Thoughts For Our Time

By His Eminence Cardinal McGuigan

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DUTIES OF PATRIOTISM

When the weather becomes warm and fine, and the glory of spring is resplendent everywhere, and the heart seems to fill with the joy and grandeur of new life, there is a comment one often hears, or even which one himself makes. "This is a beautiful country; it's great to be a Canadian." There is much more behind the remark than merely the contentment of a pleasant countryside or a fresh warm day. The sentence vibrates with overtones of what is deepest and of greatest value in Canadian life: peace, freedom, happiness. And there wells up in the heart a national pride which is both reverent and justified.

One need not look far, nor for any great length of time, to find abundant and convincing evidence to support his pride in Canada, leaving aside consideration of her natural beauty and attractiveness, so rich in its variety, so magnificent in its extent, we observe how the swift progress of Canada's coming of age amazes the world. In our own time, and even as we watch, we see our nation rising to a position of enviable prominence among the nations. This rise is evident in the internal development on so vast a scale, as well as in external relations where Canada's position is that of a nation of first importance.

"With glowing hearts we see thee rise,
The true north strong and free."

* * *

There is a famous sentence in Milton: "Methinks I see in my mind a noble and puissant nation, rousing herself like a strong man after sleep, shaking his invincible locks; methinks I see her as an eagle renewing her mighty youth, and kindling her undazzled eyes at the full midday beam . . ." (Areopagitica).

If Milton were living now, I'm sure he would apply these words to our own nation. We must not, of course, lose sight of the fact that it is God who is the source of the present prosperity, and that it is under the smile of His countenance that our country is blessed. At the same time, it is only to recognize the goodness of God to recognize and acknowledge our national greatness.

These observations, it seems to me, should elicit some very sobering conclusions. To live at a time when a nation is rising to greatness is to carry a responsibility. The people of this nation at this time hold an extremely strategic position in regard to the future. They may plan wisely and according to God's laws, and thereby make this land truly great, a land which will radiate a benevolent light over the whole world. Or they may be selfishly short-sighted, and exploit resources for their own benefit, to the ruin of the country, and to the loss of mankind. What we have of good in Canada is the result of wisdom and foresight on the part of our ancestors. The Fathers of Confederation were men of vision.

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There are no rights without corresponding duties. Our peace, freedom and prosperity can be safe-guarded only by careful attention to the duties they entail. What are these duties? The worship of God, first of all, and the careful observance of His commandments. We cannot expect to live and flourish if we are cut off from the source of all we have and are. There can be no question or compromise here: God is first, God must be served. This is patriotism at its deepest and truest.

The strength of a nation is directly proportionate to the stability of its family life. Here is another of our duties: to safeguard the integrity of the family at all costs. There are some cancerous growths feeding on this most fundamental institution of society and endangering its life: divorce and birth-control. A nation cannot long survive undermining so serious as this. We should be fearful lest future generations say of our country what was said of another country in the sixteenth century: "An elephant with the heart of a chicken."

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There is a tendency when a nation is young and rich to exploit resources for selfish ends without regard to consequences, and without thought for future generations. Perhaps the vastness of this country and the comparative slowness with which it has been opened up have saved us from serious error in this regard. The temptation, however, is ever present, and true love of country will forbid selfish exploitation.

Patriotism will see in the laws of the land the guarantee of freedom and of internal peace. It will breed respect for these laws. We have reason to be extremely grateful to the Mother Country which has given us a tradition of law and a political wisdom far beyond our years. The history of many of the European nations should be a constant reminder to Canadians of the boon of a stable, democratic government. It is always easy to find a vulnerable spot for a dart of criticism, but we should be deeply grateful for a system of government which other nations would give much to have.

These then are the duties of patriotism, the proof of true love of country: the worship of God, safeguarding of family life, careful and unselfish development of resources, and respect for law. By devoting ourselves to these we not only ensure the growth of Canada, but we make a contribution of great value to the whole world. Let our national pride be not merely the selfish thrill of living in "a noble and puissant nation." True love of Canada will direct its gaze to God, to the good of our countrymen, and to the good of all mankind.

Executive Of PEI W.I. Holds Meeting

An executive meeting of the Prince Edward Island Women's Institute was held in the central office, Charlottetown, on Thursday, May 15th, with the usual good attendance of members. The president, Mrs. Harold Laird, conducted the meeting.

Included in the business arising from the minutes were a splendid report of the educational council meeting held on February 1, written by Mrs. R. L. Burge and read by Mrs. W. E. McKinnon. Investigations regarding the benefits of banquets at the beginning of drives for charitable funds had been made and the results were given that the banquets frequently brought in three times the amount of funds otherwise collected. It was usually a city custom rather than a provincial one and therefore the resolution would be dropped.

An assistant has been asked to help the department with the district conventions. Members of the executive will also assist the supervisors at the various district conventions—one to each area. Among the major topics to be discussed will be soil conservation.

Mrs. Laird expressed a few complimentary words in recognition of Mrs. Herring's valuable work as mistress of ceremonies for the radio broadcasts which ended for this year on May 2, and the supervisor made the presentation of a beautiful electric lamp on behalf of the executive members. With complete surprise Mrs. Herring feelingly thanked all.

Correspondence included a letter from radio station CFCY acknowledging receipt of a letter of thanks from the executive, for their gift of free time every Friday morning during the broadcasting season, and letters from speakers accepting invitations to speak at the annual convention which is to be held July 9 and 10.

Suggestions for different features of the annual convention program were discussed and it was decided that visits to various points of interest will again be made this year.

No Decision On Rubber Prices

OTTAWA, May 17 — (CP) — The international rubber study group has ended secret week long sessions without reaching any immediate decisions on critical issues of stabilized prices and assured markets.

Spokesman for rubber-producing countries said this indecision may give Communists an edge in Southeast Asia. But a British colonial spokesman said his country is "determined" that the area "will not fall into the hands of the Communists."

As an apparent compromise, the 18-country group agreed to set up a special committee to meet in London next July and consider:

1. Whether it is possible to work out a plan to prevent "burdensome surpluses or serious shortages" of rubber and whether such measures are "necessary and practicable."

2. Drafts of any agreements which may be required to implement these proposals.

CENTRAL GUARDIAN

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STRAWBERRY growers intending to join Charlottetown Strawberry Growers' Association contact the secretary before May 31.

EASTERN Presbytery Y. P. U. rally Valleyfield United Church this Wednesday, May 21. Sessions 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

MRS. JOHNSTON'S LADIES' WEAR—Clearance Sale— Dresses, Coats, Suits.

P. E. I. ARTS AND CRAFTS GUILD annual meeting will be held at Charlottetown Hotel, 6:15 p.m. Thursday, May 22nd. Open to everyone interested in the work of the Guild.

AUXILIARY FOR BLIND MEETS — The Charlottetown Women's Auxiliary to the Canadian National Institute for the Blind held its final meeting for the year 1951-52 at the Charlottetown Hotel on Thursday, May 15th. This meeting was preceded by a luncheon and members were very pleased to have the honorary president, Mrs. T. W. L. Prowse attend. After luncheon a very pleasant event took place in the salon, when Miss Laura Young very graciously extending the good wishes of the Auxiliary, presented Miss Velma Goode, who was a special guest, with a silver entree dish, in view of her approaching marriage. In expressing thanks, Miss Goode said that her absence would be only temporary, as she would continue on as secretary to the Institute for an indefinite period. Members were very pleased to hear this and a pleasant social hour then ensued, after which the business meeting was held. This meeting consisted in the main of tentative plans for the annual picnic to be held at Stanhope Beach on July 17th, after which, on motion of Mrs. W. J. P. MacMillan, the meeting adjourned.

Personals

Joseph Arthur Gauthier is home on leave from Fort Churchill and is visiting with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Gauthier, Rusticoville.

Joseph Robert Gauthier is at present on leave and is visiting his wife and family in Rusticoville. He will return in the near future to Halifax where he is stationed.

Musical Festival Winners

—Photo by Barter

Pictured above is the Charlottetown Chorale with its director Mr William K. Rogers, which was complimented very highly by adjudicator Mr. Reginald Geen at the Musical Festival. This group, organized in the Fall of 1951, received marks for two entries of 86 and 87, this latter being the highest mark awarded during the week by either of the two music adjudicators. They were especially commended for their excellent teamwork and balance. In the group are Darrel McGuigan, Ralph Dumont, Barry MacLean, Loman McAulay, Wallace Wood, Sterling Walker, Frank Kelly, Robert MacLeod, Donald Wood, Newton Large, Mae Robinson, Thelma Barwise, Joan Storey, Elizabeth Wright, Helen Hyde, Lois MacLaren, Betty King, Dorothy Allen, Louise Cox, Christine King, Marguerite Brehaut, Thelma Teed, Barbara Rogers, Ethel Kelly, Marjorie Coffin, Beverley Henry, Phyllis Coffin, William K. Rogers.

Strange But True

By F. H. MacArthur

In 1905, 60,000 of Alaska's population angered at being denied the right of representation in any form, sent a wire to President Theodore Roosevelt demanding that Alaska be annexed to Canada.

Our treatment of German war prisoners held in this country plus what they observed about Canada while here has made Canada very popular to Germans wanting to migrate.

In a single day recently, 1300 Germans wrote to one of Canada's two immigration offices in West Germany and said they wanted to emigrate to Canada.

The Hanover office alone has a backlog of some 50,000 names of potential Canadians, among these people who want to take advantage of the wonderful opportunities that are to be found in our glorious Dominion.

Considered as pests in some places, squirrels are regarded with favor in Canada's Northland. Besides adding color to the landscape these little animals have a substantial economic value. Their pelts bring in a bit of cash, but they help provide both food and clothing for trappers.

Although the Russians in Alaska were only concerned with obtaining furs—about five times as much money has been gleaned from gold and even more in fisheries.

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Some popular conceptions of the Arctic region are that it is inhospitable, uninhabitable, silent, snowbound and frozen over the year around. Nothing could be further from the truth. As explorer Stefannson long ago pointed out the Arctic is friendly to those who understand it and downright pleasant to those that love the freedom that is to be found in the wide open spaces.

The Arctic waters contain as much sea food per cubic foot as do the waters in any other part of the world.

The Arctic does not have the heavy snow fall or low temperatures generally attributed to it. The snowfall is comparatively light and during the months of July and August there is rain at sea level, right up to the North Pole! Lower temperatures have often been recorded in winter in Montana, North Dakota, Winnipeg and Northern Alberta.

An understanding of the Arctic and how to live there is going to be important as time goes on, and I for one, like to visualize the time when this immense region will have cities and towns comparable in size to those of the prairies.

Bears and humans have one thing in common, namely: they eat berries, succulent plants, and fish and meat.

* * *

Miss Mary Louise Alexander is a weather observer, radio operator and assistant teacher at isolated Point Hope. Miss Alexander says she wouldn't change her place for any job civilization has to offer.

"Aunt Sally" Fox an Indian woman believed to be 115 years old died last April in Juneau, Alaska.

The polar bear rarely comes to land preferring to spend his days on the Arctic ice flow where ribbons of open water provide adequate fishing grounds. He is so swift and powerful that when he becomes aroused, man is his only enemy. Eskimos like his flesh, but white men hunt him only for his durable pelt which makes a luxurious, exotic rug. You can get a permit to hunt him by plane but it is an expensive sport and considering the few who indulge and the vastness of his region in which the species breed unmolested, the danger of extermination is remote.

The Arctic Ocean, some six million square miles in area, has a perpetual ice sheet six to twelve feet thick over more than half its surface. If salt water had the same freezing point as fresh water the ice sheet would reach a thickness of a hundred fathoms! Though considerable melting takes place during the summer, new ice forms constantly from September to April.

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A truckload of watermelons made a Canadian Northland Vacation last year for an Arizona couple who always wanted to see Canada's back door. When the melons were ready the couple loaded eleven tons of the fruit on a trailer and were off. They had no trouble getting rid of their load at a fancy price, and their profits covered the cost of the trip. Next year, says the couple, "We are taking a load of melons to Central America as we want to see that part of the continent, too."

The unexplained phenomenon of the Northern Lights has puzzled man down through the ages, inspiring awe, superstition, fear. Superstition and fear may subside with the knowledge that the Aurora is light produced by hydrogen gas when the sun strikes the earth's atmosphere; but imagination is scarcely less staggered by the concept of terrestial light from solar gases traveling 92,900,000 miles at 1,800 miles a second.

"It doesn't pay to say too much when you are mad enough to choke, for the word that stings the deepest is the word that's never spoke. Let the other fellow wrangle till the storm has blown away, then he'll do a heap of thinking 'bout the things you didn't say."

* * *

Recently 8-year-old Stanley Willoughboy of Portland, Ore., had a miraculous escape from death. Stanley was run over by a steam roller, but thanks to the boy's lucky star he was injured only slightly. The huge machine passed over his leg and hip, and embedded him neatly into the hot, soft asphalt which was being used on a new stretch of road.

Poison sprays are the cause of depletion of the toads, bees, and garden snakes—all useful creatures to man. Once exterminated, it wouldn't be long before the insect pests would hold sway in our garden plots.

The "Ragtime Kid" of poet Service's poem, "The Shooting of Dan McGrew", died July 18th in Seattle. The kid, Harley Cloude Myrick Sr., was 17 years old and already a veteran of the Klondike gold fields when Robert Service, then a bank cashier, passed the Saloon where "A bunch of the boys were whooping it up" and the sound of mirth inspired the first lines of the famous poem. Myrick was "the kid who handled the music box" hence the name Ragtime Kid. He played the piano in Dawson, Tanan and Iditardo, during the heyday of those towns and went outside in 1916 to hit big vaudeville circuits. During the last war the Ragtime Kid played the piano for service men at the U.S.O. in Seattle.

Literature And Life

By BOOKMAN

MONICA, THE MOTHER OF AUGUSTINE

It is generally agreed that great men owe more to their mothers than to their fathers. Did not one of the American presidents, the day of his inauguration, call his mother to his side and say to the audience, That I am here I owe to this woman. He was proud to be able to say that.

The name of Moses mother — Jochebed — is unknown to many, but she saw the possibilities in the child and hid him three months but when she could hide him no longer she put him by the margin of the Nile where the daughter of Pharoah saw him. No story of the Wesleys is complete without a reference to Sussanah Wesley the wonderful mother of John and Charles.

Mother's day comes round annually, and we think of the average mother who in her home brings up her family — toils for them, teaches them to pray and surrounds them with her love, — all the while knowing that the world is beckoning them and that they will leave sooner or later and she wishes to have them ready to meet the new situation.

Readers of the Confessions of Saint Augustine will realize what he owed to his mother, Monica. He became one of the greatest of the sons of men, and yet he for several years was guilty of a great sin. His father was a pagan for most of his life and he too was guilty of the same kind of sin as the son. Monica was patient with him and Augustine remarks "She so endured his infidelities towards her that he never had any quarrel with her husband for that cause" (book 9: chapter 9.)

Augustine sought the world early and went to Carthage which was as wicked as Rome. At eighteen years of age he was the father of an illegitimate child and later when due to his mother's prayers he was converted, he and this youth, named Aedodatus were baptized at the same time.

Augustine knew that he was living in sin but when he prayed to God for forgiveness he would add, not yet/ Lord; but one day in a garden he heard voices like that of a boy or girl singing words like tolle, lege, tolle, lege — take and read, take and read. He looked at the Bible which was open at Romans 13: 13, 14. He felt that God had spoken, and that his sins of the flesh were rebuked here.

He was a brand plucked out of the burning and he woed most of all under God to his saintly mother. He wrote many books, probably the greatest being the City of God. He died at the age of 76 and his devoted mother at the age of 56. Undoubtedly he was one of the greatest men that ever lived and he left his mark deep on the religious thought of the world. His Confessions remind one of the Hebrew psalter — both are full of tears and faith. He says of his mother that she wore a woman's habit with the faith of a man (book 9: chapter 4.)

Very touching is the account of his mother's death in Ostia. Where were they to bury her? She said Lay this body anywhere; let not the care for that any way disquiet you; this only I ask of you to remember me at God's altar wherever you be. He prayed for his mother and requested the prayers of all who might in after time read his Confessions to do likewise.

Matthew Arnold wrote a sonnet on her death called Monica's Last Prayer.

Ah could thy grave at home, at Carthage be!—
Care not for that, and lay me where I fall!
Everywhere heard will be the judgment call,
But at God's altar, oh, remember me.

Thus Monica, and died in Italy.
Yet fervent had her longing been, through all
Her course, for home at last, and burial
With her own husband, by the Lybian sea.

Had been! but at the end, to her pure soul
All tie with all beside seemed vain and cheap,
And union before God the only care.

Creeds pass, rites change, no altar standeth whole
Yet her memory, as she prayed, will keep,
Keep by this: Life in God, and union there!

Baptist Choirs And S.S. Workers Honored

On Friday evening, the Senior and Girls' Choirs and the officers, teachers and workers of the Sunday School were honored by the Baptist Church at a very enjoyable social evening, beginning with a sumptuous banquet, served by the Ladies' Auxiliary under the convenorship of Mrs. R. H. Nicholson, with Mrs. J. A. Webster and Mrs. H. W. Yeo pouring.

The Pastor of the church, Rev. J. D. Davison acted as chairman and following the banquet called upon Mr. W. S. McMurtry who led the group in a hearty singsong of favorite hymns, with Mrs. Allison MacRae at the piano.

Mr. A. K. MacPhee, chairman of the board of management extended the welcome of the church, particularly stressing the contribution of the choirs to the work of the church through their ministry of music.

Dr. J. A. Clark then thanked the superintendent, officers and workers of the Sunday School for their faithfulness and devotion to duty, stating that it was generally believed that the Church School was the most important part of any church, for it is there that the young are instructed in the Christian life and prepared for service in the church.

Length of service of various individuals was recognized in the presentation of flowers, one for each five years of service. Two received as many as seven and eight, representing 35 and 40 years respectively. These were: Dr. J. A. Clark and Mrs. W. J. Drake.

The clerk of the church, Mr. Louis Simmons, thanked the Ladies' Auxiliary on behalf of the church and Mrs. R. H. Nicholson responded graciously.

The girls' choir was heard in two solections under the direction of their leader, Mrs. Allison MacRae, following which the group was entertained with two films, through the kindness of the local branch of the National Film Board.

Special guests at the function were: Mrs. Ross C. Eaton, wife of a former pastor, and former and supply organists Mrs. G. E. Full, Mrs. K. S. Rogers and Mrs. Allison MacRae. The benediction by the pastor brought the happy gathering to a close.

Seven Days A Week

Continued from page 2

the order of the day. It got to a point when the older ones got a little resentful at the continued arrival of newcomers to share their pittance. This spirit quickly communicated itself to the young ones. One day, the army happened that way on manoeuvres and dropped a great number of parachutists. They could be seen floating down all over the sky. Little Willie rushed to his father. "Hey, Pa!" he yelled excitedly, "Get your shotgun and come a-runnin!"

"What's the matter, son?" the father asked, in surprise.

"Quick, Pa. There's no time to lose. The stork's sending them full-grown now!"

* * *

5. Friday: You might have Mandalay Salad for supper today. Make it thus: Drain and flake a can of tuna or codfish (about half-pound size). Sprinkle with 1 teaspoon of lemon juice. Thin 1-2 cup salad dressing or mayonnaise with 2 tbsps. light cream, add 1-4 tsp. salt, 1 tsp. prepared mustard and a dash of pepper. Combine tuna fish with 1 cup diced celery and 1 cup diced, unpeeled, apples, add dressing mixture to the fish mixture. Serve on lettuce. Serves six persons.

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6. Saturday: Kiddies and grown-ups alike will enjoy sugared walnuts. You cook slowly to soft-ball stage 1 cup sugar, 1-3 tsp. cinnamon, 1-3 cup milk. Add 2 cups walnut halves and 3-4 tsp. vanilla. Pour into a greased pan. Break apart. Good for the twenty-fourth of May and for every day for that matter.

* * *

7. Sunday: Now is the end of the week and the end of another column. May you and yours have the best of weekends.

"One night the shadows linger,
And then the morning breaks,
And God's own Hand the burden
From weary shoulders takes;
And thou shalt see His glory,
And hear His words—'Well done'
The strife forever over
The battle fought and won!"

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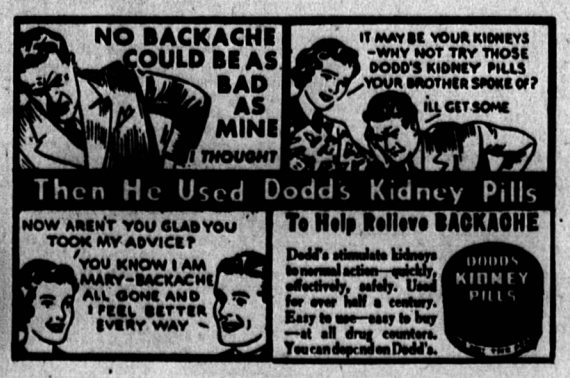

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