

The Liberal
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Teachers Are Not Baby Sitters

We were glad to hear Trustee Jackson Taylor of the School Area Board speak as he did of the way teachers today are being turned into, willing or otherwise, professional baby-sitters. He was heartily endorsing a recent move of the Board to have all children, unless for some important reason, sent to their homes for the lunch hour.

This step was instigated in order to develop a more stabilized time table for the schools in the Area, but at the

same time it has brought back the free noon hour for the teachers who no longer have the regular extra hour's supervision.

Many children are sent to school with their lunch because both parents are working and the worry of the children home alone at lunch time is eliminated. Inclement weather and long distances to travel are other factors. School lunches are convenient for the parents but rather hard on the school system.

The New Issue

By now, most Canadians have had a good look at the new Canadian currency and by what we hear, it is being well received for the most part.

The new bills are typically Canadian in flavour which is quite apropos as the interest in our national growth increases. Quite different from the previous currency issue of 1935, the new bills are refreshing in their appearance, with more modern detail and fresh clear colours.

The picture of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, is more becoming to our young sovereign than the image which has appeared on either new issue coins

or postage stamps and the nation's expert engravers have spent many painstaking hours to produce a flattering likeness of our sovereign to grace the new bills.

On the reverse side are varied typically Canadian scenes, depicting the natural beauty of our vast Dominion — a considerable change from the neoclassic figures appearing on the bills for the past 20 years.

Despite the criticism of the new bills, most Canadians are convinced that in years to come, we will look back on this issue as a singular event in our nation's development.

Fatigue is Danger Signal

If you seem to tire too easily, or feel "all in" for no clear reason, or sometimes wake up more tired than when you went to bed — you are in good company, says the September Reader's Digest. Most of us, at times, feel the same sort of puzzling fatigue.

Its cause, experts agree, is a protective reaction against stress, a warning that strains upon our bodies, minds or emotions are approaching a dangerous level. Nature's red lights, in other words.

Hard work, says the article, makes us tired by using up reserves of oxygen and blood sugar — fuel elements which are burned rapidly by exertion. But before hard work reduces our fuel reserves to the danger point, various "life-saving discomforts" force us to slow down. Muscles ache. We get a "stitch" around the heart. Lungs beg painfully for a chance to catch up.

Mental work makes us physically tired because the brain, too, when active, requires lots of the blood-sugar and oxygen fuels. In brain-fag, "the red lights of physical fatigue are flashed

on so that fuel can be shunted toward the endangered brain."

Chronic tiredness may be a sign of physical disease, the Digest cautions. In sickness, the fatigue mechanism discourages unnecessary exertion and channels all energies into fighting the disease.

Frequent snacks can ward off fatigue. On the other hand, dieting can cause persistent tiredness through the too-rapid reduction of sugar and other carbohydrates. Also, susceptibility to fatigue may result from lack of consistent exercise — a common condition among desk workers.

You may wake up more tired than when you went to bed because you have been too cold or too warm during the night, or because of a deep-seated emotional conflict which sleep may fail to relieve.

Coffee, "pep pills," alcohol and smoking give lifts, but the Digest article warns that they postpone, rather than prevent fatigue. Such pickups can never replace rest and sleep, which are nature's true restorers.



External Affairs Minister Hon. Lester B. Pearson, and Don C. Bliss, U.S. Minister to Canada, view Franklin Arbuckle's "Parliament Hill", at the U.S. Premiere of the world-circling Seagram

collection of Paintings of Canadian Cities. The 52-canvas collection is now starting its 18-month tour of major Canadian centres.



WE LEPEERS

Father Damien stood on the deck of the boat as it approached Molokai. He had a presentiment that he would never leave the island; that he would be buried there. He could see the poor lepers coming to meet the boat — some were frightfully scarred with sores, others were blind, in many cases a hand or a foot had literally rotted away, and all looked sad and hopeless. When Father Damien landed there was no one there to meet him — there was not even a house for him to live in — but he lay down under a tree and spent his first night there in the open.

The next day he walked across the island and what he saw there made his heart sick. Leprosy, which is a very old disease, always thrives where there is dirt and filth. Cleanliness is absolutely necessary in fighting it. But these lepers had very little water and practically no soap. Their huts were without ventilation and unsanitary and all were so poor that they could not secure the cheapest foodstuffs. The priest went into one hut after another — they were all alike — there was so much filth that he could not stay more than a few minutes in any one of them.

One of the first things he did was to arrange for a proper water supply for the inhabitants. They had to fetch it from a long distance on their shoulders, and the trouble involved naturally made them careless and dirty. It is not to be wondered at that the lepers — many of whom were weak from disease — brought no more water than was necessary for drinking purposes. In his walks over the island, Father Damien discovered a natural reservoir high up among the hills where there was always a plentiful supply of water, clear, cool and pure. He got water-pipes, and with the help of the strongest lepers, he laid the pipes down and soon the dwellers in the villages had all the water they needed for drinking and washing. It was a splendid beginning for Damien's work.

One day Father Damien scalded his foot with boiling water. To his surprise he felt no pain whatever, there was no feeling in the limb. He went at once to the doctor who examined him. With a voice choked with sobs the doctor said: "I cannot bear to tell you the truth — you — are —" "I understand," said the priest, "I am a leper. I have felt sure of it for a long time."

Father Damien was a leper.

About Books And Reading

By R. N. NEIL

Previous to this, he had been permitted to visit the other islands, now he had to confine himself to Molokai and watch the developments of the loathsome disease in himself. His cheerfulness, after he became a leper, was remarkable. "Whenever I have preached to my people," he said, "I have called them 'brethren', now I shall always say to them 'we lepers'". A visitor told him he stood a chance of being cured if he would leave the island. "If that is the only condition of my being cured," he said, "I am not willing to fulfil it. I will not leave my work here."

This is a description of him given by one who saw him six years after he had been stricken. "He is now forty-nine years old — a thick-set, strongly-built man with black curly hair and a short beard turning gray — he is now a great deal disfigured by leprosy — his forehead is swollen and rigid, the eyebrows are gone, the nose is somewhat sunk and the ears are greatly enlarged; his hands and face look uneven, and his body also shows many signs of the disease."

With him the disease spread rapidly. In February, 1889, he wrote to friends saying that only in heaven did he hope to meet them again. The second Sunday after Easter was his last Sunday upon earth. The special Scripture lesson for that day contained the words: "I am the Good Shepherd; I lay down my life for the sheep." In a room nearby Damien was dying. It was a fitting lesson for the brave pastor who was drawing near to death.

He died peacefully on April 15, 1889, after more than sixteen years among the lepers. His faith was always strong and beautiful; and seemed to increase as death drew near. "How good God is," he whispered with what little voice he had left. He had collected much money for the sufferers during this time, but when his own end came it was found that he had so far forgotten himself that he had not even a change of linen or bedclothes. At his own request he was buried under a large pandanus tree — he had slept under this tree, and under its shade this noble Christian hero and saint was laid to rest.

This is a book that charms the serious reader, but if you are not historically minded, or require your history sugar-coated, read Shellbarger's or Costain's books on our shelves, and which are, indeed, well worth your attention.

There is a statement in The Study of History which brings us back on our heels with a jolt in this year of grace 1954, "when a frontier between a more highly civilized society ceases to advance, the balance does not settle down to a stable equilibrium but inclines, with the passage of time, in the more backward society's favour" (sic Russia, China et al.).

"Dear Mr. Editor"

Re: High Cost of Education

Dear Mr. Editor:

I see there is quite an agitation to provide schools for retarded children. Frankly, I think it is a long range scheme to fasten this expense on the taxpayers.

Everyone should know that education is the largest item of expenditure in all urban municipalities. Schools cannot be run on the proceeds of bake sales, etc. Once they become established with the cost of debentures, salaries, transportation, etc. there will be an outcry for the municipality to take over.

We need roads, sewers, water, sidewalks, street lights and postal delivery. For too many years already the people of Doncaster have wallowed in mud on dark nights, and lived without amenities. Now we see palaces erected at \$20,000 per room plus salaries and 6 per cent architect's fees.

The children spend a fraction of their time in fancy schools with Royal York toilets, then come home to sub-standard housing and pit closets. Too bad they wouldn't fix up some bake sales to get us some good drinking water and give schools a rest for a while. Decent housing comes before frills.

Yours truly,
ARTHUR BURSILL,
Doncaster

TODAY'S QUOTATION

a saying by Jesus:
"He that loseth his life shall find it."

"Way Back When"

Excerpts from the files of The Liberal
Home paper of the Richmond Hill district since 1878

OCTOBER 4, 1951
Carrville School Trustees have asked permission to erect a portable school to accommodate the increased number of pupils.

The village assessment of \$1,667,298 is \$242,993 above last year's figures.

Vaughan Township Council has accepted \$500.00 as payment for a portion of land annexed by the village of Woodbridge.

The recreation room for the fire brigade will be open for inspection next week. The room was made possible through the generosity of local citizens and merchants.

The village population now stands slightly over the 2200 mark, an increase of 85 over last year.

Members of Kingcrafts are celebrating their first anniversary. The group held an anniversary celebration at Kingsworld, the home of their founder and president, Lady Flavell.

SEPTEMBER 4, 1941
Dr. J. H. Wesley, Medical Officer of Health for Newmarket has completed fifty years of medical service in the area.

SEPTEMBER 11, 1941
The W.M.S. of Maple United Church will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the society on September 17, in the form of a banquet.

In The Liberal window this week are five Katahdin potatoes weighing 5 lbs. 5 oz., and grown

by George McNair of Jefferson. The Lions Street Dance held this summer cleared about \$1,150, it was reported recently. \$300 of this was voted to the Lions British Child War Victims Fund.

North Yonge Radial profits for the month of July were \$1,097.35 compared with \$592.45 in July 1940. Passenger revenue for the month was \$7,875.63, an increase of \$1,669.40 over the corresponding month a year ago.

SEPTEMBER 9, 1926
A regulation has been passed which provides that all residents of Ontario hunting in the counties of Lincoln, Wentworth, Welland and York are required to take out a gun license which permits the shooting of game birds and rabbits during the various open seasons. The license costs \$2 and may be procured at the post offices.

Preparations are being made to open the Elgin Mills Dance Pavilion for the fall season.

SEPTEMBER 12, 1901
Employees of the Peace Furnace Co. spent Friday evening and Saturday, laying a brick foundation for the New Ideal heater which will place in one of the rooms of the Public School next Saturday.

Residents of Thornhill claim to have an oil well in that village. Experts will give an opinion on the substance found 180 feet from the surface.

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Thursday's Chuckle
SUN AND MOON
In a coloured debating society the resolution was "Which is the most valuable, the moon or the sun?" The subject was hotly debated by the respective defenders and judges had considerable difficulty in arriving at a decision.

They finally announced that on the merits of the debate the moon was more valuable because it shone in the night time when it was needed, whereas the sun shone in the day time when it was not needed.

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