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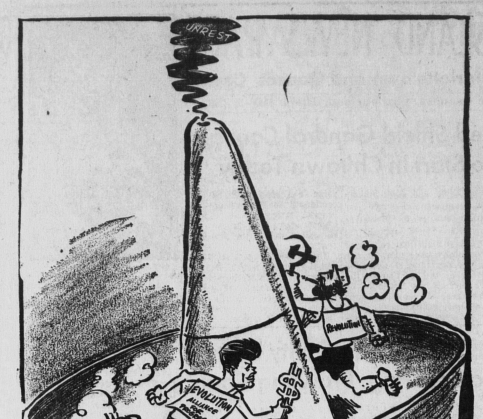
Costly At First
After much governmental indecision, Australia has decided to change its monetary system to decimal currency as soon as practicable. Just when the reform will be effected depends on whether a new mint in course of construction at Canberra is completed on schedule late in 1964. If it is, there will be about a year in which to produce an adequate stock of new coins before they are required in February, 1966. The old notes and coins will probably remain legal tender until late in 1967.

We have been on decimal currency so long in Canada that we have forgotten the formidable problems involved in a changeover of this kind. Modern practices, in any case, have added to the difficulty. Hundreds of thousands of coin-slot machines, public telephones and others operated by the existing penny in Australia, will have to be altered. Adding and computing machines in banks and offices and cash registers in shops must be converted. One authoritative estimate is that all this will cost Australians at least \$70,000,000.

Most Australians welcome the prospect of decimals but there are some grumblers who fear that the immediate effect will be a rise in prices. Treasury officials, however, are confident that the economy and efficiency facilitated by the new system will have the opposite effect, as in South Africa since it adopted the decimal system early in 1961.

EDITORIAL NOTES
Congratulations to the Women's Institute of Marshfield, which has been awarded the Shell Oil Company's Carol Lane award for the best traffic safety program by a woman's group in 1962. The award consists of a bronze statuette and a \$1,000 cheque, and there was naturally keen competition for these prizes across Canada.

What do you know? A church service announced in advance "for sinners only" brought a better than average turnout in the small Massachusetts community of Chicopee last Sunday. The pastor had requested "all saintly persons" to stay home, and the sinners turned in without fear of being put out of countenance. We trust they showed their appreciation in their offerings as well as by their large attendance.



"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest tab"

Too Close To Cuba
Haiti, the new trouble spot in the Caribbean, is the most densely populated country in Latin America. Sharing with the island of Hispaniola, it has one of the lowest per capita income rates and the highest illiteracy rate in the hemisphere, and is plagued with a corrupt and inefficient regime headed by President Francois Duvalier. Its unstable government has been the weakest link in the island chain, beginning with the Leeward and Windward Islands across Puerto Rico to Hispaniola and Cuba.

The United States has poured about \$100,000,000 into Haiti since 1945, but last year it largely suspended economic aid. Despite U.S. pressures, Duvalier has made plans to perpetuate himself in office. His six-year term is due to expire May 15 and he is constitutionally barred from re-election; but two years ago he proclaimed himself "re-elected" to a new six-year term.

Political unrest has grown, and Duvalier has employed his private militia to seize dissidents in the regular army and elsewhere. A number of his political opponents took refuge in foreign embassies in the Haitian capital of Port-au-Prince, particularly the embassy of the neighboring Dominican Republic. Last week Duvalier's police broke into the Dominican embassy. This action sparked a chain of events leading to the present crisis, which finds Dominican troops backed by superior land and sea support poised on the Haitian frontier. Neutrals are evacuating Haiti as the prospect of an armed conflict looms, and the Organization of American States and the U.N. Security Council have met to discuss the situation.

At the core of the problem is the fact that Fidel Castro's Cuba lies just across the narrow Windward Passage from Haiti. It is feared that in his desperation Duvalier might turn openly to Castro and offer him military bases. The presence of a powerful U.S. Navy task force between the two islands would prevent this, but Washington naturally shrinks from the prospect of armed intervention. There has been a lot of Latin-American bitterness over the use of U.S. marines in the past. It is unlikely that action of this kind would be taken except as a last resort, and with the approval of other members of the OAS.

"The Sense of Reality"
A correspondent for the Toronto Globe and Mail who covered Prime Minister Pearson's London visit and writes of the warmth of his reception overseas and of Mr. Pearson's pleasure in renewing old friendships and associations, notes also the wariness shown by the Liberal leader in giving any real indication of policy changes that might help solve the problems of Anglo-Canadian relations. "Of course," he says, "Mr. Pearson could not be expected to be specific at this early stage of his administration. But he also made a point of reaffirming some of the objections his predecessor, Prime Minister Diefenbaker, made (and was criticised for) about the British approach to these problems."

At his massive press conference in Canada House Mr. Pearson noted, for instance, that in the matter of the imbalance of Anglo-Canadian trade this figure is not nearly so bad

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NOTES BY THE WAY

"My Jack, your wife is certainly magnetic." "She ought to be. Everything she has on is pulled right over her."

"Are you really content to spend your life walking about the country begging?" "No, lady," answered the tramp, "I often wish I had a car."

Sweet Little Girl: "Mommy, mommy, the boy next door broke my doll." Mommy: "Why that terrible, dear, how did he do it?" Little Girl: "I hit him over the head with it!" - Milwaukee Journal

Churches and supermarkets serve different needs, but they both depend upon steady patronage, and anything that can be done to make things easier for customers or practitioners is all to the good. Who knows how many urban congregations have divided because late arrivals couldn't find a place to park? Real business learned that lesson long ago, and it will be a wise church building committee that follows - London Free Press.

Integration has been slow in coming to the southern states. The majority of those arrested in crowded confinement after their schools were closed and threatened by police dogs are youngsters and school children. They are crowded with parading without a permit.

It was decided to organize the "Charlottetown Unemployed Association" at a meeting in the Laborer's Protective Union Hall recently. More than 100 men signified their intention of becoming members of the association. President P. Cullen of the LPU presided the large gathering every assistance to the movement.

Antigonish, N.S. May 8 - A. B. Green of Albany, P.E.I. was elected secretary of the Student's Council of St. Francis Xavier University at a meeting here Saturday. Joseph MacMillan, Charlottetown, was appointed to the council committee.

Summersdale (Ireland) yesterday at noon responded to a call at the house of George Hoag, secretary of the Summersdale Fire Department. Considerable damage was done to the roof, and some damage by water to parts of the interior of the house.

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