

Christian Missions

Some international observers say that the nationalistic upheavals which have occurred in Asia and Africa in recent years have set back the cause of Christian missions perhaps a hundred years or more.

The latest word of discouragement to those who believe in the world mission of Christianity comes from Cairo. It says that the Egyptian Government has ordered all Christian schools, Roman Catholic and Protestant, to teach the Islamic religion to their Moslem students or be prepared to surrender their properties to the state.

Under the new law, all schools in Egypt, including those run by Christians, are obliged to build mosques on their premises to enable Moslem students to perform their devotions.

An Education Ministry official reported that some schools had tried to get around the order by asking parents to have their children taught the Moslem religion at home.

All over the Arab world, it is reported, Mohammedanism is on the march. There is even talk of the Arab states' compelling all foreign missionaries, including doctors and nurses, to leave their borders.

The Magic Biscuits

An official of the Department of Northern Affairs reports that a special biscuit has been prepared for distribution among the Eskimos, and it is expected to add "two inches to their stature".

All this aside, the terse Ottawa announcement raises a number of intriguing questions. For example, how are these magic biscuits to be distributed? In bulk shipments of several tons to be used by the beneficiaries at their discretion?

sparingly when food is available in quantity. What if they should make a week-long feast of the height-stretching tidbits? Would that mean that growth would not stop at the prescribed two inches but go on to a foot or two?

That's the trouble with so many Federal Government announcements. They say just enough to stir up speculation, without touching the heart of the subject.

EDITORIAL NOTES

It is expected that the parliamentary session, which opened on January 10, will last until the end of July or perhaps extend into August.

Evidently, the agreement between the governments of Ceylon and Britain is not a one-sided affair. The British will transfer their military bases on the island to Ceylon and then, apparently, continue to use them.

Both Republican and Democratic campaign officials seem determined to make President Eisenhower's health an issue in the coming election—from different angles, of course.

Charlottetown lost a fine citizen in the passing of Mr. George W. Macleod, a former member of the City Council, whose funeral took place yesterday.

Every little helps, no doubt. Republicans are said to be pleased over the U. S. Government's decision to sue General Motors Corporation on the grounds that it has created a virtual monopoly in bus manufacturing, contrary to anti-trust laws.

It is good news that the Hillsboro Bridge reconstruction project is now in a fair way of being started. As noted in today's news columns, after consultation between officials of the Federal Public Works and Fisheries departments and the Provincial Highways Department, and personal inspection of the area, it has been decided to build a short distance upstream of the existing structure, the bridge to be 800 feet in length, joined to the existing approaches by curving embankments.



IF THE PUNISHMENT FITTED THE CRIME

Maritime Freight Rates

Mr. Nowlan (Digby-Annapolis Kings): The Maritime Freight Rates Act was passed in 1927. There was a preamble to that act which is very important, and which for some reason has been left out of the printing of the Act in the Revised Statutes of Canada.

Up to the early part of 1912, in fact up to the outbreak of the First World War, those rates were preserved at a proper level. The principle was maintained that the traders and manufacturers of the Maritimes should get into the larger market of upper Canada.

Whereas the royal commission on maritime claims by its report, dated September 23, 1926, has in effect, advised that a balanced study of the events and pronouncements prior to confederation, and at its consummation, and of the lower level of rates which prevailed on the intercolonial system prior to 1912, has in its opinion confirmed the representations submitted to the commission on behalf of the Maritime Provinces, namely, that the Intercolonial Railway was designed, among other things, to give to Canada in time of national and imperial need an outlet and inlet on the Atlantic Ocean, and to afford—

IMPORTANT WORDS These are the important words, Mr. Speaker: —to maritime merchants, traders and manufacturers the larger market of the whole Canadian people instead of the restricted market of the Maritimes themselves; also that strategic considerations determined a longer route than was actually necessary, and therefore that to the extent that commercial considerations were subordinated to national, imperial and strategic conditions, the cost of the railway should be borne by the dominion, and not by the traffic which might pass over the line.

There are several other sections, but this is the important one. One of the purposes of the railway was strategic, Mr. Speaker, which rather than was necessary. That is rather interesting today, Mr. Speaker, when we have our United States friends co-operating, in fact working, in the north country and taking over the D.E.W. line. One reason we in the Maritime Provinces are pained in regard to freight rates is that when we entered Confederation there was a

New Deal For Indians

All parties in Parliament should support Mr. John Diefenbaker's suggestion that a Royal Commission investigate the condition of Canada's 155,000 Indians. The problems, as he suggested, will not be solved by haphazard piecemeal amendments to the Indian Act.

That Act was overhauled almost five years ago. That revision was the first comprehensive redrafting since 1880, but it was a major disappointment. The conditions it imposes on our Indian population are still basically inconsistent with the ideals of democratic freedom. There is no evidence to suggest that the lot of the Indian is any better under the new Act than it was under the archaic one which it superseded.

The basic flaw is that while the Government offers full rights of citizenship to Indians who renounce their legal status as such, it does little or nothing to prepare them for the responsibilities which full citizenship entails. There is an encouragement for them to take that important step. Instead, the Government patronizingly treats them as wards and provides them with an easy, marginal existence.

In perpetuating and encouraging this archaic concept, Ottawa is in effect segregating a segment of our population and denying them the chance to participate in this country's phenomenal growth. It seems to assume—quite fallaciously—that there is a limit on the Indian's capacity to become a self-sustaining citizen.

OUR YESTERDAYS From The Guardian Files TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (July 12, 1931) The annual convention of the Prince Edward Island Pharmaceutical Association was held at the Canadian National Railway's Hotel yesterday. After dinner an election of officers was held and Wilfred Taylor was elected President for the X year.

TEN YEARS AGO (July 12, 1946) Lieutenant Governor R.F. McWilliams and Mrs. McWilliams of Manitoba, were entertained at an informal luncheon at Mulberry Lodge, Summerside, yesterday afternoon, shortly after arriving on the Island.

At a recent investiture at the Canadian Legion, Lieut. Col. G. K. Peake, ED., of the Royal Canadian Artillery, received the Distinguished Service Order from His HONOR, Lieutenant Governor Bernard.

The Poet's Corner

SUMMER MOMENT Under the mellow sunlight, all The people in a processional Were streaming, luminous and elate, As to some very important fete. When traffic paused before a light, The moment hung as from a height.

The Age Old Story

As the hart panteth after the water brook, so panteth my soul after thee, O God. My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God.

Refrigeration Repairs To All Makes APPLIANCES SALES & SERVICE MOTORS Rewinding and Repairs ELECTRICAL Repairs Palmer Electric

Medically Speaking By Herman N. Sundesen, M. D. BREATHING EXERCISES HELP THE ASTHMATIC Exercises probably can help adult asthmatics as well as younger victims. If you've got faulty breathing habits, failure to breathe efficiently accounts for a major share of disability among asthmatic patients.

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NOTES BY THE WAY Shocking statistics reveal that many of the nation's schools are outmoded. Some of them are so old they still have black blackboards.—Brandon Sun

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