

on Staten Island which will be devoted entirely to mental retardation studies. It will have a staff of 250 conducting research in biochemistry, microbiology, genetics and other disciplines, all geared to this basic program.

Important research is already underway by other U.S. areas, and facilities for much more are being provided. Recently the University of Washington, Seattle, and Yeshiva University, New York, were designated as locations for two of the three mental retardation research centres that will be established under the late President Kennedy's mental health program. The University of California at Los Angeles and the University of Wisconsin are also expanding facilities for broader studies of this kind.

Retardation is said to afflict three children in every hundred in varying degrees. It has many causes, some of which are little understood—such as the effect of viruses on the unborn child. But progress is being made and knowledge assembled. No break-throughs are looked for, but improved means are confidently promised that will help prevent at least some forms of retardation. The new institute in New York, the new centres and other research facilities on both sides of the boundary line will all contribute importantly.

The great thing is that the knowledge thus gained will be shared freely among researchers everywhere. There will be no need for espionage agents to track it down. It will be at the disposal of all mankind. That is what makes progress reports of this kind so stimulating.

Canadians who did not have the opportunity to witness the visit of Queen Elizabeth to Quebec City in October probably do not recall the occasion as one of bloody riots inspired by separatist or republican rabble-rousers. The truth, we are beginning to learn, was something quite different.

"French-language newspapers and the CBC gave distorted publicity to the separatists," Rea L. Coquette, Social Credit Rally leader, told me in his office here. Blaming the CBC for much of the misunderstanding, he added: "Radio Canada took more pictures of riots in front of Quebec's City Hall than of the Queen during her stay."

A spokesman for the St. John's Convention Centre urged Quebecers to stay home. Mr. Coquette said: "So people did a day home. They were afraid of becoming involved in disturbances. But no individual, calling himself a representative of the SJRS, was speaking in the name of the members. I have been a member for 25 years, and I would not have suggested that Canadians should not go out into the streets to cheer the Queen."

REAL MEETS REALY. Mr. Coquette himself enjoyed a long talk with the Queen, and his reception was given by the Governor General. On Thanksgiving Day, Monday October 12, a state banquet and reception was given by the Queen at Government House in Ottawa. Among the guests were Cabinet Ministers, leaders of political parties, provincial premiers, and their wives.

EDITH VANDERBILT was talking to Premier W. A. C. Bennett of British Columbia. She asked him to point out to her Mr. Coquette. Mr. Bennett did so, and asked if he might introduce him to her. So Mr. Coquette stood behind her in conversation with Madame Bennett, who then presented him to the Queen. They had an animated conversation together for ten or fifteen minutes. "The Queen speaks beautiful French," Mr. Coquette told me.

"I understand that you and your party achieved a considerable success in the last election," she remarked. But it was the only mention of politics in their conversation.

There is a news story from Moscow that illustrates how little human nature changes. It reports the professional rat killers of the Soviet Union are turning into rat breeders because they are afraid of losing their jobs.

1965, designated by the United Nations as International Cooperation Year, is also the 20th anniversary of the organization's creation. A special medal will be issued by the United Nations to commemorate both events.

The Soviet Union, notes an exchange, is building a 384-mile gas pipeline in the Arctic where temperatures drop as low as 60 degrees below zero—to expedite a mining operation. This could be a challenge to similar enterprise in Canada.

Not At His Best

Prime Minister Pearson continues to surprise us by his attitude on the flag question. His contention all along, as we understood it, was that Canada didn't have a national flag and it was time we had one. In all the wrangling that took place over this issue, he and his followers never once conceded that the Red Ensign had any official status. Now that a maple leaf design has been adopted in the Commons, however, he insists that the Ensign would be unsuitable to represent Canada's association with the Commonwealth because it has been our national flag and therefore should not be kept on now as a Commonwealth symbol!

This is how he is reported in a Canadian Press dispatch in yesterday's Guardian. It was the main argument he advanced accepting the Conservative amendment to have the Ensign, rather than the Union Jack, used for the purpose above mentioned. And he maintained that the Union Jack, which was the best suited to this purpose.

Mr. Diefenbaker was a right pointing out that the Jack is not the royal flag but the flag of the United Kingdom. This is the significance of the crosses of St. George, St. Andrew and St. Patrick which it bears. As it first appeared, it displayed the red cross of England superimposed on the white cross of Scotland. The diagonal cross was added in 1801 with the Union of Ireland.

The royal flag is something else again. It is more properly known as the royal standard. It went out of use in England during the period of Oliver Cromwell, its place being taken by a special flag devised for the protector himself. But it came back again after the Restoration, first as the flag of the lord high admiral when at sea, and then as the standard to be flown only by the Sovereign.

Mr. Pearson must be well aware of the distinction between the Sovereign's flag and the British flag, which is more—and no less—the "royal flag" than the Maple Leaf flag will be when it becomes the flag of Canada. Yet he insisted on arguing to the contrary, simply because he seemed incapable of accepting any suggestion on the flag issue that came from the leader of the Opposition.

Actually, as Mr. Macquarrie pointed out in the discussion on Tuesday, there is no such thing as a Commonwealth flag, and the Liberal assumption that there is one is "a ludicrous exercise in dual flagging." But if a second flag is needed, surely it is the one to which so much of our tradition attaches—the Red Ensign.

A Great Undertaking

A few years ago, mental retardation was a problem in which comparatively few people were interested. Today it is receiving attention in every civilized country, and as Canadians we can take some measure of pride in the progress we have made in this direction. But there is much yet to be done. This is the feeling in the United States as well, where a great drive is under way to develop research facilities in this field. The latest development occurred in New York state a few years ago, when ground was broken by Governor Rockefeller for an undertaking which he termed unique in the history of the nation.

This is a five story structure



'T WAS JUST BEFORE CHRISTMAS

OTTAWA REPORT By Patrick Nicholson

Maintains Separatist Rioting Overplayed

Soon in a folksy way they were discussing the weather in their respective homes. "I was talking to my mother on the telephone last night, and she said they have had two inches of snow in the north of Scotland where she is living." "I have just come back from Quebec, Quebec, and we have three inches there," replied Mr. Coquette.

What had impressed him most about the Queen, I asked. "She made a very wise use of her own patriotism should not one's own understanding of another's patriotism, and she showed wisdom also when she said in Quebec City that 'dynamic state must not be afraid of revising its political philosophy. There is nothing surprising, she said, in that a constitution set up nearly a century ago does not meet all the problems of today."

Bringing Home The Bacon

The best test of an economy's worth is the standard of living it provides. A meaningful way of measuring this is to determine how long an average industrial worker must toil to acquire the necessities, and luxuries, of life. Radio Liberty, privately sponsored network, has published a revealing index of average working time required to purchase the same goods and services in New York and Moscow.

The gap narrows even more for certain services. In New York the average industrial worker must toil 19 minutes to earn a package of 20 cigarettes; in Moscow it takes 12 level minutes to purchase the same goods and services in New York and Moscow.

The Underseas Challenge

Man seems poised to take a major plunge into that part of his world which he knows least, the oceans. Here is a potentially rich, little tapped treasury of food and minerals. Ocean exploration offers a challenge as exciting as any that man, although our space effort is infinitely larger.

The navy now hopes to mount a high priority, five years, \$200 million program of deep ocean exploration and rescue. Thirteen experimental s.u.b.s erieships will be built, some capable of reaching depths as great as 20,000 feet.

Public Forum. This column is open to the discussion of news stories appearing in the Herald. All letters should be addressed to the editor, and should be subject to editing and condensation where necessary. The Guardian makes no return into any correspondence regarding letters submitted.

SEKES PEN PAL. Sir—The girl I know who lives in the beautiful Fraser Valley. I would like a girl pen pal. I am a 17 year old boy from Cavendish, but I will write to everyone who writes to me. I like collecting beetle records too. Thank you for your help and help. Merry Christmas to you.

WINTER ROADS. Sir—It has been rumored in this community of ours that snow-plowing of roads is not being done by contract. If we need a gateway opened, the charge is \$3 each time, and \$9 for a lay or heavy snow.

ENCOURAGE BUILDING. In M o s c o w, to encourage housing development, authorities levy no tax on new buildings and there is no interest on building loans.

Scooter Accidents

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen The motor scooter is another hazardous mode of conveyance for the owners of these fast, economical vehicles but the modern automobile, including the smaller sports cars. The wheels are small and fit in many defects in the pavement; the device is light and offers no protection to the driver. Otherwise, we have no objections.

Several years ago, when my son was a senior in high school, he was offered a used motor scooter at an attractive price. I said no, and gave my reasons. He was the answer. "Aye tank aye bang hunting long enough. Aye want marriage licence."—Montreal Star.

With the banks going in for modern art, pretty girls, background music and tanks of tropical fish, it was only to be expected that the railways would set out to be more chummy and colloquial. But does the Canadian National system really have to describe its product as "engineering"? Some people may be surprised to learn that the railway's "Mummy's" call, "are you going to wash your windows when we get home?"—The CND—Financial Post.

ASIAN NUCLEAR PROBLEM. The importance of India in Prime Minister Wilson's defence strategy cannot be exaggerated, in the opinion of a London observer.

WANTS 'GUARANTEES'. Shastri spoke of the necessity of India, and other non-nuclear countries, receiving some sort of guarantees against attack by nuclear powers.

It's Here The New McCulloch CHAIN SAW. "The Woodsman's Best Friend!"

HEALTHY HINT. Parents must offer leadership. All correspondence to Dr. Van Dellen should be addressed to: Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen, c/o The Tribune, Chicago, Illinois.

Meeting At Washington. British Information Service. We have all grown wary of summit meetings. There is always the possibility of a clash between the two superpowers.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

The truth is usually so plain and dull that most people floss up with some of the fancy lyrics—Woodstock Sentimental Review.

Canadian Underwriters are helping to solve the problem of what to give father for Christmas. The "hunting licence" is an envelope to take care of the increase in car insurance premiums—The Recorder, Province.

A young Swede, appeared at the county judge's office and asked for a licence. "What kind of a licence" asked the judge, "a hunting licence?" "Yes," was the answer. "Aye tank aye bang hunting long enough. Aye want marriage licence."—Montreal Star.

Two men, who were visiting a Museum were seen standing in front of an Egyptian mummy, over which hung a placard bearing the inscription: "B.C. 1187." Both visitors were much mystified thereby. "What do you make of that, Jim?" "Well," said Jim, "I dunno, but maybe it was the number of the motor car that killed him!"—Montreal Star.

The sermon was getting more poetic by the minute. It was a about love and like dirt on a window and how repentance cleans the windows of life, and lets the sunlight in. Suddenly, a loud voice in the congregation and ended the sermon. "Mummy's" call, "are you going to wash your windows when we get home?"—The Recorder.

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McCulloch CHAIN SAW advertisement with image of the saw and text: "It's Here The New McCulloch CHAIN SAW. 'The Woodsman's Best Friend!' \$129.00 Keith Carmichael 25 Brackley Pl. Rd. 44623 Sherwood"

BURMA PROPANE GAS advertisement with text: "BURMA PROPANE GAS. ARNFAST PROPANE LTD. 138 Great George Street Charlottetown, P.E.I. Serving the Maritimes Telephone 4-3500 Propane Appliances"

BURMA advertisement with text: "BURMA. Warmth and Beauty Island Made BLANKETS Beautifully Gift Packaged. Prepared and shipped anywhere in Canada."

W. M. CONDON and SONS advertisement with text: "W. M. CONDON and SONS. 65 Queen St. Charlottetown"