



# The Liberal

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**Ottawa Letter**  
BY... J.E. SMITH  
M.P. NORTH YORK

Prime Minister St. Laurent returned to the House this week after attending the Commonwealth Conference in London. The Prime Minister is most hopeful that beneficial results will come from his meetings with Mr. Churchill and representatives of all parts of the Commonwealth. It is hoped that an increased flow of trade may result from the deliberations and this of course will be helpful not only to Britain but to Canada as well.

The development of television is a live topic of discussion here. For some time careful consideration has been given to the development of television broadcasting, and while our progress has not been rapid we hope in the long run to be justified for making haste slowly.

Television broadcasting is of necessity a monopoly in that a limited number of channels are available for broadcasting. For that reason it is desirable that it be controlled in the public interest and not just thrown open to private exploitation by those whose main object would be the making of profits.

Television now enters many homes and soon will be going into many more. It surely is of national concern to make sure such a powerful medium will be operated in such a way as to raise not lower our intellectual and cultural standards.

The Government believes that television should be developed in Canada with the aim of benefiting and enriching our national life and that it should feature Canadian programs and Canadian talent. This we think is important because in days to come television will play a considerable role in influencing our national character.

Television broadcasting is a very expensive business. It represents a particular problem in a country so widespread and diversified as Canada. Now that television service has started the government believes that it should be extended as widely and as quickly as possible.

CBC Stations are now operating in Toronto and Montreal and will be established in Ottawa, Halifax, Winnipeg and Vancouver. For other centres the CBC will issue licenses to private stations which will carry in addition to local programs and features the national programs. The objective is to make national television service available to as many Canadians as possible through co-operating between public and private enterprise. This will take time and money, more study and hard work, but we hope people will be patient and co-operative in this very sincere effort to give Canada something better in television than is enjoyed either in Britain or the United States. In the process there will be mistakes and disappointments but the Canadian people can rest assured that the sole aim of government policy is to give Canadians the best possible in radio and television.

**United Nations**  
Hon. Lester B. Pearson returned to the House this week to give Parliament a very interesting review of world affairs. The Canadian Minister of External Affairs has been devoting all his time to his duties as League President. He said that despite bitter divisions on grave issues the United Nations Organization is an indispensable piece of international machinery. It is working in the hope of sparing the world the ultimate tragedy of war.

Every effort is being put forth he said to secure peace in Korea but it is hard to negotiate peace with people who do not want peace.

In a review of world conditions Mr. Pearson made it clear Korea is not the only danger spot in Asia. There is Indo-China, Malaya, Iran and in fact the whole Middle East where there are elements of discontent and disruption.

The United Nations and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization while not in any sense perfect are our best hopes for peace and must continue to have our support.

Of NATO he said it is directed toward a peace which will mean more than absence of fighting, and to the bringing about of a security that can ultimately be based upon something stronger than force.

**Merry Christmas**  
To all the people of North York my sincere wish for a Merry Christmas with the hope that the spirit of this blessed season, the spirit of peace and goodwill may make the world better in 1953.

## Christmas 1952

Christmas comes this year and finds the world in a troubled mood, yet we are glad to repeat that message "Peace on earth, goodwill to men", first given to the shepherds in Judea nearly twenty centuries ago.

It is a part of the joy of the Christmas season that, now especially, we listen to and believe the messages of truth that were brought to earth by the Christ child.

Here in Canada we live in a part of the world where the lamp of freedom still burns. In other parts of the world the lamp of freedom has gone out. In these lands behind the iron curtain tyrants rule by force and lies. There slavery or a concentration camp awaits the man who dares to differ.

Holly, mistletoe and decorated trees, gifts and parties — these are trimmings and traditions that have grown around the original Christmas message, until it has become only a legend and a time for indulgence. Many have forgotten the startling truth of these words: "Good Christian men rejoice because now there is hope. God has come among men". All the power of the Creator of the world is

available if men will turn to Him to solve their own and their nation's problems.

With this burning in their hearts men changed the ancient pagan world. Step by step, through centuries punctuated by the blood of martyrs, men worked that the plan of God might prevail. They lived and died for freedom of conscience, freedom of speech, for the abolition of slavery and the sanctity of the home.

Many millions in countries where the lamp of freedom has gone out are heart-broken and powerless. They are discouraged, worn out by war, weakened by lack of food and spy-ridden.

On the free world falls the responsibility of leadership. We who still enjoy freedom can be the architects of a new age. It can be done by God-directed men and women of courage and spirit, who can break through the tinsel and indulgence to the real meaning of Christmas.

Christmas 1952 is a challenge to each of us to apply its message in our own lives, and then unite with all men of goodwill to send that message of peace and hope radiating throughout an anxious and troubled world.

## Christmas Seals

Christmas Seals have become a Canadian tradition. They are part of our Christmas, along with the tree, the wreaths, the gifts and the carols.

Christmas is a pledge and a promise and so are TB Christmas Seals. To all who suffer from tuberculosis and to those who might someday suffer from it, the Seal is a symbol of hope and courage.

No one is safe from tuberculosis. It is no respecter of age and no respecter of persons. It is not inherited from one generation to another, as we believed for so many years. Instead it is spread by germs, passed from one person to another, and that is why family members, living in close contact, often give it to one another.

Forward strides are constantly being made in medical and social research. The

new drugs, such as streptomycin, PAS, BCG and isoniazid, have worked wonders. Our hope lies not only in the cure of those already suffering, but in the prevention of the disease.

The best treatment continues to be prevention. And here is the value of TB Christmas Seals. In this district, during the past few years, the National Sanitarium Association has given thousands of free chest x-rays and clinic check-ups, and these have been the means of finding many cases of TB, previously unknown.

By finding the disease early, and beginning treatment at once, TB can nearly always be cured.

Buy Seals. Each is a weapon against disease. Each is a weapon to protect you and your family.

## Christmas Cards Over The Years

The Post Offices in Richmond Hill and in all other communities in the district are flooded these days with Christmas cards. Postal employees are weary as they empty bags heavy with envelopes of all shapes and sizes. Almost every envelope carries the same friendly message expressed in a thousand different ways.

This flood which sweeps the postal system each year at this time began as a trickle less than 100 years ago. Like our gay Christmas tree, the Christmas card was a product of the Victorian revival of Christmas festivities, once forbidden by Puritan laws. The first Christmas card is believed to have been designed early in the 1840's, but not until 20 years later did the exchange of greeting cards catch the popular fancy.

A predecessor of the first Christmas cards in England was the "Christmas piece" written by school children in their finest handwriting and carried home to proud parents to prove that school fees were not being spent in vain. The paper was decorated around the edges with holly and robins, with space in the middle of the pages for the message.

Another ancestor of the Christmas card was the garish Valentine, the fad during the crinolined 50's. At the time the crinoline began to lose favour, people began sending each other cards at Christmas as well as on Valentine's Day. Designs were unoriginal — genial old gentlemen, enormous plum puddings, the simplest of humour — but people liked them. Many Christmas cards were sold by Valentine manufacturers who made no attempt to produce Christmas cards in keeping with the wintry season. A quite common design consisted of a base of cut-out white paperwork in imitation of lace, with a scrap of flowers pasted on top. The scrap could be lifted to reveal a Christmas message, the only feature distinguishing it from a Valentine.

The range of material used by the Victorians is astounding, according to Dr. G. R. Lomer, former librarian at McGill University, who has made a study of cards of long ago.

By the 70's, Christmas cards had left Valentines far behind in popularity. Greetings had changed from a simple "compliments of the season" to wishes ranging from the sublime to the ridiculous.

Until 1910, nearly all the cards sold in Canada were imported from Great Britain and the United States. Now, about 15 major manufacturers in this country market thousands of designs each year.

Since the lady of the household buys about 85 per cent of the family's cards, manufacturers cater to her wishes rather than to male tastes. Just now, she dislikes, geraniums on her greeting cards, but pansies and poinsettias are fine. (In England, poinsettias are absolutely "out"!)

A few years ago, blue was the most popular colour — blue with silver decorations. Now manufacturers feel that red is on the way to the top of greeting card fashion. Styles are constantly changing, just like women's hats. Some of today's cards are certainly no improvement over the ones our bustling grandmothers bought for grandpa, but many others are beautifully and cleverly designed.

Card manufacturing techniques have come a long way in the past 20 years and many of today's cards are fine examples of printing craftsmanship.

After another half century people will be smiling indulgently at the old-fashioned Christmas cards of 1952 and filling mailboxes with cards their generation considers beautiful and appropriate. The friendly custom will continue to flourish, partly due to enterprising manufacturers, but more through our desire to retain traditional Christmas customs as something unchanging in a chaotic modern world.

## Arranging Christmas Flowers

Many people don't make the best of the cut flowers they get at Christmas time because they feel they are "no good at arranging flowers". While some are more adept at displaying flowers to best advantage, the experts point out that anybody can make a good showing if a few simple principles are followed and a little imagination is added for good measure.

It is not necessary to have a great profusion of flowers to get striking effects, but always work for a triangular effect by cutting the stems to different lengths. If the flowers are to be seen from all angles, on the dining-room table for instance, the arrangement should have "two faces". Single faced arrangements are more suited to the mantle or for a corner.

Flower arrangements can often be improved by additional foliage. Pieces of the Christmas tree or small branches of cedar are often invaluable. If the modern trough type of vase is used, the length of

the trough or the diameter of a bowl should be about two-thirds the height of the tallest flower in the triangular arrangement.

Striking effects can be gained in floral arrangements by keeping dark vivid coloured flowers low and in the centre of a triangular arrangement. This creates a centre of interest which immediately strikes the eye. If flowers with particularly heavy stems are to be displayed in a large vase a small ball of chicken wire in the mouth of the vase will make an excellent support and prevent the display from collapsing.

And don't overlook the possibility of using an everyday ornament in conjunction with a floral arrangement; use lots of imagination at this point, say experts. Naturally at Christmas time one thinks of candlesticks with red candles. Often something of this kind can be used effectively to balance a mantle display or one that is in a corner, and turn it into a striking floral display.

**One Day In Each Year**  
Charles Wells

Men always have hopes of a better world when they see the miracle of Christmas. All the selfishness, bitterness and hatreds pause, and for a day surrender to the sweet charm of a little Divine Prince who cast His spell over the earth two thousand years ago — a spell that has not been broken, a charm that has increased to become a spiritual dominion stretching around the earth and from pole to pole. Thus we can always know that men could live with goodwill and understanding for each other, because one day in each year the little Divine Prince of Peace still compels them to do it.

Ontario leads all provinces of Canada with the largest output of sugar and highest per cent sugar in beets. Best sugar output in 1951 was 93,900,000 pounds.

**The Richmond Theatre**  
Richmond Hill, Ontario  
Telephone Turner 4-1212

Friday & Saturday — December 19 & 20

TEN THOUSAND SHAWNEE TOMAHAWKS TERRORIZE THE WEST!

**Brave Warrior**  
COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR! STARRING JON HALL

ONLY Saturday Matinee, Dec. 20 ONLY

Gene's hottest action picture!

**Gene AUTRY** World's Greatest Cowboy  
and **CHAMPION** World's Wonder Horse

**Beyond The Purple Hills**  
with Jo Donnellon - Don Deddoe - James Milliken and PAT BUTTRAM  
A COLUMBIA PICTURE  
Written by Norman S. Hall - Produced by ARMAND SCHWEZER - Directed by JOHN ENGLISH - A Gene Autry Production

Monday & Tuesday — December 22 & 23

JOAN'S A HAREM-HAPPY HOUR, DANCING CHEEK TO SHEK!

**Joan DAVIS**  
AMERICA'S FUNNIEST WOMAN  
with Peggy Castle, Arthur Stone

MEET THESE SONS OF GUNNERS!

**PAT O'BRIEN**  
**OKINAWA**  
with CAMERON MITCHELL, RICHARD DENVING, RAY WILLIAMS  
Screen Play by JAMESON SHERER and ARTHUR ROSS - Produced by WALLACE MACDONALD - Directed by LEON JASIN

Please Note: last complete Show  
Monday & Tuesday, Dec. 22, 23 at 8.30 p.m.

**The Richmond Theatre**  
Richmond Hill, Ontario  
Telephone Turner 4-1212

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday — December 24, 25, 26

**TUMULTUOUS THRILLS!**  
Rousing adventure with the clash of steel and the twang of bows ringing the challenge of a gallant few against the haughty foes of freedom!

**Walt Disney's STORY OF ROBIN HOOD**  
AN ALL-LIVE-ACTION PICTURE  
Color by TECHNICOLOR  
STARRING RICHARD TODD WITH JOAN RICE  
Produced by PERCE PEARCE - Directed by KENNETH ANNAKIN  
Screenplay by LAWRENCE E. WATKIN

Please note Christmas Day 1st show at 7 p.m.  
Boxing Day Matinee 2 p.m., continuous from 6.30 p.m.

Saturday, December 27

**"THE BIG TREES"**

From the four corners of the globe they came—the rugged, the brave, the soldiers-of-fortune, the greed-merchants, — tearing the whole far West apart for the Sequoia trees that towered to the sky like stacks of red gold!

**KIRK DOUGLAS**  
EVE MILLER  
PATRICE WYMORE

THEY CALLED HIM "THE OUTSIDER" — A man who fought for the tallest treasure in the world — then risked it all for a temptation he couldn't resist!

Monday & Tuesday — December 29 & 30  
Special Holiday Matinees,  
Mon. & Tues., Dec. 29 & 30  
at 2 p.m.

**EVER-NEW JOY FOR ALL TO ENJOY!**

Here to thrill you!  
One of the all-time "greats"...brimming with ever-new laughs, ever-new romance, ever-new songs...sparkled with ever-delightful antics of Dopey and his lovable pals!

**Walt Disney's Snow White**  
Plus  
**Walt Disney presents WATER BIRDS**  
A TRUE-LIFE ADVENTURE  
Nature's innermost secrets revealed!