

# THE EDUCATIONAL HORIZON

PRESENTING NEWS AND VIEWS OF INTEREST TO TEACHERS AND ALL OTHERS SEEKING IMPROVEMENT IN EDUCATION

## CANADIAN EDUCATION WEEK (March 4th to 10th, 1951)

Education Week in Canada is an annual one-week programme devoted to the aims, ideals and needs of Canada's schools and their teachers and pupils.

Education Week was first held in 1921 in the United States under the auspices of the American Education and the National Education Association of U. S. A.

Canada's first Education Week was held in 1925 at the initiative of the Canadian Teachers' Federation. Since that time Canadian Education Week and American Education Week have been observed concurrently.

The purpose of Education Week is to focus the thinking of the Canadian people upon their educational institutions and the work they are doing. To stage a brief but extensive advertising campaign about the aims, ideals and needs of our Canadian people. To help the parents and citizens of every community to know the achievements, objectives and needs of their schools. To increase public interest in support of desirable reforms in education.

Some suggestions for an Educational Week program:

1. Special Sunday Services in the churches. 2. Request local merchants to schedule displays of school work in their windows during Education Week. 3. Arrange to have posters prominently displayed in local business houses. Some of these posters should advertise the aims and the general and daily themes of Education Week. 4. Plan for an open house program, where demonstrations and exhibits of school work may be observed. 5. Discuss the aims of Education Week with pupils and urge them to discuss Education Week with their parents. 6. Have citizens of the community speak to the pupils during school hours. These speakers could suggest to the pupils some of the things the various industries, businesses and professions expect the schools to do.

The children and young people of a country are its most valuable asset. Education is a matter of concern, not only for those who are directly connected with our formal educational institutions, but it is also one of vital interest and concern for all Canadian citizens.

## ALEXANDER I (EMPEROR OF RUSSIA)

Alexander I (1777-1825) lived in the time of the Great Napoleon Bonaparte. He came to the throne in 1801, at 24 years of age. He succeeded his father, Paul I. No ruler ever worked more earnestly and sincerely for the good, not only of his own country, but of the world at large. For many years Alexander I sought to bring about reforms which would give greater freedom to the Russian serfs, who were then actually the slaves of the land-owning nobles. He also attempted to institute a better educational system and a more just government but, largely because the nobility opposed him, almost nothing was accomplished. He joined the other nations against Napoleon, but after his armies had been defeated, he agreed to make terms with the great Frenchman. The two rulers met at Tilsit in 1807, and planned to divide the world between them. But Alexander soon discovered that Napoleon did not attempt to keep his part of the bargain, so the czar rejoined the Allies and helped to bring about Napoleon's downfall. Alexander's name stands forth as the founder of the Holy Alliance. This was an agreement signed by Russia, Austria, and Prussia in 1815, which bound them to act toward their subjects and toward other nations in accordance with the teachings of Christ. Alexander died in 1825.

Alexander II (1818-1881) was a nephew of Alexander I. He came to the Russian throne in 1855, and ruled for 26 years. In the Balkan countries he is still remembered as the "Liberator Czar" for it was he who led the Russian armies against Turkey in 1877, and freed some millions of Christians from Turkish rule. The deed that distinguished his reign was the freeing of more than 40,000,000 Russian serfs from the slavery in which they were held by landlords. He also established public and scientific schools, commenced a new judicial system, simplified civil and criminal procedure, and granted local self-government to some of the rural districts and large towns. In 1881 he was killed by a bomb thrown by a revolutionist, who thought Alexander was not proclaiming reforms fast enough. The very day on which he was killed, Alexander II had signed a decree which, but for his death, might have led to the establishment of constitutional government in Russia.

## TEACH POLITENESS IN THE CLASSROOM

Good manners are the greatest charms one can possess. Young people should cultivate them assiduously. Money cannot buy them. There is only one way to obtain good manners, and that is by earning them. Always use good manners at home and at school. Then you need not be alarmed when among strangers, for it will be perfectly natural to be polite and respectful to all. Remember, that politeness is of great value, yet costs nothing but your own pains to acquire and that "To be polite is always to do and say the kindest things in the kindest way."

## THE CHILDREN

Treat the children fairly, kindly. Lead them gently on their way. Let them feel the power of sunshine. As they toll from day to day. Make their labour pleasant. Win them by the love of truth. Lure them on by sweet incentive. Or the slippery paths of youth.

## THE RIGHT WAY TO STUDY

The right way to study must be learned like any other mental habit. It must include at least the following particulars:

1. Concentration of mind on the subject in hand; most children form the habit of opening the book and allowing the eye to wander aimlessly over the page, while the ears are listening to what is going on in the room and the mind is thinking of anything and everything but the lesson.
2. Mental concentration seems at first a difficult thing to acquire, but it is not. Any boy or girl who happens to read this paragraph can reduce the time now spent in getting a given lesson by one-half in a month's conscientious effort to attain a good mental concentration.
3. Systematic application: Have an intelligent plan about your studying. Give it your best and freshest energies, postponing play and other diversions until after your serious work is done.
4. Thoroughness: Understand fully the first steps that you may not stumble over what comes after.
5. Calmness and mental poise: Nervousness is at the root of a vast amount of poor scholarship. Do the best you can by honest conscientious effort and do not worry over the result.
6. Economy of intellectual force: Much energy is needlessly wasted. After the brain is really tired it is a waste to push it further. Drop the subject and take a run in the fresh air, go to bed and get a good night's sleep. The chances are that the solution of your difficulty will come without effort in the morning.
7. Make use of time, let not advantage slip. Shakespeare. Few things are impossible to diligence and skill. Johnson. It is necessary to try to surpass one's self always; this occupation ought to last as long as life.
8. Plan your work then work your plan.

## EYESTRAIN

The most important cause of eyestrain is fatigue of the eye muscles which occurs when we continue to use the eyes in poor light. There is a popular superstition that artificial light is bad for the eyes. This is not true if the light is adequate and properly distributed. Our eyes have evolved to work best in light conditions comparable to diffuse sunlight. Artificial light is usually much less intense, although light engineers are constantly striving to produce artificial light comparable to diffuse sunlight.

To prevent eyestrain sufficient non-glare light should be made available to supply 25 to 30 foot candles or more for reading and other tasks requiring accurate vision. Often the light in homes, schools, offices and workshops is as low as 2 to 3 foot candles on dull days and at night. Eyestrain is a direct result of the poor light.

Old buildings should have new lighting installations designed by lighting engineers. New buildings should have adequate windows and let in as much non-glare daylight as possible. To supplement the daylight, adequate artificial light should be supplied. Light fixtures should be properly screened and

## MATCH

Louisbourg— 5. Defeated Montcalm. Louisiana— 6. French Commander. Acadia— 7. Scene of first fighting in Seven Years' War. Quebec— 8. Guarded the entrance

to the St. Lawrence. Amherst— 9. Known as the land of Evangeline. Ohio Valley— 10. Leader of the British at the capture of Louisbourg. Brebeuf— 11. Hero of the Long Sault. Champlain— 12. Site of the present city of Quebec. Cartier— 13. Important fur trade route. Daulac— 14. Discoverer of the Great Lakes. Talon— 15. First visited by Cartier.

Lallemont— 16. Most famous Jesuit missionary. Stadacona— 17. Explored by Champlain on his first trip to Canada. Hochelaga— 18. Discovered the St. Lawrence River. Richelieu— 19. Helped Brebeuf build the Huron Mission at St. Joseph. Ottawa— 20. Established many industries in Canada. Let us have faith that right makes might; and in that faith let us, to the end, dare to do our duty as we understand it. Lincoln.

Against one wall stood a bad fake European mahogany sideboard on which stood a tray of drinks—gin, soda, limejuice, whisky. Beneath it was a pile of much thumbed paper-backed novels. One whole corner was taken up by a tiled Russian stove. The lighting was provided by oil lamps with garish Japanese shades—relics of a leave, spent shooting in Formosa. On the walls hung two good etchings of Salisbury, half a dozen Chinese scrolls, and a couple of rusty foils.

The desk was almost oppressively tidy, its drawers were almost ostentatiously carefully locked. Leslie Dale had no illusions as to the curiosity of Chinese house boys. A rack holding a collection of battered pipes and a regrettably grubby collection of cushions in the canvas chairs were almost the only evidence of any attempt at comfort. Dale drew heavily at his pipe and dropped into a chair. Hot it certainly seemed! Even indoors the air seemed used-up, dusty. No doubt it was just the airlessness which was making him wonder how on earth he had endured all that time in just that room. But as his limbs relaxed agreeably, his nerves followed suit. The room had nothing to do with it. Until the last fortnight he had never had enough spare time to ask himself whether he was living comfortably or not. He was making twenty four hours a day making tea into a trading station. The job had been enough. Now it was done. At least the foundations had been well and truly laid.

WITH KIPLING MILLINERY Leslie Dale, who after all, was not uncomforably intelligent, found himself for the first time for years indulging in the most insidious of vices—that of self-questioning. Was he going to stay on in Tan-Fu? Would the running of the station give him enough to do? Wasn't it almost time that he got himself out of a rut, however much the rut might suit him personally? A shadow fell across the verandah, its warped planks creaked after their invariable fashion, and Janet James stood in the opening of the french windows. An old Tera! hat, relic of the Kipling period in India where she had spent most of her girlhood, was balanced precariously on the back of her head. Her coat and skirt of stained and shabby drill were deplorably ill cut. Her face was weathered, like the skin of a barn-stored apple. But her teeth were very white. Her grey eyes were shrewd, and their corners crinkled into innumerable fine wrinkles when she smiled. Her hands were large and capable. She was one of the few women, themselves children, who are immediately and invariably adored by children on sight. Of such, as a rule, is the Kingdom of Heaven.

"Asleep, Leslie? May I come in?" Janet James's voice was not her best feature. It was always a little too loud; and it was inclined to rasp. This may have been due to the fact that her husband preserved of his

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THE MODEL PARLIAMENT It is a fundamental error to suppose that farming is neither a business nor a profession. It is a business which requires the highest business talent, it is a profession which requires the best technical skill. No other profession requires such a variety of learning, such an insight into Nature, such skill of a technical kind in order to be successful, as the profession of farming. H. W. Wiley SOIL: A perfect soil is one which maintains a reserve supply of insoluble food material that cannot be washed away; which produces enough soluble material to feed the growing crop; which is so constituted that it can supply sufficient water to the crop; which is capable of maintaining the right temperature or of warming up quickly in the spring; and which has a structure that permits of proper root movement.

This Department is conducted by the Prince Edward Island Teachers' Federation. Contributions are welcomed and should be addressed to: Miss MacFadyen, 613 Pelung St. Charlottetown.

The new estimate of size was made by Dr. Harlow Shapley, Director of Harvard College Observatory. It is based on 18 years of photographing the galaxies within a distance of 80,000,000 (seven zeroes) light years of earth. That is the distance light travels in 80,000,000 years.

The Harvard photographic plates, Dr. Shapley said, probably contain 1,000,000 galaxies. Studies of 250,000 of these galaxies lead to the astonishing estimate of the size of creation. These photographed galaxies are seen in only about half the sky. The other half is obscured by dust and gas clouds in our own familiar Milky Way.

RELIEVE ATHES&PAINS BY RUBBING IN MINARD'S LINIMENT

OH, Iron Wealth The last decade has seen rapid development of natural resources. Discovery of great oil wealth has changed the west's economic picture. West iron-ore deposits in northwestern Ontario and in isolated Quebec-Labrador's Unveils may change the steel and iron economy of the West. As a middle power Canada has undertaken new responsibilities. In 1945 she signed the United Nations charter at San Francisco and assumed an active part in the work of the United Nations. At the same time Canada maintained its traditional association with other members of the Commonwealth of Nations. The Dominion's growth was rounded out by advances in scientific research, education, social welfare and by improvement in labor conditions. A Confederation dream of 1864 came true nearly a century later. In July, 1948, the people of Newfoundland in a national referendum voted to enter the Canadian

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This Department is conducted by the Prince Edward Island Teachers' Federation. Contributions are welcomed and should be addressed to: Miss MacFadyen, 613 Pelung St. Charlottetown.

The new estimate of size was made by Dr. Harlow Shapley, Director of Harvard College Observatory. It is based on 18 years of photographing the galaxies within a distance of 80,000,000 (seven zeroes) light years of earth. That is the distance light travels in 80,000,000 years.

The Harvard photographic plates, Dr. Shapley said, probably contain 1,000,000 galaxies. Studies of 250,000 of these galaxies lead to the astonishing estimate of the size of creation. These photographed galaxies are seen in only about half the sky. The other half is obscured by dust and gas clouds in our own familiar Milky Way.

RELIEVE ATHES&PAINS BY RUBBING IN MINARD'S LINIMENT

OH, Iron Wealth The last decade has seen rapid development of natural resources. Discovery of great oil wealth has changed the west's economic picture. West iron-ore deposits in northwestern Ontario and in isolated Quebec-Labrador's Unveils may change the steel and iron economy of the West. As a middle power Canada has undertaken new responsibilities. In 1945 she signed the United Nations charter at San Francisco and assumed an active part in the work of the United Nations. At the same time Canada maintained its traditional association with other members of the Commonwealth of Nations. The Dominion's growth was rounded out by advances in scientific research, education, social welfare and by improvement in labor conditions. A Confederation dream of 1864 came true nearly a century later. In July, 1948, the people of Newfoundland in a national referendum voted to enter the Canadian

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