



The beautiful hats of Spring  
are here now in our superb  
collection

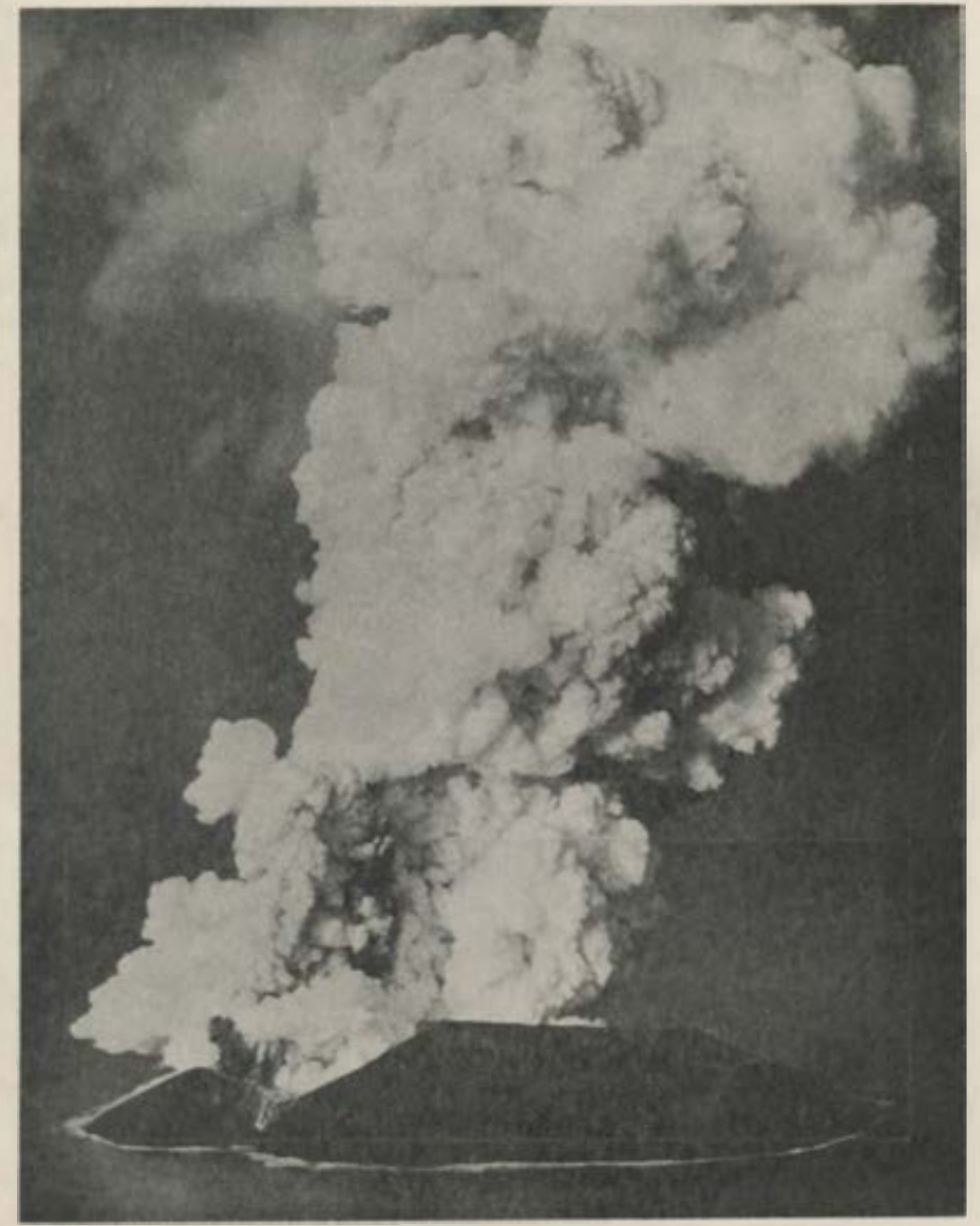
of imports



**EATON'S**  
*fourth floor of fashion*

Spring 1964

# THE ICELANDIC CANADIAN



AN ISLAND IS BORN — SURTSEY— south of Iceland and west of Vestmannaeyjar

1904 — 1964

SIXTY YEARS OF SUPPLYING  
WINNIPEG HOUSEHOLDERS

- ★ Fuel Oil ★ Coal ★ Heating Equipment
- ★ SELF-SERVE BUILDING MATERIALS

Telephone: 943-0341



# FIVE ROSES



## PRE-SIFTED

# FLOUR

CANADA'S MOST RESPECTED NAME IN BAKING

## SNOWDON'S LTD.

BEST IN — TELEVISION — FURNITURE — APPLIANCES

3 STORES TO SERVE YOU

105 Regent—Phone CA 2-9290  
Transcona, Man.

261 Kelvin — Phone LE 3-1163  
Winnipeg 15, Man.

2163 Portage — Phone VE 7-1341  
St. James, Manitoba

THE ICELANDIC CANADIAN

## HERCULES SUPPLY LTD.

124 PRINCESS STREET WINNIPEG 2, MAN.

Phone 942-2417 — 942-2418

DISTRIBUTORS OF:

- COMMERCIAL FISHING SUPPLIES
- MARTIN SENOUR PAINTS
- DRY GOODS and SMALLWARES

## REMEMBER ...

WHEN PHONING LONG DISTANCE



YOUR

## Manitoba Telephone System

Compliments of . . .

# MacARTHUR & SONS LTD.

HIGHWAY FREIGHTING

BRANDON—Phone PA 62351 1295 St James St., WINNIPEG 21—Phone SP 43441

WHERE EVERYTHING TRAVELS FIRST CLASS

# DICKSON MOTORS LTD.

★

Winnipeg's Downtown

Pontiac - Acadian - Buick - Cadillac - Vauxhall Dealers

Home of Goodwill Used Cars

★

PORTAGE at FURBY

PHONE SPruce 2-2541

COMPLIMENTS OF . . .

# The MANITOBA SUGAR Co. Ltd.

FORT GARRY, MANITOBA

“THE ICELANDIC CANADIAN, AUTHORIZED AS SECOND CLASS MAIL BY THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, OTTAWA, AND FOR PAYMENT OF POSTAGE IN CASH.” – PRINTED AT 868 ARLINGTON ST. WPG. 3.

## DELNOR FROZEN FOOD

S. L. DOYING & CO.  
DISTRIBUTORS

870 Bradford St., Wpg. 12 Ph. SU 3-1590

## Grey Goose Bus Lines Limited

301 BURNELL ST. — WPG. 10, MAN.

Phone SUNset 6-1427

Compliments

## Security Storage Co. Ltd.

725 Portage Ave. Ph. 783-7171

Plastering Stucco Ornamental

## H. Sigurdson & Son Ltd.

Plastering Contractors and Builders

H. M. Sigurdson  
1410 Erin St.  
Ph. SPruce 2-6860

H. Sigurdson  
526 Arlington St.  
Ph. SPruce 2-1272

Compliments of

# A & W DRIVE-IN

LOOK FOR THE BRIGHT ORANGE DRIVE-IN

WHY WAIT FOR SPRING?  DO IT NOW!

Support the 1964 Winter Employment Campaign by taking advantage of the availability of men and materials.

For all your employment requirements call your NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT OFFICE

at  
Whitehall 3-0861

# Gelhorn Motors Ltd.

2000 MAIN STREET  
WINNIPEG 17

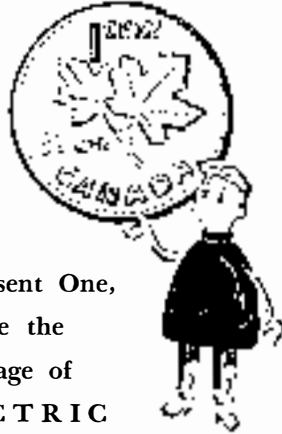
Your friendly

## Falcon, Fairlane and Galaxie

Dealers

If You  
Plan to  
Build  
a New  
Home or  
Renovate  
Your Present One,  
Investigate the

Advantage of  
**ELECTRIC  
HOME HEATING**  
— now available for less than  
ONE CENT per Kilowatt Hour



### City Hydro

WHEN YOU SAY ICE CREAM

be sure you say

## PALM ICE CREAM



**HEINTZMAN**  
Richmond

**SHERLOCK-MANNING  
NORDHEIMER  
PIANOS  
HAMMOND ORGANS**

### J. J. H. McLEAN

"The West's Oldest Music House"  
GRAHAM — EDMONTON  
PHONE 942-4231



"SERVING CANADIANS WITH QUALITY MEATS"



## PARK-HANNESSON LTD.

Distributors of  
Commercial Fishing Equipment  
Marine Hardware

WINNIPEG — EDMONTON

## Selkirk Garage Ltd.

THE PLACE TO BUY

YOUR NEW  
CHEVROLET  
OLDSMOBILE

PH. 482-3140  
or 452-1085

G. Sigurdson, Prop.

COMPLIMENTS OF



*Your Local*  
**WHITE ROSE DEALER**

**Dr. Gestur Kristjansson***Physician and Surgeon*

PHONE SPruce 2-9453

WESTBROOK MEDICAL CENTRE

Logan and Keewatin

Winnipeg 3, Manitoba

**R. B. VOPNI & CO.***Chartered Accountants*

2nd Floor Crown Trust Bldg.

364 MAIN ST.

PHONE WHitehall 3-8481

Winnipeg

Manitoba

**Eggertson & Eggertson***Barristers & Solicitors*

500 Power Building

Portage Ave. &amp; Vaughan St.

Phone WHitehall 2-3149 WINNIPEG

SEASON'S GREETINGS

from— A FRIEND

**Thorvaldson, Eggertson,  
Saunders & Mauro***Barristers, Solicitors, etc*209 Bank of Nova Scotia Bldg.  
Portage Ave. and Garrv St.

Ph. WHitehall 2-8291-2-3 WINNIPEG

**S. A. THORARINSON***Barrister and Solicitor*

2nd Floor Crown Trust Bldg.

364 Main Street

OFFICE PHONE WHitehall 2-7051

**RAMSAY-MATTHEWS LIMITED**

103 Medical Arts Building,

(Guild) Prescription Opticians

WINNIPEG

**McKague, Sigmar  
& Company**

REAL ESTATE — MORTGAGE LOANS

All Types of Insurance

Rental Management

200 New Langside Bldg. Ph. SP 4-1746

537 ELLICE AVE. WINNIPEG 2

**Arthur A. Anderson**

representing

ALL WAYS TRAVEL BUREAU

Phone WH 2-2535 Res. GL 2-5446

315 HARGRAVE ST WINNIPEG 2

**ARLINGTON PHARMACY  
PRESCRIPTION SPECIALISTS**

POST OFFICE

Sargent &amp; Arlington,

Phone SUNset 3-5550

Winnipeg

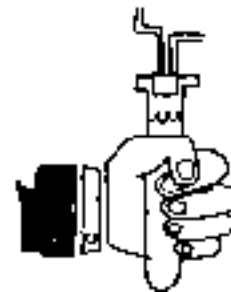


## SIX NEW WAYS WE HELP BUSINESS IN MANITOBA

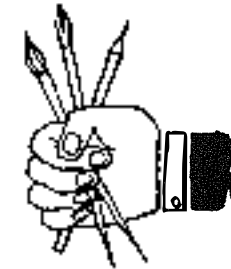
Each year, 50 new plants open in Manitoba, 3000 others receive business assistance. Why is this fast-growing province attracting such companies as Shell-Oil, International Nickel, Campbell Soup? Here's the six-point program now offered to any businessman or manufacturing firm who plans to build in Manitoba.

**Product Development  
Fund**

A revolving fund is available to help firms cover the cost of product research for new developments and for design plans for new plants, plant expansions or new machinery. The intention is to help present companies explore new market possibilities through product diversification.

**Research Council**

Created to help smaller firms who do not have the funds or facilities for permanent research personnel. The council will provide specialist assistance to any Manitoba firm, with special emphasis on companies using the products of our primary industries.

**Design Institute**

In order to make Manitoba's products more makeable, sellable and useable in competing with products on the international market, this organization will help Manitoba firms design visual quality, ingenuity and originality into their products.

**Export Corporation**

This corporation will help Manitoba firms establish contacts in foreign markets. It will solicit orders through brokers. In some instances, it will actively handle shipments and be responsible for delivery.

**Import Replacement**

To help Manitoba firms find alternatives or replacements for products they previously imported, a special program has been devised to expand the licensing activities of Manitoba firms. Continual surveys will determine product manufacturing possibilities within the province.

**Economic  
Consultative Board**

Will seek to establish greater cooperation between management, labour and government through an interchange of knowledge and experience of economic affairs and problems. The board is expected to contribute to better decisions for growth by both government and private groups in the province.

**Plan for profits in  
MANITOBA**

WRITE—DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY & COMMERCE, WINNIPEG 1, MANITOBA, CANADA



preserving  
family  
tradition

We welcome appointments as Co-Executor with members of the family with full knowledge that it creates a personal relationship and provides a family voice in management

Montreal Trust has accumulated in its seventy years of trust service a vast store of experience in the successful administration of estates and is well qualified to provide the technical skill needed by your executor.

A talk with one of our experienced trust officers will aid you in developing an estate plan to meet your wishes and provide a family voice in management



### Montreal Trust Company

Notre Dame at Albert Street  
Winnipeg, Manitoba

C. LOWE  
Assistant General Manager

H. T. MARTIN  
Manager

## Capital Lumber Co. Ltd.

SERVICE AND SATISFACTION

92 Higgins Avenue      Winnipeg 2      Phone WH 3-1455

# The Icelandic Canadian

Vol. XXII No. 3

Winnipeg, Canada

Spring 1964

EDITORIAL — Beauty of the Icelandic Language, T. O. S. Thorsteinson	10
FEATURE ARTICLES — An Island is Born—Surtsey, Haraldur Hamar	11
Canada, The Emerging Nation, W. C. Lockhart	14
SPECIAL FEATURES — His Excellency Thor Thors,	34
Addresses of Val Bjornson and Einar Guðmundsson	24
MISCELLANEOUS — Byron Ingemar Johnson, W. J. Lindal	31
Vigfus Guttormsson, Mattie Halldorson	33
Canada's Ambassador John P. Sigvaldason	32
Hon. J. T. Thorson	38
Professor Gwyn Jones Visits Winnipeg	37
Icelandic Hockey Teams, Vikings and IACs, Helgi Olsen	39
The Mid Winter Concerts	27
Fred J. Olsen	30
A Significant Seminar	49
The Antigonish Movement	50
BOOK REVIEWS: The Early Voyages and Northern Approaches	45
by J. T. Oleson, reviewed by H. Bessason	
Educational Echoes, by Roy H. Ruth	48
reviewed by Arelius Isfeld	
POETRY — Thingvellir, by Watson Kirkconnell	35
IN THE NEWS — 14, 23, 33, 41, 44, 52, 57	
NEWS SUMMARY — 57-60	

### THE ICELANDIC CANADIAN

A quarterly published by The Icelandic Canadian Club, Winnipeg, Manitoba

#### MAGAZINE BOARD

EDITORS: Judge W. J. Lindal, Editor-in-Chief and Chairman of the Board, 788 Wolseley Ave., Winnipeg 10, Prof. Haraldur Bessason, 84 Triton Bay, St. Vital, Winnipeg 8; Miss Caroline Gunnarsson, 755 McMillan Ave., Winnipeg 9; Miss Salome Halldorson, 6-240 Chestnut St., Winnipeg 10; Arelius Isfeld, 896 Palmerston Ave., Winnipeg 10; Gustaf Kristjanson, 73 Crowson Bay, Winnipeg 19; W. Kristjanson, 1117 Wolseley Ave., Winnipeg 10; T. O. S. Thorsteinson, 400 Parkview St., Winnipeg 12; Mrs. Wm. D. Valgardson, 221 Clyde Rd., E. K., Winnipeg 5.

SECRETARY OF THE BOARD: Miss Mattie Halldorson, 32 Graham Apts., Wpg. 1  
BUSINESS & CIRCULATION MANAGER: Hjalmur F. Danielson, 869 Garfield St.  
ADVERTISING SOLICITOR: Mrs. C. O. Einarson, 617 Ingersoll St., Winnipeg 10.

Editorial and news correspondence should be addressed to the Editor-in-Chief or to the Editor concerned. Subscriptions and business correspondence to the Business and Circulation Manager.

Subscription Rate: \$2.00 per year. In Iceland kr. 100. Single copies .50c, in Icel. kr.25.

Representatives in Iceland—Anna J. Jónsson, Hverfisgötu 112, Reykjavik  
Baldur Þorsteinsson, Hávegur 11, Kópavogi.

Authorized as Second Class Mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa.

## EDITORIAL

*Beauty of the Icelandic Language*

Mortal man in his quest for the wherewithal of life is sometimes blind to beauty around him, and beauty within him. This is human. In his workaday world he takes the marvels of creation for granted, for they are so close to him. He fails to see the beauty of the forest for the trees.

Inanimate things on this earth are beautiful, flowers, green grass, snow, the heavens and the silent sea. They are a part of his life, and obeying the rules of Mother Nature adorn the seasons in all their glory for him to enjoy.

But perhaps the most beautiful of all is the human frame in all its frailty, and that soul within. It has a brain to guide, feet to walk, hands to do, eyes to see and ears to hear but, most important of all, a tongue to speak. Herein comes the marvel of language and beauty it possesses, in this case Icelandic, the tongue of our forefathers.

To those who speak it, Icelandic is in so many ways a language of singular beauty and charm. It is highly expressive and of such a nature that words can be found and sentences woven to describe feeling or circumstance with telling effect. It has a musical quality.

What is remarkable about Icelandic is that in its present form it is much the same as it was quite a few centuries ago. It has changed little with time, it is said, and hence is a root language much the same as Latin or ancient Greek, but still a living tongue.

The world of literature has been enriched by what has been written in Icelandic. Like the bards of so many other lands Icelandic writers in poetry and prose have contributed in generous measure to the world store of literature and have earned respect at home and abroad for what they have achieved.

The past somehow weaves itself into and becomes part of the future. There is valid reason to believe that Icelanders in this field, at home and abroad, will maintain this reputation in the years that are to come.

Steini Thorsteinson

*An Island is Born — Surtsey*

by HARALDUR J. HAMAR, one of the editors of *Iceland Review*

On a misty November morning about 10 miles southeast of the main member of the Vestmanna islands group just south of Iceland, the cook on a 100-ton Icelandic fishing boat got out of bed feeling he needed some fresh air. On deck, he had not fully opened his eyes when he noticed a column of smoke coming from the sea not many miles away. At once he alarmed the skipper: "A ship is burning," he shouted — and off they went to save the survivors. But the fishermen did not find any survivors, nor did they find a burning ship. They found instead an island being born.

True, they did not know it then, and sailed away thinking it was just another in the series of volcanic eruptions which have occurred in the area at the rate of two every 10 years throughout this century. But soon after a solid mass was to stick its head out of the sea spouting lava hundreds of feet into the air and forcing a column of steam, smoke and ashes as high as 36,000 feet. They had unwittingly witnessed the birthpangs of the twelfth volcanic island to rise out of the sea near Iceland since it was settled more than 1,000 years ago.

Where the volcanic activity started, the sea was 360 feet deep, but today there stands an island 450 feet above sea level, about one mile wide. In a short time there have accumulated millions of tons of lava and the island would be far bigger by now if it were not for the smashing North-Atlantic waves of a stormy winter season. It is

very dark, almost black, but still not certain to last. For lava before it cools is not as solid when mixed with sea water as it is when the eruption takes place on land.

But how did the Icelanders react? Were they frightened — or have they gotten used to volcanic activity?

In earlier days, when people here were more or less dependent on farming, the volcanic eruptions could simply mean starvation for the people. The land was covered with ashes, the sheep got no grass and died. So did the people. Sometimes earthquakes followed the volcanic activities — and that often meant destruction. So the people did not look forward to the volcanic eruptions and all that followed.

**Tourist Attraction**

This generation feels differently. They depend less on the land and there are better contacts with the outside world. As a result Icelanders of today get a little excited by the news of an eruption. Everybody wants to see it. The tourist bureau and airlines organize sightseeing tours, and the printing shops turn out hundreds of thousands of postcards with pictures of it.

Even at the Vestmanna islands people welcomed the big news in the beginning. Only the largest of the islands is inhabited although it boasts Iceland's busiest fishing port. The islanders were glad to have the privilege of watching this magnificent wonder



AN ISLAND IS BORN—SURTSEY—south of Iceland and west of Vestmannaeyjar

of nature "free" from their windows while other people had to buy an airline ticket or drive over the mountains to see the newborn island.

But the Vestmanna islanders soon felt the uncomfortable closeness of that big open fire. There is always the danger of earthquakes, even if they have not been too noticeable so far. And if the northerly winds which sweep over Iceland in winter time saved the Vestmanna islands from the volcanic ash, they could not kill the strange volcanic smell.

#### Water Polluted

And then there was the damage to the islanders' drinking water. On the Vestmannas they still use old wells to save drinking water and some save water from the roof of the house when it rains. At present the water is unusable and the only compensation is that the men have a good excuse to quench their thirst with something really strong.

The latest blow is the refusal of the insurance companies to further insure houses on the Vestmannas due to the danger of earthquakes. This has frightened some of the islanders, and it does not help to overcome their fear when, waking in the middle of the night, they see the sky glowing red over the new island and hear the thunder-like noise from the crater, almost on their doorstep.

All ships have been warned not to go too near the new island while it remains active and the Icelandic coast-guard is keeping one of its ships there on constant watch, just in case.

Icelandic scientists however have been having the time of their life. According to them, the eruption has not affected the life of the sea in the vicinity of the new island. The warmth does not reach very far from the crater.

Even before the island emerged the sea seemed unaffected.

Of all human beings, the photographers have been the most daring, both in the air and on sea. At one time one of them — on a small boat — found himself in the midst of boiling sea. He needed no further urging to beat a hasty and fortunately (as it turned out), successful retreat.

At intervals the volcano was rather quiet but nobody actually thought of going ashore, until a trio from the French weekly Paris Match actually did it. Veterans of both Algeria and French Indochina, they landed without being noticed. They had quietly flown into the Vestmanna islands with a rubber raft folded together in a suitcase and a portable outboard motor in a sack. They succeeded in keeping their mission secret until discovered by an Icelandic cameraman while planting the French flag on the island.

No sooner were they on the new land however, when the crater rumbled an unfriendly greeting. The trio ran for their lives and although they made it off the island safely, their \$10,000 worth of camera equipment got dunked and ruined. Fortunately the films they took were not damaged and turned out perfectly.

#### Protest Name

Soon after this narrow escape a group of Icelanders, together with a team from the Vestmanna Islands, "boarded" the island as a demonstration against the name the authorities had chosen for the new arrival.

Instead of "Surtsey," the "Black One" they wanted it called "Vesturey" — "The Island of The West".

There were eight men in the team and two of them had a narrow escape after staying on the island much longer than the rest. Due to the volcanic



activity and the waves their rescue was both difficult and dangerous. It was entirely due to the assistance of another Icelandic team hired by a London Times correspondent, to bring them as close to the island as possible.

The rescue was on a Friday and the following Sunday the whole Vestmanna team attended church and the priest thanked God for their merciful escape.

Although they had planted a banner with the name "Vesturey" on the island, they did not have any success in changing what the authorities had decided.

The French, then, were victorious in the race to get on little Surtsey. But

they could not claim her. The island had placed itself inside Iceland's territorial waters—and if it is going to last, the recently-extended fishing limits could be extended a little bit more. The island forms a new point outside the baselines from which the fishing limits are drawn.

Would the Vestmanna fishermen thus like to see more islands and ever-wider limits? It is doubtful. When a small crater opened between "Surtsey" and the main island of the group, the people saw that the vast power below the sea could not be counted on to vent itself at a safe distance, but might just as well threaten their homes.

—Courtesy Winnipeg Free Press



O. W. Johnson, M.D., one of the founders of the Johnson Clinic, Rugby, N. Dak., was recently elected to the House of Delegates of the American Cancer Society. This consists of 59 divisions scattered throughout the 50 states of the U.S. He was also elected as a member of the board of directors of the Society. Dr. O. W. Johnson is a Fellow of the International College of Surgeons; Past President of the N. D. State Medical Association; Director Northern Founders Ins. Co.; Legislative Appointee for N. Dakota A.M.A.; Chairman Legislative Committee, N. Dakota State Medical Association; Past member of Board of Medical Examiners.

He is a member of various other committees. Dr. Johnson is the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Guðbjartur

Johnson of Upham, N. Dak., and a brother of Mrs. V. J. Eylands of Winnipeg, Man.



O. W. Johnson, M.D.

## Much Appreciated Letters

Mrs. John F. Kennedy

February 3, 1964

Dear Judge Lindal:

Mrs. Kennedy has asked me to write you in her behalf to thank you so much for sending two copies of your fine article about her husband. She regrets deeply that, due to the huge volume of mail, she is unable to write you personally. However, Mrs. Kennedy is touched by this article which she thinks is very special and knows it will mean so much to her children in the future.

Mrs. Kennedy sends you her most sincere thanks and best wishes.

Sincerely,

Pamela Turnure

Secretary to Mrs. Kennedy

Office of Attorney General

Washington, D.C.

January 30, 1964

Dear Mr. Lindal:

Many thanks for your thoughtfulness in forwarding the meaningful remarks about my brother. It was good of you to bring them to my attention.

Sincerely,

ROBERT F. KENNEDY

Einar B. Guðmundsson, Hæstaréttarlögmaður

Reykjavík, 3. marz 1964

The Icelandic Canadian Club,  
Winnipeg — Canada

Nú þegar við hjónin erum komin heim til Íslands, vildi eg mega flytja The Icelandic Canadian Club alúðarkveðjur okkar og þakkir fyrir frábærar viðtökur og gestrisni, er okkur var sýnd meðan við dvöldumst í Canada. Er það einlæg ósk okkar og von að samstarf Vestur-Íslendinga megi blómgastr og blessast.

Eg flyt yður árnaðaróskir og kveðjur frá Eimskipafélagi Íslands.

Með vinsemd og virðingu,

Einar B. Guðmundsson

### TRANSLATION

Einar B. Guðmundsson, Supreme Court Advocate Reykjavík, March 3, 1964

The Icelandic Canadian Club,  
Winnipeg — Canada

Now that my wife and I are back to Iceland, I would like to extend sincere greetings and our appreciation to The Icelandic Canadian Club for the exceptional reception and hospitality shown us during our stay in Canada. It is our sincere wish and hope that the united efforts of Vestur-Íslendingar may flourish and expand.

On behalf of The Icelandic Steamship Co. Ltd. I extend greetings and all good wishes.

In friendship and appreciation,

Einar B. Guðmundsson

## *Canada, The Emerging Nation*

an address delivered by **Dr. W. C. LOCKHART**, Principal of United College at The Icelandic Canadian Club Concert held in the Parish Hall of the First Lutheran Church, Winnipeg, Tuesday, February 18, 1964.



**Dr. W. C. Lockhart**

First may I acknowledge my very deep gratitude at the honour you have done me by the kind invitation that brings me here to speak this evening. While I have my own uncertainties about my right and capacity to address you, I have, nonetheless, two very good reasons for accepting your invitation.

In the first place this is the first formal association I have had since coming to Winnipeg nearly ten years ago with your Icelandic community. I am an Ontario born Canadian and while I have not been unaware of the

existence of those of Icelandic extraction as fellow Canadians, it was not until my coming to Winnipeg that I have had the opportunity to know many of you and to appreciate the remarkable fine contribution you have made to this nation. The more I know of that contribution and the calibre of those who are of Icelandic extraction, the more I have come to respect you. In many ways you are an example to all ethnic groups who come to this land of the best manner and method of taking your rightful place in the community at large. You have become Canadian in a very real sense and yet at the same time have, by the accentuation of your own tradition, been able to enrich the common life.

The second reason that I feel honoured in your invitation is because of the long association that United College has had with Icelandic people. I know something of the zeal of your people for education and the history of your settlement in this Province is clearly marked by your determination to improve the standards of education wherever you have gone. I am particularly aware of the number of Icelandic students who found opportunities for higher education in both Manitoba and Wesley College. Looking back in the records I find that in 1901-02, there were 26 Icelandic students taking courses at Wesley College and in 1902

03, 27 students and by 1909-1910, 48 students attended the University and its affiliated Colleges. Manitoba College has always been proud to claim as one of its most distinguished graduates, Joseph T. Thorson, who was named "Rhodes Scholar" in 1910.

Wesley College has been equally proud to claim illustrious graduates: Skuli Johnson, the Rhodes Scholar of 1909, and Walter J. Lindal, who had a brilliant record, a winner of gold and silver medals and other distinctions.

I am particularly grateful that when I came to the College in 1955, Dean O. T. Anderson was the Dean of Arts and Science. We suffered a very great loss in his tragic death but I shall always be grateful for the kindly aid and encouragement he gave to me at the beginning of my work at the College. It is for these reasons and for others that I am particularly happy to have the opportunity of being here this evening.

### **Title of Address**

I have chosen as my title "Canada, The Emerging Nation". Any one who attempts to speak about Canada today does so in the setting of the rather heated debate that is going on at the present time on the issue of "Biculturalism and Bilingualism". It would appear that as we are nearing our 100th Anniversary as a nation we are going through an agonizing re-appraisal. We should, as a nation, be mature enough to look objectively at the problems that confront us but it is doubtful whether the establishment of the Royal Commission at this time was well advised. As the discussions emerge around the major issues which the Commission will consider, it is quite clear that there are real dangers that arise from the possibility of pitting various groups against each other and

of various ethnic groups contending for particular rights. It ought to be possible to have a frank discussion of the major issues which concern us as a nation but in many ways we are very like a family. In family life it is often possible to do harm by being over-frank and much is gained by refusing to force every difference of opinion to an argument. There is certainly real danger in Canada that the discussions pertaining to biculturalism and bilingualism might well set back rather than improve the relations between the various groups.

On the other hand, nothing holds back the march of time and as we move towards the anniversary of Confederation there is no better occasion to look at the character of our nation in terms of what the years have brought and what the years may yet hold. Obviously the Royal Commission on Biculturalism and Bilingualism focuses our attention on the question of the two-nation, two-language concept which is now so strongly advocated by our French-Canadian brethren. There are several general observations that may be made before we turn directly to the question of the bicultural and bilingual problem.

### **First observation:**

There is no doubt that all sections of Canada outside French Quebec must take seriously what can be described in no other terms as the "major revolution which has overtaken French Canada". The changes that have come about and are coming cannot be brushed aside as insignificant and unimportant. This movement is not under the leadership of a few extremists although extremists there are, and one cannot help but be disturbed by the outbreaks of violence in that part of our nation. It

is clear, for the most part, that the leadership of this movement is in the hands of the intellectuals of French Canada who are indeed very capable and profoundly convinced that Canada cannot survive as a nation unless there is agreement that there are two Mother Nations bound together in Canada in an equal partnership and held together by two languages.

If we are not prepared to take the French seriously it is quite clear that we can face the possibility of a divided Canada in which there will be serious conflict with all the ramifications that this might bring. It is not beyond the realm of possibility that the French may well take their case to the United Nations on the assumption that their position is basically no different from that of the emerging nations in Africa. Please do not misunderstand me. I am not saying that we are called on to agree with the position of French Canada. I am only saying that the rest of Canada cannot ignore nor treat lightly the demands that are being made by the leaders of this new movement.

#### Second observation

The second observation grows out of the first and that is that we must make a genuine effort to try and understand what the leadership of this new movement is trying to say to us. As we have listened to Premier Lesage and others it is far from clear what it is that French Canada wants. I am prepared to recognize that as a member of the English-speaking segment of Canada I have not perhaps been as concerned as I ought to have been or as appreciative of what French Canada has had to offer by way of language and culture. It is equally true that in the developing pattern of

national life there are a number of natural divisions in this nation between East and West; the Maritimes, Quebec and Upper Canada; the Prairies and the West Coast; and it is obvious that none of us as Canadians have grown to that point of maturity where we have full appreciation of the rights and privileges of others. If it is difficult for one who is of British extraction to understand what the French want, it is even more so for those of other ethnic groups, such as the Icelandic community, or the German community, or the Ukrainian community, to feel that the French have special prerogatives that put them in a class by themselves. It is true however that Canada began with two founding nations and we cannot escape this historic fact or the implications it has for our future. Nonetheless, it should be in all honesty said that this fact must be looked at now in the light of the nation that is emerging from almost one hundred years of her history.

Having therefore maintained that we must take the demands of French Canada seriously and second that we must seek to make a genuine effort to understand what it is that French Canada wants in this partnership, it ought to be said in the third place that we who make up that segment of the country beyond French Canada are not too kindly disposed to be blamed by the French Canadians for conditions which, from our point of view, might be described as self-imposed. It is obvious that the revolution that is overtaking French Canada is long overdue. It grows out of three major conditions which, while not unique to Quebec, have been generally characteristic of its pattern of life over these last two or three decades. Quebec has suffered from too much bad government; it has been held back by

an inadequate educational system, and its whole life has been coloured by undue clerical pressure from the Roman Church. Now in saying this I am not saying anything which I think the young intellectual leaders of Quebec would not acknowledge themselves. All I am saying is that in all honesty Quebec should be reminded that the rest of Canada is not in a mood to be blamed for those forces and factors within its own community which have done so much to determine its present disabilities.

#### Problem of Biculturalism

Now having made these general observations, let us turn for a few minutes to a consideration of the problem of Biculturalism. It is obvious that we should have a more careful definition of the word "culture" so that we might be clear what we are talking about. The word may be used in at least two ways—in a wide sense or in a narrow sense.

The first sense is illustrated by the anthropologist use of it to describe a certain pattern of life which influences the aims and habits of men. So we speak of the culture of Western Europe to describe a way of life and thought which is rooted in Europe's past and has now spread to other parts of the world. In this sense of the word, both French and non-French citizens in Canada share a common cultural inheritance. This fact should be remembered in the present discussions.

In the narrower sense the word "culture" refers to those arts, sciences, and educational processes of a community which adorn and enrich the life of that community and do not merely preserve and increase it. We believe that this would include also the unofficial societies and associations

which exist to promote ends for which men and women are greatly concerned but which are not strictly necessary for physical or political existence. It is in this latter sense that we should use the word "culture" when discussing the nature of biculturalism in Canada. Therefore, while we maintain that both French and English have their roots in one broad common cultural background, we do accept the fact that there are differences and we would admit to the use of the term "biculturalism" in a narrower sense. However there are dangers in stressing these differences so much that we virtually deny our common culture inheritance. The latter is of much greater significance than any of those distinctive cultural aspects that are peculiarly French or English.

The time has now come in Canada for us to emphasize the distinctive marks of our wider cultural inheritance in which both English and French are heirs and which, in a broad sense, so many other ethnic groups in Canada also share. If we are going to concentrate on the main differences between so-called English and French culture in the narrower sense, we are focusing our attention on the wrong areas. We will only have a Canada with stability and purpose if we find our place in the common culture which belongs to all.

What then are the distinctive marks of our wider cultural inheritance? There are four.

#### 1. The Pursuit of Truth

This distinctive mark assumes that there is an objective truth about things to be discovered; that it can be reached and ought to be sought. European culture has had as its intellectual ingredient the belief in man's power to

overcome ignorance, to eliminate bias, and to arrive at the essential nature of truth. This conviction stands in opposition to the view that there is no objective truth but that all beliefs are a form of propaganda; something which is useful to a man or group struggling for power or position. This mark of our Western European culture is at the root of the accepted habit of mind that is enshrined in the attitudes of our people and in our legislation which ensures freedom of opinion, of speech, and of the press. It is the same attitude that prompts us to the desire for toleration and freedom of opinion and provides that climate in which diversity in variety may not only survive but be encouraged. Surely this is a distinctive mark of both cultures in Canada that should now be emphasized in order to ensure a reasonable recognition of the essential differences involved and a willingness on the part of all to not only tolerate but certainly to respect the distinctive contribution of each.

## 2. The Recognition of Right

The second characteristic of our common European culture is the conviction of a certain rightness for men and things and actions which constitute a ground of appeal from the self-interested desires of men and the conflicts of power they bring. It assumes the position of an absolute good or evil even though codes of conduct are often relative and often misleading applications of the so-called absolute.

This means in philosophical terms that right and wrong have a metaphysical force and are not just serviceable conceptions in the struggle of life. Hence in our cultural tradition existence is not in itself justification for continuance. Neither is might, size success, nor power the criteria for what

is right. In this doctrine superior force or mere success in perpetuating itself is not the criterion which justifies. There must be something that reflects the rightness of the fact or the event which commends it as good. This characteristic mark of our common cultural inheritance may not be as strong in the present era as it once was. It is nonetheless implicit in the way of life of both cultures in Canada.

Now this emphasis should suggest to all of us that there is not or ought not to be anything sacrosanct about the Act of Confederation itself. What we are seeking is a right settlement and agreement in law which will provide the security and well-being of all the peoples of this nation. It may take time to secure this right settlement but we believe inherently that there is a right settlement which, as I have indicated, is based neither on might, size, success nor power, but on a fundamental criteria of what is right.

Now this should remind those of both French and English descent of the fact that since the signing of the B.N.A. Act a great host of people have come here from many races and from all parts of the world and these now share in the life of this nation. They are part of the common life of Canada and constitute approximately one third of the total population. These citizens, many of whom were not only urged to come to Canada but encouraged to remain and preserve the best in their own culture, must find it very difficult to understand why their lives must be moulded to either a French or an English culture. Those of you who are of Icelandic background must have great difficulty in understanding why this should be. You are loyal citizens of a nation which has all the aspects of a pluralistic or multicultural pattern and you rightfully resent any

concerted effort to force you into a rigidly bilingual-bicultural mould. It is equally obvious that those Canadians who are of either French or British descent must, in order to be loyal to their common cultural tradition, not only respect each other and the rights of each other, but be as concerned to respect the positions and the rights of those Canadians who will never really belong to either and who will in time blend into that which is perhaps neither French nor English.

## 3. The Natural Law

The third characteristic mark of European culture is the acknowledged acceptance of The Natural Law. This recognition grows out of the second characteristic which has been set forth above. We who are heirs of the Judaic-Christian inheritance maintain that there is a natural law in the constitution of existence which can be apprehended by man and to which appeal can be made against the positive law of any particular state or legislature. The law is above this State. The State is the embodiment and not the source of the law, the ruler is subject to universal justice. He interprets it and he administers it but his will does not create it.

Now the most obvious application of this principle is the acceptance among democratic people that the state exists for the people—not the people for the state, and that institutions exist for people and not vice versa. Hence both in English and French cultural patterns there has been a common concern to maintain equality before the law and the determination to uphold the separation of the judiciary from the executive function in the administration of justice.

Now we would maintain that this principle is of the utmost significance to all freedom-loving people and never so much as at present. We deplore the words and actions of any Canadians who, out of narrow provincial concern, stress those differences between French and English in areas of race and language at the expense of the acknowledgement of the common commitment of both peoples to a higher and more significant principle. The enactment of the British North America Act provided for the equality of the French and English languages in Canada in certain areas. The legal rights of both parties were preserved as far as languages were concerned and still are. Beyond such legal safeguards it is difficult to go and it is certainly impossible to ensure that a legal agreement will guarantee an equal use of both languages. When we talk about the question of bilingualism the simple truth is that in the almost one hundred years since the agreement was formed, the great majority of Canadians have lived in those vast areas of this country where daily commerce has not required them to use any other language than English and where a person with a limited knowledge of French has virtually no opportunity to exercise his talent. While we acknowledge our embarrassment as English-speaking Canadians because of our inability to be proficient in the French language and accept the humiliation that goes with this deficiency, we have, in all honesty, to admit that we do not believe that this situation can be expected to change greatly in the years ahead. Every step should be taken to improve the teaching of the French language in our schools. There might be tremendous advantages if we were to revolutionize the entire method of teaching French. Instead of concen-

trating on vocabulary and grammar we might try to do more to improve our teaching for oral competency.

However, we must still be realistic enough to recognize that there are vast numbers of Canadians who, even if they were better taught, would maintain no fluency unless their daily existence required the use of French. Now this is highly improbable. I cannot see that this situation would prevail outside of French Canada. This indicates that since circumstances related to being a Canadian for many do not of necessity dictate the common use of the second language, it is absurd to assume that the second language can be forced upon citizens by either educational or legislative means.

#### 4. A Universal Character of all Human Beings

The fourth mark of our common cultural inheritance in this country is that there is something common to men as part of their essential nature. As Christians we would explain this universal characteristic as deriving from the fact that all men are made in the image of God and have the mark of divinity upon them. This fact, which singles out man from all the rest of creation, calls for a proper moral respect for all individual persons and recognizes an inherent worth in each man which differences of race, class, sex do not in any way obscure. It also demands the organization of social, economic, and political life in structures which ensure that all men shall have the maximum protection against those persons or forces in society which would discriminate against or destroy man's right and worth as a person.

Now this equality of worth to all men before their Creator must natural-

ly in a free society find equality before the law which protects an individual's right to preserve his body, found a family, to associate freely with his fellow citizens, privately to own his own material goods and to pursue his own pattern of worship according to his own conscience. This being so and being a conviction shared from a common cultural inheritance both by French and English in Canada, we must therefore zealously guard against any word or action or inflection which suggests a superior or an inferior people in this nation. Whether by divine plan or by accident of history, the people of two cultures were the dominant groups in the founding of this nation. They established a working basis in law for their existence as two people within one nation. In so far as this experiment has been successful, it has been so because of the willingness to recognize the essential worth of all individuals and their inherent rights. Where we have failed it is because our failures have arisen out of the political manoeuvring of leaders and groups who have learned how to manipulate individuals or groups in both segments of the nation to their own selfish ends, or where prejudice, arrogance or hatred have been aroused against each other. Along with this has been a distressing apathy apparent in both segments of the total national community which refuses to be seriously concerned about the well being of the other. Collective self-interest, especially as it finds expression in racial or language groups, is not pleasant to observe and it can pervert if not destroy the fabric of the body politic.

#### National Unity

It would be naive to imagine that

such apathy can easily be overcome or that it will disappear with the passage of time. Our hope in Canada to circumvent its debilitating power is to hold out before our people the goal of national unity — a unity in which the essential rights of all our people can be protected and in which each cultural group will have the maximum opportunity, constant with the national well being, to influence our total communal life. In other words, while it will be essential to find some formula that will be acceptable to both French Canada and to the rest of Canada that will do justice to thoughtful claims of French Quebec, I am highly skeptical about the future of a Canada that is created on artificial constitutional arrangements. In essence it is my belief that the survival of cultural influence in a free society must in the last analysis depend upon the inherent truths enshrined in the culture itself and the power of such to influence and

shape the minds and spirits of men. I am apprehensive of any legislative enactment that would tend to constrict or restrain individuals within prescribed standards of speech or behaviour and I am convinced that what we must work for as Canadians for the future is against any agreement that would suggest an artificial imposition of the French cultural pattern upon great areas of our life to which it is foreign. Yet at the same time, we must create that kind of agreement which will enable the dynamic of French Canada to permeate the life of our nation and to make its own contribution. By so doing it may claim its rightful place in the mosaic of the emerging new nation and if it cannot accomplish this naturally then I do not believe we are called on to offer it artificial protection. The emerging Canada must be a strong, vibrant nation which is able to encompass the best that all its people can offer.

## Boy Scout Jim Johnson Honored



Scout J. A. "Jim" Johnson  
Scout J. A. "Jim" Johnson of 1st

RCAF Centralia Scout Troop has been selected as one of five from the Blue Water Region of Ontario to attend the fifth National Jamboree of the Boy Scouts of America, in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania next summer.

Jim, a troop leader at 15 years of age, is a first class scout with eight proficiency badges. He attends Grade 10 at South Huron District High School in Exeter, Ont.

Jim is the son of F.O. and Mrs. A. O. Johnson, of RCAF Station Centralia, Ont. His proud scoutmaster is Leading Aircraftsman Joseph Buhagiar.

James Albert is the grandson of Jon Kristjan and Kristbjorg (nee Eyolfson) Johnson of Tantallon, Sask.

## Extracts from the Addresses

of

VALDIMAR BJORNSON and EINAR B. GUÐMUNDSSON

delivered at the concert of the Chapter Fron, and at the concert of The Icelandic National League, respectively; selected and freely translated by the Editor.

### VALDIMAR BJORNSON



Valdimar Bjornson

"On e n o r e I make bold to express the view at a conference of The Icelandic National League that Icelanders hardly merit their claim to Leifur the Lucky.

"What I had in mind was the established fact that Norwegians at all and sundry times laud him to the skies, appropriate to themselves this famous son of Eiríkur the Red, brag about his discovery of America in the year 1000. But all this appears to be of little moment to us (landar). It may be assumed that everyone should have an acquaintance with the Sagas—Flateyjarbók,

Grænlinga-þáttur, Eiríks saga rauða, Hauksbók, and other references. But Icelanders on both sides of the Atlantic, do by far the least in making clearly known to the world that historic event which took place almost a thousand years ago. A few Norwegians have done some work of an exceptionally high standard but most of what has been recorded on the adventures of Leifur, is by authors who have no other concern for the Scandinavian people than a keen interest in their history and culture. . . .

"One of the most pleasant phases of the use of records in Catholic archives in connection with this research is that in them are to be found references which so clearly uproot the "Columbian Theory" (of first discovery). The Catholic church has played an important role in maintaining a propaganda that Columbus has the only claim to be recognized as the first white man who set foot upon American soil. . . . Every knowledgeable man recognizes that he (Columbus) at no time beheld North America, nor is such a claim made by anyone."

Quoting from an address he delivered in 1935 Mr. Bjornson utters a clarification call:

"If we take a look at this our inheritance: if it were only a difficult and grammatically complex language, through which nothing of value has been preserved; if through memory's door we saw but a history of drab

events and a land wholly lacking the majestic scene; then it would matter little if the inheritance immediately became a part of the forgotten past. But because the cultural heritage bequeathed to us, Vestur-Íslendingar, is precious and of inherent worth, there is, in my view, a definite duty upon people of intelligence to protect and preserve it.

"There is a wide variety of subjects to which one can give study and thus add to his store of knowledge and cultural wealth. One can widen horizons, increase knowledge in many fields to his edification and profit. But when there are such precious gifts close at hand, at our very feet, it seems to me that the easy course to take and the one most profitable, is to turn to our Icelandic heritage."

★

### EINAR B. GUÐMUNDSSON

"The address which I am going to deliver, centres upon the Icelandic Steamship Co. Ltd. There are two main reasons for the selection of that subject.

1. The organization of the Icelandic Steamship Co. fifty years ago, is one of the most significant events which have occurred in Iceland during the present century.

2. The participation of Vestur-Íslendingar in the establishment of that enterprise is such splendid evidence of Icelandic loyalty and devotion to what is close to their hearts that it must not be forgotten.

"Within the time at my disposal it obviously is impossible to do justice to the story of the Steamship Company. . . . I shall briefly refer to the organizing of the Company and the part



Einar B. Guðmundsson

Vestur-Íslendingar took in the launching of that undertaking . . .

"As an example of the very general enthusiasm engendered I would like to read a short paragraph from the 25 year Remembrance Record of the Company.

"A boy in Reykjavík, about 11 or 12 years old, spoke to his father, a man in the public service, and told him that he was going to buy a fifty krónur share in the company, and that he was taking the money out of his savings account. The boy was so keen and impatient that he insisted upon getting his savings account book immediately, so that there would be no hitch when he was asked for his address."

A number of other instances were related. Mr. Guðmundsson continues:

"Here in Iceland no sacrifice was too great. But the idea of an Icelandic steamship company aroused enthusiasm far beyond Iceland. It inspired masses and here I give first place to Vestur-Íslendingar. The provisional board of directors sent the prospectus



to nineteen leading men requesting that they accept responsibility for the sales of shares in the west. The invitation was published in both the Icelandic weeklies. . . .

"Those who had been contacted held a meeting. At that meeting a Committee was formed consisting of the following: Thomas H. Johnson, later Attorney-General in the Manitoba government, Baldvin L. Baldvinsson, editor, Dr. B. J. Brandson, Dr. Jon Bjarnason, Sveinn Brynjolfsson, Sigtryggur Jonasson, Stefan Bjornsson, editor, Thorsteinn Oddson, Aðalsteinn Kristjansson, Rev. Friðrik J. Bergmann and John J. Bildfell. . . .

"The following travelled to Iceland: Arni Eggertson, Asmundur P. Johannson, John Tr. Bergmann, John J. Vopni, Sveinn Thorvaldson and Sigurdur Sigurdsson.

"These men were instructed to confer with the provisional directors in Iceland. . . .

"On October 30, 1913, a general meeting was held in Winnipeg. At that meeting a committee of 14 was formed, later increased to 16. The chairman of the committee was Arni Eggertson, B. L. Baldvinsson, secretary, and Th. E. Thorsteinson, bank manager, treasurer. Members of the Committee then undertook to sell shares in the Icelandic communities.

"Articles appeared in Heimskringla and Logberg, and every step taken to raise as much money as possible. The members of the committee were most diligent and unselfish in the discharge of their duties.

"All that remained to be done was to sign the formal incorporation documents. That took place (in Reykjavík) on January 17, 1914. The Icelandic Steamship Company came into ex-

istence. The gathering was so large that the inauguration ceremony had to be transferred to a large church in Reykjavík.

"At the organization meeting on January 17, Sveinn Bjornsson announced that the amount subscribed in Iceland was kr. 340,000. At the same time John J. Bildfell announced that the amount subscribed in the West was kr. 160,000. . . ."

(It must be borne in mind that the króna of that day was worth about ten times the present Icelandic króna.)

"Representing Vestur-Íslendingar on the first permanent Board of Directors were John Gunnarsson and Halldor Danielson. Halldor Danielson was on the Board, 1914-1916, and John Gunnarson from 1913 to 1917.

"Since that time the following have been members of the Board of Directors (from the West): Arni Eggertson, John J. Bildfell, Asmundur P. Johannson, Arni G. Eggertson and Grettir Eggertson.

"The present Board of Directors are: Einar B. Guðmundsson (chairman), Bjarni Benediktsson, Jón Arnason, Birgir Kjaran, Petur Sigurðsson, Thor R. Thors, Páll Sæmundsson, and (from the west) Arni G. Eggertson and Grettir Eggertson.

"The Steamship Company owns 12 ships at the present time. . . .

"In the year 1963 ships owned or leased by the company made 138 trips to foreign lands. . . . The ships carried to Iceland 150,000 tons and from Iceland about 126,000 tons. Permanent employees on the ships and in offices number 430. Casual employees in warehouses and at times of loading and unloading ships are from 3-400. In ad-

dition there are a number of employees at similar work outside of Reykjavík. Wages paid in Iceland in the year 1963 were kr. 110 million, but that does not include loading and unloading ships outside of Reykjavík.

"Representatives of the Company in

foreign lands number 221 and in Iceland 55."

Einar B. Guðmundsson then refers to the "modest yet dignified" celebration in Reykjavík on January 17, 1964, the half-century anniversary of the company.

## THE MID WINTER CONCERTS

A few years ago, at one of these concerts, Rev. P. M. Petursson, in the course of his remarks, very truly pointed out that such gatherings rest upon an old tradition. That tradition is older than "Helgi Magri" the organization that for many years staged its "Þórrablót" in the month of February. "Þorri" is the name of the second month in the old Icelandic calendar. .

That this tradition clings to the people of Icelandic descent here is shown by the fact that the concerts were attended in larger numbers than for many years and the Tuesday luncheon had an overflow.

The first concert, on Monday, February 17, was under the auspices of "Frón" the Winnipeg chapter of The Icelandic National League. There was a record attendance but that must to a considerable extent be attributed to the drawing power of the speaker, Valdimar Bjornson, the State Treasurer of Minnesota. Among the people of Icelandic descent in North America he has not a peer as a public speaker and he is perfectly bilingual in Icelandic and English. A reference to his address will be made when it becomes available.

Miss Linda Sigurdson, a student taking Icelandic at the university, played piano selections. Mrs. Elma Gislason and Rev. Kristján Róbertson sang solos, the accompanist being Mrs. Jóna Kristjanson.

Dr. Richard Beck read a befitting original poem. Mr. J. F. Kristjansson, the president of Frón, was in the chair.

The second concert was under the auspices of The Icelandic Canadian Club, with its president, William Valgardson in the chair. Prior to the address of the evening there were two music items. Shirley, Patsy, Jacquie and little "J.B.", calling themselves "The Johnson Family" sang what they termed "A Family Group of Songs". Violin solos were played by Carlisle Wilson, accompanied by his mother, Mrs. J. Kerr Wilson.

The speaker was Dr. W. C. Lockhart, Principal of United College, formerly Wesley College. His address which was listened to very attentively, was on a theme of deep concern to all Canadians. The address appears elsewhere in this number of the magazine.

Following the address there were three music selections. Mrs. Elma Gislason and Miss Joy Gislason sang a duet accompanied by Mrs. Wilson.

Eric Wilson rendered a cello solo, accompanied by his mother. Neil Lund, of Danish extraction, sang solos, accompanied by his teacher, Mrs. Gislason.

At noon that same Tuesday The Icelandic Canadian Club tendered a luncheon in the Georgian Room of the Hudson's Bay Store in honor of the three concert speakers. Recognition was at the same time given to distinguished Canadian-Icelandic athletes of the past. The dean of them was Fred Olsen, who played goal for the Winnipeg Victorias, who played the Montreal "Montreals" for the Canadian championship in the winter of 1902-3. Present was Leo E. Johnson, this year's President of the Manitoba Curling Association. Leo skipped the rink that won the Canadian Curling championship in 1934. On the rink with Leo were his brother Lincoln Johnson, who was present, and Marino

Frederickson, who unfortunately was out of the city.

Recognition was given the members of the famous Falcon Hockey Team which, in the year 1920, won the first World Hockey Championship in Antwerp. Wally Byron the goalkeeper was present and the two defencemen Connie Johannesson and Bobby Benson. Halder (Slim) Halderson could not attend by reason of illness.

The chairman A. R. Swanson, read telegrams from the captain of the team Frank Frederickson of Vancouver and from Mike Goodman, now residing in Miami, Florida.

The grim reaper has taken its toll. W. J. Lindal, who called out the names of the celebrated athletes referred to the late three Fridfinnson brothers, Chris, who played on the team, Wally, who was captain of the Falcon Junior Canadian Hockey champions, and Bill, who was at that



WALLY BYRON BOBBY BENSON KONNIE JOHANNESON FRED OLSEN

time secretary of the Falcon Hockey Club and went with the team to Antwerp.

Championship teams do not grow automatically or overnight. Behind the scenes of the world championships and present at the banquet were the following. Hebbie Axford, a former President of the Manitoba Curling Association, was President of the Falcon Hockey Club in 1920 and went to Antwerp with the team. Harvey Benson, Fred Thordarson and Jack Baldwin, all present, were players, or coaches or managers or trainers, in some cases performed all those duties during the many years that the Falcon Hockey organization was being developed.

Einar B. Guðmundsson, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of The Icelandic Steamship Co. Ltd. spoke briefly in both English and Icelandic. A reference to him is made elsewhere. Valdimar Bjornson captivated the gathering by his witty remarks. His glowing tribute to The Icelandic Canadian Club and to The Icelandic Canadian magazine was most encouraging to all who give so freely of their time to these enterprises.

The last concert was held Wednesday evening. Einar B. Guðmundsson, invited by The Icelandic National League to be the guest from Iceland at its conference was the speaker at the concert, and in the course of his remarks traced the contribution made by Vestur-Íslendingar to the organization of that first national commercial undertaking of the people of Iceland.

His address was followed by a duet sung by two small girls, Laureen and Carol Westdal, accompanied by Mrs. Gislason.

Eight scholarships were then presented to university students by W. J. Lindal, secretary of the scholarship committee. For particulars and names

of recipients see the last number of this magazine. In that issue there is a translation of "Tungustapi"—Elf Hill, an Icelandic folk-story, by Judy Taylor and Melinda Bardal, both of whom are studying Icelandic at the university. Mr. Stanley Loftson, born and raised in the Thingvalla-Logberg district, now on the Board of Grain Commissioners in Winnipeg, whose Icelandic is very limited, was so impressed with the translation that he wanted to do something for them in recognition of their excellent work. A suggestion was made that it be of a monetary nature, to which Mr. Loftson had agreed, and the recognition was formally carried out in presentations to the girls at the concert. This was followed by an announcement that on that very day Mrs. Kristin Johnson had handed in a cheque for \$500.00 to complete a \$2,000.00 scholarship fund to the memory of her late husband Mundi Johnson. The announcement was greeted with an appreciative applause.

Carol Thorsteinsson sang solos, accompanied by Mrs. Gislason.

The Executive Committee of The National League recommended two names for honorary membership in the League which were approved. The recipients were Dr. Finnlogi Guðmundsson former Professor of Icelandic in the University, now of Reykjavík, and Einar B. Guðmundsson the chairman of the Board of Directors of the Icelandic Steamship Co. Ltd. Mr. Guðmundsson received the scroll in person and was also presented with a gift from The Icelandic National League.

All three concerts were held in the Parish Hall of the First Lutheran Church. After each evening performance refreshments of coffee and Icelandic dishes were served, followed by a half hour of pleasant visiting.

## Fred J. Olsen

**Fridrik Julius** was born in Winnipeg July 1st, 1883. His parents were, Olafur Olafson, Olsen and Helga Gudmundsdottir, both from Borgarfjordur, Iceland.

Olafur and Helga immigrated to Canada in 1876. They settled in the Markland district in Nova Scotia where they lived for seven years before moving west to Winnipeg June 15th, 1883.

Fred attended the old Mulvey school. When that building burned down, he was transferred to the old Central School on William Ave., and later he attended the Central Collegiate where he took his matriculation before going on to Manitoba College, now part of United College. After three years, he moved out to Vestfold, Man., where he farmed for over fifty years.

He was very interested in all forms of sports, but took special interest in hockey. He always played goal, first with the original Vikings, then with the Manitoba College team in the senior intercollegiate series in which the team was very successful. He joined the Winnipeg Senior Hockey team in the fall of 1901.

The Winnipeg Victorias won the western championship title the winter of 1903 and then challenged the Mon-

trealmontreals, who were the eastern winners, for the Stanley Cup, then the supreme emblem of hockey supremacy in Canada.

The series was to be the best two out of three games. The Montreal team won the first game by a good margin, so expected to win in two straight, but much to their surprise the Victorias came back and won the second game by a 4 to 3 score. A third game was necessary and was played on a Saturday night, February 4th, 1903. The two teams were so evenly matched that at the end of regulation time the teams were even, no score. The game went into overtime; still neither team was able to score. The game kept on until it was finally called at midnight, because of the Lords Day Act. This game is no doubt the longest hockey game ever played in Canada. The Winnipeg papers gave credit to the good showing of the Victorias by the marvelous goal tending of Fred Olsen. The fourth and last game was won by the Montreals the following Monday night.

Fred was the first Manager of the re-organized Falcon Hockey Club in 1909.

**Helgi Olsen**



## Byron Ingemar Johnson

"If a man wants to work in B. C., there is a place for him".

These were the ringing words of Byron Ingemar Johnson on March 6, 1947, when the opposition on the floor of the legislature in British Columbia charged that the government was to blame for the ills of some people in the province. Those words struck home and on December 9, that same year, Byron Johnson was elected leader of the Liberal Party in British Columbia. That automatically meant the premiership of the province because John Hart the Premier at that time and the leader of the Liberal Party, was retiring December 31, because of illness.

The words quoted are almost always true but on Byron's lips they were a penetrating call, giving expression to the best he had inherited and to the challenge he could see for limitless expansion in the province of his birth. In Byron Johnson there was combined the true viking spirit, the drive behind the free enterprise system, the determination in the athlete to win, the urge to break new ground whatever the venture might be. It seems to have been written in the books that Ingemar was to be the first Icelander to become the premier of a province of Canada, or the head of one of the United States of America. His every action throughout his life labelled him for high office.

Byron was born in Victoria, B.C., on December 10, 1890, the son of immigrant parents from Iceland, Olafur and Gudrun (Finnsdottir) Johnson. He was christened Björn Ingemar, was



**Byron Ingemar Johnson**

called "Bjösssi", a name which his school mates and fellow athletes changed to "Boss".

Boss was an all-round athlete but excelled in lacrosse. From 1906 to 1912 he starred in an inter-city league and then turned professional to play with the Con Jones Vancouver Lacrosse Team.

Byron enlisted for overseas service at the outbreak of World War I. He served in the Field Ambulance and Motor Transports in France and Belgium, and in 1918 he transferred to the Royal Air Force.

This man of action was bound to succeed in business. He entered into partnership with his brother John V. in a builders' supplies business. In 1930 they sold their business to Evans, Coleman and Gilley Bros., but re-

mained with the company. In March 1946 Byron was appointed President and General Manager of all subsidiaries of the company. On becoming Premier he severed his relations with the company but John continued with the company until he retired, a few years before he died.

Byron Johnson was first elected to the B. C. legislature for Victoria in 1933, but was defeated in 1937. In a by-election, in 1945, he was elected in New Westminster.

In an article in this magazine (Vol. 6, No. 3), Lillian T. Sumarlidason reported Byron's election to the Liberal leadership after a close contest with Attorney-General, Gordon S. Wismer. She said in part:

"As the overwhelming acclaim faded away, he (Byron) said:

"It is hard to find the words. I'm sure you will appreciate how I feel. My good friend Gordon, thanks for the fine way you carried on the campaign'.

"The scene had all the earmarks of a closely contested lacrosse game, the milling crowds, laughter and cheers, the evenly matched sides, the tense moments of doubt, the final result and then the sporting handshake between victor and vanquished."

The innate drive of the new Premier of British Columbia soon became evident. He held the view strongly that the group such as a government, should with equal determination apply the energy and enthusiasm of the individualist. Whenever the private enterprise principle was attacked, he, according to press despatches, "turned his full oratorical force into a masterpiece of justification".

While, on duty, in the province of Quebec in 1950, at a federal-provincial conference Premier Johnson was very

seriously injured in an accident on a slippery road and never fully recovered. The irony of fate is that others took over in British Columbia and have successfully carried out what Byron Johnson could so clearly see. The foundation he laid can best be related through B. C. newspaper editorials at the time of his death, which occurred January 12th, 1964.

Extracts from Editorial,  
The Province, 14/1/64

"Byron Ingemar Johnson, 'Boss' Johnson to thousands of British Columbians, will be remembered as a man who gave his best to his province . . . .

"This white-haired, handsome premier brought to his government responsibilities a thorough knowledge of the problems of business and industry and a firm conviction that B. C. was on the verge of great things.

"Probably 'Boss' Johnson was a better businessman than a politician. As head of the coalition of Liberals and Conservatives which his predecessor, John Hart, had formed in 1941, he held office at a particularly difficult time . . . .

"Despite bad feelings and disputes within the Coalition, Boss Johnson worked hard to develop B. C. and to give expression to his firm conviction that the government also had humanitarian responsibilities to meet.

"Under his administration hospital insurance came into being . . . There are few today who would favor doing away with hospital insurance. . . .

"Under Mr. Johnson's administration B. C. took other great strides. The agreement with Alcan was made, the Hope-Princeton Highway was opened, and the John Hart Highway to the Peace River country was completed.

He extended the P.G.E. from Quesnel to Prince George. Provincial finances were kept in good shape."

James K. Nesbitt, in  
Vancouver Sun, 14/1/64:

"It was Boss Johnson, let us not forget, who gave the first big shot in the arm to the Pacific Great Eastern Railway. Social Credit chooses to ignore that fact. Johnson extended the line from Quesnel to Prince George. By the time the first train got there Johnson was out and Bennett was in, and the new premier took all the praise, though he had nothing to do with it.

"He was a stirring citizen, honest, fearless, not a mean bone in his make-up. He disliked political quarrels and

sparring for position. It pained and bewildered him that men could politically hate each other. To him that was not Christian.

"He has an honored place in our public life. He did his best and no man can do more. British Columbia is a better place because of him."

One cannot resist adding to these tributes how fortunate it was that the first provincial premier of Icelandic descent proved so worthy a son of the land of his origin as well as the land of his birth.

Byron Johnson married Kate, daughter of Walter S. Harwick of Scottish descent. She and their son Byron survive him.

— W. J. Lindal

#### GOLDEN WEDDING OF MR. AND MRS. PALL WESTDAL

Mr. and Mrs. Pall Westdal, 652 Home Street, Winnipeg, were honored by family and friends in November on the occasion of their golden wedding anniversary at the home of their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Haraldur Westdal in suburban Fort Garry. Among out-of-town guests were Mrs. Begga Bjornson of Blaine, Washington, who was bridesmaid at the wedding 50 years ago, and Pall Gudmundsson of Leslie, Sask., also a wedding guest then.

Mrs. Westdal, the former Helga Nielson, was born in Winnipeg and while a child moved with her parents to Iceland, then returned to Canada and Winnipeg at the age of 17. Mr. Westdal was born in Iceland and came to Canada as a young man. They were

married in Winnipeg by the late Rev. Runolfur Marteinson on Nov. 20, 1913, and made their home in Wynyard, Sask. where they lived till 1940 when they returned to live in Winnipeg.

Mr. and Mrs. Westdal have three sons and one daughter. They are sons Bjorgvin Jon Einar, in the employ of the Manitoba government, Sveinn Nielson Hallgrimur, B.S.A., assistant manager of the Manitoba government farm loan fund, and Pall Haraldur Adalsteinn Njall who is entomologist with the federal government research laboratory at the University of Manitoba, and daughter Sigridur Jonina Margret, a graduate nurse and wife of Prof. Baldur Stefanson of the University of Manitoba.

## His Excellency Thor Thors

The Ambassador of Iceland to Canada and the United States



His Excellency Thor Thors

A quarterly such as The Icelandic Canadian, is often handicapped in not being able to publish news of important events because they happen after the final date line has been passed. One such event took place on November 26, 1963, the sixtieth birthday of Thor Thors, the Ambassador of Iceland to the United States and Canada.

His Excellency received his appointment to the United States in 1941 and later was appointed Ambassador to Canada and three Latin American countries.

Preparations had been made for a formal banquet but only four days before a world tragedy, in the death of John F. Kennedy, occurred. It was very wisely decided, however, that those who had travelled long distances

and the diplomatic representatives from Iceland, should informally visit the Ambassador and Mrs. Thors at their New York home.

"Félagsblaðið", published by the Icelandic-American Club of South California, whose editor is Skuli Bjarnason and Assistant Editor, Gudny M. Thorvaldson, reports in the February 1964 number as follows.

### GLIMPSES OF ICELAND

by Skuli Barnason

"To His Excellency,

Thor Thors, Ambassador of Iceland.

Your Excellency:

On the happy and auspicious occasion of your SIXTIETH birthday, your colleagues and friends in the Consular Service together with representatives of Icelandic organizations throughout the Americas salute you. We salute you first as a public servant of distinction. As a representative of the people (elected in almost unprecedented youth) as a vigorous sponsor of international trade, as the visible symbol of the Republic of Iceland in the New World of the Americas, you have served your country with integrity and universal acclaim. Above all since the inception of United Nations as a Head of Delegation and for a period as Chairman of the Political Committee—you have upheld and strengthened those principles of international co-operation on which any future world progress must be based.

"But it is not only as a public figure that we salute you and share with you the joy of this anniversary. We recall your qualities of mind and of scholarship, your love for your fellowman; we remember your happy and gracious family life, your ready and generous hospitality. Above all we acknowledge these high principles of moral justice, so manifestly shown, without which no career, whether personal or public can have enduring results.

"In these days, Your Excellency, the sixtieth milestone is but an early stage in the human pilgrimage. It is the deep prayer of all your well-wishers who have had the honor to participate in this address that your great contributions of the past years will be eclipsed by even more distinguished service if indeed this be possible—in the years that lie ahead.

"The foregoing is an illuminated

address that was presented to Mr. Thors by a group of dignitaries in New York on his birthday, November 26, 1963."

The Icelandic Canadian agrees with every word in that Illuminated Address. It also would have been very happy to have been privileged to join with Lögberg-Heimskringla and Félagssblaðið, and the other organizations in extending greetings to His Excellency Thor Thors on the occasion of his sixtieth birthday.

Though belatedly, but on the first occasion presenting itself, The Icelandic Canadian extends felicitations to the Ambassador and Mrs. Thors. We wish them years of continued public service, which extends far beyond national boundaries, hours of pleasant memories as past services are reviewed, and many years of happiness and contentment.

—W. J. L.

## THINGVELLIR

by Dr. Watson Kirkconnell

Silent Sinai of Iceland,  
Set amidst these unforgetting  
Majesties of lake and mountain,  
Motionless and old as ocean,  
Thronging nations thrill to see thee,  
Thread to-day thy clefts and ledges;  
Countless lips with kindling fervor  
Con thy thousand years of honour!

Here of old the chieftains chose thee,  
Cherished spot, for counsels fairest;  
Grimur Geitskor had proclaimed thee,  
Gifted Ulfjot praised thy rifted  
Fastnesses of fissured lava  
Formed by fate in passions stormy  
As a hearth for hallowed meetings,  
Holy to the people's boldest.

Learned leaders, loud from Lögberg,  
 Launched their laws and statutes, staunching  
 Wanton wounds of feud and faction,  
 Weary warfare, fierce and searing.  
 Here the vulture's rule was vanquished;  
 Valor sought the grave battalion  
 Of those marching minds that sternly  
 Master life for issues vaster.

Over moorland, up the mountains,  
 Echoes of old names yet beckon—  
 Ancient friendships all unfaded,  
 Far-off enmities unpardoned:  
 Njall and Gunnar still are gracious,  
 Gunnlaug fierce at Hrafn thunders;  
 Hjalti sniffs and sneers at Odin,  
 Snorri counsels peaceful glory.

Strife betrayed thee, left thee stricken,  
 Strangled by men's lawless anger;  
 Centuries of woe beset thee,  
 Sorrows harrowed, scabies scarred thee;  
 Lava fires and fogs and famines,  
 Fevers foul and foes bereaved thee;  
 Till at last from tribulation  
 Lo, thou risest purged and golden!

Areopagus of Iceland,  
 Arctic Athens still may hearken,  
 Hearken still and hail thy dawning  
 Hopes for ages yet unopened;  
 Sons of distant lands salute thee,  
 Laud thy worth, while, high applauding,  
 Countless lips with kindling fervor,  
 Con thy thousand years of honour.

It is very appropriate to publish the above poem at this time. Dr. Kirkconnell visited Iceland last summer—the fulfillment of a hope he had cherished for many years. —Editor.

## Professor Gwyn Jones Visits Winnipeg

Gwyn Jones, Professor of English Language and Literature, University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, visited Winnipeg in the second week of March at the invitation of the University of Manitoba and the Oxford University Press.

On Thursday afternoon, March 12, Professor Jones presented a lecture at the University for students of Icelandic and Anthropology on "Life and Death of the Greenland Settlements". The following morning he lectured to students and members of the staff at the University on "Background to Dylan Thomas". Both the lectures were exceedingly well presented and highly informative.

At noon, on Friday, the Icelandic National League honored this distinguished visitor with a luncheon at the Paddock Restaurant on which occasion the president of the League, Rev. P. M. Petursson delivered a brief address and presented the guest of honor with the emblem of the Icelandic National League.

In the evening Professor Jones gave a lecture on Greenland for members of "Frón" and the Icelandic Canadian Club at the Parish Hall of the First Lutheran Church. The lecture will be published in the next issue of this magazine.

Professor Gwyn Jones is widely known as a novelist, and he has sometimes been referred to by literary cri-

tics as one of the founders of Modern Welsh Literature.

His novels and short stories include: **Richard Savage**, 1935; **The Buttercup Field**, 1945; **Shepherd's Hay**, 1952; and **The Walk Home**, 1962.

His scholarly works and English translations include the following: **The Mabinogion** (a translation from the original Welsh), **Egils saga Skalla-Grímssonar**, **Vatnsdæla saga**, **Eiríks saga rauða**, **Grænlandinga saga**, **Grænlandinga þáttur**, **Íslendingabók**, and excerpts from many other sagas.

In addition to the above he has published **Scandinavian Legends and Folk Tales**, **Welsh Legends and Folk Tales**, **Welsh Short Stories**, **Egill Skalla-Grímsson in England**, and finally **The Norse Atlantic Saga** which deals with Iceland, Greenland and Vinland the Good and has just been released by the Oxford University Press.

Professor Gwyn Jones is an unassuming British gentleman, gifted with a pleasant sense of humor. He possesses some of the "true Viking Spirit"—an attribute which on numerous occasions has prompted him to visit both Iceland and Greenland.

Icelanders in Winnipeg were fortunate to have the opportunity of meeting Professor Jones in person. He is a friend of Iceland and his name has long been a household word among Icelanders on both sides of the Atlantic.

—H. B.



## Hon. Joseph T. Thorson

President of the Exchequer Court of Canada Retires

Just when the magazine was ready for the press an announcement was made that Hon. J. T. Thorson, P.C.; B.A.; L.L.B.; J.D.; L.L.D., of the Exchequer Court of Canada had retired.

Joe Thorson was a brilliant student and attended the former Manitoba College, now merged with Wesley College in United College, for his undergraduate work, specializing in Classics, Latin and Greek. In 1910, his year of graduation he won the Rhodes Scholarship and studied law at Oxford. He opened a law office in Winnipeg in 1919 and in 1921 was appointed Dean of the Manitoba Law School. He resigned that position to contest the Federal Constituency of South Centre and was elected. In the election of 1930 he was defeated.

He was nominated for the Selkirk Constituency for the election of 1935 and was elected. The Bennett Administration was defeated and Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King again became Prime Minister of Canada. On June 11, 1941 Mr. Thorson was brought into the Mackenzie King government to head the new Department of War Services. In the fall of 1942 he resigned and was appointed President of the Exchequer Court, a trial court in which the Crown in the right or interest of Canada is involved.

While on the bench Hon. J. T. Thorson took a leading part in organizing the International Commission of Jurists a non-governmental organization which has consultative status, category "B" with the United Nations



Joseph T. Thorson

Economic and Social Council. He was its first President and now is Honorary President.

In 1958 Hon. and Mrs. Thorson visited Iceland on which occasion he was decorated with the Grand Cross, Order of the Falcon, the highest class in the Icelandic Order of the Falcon.

On March 15, 1964, Hon. J. T. Thorson reached the age of 75 and was retired in accordance with the provisions of The Judges Act. Press despatches from Ottawa indicate that he intends to resume the practice of law in Ottawa.

The Icelandic Canadian wishes him many years of successful work whatever field he chooses.

— W. J. L.

## ICELANDIC HOCKEY TEAMS—VIKINGS and IACs

The descendants of the early arrivals from Iceland, that settled in Winnipeg, showed their keen interest in all fields of sports. Skating and hockey in the winter time with long snow hikes, weather permitting, to points like Middle church, Deer Lodge and other like distances

The summer sports were mostly individual field events, glima, (Icelandic form of wrestling), running and jumping. In all these events the young fellows held their own against all comers. They were cheered on by their followers, while the opposition derided them, calling them all sorts of names, like GREY SOCKS (the boys wore the conventional short pants with long home made grey stockings. There was always a feeling of jealousy in some of the other ethnic groups, as the Icelanders were able to meet them in all forms of sports and usually come out victorious. Later this jealous feeling turned to admiration and respect, as the Icelanders showed such good sportsmanship and were always well behaved.

Long distance bicycle and long endurance races were taken part in by a few more hardy, like for instance Jon Hördal. He was outstanding for his ability in endurance in both bicycle and in foot running.

In organized team sports the Icelanders were well able to compete with others. As early as 1890 they had a baseball team. This team competed with teams in Winnipeg and also played a number of games against teams from the districts of Pembina, Mountain and the other Icelandic settlements.

Hockey was of course, the main interest. Every vacant lot had a skating rink of some sort, so the youngsters had an opportunity to learn to skate and play hockey at a very early age.

In the north end, an organization called the Icelandic Athletic Club, had club rooms on the second floor in a building on Princess Street, not far from market square. This club was in charge of Olafur Eggertson, a very prominent athlete and an expert gymnast. He was also an outstanding character actor, so was in constant demand for concert entertainments and drama plays.

Gymnastics, boxing and wrestling were taught in classes. The club was financed by holding concerts in various parts of the city, the programs being the acrobatics acts put on by the club members. These concerts were always well patronized, so that the club was able to carry on for a number of years.

At a pool hall next door where the members were want to gather after the session in the club, friendly but serious argument arose as to which group could ice the better hockey team. This argument was led by Swanney Swanson, a huge man weighing well over 200 pounds and big Sam Johnson about the same size and weight. Both were good natured, but were always fighting and wrestling each other. Their friends were in constant fear that some times they would lose their tempers and some real damage would result. Fortunately that did not occur.

The north enders, who already had a team, called the IACs, a short for

the name of their club, while the south enders did not have a team. However Sam Johnson got busy and soon had a team organized. This team they named the Vikings. They managed to get together a few times for practise so were ready when the time came to meet their antagonists.

The date of the game was set for the third Sunday in March and the year was 1896. The rink available was an open air rink on the Assiniboine River at the foot of Kennedy Street.

The weather had turned mild. A large turnout of spectators were on hand to cheer on their favorite team. The soft snow lent itself admirably to snowball making and the high piles along side of the rink gave the spectators lots of ammunition for snowball fights during the half time intermission.

The players were not hardened athletes, so the tough going was hard on them and soon showed the effects of their strenuous exertions. The IACs having played a few games during the winter were able to put on a better showing, so won the game by the score of 3 to 2.

The players taking part in this first of many games to follow, were for the Vikings: in goal Fred Olsen, Point Jack Anderson and Henry Thompson, Cover point, Paul Johnson, centre, Mike Johnson, Right wing, Arni Anderson, left wing Sam Johnson, Rover Oliver Olsen.

The IACs lineup was as follows:— Goal, H. Bardarson (or Sivertson as he was later called); point, Laurie cover point, Tom Gillis; centre, Jack Swanson; right wing, Swanney Swanson; left wing K. Backman, rover Jack Snidal.

This game drew so much interest that it was decided to carry on this competition and form an Icelandic

league, comprising these two teams. The following year a four-game schedule was drawn up with the games played in the Brydon rink, then on Princess Street between Logan and Alexander Avenues. The Vikings won the play-off that spring.

For the next six years the games were played in the old McIntyre rink, then on Albert Street directly behind the McIntyre Block.

A trophy had been donated by one Olafur Olafson who was then a conductor on the Can. Pac. Railway. Mr. Olafson later moved out to the Moose Jaw district where he farmed successfully, then he went into business in the town of Moose Jaw. The Viking team won that trophy by winning the play-offs each spring for the six years that they played.

The spring of 1903 saw the break-up of these two teams, as many left the city to go farming and others were tied up with their business and making a living. A younger generation stepped up and filled the gap. They carried on, winning nearly every year with the exception of the year 1905. The IACs won the play-off that spring.

During the years 1903 and 1909, two cups had been donated for annual competition. The first one by Skuli Hanson, who was prominent in real estate at that time.

The other trophy was donated by Clemens, Arnason and Palmason, who were general merchants on Sargent Avenue.

The summer of 1909 a meeting was held in the home of Sam Johnson, where it was decided that the two teams amalgamate. Players of Icelandic descent were getting scarce, finances were low, ice rent was going up in price. One team was formed and called The Winnipeg Falcons, a very suitable name. At first the Falcons played in

the junior ranks then later entered into the senior ranks.

The winter of 1919 and 1920 the Falcons won the Canadian championship. This paved the way for their entry into the Olympic Winter sports then to be held in Antwerp, Belgium. The Falcons were the first to win the

worlds hockey championship and the admiration of Canada and the world by making a clean sweep of the Olympic tournament in 1920.

I wish to thank Mr. Fred J. Olsen for his assistance in supplying me with the required information.

—Helgi Olsen

## Conrad W. Leifur, Educator and Author

Conrad W. Leifur was one of the Ten Outstanding University of North Dakota Alumni selected to be presented with "Sioux Awards" for distinguished achievement at the annual Homecoming Festivities on October 12, 1963, at Grand Forks, North Dakota. He is the youngest son of former pioneers of Mountain, North Dakota, I. V. (Isleifur) and Sigríður Leifur, who passed away in 1923 and 1938 respectively. He was born and raised in the Pembina County community, and entered the University Model High School at Grand Forks, N. D. in 1914 and subsequently received his B.A. and M.A. degrees from U.N.D.

Con has been principal of the Junior and Senior High Schools in Bismarck, N. Dakota since 1928, and is past president of the Bismarck Rotary Club, and of the Bismarck American Legion Post, in which he was awarded an honorary life membership. He is a member of the Masonic Lodge and Scottish Rite.

He is the author of "Our State, North Dakota", a textbook used in most North Dakota schools, and of the story on North Dakota used in the Encyclopedia Americana. His four children have all attended U.N.D.

Mr. Leifur has also served the American Legion by being on the staff of Boys State for the last 20 years, and has also been in charge of the American Legion Oratorical Contest for



Conrad W. Leifur

High Schools in the state of North Dakota for an equal number of years. "The Leifur Traveling Trophy" which is awarded each year to the winner of this North Dakota contest was named in his honor in recognition of this service. Many years have also been spent in Boy Scout work, as Scoutmaster, Chairman of Troop Committee, and now District President of this Youth group.

Just recently Conrad Leifur was appointed to the "University Alumni Advisory Committee" for the year 1964. This committee meets with President Starcher and the University faculty and administration as a planning unit for the purpose of continuing to build a great University for the youth of the state of North Dakota.

## Canada's Ambassador to Norway and Iceland

On February 11, an announcement was made that His Excellency John P. Sigvaldason, former Ambassador to Indonesia, had been appointed Canadian Ambassador to Norway and Iceland.

John Peter Sigvaldason was born in Baldur, Manitoba, February 9, 1904, the son of the pioneers Einar and Kristin (Guðnadóttir) Sigvaldason, who settled in the Argyle District in 1888. He graduated in Arts from the University of Manitoba in 1933 and obtained his Bachelor of Education degree in 1939. He taught school for a while, was appointed School Inspector, and in 1940 was brought into the Department of Education by the then Minister of Education, Hon. Ivan Schultz. He soon became a ranking administrator in the Department, and was one of a Winnipeg Committee of five who prepared a series of twelve lectures on the ideological issues of the war, to be used in the Department of Defence. Eventually over 300,000 copies were distributed to the three armed services.

In 1942 John Sigvaldason enlisted in the Air Force and rose to the rank of Squadron Leader. When discharged from the service he was brought into the Department of External Affairs and was posted at first as Assistant Secretary at Canada House, London, Eng. After serving in Canada House for six years he came back to Ottawa and later was sent to Pakistan in the consular service. In 1958 he was recalled to Ottawa to become Director of the Inspection Service of the Department of External Affairs. In



John P. Sigvaldason

January, 1961 Mr. Sigvaldason was appointed Canadian Ambassador to Indonesia where he served until transferred last February to the Canadian legations at Oslo and Reykjavik.

Men under whom the Ambassador has served, speak in the most glowing terms of his ability, sound judgment and public relations qualities. His steady advancement demonstrates very forcefully this assessment of His Excellency, John P. Sigvaldason, the first Canadian of Icelandic extraction who has been appointed to the high office of Ambassador. He has retained a knowledge of the Icelandic language and undoubtedly will be received with open arms when he presents his credentials in Reykjavik. —W.J.L.

## Vigfus Guttormsson

Vigfus Guttormsson, a venerable gentleman, of Lundar, Manitoba, passed away at his home on January 17th., just a few months short of his 90th birthday. He was born in Iceland but came to Canada with his parents, Jon and Palina Guttormsson, in his first year.

On February 5, 1899 he married Vilborg Petursdóttir Arnason and thus had been married nearly 65 years. Their children are: Dr. Peter B. at Maple Creek, Sask., John at Lundar, Man., Palina, Mrs. O. F. Eyolfson, at Lundar, Man., Fridrikka, nurse in Winnipeg, Man., Halldora, Mrs. J. H. McFarquhar, Toronto, Ont. and Dr. Vilhjalmur in West Summerland, B.C.

Mr. Guttormsson had a varied career. He tilled the soil, was postmaster for many years at Oak Point, Man., was hotelkeeper and merchant at Lundar, Man.

He had a great love for music and in his later years, when his time was not entirely taken up with providing the livelihood for himself and his family, he studied the piano and became quite proficient. I can remember so well when he was studying Paderewski's Minuet in G. Whenever we went past the hotel we could hear the lilt of the minuet being played with ease and grace. He was organist and choirmaster at the Lundar Lutheran Church for a number of years. He conducted, also, a men's choir which was a joy and inspiration to the singers and the community.

Perhaps one can write one's epitaph better than anyone else. In 1947 Mr. Guttormsson published and distributed, at his own expense, a book of his poems which he chose to call "Eldflug-



Vigfus Guttormsson

ur" (Fireflies), which is a living memorial. In it are several poems about his beliefs, hopes and appreciation of the people he knew and loved. Many were composed on the occasion of weddings, anniversaries and activities of the community. One of the poems, "An Easter Wish", dedicated to his wife, expresses the hope that God will strengthen her in life's trials and tribulations and that an angel of peace hover near her in the latter days.

The community of Lundar, Man., where he lived and labored for over 40 years, was the richer for having a man of the calibre of Vigfus Guttormsson in its midst. His quiet manner, good nature and ready wit were appreciated by all those who knew and loved him.

—Mattie Halldorson

## Skuli Rutford Retires

The retirement was announced in January by Sherwood O. Berg, dean of the Institute of Agriculture, University of Minnesota, of Skuli Rutford as director of the university's agricultural extension service. Mr. Rutford, who is 66 and for 40 years has been an agricultural and education leader, joined the university's extension staff in 1924 and was director for nine years prior to retirement.

As professor and extension service director Mr. Rutford headed a staff of some 350 state and county full-time extension workers in 87 Minnesota counties and on the university's St. Paul campus. The agricultural extension service is one of the three main units of the Institute of Agriculture.

Mr. Rutford joined the agricultural extension service staff as Yellow Medicine County agent in 1924 and four years later went to Duluth as South St. Louis County agent. There he remained until the depression of the mid-1930s when he was named state director of rural rehabilitation.

He returned to the extension service in 1937 as specialist in conservation and land use, serving in that capacity until he was appointed assistant state extension director in 1943.

A life-long Minnesotan of Icelandic descent Mr. Rutford was born in Duluth and following public and high school education attended the University of Minnesota where he graduated in 1922 in agricultural economics and dairy production.



Skuli Rutford

He was active for many years in the American Institute of Co-operation, an educational and research agency for the farm co-operative business, and has been chairman of its board of trustees since 1957. He was re-elected to the post last summer.

Skuli Rutford accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Val Bjarnason on their recent visit to Winnipeg and attended the concert staged by Fron and the luncheon in the Hudson's Bay Store under the auspices of The Icelandic Canadian Club.

## Book Review

by HARALDUR BESSASON

(Dept. of Icelandic Language and Literature, University of Manitoba)

**THE EARLY VOYAGES AND NORTHERN APPROACHES, 1000-1632.** (The Canadian Centenary Series):

by Tryggvi J. Oleson, 212 pp., 16 plates inserted, Toronto, Mclelland and Stewart, \$8.50.

This book deals with some five hundred years of the history of Canada which are little known even to those who have interested themselves in Canadian history. The greater part of it is devoted to early contacts between continental Europe and Iceland on the one hand, and Greenland and the Canadian Arctic on the other.

In preparing his work, Professor Oleson has painstakingly scrutinized an amazing wealth of material, with Latin, English, and the Scandinavian languages as his sources. Much use has also been made of early cartography and the often scanty anthropological and archaeological finds.

That this work will prove to be a controversial one has already been recognized. However, we may venture to predict that its foundations will not be shaken easily and that Dr. Oleson's theses which can be outlined only briefly in our context will win support from many directions.

After a brief summary of "The Northern Approach to Arctic Canada" and "The Norwegian Occupation of the Atlantic Islands", the author considers critically the sources on "The

Vinland Voyages", notably the Graenlendinga saga and Eiriks saga. In evaluating the elements of fact in the two sagas which contain conflicting versions, Dr. Oleson proceeds with scholarly caution. His masterly summary of the sources reveals that Graenlendinga saga accounts for six different voyages, whereas Eiriks saga mentions only three of them.

Contrary to opinions held by others, Prof. Oleson not only dates Graenlendinga saga as of 1200, or more than half a century before Eiriks saga, but he gives preference to this version. The argument is, in part, a direct result of the former: i.e., of the two sagas, Graenlendinga saga is more than half a century closer to the events which it relates. To this should be added the important fact that all Icelandic writings from about 1200 contain a more reliable element of truth than the late thirteenth century works. The main reason for this lies in a change of attitude on the part of the authors themselves as well as a changing literary taste.

### Numerous Accounts

As the author makes clear, there is, in this matter, no need to jump to conclusions as to the numerous accounts concerning Vinland. We know that Leifr. Eiriksson, the son of Eric the Red, was the first European to set foot on American soil, but the North American continent had in all probability been sighted before by Bjarni Herjulfsson.

The location of Helluland and Markland which are mentioned in the sagas can be established as Baffin Island and some part of the coast of Labrador. Little, however, is known about the exact location of Vinland. The author very wisely refrains from a detailed discussion of the bulky, and often fantastic literature on this subject, but he does consider it probable that Vinland may have been as far south as Cape Cod.

As can be assumed, the occasional voyages to Vinland do not play as important a role in Dr. Oleson's book as do the Icelandic settlements in Greenland, the gateway between Europe and the Canadian Arctic in the Middle Ages.

The author's central theme is the origin and the development of the "Thule Culture", the forerunner of the Eskimo culture as we now know it. His thesis can be stated as follows: About the year 1000 A.D. the Icelanders in Greenland began to move to the northern regions of the country, and soon they reached the islands of the Canadian archipelago and northern continental Canada. In both places the Icelanders met with the aborigines, referred to in the Sagas as Skraelings (the small, wizened, or shrivelled people). The latter were the bearers of a primitive stone-age culture, first identified about 1925 as the "Dorset Culture". The author maintains that a gradual racial intermingling took place which resulted in "a new people in Arctic Canada", the bearers of the "Thule Culture" which the famous archaeologist Matthiassen identified in the 1920s. Thus the "Thule Culture" is an amalgam of Scandinavian (Icelandic) and "Dorset" elements. It originated in Greenland whence it spread westward across the Canadian Arctic.

The above theory is supported by archaeological evidence as well as by anthropological discoveries. But the author emphasizes that the origin and the development of the "Thule Culture" "should not be studied in a historical vacuum", and the historical evidence he has produced in support of his thesis deserves most serious consideration.

#### Icelandic Colony

The disappearance of the Icelandic colony in Greenland has for long been a mystery. Without having any conclusive evidence, some scholars have maintained that disease, warfare, or other calamities destroyed the colony. On the other hand, the theory already mentioned and developed in the course of this book rests upon historical evidence.

In early Icelandic sources it is clearly stated that the Icelanders in Greenland must constantly sail north, "both for wood and the procurement of game". These people are referred to as "setar" (booth-sitters), and the regions into which they ventured are called "Nordreseta" which must include Northern Greenland, Ellsmere, Devon, Baffin Island, the regions around the Melville Peninsula, Southampton Island and the regions around Hudson Bay. In these areas the Icelanders captured both the white falcon and the polar bear "for export to the courts of Mediaeval Europe".

In Eskimo legends the boothsitters are referred to as the tall white "Tunnit" who, according to the legends, "barked like dogs and spoke an unelastic tongue" (a unique description of the classical language of the Eddas and the Sagas). To this might be added sixteenth century sources on "a mixed population in Greenland" and

Icelandic annals which state that in 1342 the inhabitants of the Western settlement in Greenland "fell voluntarily from the true faith and Christian religion, and abandoning all good mores and true virtues, turned to the people of America".

Some archaeologists have vigorously maintained that the "Thule Culture" had its origin in a new influx of Eskimos from Alaska whence it is supposed to have spread gradually eastward across the Canadian Arctic to Greenland. Dr. Oleson has completely reversed this theory, and in this he is in part supported by the late Dr. Vilhjalmur Stefansson's discovery of the "blond" Eskimos on Victoria Island in 1910 and by the Icelandic scholar Dr. Jón Dúason who has devoted some 50 years to research on Icelandic contacts with Greenland and the North-American continent in the Middle Ages.

Of particular interest is the chapter on "The Mythical Voyages to America": the alleged voyage of Bishop Eiríkr Gnúpsson in 1121 to whom some writers have given the credit of building a round church at Newport, Rhode Island, the twelfth century exploration of a Welsh prince by the name of Madoc, the Irish discovery of America and many others.

One of these "myths" postulates an early Irish colony around the Gulf of St. Lawrence. It is based on three passages in the Icelandic Sagas which refer to "The White Men's Land" or "Ireland the Great". As Dr. Oleson has proven, the passages obviously confuse a region in Ireland, known as "Tirna-Fer Finn" (White Men's Land) and a part of the North American continent, identified in some sources as "White Men's Land or Albania". Although in a somewhat different way,

Professor Hermann Palsson of the University of Edinburgh in a recent study on White Men's Land has reached the same conclusions as Dr. Oleson.

The last part of Professor Oleson's book deals with "English Explorations", starting with a thorough discussion on the voyages of John Cabot, who apparently was not unacquainted with the ancient routes across the Atlantic. The author, contrary to some previous opinions, rejects the possibility of Cabot's son, Sebastian, having undertaken any such voyages.

After Cabot there followed, to mention only a few, Gaspar Corte Real, Giovanni da Verrazano, Estevan Gomez, John Rut, Martin Frobisher, John Davis, Henry Hudson, Thomas Button, Luke Fox and Thomas James.

The main objective of the early English explorations was to find "The North-West Passage" to Asia. Therefore they were from the very outset doomed to fail. But this failure was only partial, as the explorers added much to the fragmentary knowledge of the geography of the Canadian Arctic. Thus it may be said that they paved the way for their more fortunate successors.

The late Dr. Oleson's contribution makes a most fitting and auspicious opening for the seventeen volume Canadian Centenary Series. It was fortunate, too, that a scholar of his calibre should have undertaken the arduous task of writing it, because not only was he a leading authority on Arctic Explorations and the Viking Age, but his profound knowledge of the Scandinavian tongues enabled him to consult his source material in its original form.

—From the Winnipeg Free Press

## BOOK REVIEW continued-

### EDUCATIONAL ECHOES

A history of education of the Icelandic Canadians in Manitoba.

By Roy H. Ruth, M.A., M.Ed.  
Winnipeg, Man.,

Columbia Printers Ltd, Winnipeg  
134 pages.

After a very brief preface outlining the purpose of the book viz., acknowledgement of efforts of the Icelandic pioneers who prepared the way for their children to make worthy contributions to the development of the Canadian nation, the author gives a brief but factual account of the Icelandic background.

Interesting and revealing accounts are given of the choosing of the members of the original council of five to act as a temporary government of the colony of New Iceland, as well as the formation of the first schools in New Iceland. A rather detailed cataloguing is given of names of Manitoba Icelanders who acted in a capacity which was in any way related to educational efforts.

Education in the Winnipeg settlement is treated similarly and considerable effort on the part of the author is revealed in accounts of the formation and gradual development of Icelandic organizations and institutions.

Here a very complete and informative chapter is included on the history of, and the teacher and student body in, the Jon Bjarnason Academy, an Icelandic High School and Junior College in operation from 1913 to 1940.

The history leading to the founding of The Department of Icelandic at the University of Manitoba is the subject of a brief but enlightening chapter.

The author appropriately devotes a chapter to the achievements of Icelanders who can be classified as great men because of their contributions to Canada and the world at large. Mentioned among those of this calibre are the famous explorer Dr. Vilhjalmur Stefansson as well as several members of such worthy professions as doctors, lawyers, judges, psychiatrists, educators, musicians and authors.

The author very briefly compares the standard and values of the old Norse philosophy of life with Icelandic Canadian ideals of today. He also includes an appendix for those curious to know the details of the author's background.

While this work leans rather heavily toward the statistical element it will no doubt appeal to those who are in any way interested in any facts of the educational history of Manitoba.

—Arelus Isfeld

## A Significant Seminar

Lesbók, the weekly literary supplement of Morgunblaðið, a Reykjavík daily, in its number of July 21, 1963, gives a detailed report of a most instructive and significant Seminar, which was held in the district college at Guðbrandsdala, Norway, July 3-10, 1962. The heading of the article in large letters in the Lesbók is "Norðmenn læra íslenzku", Norwegians learn Icelandic. About 25 attended, both Norwegians and Icelanders. It was the first seminar on Icelandic held in Norway for Norwegian college teachers. (menntaskólakennara).

The seminar was opened by the vice President of the Norwegian Society, Erling Osterud. He was followed by Iceland's Ambassador to Norway, Haraldur Guðmundsson who delivered a substantial and well prepared address. He said that the Icelandic people have not only a fatherland but also a motherland. Iceland, he maintained, is the fatherland to the people of Iceland but it is also the motherland to a language, which in its origin and evolution, is not limited to the island. The ambassador pointed out that it was a singular fact that Norwegians, in a land where the population is twenty times that of Iceland, are now seriously contemplating studies in Icelandic, as a course in senior centres of learning. When Norwegians, he emphasized, seek to study Icelandic, in spite of the population disparity, the reason must be an awakening to the value of ancient Norse, as preserved in the Icelandic language.

Ivar Orgland, a university lecturer, who was in charge of the Seminar, em-

phasized the need of acquiring a knowledge of Icelandic language and literature, particularly now that communications and trade between the two countries were steadily increasing. Mr. Orgland then laid down a fundamental philological truth: people must realize that most of what is loosely called "gammalnorsk" is actually Old Icelandic. He said he knew through experience that students are interested in this philological evolution.

At the close of the Seminar one of the Norwegian teachers, to the great surprise of all, rendered a verse he had composed in Icelandic. The quality of prosody pleased all present.

It was the unanimous opinion at the close of the week's discussion that such seminars should be continued.

But why only in Norway? Why not in Sweden and Denmark? To them the philological evolution should be equally interesting.

Why not a step further—to countries where English is the native tongue? It is accepted that basically English derives from four Germanic languages or dialects: Saxon, Anglian, Norse and the dialect of the Jutes. The Celtic languages and dialects and Norman French are very substantial additions, but they are not basic. The same may be said of Latin and Greek following the Renaissance. English is basically Germanic and the evolution from the four original languages or dialects should be of no less interest to the advanced student of English than old Icelandic is to Norwegian students studying Gammalnorsk. W.J.L.



## The Antigonish Movement

The Coady International Institute, St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, Nova Scotia, has been called "The biggest little campus in the world." The accuracy of the title was revealed in a recent study made at Cornell University, U.S.A., which reported that no less than 5,000,000 persons in underdeveloped countries have benefited from 'The Antigonish Movement.' It preceded the Peace Corps by 30 years and is a leading Canadian contribution to social and economic action abroad. Sixty five students from 30 countries are represented in this year's student body. All of them will take back to their native lands, something of the conviction of the founder, the late Dr. M. M. Coady, that given sound leadership and taught the elements of group action, all people may become shareholders in a prospering and civilized society. In the three years since its organization, students from 60 countries have attended the Institute. Miss Amita Malak, an Indian journalist who toured Canada under the sponsorship of the Canadian Women's Press Club, called St. Francis Xavier "the greatest experiment in international living she had seen anywhere."

The Antigonish movement began among the impoverished fishermen, farmers and coal miners of eastern Nova Scotia during the depression years of the 1930's. Most adversely affected were the fishermen along the Atlantic Coast. Through the efforts of Dr. Coady and a remarkable priest, Dr. J. J. Tompkins, who believed that only through leadership and education could the people become masters of

their own economic destiny, the fishermen were organized on a co-operative basis. Nothing moved Father Tompkins as much as poverty or angered him more than ignorance. He knew that only when men knew and understood what kept them poor, could they begin to cope with it. His ideas took root in Canso, Nova Scotia. After years of exploitation at the hands of feudal fish merchants, fishermen banded together in co-operatives. Today, the United Maritime Fishermen do a multi-million dollar business.

Then, the Extension Department moved into industrial Cape Breton where Communism was strong and conditions bad economically. The program was never an abstract and negative 'anti-communism'. On the contrary, it sought to demonstrate, through a vigorous use of self-help projects, that there was a better democratic way to beat poverty and distress. While Red agitators preached class struggle, Extension workers were training labor leaders to a new sense of social responsibility and showing the miners how to use co-operative techniques, for instance to build and own their own homes.

The tree was known by its fruit. Communism is no longer a factor in Nova Scotian affairs. Credit Unions and Co-operative housing took a firm hold. Working with government agencies of various kinds, the Extension Department moved into all economic phases of the community. Because the University had no money, the tools had to be simple. Too, the program had to be non-denominational if it was to assist the communities. Tempor-

arily, any high level approach to adult education was ignored; people were left in their own environment and educated to solve their own problems. The Extension Department carried the campus to the farmer, the fishermen and the miner by using the "Kitchen meeting", study clubs, labor classes, Credit Unions and various types of co-operatives. The Maritimes was gradually turned into a social and economic laboratory.

By 1950, without encouragement from the University, individuals from various parts of the world began to come in large numbers for training. The demands could not be met; the entire burden of the Department, in all its formative years, was carried by the University with the exception of a grant in 1928 from Father Tompkin's close friend, Andrew Carnegie (one of America's foremost philanthropists). In 1961, His Eminence Cardinal Cushing gave \$200,000 toward the erection of the first Institute Building. The Institute was named for Dr. Coady and the name "Antigonish Movement" was attached to a program that had moved abroad from Maritime Canada to assist people in emerging countries.

Among other unique factors at the

University, College records do not record whether a student is black or white. It is impossible to learn offhand how many negro students are enrolled; they room with whites and student prefects have been black in charge of whites.

To what extent has the Adult Program affected the lives of students from Canada and the United States? Present enrolment at Antigonish is 1,455; at Xavier College, 300. There are 577 part-time and weekend students, bringing the overall total to 2,332. The impact has been considerable; this does not suggest that all the students have adopted co-operative principles although they do run their own restaurant, book store, and barber-shop. But it does suggest a great world consciousness on this campus; a deeper sense of social responsibility and a great interest in national and international affairs. This international character of the Institute has been of immeasurable help to our students as far as making of them whole human beings in a greater world.

—From Canadian Scene,  
182 Lowther Ave., Toronto 4,

—Editor: Ruth Gordon

COMPLIMENTS

**Brown & Rutherford**  
LIMITED

★ LUMBER ★ BUILDING SUPPLIES ★ DOORS & WINDOWS  
★ MILL WORK OF ALL TYPES ★ TIMBERS up to 70 FEET LONG

WINNIPEG — 5 Sutherland Avenue — PHONE 942-7344

## IN THE NEWS

### OFFERED \$4,800 SCHOLARSHIP



Eric Sigurdson

An offer of a scholarship of \$4,800 by either Princeton, Brown, or Yale University, which would have supplied him with \$1,200 a year for four years of his undergraduate studies, was turned down by **Eric Sigurdson**, who graduated with honors last spring from Northern Collegiate Institute and Vocational School, Sarnia, Ontario. The coveted award was turned down because Eric planned to enroll in a Canadian University. He is now a First-Year Pre-Medical student at Western University, London Ontario.

All through high school Eric was an honor student. He was also prominent in extra-curricular activities. He was Vice-President of the Students'

Council, and a member of the Key Club. He showed interest and talent in art, was a member of the art club and worked on the school newspaper. He was a member of the YMCA, and participated in sports including soccer and curling. He was chosen by his principal and teachers to represent his school in the Student Leaders' Club.

Said the principal of Northern Collegiate: "Probably the best indication of the calibre of this student is shown by the fact that he has just been awarded the Staff Trophy. This award is given to a member of the graduating class of good character, who has proved himself to be the most outstanding in academic and extra-curricular achievement. In other words, he is the best all-round student in the opinion of the faculty. This is the highest honor that a student of Northern Collegiate can get."

Eric's prime ambition is to obtain a degree in Medicine and in the capacity of doctor, to be of service to others.

Eric is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Baldur Sigurdson, of 1565 Indian Road, Sarnia, Ont., and grandson of Sigurbjorn, and Kristbjorg (Vopni) Sigurdson of 2336, West 21st Ave., Vancouver, B. C.

★

### BROTHER AND SISTER WIN MANY HONORS IN MUSIC



Kerrine Wilson

Kerrine Wilson was recently awarded the James Mathews scholarship for high marks obtained in the Grade X Diploma Examination in June 1963, by the University of Manitoba.

She took third prize in the Instrumental Class of the Jewish Womens' Musical Club Artists of Tomorrow Contest February 4, 1964.

She was awarded a scholarship by the Junior Musical Club of Winnipeg in May 1965 as one of three winners in its Annual Competition.

**Eric Wilson**, 14 years was recently awarded the Jon Sigurdson Chapter I.O.D.E. scholarship and the T. Eaton Co. bursary for high marks obtained in the Grade X Violoncello Examinations in June 1963 by the University of Manitoba.

He took First prize over 35 contest-



Eric Wilson

ants in the Instrumental Class of the Jewish Womens' Musical Club Artists of Tomorrow Contest. For this he was awarded the Anne Wiseman Memorial Prize, February 4th, 1964.

Kerrine and Eric are daughter and son of Mr. and Mrs. Kerr Wilson, of Winnipeg, both accomplished musicians. The mother is Thelma, pianist, daughter of Mrs. Helga Guttormson of Winnipeg and the late Bjorn Guttormson. Mr. Wilson is the well-known vocal baritone soloist.

An older son, Carlisle, violinist, has been mentioned previously in these columns as a winner in musical contests.

And as we go to press the news comes through that Kerrine has won first place in the weekly Hi-Jinks competition on CBC television.

★

MOVING      PACKING      STORING

**BEAVER MOVING & STORAGE**

Agents For Allied Van Lines

960 LOGAN AVE., WINNIPEG

PHONE SUNset 3-5412

B. Greenberg, Manager.

**Financial Management Services**

OFFERED BY YOUR

**Investors  
syndicate**

REPRESENTATIVE

**FACE AMOUNT CERTIFICATES**For savings, educational, business reserve and annuity purposes.  
Single payment certificates with guaranteed investment values.**A BALANCED MUTUAL FUND**

Investors Mutual of Canada Ltd. emphasizes reasonable income, stability and capital gain potential through a portfolio of more than 150 securities.

**A MUTUAL FUND FOR GROWTH**

Investors Growth Fund of Canada Ltd. emphasizes long-term capital gain through a portfolio concentrated in common stocks.

**TAX-DEDUCTIBLE REGISTERED RETIREMENT PLANS**

Fixed-interest, equity and combined plans. Either or both portions of combined plans can be qualified for tax-deduction purposes.

**GROUP PENSION PLANS**

With Investors Trust Company, Investors Syndicate offers complete facilities for group plans on a fixed-return, equity or combined basis.

**INVESTORS SYNDICATE**

OF CANADA, LIMITED

manages assets of over \$750,000,000

Head Office: WINNIPEG

Offices in Principal Cities

Compliments of . . .

**Winnipeg Motor Products Ltd.**

YOUR PONTIAC — BUICK — ACADIAN FRANCHISED DEALER

NORTH MAIN at CHURCH

PHONE JUstice 9-5381

Open Evenings

Free Parking

**GRADUATE IN ACCOUNTANCY WINS SCHOLARSHIP**

Thomas Eric Stefanson

Thomas Eric Stefanson of Gimli, Man. graduated as a chartered accountant at the annual convocation of United College, Winnipeg, in October. Mr. Stefanson graduated from Gimli Collegiate in 1958 and entered the five-year accountancy course that year. He is the son of Eric Stefanson, member of parliament for Selkirk constituency, and Mrs. Stefanson.



Verne Gudjon Johnson

Verne Gudjon Johnson, a graduate of Lundar Collegiate has been awarded an Alcan scholarship by the University of Manitoba for the second consecutive year.

On graduating from Grade XI Lundar Collegiate Institute he won the following:

1. Doctor G. Paulson scholarship of \$100.00.
2. Second school bursary (Man. Government) \$50.00.

**TALLIN, KRISTJANSSON, PARKER, MARTIN & MERCURY**CLIVE K. TALLIN, Q.C.  
HUGH B. PARKER  
B. STUART PARKERW. S. A. MARTIN  
A. F. KRISTJANSSON  
L. N. MERCURY

BARRISTERS &amp; SOLICITORS

Second Floor

210 OSBORNE STREET

WINNIPEG 1

3. Alumni Association of University of Manitoba Scholarship \$100.00.

Verne Johnson is the son of Gudjon and the late Mary Johnson of Lundar, Manitoba.

★

#### JUDGE HONORED BY UKRAINIAN CULTURAL GROUP

Judge W. J. Lindal has been awarded an honorary Shevchenko recognition diploma from the Ukrainian Free

Academy of Sciences, for his contribution to mutual inter-ethnic understanding in Manitoba.

The award was made at the Ukrainian National Home during celebrations of the 150 anniversary of the birth of Taras Shevchenko, Ukrainian national poet.

At the same meeting Mrs. Myra Lazchenko-Haas was elected a member of the academy for her English translation of Shevchenko's work.

—Winnipeg Free Press

#### ROBERTS & WHYTE LTD.

Sargent & Sherbrooke St.

Phone SPruce 4-3353

★

THE WEST END'S  
FAMILY DRUG STORE

#### A. S. Bardal

Limited

FUNERAL HOME

★

Phone SPruce 4-7474

843 Sherbrook Street

#### Dr. P. H. T. Thorlakson

WINNIPEG CLINIC

★

PHONE WHitehall 2-6441

★

St. Marv's and Vaughan, Winnipeg

#### DR. L. A. SIGURDSON

★

528 Medical Arts Bldg.

★

Off. Ph. WH. 2-4762 Res. SP. 2-6115

#### BENEDIKT JACOBSON LINDAL

Benedikt Jacobson Lindal of Minneapolis died suddenly of a heart attack on March 9, at the age of 74. During most of his life he was in the lumber business and kindred enterprises. He devoted much of his time to home missionary work and for some years was head of The Bible Family Circle, which distributes gospel tracts, Bible messages and inspirational poetry.

Bogi Bjarnason of Vancouver writes: "And now Ben is gone. Time was ('11, '12, '13,) that he roomed on Spence and I on Maryland when we visited back and forth, having much in common, including some idealism which we discussed lying prone on grass in Central Park. We (nor anyone else) did not foresee '14 — '18 and after. But re-

calling some of our discussions I might have guessed that he would eventually turn to religion in a really serious way. I liked Ben very much."

Ben Lindal is survived by his wife Hilda Rovik Lindal, who will continue the work, and three daughters, Runa, Audrey and Constance, all married. There are ten grandchildren.

He was a brother of the late Hannes J. Lindal and of W. J. Lindal. There are three sisters at the west coast: Mrs. Kristin Newell, Mrs. Gudrun Magnuson and Mrs. Rosalind Johnson.

★

#### FOOD FOR THOUGHT . . . .

The Woodrow Wilson Fellowship Awards, granted throughout the U.S.A. and Canada, provide for a year of study at a graduate school of the students choice in North America. Each award consists of a scholarship of \$1,800 plus dependency allowance and tuition fees, and are given on the basis of scholarship and achievement which give promise of successful careers.

Sixteen awards were granted to Manitobans of whom six were Jewish students. As far as the record shows none of the sixteen were of Icelandic origin.

#### ALONG THE SHORES

##### OF A SUNLIT BEACH

by H. M. Einarson (12 yrs. old)

While walking along the sunlit beach,  
I met a fossil so nice and neat,  
Even though dead for millions of years,  
It brought to my eyes nice little tears,  
Of sorrow,  
To see a fossil die,  
In the bright sunlit sky.

#### JOHN LECKIE LTD.

640 King Edward St.

ST. JAMES

★

"TANGLEFIN" NYLON NETTING  
COMMERCIAL FISHING SUPPLIES

CANVAS GOOGLES

MARINE HARDWARE

LIFE SAVING EQUIPMENT

Phone SPruce 5-8404

WINNIPEG, MAN.

BRANCH AT EDMONTON, ALBERTA

Winnipeg's Leading Florists

*Broadway*  
**FLORISTS**

E. CHOLAKIS & 5 SONS

TWO STORES TO SERVE YOU

277 Portage Ave. — Ph. WH 3-0731

Polo Park Shopping Centre

— Ph. SP 5-8484

HILLMAN — SUNBEAM

STUDEBAKER

Sargent Avenue at Home Street

**WALSH-GRAHAM  
MOTORS LIMITED**

Phone SPruce 4-2577 Winnipeg 3

**Goodbrandson's  
Transfer Ltd.**

DAILY SERVICE — CARGO INSURED

Phone 482-3183 — SELKIRK

Phone SUNset 3-7898 — WINNIPEG

**Gilbart Funeral Homes**

309 Eveline St.

SELKIRK, MAN.

Phone 3271

and

1st Street

GIMLI, MAN.

Phone ZE 17000

— Serving the Interlake Area —

**ASCEIRSON'S  
LIMITED**

698 Sargent — Ph. SUNset 3-4322

★

Headquarters for  
PAINT, WALLPAPER  
& HARDWARE

**CHIEF HOME BAKERY**

Prop. Helga Olafson

Pastries — Bread  
Vinarterta and Other Icelandic  
Specialties to order  
also Catering

749 ELLICE AVE. Ph. SU. 3-6127

## NEWS SUMMARY

Prof Haraldur Bessason, professor of Icelandic at the University of Manitoba, was guest speaker when members of the Icelandic Society in Chicago, Illinois, in February held their annual celebration of Thorrablot. Some 70 to 80 people attended and the dinner menu included hardfish, whalemeat, smoked meat and rullupilsa, imported for the occasion and brought by air from Reykjavik, Iceland. Society president Thrani Sigurdsson presided and the program included a reading by Halldor Helgason from Skaldatima by Iceland's Nobel prize-winning author, Halldor Kiljan Laxness, mus-

ical numbers and community singing.

★

Jakob F. Kristjansson was elected president for 1964 at the annual meeting in January of the Chapter From of the Icelandic National League. He succeeds Prof. Haraldur Bessason who was named vice-president. Pall Hallson was chosen secretary, Skuli Johannsson assistant secretary, Jochum Asgeirsson treasurer, Gudbjorg Sigurdson assistant treasurer, Gunnar Baldvinsson financial secretary and Valdimar Larusson assistant financial secretary. Grettir L. Johannson and Johann T. Beck were re-elected auditors. .

**YOUR FUTURE  
IS  
OUR BUSINESS  
Today**

THE  
**Great-West Life**  
ASSURANCE COMPANY

Hon. Dr. George Johnson, Manitoba minister of health since the Roblin government took office in 1958, in December became minister of education in a switch of cabinet portfolios. Dr. Johnson, graduate in medicine of the University of Manitoba, was a practising physician at Gimli when he was elected MLA for Gimli constituency in the 1958 provincial election.

Hon. W. J. Lindal has been elected President of the Manitoba Branch of The Royal Commonwealth Society, Inc. The Patrons of the Society are Her Majesty the Queen, H. M. The Queen Mother, His Excellency Governor-General of Canada Georges P. Vanier and The Hon. Errick F. Willis, Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba.

★

Emile Walters, the internationally known artist, was among 1,000 guests at the annual Presidential prayer breakfast in Washington, D.C. He was the only artist invited to attend.

#### IN LIGHTER VEIN

On the eve of his going to medical school, John told his dad that he meant to specialize in obstetrics.

"But why?" expostulated the father, by the time you graduate some scientist will have found a cure for it."




---

SUBSCRIBE TO

THE ICELANDIC CANADIAN  
MAGAZINE

---

## CHINATOWN NEWS MAGAZINE

Chinatown News is a magazine published by the Chinese Publicity Bureau Ltd. of Vancouver. It is wholly in the English language and the following, clipped from the issue of February 1964, is an indication of the variety and quality of the contents. The editorials, under the caption "Dear Reader" are always in choice English comparable to above average editorial writing anywhere in Canada.

#### QUEEN OF NUCLEAR PHYSICS

New York: Dr. Chien-shiung Wu, China-born professor of physics at Columbia University, has been hailed as 'the reigning queen of nuclear physics' by Nobel Prize winner Emilio Segre of the University of California at Berkeley.

To gain that title, Dr. Wu has succeeded in areas where scientists at Berkeley, at Dubna in the Soviet Union, and at CERN, the European nuclear research centre at Geneva, have failed.

Dr. Wu's most recent achievement was a now famous proof of the new theory of physics that energy called "vector current" is conserved during the disintegration coupling of elementary particles. To prove this theory, she performed an ingenious experiment using radioactive boron and nitrogen, which both decay into carbon through the weak interaction of beta particles.

"Professor Wu's experiments", says Polyharp Kutch, chairman of Columbia's physics department, "have always had the quality of going directly to the crux of a very basic question. They have been designed with great elegance and have, by virtue of their elegance, a high aesthetic quality."

But in her tiny, tidy office, room 1301, on the top floor of the Pupin Building on the Columbia University campus, Dr. Wu still remains the modesty and shyness of the little girl from Liu Ho who attended Nanking's National Central University in the early 1930s.

The daughter of a school principal, she decided to study science "because it was a worthy intellectual pursuit and women were encouraged in it." In the U.S., Dr. Wu observes, "it is shameful that there are so few women in science." Only 7 per cent of all U.S. scientists are women of which 3 per cent are in physics. "In China there are many, many women in physics," she points out.

"There is a misconception in America that women scientists are all dowdy spinsters. This is the fault of men. In Chinese society, a woman is valued for what she is, and men encourage her to accomplishments — yet she remains eternally feminine.. "Chinese men never boast that they can do everything



better than women except to bear and nurse children. When women are well-educated, men benefit. Women would be able to appreciate the noblest work of men". Though she is surrounded by highly complicated scientific equipment in her laboratory at Columbia University, Dr. Wu looks like an anachronism. In a high-necked cheongsam, her hair pleated in a bun, she retains the old Chinese attributes of a well-brought-up woman — demure, serene, and "with a certain inscrutability" said Newsweek magazine in a recent article.

Dr. Wu is married to a Chinese emigree who is also an experimental physicist—Luke Chia-liu Yuan, now at the Brookhaven National Laboratory. This fall, their 16-year-old son, Vincent, will enter Columbia from the Bronx High School of Science.

At Berkeley, where she met her husband, she had been one of the most ardently pursued coeds on campus. Witty young students composed doggerel ending with Wu and woo.

★

#### APPROPRIATE REPLY

"Jane", cried the mistress, reproachfully, "you informed me a while ago that you were going to have a little sleep."

"Yes, Madam," replied the maid.

"Then", pursued her mistress, "what were you doing at the garden gate when the soldiers passed by?"

"Having forty winks," answered the maid, unabashed.

## Two Good Hotels . . .

### LELAND HOTEL

William & Albert

### KIRKFIELD PARK HOTEL

Portage at Parkdale

Kirkfield Park, Man.

J. E. Dangerfield, proprietor

W. D. Bjarnason, manager

## ROSICRUSIAN MYSTERIES

All sincere seekers for the great truth and mystical power known to the Ancients, write for the Free Book—The Mastery of Life. It is mailed without obligation to students of the higher laws of nature and mental science.

Scribe III

A. M. O. R. C., TEMPLE

San Jose, California

## Index to Advertisers

All-Ways Travel Bureau .....	6	Malkin, Dr's C. & S.....	6
Arlington Pharmacy .....	6	Manitoba Pool Elevators.....	Cover
Asgeirson's Ltd. ....	58	Man. Govt. Dept of Ind. & Com.....	7
A. and W. Drive-In.....	3	Manitoba Sugar Co. Ltd. ....	2
Bardal, A. S. Ltd.....	56	Manitoba Telephone System .....	1
Beaver Moving & Storage.....	54	Montreal Trust Co. ....	8
Blackwoods Beverages .....	60	McLean, J. J. H. Co. Ltd.....	4
Booth Fisheries, Canadian.....	64	McDonald Dure Lumber Co. Ltd.....	64
Broadway Florists .....	58	MacArthur & Son Ltd.....	2
Brown & Rutherford .....	51	McKague-Sigmar & Co. ....	6
Burns & Co.....	5	National Employment Service .....	3
Canadian Oil Co. Ltd.....	5	Ogilvie Flour Mills Co. Ltd.....	Cover
Capital Lumber Co. Ltd. ....	8	Palm Daries Ltd. ....	4
Chief Home Bakery .....	58	Park-Hannesson Ltd. ....	5
City Hydro Electric System.....	4	Quintons Ltd. ....	64
Codville Co. Ltd.....	60	Ramsay-Mathews Ltd. ....	6
Community Hotels .....	64	Roberts & Whyte Ltd. ....	56
Dickson Motors .....	2	Security Storage Co. Ltd. ....	3
Doying, S. L. Ltd.....	3	Selkirk Garage Ltd. ....	5
Eatons of Canada.....	Cover	Sigurdson, H. & Son Ltd.....	3
Eggertson & Eggertson.....	6	Sigurdson, Dr. L. A. ....	56
Gelhorn Motors Ltd. ....	4	Snowden Ltd. ....	Cover
Gilbart Funeral Home.....	58	Tallin, Kristjanson, Parker, Martin & Mercury .....	55
Goodbrandson Ltd. ....	58	Thorlakson, Dr. P. H. T. ....	56
Great West Life Assurance Co.....	59	Rosicrucian Mysteries .....	62
Grey Goose Bus Lines Ltd.....	3	Thorvaldson, Eggertson Barristers ..	6
Hercules Supply Ltd. ....	1	Thorarinson, S. A., Barrister .....	6
Investors Syndicate .....	54	Vopni, R. B. & Co. ....	6
Kirkfield Park Hotel .....	62	Walsh-Graham Motors Ltd.....	58
Kristjanson, Dr. G. ....	6	Winnipeg Motor Products Ltd. ....	54
Leckie, John Ltd.....	6	Winnipeg Supply & Fuel Co. ....	Cvr.
Leland Hotel .....	62		

COMPLIMENTS OF . . .

## YOUR COMMUNITY HOTELS

**GIMLI HOTEL**

GIMLI, MANITOBA

**ARBORG HOTEL**

ARBORG, MANITOBA

**BE WISE!** *Quinton-ize*

**Quinton's** Shirt Launderers  
 •CLEANERS • DYERS • FURRIERS • *Everybody does!*

Visit Our Plant at—Sargent & Toronto

## McDonald Dure Lumber Company Ltd.

since 1906

LUMBER AND ALL BUILDING MATERIAL

"One Peice or a Carload"

WINNIPEG

## BOOTH FISHERIES CANADIAN COMPANY LIMITED

235 GARRY STREET

WINNIPEG MANITOBA

Selkirk, Man. — Winnipegosis, Man. — The Pas, Man.  
 MAFKING, MANITOBA

## *Worthy Purposes*

- To co-ordinate the efforts of Agricultural producers in the fields of grain and livestock marketing;
- To promote their common interest through co-operative action;
- To promote and advance the social and economic conditions of those engaged in agriculture, and by so doing, contribute to the national well-being;



**MANITOBA POOL ELEVATORS**