

or other reasons vocational training masquerades as education, the public is being imposed upon. If this imposition attracts funds and personnel away from genuine education, the community is being robbed.

"The fault here does not lie only with the purveyors of vocational training. Those who offer the educational disciplines sometimes fail in integrity, too. When they woo popularity by lowering their requirements, when they compound with shortsighted industry or commerce to neglect the pure for the applied, the basic for the pragmatic, they are contributing to the same sort of confusion that is produced by a vocational course assuming the trappings of education.

"If mental living standards are to be raised during the next half century, if intellectual undernourishment, wherever it is found, is to be effectively alleviated, the distinction must be clearly drawn and honestly accepted between educational disciplines and vocational training. As vocational training openly recognizes its limitations and as the educational disciplines fearlessly maintain their standards, the world will be able to make the most profitable allocation of funds, personnel, and ability."

**Back-Benchers' Rights**

Word from London is that reform of the Commons is in prospect. Back-benchers of all parties have demanded more consideration in debates; and the Government has promised to treat the request favourably.

This may encourage back-benchers at Ottawa to stand up for their rights. This virtual monopolizing of the time of the House by Cabinet Ministers and their parliamentary assistants and those generally considered to be prospective Ministers is one tradition that could be modified without doing any harm to parliamentary government. As things are now, private members are, in effect, treated as children who should be seen and not heard except at rare intervals—usually when the House is half-empty. Now and then, a particularly energetic individual insists on being heard; but he is likely to be regarded as a bit of a bore who should never have found a place in the House anyway. It seems to be taken for granted that the front-benchers, being Ministers, former Ministers or potential Ministers, have more wisdom than the rank and file.

This, of course, is a totally false premise. Under our system Cabinet Ministers are not chosen for their wisdom or experience, although they may happen to have a goodly share of each. They are chosen mainly on geographical grounds, so as to give each broad area of the country representation in the inner council. This is fair enough; but, of course, the Prime Minister can only take the best talent available, subject to that geographical consideration. It is a hit-or-miss proposition at all times, and the marvel is that it turns out as well as it does. But it is a fallacy to suppose that an ordinary individual is turned into a paragon of wisdom and power overnight because he happens to be included in the Cabinet or that a colleague who happens to find himself on a back bench is, by reason of that accident, lacking in Parliamentary skill—or sound common sense which is even more valuable.

**EDITORIAL NOTES**

If this winter's weather indicates a trend (it probably doesn't!) this Province will have to expand its tourist accommodations to look after an influx of visitors from Florida and other points South in the winter season.

Proof of the superiority of the free way of life over the Communist pattern is revealed in a statistical report which says that since East Germany became a Soviet satellite more than 2 million persons have fled to West Germany.

News of a federation between Iraq and Jordan, under Kings Faisal and Hussein respectively, is a welcome development in the Middle East. It should give strength to Jordan, which has required financial subsidies, and has been threatened with absorption by the new Egyptian-Syrian Arab Republic.

To the \$400 million tax cuts now offered by the Liberal leader, Mr. Pearson, must be added, of course, the \$178 million reductions announced by the Conservatives last fall. This means \$578—or \$78 million more than the \$500 million cut which the Conservatives suggested in 1953, and which the Liberals then denounced as wildly irresponsible. Clearly, some better explanation of this astounding volte face is called for than the mystic words "cyclical budgeting."

**Educational Challenge**

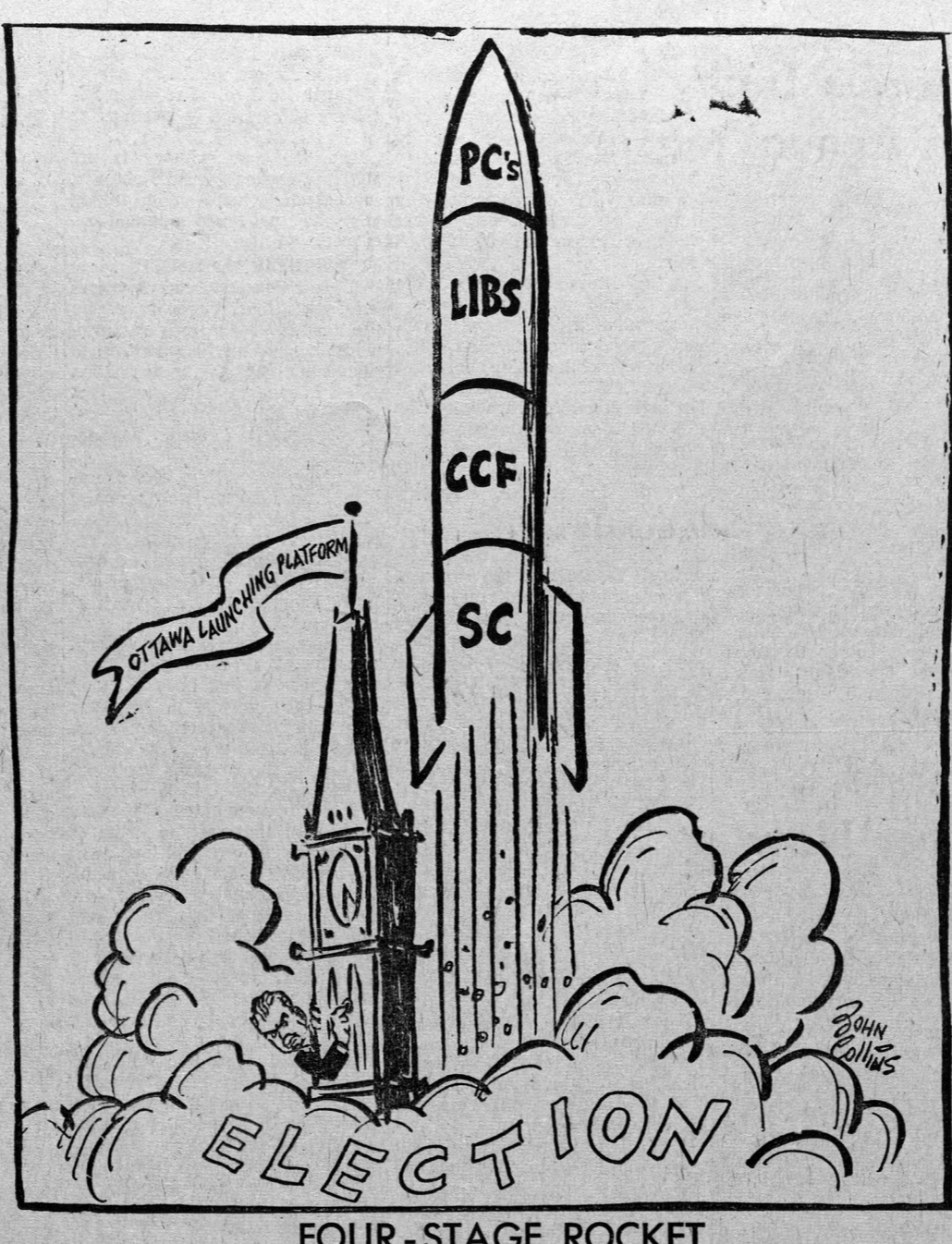
The first impact of the natural sciences on education was at the expense of the humanities. It would be disastrous if this trend were to be accentuated to meet current demands. On this subject a brilliant article by Peter J. Henniker-Heaton appeared in a recent issue of the Christian Science Monitor.

"As ever more powerful djinns and genies are unbottled by technological advance," argues the writer, "the need for public awareness with the wisdom and knowledge to control these new servants constructively is apparent. Even when the last warheads are beaten into tailfins, the need will still remain. Vast stretches of vacuous, ill-directed leisure, made possible by peaceful technological progress, could prove a peril to humanity only less fatal than nuclear conflict. The lesson of the dodo and its lost wing power is still valid. The humanities are needed to ensure that technological advance and its fruits are controlled and given beneficial direction.

"The sciences and the humanities are not, in fact, rivals. As complementary educational disciplines, making stern demands on all who pursue them, they are natural allies. In any struggle for priority in allocation of funds, pupils, and teachers, which the next few decades may see, the antagonists are likely to be on the one hand the genuine educational disciplines, the humanities and natural sciences, and on the other hand vocational training and soft-option elective courses of various kinds.

"Vocational training is of great value to the community. Its institutions and their dedicated faculties merit support. But vocational training is not education. If for prestige

Queen's County Liberals have nominated two strong candidates in Messrs. E. D. Reid and J. O. C. Campbell, Q.C. The Conservatives expect to retain the seats and the battle promises to be a most interesting one. It is expected, of course, that Hon. J. Angus MacLean and Mr. Heath Macquarrie will be renominated on the government side. Both have given a good account of themselves and they are in a strong position as a result of their party's record—brief though its term of office has been—in furthering Maritime interests. But with two such opponents as Messrs Reid and Campbell they will have no room for complacency.



**Maginot Line Overhauled**  
 The Associated Press, Paris

Buried deep in the French-German border country, the once famed Maginot Line has been secretly overhauled to serve as a Western stronghold in the event of atomic war.

Not since the tense days before World War II have officers in the French Defence Ministry been so secretive about the concrete and steel forts, emplacements and underground corridors.

The old line extends along the frontier from Switzerland to Belgium and scattered fortifications extend to the channel coast.

Some of the fortifications now are as closely guarded as they were in 1939 before Nazi Germany's panzer divisions swept around the line at Sedan.

The main concrete network of 25 big forts dug more than 200 feet deep in spots, never suffered much damage. French engineers started minor repair jobs after World War II but the corridors remained mainly dank and unlighted until Western commanders began to seek burrows suitable for nuclear command posts.

**RED BASES SCANNED**

Despite the secrecy, the costly network is known, nowadays, to be ready again. It houses spanning new communications headquarters, radar eyes, command posts, and arms stockpiles.

Some say atomic weapons are stocked in deep tunnels. Others deny it. Whatever the facts, prying eyes are discouraged.

Last August a big radar scanning post was installed in an Alsace portion of the line. From there, monitors count the Communist planes landing and taking off at far away Prague, Czechoslovakia. Other areas behind the Iron Curtain are also watched.

There is plenty of room in the old line for all sorts of secrets.

The corridors are seven stories down in spots. Railroads run underground within the forts. Some run for 13 miles or more. Communications lines also run here, linking the command and radar operations.

Across the frontier similar activities are reported going on in the old Siegfried Line, which suffered worse damage during the war.

President Eisenhower played a role in bringing the line up to its present position of readiness. The French Army put it up to him while he was top European commander of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization forces. At that time the French wanted money to overhaul the line and they pointed out its strategic worth as being virtually invulnerable to air attack and thus a fine strategic storehouse for weapons, fuel, and ammunition.

The French also pointed out that "the line is still there" and doing nothing.

**WORK BEGAN IN '54**

The response from Mr. Eisenhower's command was apparently favorable. The French started serious work in 1954 restoring the line from Arlon on the Belgian frontier, to the Rhine. The sector from there to the Swiss border got lesser attention later.

You can still get an argument from French military tacticians and engineers about the value of the famed fortifications. It cost France about half a billion dollars to build, a very big sum in pre-World War II days.

The forts were carefully hidden in hills and woods. There were hundreds of lesser positions. Artillery turrets rose from concealment to fire, then sank back into the ground.

French officers insist that the line was a victim of its own publicity. It was presented as a kind of wall, when it was not intended for that. Furthermore, the German forces swept around the line and then its supporting troops were withdrawn to other areas. Finally, the troops in the line were ordered to surrender by the Vichy government.

Despite the surrender, one group of Frenchmen fought on for a month from a fort near Strasbourg. In 1944 several German groups did the same thing, despite the fact that the gun emplacements were pointing the wrong way. One German fort literally had to be starved into submission.

**COSTLY MISTAKE CITED**

One of the great weaknesses, of course, was that it left France's border with Belgium lightly defended. France once started to build more elaborate defenses from Sedan to the channel, but Belgium protested this might merely be an invitation to Germany to violate Belgium neutrality.

So the line ended near Sedan, and when Hitler's panzers started to move, they simply swung around the end of the line above Sedan and on into France.

This move was aided by one of the great Allied blunders of the war. The Ninth French Army of Gen. Andre Corap had been stationed to protect the corner of France where the line ended.

But he moved north into Belgium to meet a German force headed for Namur, leaving Sedan to be covered by the Belgian Chasseurs Ardennais Division.

The Germans responded by throwing an entire corps at the lightly defended sector, swept in to France with only token opposition, and in a few days had reached the channel at Abbeville. It was a disaster which made the Maginot Line useless while still relatively untried.

The Germans, too, saw the two top galleries were reserved for troops, the third level for ready ammunition, the fourth for command services, the fifth was a hospital, the sixth a railway, and the seventh was used for deep storage of ammunition.

fatuous, futile, finicky, and fat-headed.

The "sl" words give us a sloppy, slithering, slimy association; while the "sc" words seem particularly fitting for scamps, scallawags, and skull-duggery in general; and, on the contrary, the "j" words give us a jolly, jocular, jingly feeling.

**FOR SNIDE REMARKS**

Words beginning in "sn" are generally snide and sneering such as snob, snicker, snooty, snip, and sneak; likewise, the "sq" combination gives us such unpleasant terms as squash and squeal, squawk and squelch, squallid and squat. The word "square" for somebody out of the know caught on enormously fast, as did "young squirt" of our parents' day.

The sounds of the alphabet are often as important as the sense, in their influence upon our reactions. 'Sputnik' is an ominous object, but a rather gay little word—and its prompt acceptance may signify our desperate desire to turn this menacing achievement into a cartoon joke.

expect a gift of game, with perhaps a boomerang as a bonus. Those Eskimos who practice marriage by purchase welcome harpoons, skins, furs, and similar valuables.

**POOR MAN'S BURDEN**

The custom has ever been a burden, of course, on the poor man. Sometimes payments hang over a husband's head all his life. In the Chin Hills of Burma, wrote Edward Westermarck in "The History of Human Marriage," it is "by no means rare to find men quarrelling over the still unpaid portion of the marriage price of their grandmothers and other female ancestors."

Tribesmen of Netherlands New Guinea face an appalling outlaw. If a youth marries a girl from another village, he has to present gifts not only to her family but the entire population of the village.

Among the Lushais of Assam,

**"Sputnik" Enters Language**  
 Sydney J. Harris in the Ottawa Citizen

"Sputnik," we are told, has entered the dictionary of accredited words faster than any other candidate of the last decade. There is usually a wait of at least a year or two—and often more—between the appearance of a new word and its acceptance by the guardians of standard English.

Part of its rapid election, of course, comes from the need of a word that is shorter and snappier than "earth-satellite." But another reason, I am sure, is the fitting combination of sounds in "sput" and "nik."

Syllable sounds rule the popularity of words more generally than we realize. Ivor Brown, the British critic, has pointed this out in his six-volume study of word-derivations.

"L," for instance, is the initial of most terms for lust, lewdness, lechery, and so on; "st" is the beginning sound for the quality of endurance, in men of stamina, who are stalwart, stout and staunch, and also strong, stubborn, sturdy, steadfast, sticklers-to-the-end.

**ON THE OTHER HAND**

"Bl," on the other hand, usually begins a word conveying disgust or annoyance—blasted, blithering, blooming, blighted, and (in England) the ever-present bloody.

The "f" sound beginning a word is also one of derision and contempt, which is perhaps why the relatively new word "phony" has driven the old word "bogus" right out of the market. True, such words as "fair" and "famous" begin with "f," but they are outweighed by filthy, feeble,

**Inflation Hits Wife Market**  
 National Geographic Society

Pity the lovesick tribesman in Africa. In the wife market, it takes more cash now than stock to promote a merger.

In the good old days a tribal suitor could seal the marriage contract by giving the bride's family a few cows or goats. Now cash payments are being increasingly required, and in some cases the premium is quite beyond a youth's reach. Girls of irresistible rank, charm or talent may bring \$800 or more.

Even if livestock still appeals to the in-laws, there is the problem of inflation. Among Africa's Kuku, a wife used to cost about four goats, three hoes, three spears, and a quiver of arrows. A more recent report lists: two oxen, one bull, five goats, one ram, four sheep, two spears, 40 to 100 arrows, and two to five hoes. Even where price controls exist, young suitors complain that fathers expect under-the-counter cows.

**OLD CUSTOMS**

Marriage by purchase is probably as old as the institution, the National Geographic Society says. Most races have practiced

and honored the custom. The idea of marrying for love is fairly new.

Ancient Babylonians had a well-organized system. Twice yearly all marriageable maidens gathered before the temple to be offered in wedlock to the highest bidder. Proceeds went to homely left-overs as dowries to enhance their chances next time.

Peoples of various lands have always had different notions about a suitable price for a bride. Africa's Bagandas had a traditional price—three or four bullocks, six sewing needles, or a box of percussion caps.

Tobacco pleases New Guinea's fathers-of-the-brides. In the Bismarck Archipelago, 15 to 200 strings of shell money are favored; in Banks Islands, money and pigs; Samoa, canoes; the Carolines, fruits and fish. Mindanao prefers cloth, Chinese jars, and brass gongs, but seldom money. Brides come high in Patagonia. In years gone by, a girl with property might command a contractual consideration of 100 horses.

Australian aborigine families

**NOTES BY THE WAY**

**About Tonsils And Adenoids**  
 By Herman N. Bundesen, M.D.  
 I THOUGHT the picture on tonsils and adenoids was pretty clear by this time, but my mail indicates it is not.

For a long time, many doctors recommended routine removal of both as a protective measure. However, in recent years we have become wiser and the general medical opinion has changed.

**HAVE A PURPOSE**

Both tonsils and adenoids, we now believe, have a definite value. Apparently, they act as a bulwark against childhood respiratory diseases.

Therefore, we are less inclined to remove them unless enlargements, infected tonsils and adenoids, frequent colds or some other obvious trouble indicates that an operation may be advisable.

The fact that your youngster has one cold after another does not necessarily mean that his tonsils are at fault. If there is no sore throat along with such colds, they may be caused by an allergic condition and have nothing to do with the tonsils or adenoids.

**DEFINITE SIGNS**

If, however, the throat is sore with each cold, if the neck glands become enlarged or if there is a definite sign of tonsillitis, then your doctor probably will recommend removing them.

As a rule, doctors don't like to take them out until the youngster is about four or five years old. Since the tonsils and adenoids do offer the child protection, it is advisable, in most instances, to retain them as long as they are of value. Besides, when they are removed at this age, adenoids are apt to grow in again.

After the age of six or so, tonsils and adenoids probably are of little use to a child.

**NOT A SIGNAL**

I would like to stress, however, that the sixth birthday is not an automatic signal for you to call your doctor and arrange for the operation. If the tonsils and adenoids don't bother your youngster, your doctor will tell you that they might just as well remain where they are.

As a person grows older, the tonsils and adenoids will shrink and their functions will be virtually nil.

In the final analysis, it is up to your doctor to decide whether and when they should be taken out. Seek and follow his advice.

**QUESTION AND ANSWER**

**M.T.:** What causes the blood to thicken and is there any help for it?

**Answer:** There is no such thing as thickening of the blood.

There is a disorder, known as polycythemia, in which the red cells become greater in number. An examination will determine whether or not this condition is present.

**Those who wonder why the personnel of civil service departments keep on growing faster than the population may consider the hours of study and research which went into this instruction issued by the British Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance "In determining whether a person is a child, the prime consideration is his age." Only another bureaucrat, working a larger staff later into the night at more paper work, could top that.—Montreal Gazette**

**Large collection plates are needed in most churches which are on their toes. The plates being used by some congregations were designed for the nickel-quarter days. We could not help note this in the Ottawa cathedral at the time of the Royal visit. The poor usher on our side had to keep taking off the envelopes and bills and shuffling them into his pocket or they would have fallen all over the place. We've seen worse things than small plates pressed down and overflowing. But big plates overflowing are much more impressive.—United Church Observer**

**For long years, former President Harry Truman's name has been linked in seemingly happy association with "The Missouri Waltz." Both as president and as piano player, Mr. Truman was presumed to have adopted it as his theme song. He would play it at the drop of a chord, smiling winningly as he gave it his melodious inflections. Two notes of the piece from any comedian instantly invoked Mr. Truman's image. Now, blow of all blows, it turns out he doesn't like the "Waltz" at all, but thinks it's bad music. Evidently, all these years, only politeness, political or otherwise, kept him from saying so.—NEA Service**

**was given. It was decided to ask Ottawa for a 5,600 subsidy to carry on the transportation service.**

**TEN YEARS AGO**  
 (Feb. 17, 1948)

A public meeting held under the auspices of the Board of Trade in the Summerside Town Hall last evening to consider a proposal to hold a "Home Wee" in Summerside this summer, ended without any decision being taken. Since the attendance was small, it was decided to hold a second meeting at which the decision would be made.

**The first graduating exercises for the attendant nurses of the Provincial Sanatorium were held last night in the Legion Hall and were largely attended by guests, relatives and friends. Nine graduating nurses were presented with certificates and pins by Mrs. J. Walter Jones.**

**Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not high-minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy.**

**The Age Old Story**  
 Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not high-minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy.

**The Poet's Corner**

**SPUTNIK OVER AVON**  
 The high school students leaf through Shakespears; over head  
 Thin vapor trail from swept-back wings dissolve like smoke.  
 Scene III. Three witches enter.  
 Tempted, chilled with dread, Macbeth debates their words. Unseen, a man-made mote  
 Whirls through the darks of airless space. The students read  
 Of Duncan, and of angels trumpet-tongued,  
 Of heaven's cherubin air-horsed to blow the deed  
 To every eye. Again the air-drawn dagger hung  
 Strange satellites may streak the darkening sky tonight;  
 But now Great Birna's wood does come to Lonsinane.  
 Again Macbeth must learn that tyranny is vain.  
 As in my school days, holds ambition's dizzied sight;  
 —Adelaide Fitzpatrick in the Christian Science Monitor.

**OUR YESTERDAYS**  
 (From The Guardian Files)

**TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO**  
 (Feb. 17, 1933)

"I am glad to her of the completion of the new Prince of Wales College at Charlottetown to replace the former building which was destroyed by fire a year ago. I send my best wishes on the occasion of this re-opening ceremony for the successful progress of the Institution which bears my name, Edward P." The above message from His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was read at the opening ceremonies last evening by Lieutenant Governor Dalton.

The annual meeting of the Charlottetown Steamship Co., Ltd., was held in the Board of Trade rooms last evening with Mr. E. Mutch, President of the Company, occupying the chair. A review of the transportation business carried on during the year

**WAMPOLE VI-CAL-FER VITAMIN MINERAL CAPSULES**

For extra energy... for extra protection against colds... ask your druggist for Wampole Vi-Cal-Fer Vitamin Mineral Capsules. Start your daily taking Vi-Cal-Fer regularly.

**60 CAPSULES \$1.95**  
**180 CAPSULES \$4.95**

**REDDIN BROS.**  
 132 Richmond St. Dist. 130

**NOTICE**  
 Effective Monday, February 17, 1958, the law office of J. Elmer Blanchard will be re-located at 160 Richmond Street in the premises formerly occupied by H. M. Simpson Ltd.

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**MAXIMS**  
 A man can be as truly a saint in a factory as in a monastery, and there is as much need for him in the one as in the other.

One of the problems before agriculturists is to develop a variety of peas that won't rot on the fork.—Oshawa Times-Gazette

"Would you believe it?" said a wife after her visitor had left. "If that woman yawned once she yawned at least 10 times while I was talking." "My dear," soothed her husband, "I don't think she was yawning. She just wanted to say something."—Ottawa Journal

There was a time when certain "sunny" Florida these days Operators of Miami Beach hotels have panic in their hearts because the weather has been so drizzly; the "air conditioning in every room" has switched off quietly and the rhymes with the Moon on Miami.—Hamilton Spectator

Positively our last echo of Christmas is the official report that 345,792 Canadian Christmas cards went to Mexico and other countries in Central and South America and the West Indies last year. And each carried a certificate saying it was free from influenza, insects and plant disease.—Ottawa Journal

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