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Thurs., Aug. 11

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People Spend Less Freely, Hotels Find

People are spending their money a little more carefully this year if a slight decline in 1949 hotel business is an indication, R. A. Mackie of Montreal, general manager of the Canadian Pacific Hotels, said yesterday. Mr. Mackie said there had been a marked rise in the numbers of persons served by hotels during the immediate post-war years and the present drop may indicate a slackening-off from that peak period.

Anyone who stops at hotels can readily tell Mr. Mackie why people shun them if they can get clean accommodation anywhere else. \$6 and \$7 per night at swank hotels for a single bed is mighty high sleeping rates, and if you take a look at main dining room menus, the cost of meals is even more costlier.

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It won't change the skyline. In fact it will be barely visible when completed. But now and over a few years it will be Toronto's biggest project in steel and concrete: a 40-block-long construction eyeful and earful for scores of thousands of sidewalk superintendents.

It's Toronto Transportation Commission's \$50 million rapid transit tube system—Canada's first underground. Downtown sections totalling 7,000 ft. in length are to be started any day now by a unique Canada-United States syndicate of four contracting firms. They have been awarded general contract of about \$10 millions, with financing and responsibility "jointly and severally."

Between now and 1952 the first section will take shape: along Front Street from the Union Station and Royal York Hotel to Yonge Street to above Eaton's College Street store. Here is what the sidewalk superintendent will see—and some things he won't:

—A \$5 million insurance policy carried by the TTC with Lloyd's of London, with full coverage of liability for damage to persons or property as a result of subway construction work by the commission, its contractors and subcontractors.

—Canada's biggest haulage subcontract, 100,000 truckloads of excavation, twice the volume of the huge Royal York Hotel; enough earth, rock and clay to cover 200 acres a foot deep. It will be dumped in the Toronto harbor for land reclamation.

—Other big subcontracts, among the biggest in postwar construction; furnishing and bending 5,000 tons of reinforcing steel; fabrication of 1,000 tons of permanent structural steel. (Only subcontract let to date is one for unfabricated steel to Bethlehem Steel Export Corp.)

—Total payroll of \$3 1/2 to \$4 millions, covering an average 300 men on single 8-hour daily shift for 2 1/2 years' work on the initial sections.

—A new departure in subway design using light structural steel, emphasizing reinforced concrete, which contractors' project manager Charles Molineaux calls "excellent technically, though a departure from U.S. subway practice; a living exhibition of U.S. dollar-saving at work." (Most heavy structural steel shapes used in Canada are imported from United States).

Plenty of noise. Soundless rock blasting is somewhere in the dim future. Despite recent development in blanketing procedures for property and personal safety, there'll be plenty of racket in blasting 45 ft. down along the section of the subway route south of Queen Street. Huge pile drivers, scores of pneumatic drills and other equipment will add to the din.

—As many different pieces of equipment as there are animals in a zoo. But most, if not all of it traditional rather than unorthodox. With the exception of eight big pile-drivers and a couple of heavy-duty power shovels, most of it will be small—compressors, drills, concrete carts and the like. Contractors say two-thirds of their equipment requirement will be bought or rented in Canada, much of it made in this country, while the other one-third is available from the Canadian contractor's operations.

Some old and unsuspected water occurrence or a buried structural foundation or unused and forgotten pipeline could slow operations, hit costs, eat up some of the usual contingency allowance included in the overhead and profit provisions of the usual contractor's tender. But there's broad protection.

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against this in soil test borings and eight years' study by TTC engineer of building foundations, under-side walk structures, old plans of piping and ducts from files of the city engineer, gas, electric utilities and telephone company.

Many buildings fronting on the main subway street — Yonge, famed for narrowness, traffic confusion and business bustle—have basements extending under the sidewalk, in some cases beyond curb line. Electric and telephone utilities have deep boxlike substation pits under the roadway. As well, foundations of many an existing building—such as the 100-year-old Bank of Montreal at Front and Yonge, where the tube will cut a long curve directly under the banking floor—will have to be shored up, reinforced or underpinned with deeper and heavier concrete.

Nothing is sure and tests so far reveal all water pools and springs under control. But underground water, if it does turn up, would be in the Yonge-College area, where extra digging, pumping and piping might be necessary.

Against these and other special problems, there's some easy going. One factor reducing anxieties of the TTC and its tube builders is that rocket depth may not far exceed an average 6 ft. south of Queen Street and not be encountered north at all.

Canada produces less than one per cent. of the world's oil. In 1948 total world production was over 3.4 billion barrels of which Canada produced 12 million barrels.

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In Days of Yore

From the Files of The Tribune

26 Years Ago

Threshing started on record

crop this week.

Ralph Kirby who is in the employ of Doten's barber shop, is on a motor trip to Windsor.

Dr. and Mrs. Smith leave this

week for their annual vacation at Jackson's Pt.

The annual baseball tournament

at Musselman's Lake for the Baker Cup, will be played on August 6th.

Newmarket is topping the Tri-

County ball league with Sutton,

Uxbridge and Stouffville following

in that order.

Andy Moore who has cut many

miles of whiskers in this town, has

returned from Toronto for a time.

George Todd of Goodwood is the

new councillor in the Township of

Uxbridge, having been elected by

acclamation due to the vacancy

caused by the resignation of Mr. H.

Roach.

Norman MacLean has been ap-

pointed secretary of the local

Board of Trade owing to the

removal from town of C. Hessel.

Fred Saunders of Toronto was

one of the bowlers at the tourna-

ment here on one of the city rinks.

Fred, who is a son-in-law of Joel

Nendick, is one of the Stouffville

young boys of 40 years ago.

Don't forget the Herb Lennox

picnic at Jackson's Pt. on Aug. 6th.

Abram Yake of Stouffville has

been raising a pen of prize ducks,

but went out to the pen one day

last week, to find the entire eight

lying dead. There were small

marks on their backs, and a weasel

is suspected of the killing.

Rev. W. M. McGuire, minister in

the Mennonite Church here was in

Toronto last week attending the

farewell for two missionaries

leaving for Africa.

Henry Grove threshed 70 bushels

of alseki from seven acres.

Get your Moir's chocolates at

Porter's Store.

J. L. Little, westend merchant,

announces a summer clearance

sale of shoes and men's clothing.

Over Saturday night, someone

entered Swift's Garage and made

off with a new tire and inner tube.

MARKETING COMMITTEE LOWERS WHEAT PRICES

An increased acreage of fall

wheat is expected to be planted in

Ontario and York Counties this

year, members of the Seed Market-

ing and Publicity Committee;

Ontario Crop Improvement Associa-

tion predict. It is reported that

early harvesting will permit pre-

paration of land early and large

amounts of home-grown feed

grains are needed, so that seeding

is expected to be more extensive.

At a recent meeting, in response to

many requests for guidance in

Blow to Make ICED TEA

Make tea double strength and
while still hot pour into glasses
filled with cracked ice . . .

Add sugar and lemon to taste . . .

"SALADA"



seed prices, the committee agreed
on minimum quotations at the

farm. Prices, set at the meeting,

to include bags, are considerably

lower than in 1948. They are:

Fall Wheat—Commercial No. 1,

all approved varieties, \$2.50 per

bushel. Registered No. 1, Dawson's

Golden Chaff variety, \$2.75 per

bushel. Last year's prices for

Registered Dawson's and No. 1

Cornell 595 was \$3.00 per bushel.

No prices were set for other grains.

Rye—Commercial No. 1, with

premium for Horton variety and