INVESTED BY GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Robert C. Parent, Provincial Commissioner of the Boy Scouts Association, received the insignia of the Silver Wolf from His Excellency the Governor General. This is the highest award for services to Scouting.

Mr. Parent has been associated with Scouting since 1924.

THOUGHTS FOR OUR TIME

BY HIS EMINENCE CARDINAL McGUIGAN

EXERCISE FREEDOM

These days there is much soul-searching in the countries of the West. What is happening to us, we ask? Is our vitality being eaten away by moral corruption: Is our whole way of life, perhaps, making us necessarily weaker than Communist states?

So many facts are now forcing themselves to be recognized by us that we are, for the moment, bewildered by them. For long, now, we have tended to live in a dream-world of our own; and our awakening has been so sudden, that we have hardly had a chance, as yet, to collect our thoughts.

For years now, we have watched Communism gradually extending the boundaries of its domination, and gradually increasing its influence in countries which are not yet absolutely controlled by it. At the same time, we have watched our own countries making their countermoves.

We have formed military alliances in order to form solid fronts which would make it suicide for a Communist country to attempt military aggression. We have also given economic aid to countries which would otherwise be tempted, for economic reasons, to line up with Communist countries, or even become Communist themselves.

We have depended until now upon military superiority and economic superiority; and we have had the comfortable assurance that we had this superiority, and would continue to have it for a long time hence.

SUDDEN AWAKENING

Suddenly, we are awakened from our dream. A Communist country announces the successful firing of an intercontinental missile, and demonstrates its tremendous technological advance by launching two satellites. We are told frankly that it is almost a certainty that we shall be militarily inferior in the not too distant future. A shock of fear and apprehension strikes us, such as we have seldom felt before—a shock which has the salutary effect of destroying, in every one of us, big and little and for a long time to come, the vice of false complacency.

And now that this fear pervades our atmosphere, we are stirred into critical examination of ourselves, both individually and collectively, to determine wherein we have fallen down, and how we must mend our ways if our way of life is to survive. Perhaps it would not be out of place, here, to mention a few of the virtues with which we are going to have to arm ourselves.

Fortitude is an obvious one, to begin with. If we allow our fears to make us grow faint-hearted, if we are not courageous enough to stand up manfully against those who would deprive us of that precious gift, divinely bestowed, called freedom—then our cause is lost.

ACT WITH ZEAL

Fear could have another effect on us too —it could render us apathetic and lazy — spiritually paralyzed. Our survival depends, however, upon our reacting with energy, devotion to duty, a strong zeal to accomplish. In a Communist country, as we are now too well aware, these qualities are carefully implanted, by the government, in the souls of its citizens. In a free country, they must be fostered in the souls of children by parents and dedicated educators; and those who have reached the full freedom of maturity must exercise them fully.

To express what we have just said in Christian terms, everyone must develop within himself a strong desire to live up to his particular vocation. God has given him certain talents, and put him in certain circumstances. Let him, then, accept these talents with gratitude, and use them fully, to His greater honor and glory. If the zeal which the atheistic Communist expends for the state is not equaled and bettered by the zeal which we expend for God, then let us watch out!

Someone may object that what distinguishes our society from a Communist one is that ours is competitive. In other words, while the Communist works for the state, we work for ourselves only.

On the contrary, what essentially distinguishes our society from the Communist society is that, in ours, the freedom of the person is paramount. Now a person may abuse his freedom. But if he does not, his activity will not be for himself alone; it will also be directed towards the welfare of his fellow-men, in whom he sees the image of God. In other words, ultimately, it will be performed out of love for God.

LOVE GOD, NEIGHBOR

The conclusion to which these thoughts seem to lead is this: that important as such virtues as fortitude and industriousness are, the fundamentally necessary virtue for the members of free society is charity—love for God and love for neighbor.

Remove this virtue, and we have a society, which is "A house divided against itself," which "cannot stand" against its attackers. Moreover, our charity must pass beyond the bounds of national patriotism, and even beyond the lands of our own western civilization.

"Inferior" peoples have learned to hate us because we have been remiss here. We can be purely selfish as nations, as we can as individuals. And it should be clear that, either way, we sow the seeds of our own destruction.

To sum up: A freedom which is abused will now occasion its own destruction; our own free society will continue to exist only if our freedom is exercised with a strong motivation of Christian love. May the fears which we are experiencing now bring us back to the fear of the Lord, which is "the beginning of Wisdom."

U. N. Observer Here Praises L. B. Pearson

One of the official Canadian observers at the United Nations is Mrs. R.J. Perry of Montreal, who is at present paying a visit to her parents, Rev. and Mrs. George W. Tilley of Bunbury. Mrs. T.M. Lothian, Charlottetown, is a sister.

Mrs. Perry has just completed an assignment at the 12th session of the U.N. General Assembly.

This mother of two teen age boys has been doing lecture work across Canada to church groups, service clubs and home and school associations. Her background in political science and her interest in this work led to her appointment as official observer for the Department of Public Information, Montreal.

Commenting on the 12th General Assembly, Mrs. Perry felt it was the least fruitful of sessions held to date. She had previously attended other sessions in an unofficial capacity.

PRAISES PEARSON

She said Hon. Lester B. Pearson is greatly missed at the U.N. "I do not think Canadian people are conscious of the great contribution Mr. Pearson made to the United Nations while he was there", she said.

Mrs. Perry said it was not until she had talked to people of other nations that she herself realized the high regard in which Canada's former delegate had been held. "His ability to mediate and negotiate are rare qualities and the work he has done behind the scenes is frequently talked about when you speak to other delegates", the U.N. observer noted.

Recalling a speaking engagement which she recently fulfilled in New York City, Mrs. Perry said she was introduced as coming from Canada, the home of Lester B. Pearson. This introduction was the cause for tremendous applause.

Mrs. Perry will be on the Island for the next two days.

Theft Lands Pair In Jail

Magistrate K.M. Martin Monday sentenced two city residents to 20 days in the Queens County jail. The men had been previously convicted of the theft of an electric drill from the M.V. Fergus.

A person charged with operating a motor vehicle with defective brakes was remanded until today for sentence.

The case of a non-resident of the City charged with selling goods within the City without first having obtained a licence was adjourned until today.

Two of three persons charged with being drunk and incapable received fines of $10 and costs and $5 and costs while the third received a sentence of 20 days in jail.

Four Speeders Appear In Court

Four speeders appeared before Magistrate Gilbert A. Gaudet in Queens County Magistrate's Court Monday morning.

The four who resided in the following communities: Crapaud, New Haven, Union Road and Kitimat, B.C. were each fined ten dollars and costs or ten days.

Charged with failing to register a motor vehicle for the current year, the case against a resident of Mount Stewart was adjourned to January 6. An accused from Clyde River charged with operating a motor vehicle with defective equipment, lights, horn, mud flaps, etc., was fined five dollars and costs or five days.

A resident of Rose Valley, previously remanded on a charge of the theft of a quantity of meat, to the value of fifty dollars, from the meat house of Lorne Nicholson, Pleasant Valley, was further remanded until December 23.

City C. G. I. T. Girls Join For Vesper Service

Dressed in traditional white middies and navy skirts, C.G.I.T. girls from Zion, Trinity, and Baptist churches, Sunday night presented a most pleasing appearance as they joined in observing the National Christmas Vesper Service held at Trinity United Church. The girls occupied the choir and led in the service of worship.

Those leading in the worship service were Sandra Sutherland and Shirley Boisner from Zion, Margaret Parker and Gloria Stewart from Trinity and Gail Currie from the Baptist Church.

The C.G.I.T. groups entered the church singing the Processional Hymn "O Come All Ye Faithful". The congregation repeated "The Magnificat" in unison. Mr. Royston F. Mugford, A. R.C.O. presided at the organ and directed the choir in the singing of two traditional carols. The Pageant of the Candles formed a very impressive part of the service. This was followed by the singing of the hymn, "Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus." The girls filed from the church to the singing of the Recessional Hymn, "Hark the Herald Angels Sing."

Population Of World Climbs

WASHINGTON (AP) — The world's population, now growing at the fastest rate in history, could reach 6,000,000,000 by the year 2000, the population reference bureau said Sunday.

The bureau said population in 1955 was 2,691,000,000 persons, as compared with 2,519,000,000 in 1951.

The rate of increase is about 1.7 per cent—"the most rapid rate of growth in world history," it said.

The bureau, a private institution, said the speedup in growth rates is not caused by a rise in birth rates, but by a "spectacular drop" in death rates.

The bureau said accelerated population growth is the "greatest enemy in the battle to raise levels of living," and that despite the progress of modern times, there may be more poverty-stricken in the world today than there were 50 or 100 years ago.

This is because economic progress has been slow or non existent in most of the underdeveloped countries during the period in which their populations have been growing, he said.

NORTHERN GATEWAY

The Pas, Man., 475 miles north-west of Winnipeg, is the start of the Hudson Bay railway to the seaport of Churchill.

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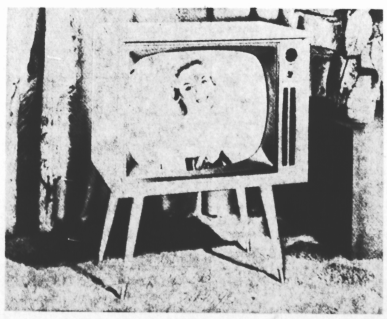

Here are two more great Christmas offerings on television sets. The 21 inch model shown on the right has a powerful Hyper-Power-Television chassis and a new "Long Ten" speaker with sound out front. Top front tuning. In finishes of mahogany, walnut or blond mahogany with ferruled matching legs.

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COMING EVENTS

Come to St. Mary's School concert, Dec. 20, 8 p.m.

Kingston Christmas Concert Thursday December 17th.

Bellevue Christmas Concert, Grandview Hall, December 20th.

Christmas Concert Dec. 18 at New Glasgow Hall, Time 8:30.

Grandview Christmas Concert, Dec. 18th, 8.15 p.m.

Pownal Christmas Concert, Friday, December 20. Time 8 p.m.

Concert in South Melville School December 19.

York Point School concert to be held at Cornwall Hall, Tuesday, December 17th.

Mount Herbert Christmas Concert Tuesday, December 17th. Curtain 7.30.

Flat River School Christmas Concert, Flat River Hall, Thursday, Dece. 19, 8 p.m.

Attend Rennie's Road Christmas concert at Hunter's River Hall on Dec. 17th at 8 p.m.

Johnstons River School Christmas Concert in Mt. Ryan Hall, Wednesday Dec. 18. Curtain 7:30.

Grand Tracadie School Concert, Corran Ban Hall, Thursday, Dec. 19, at 8.00 p. m.

Spring Brook school Concert in French River Hall. December 18th.

Rice Point School Christmas Concert will be held in the School, Dec. 18th.

Ebenezer School Concert in Wheatley River Hall, Tuesday, December 17th, 8.00 p.m.

St. Peter's Lake Christmas Concert, Thursday, December 19th. Curtain 7.45.

Come all to Christmas School Concert at Stanley Bridge on December 20th.

In stock men's overshoes, horse blankets, oilcake, purina concentrates. W. I. Bowman, Hunter River.

For That Special Person — An Underwood Portable typewriter. Cudmore Business Equipment, 179 Grafton St.

St. John's Presbyterian Church, Belfast, a special congregational meeting will be held Wednesday evening, Dec. 18th at 8 p.m.

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