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School Closing

So far as an important section of our population is concerned, school closing is the big event of the year, and the preliminary hurdles, in the way of examinations, serve but to whet the enthusiasm of the younger fry for the carefree days ahead.

Nowhere in Canada are there better facilities for vacationing than in Prince Edward Island, and this applies to school children as well as to our summer visitors.

Refugees

The Division of Inter-Church aid and Service to Refugees is a social agency of the World Council of Churches. As its name implies it is concerned mainly with the resettlement of European refugees;

On the whole programme of refugee resettlement—including direct placements by governments—Dr. Chandler reported that Canada came first among the 40 nations participating by accepting 9,589 persons.

"Meanwhile", Dr. Chandler said, "those less fortunate refugees remaining in camps awaiting emigration or resettlement, not knowing what the future holds, are the constant responsibility of the Service to Refugees. It is for these people that the spiritual care which a church organization can supply is especially important.

A special problem for agencies dedicated to this work, according to Dr. Chandler, is presented by the 41,000 "unrecognized" refugees from East Germany now living in Berlin.

Man Made Diamonds

Fantastic scientific tools that quickly simulate Nature's age-long processes now bring marvels in transmutations that ancient alchemists groped for but never achieved. Working with man-made temperatures and pressures equal to those 240 miles deep in the earth, General Electric research scientists have created a diamond, the hardest gem, prized for its beauty and industrial uses.

made diamond chiefly as a landmark in man's search for knowledge in the field of super-pressure and high-temperature research. Performing tests on carbon, the main ingredient of plentiful coal and the sole constituent of diamonds, experimenters claimed success in 1893 and 1906 in manufacturing microscopic diamonds.

In trying to create other gems, laboratories sought in a few months to mimic forces of Nature extending over millions of years. Miniature rubies were produced in 1837 by treatments of alum and chromium. Some ten years later a fusing of alumina in boric acid brought claims of a white sapphire.

Color holds a big part in the popularity of gems men mine or try to make. Green, red and blue-hued stones always strike popular fancy. Yellow appeals less. The glittering diamond, symbol of youthful love and an expression of affluence, is universally desired.

Kimberlite pipes (rock formations resembling volcano craters) and stream and beach gravel are diamonds' hiding places. For centuries India was a chief source, followed by Brazil. Now Africa yields 95 per cent of the world's supply.

Arkansas has pipe formations resembling those of South Africa and actually mined diamonds for a time. Tourists may now pay a small fee and search through the diggings to their heart's content, keeping any diamond they find. The site is near Murfreesboro in Pike County.

Diamonds are extracted from the earth only with great difficulty. Even in the great De Beers mines at Kimberley, South Africa, tons of rock are dug from depths, crushed and sorted for one small gem. Generally, one in 35 million parts of ore is diamond. But great finds occasionally occur.

Of unexcelled purity, the Jonker diamond, weighing 726 carats, was found in 1934 and cut into 12 flawless stones. The great Orloff diamond is believed to have been stolen from an idol's eye in a Hindu temple.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Another war may or may not be in the calendar of future events. But it is well to keep in mind, though not to dwell on it, that as a plain fact of history every armament race, prior to the one now in motion, ended in conflict.

Among those recently honoured by a college in California for "outstanding service to religion" were an educator, a business man, a bus driver, and an Eskimo from Alaska. Certainly no one could deny the democratic complexion of the selection.

Members of the Montague Junior Board of Trade are to be commended for their initiative in erecting an attractive roadside lunch-table, with proper accessories, at the foot of Bell's Hill, three miles from Montague on the Charlottetown Highway.

It may be taken as evidence of the important field which sports now occupy in the life of the community, that the appointment of a Provincial Racing and Sports Commission has been deemed advisable. The new Commission, headed by Judge Darby, with the veteran athlete and sportsman Mr. James Pendergast as secretary, and Mr. Douglas MacLeod as a Commission member, will be responsible for prescribing the rules and conditions under which all horse racing and other sports shall be conducted in the Province, and fixing the license fees required.

In the United States, an insurance company reports, deaths on the highways numbered 35,000 in 1954, and injuries nearly two million. Ninety-five per cent or more of the cars involved in fatal accidents were in good condition. Usually they were travelling along straight, dry roads in clear weather.



The Big Moment

Reform For The House of Lords

By Heath Macquarrie

Britain's House of Lords, the oldest parliamentary chamber in the world, is once again to give consideration to reforming its organization and procedure. No sweeping changes are suggested for the noble assembly which is being asked by the government merely to set up a committee to investigate the feasibility of reducing the membership of the House.

The potential membership now stands at almost nine hundred while the average attendance is generally something less than a hundred. Three members constitute a quorum. It is to this great discrepancy between the large number of peers entitled to attend and the small number who actually do so, that the Lords' committee will address itself.

The composition of this centuries-old upper house reflects its tradition and its functions. The twenty-four bishops and the two archbishops constitute the Lords Spiritual and indicate the close connection between church and state in Britain. Since the House of Lords is a court of justice as well as a legislative body it is assured of legal talent at all times by the appointment of the Lords of Appeal in Ordinary.

These nine men are appointed for life and, unlike other members, they are paid for their services as members of the house. When the House of Lords assumes its high responsibilities as a court of justice, these nine "Law Lords" and other peers with legal training function on behalf of the whole house.

There are two other special categories in the membership of the noble chamber. When England united with Scotland in 1707 and later with Ireland in 1801, something had to be done with the Scottish and Irish aristocracy. It was decided that they should send some of their number to represent them in the House of Lords of the United Kingdom.

The Scots were to choose 16 to serve for the life of a parliament, while the Irish peers sent 28 of their number, appointed to Westminster for life. The Scots still hold their election of peers but the Irish peerage has almost dwindled away, a not-surprising situation in the light of political developments in Ireland since the unhappy union of 1801.

These special groups are not likely to be affected by the mild reform movement recently launched by the Eden government. It is the hereditary group of peers that provides the overwhelming proportion of membership in the House of Lords. To become a member one is either raised to the peerage by the sovereign or receives it by inheritance.

On one matter the Lords have shown themselves adamant. They refuse to open their ranks to the fair sex. A noble lord may die with only a daughter as an heir. She will then assume the family title and the estate, but she may not take her place in the Upper House. Over the years there have been many attempts to change this situation but the Lords continue to remain a masculine stronghold.

Among the many hundred dukes, earls, marquises, viscounts, and barons are some of the ablest men in Britain. Others are neither interested in or informed about political or public matters, and they do not even trouble to go to sessions of Parliament. Yet their membership rights remain intact and, if a particular measure threatened their interests, they might come out in force to vote it down. Such things have happened in the past.

The Poet's Corner

BIRTHRIGHT

Lord Rameses of Egypt sighed Because a summer evening And little Ariadne cried That summer fancy fell at last To dust; and young Verona died When beauty's hour was over-cast.

Because the bitterness we know Because the clouds of hawthorn keep So short a state, and kisses go Toombs unfathomably deep, While Rameses and Romeo And little Ariadne sleep.

—John Drinkwater.

WELL ESTABLISHED

The first co-operative consumers' society in Denmark was established in 1866.

Gagetown village in New Brunswick, near a new Canadian army training camp, was named after Gen. Thomas Gage, died 1767.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SUMMER SCHOOL

Summer School classes for teachers as announced in circulars will commence at Prince of Wales College on Monday, July 4th at 10:00 A.M. (Daylight Time.)

Share your summer holiday for only 4¢



Yes, it costs only 4 cents to send a picture postcard anywhere. So keep them posted — the folks back home, we mean! They'll want to know where you are and how you're enjoying your summer vacation trip.



So resolve right now to take along plenty of writing materials and stamps. Then you can doubly enjoy your trip by sharing it with others as it happens. To help you avoid annoying delays, here are a few simple suggestions to follow while you're keeping them posted back home.

- 1 Write clearly and give COMPLETE, CORRECT, address. Include postal zone number on mail to Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver.
2 Put Return Address On All Mail — for vacation mail, it's a good idea to write your home address on the top left corner of envelopes or parcels.
3 Postal Rates — First Class
Local Delivery: 4 cents first ounce; 2 cents each additional ounce. Other parts of Canada, U.S.A., British Commonwealth, Central and South America, France and Spain — 5 cents first ounce; 3 cents each additional ounce. All other countries — 6 cents first ounce; 4 cents each additional ounce.
Postcards — Anywhere — 4 cents.



Take a little extra time to follow these suggestions and you'll SPEED YOUR MAIL! CANADA POST OFFICE

Medically Speaking

Herman N. Sundesen, M.D. IF CHILD SWALLOWS A POISON

Insecticides, left carelessly around the house this time of the year, are a constant hazard for your children. You've got to act swiftly if your youngster should swallow a poisonous liquid or powder. Even more important than the proper antidote is immediate emptying of his stomach.

Several Ways

There are several ways you can do this: Give your child a tablespoon of mustard mixed in a glass of warm water, or two tablespoons of salt in a glass of warm water, or a glass of soapy water.

Much easier and quicker, however, is the simple procedure of sticking your finger down his throat.

Place your tot face down on your lap in a spanking position. Hold his head with your right hand and move the ball of your left index finger along the roof of his mouth and then down the side of his throat. If you don't want to use your finger, you can substitute a blunt spoon handle.

When he begins to vomit, place his head at least eight to ten inches lower than his hips. You can use your left arm to support his forehead. If he begins choking, this will prevent him from breathing any of the vomited material into his lungs.

Your child may gag and retch but bring up little. If this happens, give him a cup or two of milk to swallow rapidly and then try to make him vomit again.

One warning: Don't make your youngster vomit if he has swallowed a strong corrosive substance such as ammonia, lye or washing soda. In such cases vomiting might injure his esophagus and stomach.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

B. B.: Why do I have weakness and numbness in my legs when I smoke?

Answer: The weakness and numbness in the legs may be due to blood vessel spasm which can occur in persons who smoke excessively. On the other hand, there may be no relationship between the weakness and numbness and the smoking. A careful examination by your physician is advisable.

HISTORIC NAME

Gagetown village in New Brunswick, near a new Canadian army training camp, was named after Gen. Thomas Gage, died 1767.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Every year, on the average 250 of the families living in projects under the control of the New York City public housing authority are evicted. Why? Because they are guilty of vandalism, juvenile delinquency, holding noisy parties or staging rowdy family fights. Most of those evicted, officials state, manage to find private housing while eviction proceedings are underway. That raises the question as to whether even a city the size of New York needs public housing.—Brantford Expositor.

In a friendly way it might be suggested that Toronto take a look at the CNE. We get the impression that its prestige is waning. It could be restored by returning some of the features that used to mark the prewar exhibitions — particularly the lack of nickel-grabbing from visiting children. Then there used to be at least one "wonder of the world" that was worth the price of admission. Today, the visitor is plagued by everyone wanting to sell something. It is less of an exhibition than a market.—Sudbury Daily Star.

Diesel haulage is making trains longer and longer. A freight train with four locomotives passed through the city going west the other morning composed of 116 cars, plus the caboose. Such long trains are bound to have an effect on railroad employment.—St. Thomas Times-Journal.

Military aviation can speed up only at the risk of making a complete nuisance of itself to civilians, if the shattering sonic bang must go with greater velocities. Even now, when the sound barrier is not often broken near populated areas, the "bang" is producing unhappy consequences. Greenhouse operators are especially vulnerable, and one in Britain protests that 78 of his windows were broken by a single "bang" the other day. His loss from this cause in one year was put at \$25,000. If such incidents, and possibly damage suits, fail to slow the pace of aviation, then look for an aggressive salesmanship pushing a new line of shatterproof glass.—Windsor Star.

Canada's economic policies have been largely the result of improvisation, with special reports on one phase or another, often recommending a new set of subsidies. The Gordon Commission long before completion of its work, will be able to advise means of accelerating national progress and avoiding economic pitfalls. It will not formulate policy; but it will be strange indeed if it does not convey to the Government itself a warning against the path on which Senator Creer already has set danger signals.—Toronto Telegram.

Enjoying the same legal rights as their spouses, the 20 million married women in Japan are exerting a marked influence on vital social and political problems. Women's strength was shown recently when organizations of housewives successfully campaigned to check price rises of certain consumer goods and public utilities such as gas and electricity. Today there are approximately 30,000 women's organizations in the country with a total membership of about 10 million.—Oshawa Times Gazette.

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