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Notes and Comments

Paving the Streets

While there is snow still on the ground it is not too early for our newly elected council to be giving thought to their road program for the coming spring and summer.

Certainly after last year's fiasco, when our streets were never worse, council should give more diligent thought than ever to this proposal.

Each year sees additional streets being added as more sub-division land is opened up and each year our bill for oiling and graveling climbs; and after all is spent what have we got?



New Powers for CBC

One of the main complaints about the CBC has long been its high-handedness. "Natural-born omni-PO-tense" as Pogo would say.

A recent television play likely upset a great many good people of Alberta (though it perhaps pleased other mellow Foothills folk) by setting the opening scene in the cocktail lounge of a Calgary hotel.

But the real offence was in the timing. The plot hinged around the Calgary Stampede and the main character, a Swift Current wheat farmer was in town for a bit of a holiday after getting all his crop in.



This Won't Do, Mr. Marler

The new Minister of Transport, Mr. Marler, has a good deal to learn about his ministerial responsibilities. He has recently come up to the big time from the bush league down in Quebec, and he makes his debut in Ottawa with a lame and unconvincing effort to persuade Parliament that there's nothing wrong if a TCA North Star and an RCAF Harvard almost collide in the air over Moose Jaw.

A TCA pilot, Captain Crispin, said the air force trainer was "close enough to really scare us", and he thought the other pilot had not seen his North Star. The training plane, said Mr. Marler, crossed the course of the TCA at an angle of 38 degrees, and that was "in conformity both with the authorized pre-flight plans of the two aircraft and the air regulations."

His disappointing performance at the outset of his parliamentary career, however, is entirely his own doing. The crash over Moose Jaw last April took 37 lives, one of them that of Rodney Adamson, a member who would otherwise probably have been sitting opposite Mr. Marler in the House today.



A Great Man Is Dead

The death of Mr. Robert Saunders is a real tragedy even to the point of being a disaster. The whole Dominion has lost a great man. He had held some of the highest positions in the Province of Ontario and might have attained greater heights had he lived.

We knew Bob Saunders to a degree through our press connections, and his dynamic personality has kept us wrapped many times during press and municipal sessions.

He talked, slept and ate Hydro for years. He seemed incapable of tiring and the momentum he gave to the great St. Lawrence project should see it carried to a successful conclusion. Work to him was life itself, and he loved every minute of it.

Too suddenly and too soon he has been taken. He made an immeasurable contribution to this province and the Dominion. Canada grieves this week for a great administrator, a great builder and a great gentleman.

LAFF OF THE WEEK



"Demonstrate more and talk less!"

FOR PARENTS ONLY

"Rebellion Against Authority"

By Nancy Cleaver

A pre-school youngster who was an expert in rebelling against authority was described in the press last year when the Superintendent in the Canadian orphanage in which he lived asked for a month's rest.

One day this lad slipped into the kitchen and scooped out the middle of a Birthday Cake. Another night he threw the forty children's shoes out the front window into the mud below.

When youngsters enter adolescence, they usually rebel against external authority. They still need a parent's guiding hand in some matters, but more and more they should be trusted to direct their own actions.

Teenagers are much more willing to conform to unpopular rules about the use of the telephone or the hour of coming in at night after a party, if they have discussed these with their parents.

All through childhood and youth, parents must look at their children as individuals. Each youngster is different and no one set of rules will fit each one of them.

It is the spirit behind the making and observing of a rule which really matters. If there is real affection and understanding and imagination on the part of both adults and children in a family, the matter of rules will not be a perpetual battleground.

The golden rule which was golden two thousand years ago is still golden in the 20th century - Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them.

Earl Toole Chairman Toronto & York Roads Commission

Earl Toole, R.R. 3, Newmarket, was elected chairman of the Toronto and York Roads Commission at the commission's inaugural meeting last week.

Mr. Toole is starting his fifth year on the commission. He was first appointed to the commission five years ago to take the position left vacant by the late W. J. Gardhouse from West York.

Mr. Toole is a former wardens of York County, having served in 1942. He was reeve of Whitchurch township council for six years, having served on council a total of 11 years. He is a representative of Whitchurch on the Newmarket-Sutton district high school board.

Many a man who is riding in next year's model car is wearing a year-before-last suit of clothes.

Most of us will have to continue to strive in '55.

BETWEEN OURSELVES BY Archer Wallace

"THE VALUE OF STRUGGLE"

Several years ago, an Englishman who had lived for many years on the island of Samoa, where Robert Louis Stevenson made his home, told me that the climate was so pleasant and the soil so fertile that the natives were enervated and became listless.

On the other hand it is well-known that in severe climates, such as Scandinavia and Finland, the rugged life makes characters sturdy and enterprising. So struggle has its place in the development of worth-while men and women.

I once wrote a story for boys which illustrates this truth: Several years ago a squadron of the British Navy lay at anchor in a fine natural harbour on the east coast of Scotland.

We often hear people talk about a sheltered life, a life where one is shielded and protected from unpleasant experiences. Actually there is no such thing. If one does try to avoid danger and difficulty, disaster is sure to follow.

In Pilgrim's Progress, John Bunyan tells of Mr. Timidity who was always trying to avoid taking any kind of risks. He spent his life waiting until he was absolutely safe and sure about everything before he made a move.

There is a good illustration of this in the Old Testament. As the Israelites approached Canaan spies were sent out to view the land and to make a report. They returned and made their report to Moses and Aaron.

Braver men than these, however, spoke up and urged a forward movement, such men as Joshua and Caleb. So the Israelites entered the land and possessed it.

Tender handed stroke a nettle, And it stings you for your pains; Grasp it like a man of mettle, And it soft as silk remains.

Our quotation today is by Frank Crane: "If every man were a millionaire the world would speedily go to the devil. The fact that most people need to struggle keeps the world sane."

REPORT FROM PARLIAMENT

By Michael Starr, M.P., Ontario Riding

The Second Session of the 22nd Parliament was opened officially on Friday, January 7, with the Governor General delivering the Speech from the Throne, in which the policies of the present Government were outlined.

In this Speech some of the outstanding proposed legislation which will be passed in this Session is the amendments to the Unemployment Insurance Act. A Resolution has already been before the House and passed, to raise the supplementary benefits to the present rates of regular benefits and to provide a minimum of sixty days supplementary benefits to those who qualify.

Act will be, no one knows at the present time, until the Bill to amend the Act is submitted for approval. It is to be hoped that the many suggestions that have been made by various labour groups and Members of Parliament will be included in these amendments.

Amendments will also be made to the War Veterans Allowance Act to raise the basic rates as well as the ceiling on permissible income of recipients of allowances. What they will be is also not disclosed but the hope has been expressed by various Members in the House that the submission made by the Canadian Legion, which was very reasonable, will be inaugurated in these amendments.

A joint committee of both Houses will be proposed to ex-

amine the Municipal Grants Act and possibly amendments will be made to add some relief to the financial problems of municipalities.

Amendments will also be introduced to the Blind Persons Act to lower the age of eligibility and raise the income ceilings.

Banks will extend loans, effective Feb. 1st, on promissory notes up to \$2,500 for single houses for home improvement. This will enable a borrower to build another room, to put on a new roof, add a garage, or make any type of improvement he wishes to his home.

The continuation of the Debate on the Speech from the Throne has been deferred to bring in urgent matters such as the supplementary benefits. The problem of unemployment is being raised in the House by various speakers and an expression of anxiety is being made by those who have spoken.

As this Session progresses I will endeavour from week to week to bring to you some of the highlights of this present Parliament and the work which is going on in the House and in Committees. On the Order Paper we have as many as sixteen Government Notices of Motion sponsored by various Ministers, which will come before the House for discussion and passing; the Private Members have as many as thirty-two Notices of Motions, among them many carried over from previous Sessions. Some of them have not been dealt with at any time and no doubt most of them still will be on the Order Paper when this Parliament recesses.

This Session of Parliament promises to be an interesting one even though not too many major items are on the agenda at the present time.

"Worrying is a principal cause of arthritis," says a physician. Careful, there, now - don't worry yourself stiff.

Prosperity has been defined as something that was created by hard working people for politicians to boast about.

GLOBE & MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS

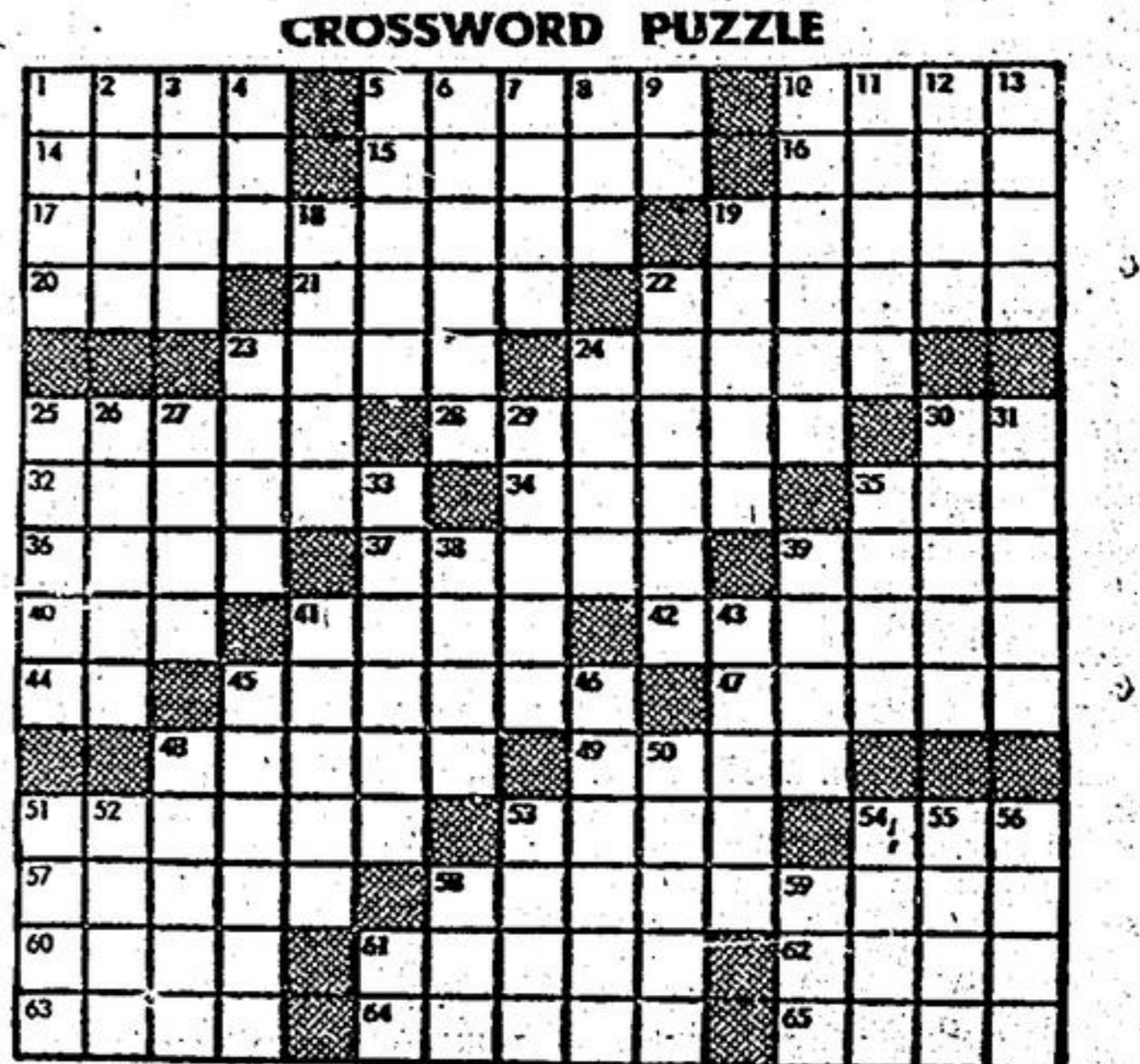
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