

Covers Prince Edward Island like the best... Published every week-day morning at 100 Prince Street...

The Christmas Spirit

"How far that little candle throws his beams! So shines a good deed in a naughty world."

An unlikely place to find a pre-Christmas editorial is in a National Defense Department release; but one has come to hand which serves our purpose.

The Canadian visitors did not see this little girl's home village, because they did not have sufficient time to journey the 23 winding miles to her home and return.

The Foster Parents' Plan has been in existence for more than 20 years. It was originally established in 1937 to help orphans and unprotected children during the Spanish Civil War and, since the Second World War, has extended aid to children in Belgium, France, Italy, Western Germany, Korea, Vietnam and Greece.

In Corfu there is a waiting list of 500 more children needing foster parents; and this is understandable. Known as "the most beautiful of the Isles of Greece," Corfu has also known much sorrow and suffering down through the years.

That is the background to this little story of pre-Christmas cheer. Its significance lies in the fact that it is being duplicated in many quarters by the Royal Canadian Navy, wherever its ships touch foreign ports and there is poverty and destitution.

While we are proud of the participation of our service forces in such actions abroad, let us remember that there is need for our own charitable gifts at home. Our Welfare Bureaus, Salvation Army and other organizations are doing excellent work in this respect.

In this way we can light many little candles in this naughty world, which will shine just as brightly as the one whose beams have reached us from far-away Corfu.

Timely Warning

Fire departments and accident prevention authorities are warning that a Christmas tree is a thing of beauty that can kill joy forever. Fifty people died during the Christmas holidays in 1957; they perished in fires. Let us endeavour, in this community and Province, to profit by this warning and avoid the tragic consequences which a little carelessness may bring.

Christmas parties are now under way and preparations are being completed for enjoying Christmas within the home. The tree selected should not be too large and it should be cut four inches off the trunk at the bottom and soaked in water before being placed in position. Added safety is secured by keeping the tree in a container of water while the tree is in the house.

The tree should never be placed near an open fireplace. It should be kept as far away from a radiator or hot air register as possible, preferably near a door or other exit. The proximity of curtains is also a danger. No lights should touch the needles or branches. Lighted candles on the tree are particularly dangerous. Smokers should be

careful of their lighted matches or cigaret lighters if sitting near the tree.

It takes no more than 15 seconds for a large Christmas tree to become reduced to ashes. When the needles are dry the tree roars into life like a giant torch, and the searing heat ignites everything close to it. In most cases there is no time to call the fire department or to grab a fire extinguisher. If the tree is carelessly placed, it could not only set fire to a room but could cut off all means of escape.

Better to worry a little about these destructive features of Christmas decorations, than have lifelong regrets about one's carelessness in forgetting them? It is as simple as that. Let's keep the Christmas tree a thing of beauty, the centre of joy and happy associations, by making every member of the household keenly conscious of the fire menace at this season.

What, Again?

Once again the matter of a "distinctive" Canadian flag and national anthem is to be raised when Parliament meets. The Liberal leader, Hon. Mr. Pearson, says we should show signs of "national maturity" in "discussing these issues. We do not think it is evidence of maturity to have an inferiority complex with regard to either of them.

There may be advantages in having our own national flag and anthem, but we are not impressed by the arguments which have been advanced in their favour. Our service men who defended our liberties as a free country in two world wars fought under the Union Jack and sang God Save the King when they felt like expressing their patriotic emotions. What was good enough for them ought to be good enough for our citizens of today.

We don't see anything wrong with expressing our nationalism by voicing allegiance to the Crown or by saluting the flag that has been the symbol of our safety and security for generations in this country and in other parts of the Commonwealth. The things that bind us as Commonwealth partners are more important than our petty differences. Canada's status as a full-fledged nation is not questioned in any part of the world. Why should we worry about its outward trappings?

We doubt whether Mr. Pearson is much concerned about it either. He was simply replying to a query from the Native Sons of Canada as to whether he supported a "distinctive" flag and national anthem, and he said he did; that we ought to have these things and that the matter would be raised in the Commons when Parliament reconvenes in January. There are many more important issues to be discussed; and if this one gets sidetracked for another year, or another decade, we do not think it will make a bit of difference to our national status.

EDITORIAL NOTES

French Somiland has decided to remain a colony. That is where it showed good sense. Sovereignty is a good thing, of course; but it brings new responsibilities and economic risks, a fact which the people of more than one small nation seem to have overlooked in their haste to become "independent".

There's a very considerate judge in Portland, Me. When a vagrant pleaded guilty, the judge commented: "I understand you'd like to go to jail for the winter." "It wouldn't do any harm," said the vagrant. "How long do you need, 90 days?" asked the judge. "60 days will be enough", was the reply. The sentence was 60 days.

The Quebec Government has given notice of legislation to increase funds available for farm loans and to provide assistance to help young farmers establish themselves. In Alberta, a farm improvement loan plan has been established. Under the program the Government will guarantee up to 50 percent on borrowing to a maximum loan of \$2000. Repayments can be made over periods of up to 10 years. This Province, considering the importance of agriculture to its economy, urgently needs some sort of farm loan legislation.



DON'T INVITE TROUBLE

OTTAWA REPORT

Arctic Development

By Patrick Nicholson

The Royal Society of Canada and the Geological Association of Canada have jointly urged our Government to expand its surveys in our 1,500,000 square miles of northland, an area equivalent to three provinces each the size of our largest province, Quebec, and estimated to be capable of producing enough food to support a population of 6,000,000.

The brief by these two learned societies focusses especially on the islands in our Arctic, and stresses that their development "is of importance from the standpoint of national sovereignty as well as for military strategy." Geological investigation is vital to intelligent development of those areas, says

PUBLIC FORUM

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

HATS OFF TO THIS TEACHER!

Sir,—While waiting for the bus recently, I started talking to Mrs. X. She is nearing middle age, stout and motherly looking. She seemed wary, but not at all discouraged when she told me that she had just finished buying presents for forty school children. I started—forty children! "Where do you teach?" I asked. "In R—," she replied. "When I started to teach there ten years ago I had forty-seven." "And you've taught there ten years—why you've seen them right through from Grade I to X?" "Exactly," she answered. "The one in Grade X now doesn't want to leave me—she could have gone to another school had she wished." I understood perfectly—one only had to look at her face to find the answer.

My next question was: "And how far do you live from your school?" "Two miles Mrs. X's answer—and how do you travel?" "Oh, I walk sometimes, but I don't like the wind or slippery roads—of course in the winter it's by horse and sleigh." And so we talked, beginning to touch on the various school problems common to every school.

Now, I am not advocating that all teachers stay in a school ten years—I think her record is matchless for a one-room country school—but she left me with this thought which I am going to pass on. I have heard it said and said so many times that teachers should be changed every two years—I never agreed—for by two years the teacher is really getting things moving in the right direction and is interested in his or her pupils.

My problem was this: I had a pupil in Grade VI who could not read, simply because, I was told, that a former teacher had done all the reading for the pupils—now, I said, I am reaping the results of that teacher's folly. And here was her answer, which I considered a timely one. That is the trouble today with the schools—the teachers do not stay long enough to see the outcome if their work — if they did, then they would be able to remedy the situation, whereas they drift off to another school never knowing the struggle the next teacher has.

I could elaborate further on the amount of work this lady teacher accomplishes and so much, very much that she didn't even mention, but that I could clearly visualize.

So teachers, let us give this hard-working teacher a pat on the back — and, let us hope that her district appreciates what she is doing in her modest and unassuming way—her work is priceless!

I am, Sir, etc., ANOTHER TEACHER.

OTTAWA REPORT

Arctic Development

By Patrick Nicholson

The brief is an essential prerequisite to transportation; and it is sufficient to establish our effective occupation of the less hospitable areas.

"Current comment in the U.S. even in government circles, shows a misunderstanding of the national status of the Canadian Arctic. Concern over the much more advanced development of similar latitudes in Russia has prompted suggestions that disregard the fact of Canada's sovereignty over the Arctic islands," says the brief, giving words to thoughts widely held.

U.S. ICE-BREAKER

Typical of the comment to which the brief refers was the report by the U.S. Office of Naval Research, which stated that "a vacuum exists in the Arctic Ocean area due to our lack of capability in this region". And in June the U.S. Senate's Commerce Committee urged the construction of a costly nuclear-powered ice-breaker to operate in the Arctic, asserting that failure to build such a ship would be "almost tantamount to ceding to Russia full control of the Arctic regions in the event of future hostilities between the two leading world powers".

The attitude of mind may be based partly on ignorance of Canada's claims and aspirations in the Arctic; at the official level it can only reflect repudiation of our claim to the Arctic islands under our unaltered "sector theory". It has perhaps been accentuated by fact that the U.S. have assumed full responsibility for constructing and manning the Distant Early Warning radar stations across our Arctic coastline and islands; and they have, until this year, even undertaken the annual resupply of food, fuel and other essentials.

In building more than fifty defence bases in what we regard as "our" Arctic, Americans have undoubtedly noticed that over large areas they are the only occupants of the land; and they have perhaps assumed that such effective occupation gives them sovereignty over empty and virgin lands.

But to think this is to ignore the terms of the 1955 Treaty between Canada and U.S., which gave them the right to construct and man DEW-line stations, and associated airstrips and supply bases, on Canadian territory. Under that treaty, Canada's sovereignty is recognized by such clauses as that giving us the right, "on reasonable notice", to take over those defence installations from the Americans and man them ourselves; and that clause—not always observed by the Americans—insisting that plans for bases, roads and jetties shall be submitted to Canada for concurrence before construction.

In fact, the Americans have less security of tenure on the DEW-line than they have on the Newfoundland bases, which they leased during World War II for 99 years.

OUR DEFENCE EFFORT?

That is the official position. But it remains at least irritating to read articles in U.S. magazines and newspapers about Arctic development on Canadian territory, in which, as Opposition Leader Lester Pearson recently told Parliament, the U.S. authors write about "our" Arctic.

A more difficult point perhaps concerns the invasion of our Arctic from across the North Pole. Under the perhaps valid pretext of scientific observations connected with the International Geophysical Year, Russian planes frequently fly over our Arctic; as many as twenty-two are tracked by DEW-line radar stations on many days.

Russian scientists are camping on the huge ice islands, as much as 25 miles long, which drift about one mile per day through our sector. International law does not cover these phenomena; some of the best minds believe that a floating ice platform, even though 18 miles wide and 300 feet deep, should be regarded not as an island, but as a ship. In that case, the law of the sea permits their occupation, and permits them to roam the high seas, even the Arctic Ocean, outside territorial waters.

An increasingly high price must be paid to assert and maintain our sovereignty in the Arctic, and to enable Canada to derive the optimum benefits from the wealthy resources known to be there. It might be decided that this costly but essential task would be Canada's most effective defence expenditure in coming years.

Mikyan To Washington

By Joseph MacSweeney

The plans of Russian deputy premier Anastas Mikoyan to visit Washington conjures up a picture of a business meeting between a shrewd Armenian horse-trader and hard-headed Yankee Bargainers.

Commentators are predicting big things — including a Berlin settlement — for the visit, and anything is possible. It seems certain that Mikoyan, Russia's supreme trade authority, won't miss any chances in his own field.

In its drive to increase production of consumer goods under the new seven-year plan, Russia needs United States heavy machinery. Last June, the U.S. rejected a Russian proposal for government-to-government trade negotiations, with the U.S. extending credit for the purchases.

TIMING ELEMENT

The timing of the Mikoyan visit is being studied particularly in relation to the Berlin crisis, in which Russia has threatened to act unilaterally within six months if its proposals are not accepted by the West.

The tough stand taken by NATO foreign ministers meeting in Paris — their repudiation of Russian threats — may have caused second thoughts in the Kremlin. It's thus considered significant that Mikoyan applied for the U.S. visit after—not before—the NATO position became clear. The American success in

To Remember If Diabetic

By Herman N. Bundesen, M.D. HERE'S what every diabetic should know. Doctors can do only so much; after that it's up to the patient himself. So if you have diabetes, you must give your doctor your wholehearted support and confidence. Do what he tells you to do.

NO EATING SPREES

Resist temptations to go on eating sprees. Follow the diet prescribed by your physician. If yours is a mild case, be sure that each day you get a generous supply of leafy green vegetables, adequate servings of other vegetables and fruits, at least one pint of milk, some meat, one egg, one serving of cereal, and a slice of ordinary bread at each meal.

IF OVERWEIGHT

Don't eat starchy foods a nd pure sugar. If you are overweight, limit your intake of butter and cream. You can use salt, pepper and vinegar according to your taste. And you can have as much water. Plain tea and coffee and clear broth as you want.

ADEQUATE EXERCISE

Get sufficient exercise. This is important because exercise enable the body to increase its ability to use sugar. The exercise shouldn't be too strenuous nor should it present any chance for injury.

REGULAR INSULIN

If your doctor has prescribed insulin (not all diabetics need it, you know) do not omit a dose simply because you have lost your appetite temporarily, or because you have a cold or some other illness. When in doubt, check with your doctor.

URINE TESTS

Test the urine regularly for the presence of sugar. These tests are simple and quick. So there's no reason you can't perform them as often as your doctor suggests.

INFECTION DANGEROUS

Any infection presents a danger to the cold war.

COMPELLING REASONS

Recent events have demonstrated Premier Nikita Khrushchev's respect for the suave Mikoyan, who once studied for the priesthood in the Armenian church and who is said to be behind the - sciences manipulator of foreign policy as well as a trade wizard.

When Khrushchev held audience with U.S. Senator Hubert Humphrey in Moscow, Mikoyan was called in to take part in the eight-hour conference. Mikoyan also granted an interview to the touring Adlai Stevenson. Democratic candidate in the last U.S. presidential election.

It's apparent that such an important figure would not be leaving Moscow in January, just before sessions of the Communist Party congress, without compelling reasons.

OTTAWA VISIT?

Mikoyan has been prominent in the Kremlin's new "open face" policy, in contrast with the remote habits of high-ranking party dignitaries in the Stalin era.

Like Khrushchev, he has appeared on American television, submitting to questioning by a group of American students. He adopted a smooth, avuncular line. In his travels, he has appeared to enjoy slipping protocol and moving among the people.

The Russians have no immediate hint as to whether Mikoyan, 63, may seek a side visit to Ottawa, but some factors seem to work against such a possibility. For one thing, he has applied only for a diplomatic visa to the U.S. — he doesn't contemplate anything like a state visit, and his ostensible purpose is merely to hold talks with the Russian ambassador in Ottawa.

One source noted, however, that it took only 24 hours to arrange for the Washington trip. A Canadian visit probably could be set up in a short time if Mikoyan applied through the normal channels.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The reason many a dreamer never accomplishes anything is that his backbone is much weaker than his wishbone.—Woodstock Sentinel-Review

gentle to a diabetic. Recognize this fact and be careful. Report any fever, no matter how slight to your doctor. Fever, you see, may increase the need for insulin.

Be sure to carry a few crackers, chocolate or a lump of sugar with you at all times. If you should accidentally receive an overdose of insulin, you probably can prevent a reaction by eating one of these as soon as you notice any of its symptoms.

QUESTION AND ANSWER R.B.: I am losing the pigmentation of my skin. Is this due to some type of deficiency in my body and will certain vitamins or special foods remedy the condition?

ANSWER: Loss of pigmentation of the skin, called Vitiligo, is not known to be due to a deficiency in the body. However, some recently introduced medicines seem to restore the pigmentation. A skin specialist may prescribe these for you.

MAXIMS

He who fumes at his quarrels becomes their victim.

The Poet's Corner

WINTER IN THE COUNTRY

All that framed those tranquil lives Portrayed by Currier and Ives Enriches me, this winter day; A century has rolled away. Here is the farmhouse, white and prim, With snowy eaves and glistening trim Of icicles along its roof; Here are the hills, secure, aloof That stretch into a blue beyond; Here even is the frozen pond, And coming up the shovelled road The wood cart with its topfull load. Now in this snow-sequestered land Where age-old verities still stand My pulse has slowed to seek a key Of matching grace and dignity. —Barbara Overton Christie in the Christian Science Monitor

TEN YEARS AGO

Over 100 applications have been received from young men wishing to attend the Farmers Short Course which opens at St. Dunstan's College on January 3 and continues until January 8. Mr. L.P. MacLellan, Supervisor of the Farm Extension Branch, said yesterday that the applications were representative of almost all farming districts in the Province.

Mrs. Elmer Wedlock of Vale, near O'Leary, had the misfortune to fall into a hole in the home where a furnace was being put in, and had a metal pipe pierce her thigh inflicting a serious wound. She also broke a rib. She was immediately taken to the Alberton Hospital for treatment.

The Age Old Story

I have taught thee in the ways of wisdom; I have led thee to right paths.



Merry Christmas

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Christmas Blessings

At Christmas time, we wish for you all the spiritual blessings of the season. May our heart and home be filled with happiness supreme, and may the radiance and wonder of this holy time be with you and yours throughout the coming year. CLARKE FRUIT CO. LTD. PRINCE STREET DIAL 8587

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