

Published every week-day morning at 125 Prince Street, Charlottetown, P.E.I., by The Thomson Company Limited.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 1955

Great Victory For Science

The announcement of the unqualified success of the Salk polio vaccine will be hailed throughout the world as a signal victory for science in man's eternal battle against disease.

As the Canadian Press story points out, everyone knew the findings of the brilliant young Dr. Salk, who had created a safe vaccine of killed virus, building on the vital discoveries by others in the long battle against polio.

The results of these exhaustive experiments have given the news the world was waiting for, and indeed anticipating. The vaccine is declared to be "safe, effective and potent"; it was found 80 to 90 percent effective in preventing paralytic polio in tests last year.

Canada has played an important part in developing the new vaccine, chief credit in this connection going to a native of the Maritime Provinces, Dr. Raymond Parker of the Connaught Laboratories, of Toronto.

Production and distribution methods are now being finalized, and the details of these important factors are given in today's issue. Several medical authorities have urged that the vaccine first go to children up to the first grade, with the second priority to children of ages through the fifth grade, and thirdly to pregnant women.

A Good Symbol

Reference was made in these columns a while back to the Prayer Room that had been set aside in the United States Capitol for the use of members of Congress.

The room is 20 ft. square and its central features are a plain altar and a stained glass window depicting George Washington kneeling in prayer. The window, valued at \$10,000, was donated by an art studio in California.

States. The border is a laurel wreath containing the name of the other States.

Much is being said these days about the growing influence of secularism in all segments of society. No doubt, it is cause for anxiety; and the existence of a prayer chamber in the political centre of a great power does not suggest that secularism is being replaced in the ways of the nation, or even in the ways of its Congress, by a nobler and more spiritual concept of life.

Athenagoras' Report

What is the present state of religion in the Soviet Union and its satellites? Are the Churches freer or less so than they were in the days of Stalin? Answers to these questions are not easy to find; for, of course, on the spot observers, capable of giving anything like a true picture, are handicapped by censorship and other difficulties stemming from East-West differences.

In a recent interview with the New York Times representative in Istanbul the Archbishop reported that he has reason to believe that things have taken a turn for the better since Nikita Khrushchev, head of the Communist Party, issued an edict last November forbidding persecution of Church-goers, which had been the practice before that time.

Our northern winter at times, especially late in February, Ottawa, seems to have little to command it. But those icy blizzards straight from the North Pole do stimulate nature to do its best to protect our wild animals.

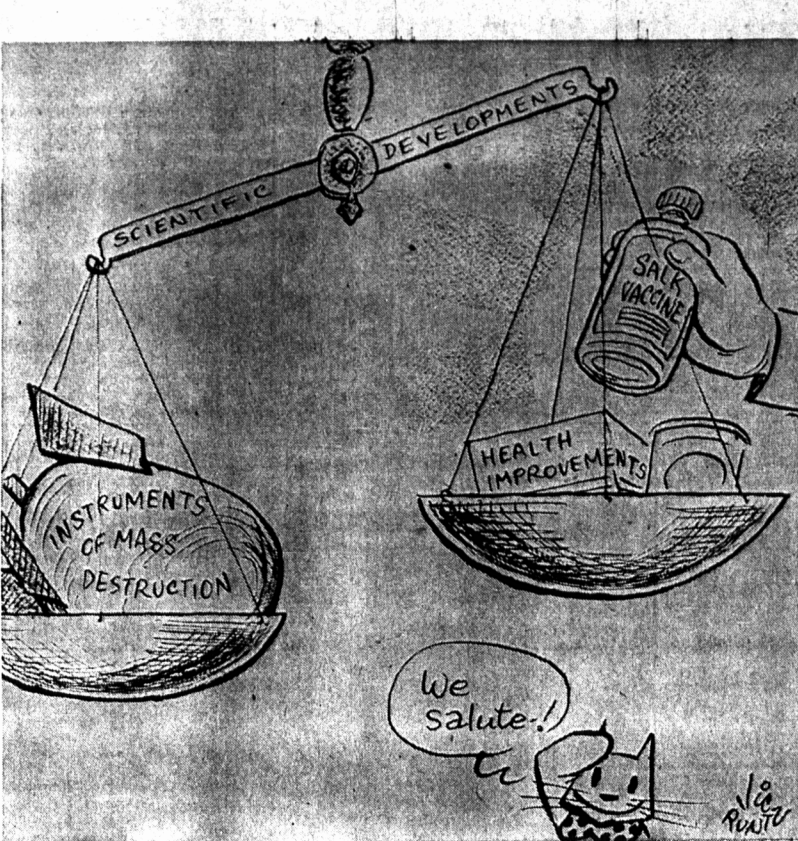
The Department of Northern Affairs is a name one would not expect to find on the label of a fashionable ladies evening cloak. But this Department, which is responsible for the welfare of the Eskimos, arranged for the design and making of a lovely cloak made of Canadian Arctic Fox.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The frozen food industry in the United States is said to be in a state of temporary recession. The reason, however, is not that demand has slowed down—on the contrary, it is growing all the time—but that most retail stores simply do not have the facilities for storing all the products they would like to handle.

To commemorate the arrival in New Zealand of the United States Marine Corps, an ornamental gateway with bronze plaques has been planned by Wellington Harbour Board for erection on Aotea Quay, Wellington. In May 1942, elements of the Marine Corps arrived at the Quay, and so became the first troops of a foreign ally ever to be quartered in New Zealand.

What's in a name? Plenty, according to reports from the State Legislature in Lansing, Michigan, where members of the Senate Judiciary Committee are trying to settle an argument between two institutions of higher learning. This is the gist of it: In East Lansing there is the Michigan State College with an enrollment of about 15,000. It is 100 years old and, as a centennial honour, its trustees want the right to change its name to Michigan State University. They feel that this would help its graduates find jobs and also attract more distinguished scholars to its staff.



Towards A Better Balance

OTTAWA REPORT

Canada On Display

By Patrick Nicholson

Canada is showing the world a remarkable display of versatility: on top of an announcement that deep-freezers were being sold to the Eskimos, a government official now tells me that Canadian women's fashions are to be shown at that home of fashion, Paris.

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The Department of Trade and Commerce is sponsoring this exhibition. The word "CANADA" in large gold letters will identify the special stand on which it is to be shown.

The excitement all began with the discovery of the "Kensington Stone" in Minnesota almost 60 years ago. The stone contained on its surface a carved message dated 1264 which told of a Viking expedition into Hudson Bay up the Nelson river, south on Lake Winnipeg and thence to the headwaters of the Red river in Minnesota.

Amateur archaeologists leaped into action. Since then other so-called "runestones" have been found, together with relic purporting to be helmets, utensils and Viking swords near Beardmore, Ont. The latter were publicized by the late James W. Curran the famous editor of the Sault Ste. Marie Star.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

MUDDY ROADS

Sir.—Yesterday I slogged through mud on the Rocky Point road with a tractor to conduct some business in Charlottetown, and on the way helped two mired cars to regain firmer footing.

The Age Old Story

And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee; then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

Did the Vikings Reach The Heart of Canada?

We have been from time to time fascinated by reports that the discovery of authentic relics prove that the ancient Vikings sailing from their Greenland bases, had penetrated the heart of the continent long before Christopher Columbus was born.

SMALL PEOPLE

Average height of pygmy natives in the Belgian Congo is 54 inches.

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

Medically Speaking Herman N. Sundesen, M.D. WHEN THE BABY IS SICK When your baby is ill, you're going to have a lot of work. If he has diarrhea, for example, you'll be busy feeding him a good portion of the day.

Scraped Raw Apple As your baby gets better and the diarrhea begins to clear up, gradually start giving him his regular foods. Offer him his cereals first, then the orange juice and cod-liver oil. Next you can resume his cooked vegetables and, finally, you can give him his fruits.

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NOTES BY THE WAY There is something to be said for the old-fashioned nightshift. No one ever had the nerve to wear it to breakfast. —Brandon Sun. A Flesherson woman, who used to live in Toronto, got a surprise when she took her eight-year-old daughter to the city for the first time on Saturday.

Based on Dec. 31, 1954 prices, of the 1,076 companies listed on the New York Stock Exchange, last year 200 paid 6 per cent or more; 233 paid 5 per cent to 6 per cent; 187 paid 4 per cent to 5 per cent; 84 paid 3 per cent to 4 per cent; 97 paid under 3 per cent; 106 paid no dividends. —New York Stock Exchange Bulletin.

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