

### Public Affairs Inst. Warned Democracy Not Accomplished

By FORBES RHUDE

Canadian Press Business Editor

TORONTO (CP)—English-language Canadians tend to think that using the word "democracy" makes democracy a fact.

French-language Canadians, perhaps for historical reasons, lack a strong faith in democracy. The views are from Father Louis O'Neill, teacher in philosophy at Laval University, given at the winter week-end conference of the Canadian Institute of Public Affairs.

The young clergyman—ordained only six years ago—obviously made a strong impression on his generally older audience.

His sensitive face and semi-crow-cut hair gave him a very boyish look in his black garb, and he drew perhaps the biggest applause of the conference when he said:

"We must realize that democracy requires virtue, intelligence and social sense—we need to build."

#### DEMOCRACY NOT REALITY

Father O'Neill, already well-known for his co-authorship last year of an article entitled "Public Immorality in the Province of Quebec," dealt principally with political attitudes in his own province and repeated in essence many of the criticisms made in last year's article.

Occasionally, however, he interspersed his remarks on Quebec with such comment as:

"Proofs of a similar way of doing could probably be given in other provinces."

A woman delegate, speaking from the floor, said:

"I think Father O'Neill is just being more frank than are we from other provinces."

Father O'Neill concluded that "in French Canada, as in other north American countries, democracy is not an accomplished reality, but a tendency rather than an achievement."

Reviewing attitudes among French Canadian voters, Father O'Neill said quite a few seem sceptical about politics and politicians.

"One part or another, what's the difference?" one often hears. Some representatives would be unhappy surprised to learn what their supporters really think of them.

"The main problem for many voters would seem to be how to avoid things getting worse."

"The major aim for them becomes preservation of essential or supposed essential values or sentiments—such as autonomy and language—which clever speakers

Had To Pay For Holiday Anyway

LONDON (CP)—She saved for a stay by the seaside. But, on account of Suez, she never saw Sussex and got sued for a sizable sum.

It all happened because Mrs. Lorna Brown, a London stock clerk, reserved accommodations at Middleton-on-Sea for herself, her husband, her mother and her three children over the Christmas holiday.

The Suez crisis intervened. Mrs. Brown found herself with only two gallons of gas for the 12-mile round trip to Sussex. Her husband worked too late to allow them to catch the last train. Regrettably she cancelled her reservations.

Her prospective landlady sought recovery of £47 8s—the value of the Browns' accommodation. On her solicitor's advice, Mrs. Brown settled for half the amount.

### Alberta Warehouse Of R.C.A.F. Is Size Of 13 Football Fields

By DAVE QUANCE

Canadian Press Staff Writer

NAMAQ, Alta. (CP)—The jet-age RCAF is using bicycles to speed up operations in an ultra-modern warehouse covering 18 1/2 acres here.

A windowless, low-to-the-ground cement structure with an area the size of 13 football fields, the warehouse is operated by the RCAF supply branch at this air base eight miles north of Edmonton.

It holds 100,000 or more pieces of equipment, from tiny bolts to entire wing assemblies, to supply all western RCAF stations.

Storage shelves are spread throughout the building. Modern electrical and mechanical devices suited to the age of automation are used in nearly every phase of operation.

Yet the bicycle remains the simplest and fastest means of getting into and around the building. Warehouse employees ride bikes through several miles of corridors. Mirrors placed at corners prevent collisions.

The building, of solid concrete construction, is about 20 feet from floor to ceiling, hugs the ground so low that it is almost unnoticed by general traffic on a nearby highway.

Even from the air, it is difficult to distinguish it from the flat prairie land around it, especially when there is snow on the roof.

FO Spence Cummings, who conducted a tour of the building that took 2 1/2 hours, said that few years ago hundreds of employees would have been required to keep track of supplies. Now most of the paperwork is done by machines.

About half the 500 employees are in the warehouse. G. O. W. Lewis, warehouse director, are RCAF personnel. Most of them work in a two-storey brick building attached to the warehouse.

With their mechanical records they can locate any part in minutes or seconds. The machines put debts or credits in the proper books and employees use a unique numbering system to find the part, then use production-line techniques to send it on its way.

GAINT "PACKING CASE"

The warehouse itself makes no

will make people believe to be in danger. English-speaking Canadians, by their lack of understanding of their compatriots of different language, had contributed much toward the importance of sentimental values in the minds of French-Canadians and had thus influenced their voting. Also, too many English-speaking Canadians tended to think of the federal government as belonging to them.

#### ELECTIONS DEGENERATE

Father O'Neill, said that elections, not taken seriously, easily degenerate into a vulgar struggle for achievement of personal goals and opportunities for favors and grants. This helps one to understand how men of good personal morality easily fall into genuine political immorality.

As practiced by the so-called common people and those in better circumstances, Father O'Neill drew a laugh when he said:

"At the higher levels it is done with more distinction."

Father O'Neill was on a panel which discussed Engineering of Political Consent, as part of the conference's over-all theme, Buying and Voting—Who Makes Up Your Mind?

With him was Professor Maxwell Cohen of McGill University's faculty of law, chairman; Prof. John Irving, Victoria College, University of Toronto; Gilbert Seides, New York radio and television critic and author; and Dr. Paul Lazarfeld, chairman of Columbia University's department of sociology.

Sex Change, On Paper, Costs 50c

LONDON (AP)—Britain has let several men change themselves into women on the official records. And a few women have been given permission to become men.

The sex change—purely a paper one—cost them about 50 cents.

"Permission for such legal sex change now is granted if there is medical evidence to warrant it," said a spokesman for the general register office which records births, deaths and other vital statistics of Britain's 50,000,000 population.

The sex-changers have undergone no operation or glandular treatment.

"They have legally changed their sex," said the spokesman. "The men now have the rights and status of normal women, and the women the rights and status of normal men."

The medical evidence needed for an official change is a simple declaration by any registered doctor that in his view the man is predominantly female, or vice versa. The register office has no choice but to accept the doctor's recommendation.

The sex change can be made on the official records if the doctor declares before a commissioner of oaths that subsequent events show an error was made at birth.

Some doctors believe the law also covers cases in which the sex change is purely psychological and does not show itself until late in life.

The government has accepted this interpretation. The doctor must back up his belief with an oath.

The register office refused to say how many people have officially switched sex.

"Very few people are involved," said the spokesman, "and the men who've changed into women outnumber the women who've become men."

presence towards beauty. "It's one big nacking case," says FO Cummings.

its 100,000,000 cubic feet of space are filled with row on row of shelf banks. Metal arms, adjustable in size, hold parts ranging from boxes of bolts to aircraft wings, propellers, tires, fuselages or metal castings.

Orders come in by wire or mail from across Western Canada at a rate of more than 30,000 a month. Bookkeeping offices have a conveyor-belt to carry orders from one office operation to the next.

A warehouse man with a sheaf of orders pedals his bicycles to the correct shelf bank by following numbers on the banks and more numbers on the ceiling.

For quick shipment, heavy parts are situated near exits where an 11-ton crane can load them into box cars or trucks.

Other objects can be loaded on wagons in the warehouse, and a cable running in a crack in the floor will pull them to loading platforms.

A railway spur line with an RCAF diesel engine, and a bank of truck-loading platforms help quick removal of parts.

Various preservatives are used to help keep the stock, valued at perhaps \$100,000,000 in top condition. Box-making machines and other packaging assemblies, with woodworking and other shops, are run in the warehouse.

Various direct operations. The entire building area is fenced and security officers regularly check employees on departure.

BETTER SHOWING

HALIFAX (CP)—Nova Scotia's 23,000 farmers grossed slightly more than \$45,000,000 in 1956. The increased return was attributed by the agriculture department to higher milk production and better receipts for eggs and hogs.

BIGGER DEMAND

SAULT STE. MARIE, Ont. (CP) Tourist inquiries concerning this city's holiday potentialities have increased by 71 per cent since 1950, the Sault Ste. Marie chamber of commerce reports.

### Aussie Proposal For Two-Tiered Commonwealth Annoys

By ALAN HARVEY

Canadian Press Staff Writer

LONDON (CP)—An Australian proposal for a two-tiered Commonwealth, with British members in one compartment and non-British members in the other, came in for editorial criticism Saturday.

The Manchester Guardian says that the idea would be the quickest way to "alienate the valued friends" such as India, Pakistan and Ceylon, plus future members like Ghana, Nigeria and Malaya.

Besides, says the paper, Canada wouldn't like the idea at all. "One can hardly see Canada wishing to assist at what must be, in effect, a division of the present members of the Commonwealth into first and second class or full and associated members. Canada understands the vital importance of the uncommitted members of the Commonwealth—

India, especially—and repeatedly has welcomed the younger members of the Commonwealth. She is not the type of Empire crusader who approved only of the elect of long ago."

The editorial arises from a suggestion that a distinction should be drawn between British and non-British countries, and that permanent machinery should be set up in London for the British and non-British members, dealing with foreign policy, defence, immigration and investment.

The British members would be those Commonwealth countries owing allegiance to the Queen.

#### OLD MUSICIAN

William Byrd, noted figure in 16th century English music, was organist at the Lincoln Cathedral.

### Will Seek Diamonds In Australia

SYDNEY, Australia (Reuters)

Canadian geologist John Williamson, who found on of the world's richest diamond mines in Tanganyika and became a millionaire, said Sunday he will lead a full-scale expedition to Australia later this year to seek diamonds north of Sydney.

The 50-year-old geologist, leaving Sydney by air for his fabulous Mawdul Diamond Mine in Shunyango district, south of Lake Victoria in East Africa, said the little town of Wellington 150 miles northwest of Sydney, could be Australia's "Eldorado."

He had been "deeply impressed" by diamonds, shown to him by a Sydney merchant, which were found in dredging operations at the confluence of the Macquarie and Cudgegong Rivers.

"The diamonds are small, but very good," he said. "They're alluvial... so they must be coming from somewhere, and I intend to find that place."

Williamson had prevented him from visiting Wellington during his present stay in Australia, he said.

Williamson's name has become a legend in the diamond world since 1940 when, after years of scientific searching over a vast, sun-baked area of Tanganyika, East Africa, he found his first diamond near a large Baobab tree.

The tree still stands near his simple single-storey house, which lies behind a high wire fence in one of the territory's most arid and desolate regions.

Williamson does not encourage the curious, and shuns publicity. He has little or no interest in money or high living.

#### P. C. Organizer In Que. Resigns

TROIS-RIVIERES, Que. (CP)—

Leon Balcer, president of the national Progressive Conservative Association, said Saturday he has resigned as the party's organizer in Quebec.

Mr. Balcer, member of the Commons for the Quebec constituency of Trois-Rivieres, since 1949, was appointed Quebec organizer for the party following the 1953 federal election.

The 39-year-old lawyer said he plans to remain as president of the national association. He was elected about a year ago for a two-year term.

In his letter of resignation he said he had not given any reason for stepping down as Quebec organizer. But in an interview he intimated that work within his own constituency in an election year would require his full time.

#### ANCIENT FARMS

Some farmsteads in Sweden have occupied the same sites for as long as 15 centuries.

### No Unemployment Pay Was Allowed C. P. R. Engineers

OTTAWA (CP)—The Commons-

committee on industrial relations was told Thursday that a British legal precedent was used to disqualify all CPR engineers from drawing unemployment insurance for idleness during the nine-day strike of CPR firemen in January.

Commissioner C. A. L. Murchison of the Unemployment Insurance Commission said the British case involved a fireman employed in a colliery. He said the case was used because there is no Canadian jurisprudence in a case of this type.

The 2,800 engineers were disqualified because the Unemployment Insurance Act says no one can collect insurance benefits if he takes part in financing a dispute or is a member of a class of workers financing a dispute.

Some engineers were members of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen (CLC), and their dues went towards the strike fund that partly financed the dispute. Being of the same class as these engineers, all other engineers were disqualified.

Clarie Gillis (CCF—Cape Breton South) said the British precedent could not apply because firemen at Canadian collieries are maintenance men who are prohibited from taking part in a strike.

Mr. Murchison said the matter should be cleared up within a few weeks because the engineers have appealed the commission's decision to a government board of referees.

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