

# Editorial Page

## Canadian Achievement

A new grain, named "whye" because it is similar to a wheat-rye-hybrid, has been developed by scientists working at the University of Manitoba. Standing six feet high and with a beard two to three times the length of that of normal grain, if whye flourishes it may triple the amount of grain that can be grown on an acre of ground.

The Canadian scientists are reported to have scoured the world to find the seeds of the original grasses from which modern grains developed. From this beginning selective breeding has developed the entirely new cereal grain. There are now eleven pounds of the seed, but it will be several years before any can be released to farmers. Each kernel must be carefully planted and the resulting grain as carefully replanted to build up the supply. The Canadian distilling company that has co-operated in the whye project will have to wait several additional years before the supply of the grain

permits its use in industrial experiments.

The whye project recalls other great Canadian successes in the same field, notably the work of Sir Charles Saunders. As Dominion cerealist at the Ottawa Experimental Farm, in 1904 Sir Charles developed the famous Marquis wheat. Five years later it was distributed to western farmers and within a few years millions of acres were seeded with Marquis. An improved variety that was introduced in 1947, ten years after Sir Charles' death, bears the name of Saunders. And there have been other Canadian-developed strains of wheat that, by their resistance to disease, faster maturing and better flour qualities, have made major contributions to the world's food supply.

It may be that some day whye will provide the answer to the problem foreseen by more than one, of a food supply inadequate to the needs of a vastly expanded world population.

## The Good Old Days

People with short memories and a limited knowledge of social history like to refer to "the good old days" with the implication that life was so much sweeter then.

This may have been true in a few cases but certainly not in the majority of instances, as indicated by a set of "house rules" posted on the wall for employees of a carriage shop in 1879.

"Rules of This Establishment" were as follows:

1. Employees working here shall dust the furniture, clean their desks and sweep the floor daily.

2. All windows shall be cleaned once a week.

3. Each employee shall bring his own bucket of water and scuttle of coal for each day's work.

4. Lamps shall be trimmed and chimneys cleaned daily.

5. Working hours shall be 7.00 a.m. to 8.00 p.m. every day but the Sabbath. On the Sabbath everyone is expected to be in the Lord's House.

6. Employees are expected to trim their own pen nits to suit themselves.

7. It is expected that each employee shall participate in the activities of the church and contribute liberally to the Lord's work.

8. All employees must show themselves worthy of their hire.

9. Employees are expected to be in bed by 10.00 p.m., except each male employee may be given one evening a week for courting and two evenings a week in the Lord's House.

10. After an employee has been with our firm for five years, he shall receive an added payment of five cents per day, providing the firm has prospered in a manner to make it possible.

11. It is the bounden duty of each employee to put away at least 10 per cent of his wages for his declining years, so that he will not become a burden upon the charity of his betters.

12. Any employee who is shaven in public parlors, frequents pool rooms or uses tobacco shall be brought before the management to give reasons why he should be continued in employment.

## Who Pays for Royalty?

What about writing an article (says a reader) about what it costs a new Canadian or would-be Canadian for the Royal Family? The Eastern Europeans where I work get excited about how much they pay in taxes to the U.K. to keep up the Royal Family. I don't think we pay anything; but I'm not sure, so I can't put up much of an argument. They sit around at lunch time talking about their money going out of the country.

Answer: No money goes out of Canada to keep up the Royal Family. Canadians are in the happy position of having a Queen of their own, at no cost to Canadians. The English do the paying.

## Buffalo Miracle

Old timers must have rubbed their eyes when they saw a report from Ottawa announcing that there would be an open season for buffalo hunting this fall, comments The Financial Post.

It's a miracle that there are any of these big animals alive in North America today, let alone so many that limited hunting is to be permitted again.

Less than 50 years ago it was exceedingly doubtful whether the buffalo could survive except for the famous pair of bronze ones in the Manitoba legislature buildings. By the end of the century the vast herds had completely vanished. Only a handful of animals were left, all in zoos or private reserves.

Rapid and total extinction was certain when the Canadian government stepped in, purchased the only sizeable group available and gave it protection in a special reserve in Saskatchewan. Now there are several

years we have attended weekly newspaper conventions on our holidays. They are usually held about 700 miles from home. The holiday involves weeks of discussion about wardrobes for both hot and cold weather, half a dozen firm decisions that we can't afford it, and endless deliberations to plant the kids with somebody.

In the end, we declare roundly to each other that we're only young once, and take off in a great flurry of last-minute reservations and irritations. And what with all the social events, the late hours and the long trip, we arrive home completely fatigued and equally broke, the last two bucks having been spent on presents for the kids, grabbed at the cigar stand in Union Station, on the last lap of the journey home.

One year, we decided to just stay home. I was going to paint the trim on the house. On that occasion I learned two things: that you can't get much trim painted when you knock off every half hour for refreshments; and that I am unfortunately unable to work with the Old Lady as straw boss. That year, I got to spend a half a week painting, and they say I did just about three years until they

Seriously, though, my Old Battie agrees with me when I mention getting away for a change in their holidays. In theory, what burns her up is that men appear to have a wonderful time when they're on a holiday with other men, and women are just not interested in going on a joint vacation with men. It's

"The work of esportage," writes Monique J. Blumenthal, general secretary of the French Bible Committee, "remains the most effective means of contact with the general public." The increasing use of Bibles stands at trade fairs, is also a method used in a growing number of countries for the strengthening of the witness of the church.

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