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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."

FRIDAY, SEPT. 16 1955

Renewed Search For Oil

Important indeed is the announcement by Premier Matheson that a license has been granted to Imperial Oil Limited to search for oil and gas on Prince Edward Island. The area to be explored covers over 400,000 acres and it is understood that aerial survey work will be begun within a few weeks, to be followed by ground work of an intensive nature.

Our citizens will recall the deep borings made some years ago in Hillsboro Bay, which failed in producing oil but resulted in securing much valuable information about the island's geology. Since that time, moreover, a thorough survey has been made of the Province, carried on by the Federal Department of Mines with the assistance of the Provincial Department of Industry and Resources. This work has been going on steadily for the past three years, and a great deal of assistance has been rendered the experts by Mr. B. Graham Rogers, of the local department, with the active support and co-operation of the Government.

As stated in the news story in today's issue, there is no certainty that oil in commercial quantities will be located here, and it would be unwise to raise undue hopes in this connection; but the fact that a big company of the status of Imperial Oil Limited is prepared to go ahead is of prime significance. Their success would be of tremendous importance to this Province, and to the whole Maritime area for that matter.

Walden Pond Today

Once solitary Walden Pond where Henry David Thoreau did his philosophizing may soon be bordered by more public land for the enjoyment of modern Thoreauvians escaping the complexities of city life. Under a Massachusetts bill some 100 acres would be added to the 144-acre Walden Pond State Reservation. Today thousands of visitors frequent the bit of wilderness edging the 64-acre pond, 15 miles west of Boston. Some picnic, some swim, some boat; almost all muse on the back-to-nature author of "Walden or Life in the Woods," says the National Geographic Society.

A native of Concord, only a short walk away, Thoreau secluded himself at the pond in 1845. Out of his two-year stay grew his literary masterpiece. The eccentric genius lived in a small house fashioned by his own hands. Framed by pines and water, it cost \$28.12½. The boards came to \$8.03½; the shingles for roof and sides, \$4; hinges and screws, 14¢. Other items: two casks of lime, a latch, 1,000 old bricks at \$4, and two second-hand glass windows. He later wrote: "I give the details because very few are able to tell exactly what their houses cost."

Much of his thinking was given over to the pond itself. The naturalist-in-the-rough frequently took to his boat at sunset to "charm the fish with flute music." When winter cast a mantle of snow over the foot-thick ice, Thoreau often cut through and knelt to drink, at the same time gazing into the "quiet parlour of the fishes." He struck up a fancy for the pickerel which he preferred to the favorite New England cod and haddock "whose fame is trumpeted in our streets."

When workmen performed the workaday job of cutting ice for shipment, Thoreau let his thoughts drift dreamily to far-off places. "It appears," he reflected, "that the sweltering inhabitants of Charleston and New Orleans, of Madras and Bombay and Calcutta, drink at my well. . . . The pure Walden water is mingled with the sacred water of the Ganges."

When spring arrived, red squirrels dwelt under his house. Sparrows fluttered in. Marsh-hawks wheeled low over the greening meadows. Geese by the dozens took off from

the pond, formed their honking ranks and headed for Canada. Wild pigeons winged overhead. The sap crept higher in the hickories and maples, fringing them with pale leaves etched against the somber pines.

Thoreau, man of nature, lived off these sights and sounds but little more. As if the act of nourishing the body were a troublesome physical chore, he spent only 27 cents a day for the victuals he couldn't raise. A story has it that Thoreau once ate a woodchuck that coveted his beans. A different fate awaited a second transgressor. He carried the woodchuck two miles and released it—whether from lack of heart or lack of appetite is not known.

Noteworthy Anniversary

The commemoration on Sunday by the Royal Canadian Air Force of the fifteenth anniversary of the Battle of Britain is something in which all our people should participate, at least in spirit. In Canada as well as overseas the Force will hold church parades and special services to pay tribute to the famous "few", who, over Britain, fought the battle that decided the fate and destiny of free men. The dates July 10 and October 31, 1940, have been accepted as marking the opening and termination of the battle, which reached its peak on September 15, when the Luftwaffe suffered its major defeat over Britain. Each year since that September, members of the RAF and RCAF have commemorated the Sunday following September 15, or on that date when it falls on Sunday.

The Battle of Britain had special significance for the RCAF, marking the Force's baptism of fire. In August 1940 No. 1 Fighter Squadron of the RCAF, later designated 401 Squadron, flew into action against the enemy, won its first victories, and suffered its first casualties. Canada was represented in the famous battle by several hundred officers and airmen who served as aircrew and groundcrew in Fighter, Bomber, and Coastal Commands. Forty-seven Canadian officers and men, serving with the RCAF and RAF, gave their lives.

On this occasion a timely memorial booklet has been issued by the Air Historical Section of the RCAF entitled "Among The Few", giving a detailed sketch of the part played by Canadian airmen in the battle together with a complete list of the fallen. These names are enshrined on the honour roll in the memorial chapel in Westminster Abbey. It is but fitting indeed that they should be recalled with pride and gratitude in their native land.

EDITORIAL NOTES

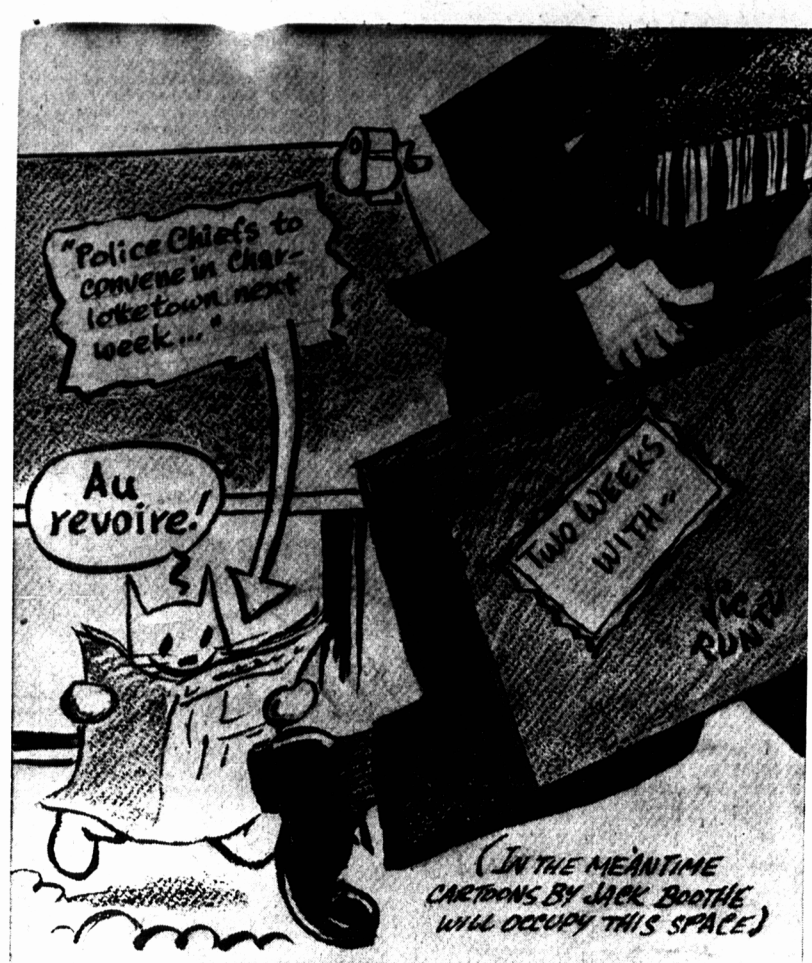
There will be general regret at the resignation of Dr. O. H. Curtis from the office of Deputy Minister of Health and Welfare, a position he has filled so capably since 1951. Dr. Curtis is resuming private practice in the city.

Congratulations to Mr. Glen Morrissey, of Cherry Valley, the new Maritime plowing champion, and to another Cherry Valley man, Malcolm MacRae, the new Island champion who will represent this Province in the Dominion plowing contest.

Apparently the railway economy movement in this Province is being duplicated in the United Kingdom. A Society has been formed there "for the Reinvigoration of Unremunerative Branch Lines," with a view to preventing, if that's possible, further dismantling of small railways.

No more suitable epitaph for the Canadian National Exhibition's Lake Ontario swim could be devised, says the Globe and Mail, than the comment of a St. John Ambulance driver as he escorted one of the exhausted and half frozen contestants to hospital. "This is no sport—it's like watching the casualties being carried from a battlefield."

The Provincial Plowing Match and Fair at Dundas was a big success, as were the Provincial Exhibition and other Island fairs held earlier in the season. This is all the more gratifying in view of the slump which hit the Canadian National Exhibition at Toronto. Expected to attract a record three million visitors, the big Exhibition in fact attracted 10,500 fewer visitors than last year.



Annual Take-Off

OTTAWA REPORT

Politically Good, Economically Bad

By Patrick Nicholson

In its recent survey of the sales tax levied by the Federal Government, the Canadian Tax Foundation listed the estimated cost of this tax on a wide range of articles.

These figures served to drive home the point that this tax is fiscally a very bad tax. Yet it is politically a very good tax, and that is the reason why we are saddled with it. Thanks to the activities of such organizations as the Canadian Tax Foundation, every Canadian may one day become alerted to the high cost of this bad tax, and demand that Parliament should repeal it, and replace it by a less costly tax.

The Manufacturers Sales Tax, as it is called, is levied upon products at the manufacturer's level, or, in the case of foreign products, at the importer's level. Thus the factory or wholesale price of any article subject to this tax is increased by the ten per cent scale of the tax. This enhanced price is then, in the case of most products, subject in its entirety to the mark-up which provides the livelihood of the distributor, the jobber and the retail merchant.

Supposing, as is not uncommon, that these mark-ups double the factory price, so that the ultimate purchaser, Mrs. Johnny Canuck, pays just twice the price at which that article left the factory; then Mrs. Canuck is paying a surcharge of 20 per cent on the factory price in order that the federal government can collect a tax amounting to ten per cent of the factory price. That makes this a very bad tax, from the fiscal point of view, because its yield to the federal treasury is only half of its cost to the taxpayer.

This survey by the Canadian Tax Foundation has attracted a lot of attention here. If it makes Canadian voters more tax-conscious, it might lead to a popular demand for the abolition of this costly hidden tax, and its substitution by a more efficient but cheaper direct tax.

HIDDEN THEREFORE GOOD

But politically of course this is a very excellent tax. This is because it is a so-called "hidden" tax. When you buy a pound of tea or a candy bar, you are not conscious that you are paying a tax to Ottawa included in the purchase price. Even when you buy a car or a refrigerator, you are perhaps less conscious that you are paying taxes than you are when the tax makes a direct cut from your earnings—unless you happen to have noticed the price of the same article on the American market where lower taxes and higher immigration show a pleasing effect.

The varying scale of mark-ups in price, between the producer and consumer, means that this sales tax shows a very varied yield, per \$100 spent at the retail level, on different classes of goods. To exemplify this, the Canadian Tax Foundation enumerated the retail price of a wide range of articles, and estimated the sum yielded to the Federal Government as sales tax upon each.

Among these are four articles each listed at \$300 at the retail level: an electric stove, a refrigerator, a television receiving set, and a chesterfield. The sales tax yield to the Federal Government included in the retail price of \$300, is estimated to be \$15 in the case

of the electric stove and the television set, \$16 in the case of the refrigerator, and \$20 in the case of the chesterfield.

This implies that the factory price of each article is ten times the tax figure, namely \$150 in the case of the television set, ranging to \$200 in the case of the chesterfield. Thus distribution costs and retail profit amount to some \$135 on the television set, and only \$20 on the chesterfield. The factory price of the television set of course also includes the special 15 per cent tax paid to cover the operating costs of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. This article probably contains therefore the lowest dollar value of any of these four \$300 purchases.

Margarine priced at 40 cents per pound contains a three-cent tax payment to the government. Allowing for the mark-up on the tax, it would probably therefore sell at 36 cents if not subject to this sales tax.

During an eight-week expedition, Prof. Harp and Dr. Ralph E. Miller, Hanover physician and Arctic flying enthusiast, sought ancient Eskimo habitation sites in the vicinity of Coronation gulf, Dismal lakes and Bathurst inlet on the coast of the Arctic ocean. They also travelled inland in a vast unexplored region between Contwoyto lake and the big bend of the Coppermine river.

Prof. Harp found campsites that showed signs of occupancy as long as 2,000 years ago and also within the present century. In these he was able to dig up artifacts of stone age inhabitants while at the same time there were remains of Indian "brush camps" of the present era.

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New Traces Of Eskimo Culture

Canadian Press

A 30-pound sack of stones from Canada's Far North may contain evidence of the culture of the Cape Dorset Eskimos, among the most ancient Eskimo peoples to inhabit the Arctic.

The stones were brought here by Prof. Elmer Harp Jr., Dartmouth College anthropologist, who has just returned from the Arctic. They're not ordinary stones. They are flint spear points, arrow heads, scraping and cutting tools and chips left behind as long as 2,000 years ago in the campsites of stone age aborigines.

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Prof. Harp is carrying out an anthropological survey he hopes will eventually extend from Newfoundland to Alaska. He seeks evidence of the spread of the Cape Dorset culture, or of peoples even more ancient.

This summer's expedition was financed by the American Philosophical Society and the Dartmouth faculty committee on research.

The two men flew more than 5,000 miles across the Arctic barrens in Dr. Miller's plane. Much of this flying was done at 200 to 300 feet, so that they could spot from the shadows of the sun's slanting rays former campsites and likely spots to do exploratory excavation work.

Prof. Harp found campsites that showed signs of occupancy as long as 2,000 years ago and also within the present century. In these he was able to dig up artifacts of stone age inhabitants while at the same time there were remains of Indian "brush camps" of the present era.

The men operated in an area never before examined from an archaeological viewpoint. Even current maps show the locations of many lakes and rivers only approximately.

Prof. Harp said the most productive areas were in the region lying between Coronation gulf and Great Bear lake, Dismal lakes,

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Bundesen, M. D.

PREVENTING AIRSICKNESS

Don't let fear of airsickness stop you from travelling by plane.

Although this form of motion sickness causes more discomfort among commercial air passengers than anything else, it affects only a small percentage of airline patrons—less than one percent.

Development of effective drugs and larger and better equipped planes promises to reduce the number of cases even further.

Yet, there will always be some who are susceptible to airsickness, especially on the smaller planes.

If you have reason to suspect that you might be susceptible, you'll be interested in the report of studies made by Drs. Ludwig G. Lederer and George J. Kidera.

WOMEN SUFFER MOST

Women are more often affected than are men or children. Studies indicate that about 59 per cent of the victims are women, 24 per cent men, and only 17 per cent children.

You are less likely to become airsick in the big four-engine DC-4 ships than you are in the smaller two-engine DC-3s.

You are more apt to become ill during daylight flights. The lowest incidence of cases reported in the studies was during the evening hours.

Sit on the right side of the plane, especially if you are riding in a DC-3. In this report in a recent issue of International Record of Medicine and General Practice Clinics, the doctors say the greatest amount of airsickness occurred among passengers sitting in the left-hand window seats of this type of plane.

The two window seats situated immediately back of the trailing edge of the left wing probably are the worst for airsickness. Sit somewhere else, if you can.

If the weather is turbulent, look off at the horizon instead of trying to read. And don't eat too much before your flight leaves, if you think you might be affected by the trip.

Drs. Lederer and Kidera found several drugs effective in treating symptoms of airsickness among them Bonamine, Benacine, Dramamine, Marzine, Trimeton and Seda-Stay. Some are more effective than others.

They advise use of the drugs by anyone who is susceptible before airsickness develops.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

F. Y.: What is epilepsy and what causes it?

Answer: In the petit mal form of epilepsy there is loss of consciousness for an interval varying from a few seconds to a minute or two. Grand mal epilepsy is characterized by loss of consciousness and convulsions.

The cause of epilepsy is not known.

adian dollars in British hands with which to buy what Canada wants to sell to the United Kingdom.

The Times in London attributes the decline in British exports to Canada, to a Canadian feeling that many British firms do not show sufficient interest, do not advertise enough, do not really seem to care. A few products—chemicals, for instance—still sell as well in Canada now as they did two years ago, but imports of most kinds of goods from Britain—engineering products, motor cars, woolen and cotton textiles—have fallen off.

It is important to find the cause of the decline. The Times has an impression that many British firms are happier to sell near home, and preferably in the easy home market. It doesn't seem likely, however, that the London newspaper has put a finger on the sole cause of the decline. What is required is a closer study of the potential market for British products in Canada.

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Subject For Study

(Sydney Post-Record)

Britain's High Commissioner to Canada, Sir Archibald Nye, said in Frederickton that he was alarmingly concerned over the sudden drop in Canadian purchases in Britain. Britain's exports to Canada have fallen continuously in the last three years.

Canadians have as much reason as has Sir Archibald to be concerned. A drop in imports from Britain means so much less Can-

adian dollars in British hands with which to buy what Canada wants to sell to the United Kingdom.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

No one should try to do two things at once—and that includes women who put on weight and slacks at the same time.—Sherbrooke Record.

Two members of the Alberta Legislature who were re-elected by the party by Premier Manning because they had business dealings with the government, have been welcomed back to the party seats in the House following their re-election. It's not so much the principle in this case; it's the votes that count.—Vancouver Province.

It was a picture published in an Edmonton daily newspaper that ended Western Canada's most exciting manhunt. For a week the R. C. M. P. and local police had been hunting for a man sought for questioning in connection with the slaying of five members of a Saskatchewan farm family. It is a matter of record that most wanted criminals are arrested after their pictures have been published in the newspapers. A recent survey in the United States gave credit to the newspapers for bringing about the arrest of dangerous criminals.—Sudbury Star.

The Connaught Laboratories of Toronto are preparing large quantities of the Salk vaccine, to continue the massive vaccination program which this Province and the rest of Canada began last Spring. Children who have received two inoculations will be able to get the third and final shot late this Autumn. Other children, younger and older, who were outside the limited Spring scheme, will be given the antipolio vaccine. There is little doubt, here in Peterborough as in the rest of Canada, that the Salk vaccine is perfectly harmless, and is proving to be a definite preventative.—Peterborough Examiner.

We see where a three-man arbitration board has ruled that airline stewardesses are not obsolete at 30. On the whole, this strikes us as a reasonable decision. While it may result in a few disappointed male passengers, it will also be productive of comfort for those passengers who are just plain scared of airplanes and see more security in a graying head than a blond one. We would also like to point out that if charm falls at 30, then Cleopatra, Lady Hamilton and the Duchess of Windsor had no right being so successful. However it is doubtful if it was for any of those reasons that the three-man arbitration board found as it did. The arbitrators were men, presumably married. And what would they like to know is this. How old are their wives?—Vancouver Province.

How much have we lost in this past season because of dreaded forest fires? Now that the worst seems over, an approximate compilation released by Lands and Forest Minister Clair Mepledor says that 330,000 acres are gone. Bad as this is it is still less than the loss in 1948, when there were vast fires in the Mississippi area, and the total destruction that year was three times the 1955 loss. That was a tremendous challenge to forest fire control methods.—Cornwall Standard-Freeholder.

Need we really be so precise, so solemn, so anxious in our dealings with Russia? Have we no sense of humor or self-confidence when that country is concerned? The Supreme Soviet has offered, in effect, to send a group of its members to Canada. Let Canada's Parliament accept the offer. If only our parliamentarians look like, and let of curiosity to see what Russian parliamentarians look like. And let it, in return, send a group of its own members to Russia. We do not see how such visits can do anybody a particle of harm. And it is possible, at least, that over a period they might do some good. Such possibilities, in today's world, are all we have to work with. We should learn to use them with wisdom, with patience, and not least with good nature.—Globe and Mail.

Gone, but perhaps coming back, are the days when automobiles were finished in quiet, staid colors, and Henry Ford is said to have told his agents they could have any color cars they liked as long as they were black. This year's cars are gaudy affairs in bizarre designs, but manufacturers are reported to have taken a census of opinion among the public, and that more than 50 per cent of them prefer blacks, greys and maroons, to the oranges, yellows, pinks, vivid blues and reds, and combinations of them. Perhaps the traffic police are of the same opinion. It would be easier for them to note the color of a wanted car flashing by at 70 or 80 miles an hour than one of those multi-colored affairs that are just a blur of all the colors of the spectrum. St. Thomas Times-Journal.

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