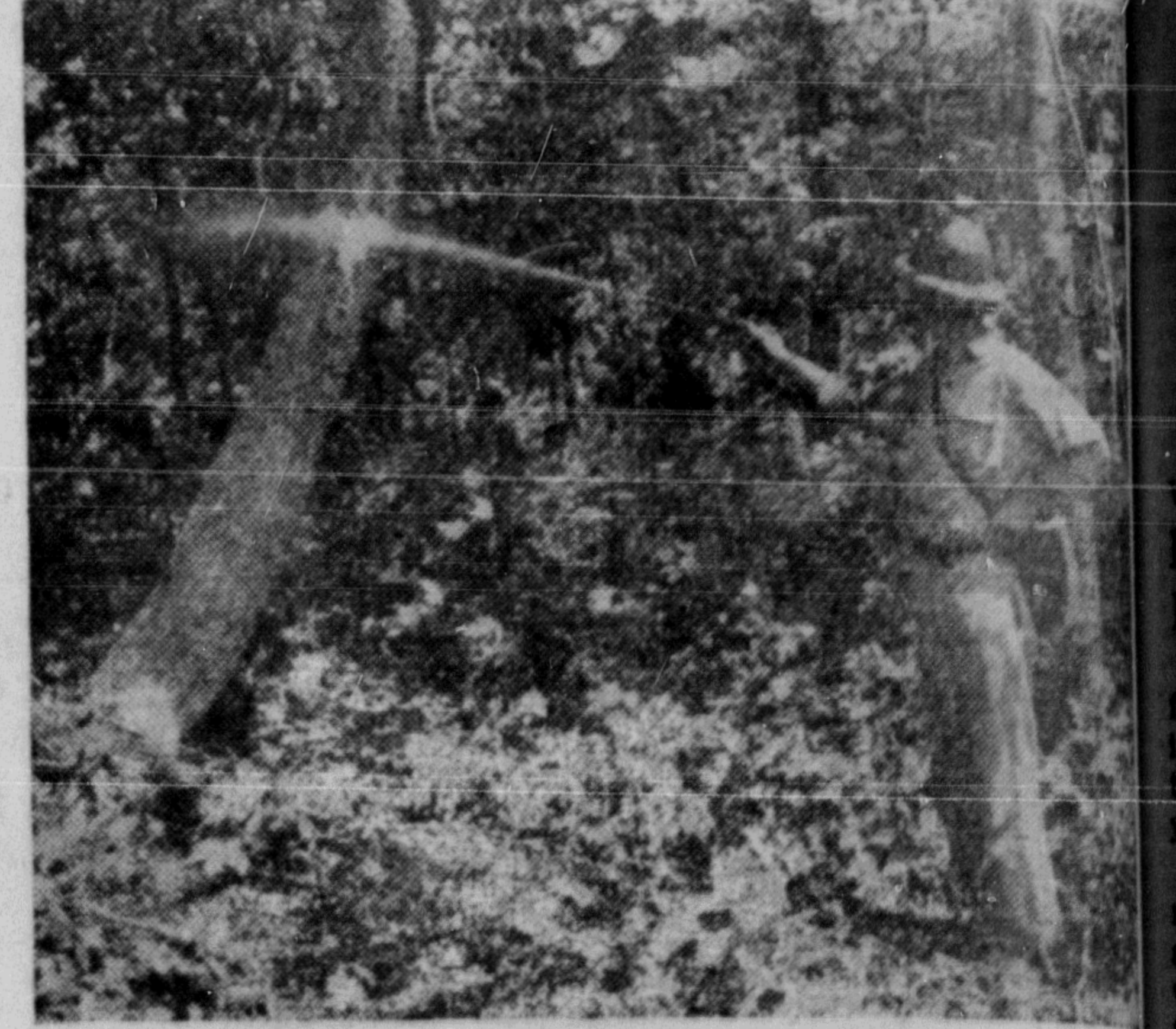
For six years, Jones has experimented to prove his theory that tornadoes radiate a type of electrical charge that makes them different from other storms.

In a report made public today Jones said the states, federal government or private business could finance tracking stations which could spot the tornadoes as they develop and plot their courses so towns in their paths could be warned.

He estimates a station and its equipment would cost about \$300,000. Six men would be needed to man each station.

Jones has not had time to determine how many stations would be needed to make the warning system effective. However, rough guesses range from 50 to 100. The effective range of a station is decided by one of its instruments, radar, which has a normal radius of 130 miles.

The system devised by Jones and his staff of the Oklahoma Institute of Technology relies on radar, direction-finding apparatus, oscilloscope and other electronic devices.



BLAZING TREES with paint instead of an axe is simplifying controlled tree-cutting operations in Canadian forests. The paint is a highly visible brilliant yellow developed by Canadian Industries Limited specifically for tree marking. Trees for felling are marked at about eye level and at the base of the trunk. The scene is at the Harrington forest farm of the Canadian International Paper Company near Grenville, Que., where work is done to aid woodlot owners on the management of their stands on a sustained yield basis.

OTTAWA DIARY

By Norman M. MacLeod

One of the features of the current election campaign in respect to which veteran Parliament Hill political observers are in unanimous agreement is its listlessness.

For lack of dramatic incident and general apathy it is conceded generally in the Capital that the present contest has had no rival from the days of Confederation.

That is taking in a lot of territory. But there are still a few individuals in these parts who retain memories of the political battles waged in the days of Macdonald, Laurier and Borden. They agree that in comparison with those duels of the past, the current campaign is just shadow-boxing.

The main difference which they discern in the current fracas from those of by-gone days is the absence of any vital issue between the two main contending parties. The difference between the Liberals and the Progressive Conservatives in the present instance, veteran political observers argue, is basically the difference between the "ins" and the "outs,"—and nothing more.

Assuming that there is some considerable element of truth in this diagnosis, the question that arises immediately is: Which party stands to benefit from such a situation? Where the voters aren't particularly aroused either way, is their indifference about putting a new party in power offset by their indifference about returning the party which has been holding the reins of office?

Or, in other words, by what

yardstick does one measure public indifference and apathy? That's the problem facing political observers on Parliament Hill these days. And they have no means certain that they have the answer.

The politicians themselves in a similar dilemma to the political writers. Never before have they had to assess a situation apparently dominated by negative factors. That PC leader George Drew has failed to make the political heather of the Liberals concede that, for some better issue with which to concern themselves, the voters are far from indifferent at least three points in the 16-point platform. Those points are Leader Drew's promise of half-billion dollar cut in spending, his stand against Communism, and his promise of a new deal to the municipalities and their taxation problem.

Parliament Hill politicians agree that none of these points assumes the proportions of a crusade, any more than do all of them combined. The question, whether, in the absence of a real crusading issue, they are equally effective for vote-getting purposes? The uncertainty of this point is pervading both old-line parties. It may yet result in the present contest becoming a real war of nerves before it is over.

Coffee Import Total Rises

OTTAWA (CP)—Canada imported 97,597,900 pounds of coffee last year, valued at \$50,774,800, says the current issue of Foreign Trade.

The federal trade department publication notes that at the turn of the century only 3,800,000 pounds of coffee was imported, with a value of about \$405,000.

In 1952, Canadians used about seven pounds of coffee per person, compared with 3 1/2 pounds just before the war.

Edinburgh, capital city of Scotland, has a municipal of 71 members.

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