

THE HAILEYBURIAN and COBALT POST

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Library Week

Canada is often regarded as a country of non-readers. Recent surveys have shown that we stand 14th among the world's nations in the number of bookstores per capita.

We have an unfortunate reputation in this connection, it seems. The well-known author Nicholas Monsarrat has said: "I find Canada the worst reading country in the world. The per capita book consumption here is lower than anywhere else."

We could reply that Canada is much too busy growing to be interested in reading at the moment. We could point to the United States which has even fewer bookstores per capita than we have. We might say these things, but we would be doing ourselves an injustice. What are the facts?

The Canadian Library Week Council reports that more people are borrowing from libraries than ever before. In many sections of the country library circulation has risen by as much as 50 per cent since 1945. The number of borrowers from libraries has increased by almost 60 per cent in many areas.

A large number of our libraries are finding it impossible to keep up with the ever-increasing demands being made on them. As a result, Canada is now undergoing the greatest library building program since the days of Andrew Carnegie.

It would appear, then, that we are not a nation of non-readers. Recent surveys indicate that there is even a trend toward more reading of non-fiction, and bookstores are generally busier than ever before.

We have relatively few bookstores, however, and only 80 per cent of our total population is served, often inadequately, by a library. Increasing interest in reading, and a growing population, make it vitally important that we provide for more adequate distribution of books.

The prospect is not a bleak one, but we still have far to go before we can call ourselves a well-informed nation.

Canadian Library Week, April 3 to 9, is the second program of its kind to be held in Canada. It points up the continuing importance of information and understanding in a complex modern world. We should remember that a better-read, better-informed Canada is vitally necessary if we are to retain our enviable position among the world's great nations.

Cobalt Girl Guides Host to Temagami

COBALT — Forty Guides answered to the roll call at the regular meeting of the First Company Cobalt Girl Guides when they met in the Community Hall. Due to the fact that there is such a large number now on the roll, registration for Guides will be closed until further notice.

Guiders in charge of the meeting were Lt. Mrs. Irene Urban, Acting Lt. Mrs. Alice Browne and helping with the Tenderfoot were Genevieve Gareau, Helen Dunning and Lillian Jennings. The meeting began with the regular opening and drill. Miss Evelyn Hurst then conducted the girls in a practice session for their Festival song.

During the work period Second and First Class Guides were taught service for their First Class under the leadership of Mrs. M. McKinnon, R.N., while the others worked on their Tenderfoot tests

Mining Alumni Plan Annual Meet

Plans are being made for the second annual meeting of the Provincial Institute of Mining Alumni which will be held at the Hotel Haileybury on Saturday, April 9.

Lasting from 9 a.m., when registration starts, until twelve midnight, when dancing will end, it will provide a full day of business and entertainment, with the general meeting in the forenoon, followed by a luncheon and mixed curling in the afternoon.

A banquet at seven p.m. will precede the dance at 9 o'clock.

in preparation for their enrollment. Roll call was taken, followed by the collection of dues.

The District of Cobalt is pleased to welcome a new Guide Company in Temagami which is under the leadership of Mrs. G. Jackson with Miss Lavoie as Lieutenant.

I See by THE PAPERS

MONTREAL — Quotes by hockey coaches which have a familiar ring around Stanley Cup time:

Before the game: "Anything can happen in a short series."

"We're confident but not cocky."

"They put their pants (skates, socks) on one leg at the same time we do."

"We'll take the series one game at a time."

"The boys are up for this one."

"I never make predictions but..."

"We'll do okay if we stay healthy."

"You can be sure of one thing. They'll know they were in a hockey game."

After the game: "Anything can happen in a short series."

"The puck wasn't rolling for us."

"Don't count us out yet."

"Now we've got that bad one out of our system."

"We'll be tougher from here on in."

"The forwards weren't back-checking."

"Our defence wasn't aggressive enough."

"We're not as bad as we looked."

COLUMBUS, OHIO — All during the recent snowy weeks Mrs. Bertha Valentine of nearby New Rome has been feeding the birds. Then one of them paid his tab, she reported. A cardinal dropped a dollar bill in Mrs. Valentine's driveway.

TAIPEI, Formosa — At the suggestion of a fortune teller, a man living near the South Formosa port of Kaohsiung has become formally engaged to a girl who died 19 years ago, Chinese newspapers reported. They tell this story:

The man, identified only as Mr. Li, consulted the fortune teller after doctors had failed to cure him of a long illness. The fortune teller advised him to marry the eldest daughter of a man named Sung Shui-chih. She died at the age of three.

Li obtained Sung's consent and presented him with two gold rings, two cartons of cigars and the equivalent of \$30 in cash as a betrothal gift.

The fortune teller promised to pick an auspicious date for the wedding, which will be carried out symbolically, with possibly a hen representing the long-dead bride.

NIANTIC, Conn. — Mrs. Charles Hurshman heard that a skunk was frolicking on a neighbor's lawn, and rushed over to see if it was pet skunk Sweet Pea.

"It looked just like Sweet Pea," she said. But it wasn't. She found out the hard way.

LOS ANGELES — Emery T. Newburn is an old salt, a sociable drinker and the hero of the common drunks.

He's the toast of about 100 fellow inebriates wandering out of jails and road camps today because he cried "You can't do this to me!" —and made it stick.

Newburn, 38, a part-time ship's navigator, got his hackles up after having been run in as a common drunk more than 100 times. He sent a hand-written protest — charging unconstitutionality — to the California Supreme Court.

This caused some soul-searching by the high court.

"Is the term 'common drunk' ambiguous on the face? the court asked itself — and decided it is.

"Almost as many definitions of a common drunk are judicially accepted as there are courts to formulate them," the court concluded.

It ruled, in short, that Newburn was right in saying there were just too many definitions for anyone to know what is really meant in Los Angeles County by a common drunk.

As a result, 100 of the 150 prisoners doing time for over-doing the demon rum were sprung. The

other 50 had other offences that detained them.

ECCLES, England — Strolling home from work, Ronald Gadd spotted a gang of workmen about to knock his house down with a bull-dozer.

"Stop," he shrieked, "you're demolishing the wrong house."

The workmen turned and looked at him.

Then they glanced uneasily at the house next door which they had just reduced to a pile of rubble.

"We have orders," the foreman told Gadd, "to knock down four houses in King William Street."

"But those houses were demolished three weeks ago," he cried. "And this isn't King William Street. It's Railway View."

The workmen packed up their gear and drove off.

ALDRIDGE, England — Tom Dobson, a welder, eats alone in the factory canteen at Aldridge. None of 150 fellow workmen talks to him.

Even his bicycle has been ostracized. It is locked in a room so those who don't like Dobson can't slash the tires again.

Dobson was taken on at the Birlec furnace factory several months ago. Workers suggested he join the Boiler Makers' Union.

Dobson had been in it once and said he was unhappy because it is a turbulent outfit. He offered to join the Amalgamated Engineering Union.

Argument became bitter, and two weeks ago culminated in a strike. Only Dobson went to work. On the intervention of national union officials, the strike was called off but since then Dobson has been subjected to angry silence.

No one will work with Dobson at a bench. He cannot work effectively, because no one will touch anything he handles.

There is no violence but men push past Dobson without a word or a smile. The ostracism extends to the town of Aldridge. People do not talk to his wife, Mary, or their five children.

"He is stubborn man when it

Legion Bingo

COBALT — The Ladies' Auxiliary to the Canadian Legion held another of their popular bi-monthly bingos on Friday, March 25, in the Legion Lounge.

Winners of specials were Mrs. F. Morin, Mrs. O. Childs, Haileybury, Mrs. T. Leonard, Mrs. Deforge and Mrs. F. Riley. The door prize was won by Mrs. S. Speck.

comes to principle," said Mary. "I suggested he quit the job, but he says he won't unless he is fired."

"I won't back down," said Dobson. "I was a long time in the army fighting against things like this."

HARTFORD, Conn. — It was like something out of the silent films of the Keystone Cops.

A police wagon bearing several prisoners broke down at the top of a hill. Two wheels fell off, and one started rolling down the hill.

The policemen chased it to the bottom.

Meanwhile, at the top of the hill a car stopped. Two men got out, picked up the other wheel, and sped off in the car. The police watched helplessly from below.

The wagon had to be hoisted on a wrecker and towed. The prisoners were taken to headquarters in a police car.

JAMES REILLY, D.C. Doctor of Chiropractic For evening appointments call MI 7-6120 between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. Whitewood Ave., New Liskeard

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Haileybury Curling Club Lounge

SATURDAY, APRIL 2 8:15 p.m.

DOOR PRIZE \$225.00 BLACKOUT on 55 numbers only, otherwise \$25.00 will be paid.

Admission: 50c for 20 Games Additional Cards 25c

EVERYBODY WELCOME

Chartered bus provided by Curling Club, leaving Cobalt at 7:30 p.m., North Cobalt at 7:40 p.m. and returning direct from Curling Rink at 10:30.

COBALT-HAILEYBURY CURLING CLUB



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