COILING AND WRITHING rhythmically, the Oohashi sisters perform their eerie acrobatic snake dance in Tokyo. Tomoko Oohashi is wrapped like a python around her sister Kazuko. Sequined diamonds worn by the dancers add to the reptile effect.

Use Of Subjective Reports Gaining Favor With Schools

TORONTO—An increasing number of Canadian schools are adopting a radically new system of reporting how Johnny is getting along in class.

While the old-style report card is still in use in a majority of Canadian schools, says Robert Fulford, writing in the current issue of Maclean's Magazine, indications are that the new system is gaining ground.

"Under the old system," Fulford explains, "Johnny competed with his fellows and got 'marks'; under the new, he competes with himself and gets no clear-cut mark at all."

As a result, says the Maclean's writer, "parents and teachers have become involved in a lively non-stop debate about the value of the new reports."

The old-style report, he continues, "still reports on pupils' achievements in objectve terms. That is, it applies the same impersonal standard to all pupils, regardless of their individual intelligence—All children, whether bright or stupid, get the same marks or grades for the same work."

The new report deals with pupils' achievements "in subjective terms. That is, it sets a separate, unique standard for each child.

"The child takes an intelligence test and the teacher bases the marks on what the child has learned in relation to his ability to learn. If a child with high intelligence and a dull child happen to do exactly the same work, the bright child may get only a C or worse, while the dull child may get an A. The reasoning is that the bright child is not doing as well as he should while the dull child is working to the limit of his ability."

This new system, says Fulford, "is an important part of an attempt by some educators to shield public-school children from what they consider to be the harmful effects of competition."

However, the Maclean's article points out, a survey taken by the Canadian Educational Association indicates that the new method is making considerable progress. "The CEA questioned thirty-three superintendents in major school boards across the country and thirteen of them replied that their systems used subjective—that is, the 'new'—reports in some form or another.

The new system appeared in experimental form in the U.S. about twenty-five years ago. In some American schools today the report card has been done away with altogether, and replaced by parent-teacher interviews.

This idea has been slow to take on in Canada, says Fulford, but it has been tried and found successful in several places.

Game Numbers In Quebec Cut By Foxes

MONTREAL (CP)— Red foxes are roaming Quebec province in record numbers and making inroads on the small-game population.

J. F. Bourque, Montreal district superintendent of the Quebec game and fisheries department, says the foxes have increased rapidly in the last three years.

He blamed the animals for reducing small game, especially partridge and rabbit, by about 50 per cent during the last 10 years.

NEAR POPULATED AREAS

Foxes are found in all parts of the province.

Mr. Bourque believes foxes now are at the peak of their natural cycle and will decline in number as food becomes more scarce. He said the animal has multiplied rapidly since its fur lost value.

Between 15 and 20 years ago fox fur sold for as much as $50.00 a pelt, he added. The fur is worth nothing today on the fur market, and trappers have no incentive to catch the animals.

YOUNG TAGGED

Mr. Bourque said the department is continuing its program of encouraging the destruction of foxes as predators. Under the program started three years ago a certain number of foxes are captured at an early age and released after identifying tags are placed on their ears.

Anyone killing a tagged fox can collect $50 for each pair of ears turned over to the department.

The program has proved successful in encouraging destruction of the animal.

THINGS ARE SOMEWHAT TIGHT in this underpass at Swanton, Vermont — so tight, in fact, that both these trucks are stuck. The trailer-truck at right, hauling a huge tank, was trapped as it tried to go through. To complicate matters, another trailer-truck tried to squeeze through and was also wedged in. It took some doing to get them out.

Teacher Recruiting Rapped

VICTORIA (CP)—British Columbia's campaign to recruit school teachers in the United Kingdom was criticized in the legislature this week as "poaching."

CCF leader Arnold Webster said there is a shortage of teachers in Scotland too. It wasn't fair for B.C. to send over men to sign up teachers there.

"I don't like our high-pressure methods," he said.

Mr. Webster, a former school principal, also called for more decentralization of the province's education system.

He said the government should consider building another university or junior college in the interior. The University of British Columbia has almost reached its limit, he said, and a new university will be needed.

GREAT UNIVERSITY

The University of London has 23,000 students, including 1,800 from Commonwealth countries outside Britain.

Plane Speeds Of 1,600 mph By 1965 Prediction Of Avro Company Head

TORONTO (CP) — Military interceptor aircraft will be flying at 1,600 miles an hour within 10 years, Crawford Gordon Jr., president of A. V. Roe Canada Limited, predicted Friday.

"The use of atomic power in military aircraft also probably is not far off," he told the Gordon economic commission, but added that because of the heavy weight of atomic power plants, they will be used at first only in the largest planes.

Within a few years, he said, passenger airliners will be flying at about 550 to 600 miles an hour, increasing speeds to 900 miles an hour by 1970, and then to about 1,600 miles an hour by 1980 or 1985.

And on the basis of growth so far, the aircraft industry may well become the foremost in Canada and the world in the next 25 years, he said.

NEED ADVANCED TYPES

Canadian aviation has made great strides in the last decade, he said, but its most urgent need now is a long-range development and production policy. The government of Britain and the United States were intimately involved in home-grown plane production. The Canadian government should do the same.

Avro is the producer of the CF-100 all-weather jet fighter and now is developing a faster supersonic fighter known as the C-105.

Lively Time Almost 'Sure' At Carnival

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—Rio de Janeiro policemen, unfortunate fellows, have launched their annual drive for a safe and sane Carnival.

Every year they do it. And every year the Carnival is larger, louder, bawdier and more fun. But the police have had some success in reducing the number of dead—from 60 in 1954 to only 29 last year.

Carnival is the three-day holiday just before the start of lent. This year it is Feb. 12-14.

The thin line between Carnival fun and bloodshed has already been crossed this year. A band of dancers and musicians, called a "bloco," was warming up early. Pedro complained that Hildo was not singing the right words. Hildo said he could sing as he pleased. After the gunfire, Hildo was in the hospital with a bullet in his left arm. Pedro is in jail—until after the Carnival.

DISC JOCKEY Jack Lazare uses a tiara of teabags to crown pretty Peggy Ray as "Miss Hot Tea of 1956" at the Fireside Inn in New York City. Hits the spot, doesn't she?

BLACKWOOD on BRIDGE

By EASLEY BLACKWOOD

Mr. Abel's Club Finesse Costs Him a Slam Bid

When you are playing with a good partner and, in following to a trick, he plays what you believe to be an unnecessarily high card, it is probable that he is trying to send you a message.

Such a play occurred in today's deal and while Mr. Abel might have made the hand in any case, by guessing it right, still the defenders gave him a chance to go wrong. Which he did.

As you see, Miss Brash's horrible overcall was completely ignored—as it should have been. Against the final contract of six hearts, Miss Brash opened the king of spades. Mr. Abel won with the ace and saw that there were only two possible losers—a spade and a diamond. He could take a club finesse either way and, if successful, get rid of a diamond on the third round of clubs.

TOO EARLY

Instead of trying to guess the position of the queen of clubs so early in the hand, however, he decided to give the defenders the opportunity to make an error. He therefore took one round of trumps and then led his last spade, which Miss Brash won with the queen.

Another spade lead at this point would have let Mr. Abel ruff in dummy while discarding a diamond from his hand. Similarly, a club return would have trapped Mr. Masters' queen and made the slam a laydown.

BEST RETURN

But Miss Brash did not return a spade or a club. She promptly made her best return, a diamond. Mr. Abel still had a guess to made and he guessed wrong. He took a club finesse toward Mr. Masters and went down one.

Why was Miss Brash able to hit on the desirable diamond return? It was no accident and the principal credit belongs to Mr. Masters. At trick three, when Mr. Abel led a spade and Miss Brash won with the queen he played the ten spot.

Miss Brash knows Mr. Masters always has a reason for any play he makes. She was also fairly certain that he had started with more than two spades. So, when he played an unnecessarily high spade on the second lead of the suit, she correctly figured that he was suggesting the lead of the higher of the other two plain suits in this case, diamonds.

South dealer North-South vulnerable

NORTH
(Mrs. Keen)
♠ J 1
♥ Q J 9 5 3
♦ A J 7
♣ K J 7

WEST
(Miss Brash)
♠ K Q 9 8 5
♥ 8
♦ 6 5 2
♣ 9 8 6 2

EAST
(Mr. Masters)
♠ 10 7 6 2
♥ 4
♦ Q 10 9 4
♣ Q 5 4 3

SOUTH
(Mr. Abel)
♠ A
♥ A K 10 7 6 2
♦ K 8 3
♣ A 10

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♥	1 ♠	(?) 3 ♥	Pass
6 ♥	All Pass		

FINE CATCH

The Arctic grayling found in northern Manitoba streams is a distant cousin of the trout.

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