

# THIS WEEK AND NEXT

by Ray Argyle



If there was ever any doubt at Canada's ultimate destiny as that of a full-fledged welfare state, that doubt can now be removed. All parties are committed to the welfare state sign and the only disagreement among them is the speed with which the final goal can be realized.

The past year has seen the introduction of the Canada Pension Plan which will supplement the Old Age Pension and guarantee all working Canadians a reasonable standard of living beyond retirement.

In the meantime, the new supplemental pensions to be introduced next year will guarantee a minimum of \$105 monthly for every retired Canadian until the more generous CPP has been in operation long enough to cover all workers. The supplemental pensions are not universal in that only those with incomes less than \$105 will qualify, but they nevertheless raise the bottom levels to more tolerable minimums.

Another key piece of welfare state legislation which sailed through Parliament this year was the Canada Assistance Plan, now undergoing Senate study.

The philosophical key to the Assistance Plan is that it will be based on need as the sole qualification for public aid. All other factors — personal morality, unwillingness to work, availability of jobs — won't matter.

It is this clause which has raised the hackles of individualistic MPs and Senators. One viewpoint was summed up by Senator James Walker, an Ontario Conservative. He said it seemed to be designed for free-loaders. But Senator John MacDonald, a Nova Scotia Tory, expressed the opposing viewpoint with the belief that very few able-bodied men would go on welfare rather than work.

The other major welfare legislation in the works is Medicare, which Prime Minister Pearson had hoped to have in operation in 1967. This now seems doubtful, particularly

with the new Quebec government dragging its feet. In light of criticisms levelled against the plan at the Provincial Premiers Conference in Toronto.

To see what Canada's future as a welfare state will be, probably the best place to look is Sweden. That country has achieved a near-total welfare state supported by a capitalistic economy and regulated by a democratic government.

Sweden spends about one-third of its tax revenues on welfare, compared to one-quarter in Canada. Government pensions of about two-thirds of a person's best earning years are universal at 65 — the age to which Canada's pensions are now being progressively lowered. Health care has been socialized but there is still some private medicine practised — just as Canada is doing.

Those who know Sweden say that taxation is burdensome and that while welfare might sap the initiative of some, Swedish businessmen are resourceful world traders and worker productivity is remarkably high.

In Canada, the growing intervention of the government in business — in everything ranging from economic planning to collection of sales taxes — adds to the businessman's headaches and costs. Increasing taxes hit especially hard at higher income levels — but nobody has yet been known to turn down a wage increase because part of the raise will be lost in taxes.

The basic argument against welfare statism — that a society of drones has to be supported by a minority willing to work — has never been backed up with much hard evidence. If medicare means that children of the poor will get adequate health care, and if free education means that bright students who could not otherwise go to university will have the chance to do so, then the effects can hardly be anything but beneficial.

Those who are dedicated to fighting the welfare state would be well advised to change their tactics. Rather than waging a

losing battle, they would serve and upgrading cultural and intellectual levels which, after the effort for an efficient welfare state capable of preserving dualism," are still appallingly maximum individual freedom low in much of Canadian life.

## DISTRICT SWIM MEET (cont'd from page 1)

Results:- Girls 14 & under, 50m. Breaststroke- 1. J. Labbe, (Red Rock) 2. C. Thompson, (Red Rock) 3. C. Duncan, (Terrace Bay) 4. Mackenzie (Marathon)

BOYS - R. Bull (Red Rock) - Assela (Red Rock) - Macusin (Mar)

Girls 10 & Under - 25m. Breaststroke - D. Labbe (Red Rock) R. White (Mar.) - M. Kujbida (T.B.) - T. Ramsay (T.B.).

BOYS - M. Cadieux (T.B.) - P. Foulds (R.R.) - D. Pineault (RR).

Girls 16 & under - 50m. Breaststroke - C. Thompson (RR) - N. Chesley (T.B.) - J. Telfu (Mar) - L. Simmer (T.B.).

BOYS - G. Macdonald (RR) - J. Ross (Mar.) - C. Thompson (RR).

Girls 12 & under 25m Breaststroke - K. Reid (RR) - W. MacMillan (T.B.) - R. Mueller (RR).

BOYS - J. Shivas (T.B.) - J. Labbe (RR) - P. Boudreau (RR) - C. Federak (T.B.)

Girls Open Breaststroke - J. Pineault (RR) - N. Chesley (T.B.) Mackenzie (Mar.) - J. Telfu (Mar.).

BOYS OPEN - G. Macdonald (RR) - J. Murray (T.B.) - N. Yarkoff (Mar.).

GIRLS 14 & under Diving - J. Belliveau (T.B.) - J. Stevens (T.B.) - Turnbull.

BOYS - J. Papousek (T.B.) - J. Papousek (T.B.) - R. Bull (RR).

GIRLS OPEN DIVING - Norma Chesley (T.B.) - J. Belliveau (T.B.) J. Pineault (RR)

BOYS OPEN - B. Johnson (RR) - J. Ross (Mar.) - D. Goodfellow (T.B.)

GIRLS 14 & Under 50m Backstroke - J. Labbe - (RR) - C. Thompson (RR) - J. Wesley (Mar.) - C. Neely (T.B.).

BOYS - D. Manihan (Mar.) - D. Arcourt (Manitouwadge) - A. Hutchinson (Mar.) - R. Bull (RR) -

GIRLS 10 and under 25m Backstroke - R. White (Mar.) - D. Labbe (RR).

BOYS - M. Cadieux (T.B.) - D. Randa (T.B.) - Delpino (RR) - P. Foulds (RR).

Girls 16 and under 50 m. Backstroke - J. Greer (RR) - C. Reid (RR) - M. Hamilton (T.B.) - C. Belliveau (T.B.).

BOYS - J. Ross (Mar.) - J. Thompson (R.R.) - G. Macdonald (RR).

GIRLS 12 and under 25m Backstroke - J. Belliveau (T.B.) - C. Reid (RR) - P. Therpe (T.B.) - R. M. Mueller (RR).

BOYS - J. Shivas (T.B.) - J. Foulds (R.R.) - J. Labbe (R.R.) - C. Kujbida (T.B.).

GIRLS OPEN BACKSTROKE - J. Pineault (RR) - J. Greer (RR) - V. Hansen (Mar.) - C. Neely (T.B.)

BOYS - J. Rudd (Mar.) - G. Macdonald (RR) - M. Lantigne (RR) - A. Cadieux (T.B.)

GIRLS JUNIOR RELAY - Terrace Bay - Red Rock - Marathon - Manitouwadge.

BOYS JUNIOR RELAY - Red Rock - Marathon - Manitouwadge.

GIRLS OPEN MEDLEY - Terrace Bay - Red Rock - Marathon - Manitouwadge.

Boys 16 and under 50m. Free Style- J. Ross (Mar)

J. Thompson & M. Lantigne (R.R.) Girls 12 and under 25m. Free Style J. Belliveau & W. Macmillan (TB) J. Sullivan (Mar)

BOYS - Marathon-Red Rock - Terrace Bay

GIRLS OPEN MEDLEY - J. Labbe (RR) - L. Powers (Mar.) Rudd Man. - BOYS OPEN - G. Meerey T.B. and A. Cadieux (T.B.).

GIRLS 14 & Under 50 m Freestyle - J. Labbe (RR) - C. Thompson (RR) - J. Powell (Man.) - C. Neely (T.B.)

BOYS - Vaehon (Wawa) - R. Bull (RR) - Wills Mar. Assela (RR)

GIRLS 10 & Under 25m Free style - D. Labbe (RR) - C. Fearon (RR) - White (Mar.) - D. Dyer (Mar.)

BOYS - D. Randa (TB) - M. Cadieux (TB) - Delpino (RR) - J. Burder (Mar.).

GIRLS 16 & Under 50m Free Style - J. Labbe - J. Greer (RR) - V. Hansen (Mar) - E. Simmer (T.B.)