



The Liberal

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BY... J. E. SMITH
M. P. NORTH YORK

Parliament prorogued last week and all is now quiet on Capitol Hill after a session which lasted from November to May. It was likely the last session before a general election which is expected to be called sometime before the snow flies. The world situation is still in a troubled state and there are some danger points which are causing quite some concern in official circles these days. In case of emergency Parliament could be called on short notice.

I will be home in North York for some time now and will be available in my office in Richmond Hill for any who wish to see me. I trust that any having problems relating to federal administration will feel very free to contact me at any time. The address is J. E. Smith, M.P., Richmond Hill, and the telephone is TU. 4-1261.

The Prime Minister and official delegation are preparing to go overseas for the Coronation, and plan to return to Canada in early June. Canada will occupy an important place in the Coronation proceedings, and our official delegation as well as our detachments of Army, Navy, Air Force and Royal Canadian Mounted Police will, I am sure, make a favorable impression in London and in every way be a credit to Canada.

For example I am sure it will be a source of pride to all Canadians that when on June 15 off Spithead, England, one of history's greatest assemblages of ships sailed past Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth in the traditional Coronation Review of the Fleet, Canada will be well represented.

Proudly taking their stations in this array will be six ships of the Royal Canadian Navy, a cross-section of Canada's relatively small but expanding sea forces.

Canada's Coronation squadron will be headed by the aircraft carrier Magnificent. The cruisers Ontario and Quebec will be on hand. The destroyer Sioux, tested in the Korean war, will be there. The frigates Swains and La Hulloise will represent Canada's World War II naval construction effort that helped turn the tide in the Battle of the Atlantic.

Our country's peacetime skills will be on view, too, in the Department of Transport's new ice-breaker D'Iberville, designed and built in Canada, and which in time of war could be used for defence purposes.

Canada's contingent may not loom large, numerically, in the armada of 200 ships. But it will serve as a reminder that as our country moves up the scale of world powers she takes her place beside Britain and other freedom-loving countries whose naval forces stand as a barrier against world enslavement.

History was made in the closing days of the session when the Prime Minister announced the appointment of Opposition Leader George Drew as a Member of the

Privy Council of Canada. This is the first time in history such an appointment has been made and it was applauded as a gracious act by members in all sections of the House. Speakers of the House of Commons and the Senate similarly honored along with the Opposition Leader will be members of Canada's official delegation to the Coronation.

The Seaway
The government is not losing any time or sparing any effort in pushing the St. Lawrence seaway development. This great project which will mean so much to the future development of Canada and to the power supply of industrial Ontario has top priority here and there is real optimism that despite tape and tardy co-operation from the U.S.A. that work will start on the big development this fall. Prime Minister St. Laurent and all members of the government are giving it full and all out support.

British Markets
Canadian goods continue to sell heavily in the British market although in recent years there have been changes in the kind of goods sold.

Last year, 1952, Canada was the biggest supplier Britain had in the world. Britain took Canadian goods to the value of \$893 million, according to British figures.

That meant Canadian exports increased 22 per cent over 1951 and set a new peacetime record. The United States was Britain's second largest supplier and Australia came in third place. Canadian shipments amount to 9.3 per cent of all Britain's imports, compared to eight per cent in 1951.

Commenting on the situation the magazine "Foreign Trade" says: "Obviously Canada is retaining her hold on this market."

Taxes and Spending
During the session the House heard many complaints regarding high taxation and also heard from the opposition time and again suggestions which if adopted would have meant many millions more to be levied on taxpayers.

Reasonable and thinking people appreciate that it is not sensible to criticize the administration for the present level of taxation and in the next breath suggest increasing expenditures by many millions of dollars.

In this session the government has listened to the opposition make suggestions which if adopted would have increased expenditures by some \$4 billion.

Your government's policy has been to extend social services in keeping with the economy of our country. We have ever kept in mind and endeavoured to strike a fair balance between the needs of the people and the ability of the people to bear the resulting levy of taxation. Sometimes opposition members in an effort to make appeals to sections or groups seem to forget that the government's only source of revenue is taxation.

"Dear Mr. Editor"

ON BUILDING A NEW SCHOOL

Dear Mr. Editor:
I read with considerable interest Mr. George Harte's letter in last week's Liberal and I do agree with much of what he says.

It seems curious to me that the Board of Education cannot or will not realize that the people of this school area are anxious to build the best school we can afford and not a school that will be the best the architect can design. After all we are not erecting a monument to any architect but a place of learning. If we could afford to build the best then we could go ahead but I do not feel that the majority of people in the area can afford the considerable expense of a school such as appears to be the wish of most of the school trustees.

It seems hard to believe that the Trustees do not realize that the member receiving the second highest number of votes did so on a platform of "a low cost school." Yet, as Mr. Harte points out, his suggestions have been shrugged off by other members of the board with scant consideration although he has spent much time and money in obtaining facts.

It also seems curious that the school area to the south of us is ready to start erecting a school at a cost of some \$3,000 per room less than planned for this area. And in a ten-room school that means a saving of some \$30,000, assuming, of course, that the \$170,000 figure is a firm one — which I doubt since no plans are yet drawn up. If a seven-room school, such as to be built in the area to the south of us, can be erected for about \$14,000 per room, why can't we do likewise?

If the Board is so convinced that it is right, it will not hesitate to call a public meeting and explain publicly why it is so convinced that we need a school that will cost \$170,000 or more! Believe me, if this area could afford it, maybe that's the kind we should build but I am sure that we can't. Let's build the best we can afford — let's use so-called "prefab" materials if it will cut the cost — let's make sure that everything possible is done to obtain the full grant from the Department of Education. And let's get cracking now — for it seems more than likely we'll have some 60 pupils on our hands who are now being looked after to the south of us at present. And if we dilly dally, maybe the Department of Education will get tough — it would be too bad if we lost any or all of our grant — and that's not so impossible either.

Once again, let's build the best WE CAN AFFORD and let's choose an architect who can design substantial schools at a more moderate cost than is now the case. Other areas are doing it and so can we. Richmond Hill is growing but let's not try to do more than we can — physically or financially. And we all know the debentures will take a bit of arranging because of our present high rate.

Frankly, I am disappointed in the reaction of the Board to suggestions for a more economical building. I do not feel they have given the suggestions the full consideration they deserve. I would like to see more people express their views on this matter now — before we are saddled with the seemingly high expense of the school as proposed by the Board. And I shall endeavor to attend School Board meetings in the future to see how our school affairs are conducted. It appears that more and more ratepayers should turn out to these Board meetings.

Thanks, Mr. Editor, for the space I have taken up. As a resident of the area since 1924, I am very anxious to see Richmond Hill and district go ahead. But I cannot feel that overburdening the working man — and most of us in the school area are not executives — is a logical way to make this district go ahead. Let's take a second look at the school question now — let's decide on the most economical type of building and the most efficient for what we can afford and then let's all join together in getting it built as fast as possible and relieve the overworking. Sincerely,
Harry W. R. Sayers

The Richmond

Richmond Hill, Ontario

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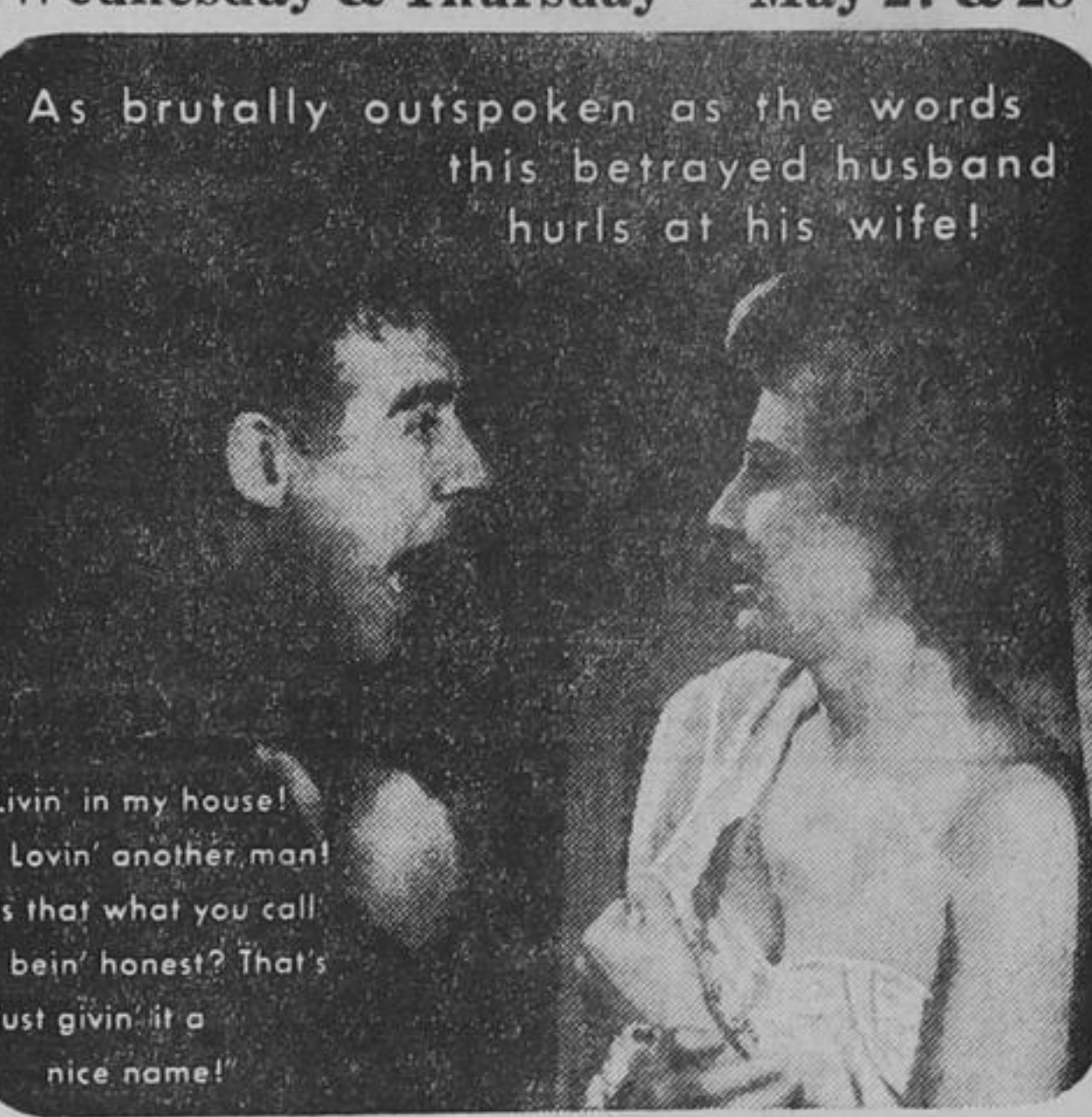
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A Record Of Achievement

Canada's 21st Parliament has ended and its record is in the hands of the voters and historians.

On the home front and abroad the 21st Parliament had a record exceeded by none. It presided over the most prosperous four years in Canadian history, at the same time underwriting the most costly peacetime defence and social security programs ever attempted.

Barely a year after its election, the 21st faced the grave challenge of Soviet aggression in Korea, and voted a \$5,000,000,000 national defence outlay to build up the nation's armed forces. It backed up the Government's decision to send thousands of Canadian troops to join United Nations forces in the Far East and to the North Atlantic Treaty Organizations in Europe; to send an air division of the latest Sabre jet fighters to France and Germany and an air transport squadron to Japan; and to provide a naval base for patrols in the Pacific.

At home, it launched the world's most comprehensive program of social security for the aged. One of its first acts was to provide universal old age pensions of \$40 a month to persons over 70 without means test, and to extend pensions to needy persons in the 65-69 year age group. Equitable financing of the new pension was provided by a two-per-cent levy on personal and corporation incomes and on sales.

The 21st Parliament provided substantial sums for a National Health Plan, inaugurated by the late Prime Minister Mackenzie King in the 20th Parliament in 1948. The plan, most of which has been carried out in the past four years, increased the nation's hospital accommodation by one-third, trained thousands of new health workers and provided hospitals and clinics with costly new technical equipment for the battle against sickness and disease. It helped lay the groundwork for what Mr. King predicted would ultimately become a national program of public health insurance. The plan's immediate benefits began to show up in a sharply reduced death-rate among infants and tuberculosis victims.

In business, the 21st ordered a sharp crackdown on combines and restrictive trade practice, revamping and tightening its legislation against companies which violated the concepts of free enterprise and competition. Companies caught forming price compacts at heavy cost to consumers were called into court, fined and ordered to desist. New machinery for maintaining vigilance over repeated offenders was provided, and additional protection was given to companies against premature publicity during investigation.

The 21st Parliament faced one of its greatest domestic challenges with the outbreak of the dreaded foot-and-mouth disease on a Saskatchewan cattle ranch in 1952. The rich United States livestock market, for a long time Canada's best, was closed to Canadian cattle and a recession threatened to spread through the industry. Parliament authorized expenditures of more than \$30,000,000 to eliminate the disease and bolster domestic prices through the crisis. Before it finished its business, it was rewarded by the re-opening of the American market and assurances that the industry was well on the road to economic recovery.

Abroad, Canadian business had one of the greatest international trade booms the world has ever known. Month after month for nearly four years, Canadian export figures grew larger and larger as this country's products found their way into all corners of the earth. Canadian food, manufactured goods and raw materials turned up in dozens of countries where they had never appeared before, opening up a wide variety of previously untapped markets for the future.

The 21st Parliament and the government which led it could not take full credit for this prosperity. But they had a strong claim on a big share of it. Conditions like these could not be experienced in a Canada that was badly governed.

The immediate verdict on this record will be in the hands of the voters sometime in the next few months. The long-run verdict — the historian's — will be written in the years to come.

Watch Those Fires

It has been announced recently that there are over 100 forest fires burning in six Canadian provinces, two of which in Ontario are out of control.

Every year, millions of dollars worth of valuable timber is lost due to forest fires, many of which are started through carelessness. The losses to our forests take years to mend and take additional thousands of dollars in actual tax money to keep them under control.

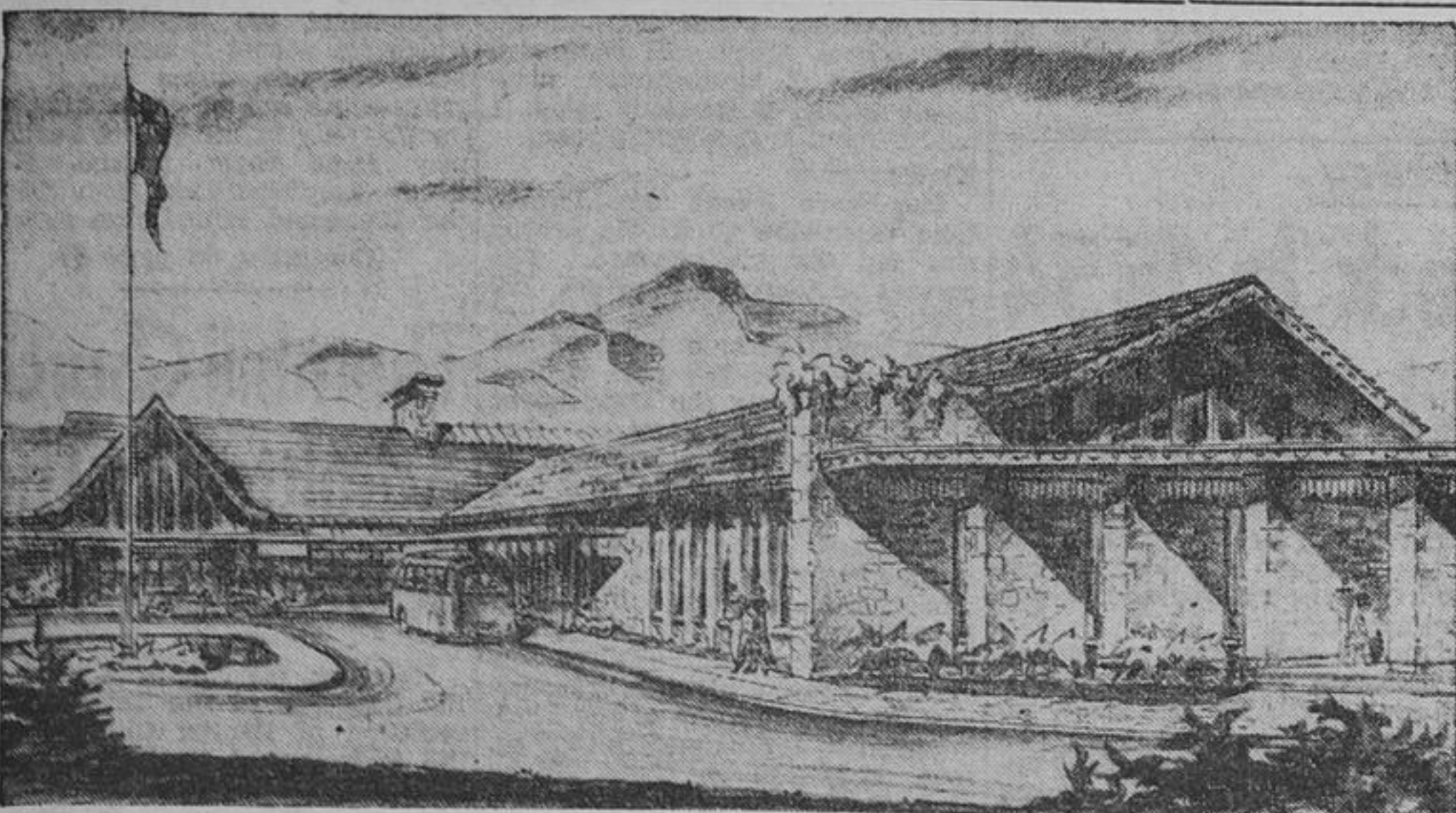
With the onset of hot weather, thousands of Canadians and American tourists will begin the annual pilgrimage to our northern playground. Tourist resorts will be filled to capacity and hundreds of campers and hunters will take to the open trail.

To those who are intending to travel in our forest regions this summer, a word of caution — be on the alert for fire hazards — don't be the cause of a forest fire. Because the forest fire does not directly affect the hunter or camper carelessness

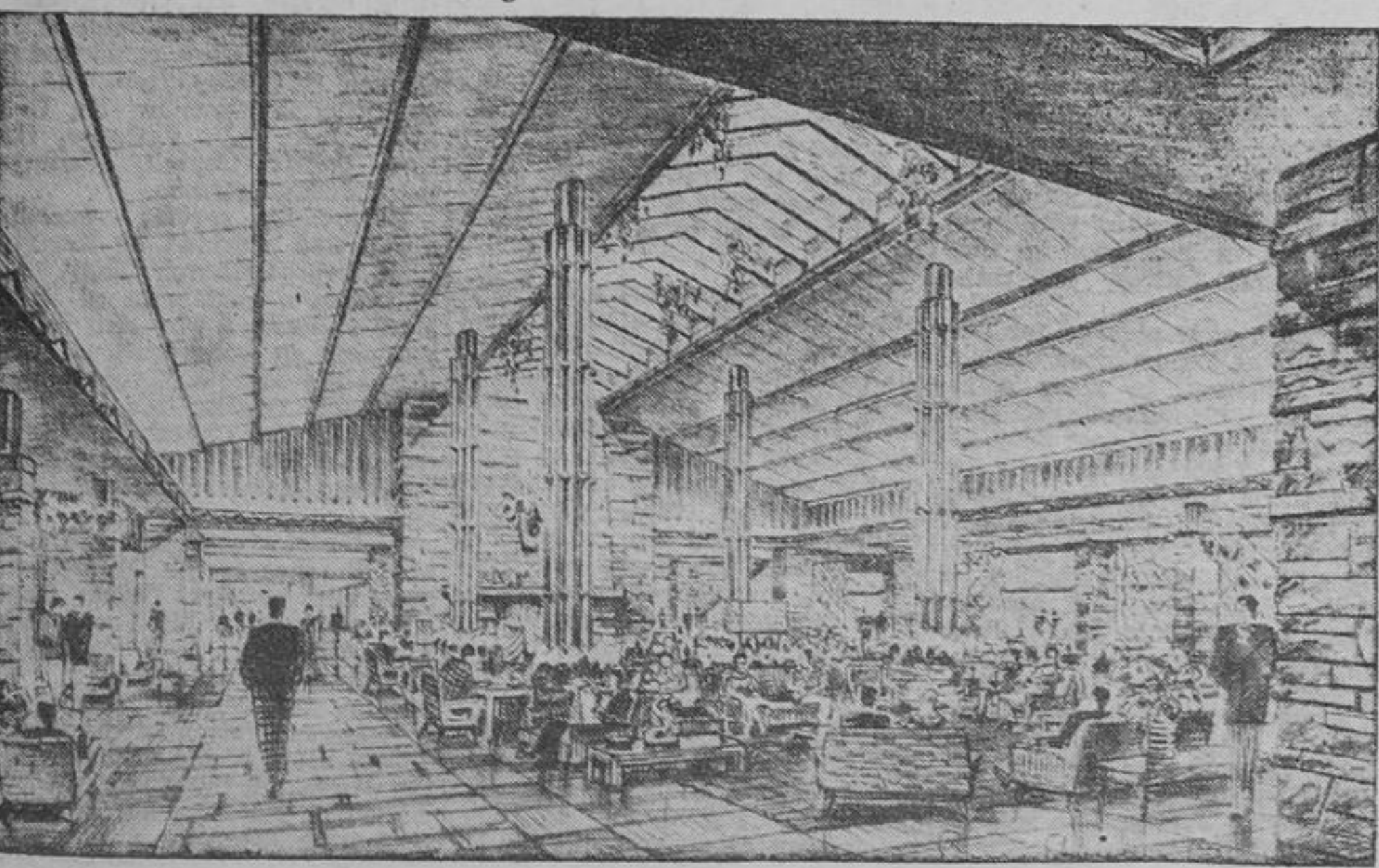
often creeps in. But it is the whole country which suffers from the effects of forest fires in the loss of valuable timber and pulp and in the loss and destruction of our beauty spots and tourist attractions.

A little caution and thought on the part of those travelling in our Canadian forests can help a lot. Check those camp fires to make sure every last ember is out, remember even the leafy soil burns in the forest, watch cigarette and cigar butts, the worst offenders, and take care where matches are thrown (a wise thing is to try always to throw matches and cigarette butts into water). A few precautions like these will go a long way in preserving our forests, not only for the National Economy but for many people who derive a sincere pleasure from our north land.

Even as we take all precautions to protect our homes and businesses, let us make a genuine effort to preserve Canada's forests which are home and business for a nation.



THE NEW central building Jasper Park Lodge is rapidly taking shape and will be ready for the opening of the 1953 season in June. It will be one-third bigger than the old central building and will be completely fire-proof. Of stone and log construction it will harmonize with the Alpine character of the rest of the buildings. The photographs show the exterior of the main lodge, looking past the ballroom towards the main entrance, and a section of the interior of the lounge.



SUNDAY AFTERNOON

PERENNIAL YOUTH
From the beginning of recorded time men have noticed advancing years with anxiety. What did Adam think when he saw his first grey hair? Not having a mirror he probably was a long time discovering it. The literature of ancient Greece and Rome abound with references to old age, many of them made in jest, not unlike the wisecracks of our own day but most of them accepting with regrets that their good times were over. Cicero uttered, what most felt, when he said that an old person had nothing to look forward to. The writer of the First Psalm sounded a better note when he insisted that life could be lived so that a man might be, "like a tree planted by the rivers of water; his leaf also shall not wither." Here is a magnificent truth sensed by a man who lived nearly thirty cen-

TODAY'S QUOTATION
Our quotation today is by John Masfield:
"My mind remembers the beauty of fire from the beauty of embers."

turies ago. There could be, and should be a springtime freshness in the souls even of old people. Here is the promise of the unfolding leaf, perennial youth.

Here is a list of men and their age at death, all of whom did enduring work, after attaining old age: at seventy, Columbus, Petrarch, Copernicus; seventy-one Linnaeus; seventy-two, Charlemagne, Samuel Richardson, Allan Ramsay, John Locke; seventy-four, Handel, Frederick the Great, Dr. Jenner; seventy-five, Haydn, Du-gald Stewart; seventy-six, Mosset; seventy-seven, Thomas Telford, Lord Beaconsfield; seventy-eight, Galileo, Corneille; seventy-nine, William Harvey, Robert Stephenson, Henry Cavendish; eighty, Plato, Wordsworth, Emerson, Kant, William Cullen Bryant; eighty-one, Lord Palmerston, Sir Edward Coke; eighty-three, Wellington, Victor Hugo, Goethe; eighty-four, Sir William Herschel, Tellyrand; eighty-five, Cato, Newton, Benjamin Franklin; eighty-six, Earl Russell, Edmund Hailey, Thomas Carlyle; eighty-eight, John Wesley; eighty-nine, William E. Gladstone, Michael Angelo; ninety, Sophocles; ninety-nine, Titian; one hundred, Fontenelle. After reading that list I feel quite young and very lazy.

Some of these men remained mentally alert until the end; for instance, in Morley's three volumes "Life of Gladstone," two volumes

have to do with what he accomplished after he was sixty-six. To live to an advanced age is not a great thing in itself, but to keep buoyant, cheerful and eager; to keep on fulfilling worthy tasks and serving others, that is magnificent achievement.

To what extent was these men's useful old age due to their philosophy of life? That is not easy to answer but it seems reasonable to assume that wholesome views and religious faith were factors with most of them. The unhappy man, the cynic and rebellious cannot have as much to live for as those soundly grounded in deep steady convictions.

One sometimes finds elderly people making plans for a future which indulgent friends say they will never see. They plant fruit trees and there is scant likelihood that they will ever taste the ripened produce. But there is deep spiritual truth underlying their excellent hopes. Somehow they understand they are pilgrims on a journey; there will be many turnings and unexpected happenings but the journey will continue. They know that there are not two worlds, but one, they are not possessed by bitterness and vain regrets. They run and are not weary, they walk and are not faint. They say as John Wesley did in the closing moments of a very long life, "The best of all is God is with us."

Thursday's Chuckle

"Finnegan," inquired Murphy, "is it true, what they're sayin' about O'Brien's behavior at the wake last night?"
"Sure, an' 'tis so, Murphy. A disgrace to the Irish he was."
"And Mallory wantin' to fight everybody, is that the truth?"
"Ah, Mallory was a crazy devil; he was worse than O'Brien."
"It's uncomplimentary reports I've been hearin' of Burke's deportment, too; was he guilty?"
"Burke passed out cold long before midnight. It's an embarrassment he'll never live down."
"I'm ashamed of our old friends, Finnegan. But tell me confidentially; was I there?"
"....."

A visitor calling on a young married couple marveled at the speed with which their five children were bathed and put to bed. "How do you do it so quickly?" he asked.
"Oh, it's not too bad," replied the wife. "I wash and Bill wipes."

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