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

TUESDAY, NOV. 8, 1955

Hallowed Customs

Two customs are associated with Remembrance Day, both arising out of the First World War—the brief silence at 11 a.m., and the poppies which are sold in aid of incapacitated veterans and their dependants.

It may be of interest to recall the author of this custom. He was an Australian journalist—Edward George Honey—and the thought which suggested the idea came to him while he was reading a history of the reign of Elizabeth.

His suggestion was taken up by the British Government. At the first rehearsal, later in 1919, it was found that five minutes was too long a period for troops or crowds to remain immovable.

However, it has been suggested that Madame Guerin was not the originator of the idea of wearing a red poppy in remembrance of the fallen.

Of course the idea of associating the red poppy with the soldier dead of 1914-18 comes from the poem "In Flanders Fields" by the Canadian soldier-poet John McCrae.

The Friends' Dilemma

As an outward and visible sign of the confusion that surrounds so many human relations in these fearful times is a little drama now being acted out in Philadelphia.

no connection with any "Left-wing" organization for a good many years. When the matter came before the Friends' "Monthly Meeting", a sort of legislative body, the members refused to dismiss the librarian—for the time being, at any rate—although this is the customary procedure in publicly-owned institutions.

For their "courageous and effective defense of democratic principles" the Friends were awarded \$5000 by the Fund for the Republic, an organization established some years ago to protect civil liberties whenever they appear to be endangered by the State.

Isn't it a pity, though, that a religious group, whose chief strength has been its unity, has to be made to suffer embarrassment—yes, and calumny—by the fears and dissensions of the wider community?

EDITORIAL NOTES

Buy a Poppy.

Isn't it about time, for Foreign Minister Molotov to say whether or not he is considering retirement? A few weeks ago he told reporters, who queried him in the matter, that he would give the answer "in Geneva and from Geneva".

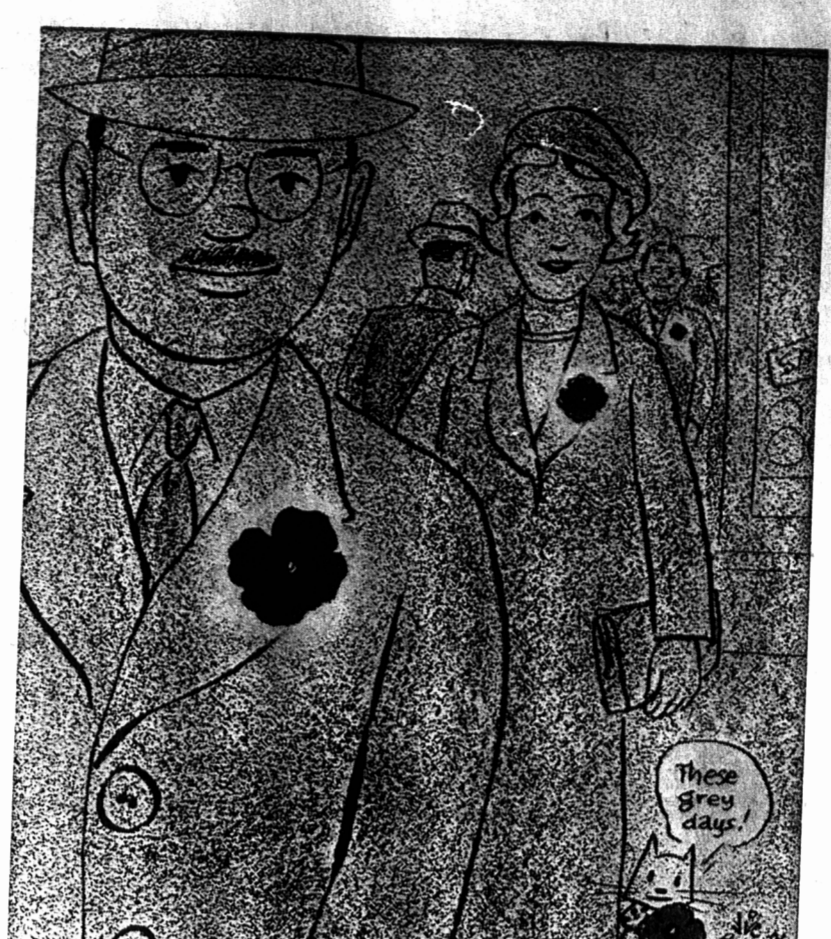
Those people who blame their early morning tardiness on a faulty alarm clock will soon have to think up a much better excuse. A wrist watch has been invented which shakes the sleeper awake at the proper time and keeps up the shaking process until the bed has been vacated.

In a recent speech an American scientist referred to a new bomb developed by the United States as the "super-super-fission-fusion-fission bomb" and regretted he could not give out more information about it at this time.

Science has won out in its fight against the spruce beetle in Colorado. It was not an easy victory, however. Since the fall of 1953 when the scourge first became a serious problem 2 billion board feet of valuable spruce have come under the invaders' destructive power.

A United States Republican politician remarked the other day "there are many millions of Americans who would say tonight 'if the Republican Party is good enough for Ike Eisenhower, it is good enough for me'".

The balance of trade between Canada and the Soviet Union—what there is of it—is clearly on this side. In the first 6 months of this year Canadian exports to the Russians amounted to \$1 1/2 million, while imports came to only \$75,000.



A PROUD TOUCH OF COLOUR

Witchcraft Murders

Witchcraft murders among Africans who use human flesh and blood for "prosperity potions" in primitive rituals are still being reported in this British East African protectorate despite all contacts with white civilization and police action to end them.

Many Basutos have been found guilty and executed for "medicinal" killings. But this has failed to deter others from reverting to forbidden heathen practices when they believe that their prestige is threatened or life needs something of their own "magic" touch.

History shows that about the beginning of October, 1568, more than 100 English seamen of the adventurer Sir John Hawkins went ashore near what is now Tampico, rather than starve at sea. A disastrous battle with the Spanish had left Hawkins' ship overloaded and short of food.

Epic Trek of 1568

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Luring The Voter

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NOTES BY THE WAY

The kernel of the reason why there are more monopolies in Canada than in any other large western country may be found in Lord Mancroft's recent comment. He, as Under Secretary of the British Home Office, was speaking about monopolies in Britain: "I have come to the conclusion that monopolies are rather like babies; nobody likes them until they have got one of their own."

Oratory is out of fashion today. Preachers and politicians no longer indulge in flowery flights of imagination or passionate appeals. They have gone to the other extreme in prosy diatribes. Many preachers seem unable to think on their feet and are word-tied to their prepared manuscripts, which has its advantage for members of the congregation in permitting them to relax—Winnipeg Free Press.

Victorians have just been introduced to an innovation in hair tinting. They have seen, or read about, the attractive young lady whose coiffure was pink-toned to match her dress. The ramifications of the style are intriguing. Shall it be black hair for the funeral, while for the wedding and perhaps something in royal purple for a royal visit? Or can the mode be adapted to mood? A cerise for the jam session, a green for freshness and charm of the spring sprits and aquamarine for a time of happiness? Can the men play, too? Or are they already in the act by virtue of that man of ultimate mystery whose hair is invisible—Victoria Times.

Our prying gadgets are not ours at all. They are our wives' in a day notable for its self-sufficient womanhood, that seems to settle the matter, relieve us of all responsibility, and leave us free to follow our proper interests. Unfortunately, it does no such thing. Noting the mounting accumulation of these infinitely ingenious little products, no good husband can fail to feel concern for the life partner who has to deal with them, keep them spotted and each one in its convenient place. They are, in their frightening totality, the product of a philosophy of time-saving and labor-saving convenience. If they justify their existence in terms of that philosophy well and good. But do they? That is the secret worry of the truly devoted husband. Where is the thing going to end?—Regina Leader-Post.

At the present time the threat of inflation is less great in Canada and the United States than in other parts of the world, such as Great Britain, Australia and other parts of the Commonwealth and in several countries of Western Europe such as the federal Republic of Germany. But the danger is here, although still slight. Nothing would be gained by waiting till the situation became serious before acting, since the results would then be more dangerous. In the circumstances it would seem that a certain contraction of bank credit would be in order, without there being reason to fear a serious slowdown in economic expansion. It is all hoped that the tempo of business need not be too strongly braked at a time when we are already thinking of seasonal unemployment—Montreal La Patrie.

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PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion of current events. The opinions expressed are those of the contributors and do not necessarily endorse the views of the newspaper.

WORN PLOWSHARES

Sir, — I read with a good deal of interest and profit the Federation of Agriculture News Letter each week. Last week's reference to plowshares interested me, particularly because when my shares get worn I take them to a garage and have a piece of steel welded on the point. A piece of old car spring about 2 by 3 inches, or something similar, does very well and extends their usefulness about one and a half times.

I am, Sir, etc., ELDON DRUMMOND

FRETOWN.

THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

Sir,—A house mother, busy with little ones, sweeping, washing, bed making, cooking, no glamor, but plenty of work, remembered that as a young girl she had hoped to attain some distinction. She now felt that her dreams had faded. After studying the matter she asked herself—who was the greatest woman in the world? The answer quickly came to her—Mary the mother of Jesus. Next, What was the source of her greatness? Just that Christ was the center of her life. She lived for him and worked for him. Next thought, my name is also Mary and I'll follow—this same principle I'll bake the bread for him. I'll mend the children's clothes for him. In following this principle she found that radiance came to her. The radiance she took the place of drab routine, the husband caught, the contagion as well as the friends that he brought home. The home reflects the centre. This is a lesson in home building.

We will soon read the warning, "So many shopping days till Christmas." Better than this—if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come in and sup with him and he with me. There is a Negro Spiritual that runs—Lord I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart. You can improve your hearts condition, by learning a hymn of good where children are hungry. Even that is not good enough. Investigate and ascertain the cause of hunger and want. If you been five weeks be removed. The family will be standing on their own feet and not needing charity.

I am, Sir, etc., ARCH MACKENZIE

KENSINGTON.

Luring The Voter

(Ottawa Journal)
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Medically Speaking

HEALTH IS WHAT YOU EAT
How long should you stick with a reducing program?
Your physical appearance probably is the best clue to that. You've got to diet as long as you want to lose weight.

Better get your doctor's advice, though. He's the one to tell you how much you should lose.
HARMFUL EFFECTS
Doctors know that excess weight impairs health, weakens key organs, lessens energy and shortens life.

Even after you've lost the desired number of pounds, you want to retain your normal weight.
As I pointed out earlier, exercise is the solution. To maintain your proper weight and health, you've got to control the amount and the kind of food you eat. You must limit those calories and make the calories you do eat count.

Food is life. Whether you live well or poorly depends, to a major extent, upon what you eat.
QUESTION AND ANSWER
S. F.: I have heard that the sulfa drugs can affect the reproductive glands of men. Is this true?
Answer: No. In fact, the sulfa drugs are helpful in clearing up infections of these glands when they occur in men.

NATO Scholarships

Under Article 2 of the North Atlantic Treaty, the signatory nations were to promote co-operation in other than military fields. The prior needs of defence may in considerable measure excuse delay in doing much about this policy, but Canadians in particular have always felt that not enough zeal was being shown in the matter.

The NATO fellowships and scholarship program that has just been announced is, however, a real step forward.
As with similar awards under United Nations and Colombo plan programs, the NATO awards are designed to promote the exchange of knowledge. But since most NATO nations are well advanced technically, greater emphasis can be placed on the study of their various social, cultural economic and political systems. These studies will tend to develop a closer sense of community among the allied peoples.

The NATO fellowships will be good for a few months of study and the scholarships will be awarded for a full academic year in 1956-57. The Royal Society of Canada, which administers the Canadian Government Overseas Awards will receive applications and forward them to a NATO selection committee. Many students should be interested.

The Poet's Corner
SKY MAKES A WIDE STAGE
Sky that was greenly curtained by summer trees
Where the red birds and the blue birds
Sang melodies.

Sky that was greenly curtained Is full in fall.
Though the red birds and the blue birds
Never call.
Trees that were green are etchings;
Each leafless bough
Spreads on the sky's vast canvas.
One bright bird now.

Colors the grayness; never Is one note missed.
We see etched in the heavens
The solist.
—Joseph Joel Keith
in the Christian Science Monitor.

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