

# Widening Education Horizons

The forward in Widening Educational Horizons this week comes from the pen of Mr. Clarence Mercer, M.A., M.Ed., Supervisor of Summerside High School.

In his school Mr. Mercer has put into actual practice what he has written here. The school has something to offer all children. Apart from the academic work which is carried on by a capable staff of teachers, a variety of subjects are at the disposal of those who are not planning to go on to university. You will find the music room, the art room, the commercial department, the home economics department, the carpenter shop, the drafting and welding departments. Here you will find interested students happily at work learning skills that will help them find their place when they leave school.

**Regional High Schools**

In education in this Province, there is a great need for larger units of administration and a consequent establishment of Regional High Schools.

The fundamental basis of any school serving a region is, of course, a larger unit of administration much greater than that now covered by the local school district. As the regional high school will serve the needs of high school districts of a dozen or more schools, the first prerequisite is the amalgamation of those school districts into one covering the area concerned. In this Province we have too many school districts, but if it is felt desirable to retain school districts as they are now, well and good. In that case it would appear to be an easy matter to appoint a representative from each to form the school board of the larger regional unit whose responsibility it could be to look after the needs of education beyond Grade VIII in the regional high school. The local school board could look after the elementary school education. After experience, it will be felt that a larger administrative unit such as the Regional High School Board could look after all phases of education both on the elementary and secondary level for the region concerned.

Provinces elsewhere until recently faced the same problems we face here with respect to education in rural areas. They solved it by cutting down the number of school districts and organizing larger units of administration. (2) Constructing at the centre of this unit of administration a regional high school. The basis of the regional high school is the larger unit of administration and it would appear that this is the first step.

Our present Grade XI and XII courses lead only into the universities and opportunities elsewhere. We must have courses leading as they do now into the professions, but we should also have courses geared more closely to the needs of our Province and to the needs of the pupils who will remain in this Province.

Only by establishing regional high schools can we make provision for such optional courses which could include business courses, industrial courses, with the necessary academic subject to round out secondary education. For girls, courses could be offered in the fields of home-making and it would appear reasonable that courses should be offered boys in the field of agriculture—the basic industry in this Province. Around and about them the boys and girls who by aptitude or desire will pursue the classics and the subjects necessary for matriculation into the universities.

In such a proposed set-up the village schools will remain and function in a better way than they

did heretofore. The teacher in these elementary schools will do a better job, and the bigger boys and girls in the regional high school will sample wider choices and experiences in the social as well as the academic and vocational fields.

There are many people today who, desiring the best for their children, want nothing short of a university education. This is magnificent but it is not necessary and often leads to duress placed on both student and teacher. Within recent years the possibility of a university education is brought within reach of all and there is a sense of frustration abroad when one fails to achieve anything short of that. Not many years ago most of us were contented to leave school without thought of university and we managed to live contented and useful lives in fitting ourselves into the industrial life of the community.

Commendable as it is, there is a possibility that we are advertising too much the value of a university education for too many people. Let us encourage those with the aptitude and the desire to enter the universities, but for the others let us plan our offerings so that boys and girls won't look down upon a good general education which might include sales work, shop work, or house work in addition to their cultural and academic. Boys and girls today are obsessed with the ideal of the sensational. We should do our part in elevating the daily round and common task. Otherwise, our advertising and portrayal of the sensational in occupational fields will lead to disappointment and disturbance in the youthful mind.

## THE LAND OF SPAIN (Continued)

Spain is an ancient, and once great and powerful nation that has fallen on hard times. Stories of the country go back to about 3,000 years ago, when Phoenician sailors from Asia settled on the Spanish southern and eastern coasts. Spain built and lost a huge colonial empire, which included territory in the Americas, from the 15th to the 17th centuries. Since those ancient days, Spain has been a poor country most of the time.

In size, Spain today is a little less than half as large as Ontario. The area includes the mainland and two island groups, the Balearics in the Mediterranean Sea and the Canaries in the Atlantic Ocean.

Next to Switzerland the country has more high land than any other nation in western Europe. Three-fourths of the country is a broad plateau 1,000 to 3,000 feet above sea level. Mountain ranges cut across the plateau—the Pyrenees in the north, along the border with France, and the Cantabrians in the northwest. The Guadarrama and Gredos are part of a chain running across central Spain from east to west.

Spain's population is 28 million, and most of the people work as farmers or in jobs connected with agriculture. The nation produces half the world's olive oil, and harvesting the oil crop employs thousands of people in the south. Oranges are also plentiful.

Cutting cork trees is an occupation engaged in by many Spaniards. Portugal and Spain together produce most of the world's cork. Around the City of Murcia, in southeastern Spain silk is produced. It is of a special kind—very fine strands that are used by doctors to sew wounds, and by fishermen to tie their colored hooked flies to lines. Murcia has led the world in turning out this kind of silk for over 100 years.

All over Spain, people do most

of their work by hand. Machines are rare. Wheat, for example, is usually cut by workmen with scythes. It is then tossed onto a cloth laid on the ground, women with sticks beat the grain to loosen the chaff from the wheat.

The olives, oranges, lemons, cork, and grain are major crops. Cattle, goats, and sheep are raised, and in southern areas along the Mediterranean—goats are the chief milk animals. Fishing is a big food industry. Sardines and tuna are packed for sale to other countries.

The farmer may live in huts of stone in mountain areas, or in homes of stuccoed walls and tiled roofs in villages. There generally are no modern conveniences in farm homes. Laundry, for example, is done in troughs in the open air; piped-in water usually is found only in cities. The farmers often use donkeys and two-wheeled carts for hauling crops to market or for taking the family on a day's excursion.

Spain's cities are much like those in European countries, with a great deal of old architecture beside modern buildings. Madrid, with about 1,600,000, and Barcelona, with 1,300,000, are the only cities with more than a million population. Madrid is the capital, located in the centre of the country. In addition to the government offices, it has factories that make furniture, shoes, gloves, and jewelry. The city is also the hub of rail and airlines that reach out to all parts of the nation.

Madrid is truly a metropolitan city, but it has customs quite different from ours. Most people don't go to their offices until 10 o'clock in the morning. Shops close at one o'clock and everyone goes out to lunch. Work doesn't begin again until four o'clock, and shops stay open till eight o'clock. The dinner hour is late in the evening, often after 10 o'clock.

Both farm and city young people get an elementary education, after which most of them go to work. There are comparatively few who go on to high school and college. Those who do usually are from wealthy families, which make up a rather small part of the population. Spain became a republic in 1931. The republic was overthrown in a civil war 1936-39, and Francisco Franco became ruler. He was graduated from Spain's Military Academy in 1910 his country was at war with Morocco and Franco asked to be sent to the front. He made a brilliant record for himself in battle and became prominent in Spain's army.

In the early 1930's, King Alfonso was deposed and Spain became a republic. The new leaders were suspicious of Franco because of his royalist leanings and sent him to the Canary Islands, but when uprisings broke out later Franco was secretly flown back to Morocco, which was under Spanish control. There he organized a movement to set up a new government in his homeland and in 1936, Franco and his followers landed in Spain and the struggle for supremacy began in earnest.

Hitler's Nazi Germany and Mussolini's Fascist Italy sent arms and men to help Franco's side. Russia sent aid to the general's enemies. Finally, after a long bloody fight, Franco was victorious in 1939. He then set up a government with himself as leader, and permitted only one political group—the Falangists—to exist in Spain. His supporters say he is doing everything to improve the living standards in his country. Until conditions are better, it is said, he cannot relax his strong grip for fear that the Communists will seize power. His critics contend the other hand, that his government favors the upper classes.

**Fellowship in Educational Measurement**

The American Educational Research Association offers a Fellowship in Educational Measurement, made possible by a grant from World Book Company. The person selected will pursue graduate or postdoctoral level, in the field of educational measurement at an institution of his choice in the metropolitan New York area. He will in addition receive the benefits of a systematic program of practical experience in test research and development in the Division of Test Research and Service of World Book Company and other testing agencies.

The Fellowship will provide a stipend of \$2000.

**Qualifications:** Candidates for the Fellowship should be citizens of the United States or Canada, resident in either country, who are planning to pursue a professional career in the field of educational measurement in either of these countries. Candidates should have completed at least one year of graduate study in the field of educational measurement or a closely related field at a recognized institution. School experience is desirable but not essential. There are no limits as to age, sex, or marital status of the candidates, although preference will be given to applicants under 35 years of age.

**Duration of Fellowship:** The Fellowship is awarded for a period of one year, and is renewable for a second year at the discretion of the Fellowship Award Committee of the American Educational Research Association.

**Additional information and applications:** For additional information about the Fellowship and for application blanks, interested candidates should write to: Fellowship Award Committee, American Educational Research Association, 1201 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

Applications for the school year 1954-55 must be received by March 1, 1954.



**BIG WHEEL**—Seppi Winterhalter, an Austrian tourist in Rome, is leaving the jet propulsion age to others. He's content with his grand father's bike which he traveled over 1000 miles from his home in Innsbruck to Italy. In the background is the 2000-year-old Coliseum.

## Flying Saucers, Canada's Sighting Station

The world's first scientific flying saucer sighting station is being constructed at Shirley Bay, 10 miles north-west of Ottawa. So far, scientists have not produced any data which proves scientifically that there are such things as flying saucers. Now the Shirley Bay station will make attempts to secure such data. The project is being called "Project Magnet".

The station will be active 24 hours a day. It will contain the various types of radar, an ionosphere recorder, a magnetometer to measure gravity and a radio set running full volume at 530 kilocycles to pick up any radio noise. A bell will ring when any instrument is activated. Workers will then make a record of anything they see. The all important records, however, will be made by the instruments. Wilbur B. Smith, engineer in charge of "Project Magnet" is convinced that man will eventually build a flying saucer. He sees no reason to doubt that some being on some other planet has already done so. He therefore, feels that the public should be fully informed of this possibility and its co-operation sought in obtaining accurate observations of unusual phenomena.

Since those who believe in flying saucers are in a minority in official circles, it is unlikely any official information will be made public unless and until science can produce proof.

## Newswoman Appointed to B. C. Seat in Senate

Mrs. Nancy Hodges, British Columbia newspaper columnist, was appointed in November by Prime Minister St. Laurent to the Senate. Mrs. Hodges thus becomes British Columbia's first woman senator.

Mrs. Hodges' appointment to the Senate leaves 13 vacancies to be filled. They include four for Quebec, three for New Brunswick, and two each for Manitoba, Nova Scotia, and Ontario. Membership in the upper House now is 81 Liberals and 18 Conservatives. Other women senators are Mrs. Iva Fallis (P.C., Ont.) and Mrs. Cairine Wilson (L., Ont.). Two women senators were appointed just before August's general election, Mrs. Muriel Ferguson (L., N.E.) and Mrs. Marianne Jodoin (L., Que.).

## Synonyms and Antonyms

Some of the pairs of words below have almost the same meaning; these are synonyms. Some of the pairs of words below have almost the opposite meaning; these are antonyms. Write S after each pair of synonyms. Write A after each pair of antonyms.

warrior ..... soldier  
relief ..... help  
polished ..... unpollished  
happy ..... unhappy  
robber ..... robber  
treasures ..... riches  
rise ..... fall  
nightingale ..... bird  
tidings ..... news  
mock ..... laugh  
easier ..... harder  
swarm ..... crowd  
amazement ..... surprise  
pleased ..... displeased  
wise ..... foolish  
sweet ..... sour  
rapid ..... slow  
wee ..... tiny  
plot ..... plan  
dusk ..... dawn  
glory ..... beauty  
friends ..... enemies

## If I Were. (A game to play)

The teacher begins this game by asking a question such as "Mary, if I were a bee what should you do?" Mary stands and answers, "If I were a bee I should buzz." It is now Mary's turn, and she may say, "Jack, if you were a carpenter, what should you do?" and Jack answers, "If I were a carpenter, I should hammer." The game continues. If any pupil says, "If I was" or "I would" he loses his place and must stand at the wall until the game is over. If a child cannot think of an action not named before, he loses his chance to answer and the questioner asks someone else.

## C. T. F. Board of Directors Meeting

Mr. Earl Jelley, B.A., president of the Prince Edward Island Teachers' Federation was our representative at the board of directors' meeting of the Canadian Teachers' Federation held in Ottawa, January 14, 15, 16.

At the conclusion of this three-day conference the Canadian Teachers' Federation issued the following statement:

After a review of reports of the continuing teacher shortage in Canada, the C. T. F. directors advocate raising entrance qualifications to teacher training institutions. They are gravely concerned that provincial departments of education generally have been lowering entrance standards.

The Canadian Teachers' Federation holds that to retain those teachers we have and to obtain more for the expanding school enrolment, standards must be raised. For, it is only through raising standards and making teaching positions more attractive and worthwhile that teachers will remain in their profession and capable young people will clamor to be admitted.

The lowering of entrance requirements which has been tried in several Provinces as a temporary means of keeping the doors of the classrooms open, has failed to accomplish its objective and has seriously undermined the prestige of the thousands of well-qualified and capable teachers in the country.

The only teacher training institutions in Canada that have actually increased their enrolment in full courses are those institutions that have raised and stiffened their entrance requirements.

The Canadian Teachers' Federation strongly urges provincial authorities to raise the standards of teacher education in order to insure qualified teachers for all classrooms.

## POPULATION HIGHER

**CAPTOWN—(CP)**—Population of the Union of South Africa has topped the 13,000,000 mark for the first time. Annual estimates give a total of 13,150,000, compared with 12,900,000 the previous year. This includes 2,750,000 Europeans, 2,840,000 natives, 1,170,000 coloreds—people of mixed origin—and 388,000 Asiatics.

## Savage Harbour and Vicinity

Mr. Donald J. MacDonald of St. Andrews, was a business visitor to Charlottetown, on Monday.

Mrs. Clarence Murphy, of Savage Harbour, was a recent visitor to Charlottetown.

Mrs. Barbara Doyle of Savage Harbour, was a recent visitor to Charlottetown.

Mrs. Fred Mosher of Savage Harbour, was a visitor to Charlottetown on Tuesday.

Mr. Harvey Douglas, Head of Hillsborough, who is the provincial representative of this district, was a visitor to Savage Harbour during the week.

Mr. John Pigot, well-known farmer of Savage Harbour, was a visitor to Charlottetown on Tuesday.

Barbara Cantwell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Giles Cantwell, of Charlottetown, has returned to her home after a pleasant visit to Savage Harbour, where she was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Murphy.

Miss Hattie Pigot, formerly of Savage Harbour, but now residing in Charlottetown, was a recent visitor to her old home. Miss Pigot has many friends in this area who are always happy to welcome her among them.

Mr. Freeman McEwen formerly of St. Peter's Harbour, but now residing in the state of Wisconsin, attended the funeral of his uncle the late Mr. Walter Pigot which was held at Savage Harbour on January 25.

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Coade of Glenroy, will be sorry to learn that they are ill at their home. The best wishes for a speedy and complete recovery goes out from a host of friends.

One of the busiest spots around the country these days is the community potato warehouse at St. Andrews where a group of men under the guidance of manager Wilfred Coffin are busily engaged in grading and shipping potatoes. The following are working with Mr.

## Georgetown and Vicinity

On February 2, Mr. William S. Martell crossed the upper harbour ice to Poole's wharf in Lower Montague, with a horse and sleigh. Mr. Martell reported that he tested the ice six times during the crossing and found as high as 3 1/2 inches of ice. Mr. Martell usually sets the record for the first crossings for horse and sleigh each winter.

The snow plow was in on Feb. 3 and plowed the town streets. With the large number of homes now using oil in stoves and furnaces, the oil companies are thus able to make delivery to all of their customers.

## Murray River And Vicinity

The many friends of Mrs. Russell MacPherson, Murray River, are pleased to hear she is recovering nicely, after being confined to her home with pneumonia.

L. A. C. Robert Whiteaway of Clinton, Ont., is visiting at the home of his father, Mr. George B. Whiteaway, Dover, also his mother who is a patient at the Prince Edward Island Hospital.

Miss Lavinia MacLeod, Charlottetown, recently spent a few days in Murray River, guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest MacLeod.

Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Bell and family have returned to Murray River from Mont Joli, Que., where Mr. Bell has been employed for the past few months.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph MacLeod, are visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. MacLeod's father, Mr. Cyrus MacLeod, Murray River.

O/S and Mrs. Harvey MacLeod of Halifax, N. S., recently spent a few days at the home of Mr. MacLeod's parents, Mr. and Mrs. James MacLeod, Murray River.

Mr. Harry Welton, Charlottetown, spent the week-end of January 30, with his wife and family in High Bank.

Mr. Percy Sharam and daughter, Clara, Charlottetown, spent the week-end of January 30, at their home in Murray River.

Mr. Ken MacLeod, who is attending the Vocational School in Charlottetown, spent the January 30 week-end at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. MacLeod, Murray River.

Miss Sally Stewart, has returned to her home in High Bank, after spending a month visiting with relatives and friends in Massachusetts.

Mr. and Mrs. Stirling MacKay, Murray River, were business visitors to Summerside on February 4.

Miss Bertha MacLean, Charlottetown, spent the January 30 week-end at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John W. MacLean, High Bank.

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## MILK DRINKERS

OSLO—(CP)—The Norwegian Milk Producers National Association believes per capita consumption of whole milk in Norway is higher than in any other country. The Norwegian figure is 75 litres daily, or about three-quarters of a quart.

## DIABETIC THREAT

Diabetic sufferers are usually between 40 and 60 years old, and overweight, when symptoms first appear.

## TASTY FISH

It takes about 500 pounds of fresh lobsters to produce 100 pounds of lobster meat.

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I live at: \_\_\_\_\_

Age when Annuity to start: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that information given will be held confidential

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Contractor—George E. Vaughn—Truro  
Supplier—W. H. Burgess—Truro

Mr. Harold MacLean of Truro is very proud of his new SCR Brick home. It's six large, airy rooms, attached solid brick garage and full basement are warm, light and convenient. The solid brick walls assure a lifetime of low cost living.

The cost of this fine solid brick home was a pleasant surprise. Mr. George E. Vaughn, the builder has stated that by using the new, fast laying, SCR Brick, the cost was as low as if built of conventional frame construction.

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