

# HARLEY...to HALTON

By DR. HARRY HARLEY, M.P.

One of the matters for discussion and adoption has been the proposed program of the World Health Organization for the five year period of 1967 to 1971.

This is a proposed program suggested by the W.H.O. to the member countries, on which they will give assistance, in varying amounts of technical and financial assistance. To give some idea of the scope of their activities, I shall briefly outline the program. The following have been under discussion.

**1. National Health Planning.** This is used in a general sense to this as Public Health. It does not specifically refer to medicine.

**2. Communicable Diseases.** None of these diseases, apart from tuberculosis, exist in Canada except rarely. These were mainly malaria, smallpox and many non-Canadian diseases.

**3. Non-Communicable Diseases.** These diseases exist in Canada as they do elsewhere. These were cancer, mental illness and cardiovascular diseases. Malnutrition is a severe problem in some areas but is rare in Canada to any extent.

**4. Environmental Health.** This deals with measures of sanitation and in particular with the training of qualified personnel in this field.

**5. Education and Training.** The problem of training personnel in some health fields is extremely difficult. These include: health staff doctoring and training in post-graduate fields such as public health.

**6. General Interest Topics.** General matters concerning the World Health Organization are international quarantine (such as smallpox and yellow fever) and statistics of disease in the world. One of the matters in

which I am greatly interested is the procedures for evaluating drugs and proposing the exchange of information on drug safety and drug reactions.

**Drug Safety.** In the field of quality control or safety of drugs, it was brought out that two-thirds of the world population had no guarantee of any kind on their drug purchases that they were safe for use. It was natural, therefore, that these countries would like to have a certificate of quality, not only from the drug manufacturer, but that the drugs passed international standards that would be set up by the World Health Organization. Laboratory checks by the World Health Organization were discussed but it was felt these were not practical.

**Drug Reactions.** The matter of adverse drug reactions was discussed. This is a reaction to a drug other than the expected reaction for which the drug is given. The United States and Canada now have both set up a system where the doctor notifies the Food and Drug Directorate of any unexpected reaction to a drug.

The United States has offered to take these reports from any country in the world, correlate all the reports together from anywhere in the world and give the information on drugs to the World Health Organization. They, in turn, would feed this information back to all the members, so that adverse reactions to a drug could be widely distributed over the world.

To me, this is one of the most vital services the World Health Organization can perform, that of collecting, assessing and distributing information on reactions to drugs, so that episodes such as the thalidomide tragedy can be minimized, if not completely prevented.

Mulching retains moisture in the soil.

## All-Round Cord Presented Guide

Barbara Nicolak, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Nicolak, Mill St., received her All-Round Cord in Girl Guides on Wednesday of last week from district commissioner Mrs. J. Lowrie.

Before becoming eligible for the cord, she had to complete many tests, and obtain several other badges. She has completed her second and first class, received her Little House emblem which consists of five badges; first aid, home nursing, home-maker's, fire brigade, pioneer, emergency helper and toymaker's badges.

## Acton Witnesses Attend Convention

Forty-five members of the Acton congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses this weekend plan to commute to a three-day convention at the Georgetown and District High School auditorium.

Leonard Schneider, presiding minister of the local group says the three-day seminar will provide instruction and practical training in the ministry for all Acton delegates in attendance. Accepting invitations to attend are representatives from 15 other congregations including Guelph, Preston, Galt, Paris, Brantford, Freeport, Milton, Burlington, Bronte, Oakville, Brampton, and Georgetown.

Key convention speaker will be Joseph Scaglione, supervisor of the 150 Southern Ontario congregations of Jehovah's Witnesses. He delivers the main discourse entitled, "The Moral Breakdown - What Can Be Done About It?" Sunday at 3 p.m.

A peak attendance of 1,200 is expected.

## Annual Cubaree At Georgetown

What is the capital of the province? What is the floral emblem of the province? What product or industry is the largest in the province? What are the people like and how do they live? Can you learn any special talk song especially relative to the province? When was the province founded and when did it join confederation? These questions have been asked and answered by boys and adults alike in Georgetown, Acton and surrounding areas making up the Georgetown District Boy Scouts.

All this has been in preparation for 'Canadarama 1965' to be held this Saturday in the Georgetown Park. Each Wolf Cub Pack in the district drew from a hat, the name of a province or territory to be represented and displayed. Adding to their displays, the boys will be dressed in native costumes, and two 'Grand Marches' of costumes will be held at 2 p.m. and 5 p.m.

During the afternoon, visitors will be able to tour the displays and also take in a movie "Canada's Heritage". In the evening, the public is again invited to join the boys as they lift up their voices in the fellowship of campfire.

'Canadarama 1965' is shaping up to be a very exciting and interesting day for the Cubs and public alike. Georgetown Park will be open to the public from 1:30 to 5:15 p.m. and from 7 p.m. to campfire end.

## Great Canadians

### Frontier Farm Woman Records Life of 1830's

What would you do if you were alone on a frontier farm with your children, suddenly realized that there was no milk for their supper, and that you had no way of getting any because you didn't know how to milk the one cow awaiting to be milked? You say, "Well, I'd jolly well learn how to milk that cow if it took me hours!" Would you? Even if you were desperately afraid of cattle?

Susanna Moodie had lived a sheltered, gracious life in England, and had never been required to think about cows, let alone milk one. Hence her terror. Yet on the Canadian frontier she overcame her fear and after many ineffectual attempts she succeeded at last and produced half a pail of milk. This is just one episode in Mrs. Moodie's book, "Roughing it in the Bush" which describes the life of a pioneer mother in the 1830's.

Born 1803 Mrs. Moodie has made her mark as an outstanding Canadian writer and mother. She was born in 1803 near Suffolk, England; married Lieutenant J. W. D. Moodie in 1831; emigrated to Canada in 1832 to settle near Cobourg, Upper Canada. They had two sons and five daughters.

In 1834 the Moodies purchased bush land near Peterborough through a Government grant. They moved to this virgin country in the winter and enroute one of the sleighs overturned and every piece of Susanna's precious china and crockery was smashed to smithereens.

With minimal equipment the Moodies lived in the tiny shanty which they constructed from cedar logs obtained from a nearby swamp. The cabin was about the size of a modern two-car garage. Furniture was limited to a few crude basic pieces. Light was provided by candles when they had fat for their manufacture.

Indian Friends Susanna made many Indian friends among the Mississaugas who camped nearby. She thought

they had natural grace and good manners, were scrupulously honest and most kind. In a sketch concerning her Indian friends, Susanna (a genuine Christian woman) tells how the Indians had no swear words for their Supreme Being until they learned blasphemy from the white man.

She tells, too, how an Indian woman walked ten miles through the bush in extremely cold winter weather, carrying her 12-year old son under a blanket, coming to see if "Moodie's squaw could save papoose..." Susanna saw the boy was in the last stage of consumption and knew he was beyond all help. She could answer only with tears.

One winter when the Moodies were near starvation, Indians unobtrusively brought them quarters of venison, fish or a fine bunch of ducks; would place the food on the doorstep and quietly slip away, not wishing to be thanked. They must have loved Susanna greatly when they returned her kindness in this way.

A morning "coffee party" was an unknown thing to Susanna, simply because coffee was not available. But Susanna was enterprising and simulated coffee

The Acton Free Press, Thursday, June 3rd, 1965

beans by roasting and grinding dandelion roots. When she found the "dandelion coffee" quite delicious, she nurtured her dandelions along with the potatoes. Susanna knew trouble. Once when she was alone with her children their log cabin caught fire in the dead of winter and she rescued the little ones, dragged out several chests of drawers

with bedding and put each child in a separate drawer covered with blankets to keep them free from frostbite. She gave birth to one of her sons without the help of a doctor or mid-wife while her husband and three children were all sick with the fevers of the age. Through it all she tried to be cheerful and work for better days.

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