LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Because it’s 1950?

Re U.S. Poll Shows Fear Of Opposite Sex At Work (July 14): Was this article really printed in 2017, not 1950? Mike Pense, a vice-president whose daily agenda must include meetings with many women, was never properly ostracized for his comment that he normally eats alone with a woman other than his wife. Instead, polls are being taken to validate his fears of looking “inappropriate”? If the work environment has truly disintegrated so badly for women that they feel they cannot share a car, meal or even a drink to wrap up the day with a male colleague without feeling “inappropriate” or worse, unsafe, then women have made no headway in the past 60-plus years.

- Eva Nightingale, Toronto

No more G-Gs

With all the hype and hoopla over the appointment of Julie Payette as the next governor-general, did anyone in Ottawa stop for a minute and ask “why” instead of “who”? Whenever I see the Royals travelling the globe (including occasional stops in Canada) to “buck up” morale in the colonies, I ask myself: When will this outdated, patronizing waste of taxpayers’ money finally end?

- Mark Spurr, Toronto

‘And now we pay’

I am a proud Canadian and the proud father of an Afghanistan veteran. In both capacities, I am disgusted by the apology and payment to Omar Khadr. As a Canadian soldier who has both legs blown off by an IED gets a maximum lump-sum payment of $360,000, Omar Khadr, who built IEDs, gets $10.5 million tax dollars.

What are our troops and veterans to think when they see this? One hundred fifty-eight Canadian Armed Forces members lost their lives in Afghanistan; at least 70 have died by suicide after returning. Hundreds more have disabilities they will never recover from. I measure their compensation against Mr. Khadr’s and I am pick up the tab.

- Doug Wiens, Edmonton

Don’t bank on it

Re UBS Chair Champions Infrastructure Bank (Report on Business, July 12): In the postwar era, the federal government used central bank financing to help pay for the building of highways, airports and bridges. Before 1975, the federal government also introduced Canada-wide medicare, universal pensions, the modern unemployment insurance system, and cost-sharing with the provinces for

A scandal, yet?

Poor Donald Trump Jr. should have read some of the spy novels of John le Carré before getting into meetings with people linked to the Kremlin (Russian-American Lobbyist Says He Attended Meeting With Trump Jr., July 14). Then maybe he wouldn’t have been so naive about the outcome.

When he responded, “I love it,” after learning that a Russian lawyer could provide information that would damage the reputation of Hillary Clinton, it constituted his acceptance of the offer, even if he didn’t realize it. At the following meeting, according to the elder Trump, “nothing happened.” Not correct: They were preparing what Russia wanted in return, which is the repeal of the sanctions against Russia.

Donald Jr. just doesn’t get it. George Smiley would have understood.

- Diane Dale, Victoria