

The Liberal



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Origin Of Mothers' Day

One old saying we've all heard is that, "there's nothing new under the sun."

Most of us will agree this isn't completely true, but it does seem to hold for many of the customs we observe. Take Mother's Day (Sunday, May 10) for instance. The name applied to the day itself may be relatively new — 45 years in Canada and the U.S. — but its meaning goes back into man's dim past.

According to facts, man has for centuries shown his esteem for mother in one way or another.

In 1959, he will send her greeting card or flowers — or both. But the Romans also had a way of showing the reverence in which they held mother. Each year they held a festival in honor of Hilaria, the Mother-Goddess.

In Mexico, more than 1,000 years ago, the Nahuan Indians held flower festivals for Chicomehuatl, the Earth Mother Goddess. The people of Asia Minor also had a mother goddess — Rhea — and set aside a day for her.

Early 17th century England developed the practice of "going a mothering". This custom saw boys and girls,

working away from home, going home to spend "Mothering Sunday" — still celebrated in many parts of England — with their families.

Because many of the youngsters had to walk great distances to get home, churches often opened their doors to feed them. At home, the young travelers would present their mothers with gifts of violets and cakes.

In Canada and the U.S., Mother's Day was instituted as a result of the efforts of a Philadelphia Sunday school teacher, Miss Anna M. Jarvis. She urged that people somehow show their esteem for their mothers and held a memorial service for her own mother in a Methodist Church.

It didn't take long for the idea to catch on. And in 1914, President Wilson made it official in the U.S. He signed a Congressional resolution designating the second Sunday of each May, "Mother's Day."

The practice soon spread into Canada. And in 1920, Canadian newspapers reported that the day was being widely observed in many sections of the country. Mother's Day now is celebrated coast to coast.

Education And Hard Work

Are today's parents allowing more and more of their duties as parents to fall on the shoulders of our teaching staff — thereby making our children 'soft' and robbing us of responsibilities that should promote closer family relations?

Mrs. Jean Milne Watson, new president of the Ontario Educational Association — the biggest school organization in Canada — with jurisdiction over more than 100,000 teachers, school trustees, inspectors and professors, says, "Things are made too easy for children today. It doesn't help their growth. Hard work and sacrifice strengthens character." She says parents should extend their duties and responsibilities to their children so that teachers could spend more time on the essentials. She affirms that "as a mother my duty is to teach my child how to conduct himself socially — in my home."

Referring to her own school days in Scotland when her parents drilled into their five children, "the main objective is to get a good education," she pointed out that "where we concentrated on arithmetic and spelling they take something called nature study. Grade 7 and 8 students are taught how to write cheques. In Grade 4 social studies they're taught how to go to the store."

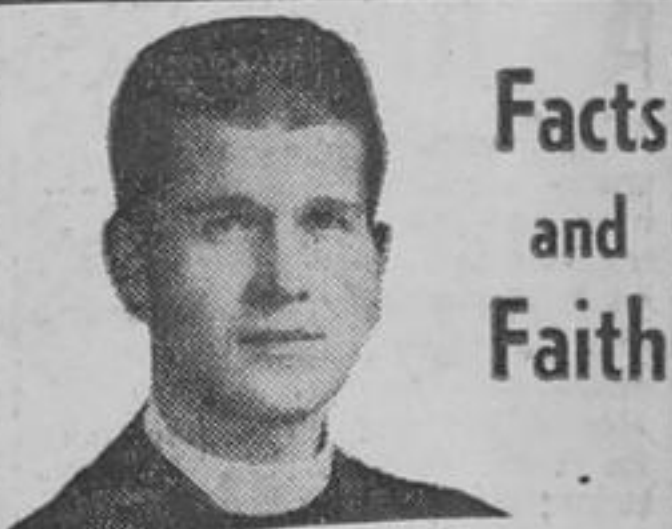
Going to the store — surely that's not being taught in school? For we can't imagine any child not having learned that lesson before he entered kindergarten. We

can still remember the almost thrilling horror of that first parent-guided excursion — when each of our children (as they came of age) was sent off on their own two little feet with many parental admonitions to purchase a loaf of bread — on initiation day into the big wide world. We recall the minutes, that seemed like hours, before the now-important-to-himself youngster toddled home clutching a squeezed-in loaf — but with pride and a new-look apparent in his face and bearing after he had made his first store purchase . . . for himself. If parents have turned that duty over to our teachers, we are lost indeed.

Mrs. Watson believes in what is termed the Scot's faith, "Education and Hard Work," when she says, "It's time a wealthy country like Canada laid greater emphasis on education, trimmed some of the fat out of school curriculums and taught its children to work harder."

We look forward to hearing more from Mrs. Watson on this subject and will be interested in learning just how she will influence educational sources in Ontario at least, where, she maintains, more and more unnecessary subjects are creeping into school curriculums.

The mother of three children, the oldest at 24 a mining engineer; a 22-year-old daughter a teacher, and with a 13-year-old daughter in the first year of high school, Mrs. Watson should know where-of she speaks.



Facts and Faith

A Weekly Comment On
Christian Life And Action
— By Calvin H. Chambers —
THE CHURCH

What is the Church? This may seem to be a very simple question to answer, especially in a nominally Christian society. Some would instantly say that the Church is that building pointing its spire toward heaven where we go on Sundays to worship God. Others would say that the Church is that institution made up of all kinds of people (some good, some bad) who centre their lives as Christians in and around a church building. Others would point to the organizations of the Church as its being the most important aspect of Christianity. Still others would speak of choirs, cathedrals, stained glass windows, hymns, prayers and all the rest. Without these there would be no church. There might be Christians without these, but certainly no church.

If this is true, you might as well tell me that there can be no fruit or flowers in the world unless we have flower pots and conservatories; that we can have no light in the world unless we have window panes. All too often we have confused the outward organization and visibility of the Church with the Spirit filled organism God calls His Church. We have mistaken organization for life, and activity for the work of the Spirit.

But this is not the conception of the Church described in the New Testament. It speaks of a Church which sometimes makes us wonder if we belong to it. The Church is not an easy thing to describe, because the Bible speaks of it in two ways. On the one hand it is depicted in very exalted and heavenly terms. This is the Church as God intends it to be. Then the Bible speaks of the Church as it actually is — a community of men and women who have come under the power of Jesus Christ. It is not a perfect community, because it is made up of sinners who are still battling with things in their lives not truly Christian. It is nonetheless a Church if it is sincerely seeking to be an instrument of Jesus Christ in the world. This is one of the great ideas which Paul had of the Church. He said the Church was the "body of Christ". Now Christ's body was the means by which He entered into the stream of human life and history. But that body was taken out and crucified. After the resurrection and ascension, Christ was able to give Himself to His people in a way that had not been possible before. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, Jesus gave His living presence to the Church. He initiated His disciples to the mystery of the Church, which is, "Christ in you, the hope of glory."

It is now possible for us today, to know Christ in a much more intimate way than those who saw Him in the days of His flesh. This is true because Christ continues to impart His living Spirit to all who commit heart and life to Him. The Christian now rejoices in the fact that Paul so beautifully expressed in Galatians 2:20, "I live, and yet not I, Christ liveth in me, and the life that I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."

The Church then, is a company of men and women, all over the world and in every age, who owe their allegiance to Christ. They have responded to the gift of His grace made possible through His life, death and resurrection. They know what it is to pray, "Lord, be merciful to me a sinner." They know what it is to say "Lord, I believe, help thou my unbelief". They are seeking to be the channel by which Christ offers Himself afresh to the world today. This then is the Church, a vital living fellowship of people, controlled by Christ, witnessing to Him in the world through the power of His Spirit.

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Over Hill, Over Dale

by Cicely Thomson

Mr. Robert Langford, Richmond Hill's Industrial Commissioner doesn't expect overnight show-places filling all our available industrial acreage. He has a slow but sure purposeful way about him and holds fast to one of his basic theories "people are honest". He confessed early that to discuss the future developments here was difficult as the work was necessarily of a confidential nature and sometimes negotiations would go on for twelve months . . . industry only comes here once, if things are not right for them when they approach us, no amount of correcting or adjusting will make it possible for the town to approach the same firm again. So he uses psychology in his interviews.

One thing that has happened to us he pointed out, is that Richmond Hill is now eight miles closer to the centre of metropolitan Toronto . . . physically this centre is now about Lawrence Ave.

And when a firm is looking towards Richmond Hill as a possible new location they don't only want to see a piece of land and hear about sewers and water. They want to hear about our service clubs, they want to know about our churches, Sunday schools, our public schools, and our high schools. They look at the cultural side of life in Richmond Hill, they enquire about our recreational facilities . . . parks, ball games, figure-skating, tennis, curling, etc. And when Mr. Langford is talking to his executives he does not forget to mention that we are an hour closer to the northern vacation country than are the city-dwellers!

He came to us from Whitby, a lakeside town which in five years raised its industrial and commercial assessment from 7 per cent to 35 per cent. They were able to entertain heavy industry . . . we are not . . . the Dunlop Company for instance that settled there would use more water per day than our whole town uses!

Our own assessment picture in 1957 was like this:
4.28 per cent industrial 13.58 per cent commercial
82.14 per cent residential

Mr. Langford felt that the industrial and commercial assessment would have risen from the 17.86 per cent of 1957 to at least 20 per cent this year (1959). At first to me this did not look like much of a rise, but of course during that same time residential building has romped on apace to make a substantial increase on our total assessment, so that the 20 per cent represents a healthy gain and a good start on our attaining the ideal 40 to 60 per cent that we'd all like to see.

Our mill rate flare-up does not alarm Mr. Langford as regards his own work. Our potential new-industries are more concerned that administration is financially sound and whether we (or they) would be getting a dollar value for a dollar spent.

In the neat office I admired charts that clarified many questions I might have asked. The industrial area and commercial areas stood out by their markings, and even I could tell if a certain lot were occupied by a building and by the green or red lines how far the water service and sewer went (and by what routes they got there!) Our industrial commissioner must have a tidy mind and an orderly method of procedure.

Broadly the industrial section runs north and south on both sides of the railway, and at the north end west to Yonge Street.

If I had a tidy mind, too, I could probably start at the north and give you a picture of what we have, or start with the earliest building, or the largest or something, but not being made that way we'll just get a random look.

Let's start with Ratcliff's then, because it is so right in the open where we can see it. An English firm that runs a rolling mill of copper stripping, they have expanded three times since coming here in 1953. Another metal-working industry is York Mills Metal Spinning and Specialty . . . they make such things as the domed ends on propane tanks. The Forbes Products Company is a branch firm whose head office is in Rochester. They are in plastics.

Pegasus Products from Toronto are in metal signs, and the Neon Sign Company that is now building, does neon advertising displays. He is coming here because No. 7 Highway is going to go right through his present plant.

Then Irvingsteel is coming out from Toronto. They have bought about six acres just south of Elgin Mills Sideroad.

John Griffin and the Lawrence Construction company of Toronto are putting in seven plants just south of this. Four are ready right now and the other three will be completed by the 1st of August. Roads, water and sewers will be all ready for them. These three to six thousand square foot buildings will be particularly suitable for light and medium industry and particularly adaptable for a just-setting-up industry. They will be equipped with modern conveniences (industrial style.)

Three of the four completed ones are either occupied or spoken for . . . which just shows what value it is in having the area fully serviced. In fact there is just one lot left in the extreme north section.

Skopit Associates have a 10,000 foot building and are developing a residential area south of the Elgin, where from the looks of the thing over the past month they will have a BIG drainage problem to cope with.

(Continued on Page 12)

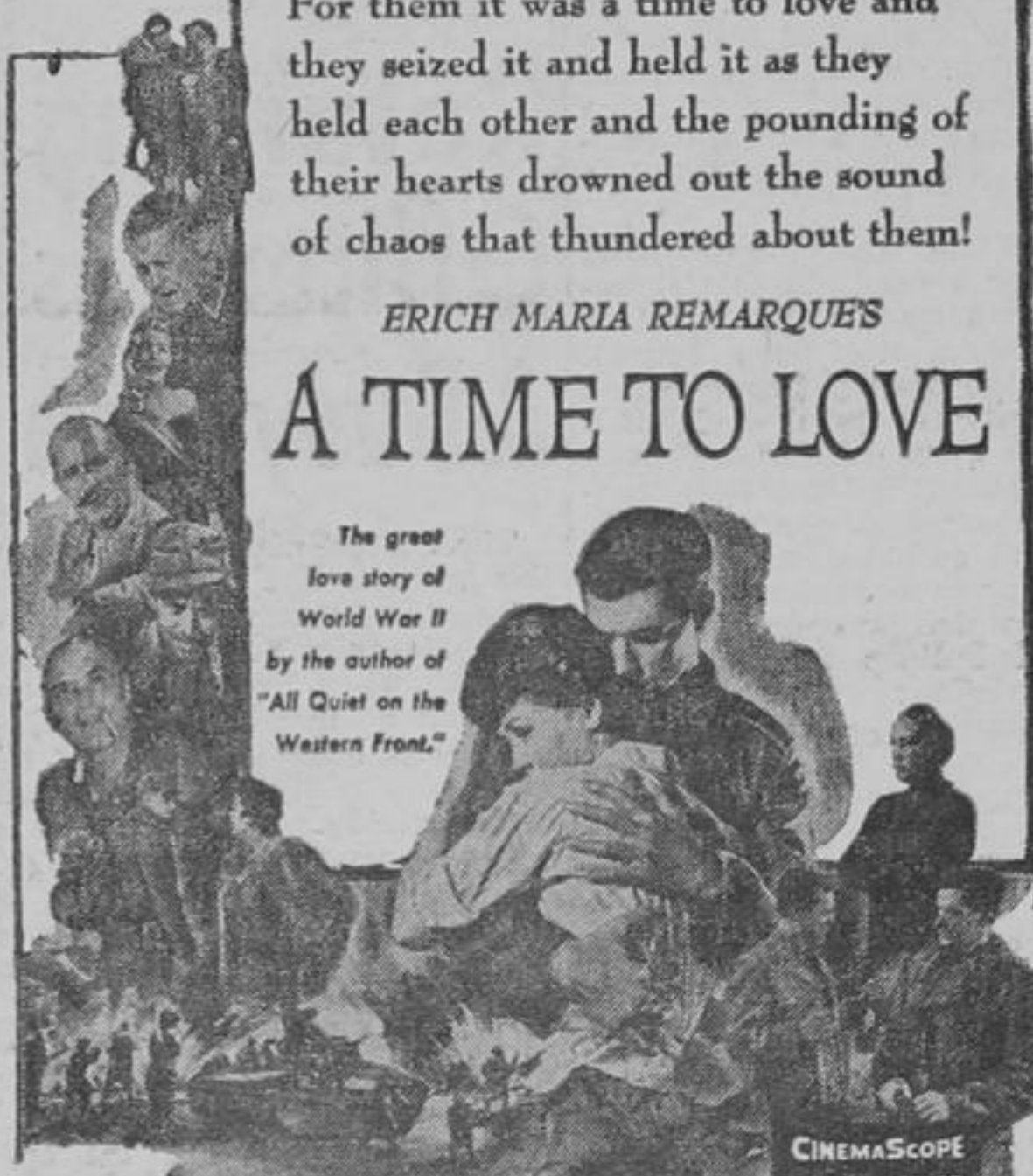
Wednesday, Thursday, May 13, 14

For them it was a time to love and they seized it and held it as they held each other and the pounding of their hearts drowned out the sound of chaos that thundered about them!

ERICH MARIA REMARQUES

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Monday, Tuesday, May 11, 12



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