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Notes and Comments

Hard Work and Prayer

"Screaming about high prices will not help us," states the Financial Post. "Hard work and prayer are the only effective cures," it says in an editorial comment. But does the editor of The Post know that some churches do not hold prayer meetings any more, and some that do carry on the custom, attract only a mere handful of their followers? Will we not have to get back to the prayer meeting before we may hope for any help from this source? Of course, individual prayer can do a great deal, but the trend against prayer meetings, we believe, is also the trend that is evidence against individual prayer.

Frankly, with all due respect for the power of prayer, we suggest that the most effective thing that could be brought to bear against the sky-rocketing prices, is an authority at Ottawa that is bold enough to act.

Plowing Snow to Street Centre

Some municipalities are giving thought to plowing the snow to the street centre in the business area, so that the curb could be free for motor cars to stop, and allow persons to reach the stores anywhere in the area.

This might be something for the municipal council in Stouffville to give thought to. The idea is a good one, and might be worked satisfactorily, provided the street or roadway is wide enough to permit a snow bank up the centre of the road, with here and there a passageway for crossing. It would have other advantages, since it could be more readily removed, because it would not be packed down like snow at the curb. Further, it might be removed by spells, whereas the snow banked up at the curb is in the way from the day it is rolled up there.

We are quite aware that such an idea could not be worked out satisfactory in a town like Newmarket, where the main business section is not much wider than a farm lane, but in Aurora, it is different. Likewise, in Stouffville the street may be wide enough to try the new idea on.

John Scott and Henry Ogden are in charge of roads in Stouffville this year, and we pass on the idea. Perhaps they will recommend it to the council, perhaps they will say immediately, "it will not work here." The column thinks it is well worth consideration. It would have to be discussed with the county engineer, who is the chief overseer of the county snow plows, which are responsible for the highway through town.

Lack Spelling Ability

Canadian business executives are frequently heard to mention that many of the young students they engage for office help these days are woefully weak in spelling. Often the common words trip them. Whether the modern methods of teaching are responsible for turning out poor spellers is hard to say, but no doubt the more diversified curricula permit less time for concentration on a subject that is really important. In fact it is so important that the person applying for a position greatly reduces his or her chance of landing it by having even one word spelled incorrectly in a written application.

Evidently the spelling ability of students south of the border doesn't rate very high either, if that is any consolation. The New York State Department of Education made a survey of the spelling ability of third-and-fourth-year high school students. It was found that a number of them cannot correctly spell the words they are expected to know before graduation from elementary schools.

The most difficult word on the test, judging by the results, was "develop." Third-year students achieved the accuracy of 65 per cent while seniors averaged 77 per cent. The next lowest score was "cordially," which tripped juniors 23 per cent and senior 15 per cent of the time. "Proceed," which gave seniors little difficulty, was misspelled by 21 per cent of the third-year students.

Other "puzzlers" were — meant, absence, interment, decide, receive, athletic, sincerely, practical, February, volume, whether, probable, foreign, scene, principal, secretary, association, session, reference and appreciate.

Those are the kind of words that any pupil who expects to pass the high school entrance examinations should be able to spell with very little difficulty.

Preserving Eggs

Dr. Gustav Egloff, who has been experimenting with eggs, told a meeting of the American Chemical Society the other day that science has a brand new idea for preserving eggs. According to Dr. Egloff, if eggs are coated with a thin layer of plastic, they will maintain their freshness without refrigeration for as long as a year.

Actually this isn't such a brand new idea, and we feel we must rise in defence of the resourcefulness and craftsmanship of all hard-working hens. Long before science assumed its present arrogant status, hens had been laying eggs with a thin preservative coat over the shell.

The trouble is that the egg-eating public, reluctant to eat eggs that look as if they have come from a hen-roost, have demanded that the hens' scientifically-prepared product be washed, thus removing the preservative coat.

Chickens aren't such dumb clucks! As one old hen put it the other day, preserving an egg with a protective coat is a minor operation. Laying it is the tricky part.

Gold and Butter

The Northern Miner thinks the gold mining industry is being treated unfairly in two ways: Firstly, its product still sells at the prewar price, and secondly, it has only one sale outlet. Citing the example afforded by gold and butter, the Northern Miner says: "If your grocery, or the department and chain stores, or all the other stores in Canada, were today compelled by the government to sell butter at no more than the prewar price, 35 cents a pound, what an outcry there'd be from all the people who make and sell butter!"

"The Canadian gold mines are compelled to sell gold at the prewar price of \$35. The government forces this on them and sets itself up as the only outlet.

"This attitude completely ignores the fact that the cost of producing gold has gone up just like the cost of producing butter.

"The people who make butter have been discontrolled and given the free market. The people who produce gold also want the free market, which in their case is the world market where the price of gold is very much more than the controlled price of \$35. This market in 1946 bought gold to the extent of seven times Canada's current production. If the gold mining industry had this world free market it could increase its production to new records and greatly add to the prosperity of all Canada. More gold, more butter—more of all the good things."

Ottawa is now giving the gold mines some financial assistance to stimulate gold production as one means of solving the exchange problem. It is in the form of a bonus which is put up by the federal taxpayer. A free market for gold as proposed by the Northern Miner would probably do much more for the gold mines than the bonus without the resultant drain on the federal treasury.

STATEMENT BY M. J. COLDWELL, M.P.

The cost of living continues to rise, and has reached the proportions of a serious national crisis. This morning's papers carry further news of price increases in meat and other products. The papers also carry reports of wide-

cause such "pulp" to gradually disappear or become quite limited.

The public accounts on the Canadian government have revealed that during the fiscal year 1946-1947 the travelling costs of the various members of the Cabinet totalled \$16,006, with trips made to far distant places on different occasions. In addition, \$846 in travelling costs was incurred by the Speaker of the House of Commons, Hon. G. Fauteux, and \$718 by Dr. A. Beauséjour, Clerk of the House.

Following the acceptance of the responsibility for full direction of the Atomic Energy Project at Chalk River in Feb., 1947, the National Research Council has just disclosed in its latest report that here a thousand workers, half of them scientists and many with world reputations in nuclear research, are working at top speed to produce radioactive materials for countless uses in medical and industrial research and in the search for the newer knowledge which is fundamental to scientific progress. It is hinted in this report that "already practical results have been achieved."

"The Canadian farmer is as efficient as the United States farmer in a scientific way, and in every other respect," commented Dr. E. S. Archibald, Director, Federal Experimental Farm Service here, in regard to reports about the relative efficiency of the two.

"I am too busy to get into politics," said Tommy Gorman, famous professional hockey manager, whose teams have won world titles on more than one occasion, when he was asked about a rumor that he would run in a coming election.

"The human race has remarkable staying powers and it is not going to give up the struggle for a satisfactory way of life until it has exhausted its energies and resources," said A. R. Mosher, president of the Canadian Congress of Labor.

Although only about two years ago newspapermen were only allowed to inspect the site itself but not go inside the plant of Canada's famous atomic energy development at Chalk River not far from Ottawa, yet now photographers of the National Film Board have been permitted to photograph part of the plant and some of its equipment.

Now Playing! Friday & Saturday, Jan. 16-17
 "The Last of the Redmen"—J. Hall
 "Dick Tracy vs. Cueball"—M. Conway

Monday & Tuesday, Jan. 19-20
 "Miracle on 34th Street"
 MAUREEN O'HARA AND JOHN PAYNE

★ "FOTO-NITE" Thursday!
 "Nora Prentiss"
 ANN SHERIDAN AND KENT SMITH (adult)
 Wednesday & Thursday Jan. 21-22
\$165.00 OFFER!

Friday & Saturday, Jan. 23-24
 "KING OF THE WILD HORSES"
 Preston Foster — Gail Patrick
 "The Royal Wedding in Technicolor"

★ ★ ★
STANLEY Theatre of the Stars!
 Monday & Tuesday, January 26-27
 "VARIETY GIRL"
 Bing Crosby — Bob Hope

Coming!



When the national advisory council of the National Liberal Federation, representing Liberals from all provinces, meets in Ottawa on Jan. 19, 20, and 21, Premier Mackenzie King is expected to make an important speech, with political observers attaching significance to this view of the numerous rumors about his possible formal resignation in the near future.

Though the masses in this country are already shocked by the rising prices for everyday necessities of life, yet it is learned backstage in this capital of the distinct possibility that developments may bring the cost of living up to rise

to 150 or more under certain conditions, though this is heard in unofficial circles. Apparently, the masses are going to pay more for their food, clothing, home furnishings and services, even if the prices are already causing much concern, judging from unofficial forecasts heard here. Indeed, reports heard on Parliament Hill indicate that demands for wages will grow shortly since it is felt that recent increases have been virtually wiped out and other factors may contribute to provide complications in the inflationary spiral. Everybody is asking why the government doesn't do something about it.

One of the results of the Canadian Governments U.S. dollar saving program may be a disappearance for the time being anyhow of American "pulp" magazines of a sensational nature, including crime stories and other specialized types of reading materials against which complaints have frequently been heard as not the best reading for young people. It is believed that difficulties may be encountered in printing such "pulp" now in Canada and that these difficulties may be so severe as to either



You'll be glad of his advice

When you are in doubt about any problem it is good business to seek advice from someone who is capable of giving you competent counsel. To enable its representatives to give proper guidance to the public, Canada Life men and women are given intensive and continuing training in all phases of the life insurance business. They are well qualified to help you choose the best insurance plan or program to meet your particular needs. They are the type of people you'll enjoy meeting and we are confident you'll be glad of their advice.



THE CANADA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY
 P. M. MONAHAN, C.L.U., Manager
 GORDON BROWN

MARKHAM - UNIONVILLE LIONS CLUB
CARNIVAL
WED., JAN. 21st
 AT THE MARKHAM RINK, 8.15 SHARP.
 MARKHAM GIRLS' TRUMPET BAND
 PEEWEE HOCKEY—Markham vs. Unionville.
 FIGURE SKATING by members of Icelandia Arena.
 LIONS OLD TIME Square Dance on skates.
 LUCKY NUMBER PROGRAMS.
 Adults 50c., Public School children 25c.
 Free Skating after program for those with lucky number programs.