

Widening Educational Horizons

The high price of everything else considered, it is still true that the only thing that costs more than education is ignorance, taken from the Wisconsin Journal of Education.

Recently a very interesting report has been released. This report, entitled School Research in Canada, is the result of a survey that has been made by the Canadian School Trustees' Association with Dr. M. E. LaZerte as Research Director.

In this issue of Widening Educational Horizons let us look at one section of this report, Teachers Salaries and Qualifications, to see how the findings compare with what we know to be true in our own province.

In Canada in 1952-53, with 70,000 teachers, there were approximately 5,150 persons without any professional training serving as teachers, and nearly 4,000 others whose education and training were below the prescribed minimum of their respective province. Now no one in Prince Edward Island will deny the fact that today there is a shortage of teachers on our island, and no one will deny the fact that many of those who are called teachers would not be in our schools if the service of fully qualified teachers could be obtained.

The classification of our island teachers — Grades 1-10, is as follows: Permit, 92; Third class, 15; Second Class, 375; First Class 271.

Now you may argue are education and training to very necessary for those who teach the young, well here is what the LaZerte report has to say about both education and training.

"Probably of all the factors influencing the quality of schooling none is so important as the qualifications of the teaching staff. Who should teach? Before answering this question consider the teacher's responsibilities. One must not confuse the routine business of 'running a school' with the professional work of teaching. A teacher supervises and guides the development of personality and character. It is axiomatic that his own habits, personality, and character must be exemplary. He assists in the mastery of skills, determines the child's likes, dislikes and sentiments and leads each child to an understanding of the great basic truths man has discovered in language, social science, natural science, the arts and other subjects.

"The teacher must also train children to use these great truths and principles in thinking through a great variety of problems. The teacher has a difficult task. His job isn't one of hearing lessons and checking on the accuracy of memorizations. The teacher must

himself, see, understand fully and be able to use basic truths, generalizations and relationships. To be commensurate with his responsibilities, a teacher's qualifications must be high. Can a young high school graduate after a short period of attendance at a training college be ready to teach? Has he the necessary education, maturity and social experience? For this generation at least, the teacher's job is less that of concentrating on the 3 R's than in developing the proper knowledge, attitudes and behaviour in social relationships — the basis of true Christian democracy. Teachers should be carefully selected. The practice should be "selection followed by training" rather than "recruitment followed by certification". In line with this thinking the report recommends "that the minimum standard of certification for teachers be two years of teacher education beyond senior matriculation and that no person be given a professional certificate unless and until he attains this standard."

"When there is an acute teacher shortage districts short of teachers press Departments of Education to authorize the services of the unqualified. Standards today are being lowered to attract more young people to teaching. There is little selection of personnel at the present time. It is education and training that make teachers of persons who have the basic qualities and qualifications upon which to build. The holding of a certificate has no magical power to lift the unqualified to professional status."

If Canada is going to demand higher qualifications for its teachers, are we in Prince Edward Island going to lag behind? Greater training will demand a greater expenditure of money for both educational facilities and salaries. As the teacher, so is the school. Additional expenditure for education must be given high priority. How do we compare with the rest of Canada in money spent for education. Listed below are minimum and maximum salaries of teachers of other provinces taken from elementary schools whose teachers' qualifications are similar to our own:

Quebec elementary (Protestant) \$2,200—\$4,200; Alberta elementary, \$2,150—\$3,150; Saskatchewan, \$2,200—\$3,000; Newfoundland, \$2,000—\$4,200; Ontario (6 teacher priority), \$3,527, average salary; Ontario (less than six teachers) \$2,466, average salary; Prince Edward Island, \$1,150 (minimum) Maximum based on District Supplement.

Can Prince Edward Island pay more for education? Here are some revealing figures. In 1954 P. E. Island spent on teachers' salaries \$1,180,998.00; in 1954 P.

E. Island spent on total cost of education including teachers' salaries \$2,126,974.00; in 1953-54 P. E. Island spent on liquor \$2,970,799.11.

Can P. E. I. pay more to educate its children? Why are our young people not entering the teaching profession today? The question of salary is placed first among the many reasons. How much are our boys and girls worth?

"There can be no education for freedom, and no freedom unless, the teacher is free. His freedom means not only freedom to teach the truth as he sees it, but freedom from the gnawing of debt, in poverty, and not least, from that feeling that the idealism which must forever be a part of all true teaching is not honoured in the hearts of those whom he seeks to serve."

Leonard Brockington, K. C. AUSTRALIA

While Australia has strong ties with Britain, the mother country, and Canada, a fellow member of the Commonwealth, she is also a partner of the United States in that the two countries are working together to build defences against communism.

In 1951, Australia, New Zealand, and the United States signed a treaty promising to build armed strength in the Pacific area. The ANZUS Pact gave the United States the use of naval and air bases in Australia. The three countries agreed to co-operate in case of attack. The SEATO Pact later set up was for defence against communism. During World War II, Australia opened her doors to American troops and her ports to American ships. The U. S. built great new bases in Australia, and used that country as a place from which to fight back at the enemy. Without these bases it would have been more difficult to defeat Japan.

Australia's position makes her important in the struggle between the communist lands and the free world, already the communists have seized part of Indo-China. Australia is democracy's biggest outpost in this part of the world. They are endeavoring to build a new more powerful armed force, jet planes and bombers.

Like Canada Australia is divided into sections. She has six states, plus the Northern Territory. One of the states, Tasmania, is an island off the southeast coast of the country. The capital is Canberra, in New South Wales. Sydney is the largest city and has one of the finest harbours in the world.

Australia is encouraging immigration. People are coming in from Britain, Italy and northern Europe.

Most of the Australian's have a comfortable life and enjoy a



One Of 80 Festival Dancers

This winsome lass, Sandra Kennedy of Cross Roads, was one of the dancers who participated at the Centennial Festival. In the Sword Dance, Junior Division, little Miss Kennedy placed first.

—Barter's Film Lab.

high standard of living.

The compulsory school age is from 6-14, or until they are 16 in some states. The country has good schools and colleges.

The aborigines of Australia live in the interior of the country, much as their ancestors did years ago. They build no homes, but find shelter in the forests. They get food by hunting.

Australia is a land of big sheep and cattle ranches. Many of them cover several thousand square miles apiece. They raise more sheep than any other nation. Last year the nation produced more than one-fourth of the world's wool.

Wheat is the big farm crop. In need of more electricity, the country is now building a mammoth electric-power and irrigation system in the Snowy mountains. When completed, it will double the nation's supply of electricity and will also supply water for farms.

several companies are searching for oil. One pool has already been found.

Australia is independent, but she keeps her ties with Britain as a member of the British family of nations. Parliament makes laws for the nation. The leader of the majority party, Robert Menzies, heads the government.

On election day all go to the polls, if they do not vote, they must pay a fine.

Australia is made up of states numbering: (a) four; (b) eight; (c) three; (d) six.

One of Australia's states is an island off the southeast coast called: (a) Tasmania; (b) Timor; (c) New Caledonia; (d) Stewart.

Australia's largest city is: (a) Canberra; (b) Melbourne; (c) Brisbane; (d) Sydney.

This department is conducted by the Prince Edward Island Teachers' Federation. Contributions are welcomed, and should be sent to Estelle Bowness, 98 Prince St., Charlottetown.

guardianscope

By James Pendergast
RIPPLE ROCK

In the April thirtieth issue of MacLean's there is a nicely written article by MacKenzie Porter about the famous Ripple Rock.

The "Rock" is in the narrowest section of Seymour Narrows on the "inside passage between Seattle, Vancouver and the Northern Cities of Ocean Falls, Prince Rupert and Kitimat in B. C. and Wrangell, Ketchikan, Juneau and Skagway in Alaska.

During World War II ships bound for the far western parts of Alaska took the inside passage (though much longer) for better protection against Japanese submarines. The United States Government requested Canada to eliminate this menace of navigation.

The article was especially interesting to this writer on account of his having passed the rock in steamship nine times in all—four trips to Alaska and return, and a trip north to Prince Rupert last year — also Mrs. P. and the writer staying a week at Brown's Bay (called Plumper Bay) in the story, as the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Milton Adams, who photos are in MacLean's with accounts of their rescues of wrecked sailors and passengers.

Many Prince Edward Islanders, and especially relatives and friends in King's County will be surprised to learn that Mrs. Adams' maiden name was Marion Ledwell, daughter of Capt. P. J. Ledwell, Master of Peakes vessels Erema and Bonita out of Charlottetown in the Liverpool and South American trade in the palmy days of "wooden ships and iron men."

About the turn of the century Capt. Ledwell became master of a revenue cutter in the B. C. Coast. Mrs. Adams was born in Vancouver, and is a first cousin of your humble scribe. The sight of them in the picture, in their every day outfit, certainly brings pleasant memories of our stay at their beautiful tourist resort. Incidentally, A. E. B. Murphy of Vancouver, (Mr. P. E. I.) has a mineral claim on Quadra Island mentioned in the story.

It would be rather temerarious and presumptuous on the part of this scribe to east any doubt on Mr. Porter's well written article, but the very name "ripple rock" doesn't suggest such wild currents and whirlpools.

Capt. George Vancouver navigated it in a "windjammer" in 1792. Many thousands of ships passed it since — with but 16 wrecks.

Over a million dollars has been spent in abortive efforts to "blow" it from the surface. MacKenzie

Porter has made a good "case" for its elimination. The latest plan is to tunnel under it and "blow" with 500 tons of nitro.

There is great speculation in regard to the immediate effect of the explosion, viz. tidal waves — vacuum pressure wreckage of building, (as in the Halifax Harbor explosion of 1917); also a tidal wave, having in mind the tidal wave caused by the volcanic explosion in the East Indies Island of Krakatoa in 1883. That tidal wave went around the earth. It was and maybe still in the most terrific explosion ever known.

The writer got some idea of the enormity of the eruption from an elderly gentleman called Rowe of Coleman, P. E. I. who sailed past the place where Krakatoa Island

had been a few days after the explosion.

The writer fears for the safety of the Adams' grand new motel, floating wharf and boat house at Brown's Bay — also the floating house and cabins of millionaire sportsmen.

Locke Road

—Visitors at the home of Mrs. Bennett Peters and Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Peters of Bloomfield on Sunday evening, April 24th were: Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Arsenault and Mrs. Colo Arsenault of Casumpec and Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Gaudet and Miss Mary Luce Peters of Woodstock.

Mrs. Joseph S. Gallant of West View, went on Sunday, April 24th to spend a few days with in Bloomfield at the home of Mrs. and Mrs. Lawrence Peters.

A very pleasant evening spent when the young people Duvar, put on a concert in aid of St. Thomas Aquinas Society in St. Anthony's hall, Bloomfield. A great number of people were present and all went home well pleased with the entertainment.

Congratulations are being tendered to Mr. and Mrs. James DesRoches who were married a Wednesday morning, April 27th at St. Anthony's Church, Bloomfield.

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Perhaps he may have faltered — why?
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You must admit, unless you lie.
That so have you.
Perhaps if we would stop and think,
Both I and you.
When painting someone black as ink.
As some folks do,
Perhaps, if we would recollect,
Perfection we would not expect.
But just a man half-way correct.
Like me and you.
I'm just a man who's fairly good.
I'm just like you.
I've done something I never should.
Perhaps like you.
But, thank the Lord, I've sense to see
The rest of men with charity:
They're good enough if good as me.
Say, men like you — Douglas Malloch



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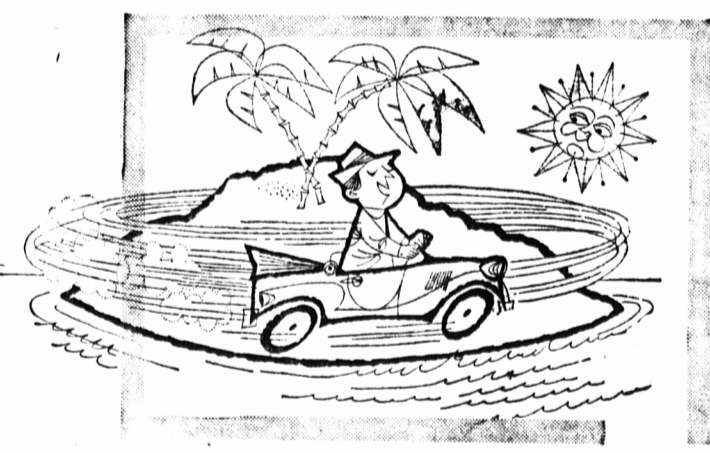
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