

Sights Set For 1956

Two important announcements were made by Premier Matheson yesterday, dealing respectively with the remaining portions of the Trans-Canada Highway in this Province, and with the Government's rural electrification program.

In the announcement made jointly with the Highways Minister, Hon. George MacKay, it is indicated that tenders will be called at an early date for completion of the highway projects during 1956. This will not only provide work but will, in all likelihood, make Prince Edward Island the first Province in Canada to have completed its Trans-Canada Highway undertakings.

In rural electrification, over 121 miles were completed this year, and this progress is regarded as very satisfactory in view of the large number of lines which had to be moved for road construction. About 200 miles remain to be completed under the present program, and it is hoped to have this done during 1956, two years in advance of the original plans.

Roads and electrification are both of great importance to our farming communities. They are expensive undertakings but they pay tremendous dividends in public service and convenience, and in the case of the Trans-Canada Highway the new Federal policy makes for easier terms so far as the Province is concerned.

Important Mongolians

The Outer Mongolians must be feeling pretty important these days, what with all the talk in the United Nations General Assembly as to whether or not their country should be admitted to the world organization. To most people in other parts of the world, it is safe to say, the controversy is much ado about nothing; for in a political or economic sense it would be difficult to think of a country less important.

It is interesting to note that Outer Mongolia is only a part of that vast Asiatic tableland once called Mongolia. The other part, Inner Mongolia, is merely an appendage of China proper and is controlled from Peking. Curiously enough, and perhaps significantly, Communist China appears to have little or no interest in Outer Mongolia's application for UN membership, while Russia is supporting it as if it were the most important issue facing the world body at this time.

From the historical standpoint, Outer Mongolia is a perfect example of the military deterioration of a state once noted for its aggressiveness. Of no consequence now, except perhaps in a strategic way, it was a great power in the 13th century under the famed Ghengis Khan who led his armies across half of the known world. They brought China into subjection, conquered Poland, Moravia, Silesia, and Hungary, and terrified the Russians into paying tribute. They controlled China's affairs almost completely until the middle of the 17th century when the Manchus relieved them of the responsibility.

An Appalling Record

Canadian drivers' records are worse than those of their U. S. counterparts. This fact is borne out in statistics released by Canadian Highway Safety Conference which is currently promoting Safe Driving Day in an effort to cut down on the annual toll of wasted lives and destroyed property.

Although United States casualty figure always dwarf those of Canada, when figured on a population basis Canada's record comes out a poor 30 per cent higher. During the past 20 years, some 30,000 Canadians have been killed in accidents. And the record is getting worse. Unless preventive steps are taken, the next 30,000 will be killed in 10 years. Prime victims of auto accidents, the figures show, are young people. Last year, traffic accidents killed more people in the 3-40 age group than all other causes combined.

During 1954, traffic accidents cost \$100 million. That's far more than was lost as the result of Hurricane Hazel or the Winnipeg Floods. In the same year, 2,586 persons were killed in highways and urban traffic accidents. And at least that many more were totally and permanently disabled, meaning a loss in earning power and a financial burden on family and community which runs into millions of dollars a year.

The Highway Safety Conference has hopes, and definite plans, for cutting this toll from its present height down to a bare minimum. To show that a total and complete end to traffic accidents is possible, although admittedly not probable, the Conference is sponsoring the first cross-Canada safety drive. It will be linked with S-D (Safe Driving) Day in the United States and will appeal to each person who ventures onto a street or highway, whether a pedestrian or motorist, to keep out of accidents for that day. If accidents can be eliminated, or even cut drastically, for that day alone, it will prove that the program can be repeated on an individual basis for 365 days a year.

Prime Minister St. Laurent has proclaimed December 1 as S-D Day in Canada and most communities across the country have joined in the one day drive.

EDITORIAL NOTES

One reason for the slowdown in British emigration to Canada, according to an official report, is that conditions in the old country are so much better than they were that fewer citizens are dissatisfied with their lot. That may be detrimental to Canadian growth, but surely it is news which Canadians in general will be glad to hear.

Tenders have been called for a new breakwater at Port Aux Basques to look after the docking needs of the ferry "William Carson". A year ago it was discovered that the new vessel had no place to land because of inadequate harbour facilities. No doubt, Newfoundlanders are hoping that at long last Department of Transport officials know just what the requirements are.

If Messrs. Bulganin and Khrushchev really want to do something friendly for India, and at the same time improve their own prospects, they might try to persuade the Bombay Communists to stop their rioting which, if not checked soon, will have a very bad effect on the goodwill which the men from the Kremlin are obviously trying to build up in Indian Government circles.



THAT WILL BE THE GREAT DAY

Parliamentary Families

By Alan Donnelly, Canadian Press, Ottawa

Paul St. Laurent, winner of the Tenissouata by-election, will be far from setting a precedent when his father - Prime Minister St. Laurent-introduces him as a new member of the Commons at the session opening Jan. 10.

One previous prime minister, Sir John A. Macdonald, had a son concurrently in Parliament since Confederation, either together in the Commons or separately in the Commons and the Senate. An exhaustive check of records might show even more similar situations.

FOLLOWING IN FOOTSTEPS

Two more parliamentary families will be added to the list Jan. 10. Besides Prime Minister St. Laurent and his 43-year-old son, another new Liberal member, Frank Power, will follow the footsteps of his father, Senator C. G. Power, former dean of the Commons who was appointed to the Upper Chamber last summer.

Last Sept. 26 Frank Power won the Quebec seat held by his father since 1917 to become a third-generation MP in the family. Old-timers recall that Senator Power's father, William Power, was Liberal member for Quebec West for almost 17 years between 1902 and 1921.

But so far the only time a prime minister was joined in the Commons by his son was April 29, 1891, when Prime Minister Macdonald introduced son Hugh John, newly elected from Winnipeg. The team was broken little more than a month later with the death of Canada's first prime minister.

In the next two decades another father-son team was to make history, Sir Charles Tupper and son Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper. Their political paths crossed and recrossed in Parliament and cabinet.

During three periods they sat together in the Commons as Conservatives, but never while Sir Charles was prime minister. For the father became prime minister four days after Parliament prorogued in 1896 and 58 days before his government's election defeat that year. Sir Charles Hibbert was solicitor-general during that period - a post technically considered as being in his father's ministry.

BROTHER MEMBERS

Sir Charles Tupper was followed as prime minister by Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who led the government until 1911. And from 1900 to 1908 Sir Wilfrid's half-brother, Charles Agne, sat in the Commons as Liberal member for Assomption, Que.

In the same period two lesser-known brothers were Liberal MPs together. Jacob Thomas Schell represented Gleggarry from 1900-08 and brother Malcolm was member for Oxford South 1904-11.

The present chamber has another brother combination. Joseph Omer Gour is member for Russell, Ont., and David Gour is member for Chapeau, Que. David, the older brother, changed the spelling of his surname years ago but the pronunciation is the same. Both are Liberals and both were first elected in 1945.

The present Parliament includes members of two other families notable in modern political life. Veterans Affairs Minister LaPointe is the son of the late Rt. Hon. Ernest Lapointe, former justice minister. They were together in the Commons from 1940; when the son was first elected, until the father's death on Nov. 26, 1941, after 37 years as an MP.

IN BOTH CHAMBERS
Senator James Gray Turgeon, Liberal from British Columbia, is son of the late Senator Onesti-

phore Turgeon - a commoner from 1900 to 1923 and a senator from 1923 until his death in 1944. The present Senator Turgeon gave his family two-chamber representation by holding a Commons seat for a decade after 1935. He entered the Upper Chamber in 1947. A brother, Hon. W. F. A. Turgeon, is ambassador to Portugal and as such is a member of the Privy Council.

Senator James Ham King, who died last July 14, was the son of Hon. George G. King, senator from 1896 to 1928. The son, formerly a B.C. cabinet minister, became in 1922 works minister in the Liberal government of the late Prime Minister Mackenzie King - no relation. Thus from 1922-28 that family had dual representation in both chambers.

Senator James King entered the Senate in 1930 and became government leader there and later Senate speaker.

And in the early days after Confederation the Power family from Halifax - no relation to the present-day Quebec Powers - brought about the unusual combination in 1877-78 of a father in the Commons and a son in the Senate.

Patrick Power, a Liberal from Halifax, was an MP from 1867-72 and again from 1874-78. Records show he declined a Senate appointment in 1877 because he then went to his son Lawrence Geoffrey Power. The son sat in the Upper Chamber from 1877 to his death in 1921, being Speaker there for a period and becoming an imperial privy councillor in 1905.

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Sundesen, M. D.

THINGS THAT WILL HELP TO PREVENT THOSE COLDS

It is time to start thinking about colds again. While you might have had a few sniffles this summer, your chances of getting a bad cold begin to increase along about Thanksgiving time.

During early winter, about 15 per cent of the nation's population, or some 18,000,000 persons, will come down with colds.

You're more likely to catch a cold and have more of them if you're a resident of the North Central States. And if you live in Chicago, your chances of escaping completely are really poor. Chicago has the highest rate of colds in the nation.

How can you avoid a cold? That's a pretty difficult question especially since we actually know so little about the common cold.

Generally, cold vaccines won't be much help. Results of these vaccines, still in wide use, have been disappointing.

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

Probably the best way to prevent a cold is to avoid certain predisposing factors which may contribute to some colds.

Avoid hot, stuffy rooms. Stay dry. Keep out of drafts. Dress according to the weather. Make sure that your diet is well-balanced.

Get plenty of rest, at least eight hours sleep every night. Keep clean. Wash your hands frequently and keep them away from your nose and mouth as much as possible.

The minute you notice symptoms of weakness, general aching, or a burning or itching in nose or throat, see your doctor.

Other early indications of a cold are a chilly feeling and a rise in temperature. Maybe you'll have gas pains or stomach cramps, become nauseated or be constipated or have loose bowels. Generally, you'll lose your appetite, too.

Your eyes won't begin to sting and water and your nose won't start to run until the cold has reached its peak.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Mrs. H. M.: I have a blood clot on my leg which formed following an ulcer. How can it be dissolved?

Answer: The blood clot which formed will probably dissolve and absorb gradually. Application of heat may be of some help. As a rule, such clots cause no serious disturbance.

Wonders Never Cease

(Sydney Post Record)

A supermarket without a front door, opened for business yesterday in Cincinnati. This has to do with the newest engineering trick you have heard about in a long time. What this store has in place of a door has to be experienced in order to believe it.

In entering the store the customer passes through an "air curtain" which is a wall through which the housewife moves without musing her hair. But the curtain is so effective that heat is kept in and insects kept out.

This is the sort of information one accepts on trust, if at all. Cincinnati being too far away to permit a personal inspection of the marvel, one has to fall back on the fact that it is reported by the Associated Press without intention of pulling anyone's leg.

The owners of the supermarket claim it is the first in the United States to use the air curtain, which was invented and first used in Switzerland. Clever lads, the Swiss. The air curtain is the evidence that they succeed in more than making watches and running excellent hotels.

What happens when the store closes at the end of the business day? That's simple, folding doors replace the air curtain at night. Cincinnati apparently has started something that won't end there.

Flurry Over Fluorides

Montreal Star

A certain small element of the public, as Dr. W.J. Dunn of Toronto, told the Montreal Dental Club last evening, takes a peculiar illogical attitude toward the fluoridation of drinking water as a means of reducing tooth decay.

Inoculation against infantile paralysis was accepted with very little mental reservation on the basis of a much shorter research program. The Salk vaccine was tested in use for one year. The results in the experiment were happily borne out when it was administered on a broader scale, but it was an unusually short test to give such a procedure before using it widely.

On the other hand, controlled experiments in fluoridation have been going on for several years, and residents in some areas have been unwittingly serving as guinea pigs for generations, their water supply being naturally fluoridated.

All the statistics point to the same conclusion, that minute quantities of fluoride in drinking water used from infancy onward cut tooth decay by about two-thirds without affecting health in any other way. Yet an excitable handful does battle against it nearly everywhere, even to the length of crusading abroad against it.

COMMON PRACTISE

Some profess to dislike adulteration of their water supply, ignoring the fact that every health-conscious community chlorinates its water already. Some prefer to leave it to individual choice, again ignoring the fact that in the health-conscious community vaccination against smallpox, and pasteurization of milk, are compulsory. Some profess to see risk of accidentally adding too much fluorine or in the case of a city like Montreal, hundreds, of tons.

Against the formal endorsement of medical, dental and public health organizations all across the continent, the objections of the

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NOTES BY THE WAY

We agree with George Drew that Canada should do a better job in promoting its national heroes.

He mentioned Gilbert Labine, who found pitchblende containing uranium. There are many others in Vancouver at a reunion recently the Canadian fighter pilots of the Battle of Britain including men such as Gordon McGregor, and Ernie McNabb - Vancouver Province.

The proposal of George Romney, president of American Motors Corp. that automobile manufacturers get together on an industry-wide basis to build safer passenger cars makes a lot of sense. As he says, the motor vehicle death toll is so big a problem that it deserves to be tackled in a co-operative manner rather than in the present "competitive" and "piece-meal" fashion. A joint research institute would unquestionably be better able to collect accurate data on what happens to passengers in an accident, test auto designs for safety and educate the public in proper use of such devices as safety belts - Stratford Beacon-Herald.

When civic improvements are being discussed opponents always cite the costs. All too often no one bothers to estimate the costs of not making them. The costs of inaction frequently are much greater than those of action. The same is true on an individual basis. Money spent on education pays good returns. It costs an individual much more to remain uneducated than it does to become educated. Likewise with industry or business. An industry can get far behind competitors unless it spends money on improving its products and methods of production. A business can go bankrupt if it fails to spend the money needed to keep it modern - Windsor Daily Star.

At this time of the year when changing weather brings on the sniffles, the Government comes up with the good news about a vaccine that promises "substantial protection" against the common cold. Tests have shown the vaccine, developed by the Public Health Service, to be 71 per cent effective against the viruses that cause the more severe colds, gripe and pneumonia. In order to test it further members of the Army are to be inoculated. As always in such developments, the scientists are still extremely cautious about claims for the new vaccine. They may well be. In the past, vaccines were developed which, despite claims for them, were not very successful. But between sneezes we can always hope. Science could devise no greater boon to mankind than a protection against the severe cold which annually exacts an incalculable toll of individual misery, lost man hours for industry and often lost pay for the sufferer - Detroit Free Press.

Surveying has been started in preparation for a suspension bridge from Sicily to the Italian mainland, across the straits of Messina. Unfortunately, a little late for the Allied forces who had to jump from Sicily to start the invasion of Italy proper during the Great War. - Fort William Times Journal.

According to figures compiled by the World Health Organization, Canada and the United States have exceptionally low death rates from stomach and duodenal ulcers. However, North Americans need not be complacent. Ulcers abound on this continent, the relatively low death rate from them evidently being accounted for by regular treatment rather than by their absence. - Ottawa Citizen.

Some posture experts declare that most of man's ills are a direct result of his upright posture. Man was originally designed to operate on all fours; rising on his hind legs is alright if evolution followed suit and readjusted his body structure to the new position. But it hasn't. They recommend scrubbing floors - and not with long-handled mop - as one good way to lower things back into their proper relative places. It could also be suggested that when these experts deliver these opinions before their classes, they deliver them from the same position. - Montreal Gazette.

The lavish use of natural gravel and aggregate of stone and clay which is at present being undertaken by every county, town and city in this country is fast using up the ordinary, natural resources of this Heaven-sent material from the ice and glacial age. In fact, some townships in this vicinity are hard pressed now for gravel as most of the deposits are worked out. Soon parts of Ontario will be as barren of gravel knolls as parts of the Prairie Provinces, and when that day arrives the road maintenance problem will be an expensive proposition indeed. - St. Marys Journal-Argus.

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