

Preserving Past — For Future



John Lunn, Assistant Curator of the Greek and Roman Departments of the Royal Ontario Museum, is seen repairing a Roman vessel which was uncovered near the Verulamium museum, Hatfield, England. Mr. Lunn delights in

restoring these 'links with the past' and says of his interesting work, "this type of thing (rebuilding the past with brush and glue) is much more interesting than a jig-saw puzzle — and very relaxing."

or the re-discovered implements or war-arms of an African nation dead hundreds of years — as if talking of someone or some persons he has visited personally just before you arrived on the scene.

Mr. Lunn says he came to Canada with his wife, and three of their five children (two were born after they moved to Richmond Hill), because he trained in western Canada during the Second World War and — like so many other members of the army, navy, and airforce, from overseas — he fell in love with the country and its people. Following his marriage after the war he decided this was where he would bring his growing family.

His wife concurred with his decision and together they studied the map of Canada, finally deciding on Richmond Hill, Ontario, as the territory they would settle down in. But first they made a trip to Regina, then went to Ottawa where Mr. Lunn worked for eight months as a film director, making educational film strips.

Among those films are "Canada's Government", "Canada's Freedom" and "The History of Canada's Confederation". On completion of this branch of educational research, Mr. Lunn was then appointed to his present position with the Royal Ontario Museum at Toronto; and is now busy sorting out, cataloguing and labelling the marvellous collection of man's pre-historic artifacts collected half a century ago by the late C. T. Currelly which have been stored away in the archaeological workshop until the arrival of this new enthusiast, John Lunn.

"Why did you choose Richmond Hill", we asked Mr. Lunn and his charming wife as we sat in the south-view-over-Don Head farms living-room of their white frame house.

"Because of its location", the Lunn's said. "We want to become Canadians — our children will be educated here (the two eldest, Simon 10 and Carlton aged 8 attend Patterson Public School; Judith 5, Timothy 3 and Gerard aged 1 play happily in the country grounds surrounding their home on the hill) — and we think this part of Canada has the greatest future."

However, as a naturalist (Mr. Lunn is vice-president of the Richmond Hill Naturalists' Club) he says, "I am a little disturbed in the way so many of the beautiful spots around Toronto are being eaten up by subdivisions. There should be more done to conserve. It's a tragedy really to see such beautiful houses and farms done away with in the path of progress."

And thus speaks the man John Lunn, who, like so many Britons has come to these shores and fallen deeply in love with this majestic and beautiful country of ours . . . and who would protect that majesty and beauty for future generations . . . even as he, in his museum work, seeks to "preserve the past for the future."

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"Richmond Hill and Thornhill residents, having Turner 4 or Avenue 5 telephone numbers, must follow a new dialing procedure to reach telephones in Maple

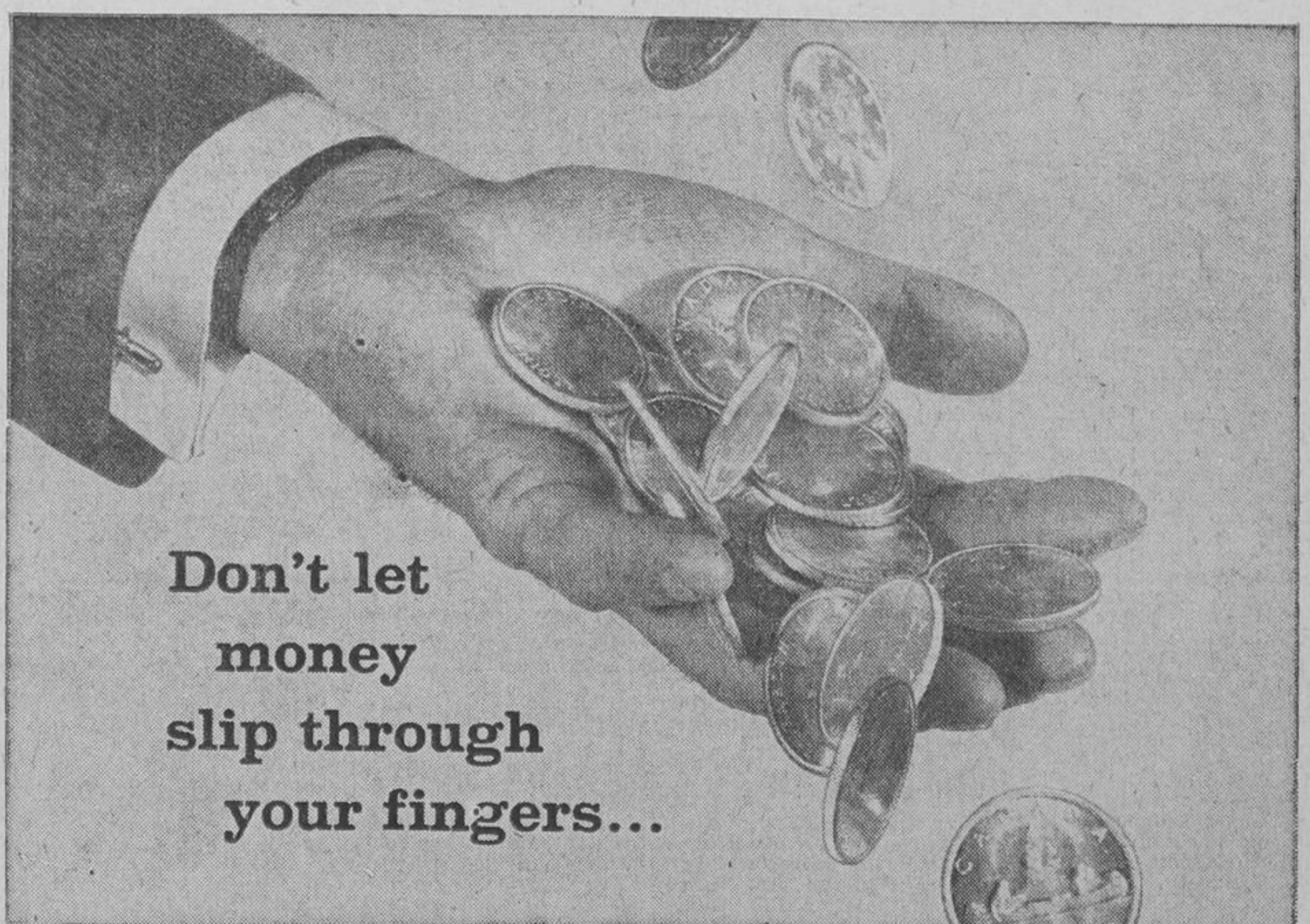
and King following the introduction of dial service in these two communities on November 1," W. C. Barnes, manager of the Bell's local office said this week.

Instead of dialing 273 in order to reach a Maple subscriber and 838 to reach someone in the King exchange, Turner 4 and Avenue 5 customers will be able to dial direct to the person they want. As of November 1, Maple tele-

phone subscribers will have ALpine 7 numbers, while King residents will be served by an exchange with the name and number TEmple 3. "To reach either of these exchanges, customers with TUrner 4 or AVenue 5 numbers will dial the appropriate exchange name and number plus the four figures of the local telephone number they want," Mr. Barnes said.

MARKHAM — Mr. Angus Mowat, head of library service for the Provincial Government, met with the Markham Library Board to explain the difference between a Public and an Association Library. A public library receives government grants, an association library does not.

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Whoever thinks history is a dry, dead, subject — best left buried in the far, dim past — should talk for a while with Mr. John Lunn, museologist and archaeologist at the Royal Ontario Museum, who lives on Vaughan Road, just west of Richmond Hill.

John Lunn, who is familiar to many viewers of the CBC panel show, "Who Knows", which has been televised Friday nights at 9 p.m. since last July is a man of many parts and places. Although only in his 30's he has been in nearly 40 countries of the world; been the first white man into Sinkiang and the cities of Kashgar and Yarkand after World War II (1946); is a very keen mountaineer; sang in both New College and Magdalen College Choirs in Oxford and attended the Magdalen choir school before the war; then enlisted in the artillery after which he went to university and studied engineering.

At Durham University, where he graduated with honors, he read history and archaeology, before going to London University to become a teacher. And eventually Mr. Lunn became a museum curator, the vocation in life which he

most enjoys, and for which he is most admirably suited.

In 1952 John Lunn was appointed the director of the Verulamium Museum, the site of one of the greatest Roman cities in Britain, which lay hushed and silent and buried for more than a thousand years before archaeologists began excavating and uncovering another link with past history. And it was in 1955 that Mr. Lunn became Director of Museums, City of St. Alban, when he was also appointed director of Hertfordshire County Museum.

Don't let the name 'curator' give you the wrong impression of this interesting and keenly interested man, who is of medium height and build with probing eyes, in which lurks a gleam of humour the uninitiated wonder at as he discusses pre-historic man.

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