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**Men of Silence  
 On Modern Farm  
 Near Winnipeg**

By ROSS MUNRO  
 Canadian Press Staff Writer  
 ST. NORBERT, Man., Aug. 8.—Twenty miles from Winnipeg on the Manitoba prairie, the Trappist monastery of St. Norbert, with its cowed and silent monks, offers strange contrasts of medieval life and twentieth century farming activities. Twenty-nine monks live a life of penance and prayer and at the same time operate a 2,000-acre farm which supports the institution with its produce.

Know officials: as Notre Dame de Prairie, this unusual monastery has been a stronghold of the Catholic faith for 43 years. Founded in 1892 by Monsignor Ric'ot and Tache, this remnant middle age Europe set down in western Canada continues to be an outpost of the Trappist order whose code is silence and prayer. The Trappists are of the Cistercian order founded originally in the eleventh century on the establishment of a monastery at Cîteaux. The monks never speak to a living soul. Necessary routine conversation is carried on by their hands with a sort of deaf and dumb system. They never leave the grounds and spend their days in prayer study, and work in the fields. Living the most frugal of in prayer, study and work in the lives, they strive to attain their ideal of penance for themselves and the rest of the world through continuous prayer.

"We are priors. We are praying men with a contemplative mission in life," explained Father Basile, who meets the visitors at the imposing iron gateway. "We are specialists like the Jesuits who preach and the Nuns who heal. Our mission is to pray for mankind." The monks go to their prayers and their work in long tunics which sweep the ground. They are girded with strong leather belts. The fathers wear a white gown with black hoods; the brothers wear brown-identical garb of monks since the, kept the flame of learning burning through the dark years of the middle ages.

The monks of St. Norbert have a scheduled day seven hours prayer, seven hours sleep and the remainder for work and study. Beginning their day at two in the morning they pray until six in the chapel. Then they have a meagre breakfast followed by work and study. Another session of prayer is held and the monks retire at eight in the evening, not even removing their heavy dress when they sleep.

In their grim silent existence they never see a newspaper or hear a radio. Their meals consist merely of vegetables, coarse bread and coffee with little weak beer brewed by themselves. No meat, eggs, butter or fish is eaten by the monks. But Father Basile frowns over the contentment of the monks who have voluntarily resigned themselves to this stringent life.

Yet one of the most modern and well-equipped farms in Manitoba is operated by the order. It takes 25 men to harvest the crop this year. Ten thousand laying hens provide a lucrative source of revenue for the monastery

and a herd of 90 cattle gives milk for Winnipeg families. Besides there are vegetable gardens and green houses to aid in the upkeep of the institution.

During the last two years Great Dane dogs have been raised and as the monastery is approached along the dusty road the bark of the Danes blends with the peal of the bells in the turret calling the monks to prayer. There are 150 Danes in the kennels now and a splendid trade is being built up. Dogs have been shipped to buyers in Honolulu, New Orleans and Quebec.

Men are allowed to visit at the monastery but women are forbidden with few exceptions—Queen Mary of England and Lady Bessborough. A guest house maintained where male visitors can spend a secluded few days.

The famous Trappist cheese was made at this monastery until recently when its manufacture was discontinued due to high United States tariff. Honey is made and sold to visitors.

Men from all walks of life have given up business and professions to enter the Trappist order. At St. Norbert there is an artist-an iron worker known as Father Jules. He built the splendid entrance and constructed with his own force and equipment the elaborate iron fence around the monastery cemetery. Father Jules also designed the life-size buffalo statues which grace the rotunda of the Manitoba legislative buildings.

Then there is Father Basile, the amiable guardian of the gateway, who alone speaks to the visitors in French or English. He was a lawyer before joining the order 10 years ago and he also served as a padre in France during the war.

On a Sunday afternoon, the 29 monks walk slowly to the chapel for vespers before the elaborately carved altar. They pray, sing Latin hymns and perform the rites of their church. The pages of the centuries are flipped back as these robed, hunched men of silence kneel and chant in the chapel as the bells of the monastery ring forth. Following vespers, the monks silently pace the ground or cloisters lost in contemplative thought.

But financial worries are harassing the St. Norbert monks this year. According to Brother Louis, the business agent, oppressive municipal and provincial taxes on the 2,000-acre farm are cutting into the profits of the monastery. "If it keeps up the institution will be forced to withdraw to another province," he said. "We are the only monastery in the Trappist order that is taxed and we find the burden heavy to bear." The monastery itself is a white brick and stone structure topped by a turret. Surrounding the main building are the barns, hen

houses and farm buildings. Tractors, ploughs and every kind of modern farm equipment is seen in the yard. The modernity of the farming equipment clashes strangely with the century-old tradition and custom observed by the Trappist monks of the monastery.

An entirely self-sufficient community, the St. Norbert monastery is an unique example of cooperative enterprise, almost an ecclesiastical communist state, shrouded in an old world atmosphere within an hours ride of a metropolitan city.

**Land With No Unemployment**

(Canadian Press)  
 ST. JOHN'S, Nfld., Aug. 6.—A country where unemployment is unknown and there is no financial crisis has been found at last.

It is part of this colony's great hinterland, Labrador, and was described in a letter from a Newfoundland founder who has made his home at Nan, 700 miles north of St. John's, for the last quarter of a century trading with natives in furs and other products of the frozen northland.

"The natives have had the most prosperous season for many years," he wrote to the Evening Telegram. "Sufficient seals were secured to furnish food and necessary wearing apparel. These seals provide food, clothing and heat for the hunters and their families, and also food for their indispensable dogs."

"Caribou were numerous and early in the fall wigwams and huts of the Indians and Eskimos were well stored with meat, and the skins converted into garments which even the Arctic winter winds cannot penetrate."

"Having provided for all possible emergencies the hunters sell their surplus, but this is done only after ample provision has been made for future requirements in the matter of food."

"This winter whole carcasses could be purchased for the equivalent of \$3.00 worth of goods, household and personal articles."

"Smoking and chewing tobacco always forms a part of the family stores and this luxury is used by both sexes."

"Foxes, especially red, cross and silver, were plentiful, and from October till April the average income per family from this source alone was about \$300; some, of course, earning much more than this."

He went on to describe how plentiful were the codfish, sea trout hares, ptarmigan and spruce grouse and added: "Lucullus himself would not have disdained the bill of fare which constitutes the larder of many a Labrador native."

Walrus were being killed at the time of writing. They had become

more numerous due to the protective regulations effectively enforced by the Canadian government.

"Thus, from this simple sketch of life in this isolated part of the world," he concluded, "you will see that we have no industrial unrest, no political upheavals, no international bickerings, no gold standard, no worries over the fluctuations of exchange, no unemployment, no destitution, no hunger and consequently no dole, and perhaps you will agree with me that there are worse places to live in just now than sub-Arctic Labrador."

**High Death Toll Causes Concern**

(Canadian Press)  
 HEBBURN-ON-TYNE, England, Aug. 7.—An increase of nearly 25 per cent in the infantile death rate and a high maternal death rate during 1934 are causing concern to the authorities here.

The annual report of the Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Gavin Millar, reveals that for every 116 babies born during the year a mother sacrificed her life. The number of infantile deaths rose from 86 per 1,000 births in 1933 to 108 in 1934.

Both these mortality rates are almost double the average rates for the whole of England and Wales.

Dr. Millar states that free milk is supplied to necessitous cases, and "this has been of the greatest value, for without it mothers and children would undoubtedly have suffered." The report shows that each of 542 families in the town were living in one room and 1,816 families occupied only two rooms each.

**CUTS VISIT SHORT**

KENNEBUNK BEACH, Me., Aug. 7.—(A.P.)—The likelihood that Senator Huey P. Long of Louisiana would visit this resort faded tonight as Mrs. Long announced that tomorrow she and her family would leave for Quebec City via Moosehead Lake.

Mrs. Long said she had young son, Palmer, was anxious to get back to Louisiana to care for his pet pigeons and hens.

The other members of the family, Miss Rose Long, Russell Long, and Mrs. Long all were content to stay a little longer, the latter said. The Longs planned to go to Quebec by automobile, accompanied by friends, and then return to Louisiana via Washington.

"The sun never sets on the British Empire," said the Englishman proudly.

"How unfortunate!" remarked the American girl. "At home we have such lovely sunsets."

**Baby Shows Feats of Strength**

WINNIPEG, Aug. 8.—(C.P.)—An embryo strong man, little Willy Richot, three-year-old Winnipeg youngster, has been "breaking his way out of his crib by bending the iron bars since he was two years old. Recently he picked up a tub containing four pairs of water and threw it on the ground. Frequently he pulls his two-year-old brother around the house in a tool box.

**Commoner to Wed In Noted Chapel**

(Canadian Press)  
 LONDON, Aug. 7.—The first girl outside the ranks of royalty to be married in Henry VII Chapel, the chapel of the Order of the Bath, in Westminster Abbey, will be the daughter of Admiral of the Fleet Sir Roger Keyes, who is a Knight Grand Cross of the Bath.

The privilege that the marriage should take place in the Henry VII Chapel, said Sir Roger, was granted by the King about a month ago. Miss Keyes will marry Peter Willop William-Powlett, youngest son of Major and Mrs. William Powlett of Ottery St. Mary.

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—BY GEORGE MCMANUS

**CARDIGAN BRIDGE**  
**NOTICE TO TRAVELLING PUBLIC**

Owing to the condition of the Concrete Driveway over Cardigan Bridge, the load limit shall not exceed three tons, including vehicle. The public are hereby warned to be careful in crossing this bridge.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS  
 August 5, 1935.

**Falconbridge Takes Lead In Soccer Series**

(C.P. By Guardian's Special Wire)  
 MONTREAL, Aug. 7.—Northern Ontario's Falconbridge took a one-game lead in their Eastern Canada soccer final tonight with a hard-fought 1-0 victory at the expense of Montreal Adred Quebec rep. The Falconbridge team, captained by Dominion titular honors. The second of the two-of-three game series will be played Friday and a third game is necessary Saturday.

Henry Lons, speedy left-winger scored the only goal of the game midway through the second half when he flashed in from the touch-line to take Alex. Samson's pass close in and beat goalkeeper Nelson easily.

**Bean Anthracnose**

(Experimental Farms Note)  
 Bean anthracnose, or pod spot, is widely distributed in Canada. It occurs upon field and garden varieties and is caused by a fungus which attacks pods, stems, and leaves. The most conspicuous symptoms are the small, brownish or purplish, eventually dark and sunken spots on the pods. These spots frequently join together and form irregular sunken areas. In these spots the fungus produces thousands of spores which stick together when dry but separate when wet. Usually the fungus penetrates the pods down to the seeds causing their infection.

The Division of Botany, of the Dominion Experimental Farms, recommends crop rotation, good drainage and weed eradication as safety measures to reduce the severity of anthracnose. It is important to avoid cultivating, working among or picking the beans during wet weather, for this disperses the spores from plant to plant and sets up new centres of infection.

In attempting to control this disease first emphasis must be placed on the production or use of anthracnose-free seed as follows: sort out the diseased pods by hand picking; select seed from anthracnose-free pods and maintain a seed plot for the production of disease-free seed; procure seed from localities in which anthracnose does not occur. Bear in mind also that it is

**BRINGING UP FATHER**

WELL—I THINK I'VE GOT ME FAMILY THINK I'M BROKE BUT IF THEY EVER FIND OUT I'M NOT I'LL NEED A LOT OF MONEY FOR DOCTORS.

AN' I MUST KEEP MAGGIE AND ME UP WAYS TO MAKE MONEY. THEY'RE LAZY TO MAKE A MISTAKE AND MAKE SOME-

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKIN' SO WORRIED FOR?

I'M NOT WORRIED—I'M ANXIOUS—MOTHER WENT TO THE OTTO LOUIS MOVING-PICTURE SHOW TO GET A JOB IN THE MOVIES.

IS THAT SO? WELL—I'LL PUT A STOP TO THAT.



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