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National Safety Conference

It is to be hoped that this Province will be well represented at a national conference which is to be called at Ottawa in May under the sponsorship of the Canadian Good Roads Association.

As pointed out in a Canadian Press despatch, almost 3,000 persons met death on the roads and streets of this country in 1953.

Every Province, every county, every district and municipality has a stake in this problem. The proposed conference is the first of its kind to be called, and no effort should be spared to arouse public interest in its objectives.

Spring Precautions

A thorough checkup of potential fire hazards as part of every spring cleaning program is urged in a timely article issued by the All Canada Insurance Federation.

Before storing winter clothing for summer, remove matches from pockets. Clear old newspapers, magazines and inflammable material from attics, basements, garages and spare rooms.

These recommendations are worth memorizing. They are not new, but followed carefully they might be the means of saving many lives and many thousands of dollars in unnecessary fire losses during the next few weeks.

Mechanical Brains

One of the great marvels of this technological age is the machine which threatens to take over almost every chore that, up to now, has required great mathematical skill and intense mental concentration.

The obvious comment to make about these machines, even the most skilful ones, is that their seemingly mysterious powers are, in fact, purely mechanical and utterly dependent on the technicians who press buttons and manipulate switches.

ologist, who happens to be an authority in electrical engineering. Dr. Wladyslaw Sluckin of the University of Durham, has now written a book about it, entitled "Minds and Machines."

Explosions And The Weather

It is becoming fashionable to blame atomic and hydrogen bomb explosions for unusually bad weather, among other things. But fashions are sometimes based on prejudice rather than on knowledge of the facts.

Looking into his records, Sir Graham discovered that in the last thirty years there have been at least three wetter summers than 1954; but he had to go back to 1906 and 1912 to find summers which had had less sunshine.

Sir Graham sums up his opinions by stating that weather "peculiarities", so-called, are, in fact, quite ordinary and normal to anyone with expert knowledge in meteorology, and that they had been noted—and grumbled at—centuries before the idea of the atom bomb had even been considered.

EDITORIAL NOTES

A firm has gone to court in Memphis, Tenn. seeking damages of \$3,164,458.05. No doubt they know their own business; but it does seem as though they could have left the extra nickel out.

Evidently pro-Kaiser sentiment is still alive in Germany. At any rate, a monthly periodical advocating the restoration of the monarchy is being circulated regularly. The publishers are said to be well satisfied with the sales.

One cheerful note amid all the gloom is that the swallows came to San Juan Capistrano on March 19—right on time—just as they have been doing for many generations.

Radio-active phosphorus put into the drinking water of blow-flies at a refuse dump in Britain, and subsequent geiger counter tests, proved that the flies travelled to premises two miles away. The tests were part of current research into pest control.

Something new in school administration is reported from Jubbulpore, India, where school children have started a campaign to cure their teachers of the smoking habit. They mean business, too. At the end of the school term special prizes are given those teachers who are in the pupils' good books. The others are declared to be incompetent and immature.

The longest single diesel locomotive run in North America—2,930 miles—will be established on April 24 with the introduction of the Canadian National Railway's new fast "Super Continental".



Back-To-The-Soil Boys

The spookiest spot in Canada's capital is right in Parliament Hill. It is a labyrinth of twisting passages and dark spaces where \$500,000 worth of machinery throbs and clicks without end.

At the end of long tunnels, figures of engineers and maintenance men moved about in the dim light. The strange sounds come from the maze of fans, pumps, generators, compressors, steam lines and electrical devices.

Along its walls and ceilings are some 20 miles of pipes, from huge air ducts, three feet square to thin electrical conduits the size of garden hoses.

OTTAWA REPORT

Merchants in United States cities adjoining the Canadian border are again petitioning against Canadian tariff restrictions on their trade.

Other concessions which favour the American tourist, as against the Canadian traveler, include higher permitted imports of liquor and cigars, and more realistic arrangements about foreign purchases.

The tariff provisions criticised are those referring to the exemptions from customs duty and excise taxes and sales tax which are allowed on goods purchased outside Canada by Canadian tourists and then imported into this country.

U.S.A. is unquestionably far more generous to its returning tourists than Canada is.

The returning Canadian may bring in, duty-free, only \$100 worth of purchases every four months. The returning American, on the other hand, may bring in \$200 worth of goods every 31 days, plus goods to the value of an additional \$300 every six months.

Some articles, notably woolen textiles, British china, and dairy products, are cheaper in Canada than in the States. Americans would prefer to buy these in Canada. Other articles, especially clothing and gadgets, are cheaper in the States than in Canada, and are also available in a wider choice.

LENTEN MEDITATION The Garden Of Eden Story

There is a natural tendency to rub one's eye at the moment a speck of dirt or some other foreign material flies into it.

It is important to realize the limit of the clash. There is no conflict between Christian doctrine about the facts of human nature and other knowledge of them. But the doctrine of the Fall did not merely state, embody, and stand for facts of experience; it also purported to account for their mysterious origin; and mythology, irreconcilable with knowledge, cannot do this.

The Eden story is not the historical origin of the doctrine of human nature. It is a cover again referred to in the canonical Old Testament, concerned though that is with human sin. Therein, sin is not regarded as mysterious; it is ascribed to hardness of heart and stiffness of neck, that is, to wilful disobedience.

It should be especially helpful to military doctors. During the Korean War, fragments of non-ferrous metals were responsible for about one-fourth of Army eye injuries.

Usually, though, your physician or eye specialist can remove the particle painlessly.

After he does so, he'll want to check to determine whether an ulcer has formed. He may use a two per cent fluorescein solution on your eye. If an ulcer has formed, the solution will stain green.

He'll probably put antiseptics in your eye and order you to keep it covered for 24 hours or so. It's an inconvenience. But so is the loss of an eye.

Answer: Infections in the teeth, tonsils; or nasal sinuses, or other chronic infection may be a contributing cause for such trouble.

Why don't the dairymen's association get out and convince restaurateurs that cheese is a very good thing with which to finish off a meal especially when the cheese is as good as that produced almost in the suburbs of this city?

WASHINGTON (AP)—Premier Mario Scelba of Italy arriving for talks with President Eisenhower Sunday, pledged his government would work with the United States to "discourage aggression and prevent more tragedy."

The Age Old Story

But when thou art bidden, go and sit down in the lowest room; that when he that hade thee cometh, he may say to thee, Friend, go up higher: then shall thou have worship in the presence of them that sit at meat with thee.

WASHINGTON (AP)—Premier Mario Scelba of Italy arriving for talks with President Eisenhower Sunday, pledged his government would work with the United States to "discourage aggression and prevent more tragedy."

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PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion of questions of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of respondents.

EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Sir,—I think that unemployment insurance is one of the greatest plans ever designed to take the sting out of a seasonal layoff, and make a man feel that he is getting something for nothing, and kind of provide an escape from the reality of not having a job.

Answer: Infections in the teeth, tonsils; or nasal sinuses, or other chronic infection may be a contributing cause for such trouble.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

Gerontologists report that the American of today has a life span ten years longer than that of his grandparents. But, these experts say, he must have the right approach to his later years.

Admitting that farming was booming back in 1951 when the world, recovering from the war was reaching out for food products to step up nutrition following rationing, it is a sad drop in Canada's farm income from \$2,155,000,000 that year to the estimated \$1,114,000,000 in 1954.

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The Poet's Corner

The Kings come riding back from the Crusade, The purple Kings and all their mounted men; They fill the street with clamorous cavalcade. The Kings have broken down the Saracen. Singing a great song of the eastern wars, In crimson sails across the sea they came. With crimson sails and diamonded dark ears, That made the Mediterranean flash with flame. And reading now, in that far month, the ranks Formed on the edge of the desert, armoured all, I wish to God that I had been with them. When the first Norman leapt upon the wall, And Godfrey led the foremost of the Franks, And young lord Raymond stormed Jerusalem. —Hilare Belloc.

OTTAWA (CP)—The Labrador, navy Arctic pair vessel which last year sailed the Northwest Passage from the Atlantic to Pacific, will be used this summer in construction of the radar distant early warning line—DEW line—in the Arctic.

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