

The Liberal



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Municipal Loan Fund

Fulfilling a pre-election pledge, Prime Minister Lester Pearson is implementing a \$400,000,000 municipal loan fund to buy municipal debentures on favourable and generous terms.

"Our purpose is to provide an additional source of finance so that municipalities can undertake more capital works on terms they can afford," the prime minister told a recent meeting of the Canadian Federation of Mayors and Municipalities in Toronto.

Mr. Pearson pledged that the federal government's assistance to municipal authorities would not take away a shred of local autonomy, and said the government has no intention of competing with or replacing existing sources of finance.

The new fund is a key part of the government's programme to reduce unemployment in a hurry by allowing municipalities to launch projects they would ordinarily delay through lack of borrowing capital. The government hopes that availability of funds at attractive interest rates will spur municipal projects and provide thousands of new jobs.

In addition, projects completed by March 31, 1966, will be eligible

for a write-off of 25 per cent of the loan - in effect a grant of one quarter of the cost. In cash terms the write-offs will amount to a \$100 million bonus. The write-off provision will serve both as an incentive to get the work done and reduce financing costs to the municipalities.

Finance Minister Walter Gordon has said that 425,000 Canadians are jobless while "countless essential municipal works are crying out to be undertaken. These are works which could offer employment to thousands of citizens while benefiting hundreds of thousands with permanent community facilities," he added.

Eligible projects will cover "the main facilities and services of municipalities," the finance minister said, adding that the government has no intention of interfering with provincial jurisdiction or with assistance programmes already providing funds for certain projects.

Such a municipal loan fund will assist the municipalities in securing badly needed funds to aid education, health and welfare and urban services. The municipalities need a ready source of funds at reasonable interest rates to help them in building schools, roads, hospitals, streets, sewage systems and even subways.

See Canada First

A recent article by Martin Deutsch in "Argosy", an American magazine, recommends "Canada: Big Playground to the North" to residents of all 50 states for an ideal holiday. The article's sub-heading reads "You can sample the best of Europe and North America this summer by pointing your family buggy north and joining the giant adventure that is Canada." Later on the writer refers to Canada, "the wonderful world at your doorstep," after giving brief resumes of holiday opportunities in each province.

Every Canadian should be very conscious of the importance of the American tourist and his dollar in our economy, and should resolve to help federal and provincial governments to dust off the welcome mat and persuade these friends from "south of the border" to return year after year. The article says in part:

"Even the best of neighbours are entitled to an occasional squabble. So it's not surprising that despite the flow of unflattering words between Washington and Ottawa, millions of vacation-bound Americans plan to penetrate Canada's paper-thin border in record numbers this summer and fall. This flow of visitors, much more meaningful than any flow of political phrases, emphasizes the close relationship between North America's giants. It also points up Canada's enviable position as the number one playground for tourists from the 50 states."

"Canada is one of the largest but

least inhabited countries in the world. Its huge land mass lies east to west between the world's most important oceans, extending from a common border of thousands of miles with the United States on the south to frigid, barren arctic wastelands to the north. This giant land embraces wondrous lakes and majestic mountains, rugged rivers and placid streams, cosmopolitan, colorful cities and quaint, quiet villages. There are several distinct, distinctive cultures and a hospitable, hardy people, and last but not least an excellent network of roadways distinguished by the recently-completed toll-free Trans-Canada Highway — 5,000 miles of pleasure driving from St. John's, Newfoundland, to Victoria, in British Columbia.

"For summer family travellers, Canada represents an unlimited holiday potential. We've rarely heard a complaint about accommodations or food in Canada."

"Canada has launched a new program for 1963 designed to embroider the welcome mat for American guests. It's called 'Project Hospitality' and is spearheaded by the Canadian Tourist Association. The project will improve arrangements and services for the reception of visitors in all parts of Canada, while developing a better appreciation by Canadian business and the Canadian public of the importance of the tourist industry."

Sounds interesting doesn't it? Why not take a tip from "Argosy" and see some of our Canadian holiday features this year.



Rambling Around

BY ELIZABETH KELSON

SOMETHING IN COMMON IN DIFFERENCES

Did you ever think it possible to be different and yet be able to find something in common in those differences?

This question always makes me think of the story of four friends who went to look over a piece of land. That they represented different walks of life and held different points of view didn't prevent them from being friends. One man had a reputation as a fine poet, the second was a naturalist, a professor in a university, the third was a prospector who spent his life looking for the elusive golden ore and the owner of the land was a farmer.

A pile of glittering stones caught the prospector's attention. He picked up a piece of quartz and murmured, "Fool's gold." Then a story followed about a former prospecting expedition when he had come across real gold.

The poet, although attentive to the prospector's story, became sensitively alive to the beauty of the scene. The green fields, clear blue sky, the glow of the summer sun, and cattle grazing in the field spun images in his seething mind. He hurriedly pulled out a notebook from his pocket and began to jot lines of verse as they came new-minted as a pile of shiny coins.

The naturalist, meanwhile, was looking raptly at a butterfly which he imprisoned in his hand. He spoke of its beauty, shape, and its marvellous life history.

Finally the farmer, becoming restless in the company so absorbed in their own private revelations exclaimed, "Wish it would rain!" He bent over and picked up a handful of earth. It ran dry and brittle through his fingers. "If it would just rain, the wheat will begin to grow," he declared. "The most beautiful sight in the world is a field of golden waving wheat."

The rest looked at the farmer in understanding. The image of the golden waving wheat leaped into the poet's verse. It became beauty. To the naturalist the life story of the butterfly changed to the life story of a grain of wheat. And to the prospector his vision of gold became the price of a bushel of wheat. To the farmer it was all these and more besides for he was in love with the life of the land itself. No wonder they were friends. They had so much in common.

POSITIVE APPROACH TO HELP CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE . . . GAYLE POWELL

Gayle Powell lives at 69 Carrville Road. At 76 years of age, she is a bundle of dynamic energy and sets all a fine example for constructive living attributing her happiness and zest for life to the fact that she lives to serve others. Gayle Powell is widowed (her husband was a school teacher for 31 years) and has her two daughters and son close by. She lives in a small apartment in the home of her daughter, Anne, and her husband, William Robertson. Maizie, her other daughter is married to Jimmie Fitzpatrick and lives in Beverley Acres. Martin and his wife Myrna live in Willowdale.

Mrs. Powell has always been interested in writing and singing. She used to contribute many little pieces to the papers among which some appeared in Bride Broder's column in the old Mail and Empire. It is a source of amusement to her to remember that Bride Broder's name for her was "Portia."

She is rather proud of her deep contralto voice and she fondly remembers when she was a soloist and taught singing. She is now a very active senior citizen with a very real idea to share with the world.

Mrs. Powell is a highly individualistic person who believes in doing something about things that seemed wrong to her. She once pressured a government for a wig-way to save lives at a railway crossing, convinced a prominent person to remove a hill to save other lives at a bad intersection, saved a boy from going to jail for stealing a bicycle. She says, "I'll interfere to save a life or right a wrong as long as I live."

She worries about the young people and is disturbed by reports of juvenile delinquency, alcoholism, dope, and excessive smoking among them.

Mrs. Powell affirms, "While we do teach that we must care for the body, the body itself has been overlooked. The greatest machine the world will ever know is this great body of ours. If children from the first grade were instructed (with the aid of pictures) in the machinery of this "wonderfully, yet fearfully made" body, they would gradually acquire knowledge, appreciation, understanding and finally reverence for their body. No one deliberately or carelessly destroys that which he or she reveres. To that end, then, when the temptation comes to indulge in that which destroys, the knowing child will give pause and consider if he or she wishes to destroy this precious god-like structure. This idea is so simple and yet profound in that it is a positive and preventative way of dealing with incurable evils."

There is a way to advance social welfare and education, she decided, and after consulting a few friends, church ministers and a teacher and a medical doctor, she knew she was on the right track. After four years of work, many calls and a minimum of meetings, she found Rev. Peter Gordon White, head of the United Church publications was going to incorporate her idea through the program of the church in Sunday schools. Books and pamphlets should be illustrated and Mr. White assured her that this would be done.

"The next step," said Mrs. Powell, "is to advance her ideas in other churches and in the schools. She thinks that parents will take Sunday school more seriously when they find their youngsters are going to get the facts of life right from the start."

And how has this indomitable little woman been getting along with her dynamic idea? Slowly but surely, it is catching the imagination of others. She has received a great deal of favorable correspondence voicing approval. The editor of the Board of Education Quarterly has appointed a committee to look into her theory. Toc Alpha, a high school and university students' association under Mr. T. Knott will also study her prevention of damage to the body.

So meet Gayle Powell, 76 years young, a beloved member of the Senior Citizens of Richmond Hill. A valuable member of the community indeed!

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Dear Mr. Editor

MUST CHECK SPEED

Dear Mr. Editor:

There are a lot more hazards on local streets these days, now that school's out. Hundreds of youngsters, happy, carefree and oftentimes careless are roaming and playing on our thoroughfares and this is a time when all motorists should exercise extra care and caution.

It is my observation that there is altogether too much speeding on our side streets. How often do we ever see a police officer? If they don't act

soon to check the speeding on Richmond Hill streets our proud accident free record will be shattered. It's been maintained only because the children and sometimes the older folk can jump like jack rabbits from speeding maniacs.

The lives of our children are too precious to expose them to conditions as they exist today. I do hope our mayor and council will see to it that we have more police supervision on our side streets.

Worried Parent

Second Thoughts . . .

by George Mayes

● Yesterday's news is not necessarily dead.

You could say that the dummy U.S. space capsule foisted on the Aurora Centennial celebrations just wasn't the Aurora Seven-UP.

Oh Susannah, don't you shed those tears
I'm comin' back to Alabama
With my banjo 'round my ears.

Mayor Summerville has declared this to be International Harmony Week in Toronto for the convention of the Society for the Preservation (and all that jazz) of barbershop quartets. But if their racial problem reactions are anything like those of last week's Optimists, it could turn into a harmin'y week.

A Quebec M.P. says that Quebec's separatist movement may have already reached the point where the province will stop co-operating with the rest of Canada. This, in a way, is good news. It implies that before they can stop co-operating, they will have to start.

Trade Minister Mitchell Sharp believes he can find a continuing market for Canadian wheat in China. This raises a whimsical second thought of them having Canadian-type restaurants where the waiters ask, "You wantum wheat?" instead of "You likee lice?"

Cuba's counter-revolutionaries are being steadily stamped out, says Fidel Castro (heavily). Maybe this explains why only 30 per cent of their sugar crop has been planted this year: The Cubans have been too busy planting Cubans.

A Swedish colonel has confessed to revealing top NATO secrets to the Soviet during his 15 years of spying for them. It's sort of embarrassing to learn that the Russians knew about our A-arms commitments before we did.

The 13-weeks holiday plan being instituted for U.S. steel workers is expected to make 20,000 jobs available . . . This will just about take care of the college boys displaced from their usual summer work by "moonlighting" holidayers.

The show must go on—Canadian Lenny Bruce managed to get a bit of humor into even his arrest for possession of narcotics. He was picked up by the police as he left a hobby shop.

It looks like the federal government is going to relax the 11 per cent building-materials tax and exempt some buildings, such as: schools, hospitals, homes for the aged . . . and possibly houses on Bay Street.

With Cleopatra moving into Toronto's University Theatre, the lounge in the adjacent Park Plaza Hotel is featuring a Cleopatra cocktail — for those wanting to make an asp of themselves.

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Flashback

In Years Gone By

Items gleaned from files of "The Liberal", the home paper of this district since 1878.

Now Metro Detective Sgt. Oratorical Winner, Richmond Hill School.

In a recent issue we noted that Detective-Sergeant Tom McLeod of the Metropolitan police force and who figured prominently in a recent large-scale jewellery recovery case, was a Richmond Hill old-boy and that as a youngster he had lived at Don Head Farms and attended local schools, Sunday schools and church.

In browsing through the old files of "The Liberal" which has been the home paper of Richmond Hill and district since 1878 we came across an interesting item concerning the now Detective-Sergeant Tom McLeod.

A heading in our issue of March 9th, 1939 was "Tom McLeod Winner of School Oratory Contest." Thirty eight pupils of Richmond Hill Public school competed and Robert D. Little, chairman of the public school board presided. The winner of the competition was Tom McLeod and his subject was "Opportunity."

In his prize winning oration 24 years ago Tom said in part: "I have chosen as the subject of my address just one word, a very common-place word, but a word which I think is the very embodiment of our school life — opportunity."

"The governments of our country and the various educational authorities and our teachers make this opportunity of learning available to us. These bodies are untiring in their efforts to make our system of education as near perfect as possible.

"What a wonderful gift this is, and how lightly we accept it. We just take school for granted. In fact very often we are sorry for ourselves — we feel a little rebellious inside us and in short think this whole business of learning is just a lot of hum-bug. How wrong we are. Many times I have heard grown-ups say, "my school days were the happiest days of my life but I didn't know it."

"That is the trouble with many of us today. We just don't realize what a great thing, what a vital thing is this opportunity of learning which is being presented to us. We should be willing, eager, anxious, hungry, even greedy for knowledge which is as free as invigorating and sustaining as the air we breathe.

"There will always be a good, a better and a best among us. While one may attain success with very little effort, another may expend much effort only to be rewarded with a small measure of success, or even sometimes failure.

"True it may be that nothing succeeds like success, but if I were asked to revise that I would say that nothing succeeds like effort. Effort in my estimation rates higher than attainment. We all desire success, but all too frequently a wishbone is where our backbone ought to be."

However little or much Tom's prize winning oration impressed his hearers 24 years ago, he himself took to heart his own advice. By persistent hard work and devotion to duty he has a record of steady progress and today is a high ranking and highly regarded officer in the Metro police force.

His record reflects a generous application of the kind of effort, and how lightly we accept it. We just take school for granted. In fact very often we are sorry for ourselves — we feel a little rebellious inside us and in short think this whole business of learning is just a lot of hum-bug. How wrong we are. Many times I have heard grown-ups say, "my school days were the happiest days of my life but I didn't know it."

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