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What's a little rain anyway?

T'S days like this that kill the desire how much it rains we still don't have whather at this time of year is best ex- in depth. We are also well out of the of wind, the drenching downpour and California tidal wave section. So all accompanying discomfort we have a in all we are pretty well off. All we latito be thankful for in this part of have is wind and rain and at this time the world.

ada we have no snow and no matter city, looking so fresh and clean.

... And it's novel

ATE like the story of the Oslo cab Middle West there was a well-off old derly lady to her country property man who kept a corner newstand. For was always courteous and cheerful. years he helped her across the street, When she died, however, she proved came no more... as good as her word. He inherited the property.

It is like a little fairy story. It may even have a moral, for those who have taste for tales in which virtue, as in the old melodrama, is rewarded. Anyway, it was obviously so rare an event that it found its way into the world's newspapers.

Some time ago, in a big city in the

to work, to do anything constructive, to shovel it. We haven't, as they have in fact to stir oneself to any degree of in the East today, a fog belt stretching activity beyond sitting in front of a from Chicago to Montreal. We have blazing fire (if you have one) or be- been spared the raging blizzard that side a perfectly functioning radiator has buried eastern New Mexico, the orthot air register and read a good Texas Panhandle and part of Oklabook. In other words Prince Rupert's homa with snow drifts up to six feet perienced from the interior of a snug way of the Florida hurricane belt, the home. But despite the mighty gusts mid-west U.S. twister area and the of the year we are used to it. After To begin with, unlike the Prairies: all we are tough northerners, we can and the Kootenays and Eastern Can-take it and besides the rain keeps the

driver who, when he drove an el- lady who had been befriended by a

One day the dear old lady told him she carried parcels and ran errands. He would leave him her little farm in her genuinely liked her; she told him he will, but he never took her seriously. was her only friend. And then, she

> Reading his newspaper a short while later he learned that she had left her small fortune in a trust fund for the life-long maintenance and comfort of her pet parrot.

Let the sentimentalist and the cynic choose the story he likes best. The first appeals to us. Somehow the ending seems neater and it also has the distinction of novelty.

—The Hamilton Spectator.

Law and life

This may set a legal pattern for other course was clear and proper. similar cases.

EEW Canadians will quarrel with the There has to be a sharp distinction decision of Judge Lorne Stewart, made between adults who are willing who ordered a Toronto infant to be to sacrifice their own lives for what made a ward of the Children's Aid So- they believe to be right, and their ciety there after the baby's parents forcing the results of such a convicrefused, on religious grounds, to per- tion on an infant incapable of making mit a life-saving blood transfusion. any choice. In this case, the law's

-The London Free Press.

INTERPRETING THE NEWS

First step to arms control likely in 1959

By GEORGE KITCHEN Canadian Press Staff Writer

national disarmament may come in 1959. control system to make sure the prohibition majority vote. is observed.

The value of such a step, lies in the fact it would open the door to real arms-control by proving, to the satisfaction of both East and West, that it is possible to have international inspection on both sides of the Iron Curtain, specifically including the Soviet Union and the United States.

There is increasing optimism in Washing ton, which long has been dubious about the Soviet Union's real intention on the muchtouted test ban, that the Russians finally are ready to strike a workable agreement with the Western powers.

mance in the Geneva East-West conference on gress is a mystery but whose potential is great. a nuclear test ban, now in recess for the Christmas holidays. The Russians there, officials note, have indulged in serious, hard. hargaining with evidence of Soviet intent to

reach an agreement. It is based also on a belief that the Soviets, through their widely-advertised desire for a world-wide test ban, have pushed themselves so far out on a limb that they now cannot turn

One of the most optimistic reports:has:come from U.S. State Secretary Dulles, never noted: for his faith, in Soviet agreements. Yet, he told the recent NATO council meeting in Pariskthe. Russians have moved a long way toward; the Western view on a test suspension and said he was fairly confident about the outcome of major population centres in this country. It the Geneva talks.

Before recessing their talks for two weeks; the Geneva: negotiators reached agreement; on: will not be seriously, affected by competition. the first four articles of a test; ban treaty These provide for prohibition of tests, an obligation by each ination to co-operate with the control organization and a framework for the organization itself.

When they resume their work early in the

That long-awaited first step toward inter- tough negotiations that probably will carry them into the early spring. They must, for example, If it does, it will be in the form of an surmount the Soviet demand for a veto on agreement between the United States, the the seven-member control commission that United Kingdom and the Soviet Union—the would be responsible for sending out inspection world's only atomic military powers—to ban teams to check control. The West feels the nuclear tests and set up an international commission should make decisions by a simple

> Critical issues yet to be resolved also include the staffing of control posts and the rights and functions of inspection teams checking on suspicious signs of hidden testing. The Russians want their own nationals to dominate inspection teams inside the Soviet Union. The U.S., on the other hand, insists on a year-toyear prohibition of testing dependent on pro-

gress in fields of armament negotiation. The proposed treaty would cover only the three nations now manufacturing atomic arms but would be open to signature by all countries. Here, the critical countries would be France, now striving to produce its first atomic bomb, This is based partly on the Russian perfor, and Communist China, whose nuclear pro-

Points that hurt

From the Stratford Beacon-Herald,

If you carelessly run into a sharp point . . you get hurt. The Ontario Department of Transport is adapting this simple principle to legislate more safety into our streets and highways. The penalty that drivers will draw for not keeping clear of the points is . . . suspension of driving privileges. It's going to hurt, plenty,

Competition shouldn't hurt

From the Kitchener-Waterloo Record For: many, years, Trans-Canada, Air, Lines. has enjoyed a monopoly of air travel between has had ample time to build up a backlog of business which, if its services are efficient,

back when

From the Stratford Beacon-Herald. Ani "old sottler" is a follow man who can remember when "the great open spaces" did now year, the delegates face a series of long, not necessarily mean parking lots,



Al Aboard By, G.E. Mortimore

"I'm going to start an efficiency campaign in the house," my wife announced.

"Yes, I want to be a fish, too," small Michael chimed in. 'Well, I suppose you are still young enough to reform,' "You're the one who is going to reform," she said. "I'm

not going to pick up your clothes any more. I'm going to find a way to make you do it yourself." Next day, the plan went into action. My brown shoes, one

of only two serviceable pairs that I have, were sprawled comfortably on the sitting-room floor as though they had set themselves down for a nap there and had been overtaken by Stuffed in one shoe was the following pencilled note:

"Shoes belong in the cupboard. The dog chews shoes... Leaving them here is the way to have them destroyed." My wife was right. The dog had already rendered my only black pair unserviceable—except for garden use. I quietly put the brown shoes in the cupboard.

Then I saw a large sign clipped on an envelope full of notes, which I had brought home and parked temporarily on the chesterfield. The sign said:

"This is the way that notes are lost. Please put papers in safe place."

My blue raincoat was draped limply over the back of a chair, as though it had suddenly grown faint and collapsed. A sign was pinned to the back of it, saying: "Coats are to be hung up."

I hung the coat up. So far, this none-too-subtle attack on sloth and untidiness has worked extremely well. Soon, I suppose, I will have to try the same methods on my wife, whose reluctance to sew on buttons and mend holes in

my clothing is a legend in our house. If my present plans work out, my wife will arrive in the kitchen in the morning to find notices confronting her on the kitchen-table: "Kindly pay attention to hole in right pocket of grey flannel trousers. About \$1 worth of small change already slipped through here. Look after this at your earliest convenience. Second time of asking."

And when she uses my car, she will find this note on the steering wheel: "Kindly refrain from leaving packages, butts and miscellaneous junk in car; instruct children to clean up mess they have already made."

I'm afraid my campaign may lead to hard feelings. But it's a gamble worth taking. I'm almost getting to enjoy hanging up my coat.

Soft soldiers

A research study by the U.S. army is said to blame the home for the weakness of American slodiers when captured during the Korean campaign. They seem to have lacked "the old Yankee resourcefulness," the report said, and submitted too easily to "give-up-itis." This was particularly the case with younger soldiers and lax. parents and easy civilian living are cited as possible causes.

This is perhaps too convenient a way out. The home is apt to be blamed for every demerit attached to young people, the factors of outside environment and the manners of existing society being overlooked. Undoubtedly the example of parents means much and it is in the home that fundamental virtues are implanted. Nevertheless individuals also are conditioned by the modes and practices with which they come in contact outside of the home.

If soldiers are weak in captivity and quickly lose their morale some part of this must derive from deficiencies in their military training. In olden times, when men in uniform were often regarded as scallywags, at the bottom of the social heap in fact, many had no home upbringing to stiffen their backbone or fill: them with stoic pride; yet they

Imbalance in tourism

From the Kitchener-Waterloo,

Canadians are indeed bitten. by the travel bug when it: is considered that we spent \$525,000,000 in other countries in 1957, whereas receipts, from non-residents, visiting Canucia, nmounted to only,\$303,000,000,

sentonce From the Sherbrooke Record A-man arrested by a woman policeman for speeding ros ceived a life sentence two months later. They were mar-

held up well when prisoners of war. This was because the army had offset previous de-

In an age when armies vie with civilian enticements by making military routine equally comfortable, it is perhaps not surprising that under duress morale is apt to let down. It is a fact also that modern war, and its accompanying factors have made troops more vulnerable than ever before to the insidious influences of enemy prison camps. Men need to be spartan indeed to remain unscathed in such experience. Lax parents may make soft

soldiers, but there are other considerations and some of these may belong to the bar-

racks itself. -The Victoria Colonist.

Status quo From the Calgary Albertan

When the Russians declare that they, wish to maintain the "status quo" in world affairs (as they have done a number of times recently) and then proceed to foment trouble in every possible corner of the globe, Western nations quite raturally accuse them of lying.

But the situation is not quite. as simple as that ..., When Russia speaks of status quo it means, something quite different from the usual definition of the phrase accepted by the

To the Communists the status quois not the world as it is now but the continuing world, revolution, and, struggle, for the supremacy of Commanism. It is necessary then. to sack continual change to maintain the status quo, in this, view. A, nation may be free, democratic and prosperous, but not being Communist it is necessary for Communista to stir up trouble in order

to, maintain the status, quo, Pree men must realize that not only do Communists often not mean what they say, but that they don't even any what they mean.

The smile habit

It has been said that it takes 65 muscles to, make a frown but only 13 for a smile. Yet it seems that a great many people make a habit of looking glum.

Granted that all of us have our troubles—but why should we post a public notice about them? It isn't pleasant for others to look at and it doesn't: lessen our problems one bit. On the other hand, the persistent effort to at least "think a smile" will help not only to brighten the face but brighten the heart—and the heart of destruction, the world's adthe other fellow, as well.

There's a lot more pleasant living in this life than most

Beny, Canadian artist who

took! up. photography, shows.

his father, Charles Beny of

Lethbridge, Alta., some of his

work. The 34-year-old native

of Medinicine Hat, Alta, won

early recognition as a painter.

His work as a photographer is

displayed in his book "The

Thrones of Earth and Heaven,"

a collection of photos of the

Mediterranean basin and its

historic monuments. This

photo was taken when he vis-

ited New York in connection

with the North American pub-

lication of the book.—CP Photo.

Why Vancouver?

From West Coast Advocate

. . . There is another phase

of the royal commission sit-

tings which does not go down

very well with the people

whom the B.C. Power Com-

mission serves. Why was the

commission called to sit in

Vancouver is not even in an

area served by the B.C. Power

Commission. This commission

should sit in the main cen-

tres served by the power com-

mission so that submissions

could be made directly. Why

should it be necessary for

areas interested in the prob-

lem, to go outside a B.C. Power

Commission territory to make

Vancouver?

the submission?

Concord (Calif.) Transcript of us ever get, out of it. Anch one way to get it is to stop minimizing the good things. and magnifying the bad, 30, practice pleasantness-it will; not only lessen the weightwor your burdens, but will help dis-

Atomic benefits... From St. Catharines Standard

Should man give the attense tion to atoms for peace that is being given to atoms for vance into the age of fuels scale application of nucling energy would be hastened.



It's yours for only 50¢.

SEND FOR YOUR KNIFE RIGHT AWAY

Here's all you do: Send cash and Quaker Flour Certificate to Kitchen Knife, The Quaker Oats Company of Canada Limited, Peterborough, Ontario.



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