

The Canadian Champion

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EDITORIAL

Centennials

When municipalities and other institutions that were formed at the opening up of this country start marking centennials it is time to realize that Canada is no longer a young country but has become mature.

The recent centennials of two neighboring townships this year brings home the fact that this section of the county was among the early settled sections. This year Nassagaweya and Eramosa Townships start on their 100th year. It is pleasing to note also that in both these townships there has been a complete and careful preservation of all the records and in that way the history of the municipality, the families and the pioneers has been preserved.

It is interesting too to hear at these anniversaries the reminiscences of early days and to see the interest of at least all of those who are over the forty mark and have the thought of making re-unions or an event that is appropriate to a centennial. We'll be hearing more about these centennials during 1949.

How Much Margarine Will We Eat?

At present Canadians are the world's third largest butter eaters—at 28 lbs. per person—which is nearly three times the American figure, and is surpassed only by New Zealand and Denmark.

Just how far Canadians are likely to turn to margarine in place of butter can only be guessed, remarks The Financial Post. But it's hardly likely Canadians will eat more margarine than their American neighbors (6 lbs. per person), if only for the reason that the margarine companies are hardly yet in a position—nor likely to be for some time—to produce to that extent.

On this basis then, the dairymen might kiss something like 22 per cent. off their butter business goodby if Canadians go for margarine to the extent Americans do; if as and when Canadian oleo producers can hit a production figure of 70 million odd pounds a year.

A Printer's Ideal

A week or so ago it was our privilege to visit the new printing plant of Maclean-Hunter Ltd., recently moved from its quarters on University Avenue in Toronto to a new modern building at Richmond Hill. This new building handles only the mechanical equipment of this large publishing concern; the editorial offices are still at the same location in downtown Toronto. A trip between the two plants took us longer than to travel between our offices in Milton and Acton.

We recall a number of years ago going on a sight-seeing visit of the printing departments of Maclean's on University Avenue to which a new section had then been added. What great changes the years have brought in modern building and modern equipment. Working as we do in the small offices of country weeklies a view of this plant all on one floor is breathtaking. The amount of equipment, the planning of departments, the view one gets over the entire plant and the conditions under which workmen ply their trade appear to us who have made printing our life-time work, to be the ideal.

The fine new cafeteria where the employees will have their noon-day or other meals, was not yet complete, but it too was in keeping with the modern trend of providing the best facilities. As we viewed it recollections came back of our days in Toronto working in the printing plants where the box lunch was brought in before noon and one sat in the corner of an alley on a stool and read the morning paper as the lunch was eaten and the balance of the noon hour was possibly spent at a sheet music counter where a pianist banged out the popular music of the day in the hope of making sales.

Being from a rural section of Ontario per-

haps the most appealing part to us was the location of this plant on a large acreage, with ample room for parking and recreation facilities. Ideals of course differ, but it did seem to us that the ultimate in a printer's realm had been reached in this new Maclean-Hunter plant now in operation, and where the latest in equipment is in use with provision for even more equipment. This firm is indeed to be congratulated on its past growth, present expansion and vision for the future.

The Farm Kitchen

The big old-fashioned farm kitchen is slowly on the wane in rural Ontario. But the farm women are not going to the opposite extreme of the small city kitchen.

Several opinions were expressed by those who entered a Better Farm House Contest launched by the Central Mortgage and Finance Corporation and sponsored in this province by the Women's Institutes. In addition to the views given about the size of the kitchen, the women indicated they were anxious to get their men folk out of the kitchen and keep them out.

One question was: "Would you have a utility room next to the kitchen for laundering, separating the milk, and wash-up facilities for men coming in from work?" The women agreed the utility room would be fine but they insisted the men separate the milk near the stable in order not to have the "muss" around the house.

The women emphasized that the working area of the kitchen should not be crossed by traffic to and from the back door. Then, having stopped the men from crossing the kitchen, they added that the kitchen sink should not be used by the men for washing up.

However, the women did not want the men banished from their sight. They recommended that the kitchen window should give a view of the driveway and the barn, and also the place where the small children play.

Quite understandably, the women were in favor of electricity, running water, refrigerators, and also central heating.

There are many persons who would regret the passing of the big old-fashioned farm kitchen. In winter time the large wood stove is the centre of the household. Boots and heavy clothing are hung near the stove to dry. The kettle is always boiling. Hot water for washing is ladled out of the tank at the end of the stove. In the morning and in the evening the spacious kitchen is the gathering place for the entire family. But apparently the majority of farm women, who are required to spend most of their waking hours in the kitchen, feel their efforts would be put to better advantage if the kitchen was not the centre for family gatherings.—Barrie Examiner.

Exports and Jobs

Those misguided theorists who have maintained that Canada could and should insulate its economy against the ups and downs of foreign trade must have received a nasty shock when they read a recent despatch from Windsor, says The Financial Post. In that border city some 800 automotive workers were laid off following new restrictions on import of cars from Canada by the South African government.

Now South Africa is a long way from Canada. If there was anything in that insulating theory one would think that it would surely work in this case. But of course it won't work because in some way or other the whole world is tied together. When troubles occur in one part, repercussions are felt by all.

South Africa, like a lot of other countries, has been having difficulty in balancing its foreign trade. For years Canada has been exporting to the Dominion far more goods than she has been importing and the collapse of the old multilateral trading system has created a crisis.

Unless we are prepared to face permanent layoffs of scores of thousands of Canadian workers not only in automotive factories, but in all branches of industry, we must buy far more products directly from countries like South Africa or indirectly by buying from their customers. Buying is just as vital as selling in international trade and the sooner Canadians and Americans realize that simple fact the happier and more prosperous they will be.

EDITORIAL NOTES

January this year has been mostly thaw, while if we can recall correctly the same month last year had nothing but temperatures continually below the freezing mark.

These are the days of winter clearances and it would appear that the time is here when it is shrewd business to lower inventories rather than expect a profit by holding goods on the shelves.

Halton on Tuesday elected as Warden, Mrs. Mary Pettit, the first woman in this County to have this honor. Mrs. Pettit was first woman elected as Reeve in the County and has filled that office for several years.

OAKVILLE

Oakville plants will be able to go back to daytime production schedules as a result of improvement in the hydro situation. Chairman H. T. Roden reported to members of the industries council during a luncheon meeting held at Riverside Lodge on Monday.

At Council meeting on Monday night a motion to provide for the immediate purchase of necessary batteries for the fire alarm box system was authorized. These batteries would bring the present system up to effective operation immediately. Council also authorized the calling of tenders for a new, adequate system with a type capable of handling additional call boxes and bells which were required.

For the first time since last Thursday, there is a reasonable amount of water available in the Kent Garden Survey, according to residents living in the survey. The only well serving approximately 30 families went completely dry, necessitating water being hauled from Milton. Substantial strides toward residential development, through the opening up of twelve new subdivisions during 1948, were revealed in the recently published minutes of Trafalgar township. Up to November 15, a total of \$710, had been collected in building permits, the financial statement disclosed.—Trafalgar Journal.

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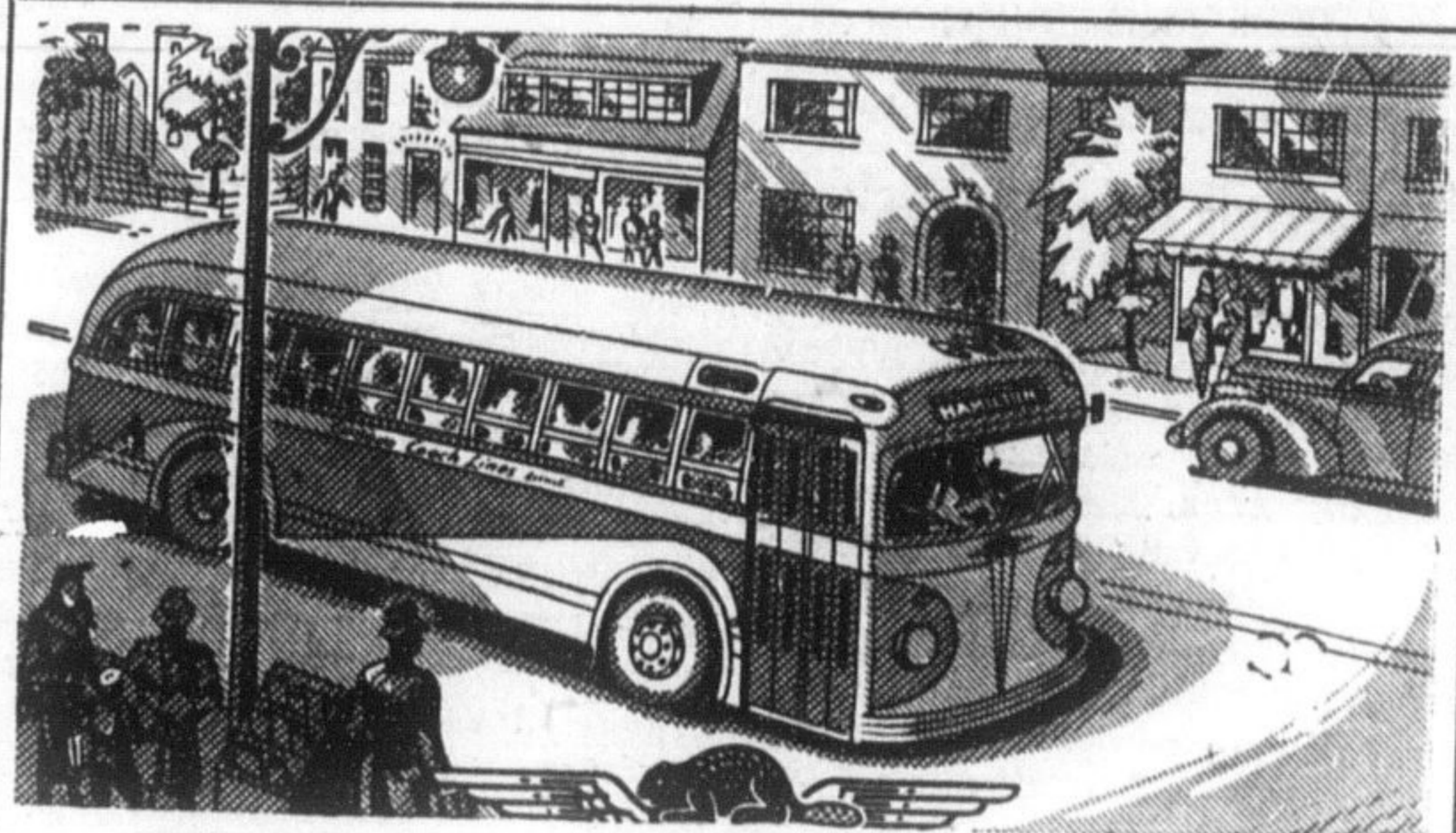
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