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"The strongest memory is weaker than
 the weakest ink."
 PAGE 4 SATURDAY, FEB. 9, 1957

The Elusive Medal

Back in 1943 the Federal Government made provision for an award which was to be known as the "Canada Medal" for presentation from time to time to Canadian citizens who might be adjudged worthy of the honor for outstanding contributions to the national wellbeing. At the time it was generally supposed that the award would make up in some measure for the Government's refusal to allow the Sovereign to honor his or her Canadian subjects in the traditional manner.

Whether the Government later repented of the action or whether no Canadian has been considered worthy of the award during the intervening years, the medal has been kept under wraps or in official mothballs. The matter has been brought up in Parliament on several occasions, and each time it has been dismissed by the Prime Minister as something of no great importance; and in the recent debate on the setting up of the Canada Council he went out of his way to remind all and sundry that the legislation "has nothing to do with the Canada Medal."

If, as it would seem, it is the Government's intention to keep the medal in hiding indefinitely, would it not be better to issue an edict to that effect? It is not a good thing for Canada's reputation to have it noised abroad that not in fourteen years has a single Canadian citizen done anything to merit public recognition. At the time the idea was introduced fears were expressed in some quarters that the medal might be monopolized by political favorites of the ruling party and, therefore, cheapened in much the same manner as colonies in Kentucky or—If one may be permitted to whisper this—the spate of political knight-hoods in Newfoundland's pre-Confederation history. Certainly, the Government long since laid these fears to rest with a vengeance. It would seem to be high time to put the award to judicious use or else openly admit that the whole thing was a mistake.

Loss Of Stature

Prime Minister Nehru's reputation as a world statesman has deteriorated in recent days, so much so that some of his erstwhile admirers in the Afro-Asian bloc are giving him the cold shoulder. This is the result of his utter disregard of the U.N. resolution calling for a plebiscite in the disputed territory of Kashmir. Not only did he ignore the will of the U.N.; he has taken over the territory and made it a part of India. To make matters worse, he still claims to have respect for the rulings of the world organization except in this one instance—the only one, incidentally, which concerns India directly.

But if Mr. Nehru is not regarded as the man he once was—or thought to be—in international relations, it is clear that he has lost none of his political finesse at home. He is now engaged in campaigning for the national elections which are soon to be held, and naturally he is anxious to turn his stand on Kashmir to good account. Thus, in a speech the other day he observed that he had been "accused" (unjustly of course) of disregarding international commitments and that "some people" were happy because they thought his stature had been reduced. "But if I have any stature," he concluded, "it is you, my countrymen, who have built it up and no outsider can detract anything from that." This, modified to suit local conditions, is familiar to us all. It has been the stock in trade of the demagogue ever since the first one mounted a stump and began to harangue the passers-by; and that was a long, long time ago, long before voting was invented.

What the Indians do in their forthcoming elections is, of course, their own business. It is almost cer-

tain that Mr. Nehru's party will be elected. There is, for that matter, no reasonable alternative, since the main opposition party's chief plank is war with Pakistan. And there is no doubt that Mr. Nehru has done many fine things for India. It is, nevertheless, a little unseemly that he should continue to claim for himself the mantle of Asiatic leadership in face of his undoubted disregard for world law.

A Second Appraisal

Mr. Livingston T. Merchant, United States Ambassador to Canada, has joined a growing number of American diplomats in undertaking a second and more realistic appraisal of Middle East problems with special emphasis on events which led up to British and French police action in Egypt. In speaking to the Canadian Club of Montreal, Mr. Merchant had this to say: "While we in the United States quite generally thought that our oldest friends and allies, Britain and France, made a mistake when they moved militarily into the Suez Canal zone last fall, history has not yet written the final verdict, and it may well find the United States not blameless in the handling of events leading up to the crisis."

That is very good indeed; and it is a far cry from the shouts of righteous indignation which came from the White House and the State Department in early November. The fact that President Eisenhower and Secretary Dulles are now frantically trying to improvise some sort of policy for the Middle East shows that they, too, are not as sure as they were a few months ago that the British-French intervention was an act of aggression.

What a pity that a little more patience, understanding and political awareness of issues were not forthcoming from Washington and its envoys before the crisis got out of hand. Certainly, it would have prevented a lot of recriminations among old friends and allies as well as a lot of new irritations which have developed from past differences.

EDITORIAL NOTES

U.S. State Department officials have announced that "to the best of their knowledge" there are "only" about 1,000 slaves in Saudi Arabia at the present time. Presumably, they feel that such a small number is hardly worth making a fuss about.

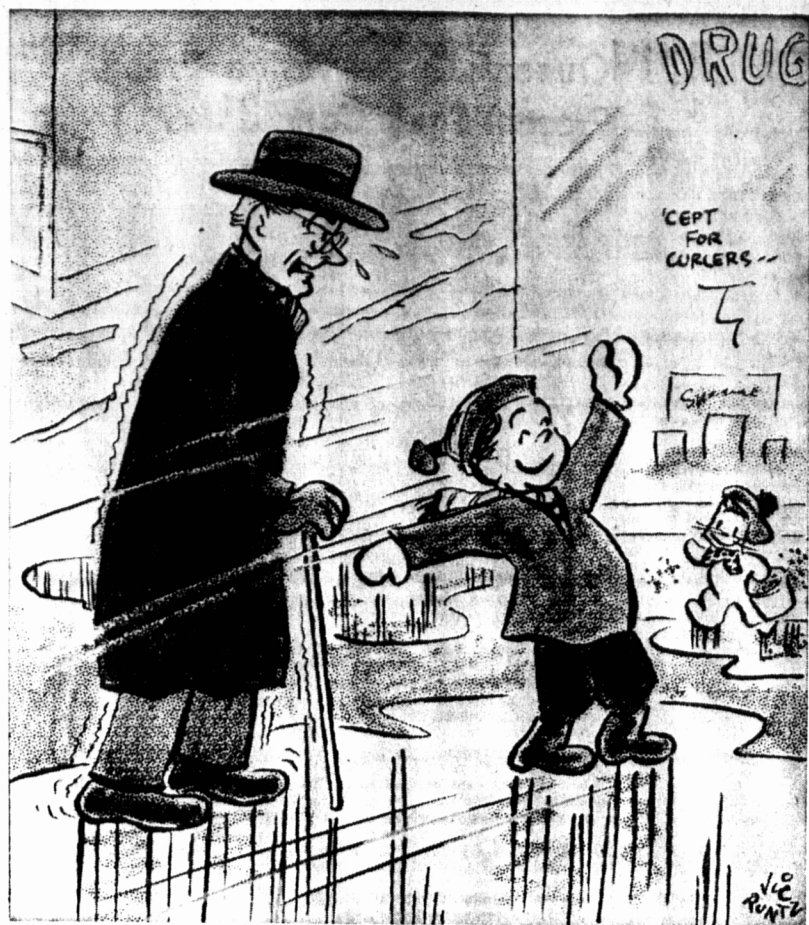
We regret that the London Letter, which was to have appeared regularly as a Saturday editorial page feature, has been discontinued owing to illness in the writer's family, necessitating his return to Canada. It is hoped to make other arrangements for a regular weekly feature from the Old Country.

Official Canadian hospitality for visiting dignitaries in the 1955-56 period cost \$41,988, it was revealed in Parliament recently. Somebody must have done some pretty fine paring somewhere along the way. The expenditure was only \$12 less than the amount voted for the purpose.

Finance Minister Harris, in introducing a new method of dealing with the excise tax on automobiles, told Parliament that it must not be interpreted as indicating an impending reduction in the tax itself. Of course not. But it's a reasonably safe bet that something of the sort is being considered in these generous pre-election days.

The Prime Minister has referred to the heavy succession duties on the estates of two prominent industrialists who passed away in 1956 as "windfalls which came at an opportune time." This must not be taken to mean, however, that it is the Government's hope that the departures of other wealthy citizens will be hastened for the financial benefit of Canadian culture.

Secretary Dulles can bluster to his heart's content about possible "economic and financial sanctions" against Israel as punishment for her refusal to obey a U.N. resolution while her enemy, Egypt, is allowed to defy the organization at every turn. In this instance, at least, Mr. Dulles does not speak for the United States. Congress would never support any such proposal. Senator Knowland, himself a member of the U.S. delegation to the U.N., has called it "utterly immoral."



WHERE YEARS MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE

NATO'S Major Problem

Globe and Mail, Toronto

The United Kingdom is withholding its decision to reduce the strength of its ground forces in Europe. The United States feels that it has "convinced the British" that nuclear weapons are a reinforcement not a substitute for other troops and armed services. The United States will bring pressure to bear on the British for training in the use of nuclear weapons; and hopes that some way will be found to make nuclear warheads available to NATO allies—in case of an emergency.

These points seem to be the ones of the agreement reached between Sandys and the Washington Government in conferences last week. The fog which for months has obscured the mooted reorganization of NATO's military establishment has thus been made more visible. It has not been dispelled. The mists of doubt and uncertainty first arose when the world learned that Washington's "Radford Plan" called for more modern guided missiles and "perhaps" fewer ground troops. Although even yet no definite plan of reorganization has been announced, Germany felt justified in cutting back her contribution to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization from twelve to five divisions.

DEFENCE COSTS
 Mr. Sandys has made clear that Britain must cut back her defence costs if she is to maintain her economic strength and fiscal stability. But in planning such cut-backs in costs it is not proposed to reduce the efficacy of British troops now in Europe. What he asked was that Washington having initiated the debate on reorganization of NATO's forces should now inform its European allies as to what nuclear weapons will be made available for common use and in what manner suitably strong tactical ground forces are to be maintained. The two Governments are in accord on the principle that ground forces will not be replaced by aerial striking power for a very long time if ever. But the growing use of missile power for both strategic and tactical purposes automatically indicates some changes in the strength of ground forces. A Washington "military source" indicates that the New York Times that weapons using nuclear missiles will be supplied European powers in NATO—but that the appropriate amendment will not be issued yet. Under the McMahon Act nuclear war materials may not be supplied to foreign countries. The excuse advanced for delaying amendment of the act is that following Suez "no protection has been devised that would prevent allies that received nuclear weapons from using them for a purpose contrary to United States policy." What is further implied by such news as is permitted to leak from Washington is that the six additional "atomic war commands" to be created by the United States will act as "reinforcements" to ground troops maintained in Europe by other nations—until similar atomic units under their own officers are made practical to allies by amendments to the McMahon Act.

Pacific Vikings

National Geographic Society

Even in the age of radar and loran, the early Polynesians holds his own as one of the world's great navigators. Guided by stars, trade winds, and ocean currents, the Vikings of the mid-Pacific sailed their canoes thousands of miles over the open sea to colonize atolls and volcanic isles. Polynesians apparently sought out almost every habitable spot in the vast triangle of New Zealand, Tonga, Easter Island, and northernly Hawaii, the National Geographic Society says. Within the triangle lie several groups, including Tonga, Samoa, the Phoenix, Line, Cook, Society, and Marquesas Islands. But they are mere specks on the broad, trackless expanse of the Pacific. SOUTH PACIFIC MYSTERY
 Mystery hangs over the tropical paradise. Why did the ancestors of present-day Polynesians undertake such fearless migrations? how did they find their way to new homes? And whence did they come? War and overpopulation in remote times probably forced early adventurers to hollow out tree trunks with stone tools, load aboard their wives, children, and food plants—and set off into blue. Many journeys were drift voyages, no doubt, perhaps ending in tragedy. However, the success with which Polynesians spread out over the central Pacific leaves no doubt that they made deliberate, well-planned trips of exploration and settlement. Traditions in Hawaii, the Marquesas, Samoa, and other far-flung groups tell of ancestral voyages among the islands. Some Polynesian authorities believe an early hero, perhaps unwittingly, made a 4,000-mile voyage to South America and returned with the sweet potato. All this happened long before invention of the mariner's compass in the 14th century freed European seafarers from the bondage of the shore line, which has been regarded as the only safe guide for navigation. While the Polynesians possessed a superb sense of astronomy and the sea, they are known to have had some simple aids. They used stone anchors to lie into storms and light anchors to gauge currents. They contrived charts and frames laced with fiber strips and with shells at intersections to represent islands and reefs. No primitive peoples ever built more seaworthy craft. The outrigger offset the instability of a slim log hull. Their larger transports were double canoes, formed of two hulls connected by cross-beams, often with a hut built on the platform. Some were huge. Captain James Cook, the British explorer, saw a fleet of 150 such vessels in Tahiti, each 50 to 90 feet long, and capable of carrying up to 120 passengers. A double canoe built in Samoa could carry 500 to 600 people—as compared to the Norsemen's famous long-boats which accommodated 100 to 200 men. The Pacific wanderers carried food for three or four weeks: cooked breadfruit, pandanus flour, dried coconut meat and sweet potatoes, dried fish and shellfish. Water was bottled in coconut hulls, gourds, and lengths of bamboo, and beds provided a place for fire. Although Polynesians' origin is not known, the common belief is that their forebears migrated in ancient times from India, then gradually spread out over the Pacific via Indonesia.

Champion Snow Shoveller

Brandon Sun

If there should be such a thing as a trophy for the best snow shoveller of the year some would nominate Herman Simmons of Manistique, Mich., for the award. Herman was hunting from his truck in the upper peninsula, when snow fell to a depth of four feet, and he found he was trapped seven miles from home. He lived alone, so no one would know to come and look for him. Fortunately his truck provided a certain amount of shelter and heat—and a snow shovel. So Herman began shovelling, moving his truck along at the ends of each day as he cleared a path. He shovelled for 16 days until he shovelled himself out. During that time he had lost 25 pounds in weight. Herman is 65.

Books Received

THE ART OF REAL HAPPINESS, Norman Vincent Peale, D. D. and Smiley Blanton, M.D., Prentice Hall, \$3.50. (Newly revised and enlarged edition.) In a world where the prime aim of each person is to achieve health, wealth and happiness, there have never been so many books on the popular market to aid people to attain this end. "Happiness is a state of Mind" and the co-authors endeavour to present the proper prescription in two hundred and eighty pages. A Freudian psychiatrist and a noted minister have combined their respective findings in order to aid the seeker of happiness. As in all "self help" books, and the multitude of "do it yourself" literature much is left to the individual. This book is a stimulant. The practical aspects of the book are many. Such chapter headings as, "How to have a successful marriage," a solution for problem drinking," and "How to grow older happily," definitely give hints and helps of solving problems after they have happened. No one ever reads a "self help" book until they need it, which is possibly only human. If more people read this type of book before the difficulties of life had completely baffled them there would be a great many more happy folks in this old world. The goal of most people is happiness, the authors agree but they are after a material answer where in reality a peace of mind and a spiritual serenity would give them far more real happiness. This book relates many case histories from which many could benefit. The technical jargon of both professions is kept to a minimum which helps to make this book extremely easy to read. The moral courage, fortitude and determination to carry the six recommendations to bear fruit still must come from the reader. The price of admission to the wealth of knowledge covered between well round pages of this book does not give this however. Of its kind, "The Art of Real Happiness" is a good book. It measures up well with Dr. Peake's "Power of Positive Thinking." The combination of the two sciences does much to enhance the elusive subject of attaining the "real happiness."

The Age Old Story

My grace is sufficient for thee; for my strength is made perfect in weakness.

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Bundesen, M. D.

WHY CHILDREN STUTTER

It's perfectly natural for a child to hesitate and lack fluency in his speech when he starts to talk. Whether he will eventually develop spontaneous and free-flowing speech depends a great deal upon his parents. Insisting upon perfect diction from a young tot may only cause stuttering. About 1,300,000 persons in our country stutter. Half of them are children. The vast majority of these cases—about 90 per cent—begin before the age of 10. Most of them start even before the age of five.

Don't be concerned if your young child repeats himself. Statistics show that repeating about 45 times for every 1,000 words spoken is average for a child between the ages of two and six. VOCAL MISTAKES
 If you don't overemphasize perfection in speech and don't constantly correct a youngster's vocal mistakes, he'll probably learn to speak quite normally. Insisting upon flawless speech from a child, however, fills him with anxiety and even a certain amount of fear every time he opens his mouth. The result is very apt to be a real case of stuttering.

HINDER CHILD

Being over-protective can have the same result. Parents who take over for a youngster in virtually every instance can greatly hinder a child's desire to speak for himself. For this reason don't insist that your child "should be seen but not heard." If you do, the apprehension he feels toward almost every effort at speaking may make talking a thing to dread. Both attitudes make speaking a conscious effort when it should come with natural ease.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

B. M.: What are the symptoms of Burger's disease?
 Answer: The earliest symptom of the disease is a pain in the calf of the leg or foot, especially after exertion. Color changes usually appear in the foot, which becomes a purplish red when held down and white when elevated. In severe cases, gangrene may occur.



NEWFOUNDLAND

His fathers braved the yet uncharted sea, Drew near upon a frowning, unknown land And felt the dawning wonder of wide bays, The sheltering coves tranquility. After the voyage and the endless days, This seemed the very hollow of God's hand. And high four centuries went by, He took from the dark tide the silvered cod, Beheld the drifting berg's cold emerald gleams, Aurora's flickering fires in the sky. His feet the treachery of ice fields trod, His hands were quick to kill for livelihood The thick-furred whitecoat in the gales of spring, And in a ships dim hold the swaying ring Of lantern light played ever on his dreams. Today the son with strangers breaks his bread, A city's shadows closing round his head. —Lenore A. Pratt, in the Montreal Star.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files
 TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (February 9, 1932)
 The last meeting of the present City Council was held last night in the Council Chambers with a full attendance of members and with Mayor Prowse presiding. Final annual reports were presented at this meeting as a windup of the business of this council prior to the coming civic election.

The P.E.I. Department of Agriculture believes that no good purpose can be gained by sectional threats of retaliation against the British Isles to boycott British goods if the British embargo on Canadian potatoes were not lifted. This, in effect, precludes that the Island will not support the Perth, N.B. resolution which favoured such action.

TEN YEARS AGO

(February 9, 1947)
 A break in the main feed pipe of the circulating pump on the car ferry has forced the ship to remain at her dock at Borden since 11 o'clock Thursday night when the accident occurred. It is expected, however, that the ferry will be able to resume crossings some time today.

Fire of unknown origin, which broke out in the fire hall in Alberton yesterday afternoon about four o'clock, caused an estimated damage of about \$500 to the interior of the building and equipment. It is generally believed that the fire was caused by an overheated pipe which ran through a safe in the ceiling to the second floor.

DEEP WATER

Timagami Lake in Northern Ontario's Nipissing district gets its name from an Indian word meaning "deep water."

NOTES BY THE WAY

The fellow who has to get out and get under his new car will have to dig a hole first.—Sherrbrooke Record
 The incorruptibility of British officials, and especially the police, is proverbial but sometimes it is carried to rather extreme lengths. There is reported the case of a London police dog named Bob, which distinguished itself by routing a burglar who had broken into a factory. The factory owner, as a token of gratitude, sent a package of sausages to the police station for the dog. They were sent back with the following note: "Police dogs are employees like the police themselves, and may not, therefore, accept gratuities from private persons.—Edmonton Journal"

The crude editor of the London Weekly The Tablet was much moved when visiting the 67-foot long brontosaurus in the New York Natural History Museum. Alas, the sight of the brontosaurus prompts the melancholy reflection how many other starting creatures are on the way out. There are only two or three thousand rhinoceros left in Africa and a mere two or three hundred in India. It is true that there are still 200,000 elephants in Africa but what are their chances of survival when the human race is increasing by 100,000 a day?—Nature Bulletin

Members of North Bay's police department are taking a course in judo as a means of handling violent prisoners. The police feel that if they become proficient in this renowned art of self defence the number of occasions when they will be required to use their pistols will be kept down to a minimum. Theirs is a wise decision.—North Bay Nugget
 A truck driver who opened the left door of his cab without looking recently and then practically fell out beneath his own truck to avoid a passing car will probably look before he opens the left door next time. This habit of opening and leaving a car by the left door is both a menace to oncoming traffic and a danger to life. If the practice grows it may become necessary to eliminate the doors at the left side of cars and trucks.—St. Catharines Standard

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NOTICE
 Notice is hereby given to the ratepayers of the Incorporated Village of Victoria, that after February 28th, the names and arrears of all delinquent ratepayers will be published in the press, before being passed in to the proper authorities for collection.
 (signed)
G. L. WOOD,
 Clerk

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