

## Personality or English?

DOES it really matter, inquired the superintendent of public schools of Saskatoon (according to a newspaper interview published in that city) "whether a child knows when to use an apostrophe?" He was discussing the appalling revelations resulting from the dictation of a short passage of English dialogue to "an unselected group of 94 first-year students at the University of Saskatchewan who were enrolled in an English class." Of this group 40 per cent could not distinguish between "its" and "it's," 47 per cent misplaced the apostrophe in the phrase "friends' faces," 58 per cent did not distinguish between "who's" and "whose," and 62 per cent began "Forty-ninth Street" without a capital letter. Only two students turned in a paper without some error in the use of the apostrophe.

"Does it really matter?" asks the superintendent of public schools of Saskatoon. And he adds: "When you speak the word 'hasn't' nobody will know whether the apostrophe is in the right place." He holds that the primary function of English is "a spoken function," and that, while it is desirable to correct such errors as "ain't" and "he done it," still "the relative importance of such errors to the personality building of the child" can be greatly overestimated.

Let us pass over the question whether the first-year students of the University of Saskatchewan are properly to be classified as children (a classification which we think would probably annoy them very greatly), and go on to ask ourselves whether it is possible for anybody, child or adult, well-built by a university education without knowing the difference between "whose" and "who's," without being able to spell "fault" or "acquaintance" two other very common sources of error in this test), and without knowing anything of the principles of punctuation in quoted sentences. Our own opinion is that no matter how beautifully their personalities are built, such persons can gain nothing from university instruction which will justify them in taking up the time of competent university instructors, that they have no business in a university and that they ought to be putting their beautiful personalities to a more suitable use in plowing up good Saskatchewan soil or chopping down good Saskatchewan trees.

The university has been compelled by this situation (which means by the kind of teaching encouraged in Saskatchewan schools by superintendents who think that punctuation is secondary to personality) to establish "compulsory remedial English classes for freshmen," and thus to assume a task which is entirely outside of the proper range of a university's work. The unfortunate "children" who have to take these classes are seventeen to nineteen years old, and ought to be mature enough to study the kind of subjects which it is the business of a university to teach; but they have been kept so busy developing their personalities that they have not learned a host of absolutely elementary facts about the English language—including the fact that it has a visual form which is of some importance as well as its audible form. Owing however to their ability to pass the matriculation examination they are able to enter not only the university but also the provincial normal schools, whence they will go forth after ten months' instruction (mainly devoted, we fear, to teaching them how to build personalities) to teach other "children" that apostrophes do not matter. And thus the march towards illiteracy (combined of course with well-built personality) goes on and gains momentum every year. —Saturday Night.

### TIME WILL TELL

WHEN the war started and Japanese on Canada's Pacific coast were required to leave the country, opinion was frequently heard that the last of the Nipponese had not been seen. It was felt their presence had long been a source of more or less difficulty and that war had at last settled a somewhat vexed question. There were differences and arguments. The years, since then, did not disclose anything unexpected or presenting any problems that could be ascribed to the fact of the Japanese not being here. From the standpoint of industry, affairs proceeded smoothly. It was, in short, business as usual. Announcement is now made that the Japanese are returning, a policy, the wisdom of which time can only reveal.

## Legion Plans For Christmas

Last night's monthly meeting of the local branch of the Canadian Legion was well attended with the younger veterans in the majority.

Besides routine business transacted, donations were voted to the Women's Co-ordinating Council towards their annual dinner to the "Over Seventies" which is being held during the coming week as well as to the sale of T.B. Seals, sponsored by the Soroptimist Club.

A donation of \$250 was voted to the Ladies Auxiliary of the local branch towards the expenses of the Christmas Tree which is being held at the Navy Drill Hall on Sunday afternoon when hundreds of children of local veterans will receive a gift from Santa Claus.

Arrangements were also discussed in regard to the "Bring Your Missus Night" which will be held on Friday evening next, at which time lucky patrons will be able to take home a Christmas turkey or a chicken which will be raffled for the Christmas Hamper Fund.

## Officers Of Gyro Club

Confirming recent nominations, the Prince Rupert Gyro Club, at yesterday's regular monthly business luncheon, elected A. J. Dominato as president for the year 1950 with Martin Van Cooten as secretary and Grant Stewart, treasurer. Mark Gormely and Joseph Chell were elected new directors, joining Dr. A. W. Large and J. S. Lindsay who continue for another year. The annual installation will probably take place in January with the district governor or a representative officiating.

Next Wednesday the Gyros will have their annual Christmas party for children with the club's own Christmas luncheon the week following.

## ALL'S WELL—SANTA SUIT IS RETURNED

The big worry is off Rowley Miles' mind and the suit for Santa Claus' helper has been found so everything was set for the annual kiddies' Christmas Tree Wednesday afternoon — everything except countless details that Don Forward and Miles have to organize for this great event in the lives of Prince Rupert small fry.

The suit, after a frantic and heavily publicized appeal at the first of the week, was returned from Miller Bay Hospital where it had been in use as a pattern. For a time its whereabouts was baffling problem, nobody seeming to remember where it went until Miller Bay solved the problem.

## Girl Guides Are Hostesses

Tuesday afternoon, the Guides and Brownies of St. Andrew's Cathedral were afternoon tea hostesses to their parents and friends. The program opened with a formal ceremony of welcome to the Commissioner. Then Commissioner Honora L. Silver- sides enrolled seven new Brownies—Kay Cristy, Eugene Cristy, Pat Wong, Gall Berg, Anne La Sette, Camille Lindseth and Gladys Green-Wilson and presented collector's badges to Suzanne Kergin, Cathie Finlayson, Elizabeth Pierce and Marilyn Farmer and a golden hand badge to Elizabeth Pierce. Next came the presentation of "Wings" and the "Flying Up" to Guides of four Golden Hand Brownies—Suzanne Kergin, Cathie Finlayson, Elizabeth Pierce and Marilyn Farmer.

After all awards had been made the Brownies and Guides served afternoon tea to their parents and friends before enjoying a few games and a Christmas party of their own.

## Jaycees Want Airport Here

When the Junior Chamber of Commerce held its monthly meeting at the Civic Centre last night with Vice President Harold Helgerson in the chair, one of the main topics of discussion was the necessity for an airport in Prince Rupert. It was pointed out that, if there was an airport here, many hundreds of American visitors would be able to fly to Prince Rupert each year. Also it was pointed out that two hours would be saved on the trip to Vancouver and, consequently, a saving of some ten dollars on the fare would be realized.

Ed Williams was appointed chairman of a committee to meet with the local airport committee and offer the J. C.'s support. Mr. Tomlinson, entertainment chairman, announced that plans had been completed for the annual Christmas dinner this Friday night and he urged all members to attend this dinner.

## Rotarians Enjoy Pre-Xmas Party

Eighty persons, consisting of members and guests, attended an enjoyable pre-Christmas dancing party of the Prince Rupert Rotary Club last night in the Moose Temple. Dancing to the piano music of Andy McNaughton featured the evening's enjoyment. Buffet refreshments were served. M. F. Stuart was committee chairman and master of ceremonies. Other members of the committee being William Scuby and William Terry.

Mr. and Mrs. G. E. W. McClintock are sailing tonight on the Prince George for Vancouver and Fernie where they will visit during the Christmas and New Year holiday season.

## Newspaper Advertising Best Value

NEW YORK—Theme of retailers attending the recent fall meeting of the National Dry Goods Association Small Stores Division at the Hotel Statler here was "How to Cut Expenses." Although the general tone of the meeting was optimistic concerning future business, one mired words concerning the necessity of curtailing costs and getting the utmost efficiency.

As for advertising it was suggested that all advertising money be concentrated on newspapers and that circulars and radio be eliminated.

You Saw it in The News

**DOLCIN**  
EASES THE PAINS OF  
**RHEUMATISM**  
**ARTHRITIS**

Here is a message of importance to all who suffer the pains and discomfort of arthritis and rheumatism. Thousands of victims of these diseases report that they have been able to resume their normal occupations and once more enjoy the fullness of living by taking DOLCIN. Go to your druggist today and get DOLCIN which is a skillfully compounded product designed to bring prompt relief of pains due to arthritis, rheumatism, sciatica and neuritis. Profit by the experience of many thousands. Results are what count. Whether your rheumatism or arthritis is mild or severe, don't delay! Get your DOLCIN tablets today from your druggist... for prompt and prolonged relief from the pains and misery of rheumatism, arthritis, lumbago, sciatica and neuritis. There is no reason for you to suffer pain that may be completely needless, for DOLCIN costs amazingly little. One hundred precious tablets cost only \$2.35—the large, economy-size bottle of 500 tablets, only \$11.00. The sooner you use DOLCIN, the sooner your condition may be improved. Get your DOLCIN today! If you cannot obtain DOLCIN from your druggist, write us.

• Dolcin Limited, Toronto 10, Ontario.

Hey Kids!  
"TELL YOUR MOM IT'S THE LAST CHANCE TO GET THE CHIMNEY CLEANED FOR SANTA'S ARRIVAL"  
Phone Black 884  
**THOM**  
SHEET METAL LTD.

Moving, Packing, Crating, Shipping and General Cartage and Storage  
Complete Reliable and Efficient Service, also agents for Canadian Liquid Air Co. Ltd., for Oxygen, Acetylene and all welding supplies.  
**Lindsay's Cartage & Storage Limited**  
Cor. 2nd and Park Avenues  
Est. 1910 Phones 60 and 68

**SPECIALIZING** in Designing and Remodelling  
"Russ" Gatzke  
**CONTRACTING**  
Box 1558 Phone Black 279

**EBY & SONS**  
Contractors  
REPAIRS - REMODELLING FOUNDATIONS  
Let us help you plan that new home under the N.H.A.  
Phone Green 883 Box 586

**CHIROPRACTOR**  
John F. L. Hughes, D.C., Ph.C.  
21-22 Besner Block  
Phone BLUE 442 for Appointments  
HOURS  
10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2 to 5 p.m.  
EVENINGS  
Monday and Friday, 7:30 p.m. for those unable to come during the day. RECEPTIONIST in attendance afternoons.

Xmas Gifts for Men & Boys at Saving Prices  
Men's SUITS — pure wool worsted. A real bargain, perfect fits \$37.50  
Men's TOP COATS Medium Melton cloth smartly tailored bargain \$21.00  
Men's DRESS SHIRTS big selection from \$2.00  
Men's TIES — dark gifts. Latest shades from \$1.00  
Men's SWEATERS pullover and button styles, wools, all shades from \$3.00  
Men's TROUSERS dress, all wool worsted Perfect gift, good assortment from \$5.00  
Men's all wool heavy SHIRT-JACKET — good shades. Real bargain \$5.00  
Men's SOCKS — selection, new designs and quality from \$1.00  
Men's SHIRTS — new shades, from \$1.45  
Boys' SWEATERS — assortment from \$1.25  
Boys' SUITS — in gabardine cloth, double breasted smartly tailored, bargain for \$16.00  
Boys' PANTS, cotton, worsted, all wool tweeds smartly tailored from \$2.75  
Boys' and Girls' STOCKINGS and SOCKS from 40c

**B.C. CLOTHIERS LTD.**  
3rd Avenue  
Since 1930

**REAL ESTATE INSURANCE INCOME TAX**  
RETURNS PREPARED  
R. E. MORTIMER  
324 2nd Ave. (Near CFTD)

**CHANDLER'S**  
PORTRAIT STUDIO  
Film Finishing — Enlarging  
Flash Photos Taken at Home  
Phone Green 389 216 4th St.  
PRINCE RUPERT, B.C.

**Why The Mystery?**  
Public opinion to the contrary, the buying and selling of securities is not a mysterious and complicated procedure to be undertaken only by those who have had years of experience. Actually it is less difficult than the buying or selling of an automobile or house.  
Has this mysterious veil prevented you from investing your savings in a profitable manner?  
We shall be glad to explain the so-called "intricacies" of our business to you and show how simple it all really is. Investing may be done by mail, telephone or in person.  
Communicate with our most convenient office.  
**JAMES RICHARDSON & SONS**  
ESTABLISHED 1857  
Pacific Coast Offices:  
VANCOUVER VICTORIA C-22

**Stationery THE GIFT** that's always right  
● Stationery ranging from 90c to \$3.50  
● Leather Writing Cases in both Letter and Note sizes \$4.50 up  
● Pocket Wallets by Tillie \$5.75 up  
All Above Leather Goods Gold Stamped Free of Charge  
**Dibb Printing Company**  
BESNER BLOCK, 3RD AVE. PHONE 234

**MARCHANT OIL HEATERS VORTEX OIL BURNERS IRON FIREMAN STOKERS**  
Plumbing & Heating Alterations  
**SMITH & ELKINS LTD.**  
PHONE 174 BOX 274

**FLY CPA**  
to most B.C. Centres  
Enjoy the swift flight and smooth comfort of modern air travel. On business or pleasure—you'll get there faster, stay there longer and arrive home sooner. Convenient daily, except Sunday, schedules —with a 10% saving on round trip fares. For full information and reservations,  
TELEPHONE 795

**Canadian Pacific AIR LINES**

**Gift Luggage**  
SPECIAL VALUE  
2 piece matching set \$32.75 Complete  
Buy With Confidence  
**GEORGE COOK, Jeweller**  
Remember the 25% tax is off all jewellery  
527 3rd Ave. Phone 264

**DELIGHTFUL ESSERT DELICACIES**  
That's What People Say About Our Cakes and Pastries  
Baked Fresh Daily  
**RUPERT BAKERY LTD.**  
619 3rd Ave. Phone 643

**Gifts of Quality**  
FOR HER—Cosmetic Sets, Perfumes and Colognes, Dresser Sets, Compacts and Manicure Sets  
FOR HIM—Shaving Sets, Shaving Brushes, Wallets, Pen and Pencil Sets, Ronson Lighters  
WITH COLORFUL XMAS WRAPPING  
**Wallace Pharmacy**  
Sixth St. & Third Ave. Phone 75

Complete Selection of Xmas Records  
GIVE RECORDS or ALBUMS A GIFT THAT'S SURE TO PLEASE  
Biggest Selection of **TOYS in TOWN**  
**McRae Bros. Ltd.**