

Thanksgiving

Monday has been set apart by Parliament as a day of national thanksgiving. This special day was first instituted on November 6, 1879, when the then Governor General, the Marquis of Lorne who afterwards became the Duke of Argyll, proclaimed "a day to attend church and give thanks for the blessings with which Canada has been favoured during the year."

It is not to our credit if such an occasion had more significance and solemnity for our forefathers than it has for us. No doubt the conditions of modern life, especially in industrial communities, have broken down the intimate relations with nature which made the harvest the climax of the year.

Despite unusual weather conditions this year, the crops in this Province have been excellent and in contrast with other parts our farmers have very special reasons for thanksgiving. The fact is that we do not really know what a poor harvest means in Prince Edward Island.

Officially celebrated on Monday, Thanksgiving will also be generally observed in the churches tomorrow, with special services in many cases. This is as it should be.

Icelandic-Soviet Trade

Further reports concerning the negotiations now going on between the United States and Iceland on the subject of the requested withdrawal of American forces from that important NATO base indicate that something more than a simple difference of opinion on the need for these forces is involved.

Until five years ago more than half of Iceland's exports went to the United States and Britain and most of the remaining volume to West Europe. In consequence, most of its imports came from these three sources. Since 1951, however, exports to the United States have been falling in volume and value annually, and this year they will come to no more than about 10% of the total.

tion for this state of affairs is that Icelanders cannot meet the competition of Norwegian and Canadian producers. There may, of course, be something to that. Norwegians have a much bigger and more efficient trawler fleet and are therefore in a better position to supply the British and European markets; and this country's proximity to the American market gives Canadian producers an advantage over their Icelandic competitors.

That, however, is by no means the whole story. As in all cases where the presence of foreign troops is an issue, there is little doubt that the Soviet Union has been using a strong economic influence on Iceland in "behind-the-scenes" efforts to remove that important Atlantic base from Western control.

Courageous Act

Whoever anyone may think of Vice President Richard Nixon as a politician, all right thinking people will surely commend him for something he did the other day when in St. Petersburg, Florida, to give a political address. It took courage and a strong sense of moral justice.

When Mr. Nixon and his staff arrived at their hotel headquarters they found that the place did not admit Jewish guests, whereupon Mr. Nixon informed the manager that since he had a standing rule to stay only in hotels which do not practice racial or religious discrimination, he and his staff would be obliged to seek accommodations elsewhere, which they did.

The incident may cost Mr. Nixon and the Republican ticket in general a few votes in St. Petersburg and perhaps a few other Southern localities where minority racial groups are held in dishonour.

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EDITORIAL NOTES

Newspaper Boys' Day.

The last word in music criticism comes in a Canadian Press news despatch from Vancouver: "Trumpeter Louis Armstrong says Elvis Presley must be good or he couldn't buy three Cadillacs."

It is gratifying to learn that not one child in the United States or Canada who received the three polio vaccine shots as recommended by medical authorities has died from the disease this year. This alone would prove the vaccine's effectiveness.

The Rev. Donald A. Campbell, minister of St. Andrew's Church in Montague, is to be congratulated on his election to the high and responsible post of Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in the Maritime Provinces.

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CAUSE FOR THANKS

A Voice From The Past

Robert Moon in the Regina Leader-Post

The letter came from a living legend from Robert W. Service, the "Poet of the Yukon", the creator of Dangerous Dan McGrew, Sam McGee and the Lady who was known as Lou.

The Indian's Problem

By Don Peacock, Canadian Press Staff, Ottawa

The Indian brave no longer dresses up in war paint, feathers and ferocity. He's too busy trying to make a living, too involved in coping with the encroaching complexities of a modern society.

In some areas, particularly in the North, he may still live a nomadic life, hunting, trapping and fishing. But as often as not even the Northern Indian has to fall back on the federal government for whatever help it gives him.

Gradually he is turning to other occupations, leaving the past behind him. Now he farms or works in lumber camps, on oil rigs or Arctic radar lines. He raises cattle, perhaps follows the law or other professions — although in very small numbers as yet — and may even get into politics.

The transition from the old ways to the new is no easier for the Indian than for anyone else, officials of the federal Indian Affairs branch told a reporter. But on the other hand it's no harder for an Indian to change his ways than for any others — what the transition needs most is time.

The Indian could also use more understanding on the part of his fellow Canadians. This aspect of the Indians problem in trying to gain equal status in the land of his ancestors has been pungently outlined by Rev. Andre Renaud of the University of Ottawa's native community development bureau.

Ignorance and misconception by the white man make it so difficult for the Indian to integrate in the community. Father Renaud told a reporter at a recent Edmonton conference that he is being driven to a "man's land" of alcohol, shack towns and slum society.

"The white is not racially prejudiced as some parts of the United States are against Negroes, but just has a very limited knowledge of what the Indian is really like.

"All historical texts are biased on our side and term the Indian primitive. The books acknowledge no contribution by the Indian to life in this continent and are under the impression the Indian is shiftless and has no initiative — that all bronze-skinned individuals are wards of Ottawa Comets and Hollywood add to these misconceptions."

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Sandesen, M. D.

MIND RULE TO HELP WARD OFF ARTHRITIS

Generally we think of farmers as being just about the healthiest people alive. They spend most of their lives working outdoors pushing and pulling.

However, farmers as a group seem to have more than their share of many ills. In fact, the Arthritis and Rheumatism Foundation says that 23 per cent of the nation's farmers know the aches and pains of arthritis, America's No. 1 crippler.

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS We don't know exactly why this is so because we don't know the causes of most arthritic diseases. We do know, however, that certain contributing factors will help these diseases get started.

Fatigue and worry probably are responsible more often than any other factor. You won't be stricken with arthritis simply because you overwork yourself a little, but by pushing yourself beyond the limits nature has set for you, you may be helping to hasten it.

Farmers perform hard physical labor year after year. Continuing to do this without a letup and without adequate relaxation may be at least a partial cause for the toll arthritis takes among rural residents. Exposure to the elements might also have something to do with it.

The Arthritis and Rheumatism Foundation recommends the following rules to help farmers avoid arthritis. I think this is good advice for you city dwellers, too.

- 1. Don't overdo more than you absolutely must.
2. Get sufficient rest.
3. Stop for a breather several times during the day.
4. Prevent wear and tear on the muscles by warming up before a day of strenuous activity. Simple setting up exercises will do.
5. Start the day with the lightest chores.
6. Try to overcome worry and unpleasant situations.
7. Don't forget to have regular medical checkups.

QUESTION AND ANSWER E.A.: Are vegetable fats as digestible as animal fats? Answer: Yes, they are.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (Oct. 7, 1931)

The Governor General paid a visit to Summerside yesterday by motor, stopping briefly at various points en route to be widely greeted along flag-line streets. He returned via the South Shore route and after a strenuous day retired to his private railway car which left here that night for the mainland.

Mr. James Paton has returned from Toronto where in the company of hospital building experts he went over the plans for the new Prince Edward Island Hospital.

As an unemployment relief project working the approaches to the Hillsborough Bridge, preparing for the building of the concrete roadway on the west side of the railway tracks.

TEN YEARS AGO (Oct. 7, 1946)

Provincial Board of Health Officials are of the opinion that the epidemic of poliomyelitis had run its course. Only two new cases had been reported since the first of the month.

British plant physiologists were arriving here to study methods of potato storage used in Canada. In the group were Dr. J. Barker, Cambridge, and Dr. A.R. Wilson, Midland Agricultural College. Accompanying them was Mr. H.C. Tinsley, Peterborough, England, one of that country's largest potato growers.

The Age Old Story

The Lord redeemeth the soul of his servants: and none of them that trust in him shall be desolate.

The Poets Corner

BACK ROAD

Find the surprise of a little back road Fitting left and right Through narrow halls of shrub and tree. Follow the tendrils turns, the climbing — With lizard wizardry explore the high hung shelves; listen To chisel of wind, its harp, its bow, its pipes. Rock turned on granite.

Down hill make way for quail paradises. Move slowly in green dusk where moss-gloved springs Pour boulders black with wet, where mist-bells shimmer ferns In laddered light and forest floor is softly carpeted by time.

Discover meadow-sweet tall grass, the dog and fawn there resting. Or come upon a small dry creek whose mica wealth will flash Each gravelled trek it takes across your path.

And when you leave, your risen dust will linger like your thoughts. Along the little road that winds Through simple loveliness.

—Mae Selran, in the Christian Science Monitor.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion of any subject of general interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

TYPEWRITER RIBBONS

Sir, — In Friday's Guardian, 5th October, under the heading "Notes by the Way", you ran an article from the Port Arthur News saying that nobody had as yet invented a typewriter ribbon, that could be changed without getting covered with ink. I would like to point out that on the new 1957 Twin Pack Royal portable the hands never touch the ribbon when changing it.

I am, Sir, etc., F. A. MacCOURT, Royal Dealer, Charlottetown.

LIQUOR PRICE UP

MONTREAL (CP) — A spokesman for one Canada's largest distilleries said Thursday the wholesale prices of Canadian liquor have been increased to help meet sharply increased costs of labor and materials. The spokesman for the House of Seagrams declined to say how much of an increase was made in liquor prices at the wholesale level. The increase would apply in all parts of Canada.

MAXIMS

When we are planning for posterity, we ought to remember that virtue is not hereditary.

still Canada's poor relation, involuntarily at odds with its civilization.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

Cheque-writing was always pretty expensive even before the banks announced the increase in service charge.—Sherbrooke Record

From the popularity of photographs showing candidates in the U.S. election doing chores on the farm, it's difficult to tell whether a politician is running for senator or hired man.—Edmonton Journal

The more we see of the way Mr. Robert Fowler operates as chairman of the Royal Commission on broadcasting the more we like it. He takes the quite sensible view that a citizen or organization complaining about the existing state of affairs should first know what he is talking about and secondly be prepared to receive cross-examination.—Ottawa Journal

Recently we noted a word once in common parlance in Ontario. A dispatch told of the firing of automotive employees in England and spoke of them "getting the sack."

It remained for an eminent British musician to draw the comparison which probably illustrates just what "rock 'n' roll" music is all about. Sir Malcolm Sargent, conductor of the BBC Symphony, claims the craze which began in the United States and is now sweeping England is "nothing more than an exhibition of primitive tom-tom thumping."

A good many Canadians, we suspect, will feel a sneaking sympathy with an unknown Frenchman who recently outraged advanced art circles in Paris. At an exhibition of modern paintings, a register was provided in which visitors were asked to set down their impressions of the show and their reasons for visiting it. The unknown wrote: "Did not understand a thing. Reason for the visit: very bad weather outside."—Edmonton Journal

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