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Help Retarded Children

APPARENTLY those who are working on plans to establish a school here for retarded children have not fully decided yet on what course to follow for raising funds. While considerable help in this respect will be made available through the school board, support from some other source must still be obtained if the project is to succeed. As Dr. W. B. Laing has explained, this is a point of concern to the organizers.

Whatever approach is eventually made to the problem, it is to be sincerely hoped that it will have the cooperation and sympathy of the community as a whole. Although the number of children affected is not large—present estimates place it at 13—the need for establishing such a school is a vital one, and the public conscience should not be at ease until one is provided.

Unless the project goes ahead, these children will have no planned education apart from what their parents can give them. And even if the parents somehow find the necessary time to manage this, the unfortunate youngsters will still lack the association with others of about their age which is so essential to their growth and happiness.

The history of educating retarded children is full of remarkable cases in which unexpected talents have been discovered and real development achieved. Civilization is leaving behind the medieval notion that boys and girls who appear mentally handicapped are beyond the responsibility of society. It is realized now that the mind responds to careful treatment just as the body does, and schools for retarded children are gaining public recognition on an ever increasing scale.

Prince Rupert has proved time and again that when a community need exists, it is prepared and willing to meet it. The need of doing something for these children is now being pointed out to us in definite fashion. Let it never be said that at this point we were found wanting.

What! No Inky Fingers?

ONE BY ONE the tools of proper apprenticeship training fall before the march of mechanical progress.

In the period when dad—or was it granddad?—took a gawky young mechanic's helper under his wing one of the established routines was to send the lad on a tour of other shops to try to borrow a "left-handed monkey wrench."

Today a serviceman needs a whole kit of socket wrenches to reach nuts hidden under the styling of a modern automobile.

And in the front office equal changes have been taking place. Electric motors operate some of the typewriters, and now an innovation is announced which may make obsolete the one job in which a too fastidious office boy might yet be taught to get his fingers dirty. This is changing the typewriter ribbon.

One manufacturer claims that by packaging the new ribbon in two plastic containers and properly rigging the guide slots a new ribbon can be changed with no inky fingers. This may be wonderful for the stenographer who has just done her nails, but what is to fill the gap in the apprentice training program?—Christian Science Monitor.

Scriptures

If ye abide in me and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will and it shall be done unto you. John 15:7.

Most people forget the one word IF. So they ask amiss. The Lord's prayer is a perfect pattern of an effective prayer.

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As I See It

by Elmore Philpott

Ban Which Bombs?

THE NEW Soviet foreign minister is a very shrewd operator. He has urged all the great powers to ban all nuclear bomb explosions.

He knows very well that he can do so, without fear of complications, because the western allies have already made clear that they cannot and will not accept such a ban, on peacetime experiments, except as a part of an overall armament agreement.

If the Russians are really sincere in wanting to ban experimental nuclear explosions, they can, of course, simply announce to the world that they will detonate no more bombs in Russia. If they did so, public opinion in the various countries would soon compel the other powers to follow suit.

It is worthy of note that the Russians do not adopt this unilateral course of action, in spite of the fact that they did so in regard to the reduction of 1,200,000 in the numbers of men in their armed services.

THE COUNTRY which would militarily suffer most from a complete moratorium on further nuclear bomb explosions is Britain. She is the only one of the Big Three powers which lacks the know-how for the manufacture of a plentiful supply of cheap nuclear bombs.

Both the United States and Russia have stockpiles of such bombs adequate to blast the other fellow almost literally off the map.

It is worthy of note that even though Britain is the closest ally of the U.S.A., the latter country still keeps her own atomic secrets as a monopoly. This is all the more amazing when it is remembered that the United States air force maintains powerful air bases in Britain, from which Russia would be bombed in the event of war. It is commonly supposed that she also maintains stockpiles of atomic bombs in Britain which would be used in such an event.

WHILE there is naturally great public anxiety about nuclear bomb explosions, there are more hopeful fields for international agreement than in regard to banning of further experiments.

Both rivals now have a virtually unlimited supply of nuclear explosives. Both sides have long distance planes which they could use to deliver those explosives to devastate their enemies' territory, in event of war.

But the threat of atomic war will not reach its zenith of horror until either or both of the big powers has manufactured and stockpiled a supply of intercontinental ballistic missiles or rockets.

A simple agreement between Russia, the U.S.A., and Britain that they would drop all experiments with such missiles, and completely cease their manufacture forthwith, would be a great forward step.

The mere banning or non-banning of experimental nuclear explosions is of no more importance in the propaganda field than it is in the prevention of war. But the manufacture of the rockets which could cross the oceans in a matter of minutes, and which could conceivably annihilate whole nations, is of vital concern to every human being on earth.

OTTAWA DIARY

By Norman M. MacLeod

Two somewhat contradictory opinions exist among Federal Government experts on the question as to whether or not the past month's sudden upward movement in prices constitutes the first spiral in a new inflation.

Most Parliament Hill economists are disposed to so interpret it. But the experts in the Department of Agriculture demur. Their view is that the past month's rise in the cost-of-living index, instead of giving warning of the return of inflation once more, simply represents the correction of a weakness in the national economy.

The government's agricultural experts emphasize that the main increases of the past month have occurred in food prices, which previously had been lagging behind other commodities.

Arguing the inevitability of food prices sometime catching up to the level of other consumer goods, the experts contend that the present rise is a good thing which will strengthen the national economy, since its ultimate effect will be to spread the recent and current boom at long last to the agricultural community.

That there is a measure of truth in this argument other government economists are ready to admit. Additional purchasing power for Canadian farmers as a result of higher prices would go far, it is recognized, towards correcting some of the so-called "soft" spots in the economy, such as the farm implement, textiles, and electrical appliance industries.

Nevertheless, the great majority of government economists are unwilling to dismiss the price rise of recent weeks as an innocent process of correction in the economy whereby the farmers are being made belated partners in the over-all boom. Most of the experts believe that the forces of inflation are on the march once more and that the outlook for defeating them is a highly anxious one.

One of the main inflationary factors which the government experts recognize is the steel strike in the United States. Already it has caused the price of steel to advance sharply in Canada. And when steel prices rise, all other prices soar in sympathy.

Furthermore, the economists on Parliament Hill view with overlooking the strong possibility that a steel strike may occur in this country before the Summer is over. The general belief is that one will be avoided only if the Canadian companies concede their workers whatever concessions the steel workers in the United States may succeed in winning. But such a solution would raise the price of basic Canadian steel and would be strongly inflationary. In the opinion of the experts, the situation is definitely critical.

LONDON (AP)—Male employees of a Tottenham district library will be issued with collars and ties free of charge.

PETER J. BLAKE (above) has been appointed district mail and baggage agent for Canadian National Railways at Vancouver. Formerly travelling mail and baggage agent at Winnipeg, he succeeds G. T. Trites who has been named general mail and baggage agent, Atlantic region. Born and educated at Melville, Sask. Mr. Blake joined the CNR in July, 1945, as a junior clerk in the bridge and building department at Winnipeg. He transferred to the passenger department in September of that year and, after serving in various clerical capacities in the depot and city ticket offices and the general mail and baggage department, was promoted to mail accounts clerk in the district mail and baggage agent's office at Edmonton, in June, 1952. He became travelling mail and baggage agent at Winnipeg in 1955.

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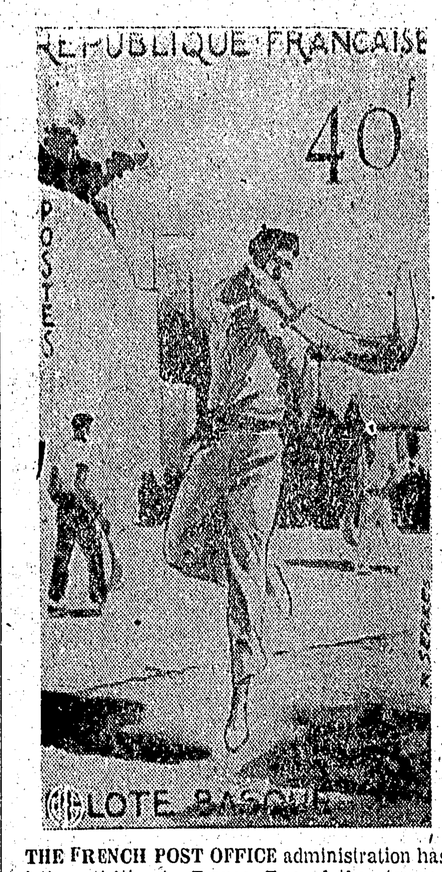

THE FRENCH POST OFFICE administration has unveiled a new series of stamps, showing athletic activities in France. Two of the stamps shown above are: at left, a maroon and brown stamp representing jai alai, executed by carver-drawer Serres; at right, Mountaineering, reproduced in blue, dark green and light blue from a drawing by Serres and carving by Gandon.

All Aboard

By G. E. MORTIMORE

A friend of mine called Charlie, who used to be a school principal in Canora, Saskatchewan, found that many of his students of Ukranian descent were speaking broken English.

They were Canadian-born boys and girls. Every day after school hours they attended a special school to learn the language and customs of their old land. They were learning Ukranian very well, but (Charlie says) they were failing to learn English. Charlie didn't think this was good enough.

"We're Canadians," he said, "and we should be learning English and French. He persuaded the parents to drop the evening classes. As a clincher, he said to the students:

"Put in more time with your English, and I'll spend 15 minutes a day learning Ukranian." So they concluded the bargain. Soon all the boys and girls could speak English fluently, and Charlie could speak Ukranian.

Japanese - Canadians, that much maligned and harshly treated group of citizens, also used to attend their own schools after hours to learn Japanese language and customs. Since they were usually clever and diligent students, their English lessons didn't seem to suffer.

Charlie was surely right in demanding that his young Ukranian-Canadians learn to speak the language of the country in which they lived.

However, conformity can be carried too far. I know of parents who are able to speak Dutch, and others, who can speak Russian, but in both cases refuse to transmit the language to their children. "We won't teach them Dutch," they say, or, "We won't teach them Russian, because we want the children to be Canadians."

This is a mistake. Knowledge of another language would not make them any less Canadians, but would add to the richness of their experience. In these nervous days, the world needs minds that can cross frontiers. Parents who could teach their children another language, but decline to do so, are robbing the children of a valuable gift.

The same applies in other lands. English is a world language. It is a rich, powerful and expressive tongue. And yet, factions in countries like Ceylon and India are trying to abolish its use, and thereby move out of the world stream of communication, into a backwater of their own.

Try Daily News Classifieds

Scholarship To Encourage Youth To Enter News Careers

Special to The Daily News

TORONTO — To encourage western high school students to study toward newspaper or other writing careers, the Saskatchewan Weekly Newspapers Association has announced a $100 scholarship. The association's president, John Vopni, of the Davidson Leader, said he hoped the gift would launch more young people as reporters and editors.

The $100 will be given as an entrance scholarship to the Practical Journalism course, Ryerson Institute of Technology, Toronto, to a high school graduate living west of the lakehead. Edward U. Schrader, director, is also a westerner, having graduated from the University of Saskatchewan and worked on Winnipeg and Vancouver newspapers.

The entrance scholarship was provided because of the shortage of trained newspaper writers. There were four jobs available for each graduate in Practical Journalism last May, Mr. Schrader said.

The Ryerson Institute is a division of the Ontario government's department of education.

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LETTERBOX

CHILDREN LIKE HORSE

The Editor,
The Daily News;

This is a thank-you to Mr. Matson of the Star Mink ranch for the pleasure that he has brought to so many children in this city by his kindness in showing the children animals they have never seen before, especially the horse that so many have enjoyed riding.

JACK MAIR,
Prince Rupert.

Crosby, Harris On Fishing Trip To Rivers Inlet

SEATTLE (AP)— Crooner Bing Crosby and orchestra leader Phil Harris, left here Friday for a 10-day fishing voyage to Rivers Inlet, about 200 miles up the B. C. coast from Vancouver.

The Crosby party is made up of the singer, his 18-year-old son Lindsay, Harris, producer Bill Morrow, songwriter James Van Heusen and hotelman Pete Pettito.

PAINSWICK, Ont. (AP)—School holidays may mean a family here will go hungry. A mother coon and her brood made their home in a tree near the local school and were fed by the children.

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