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PRIME MINISTER HONORED

Canadians from coast to coast joined Tuesday evening in honoring Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada on the occasion of his twentieth anniversary as leader of the Liberal party. North York figured prominently in the event as Col. W. P. Mulock member for this riding was chairman of the Ontario committee in charge of arrangements and the prime minister made several references to this historic constituency which he for a time represented.

It was without question the greatest political event of its kind ever held in Canada and was a marked tribute to the man who since 1919 has guided the affairs of the Liberal Party. Commenting on Mr. King's great abilities the Toronto Star said recently:

"Many years have passed since the Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King first became recognized as one of the great political figures in the history of Canada. Ordinary partisan prejudice against him almost has disappeared. He is regarded today by men of nearly every shade of political opinion as a man who in his high position as premier maintains the dignity of Canada and the highest traditions of the British parliamentary system.

Mackenzie King has the unique distinction of being the only Canadian statesman who was hailed in his youth as a coming premier of Canada. He was trained for public life. He was deputy minister of labor at 26 years of age, elected to the Commons at 34 years, chosen as minister of labor at 35 years, appointed leader of the Liberal party at 45 years and made prime minister at 47 years. Today, after holding the Liberal leadership for 20 years, he stands with his prestige at its peak and with an unblemished personal record, a credit to the public life of the Dominion.

The great Laurier carried on as premier in a single continuous ministry for 15 years. Macdonald formed two ministries that governed for 19 years. Borden was premier on two occasions for a total of nine years. Mackenzie King, alone of the four, formed three ministries, with a total record of activity, still uncompleted, of 13 years.

There is nothing flamboyant and little that is dramatic about Mackenzie King. He owes his success to his perfectly balanced personality and the saneness and the safety of his policies. He does not rush from one extreme to another, as some of his critics do, nor does he humiliate his admirers by the rashness and folly of his utterances. When he speaks he speaks for Canada as a whole, for every province of Canada and for every legitimate interest. This integration of Canadian interests in his personality keeps him from extreme measures though it may check the vigor and progressiveness of his policies. He cannot be stampeded by selfish and local influence nor hurried into moves that tend to prejudice amicable international relations.

Canada's premier is much too dependable to be a colorful, picturesque character, erratic and eccentric and uncontrolled by great principles. Rather, he is the sure and reliable pilot that the public likes to have in command during a storm. When the world was going mad with economic nationalism he set an example by a moderate lowering of tariff walls which improved trade relations with many countries. His face always is set resolutely against racial, religious and international strife. His influence has tended to foster national unity and good-will between nations."

CANADA: 3,475 MILES OF OPPORTUNITIES

One of the interesting facets of the controversy over refugee immigration is that for the first time in half a dozen or more years some people really wish to come here. When jobs became scarce, we passed an Order in Council on August 14, 1930, barring all except Britishers and U.S. nationals unless they were wives or unmarried minors joining their family heads in Canada, or agriculturists with sufficient money to begin farming. We soon noted with grim satisfaction that those of us who still had jobs might feel a bit safer because immigration dropped from 165,000 in 1929 to 27,000 in 1931. It continued to drop until it reached eleven thousand in 1935, which was the lowest in the history of the Dominion, as the previous low was 1866. But when only four hundred more came in 1936, some Canadians began to wonder whether anything different would happen if we took down the bars.

Certainly while we have debated among ourselves the pros and cons of letting Europeans make their homes here, the numbers of those seeking admission have fallen away. One of the reasons is that Canada has not appeared since 1930 to be a very promising place to make a living; and, besides, employment (by whatever means) has increased in much of Europe, and social security is greater there than here. In spite of the crowded conditions in Europe, and in spite of bombing planes there, the only people who have come to our gates in half a dozen years and pounded vigorously to get inside are some refugees with no place else to go.

This wallflower situation of ours will, of course, not continue indefinitely; for, despite our bad blunders in making a country, we have not been able to destroy the land although some of the top soil has blown away. The land still measures 3,475 miles from Halifax to Vancouver—3,475 miles of opportunities for perhaps as many thousands of years into the far and shining future. We have experienced lean periods before (there was a particularly bad one in the 1890's) and we shall experience lean periods in the future; but the promise of those 3,475 miles is not to be denied. Others will see these opportunities if we do not. And when they come knocking at our door it would be well to let some of them in.

A group of Canadian cabinet ministers flew to Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, for the 75th anniversary of the meetings of the Fathers of Confederation.

Back in 1864, the delegates from Upper and Lower Canada spent days getting to Charlottetown for the historic sessions. In 1939 it required only a few hours for members of the King administration to wing their way from Ottawa to the capital of the Island Province. The Fathers of Confederation would have been amazed if anyone had told them that in 75 years men would make the journey by air in a few hours.

"DOIN' THE WORLD'S FAIR

By Byron M. Fisher

Seventeen canoe clubs, representing three State divisions of the United States—the Middle Division, Atlantic and Eastern Divisions—competed for the highest honors for the men of the dipping blades on Fountain Lake recently, at the big meet held by Fair authorities. Eighteen events were run off, the finals beginning about mid-afternoon after the morning eliminations. A number of the world's most famous canoeists took part in the tournament, including William Gahler and Ernest Kiedel, United States tandem double blade champions of the Pendleton Canoe Club, New York, the Yorkers Canoe Club who held the club championship and had two 1936 Olympians on their crew, and others. Throngs packed around Fountain Lake for the exciting contests.

Ballantyne Inn was the scene of one of the most gala events of the current World's Fair social season, when the American Express Guides, those who were left after the recent 'dropping-attendance purge'—threw a dance. One of the unusual features of the event was the date bureau which was set up during the week prior to the big occasion. The Push-Chair Boys probably see and talk to as many beautiful damsels in the run of a day as the most debonair rake or freshest freshman on the grounds. But like the Guides, the Fair's professional marathoners are not permitted to make dates with their customers. Result was that many of the lads found themselves seeking frantically for a temporary one-and-only. The date bureau solved the problem. A staff of guides canvassed the exhibit booths for pulchritudinous frailties. Names and descriptions were taken. The Guides then checked in their requirements, the list of ladies wishing to attend was scanned, and suitable matches were made. Over 1600 attended the dance in the Three-Ring Ballroom.

A lady recently asked us about hotel accommodation and food in New Brunswick. "The food is the best and low in price," we told her. "And you'll find the best of cabins, hotels and..." We got no further. "Cabins," she squealed. "Do they still live in log cabins? Tell me, are there any Indian wars going on now?" We calmed her and explained that the cabins were merely for tourists and were modern, comfortably furnished roadside homes in which the weary wanderer might lie down and sleep for a very moderate price. But she was still chattering to her friends about redskin massacres when she went away. What's the use!

Robert M. Firth, Commissioner-General for New Zealand Participation in the World's Fair was honored by native New Zealanders now living in New York for his untiring labor which was so largely responsible for the handsome New Zealand exhibit in the Colonial Pavilion. A bronze plaque, approximately 18 inches in diameter and bearing the Fern Leaf of New Zealand was presented Mr. Firth. Funds for the presentation were raised by a subscription among the entire colony of New Zealanders living in New York. In addition to his position as Commissioner-General for the Fair, Mr. Firth is Commissioner for Trade and Tourism in Toronto.

The Amusement World is said to be trembling on the brink of something or other. Two of the most publicized shows are rumored reliably to have folded and to be now operated by the Fair Commission in an effort to keep them going. They are the Children's World and the Cuban Village. Two or three others, including the famed Amazon Village and the Crystal Lassies, have disappeared from the Midway, at least temporarily. On the other hand, Wild West and Rodeo, the Hot Mikado, Aquacade, Time and Space, N. T.G. Congress of Beauty and some others are playing to capacity houses at almost every performance. It isn't a case of nobody to see the shows, it's a case of the visitors to the World of Tomorrow demanding high class entertainment—and getting it.

The 369th United States Infantry, popularly known as the Famous 15th took over the martial ceremonies in the Court of Peace recently and did a spectacular Guard Mount to the music of their regimental band. The ceremony replaced the regular retreat drill performed usually by the troops stationed in Camp George Washington where the soldiers, sailors and marines used in military reviews on important occasions are quartered.

Heard recently at an entrance gate: "Does it cost anything to go through the tryhard and micro-

scope?" The trylon and perisphere were meant, of course. Another one—Sweet young thing at Information Desk: "Can you tell me what the Grove of Whales is and where I'll see it?" She was informed that Grover Whalen's offices are in the United States Federal Building.

THOUSANDS CURED OF CANCER

Cancer takes a toll in Canada of a thousand lives a month. In spite of this serious situation, there is a strong note of encouragement in an authoritative statement in the Summer number of "Health". In this Health League journal, Dr. Harold Wookey declares that the great advances in surgery, radium and x-ray have changed the cancer outlook.

"There are thousands of people," says Dr. Wookey "alive and well today who have been cured of cancer. They do not advertise the fact that they have had the disease, and the general public thinks only of the tragic cases that have come under their immediate notice. In consequence, a very pessimistic outlook is held and the fear and dread of the disease is in the mind of most people.

"It can be truthfully said that if cancer is recognized early, it can be cured in the majority of cases. The fact still remains, however, that in our large hospitals people are coming in for the first time with the disease in an advanced stage. This is partly due to lack of knowledge, and often the patient has deliberately concealed the condition from his immediate family and friends. Throughout the world, committees for the control of cancer are being organized, but it is felt that if the work is to be of real value, there must be the co-operation of the man on the street.

"The chief objection to cancer education is the danger of making people unduly apprehensive, but this must be risked.

"The most important thing for the public to know is that cancer is not a painful disease in its early stages and many individuals do not seek advice for this reason."

After referring to the various forms of cancer, the writer summar-

izes his article "There should be less fear of cancer" by saying: "In brief, one may say that all lumps or sores appearing on the surface of the body, in the breast, or in the mouth, should be regarded with suspicion especially after the age of forty. Irregularities such as persistent ill health, loss of appetite, bleeding, etc., should be taken seriously and should be thoroughly investigated by the patient's physician.

"Throughout the country special centres for the proper treatment of all types of cancer have been established and there is no reason why anyone should not obtain immediate help regardless of his financial position. The co-operation of the public in seeking early medical advice

is certain to result in a still further improvement and will eventually root out cancer of most of its terrors."



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