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The 1955 Manitoba Open Golf final was something that was very close to the heart of Niakawa pro Harold Eidsvig. As a perennial president of the Manitoba Professional Golfers Association, he had struggled to raise the standard of the open, begging and cajoling for more prize money to attract outstanding players. He hadn't told anybody, but he obviously felt he had a good chance to win it on his home course, despite the presence of such noted Canadian pros as Stan Leonard of Vancouver and Al Balding of Toronto. And on this rainy, cool Saturday, Eidsvig and Balding, the new CPGA champion fought down the 54th green where everything depended on one's putter. Eidsvig had to sink a 15-footer and hope that Balding would miss a 12-footer. The Ontario pro rimmed the cup and Eidsvig's putt went hime. Deadlocked with 221 strokes the heartened Eidsvig drove truly and chipped his second shot eight feet from the pin. Balding found he had to go for a 20-footer on the green. He didn't make it. Eidsvig sank his putt to win the open he had hoped would be the best of them all.

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## THE ICELANDIC CANADIAN



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Summer 1965

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## THE ICELANDIC CANADIAN

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## A Tree With Many Roots

G. Kristjanson

On more than one occasion during the past year items have been included in this magazine bearing upon the achievements of ethnic groups other than the Icelandic. To some readers this may have scarcely seemed necessary for a publication which is devoted to promoting an interest in our Icelandic origins and heritage.

An interest in one's heritage, however, need not be an exclusive interest. In fact, there is abundant reason for believing that—in this day and age—no interest should be too exclusive. Let us not be niggardly about sharing our own heritage, nor loath to share in that of others. We will not be the poorer for it.

The richness and variety of a nation such as ours is greatly stimulated by the ethnic and cultural groups who comprise its population. The Icelandic Canadian Club expressed its views on the question of our national heritage in a brief presented to the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism at its recent hearings in Winnipeg. The brief appears elsewhere in this issue. Of particular interest and significance to us, however, since it comes from a neutral and highly esteemed source, is a brief presented to this Commission by the Senate of the University of Manitoba. "Since Canadian culture" the brief argues "can only grow out of the diverse cultures of the whole population, and since unity can only arise from a knowledge of these cultures, every agency that will develop this knowledge, should publicly promote this knowledge."

While the brief submitted by the University Senate urged the primary place for the English and French cul-

tures in our society, it did recommend the establishment in Manitoba of a publicly-financed "cultural arts council" dedicated to the "promoting of the cultures and languages of the various ethnic groups in the province of Manitoba." This council would preserve the "ethnic mosaic" of Manitoba by developing the study and knowledge of the languages, literature and arts of all groups.

At this time, when we Canadians are taking a harder look at ourselves and our institutions than ever before, it is gratifying to note that here are thoughtful elements who are not desirous of limiting us to one or even two exclusive cultural roots. Why should we not share—to whatever extent this is possible—in the achievements of all the ethnic groups that make up our social fabric? Surely a stimulation of national "family" feeling can come as readily from appreciating one another's distinctive characteristics as from trying to mold everyone into the same pattern of national conformity. It is not through a Lowest Common Denominator that we will realize the potentialities of our great nation, but through a Highest Common Multiple.

His Excellency, Governor-General George P. Vanier, expressed it in this way in an address given during his recent visit to Winnipeg: "The heritage and traditions of our forefathers have been built and cherished through the centuries; they are too valuable to be abandoned in favour of any rigid conformity. To suggest that we forget the richness and wisdom that each of our peoples has brought to Canada, in favour of some artificial common denominator would be unfortunate."

## Address of His Excellency, General, The Right Honourable Georges P. Vanier, D.S.O., M.C., C.D., Governor General of Canada

at a luncheon gathering in the Royald Alexandra Hotel, Winnipeg, May 29th, 1965

I must first of all thank you for the warmth of the welcome which you have extended to my wife and to me today. Since our arrival yesterday morning we have been very much touched by the testimonials of confidence and affection which we have received on all sides.

It may well be that Winnipeg, more than any other major city in Canada, symbolizes the harmonious relationships achieved by the many peoples who make up our great country. It is, therefore fitting and appropriate that this splendid occasion should have so many varied sponsors.

The Royal Commonwealth Society has done much to remind Canadians of the heritage and harmony in racial relations which the Commonwealth provides. The Citizenship Council of Manitoba has been a guardian of the rights of the individuals in this Province and an example of the strength to be obtained from diversity. The Canadian Ethnic Press Federation, which comprises the editors and publishers of ethnic newspapers from Montreal to Vancouver, represents a tradition of candid and incisive journalism which has done much to establish the dignity and worth in Canadian society of many of our component races. The French-Canadian Education Association of Manitoba reminds us of struggles valiantly made in the past, of

achievements won for the present, and of hopes shared for the future; and The Men's and Women's Canadian Clubs of Winnipeg embody a spirit of service and a channel for the formation of enlightened public opinion, the worth of which has long been recognized in the community.

These six associations may, at first glance, appear disparate in their aims and constitutions just as the many races of Canada bring with them differing traditions and points of view.

Let me say a few words about the Commonwealth. A strange thing is that many Canadians seem to have some sort of inferiority complex when it comes to comparing their contributions to the Commonwealth with those of other members. I was told the other day about a man who went to the psychiatrist to complain that for some reason he always seemed to feel inferior. The psychiatrist made a long series of tests and finally announced that he had found the cause of his patient's complaint. "What is the answer, then?" cried the patient. "Why do I have these feelings of inferiority?" "The answer is an easy one," said the psychiatrist, "my tests prove conclusively that you are inferior." But I am one of those who don't feel inferior about Canada's contributions; it has always taken an intensive interest in the Commonwealth.

I am sure I do not need to point out to you the distinguishing aspects of the Commonwealth mutual respect, friendly discussion, a tradition of justice, freedom and fair-play, an appreciation of education, economic progress and social equality. I think one of the most important of them has been the spirit of compromise and the virtue of flexibility. This flexibility has meant a wide diversity in the forms of government and in the separate progress towards independence of the different members of the Commonwealth.

Your are all aware of the initiatives taken by Canadian representatives at the Imperial Conferences held between 1926 and 1930, resulting, as they did, in the changes embodied in the Statute of Westminster. It has been said more than once that the present concept of the Commonwealth owes more to Canadian thinking and Canadian influence than to any other sources.

It goes without saying that Canada's dual heritage had much to do with shaping our attitude towards the Commonwealth. The diversity of our origins tended to make us look outwards, while within our Country it developed within us a special capacity to help evolve strength from diversity.

That is why I think it fair to say that from the beginning **Canada's** conception of the Commonwealth proved to be forward looking. I think it was probably the only conception which could, in the end, have accommodated the non-British peoples of the Commonwealth who, today, comprise the vast majority of its members. As countries within the Commonwealth achieved independence, they were faced with a very difficult decision concerning membership. Britain had, after all, represented the power of imperialism and there were important segments of public opinion within each country

which doubted the wisdom of Commonwealth membership. It is, however, both a tribute to the quality of the British example and to the wisdom of the leaders of these emerging nations that so many elected freely for the Commonwealth.

The Commonwealth today, therefore, is something truly unique in the annals of political history. If we were pressed to define it, I think we could best call it a partnership, a partnership based on a measure of common historical recollection and a framework of common values and institutions, but especially upon a willingness to consult and to co-operate on a basis of mutual confidence.

In many ways, I think that Her Majesty's position as Head of the Commonwealth and yet not necessarily Head of State of most of the members of the Commonwealth, is an excellent example of the way in which the Commonwealth has created a new tradition of compromise, mutual respect and co-operation.

It is the extent to which everyone of us shows these qualities in our own personal approach to Commonwealth questions that will determine the future strength and glory of this institution. Only through the combined efforts of Commonwealth members towards greater understanding will the Commonwealth realize its full potential as a force for creative good in this troubled world. Only as we study and learn more of our fellow Commonwealth members can we expect to know and understand them. Only as we understand them can we realize that their hopes and aspirations are close, if not identical, to our own. Only as we realize the universality of human brotherhood and compassion can we forge the Commonwealth into the creative force it must be. It is up to

us to fulfil the privilege we have been given in being members of the Commonwealth. It is up to us to accept the trust that has been bestowed upon us in the Commonwealth tradition and to fulfil this trust for the betterment of all mankind.

If one looks beneath the surface, one finds that mankind is united in appreciation of the essential values of life and in recognition of the wisdom and power which is to be derived from diversity. If we were all alike, there would be no mutual inspiration or sense of competition to spur our creative capabilities. Differences between men are necessary for without them we would have no basis on which to compare our thoughts and our assumptions, nor any yardstick to measure our goals and our achievements. It is a wise man who realizes the richness and diversity and I cannot refrain from congratulating you on your wisdom in joining together in a spirit of harmony in giving this luncheon today.

With your record of racial harmony in this City, with your appreciation of your fellowman for what he is really worth, you may find it hard to believe that some people in Canada should not be aware of the contributions made by early Canadian settlers. It is true that some of them arrived with little material wealth. But they had much more essential qualities to offer: they had imagination, they had initiative, they had adaptability, and they had common sense and a desire to work. What kind of people came to Canada? The best! The ones with the ability to throw off the shackles of an old and circumscribed way of living, with the intelligence to realize the potential of a new life, and with the sense of adventure to achieve it.

Let us pay homage to the pioneering and imagination of our forefathers, to those who have built this City. But let us do more than that: let us learn from the wisdom they exemplified, the wisdom that each man, no matter what his background, has a contribution to make towards a better community and a better world.

In Canada we are proud of our diverse characteristics. The heritage and traditions of our forefathers have been built and cherished through the centuries; they are too valuable to be abandoned in favour of any rigid uniformity. To suggest that we forget the richness and wisdom that each of our peoples has brought to Canada, in favour of some sort of artificial cultural common denominator, would be unfortunate.

Let us approach and appreciate our differences in the way a mature man should. Let us remember that no one point of view, nor any one way of life, has any monopoly of virtue. Quite the contrary: the road to ultimate wisdom lies in comparison, mutual compassion, and understanding. Each of our people, each one of us individually, has some element of truth, some glimpse of enlightenment to offer to all of us. Therefore when we meet a man with an opinion that is new to us, or a people with a tradition we have not met before, let us look at them with respect and perhaps even with envy, for he and they know something that we do not. he and they have achieved a further step toward wisdom. Then, if we approach the differences between us in this way, respect leads to appreciation, appreciation to understanding, and understanding to affection.

Our gain as individuals is also our nation's gain. I admit it's a little daring for a country to count on drawing its strength from diversity. It's much



easier perhaps to talk of a melting pot and to force everyone to behave alike; how much simpler could we fashion our national and international policies as a country if all our people were the same dull shade of grey! But how much more shallow, how much less sensitive and understanding would such policies be! No, if we can draw our strength from diversity, the result will be more considerate and compassionate than any force drawn from mediocre conformity.

Whether Canada can achieve unity in diversity will depend in the last analysis on our attitude as individuals. Respect for each other, an eagerness to learn, an appreciation of the good in whatever form it takes, a willingness to open our hearts to understanding and affection: all of these are the most contagious of attitudes, and once shown by one person spread like the ripples in a pond to affect action and outlooks far beyond that person's original ken.

If each of us were an island unto himself, then it might be possible to disclaim responsibility for such attitudes. But we are not islands; each of us is responsible for the future well-being of our community and of our nation. And on that well-being depends the happiness and prosperity of our children. The need for unity is not something we can put off until tomorrow, for tomorrow may be too late. The need for unity is the most important single problem facing us as a nation today.

We are ten Provinces. I am proud of each one of them, proud of their inhabitants, but not always happy that the boundaries between those Provinces at times look more like barriers than happy meeting places. Let us open the windows and the doors of the Provinces. Let us look over the walls

and see what is on the other side. Let us know one another; that will lead to understanding.

Yes, I am proud of each Province, but I am prouder of Canada which comprises the Provinces. I want to be known abroad and at home as a Canadian, not only as a citizen of one of the Provinces.

A country with such antecedents as ours, the founders, the discoverers, the explorers, can, and must, look forward to a prodigious destiny. This Nation, unless it goes forward as a whole and not as separate Provinces, will not be able to achieve this destiny.

I don't know why the Lord has been so good to us. There is no country that can look forward with greater confidence to its future than Canada. But that future depends on us, on all the Provinces collaborating in the task of forging our nationhood. In our relations with one another, let us cast aside pettiness, selfishness and intolerance, and substitute understanding, brotherhood and confidence in one another.

Not so long ago, we received at Government House a large group of teenagers, half French-speaking and half English-speaking. The English-speaking ones had already spent a fortnight up in the Lake Saint-Jean district on an exchange with French-speaking families. The latter had come to reciprocate the visit and were living with English-speaking families in the region of Ottawa. My wife and I were pleased to see how well they appeared to get on. I said suddenly: "You have been together now for quite some time, do you like one another?" The answer was a resounding "Yes". The trouble is we don't see enough of one another, and I feel that before the Centenary of Confederation there should be mass exchanges between Provinces.

I am a great optimist about the future—on one condition: we must work together and march forward, all of us, hand in hand in unity. Let us broaden and deepen our horizon. The great hope for Canada is: unity through understanding.

For Canada to be a great nation, strong and united, there must be among all Canadians a living and profound sense of the need of one for the other. This friendship supposes, in the

first place, a clear and decided devotion to the common good of the Nation, but it depends also upon frequent and friendly relations between the different communities, and these relations cannot be friendly unless each community tries to understand the other, to respect its just wants and to complete and aid its needs. The soul of a country is great and strong by the unity of its ideals and of its aspirations.

## The visit to Winnipeg of The Governor General and Madame Vanier

A visit to Winnipeg by His Excellency General, The Right Honourable Georges P. Vanier, D.S.O., M.C., C.D., Governor General of Canada has always been a pleasure and an honour to the people of this city, and of the Province. The last one, May 28, 29, 30, was, however, one which will remain fresh in the memory of the people of Manitoba for many years to come.

What made it special and an exception was not the somewhat formal and more or less required receptions at Government House and in the City Halls of Winnipeg and St. Boniface. The special feature was the luncheon in honour of Their Excellencies, on Saturday, May 29, in the Royal Alexandra Hotel.

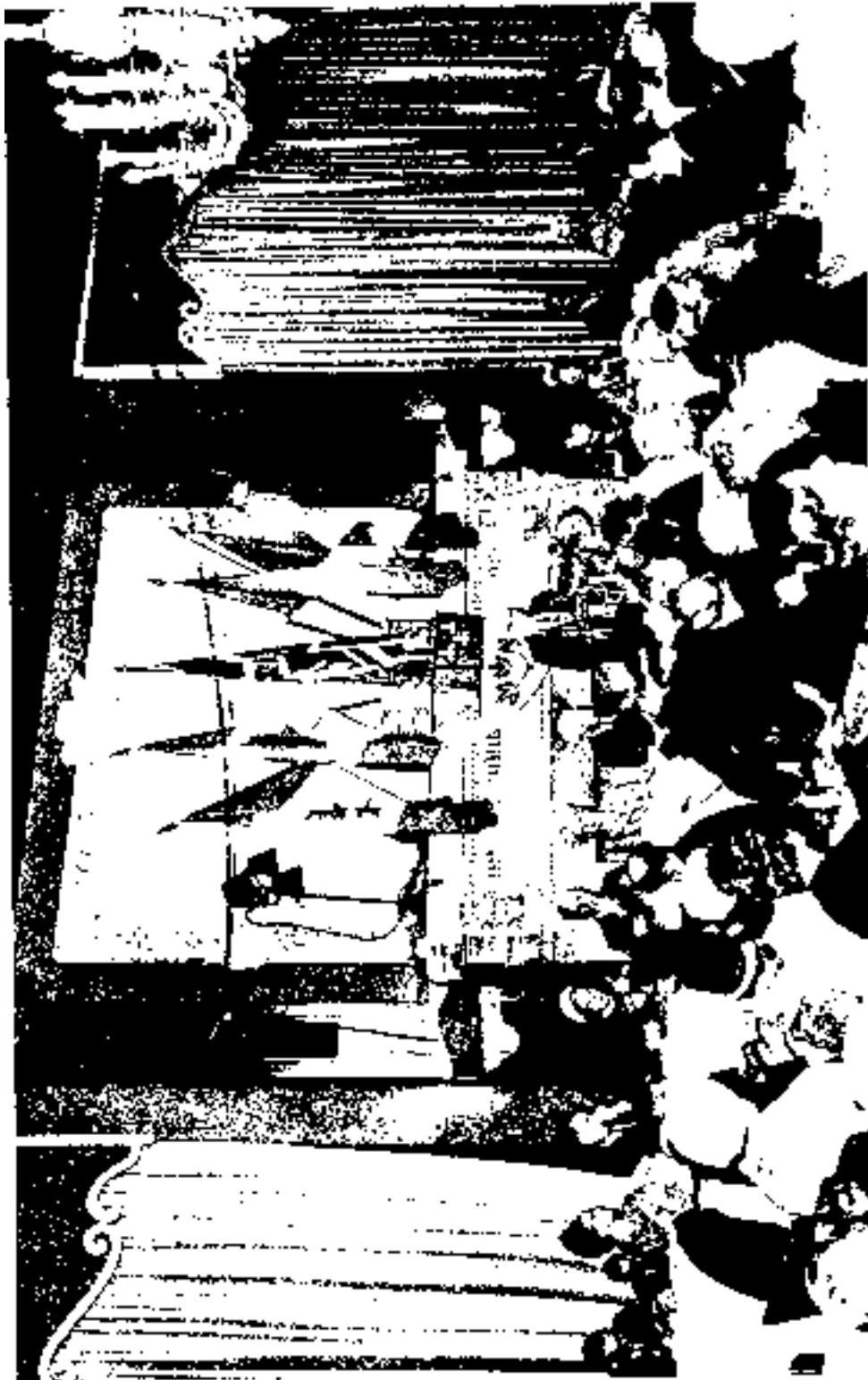
This was more than a courteous acceptance of an invitation. It was equally a compliance with a request by His Excellency, made early in his plans for this, perhaps his final tour of Western Canada. He let it be known that he was going to give his main address in Winnipeg. This was interpreted

to mean that he desired an audience which would be representative of the cosmopolitan nature of the people of Canada.

After preliminary correspondence and conferences with His Honour, Errick F. Willis, the Lieutenant-Governor, and the liaison officer, Colonel J. A. D. Graham, it was decided that the luncheon should be sponsored by the following six organizations:

- Association D'Education des Canadiens Francais du Manitoba;
- The Canada Ethnic Press Federation;
- The Canadian Club of Winnipeg;
- The Citizenship Council of Manitoba;
- The Royal Commonwealth Society;
- The Women's Canadian Club of Winnipeg.

A meeting was hastily called of representatives of these organizations, 18 in number, and at that meeting Hon. W. J. Lindal, M.C. was chosen Chairman of the Planning Committee, and Miss Valerie Walker, General Sec-



retary. Mrs. B. Stuart Parker was appointed Programme Secretary and Mrs. G. Hykawy, Publicity and Tickets Secretary. John J. Haas was named Treasurer.

The luncheon was in the main dining room of the hotel which was filled to capacity. The gathering had to be fitted into a tight schedule, which had to provide some rest for His Excellency. The time allotted for the luncheon was only 1½ hours and the meal had to be served in 35 minutes. It was actually served in 34 minutes which gave the chairman a chance to express to the Hotel Manager, staff, waiters and waitresses, appreciation for the efficient and speedy service. This was loudly applauded.

The Chairman, Judge Lindal, was asked to say the Grace. In his limited opening remarks he referred to The Vanier Institute for the Family, and then introduced, first the special guests of honour, and then the representatives, at the head table, of the six sponsoring organizations.

The only special feature, aside from the address of His Excellency, was the presentation of flowers to Madame Vanier. The Planning Committee had

decided that in order to complete the representative character of the gathering a young woman should be selected, from a group of about 40, who had just received her certificate of Canadian citizenship. The young lady selected, exceedingly charming and beautiful, was Mrs. Adolph Stupak. When she presented the flowers to Madame Vanier, the graceful chatelaine of Government House in Ottawa rose up, pressed Mrs. Stupak in a fond embrace and kissed her twice. The audience, quickly interpreting the significance of the event, clapped with sincere happiness and enthusiasm.

The Chairman then formally presented His Excellency. Accidentally (or on purpose) he referred to him as the Governor General of Manitoba, but quickly corrected his statement, saying that for the moment Manitoba was foremost in our thoughts. In his opening remarks His Excellency insisted that the error was purposely made and on this occasion he was glad to fulfill his new role.

The Governor General's address appears elsewhere in the magazine.

—G. H.

HEADTABLE, left to right: Chas. E. Dojack; Mrs. F. M. Bastin; Mr. Justice Mennin; Mrs. R. H. G. Bonnycastle; Hon. Gurney Evans; Mrs. Errick F. Willis; Governor General Georges P. Vanier; Hon. W. J. Lindal; Madame Vanier; Lt. Gov. Errick F. Willis; Mrs. Gurney Evans; R. H. G. Bonnycastle; Mrs. W. J. Lindal; J. W. Beech; John J. Haas.

## ANDRES FJELSTED ODDSTAD



Andres Fjelsted Oddstad

On January 18, 1964, on a freeway near Fresno, California, there occurred a tragedy that reached out to all mankind in general and the community of Redwood City in particular. In a head-on collision Andres Fjelsted Oddstad received injuries that resulted in his untimely death in Fresno Com-

munity Hospital four days later.

This tragedy reached out to all mankind in general because the strife-ridden world had lost a man who had among his objectives "to improve and rehabilitate the world, to redeem it so that man might walk with God in the Garden". It was felt in particular in

Redwood City as "Andy" was one of its leading driving forces.

Mr. Oddstad, with his Farm Hill and Sterling Tract developments had transformed the hayfields, truck gardens and vacant areas west of Valota Road into millions of dollars worth of housing which in turn changed the community's social and economic structure and brought prosperity and pride to its citizens. In addition, just getting under way, was Andy's multi-million dollar industrial expansion on Veterans Boulevard.

Andy's development and housing projects were not his only achievements. Mr. Oddstad was one of Redwood City's outstanding civic leaders. He took great pride in his community and his efforts were always directed towards its betterment. It was Oddstad's firm that built the new Redwood City Elks Club, The Sequoia Club on Broadway, and the new Redwood City Police Youth Club. His firm donated the labor for this \$70,000 Youth Club building. Carlie Mitchell, member of the Police Youth Club's board of directors said, "Oddstad practically gave the city the whole thing. We had an outstanding balance of about \$5,700 to jobbers and manufacturers for materials and Andy paid the bill". It wasn't surprising that Andy's friends in the Police Youth Club were completing final plans for an "Andy Oddstad Testimonial Dinner" at the time the tragedy occurred on the Fresno freeway. It was anticipated that no place in Redwood City would be large enough to accommodate all who planned to attend.

Besides being a member of the Redwood City Elks, Police Youth, and Sequoia Clubs, Mr. Oddstad also was affiliated with the Olympic Club of San Francisco, The Peninsula Golf and Country Club, and Redwood City Ki-

wanis Club. He also belonged to the Chamber of Commerce in which he was a member of the board of directors.

An appropriate illustration of Oddstad's sincere interest in his fellowman, and the great respect and admiration Redwood City's citizens had for this building contractor is his being chosen the "friend to man" award winner during a building trades blood donor event last October. John O'Conner, journalist wrote of him, "He found work for Hungarian refugees—often on his own construction projects. He lifted men out of skid row and put them to work . . . his appointment book was jammed—yet he took time to take a carload of neighborhood kids to sporting events".

Mr. Oddstad was an athlete himself and extremely anxious that youth should have ample opportunity to enjoy physical fitness. Some years ago Andy Oddstad won the heavyweight division championship in the Pacific AAU wrestling tournament. He had his workouts at San Francisco's Olympic Club. "He was a roaring bear on his feet and a shark on the mat. He had explosive power and a great staying-strength".

It is ironic that a man who had placed so much emphasis on keeping his body fit should have such a tragic accident. He was en route to a YMCA seminar on physical culture in Fresno at the time of his unfortunate accident.

Who was this remarkable man of tremendous driving force who is now so sorely missed by the Redwood City community?

Andres, affectionately known as "Andy", was the son of Dr. and Mrs. Andres Fjelsted Sveinbjornsson Oddstad. Dr. Oddstad was born at Kalastadarkoti near Reykjavik, Iceland. He was brought up at Oddstadir from which he adopted his surname. Dr.

Oddstad, at one time, attended Wesley College in Winnipeg. Through a coincidence Andy's mother, nee Stephania Ingibjorg Stoneson, was born in Winnipeg when her parents stopped over long enough for her to be born while en route from Iceland to the West Coast.

Andy was born in Rivers Inlet, British Columbia. When Andy was only nine years old his father brought the family to San Francisco.

At the age of ten Andy made up his mind to follow a career in construction. Perhaps he was inspired towards this line of endeavour by the example of his uncles, the Stoneson brothers, who developed Stonestown in San Francisco. By the time Andy was sixteen he was an apprentice carpenter. When he entered the University of California he was a journeyman. After graduating with honors in civil engineering he went to work as a rigging contractor building elevated water towers in the Mojave Desert and throughout the Southwest.

In 1942 he married Clara Ella Byler in Yuma, Arizona.

During World War II he was assigned to an underwater demolition team and he made thirteen Navy landings from the Aleutians to New Guinea, destroying offshore fortifications.

After being promoted to an ensign, Andy returned home to an assignment at Hollywood Beach, Florida. For his duties with the Frogman unit he was given a Presidential Citation.

After the war Mr. Oddstad embarked on one of the brightest construction careers in the Bay Area. His uncles, the Stoneson brothers, helped him and his then partner, the late Chris Finson, set up the Sterling Building Company. It is estimated that Mr. Oddstad built close to twelve thousand homes in Redwood City and the Bay Area. In addition he had recently turned to the building of apartment houses.

Mr. Oddstad was as devoted and understanding in his personal family life as he was in the business and social world. He affectionately referred to his wife "Chum" and loved to speak about his parents. One of his favourite topics was his family: his daughter Sandy who worked at his office during the summer and who last fall enrolled at the University of Santa Clara; and his young son David, now ten. He also liked to talk about Iceland from where his parents came.

Various dignitaries and city and county representatives attended Andy's funeral which overflowed into the street. Floral arrangements covered the funeral chapel walls from floor to ceiling. This was an open manifestation of the appreciation and gratitude of Andy's accomplishments and aid given to diverse needs.

As the journalist David N. Schutz wrote: "A bright light is gone. My favorite community has lost a man we may never be able to replace. Redwood City could ill-afford to lose Andy Oddstad."

—Arelus Isfeld.

(Based on notes from Louise Gudmunds and editorials and articles from various local Redwood City and Peninsula newspapers — California U.S.A.)

## ROYAL COMMISSION ON BILINGUALISM AND BICULTURALISM

The Royal Commission on B. and B. held its formal hearings in Winnipeg on May 17, 18 and 19, 1965.

Undoubtedly progress and clarification of thinking has been made since the Preliminary Hearing in Ottawa, November 7 and 8, 1963. The progress made can be conveniently summarized.

a) It is not open to serious and documented challenge that English and French are the official languages of Canada.

b) The statement issued by the Chairmen of the Commission that Canadian bilingualism does not mean that either "language is to be forced upon anyone" cannot be too often repeated.

c) It is no longer seriously challenged that the mass migration of ethnic groups to Canada have altered the understanding reached between the founding peoples the British and the French.

d) A distinction must be made between the teaching of a language and the use of a language as an instrument of instruction.

e) The vast majority of opinions expressed, support the teaching of ethnic languages on a voluntary basis in high schools and even at public school levels where there is a reasonable demand for same.

f) Much progress has been made in support of the use of French as a language of instruction in areas where there are concentrations of French Canadians. This was advocated in the following briefs: University of Mani-

toba; University College; the United Church.

The briefs from the following organizations have much in common and under the title "The Fundamental Facts", which follows this report, those common features are set out. The organizations are:

1. The Royal Commonwealth Society which includes all the Branches in Canada, and headquarters in Ottawa.

2. The Canada Ethnic Press Federation which includes about 80 ethnic papers across Canada from Montreal to Vancouver.

3. The Citizenship Council of Manitoba, which has representation from about 60 public spirited organizations in Winnipeg.

4. The French-Canadian Education Association of Manitoba.

5. The Canada Press Club which includes the ethnic weeklies and periodicals published in Winnipeg.

6. The Executive of the Icelandic Canadian Club.

7. The Viking Club of Winnipeg which includes the 5 Scandinavian groups.

The hearing in Winnipeg brought out the need of making known the manner in which a legislative body may, (1) declare a language to be an official language of a State, (2) remove a language from its status as an official language. The Appendix to the Fundamental Canadian Facts indicates how this can be done.

W. J. Lindal

## The Fundamental Canadian Facts

As set out in a number of briefs submitted to the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism, these facts may be stated as follows:

1. What took place on the Plains of Abraham, September 13, 1759, and subsequently to February 10, 1763, when the Treaty of Paris was signed, was an understanding, an agreement or pact between the French and the British national groups, which made them the founding people of Canada and their languages the official languages of Canada. This status is almost unanimously accepted throughout Canada.
2. The status of all Canadians of any national origin as equals and their entitlement to all the rights of Canadian citizenship are accepted and readily acknowledged throughout Canada.
3. Every challenge to the equal primacy of the English and French languages has always been resisted. An excellent example of such resistance is the Union Act, 1840, and the removal of the offending clause in that Act, in the year 1848, by the Imperial Parliament.
4. It is the right to the use of a language in the Parliament or the legislative assembly of a country or state which establishes that language as an official language of that country or state.
5. Section 23 of The Manitoba Act, 1870, reads as follows:
 

“23. Either the English or the French language may be used by any person in the debates of the Houses of the Legislature, and both those languages shall be used in the respective Records and Journals of those Houses.”
7. The essentials of Section 133 of the B.N.A. Act reads as follows:
 

“133. Either the English or the French Language may be used by any Person in the Debates of the House of the Parliament of Canada and of the Houses of the Legislature of Quebec; and both those Languages shall be used in the respective Records and Journals of those Houses.”
8. The above made both English and French official languages in any area which is bound by statutes passed by the Parliament of Canada. That extends across all of present Canada.

9. Ever since Confederation and even before, the two founding races have, through successive governments, encouraged immigration into Canada from countries in which the native language is neither English nor French. By so doing the founding peoples have varied the original understanding, pact or agreement and are estopped by their own conduct from denying that a variation has been made. As all Canadians are equal in status the variation must be in relation to the user of the languages spoken by the newcomers.

10. These languages are entitled to a status and recognition in Canada. As the cultures and the languages of those groups are so closely intertwined the only practical way to give expression to that status is to provide that these languages be taught, on a voluntary basis, at the stage of development of the child when it should have the option of selecting a language as a course of study. The high school level obviously suggests itself but in areas of heavy concentration of ethnic groups the commencement of the instruction might be at the elementary level.

11. As French and English are the official languages of Canada they are languages of instruction and other languages should not be used as languages of instruction, except, of course, in the teaching of the language itself.

N.B.— Latest statistics show that both French and English are languages of instruction in public and high schools in Quebec and New Brunswick; in public schools and two high school courses in Ontario; and in Grades 1 and 2 in Alberta. By reason of an “administrative leeway” there is a limited use of French in Manitoba as a language of instruction in concentrated areas and pockets of French population.

12. The extent of user of either English or French as languages of instruction will vary according to demand, public opinion and the population content.

13. It is very doubtful, in view of constitutional issues which have recently been raised, whether a province could now pass legislation prohibiting the use of either English or French as languages of instruction.

14. Canadian unity transcends the claims of any of its parts and must be the paramount consideration.

15. Canada as a nation has no parallel. This arises through the following facts: the second largest province is 80% French and Roman Catholic; close to 1/3 of the population of Canada is of neither French nor English descent; there is a steady flow of immigrants from all over the world.

1890. OFFICIAL LANGUAGE, ETC. CAPS. 14 & 15.

#### CHAPTER 14.

An Act to Provide that the English Language shall be the Official Language of the Province of Manitoba.

[Assented to 31st March, 1890.]

HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Manitoba, enacts as follows :

1 Any statute or law to the contrary notwithstanding, the English language only shall be used in the records and journals of the House of Assembly for the Province of Manitoba, and in any pleadings or process in or issuing from any court in the Province of Manitoba. The Acts of the Legislature of the Province of Manitoba need only be printed and published in the English language.

English language to be Official language.

Statutes.

2 This Act shall only apply so far as this Legislature has jurisdiction so to enact, and shall come into force on the day it is assented to.

Act to apply only within jurisdiction of Legislature.

### APPENDIX TO THE FUNDAMENTAL CANADIAN FACTS

The point here is not whether the Province of Manitoba had the power to pass this Act, but rather what were the appropriate words to be used by the Legislative Assembly to carry out its intent of eliminating French as an official language in Manitoba. The above statute was interpreted and acted upon not only in Manitoba but throughout Canada, particularly in Ottawa, as having removed French as an official language and hence as a language of instruction in Manitoba. French teachers went under cover and began a practice of using French as a language of instruction secretly, in the hope that no action would be taken. This paved the way for the "administrative leeway" in Manitoba referred to in the MacFarlane Royal Commission on Education.

## The Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism

Brief Submitted By The Executive of The Icelandic Canadian Club

1. The Icelandic Canadian Club is in general agreement with presentations submitted on behalf of the Royal Commonwealth Society, Manitoba Branch, and the Canada Ethnic Press Federation. There are, however, some points the Executive of the Club would like to add. This is rather a matter of emphasis than a departure.

#### The Common Western European Culture

2. This has been emphasized in many presentations placed before the Commission, notably the one submitted by Dr. W. C. Lockhart on behalf of the United Church of Canada. He in part said, "We will only have a Canada with stability and purpose if we find our place in the common culture which belongs to all."

3. People of Icelandic origin are in a special position to emphasize this. It is often said that English is basically Anglo-Saxon. If, however, that is examined more closely it will be found that basically, the English language rests upon the Germanic or Indo-European languages or dialects spoken by the Saxons, the Anglians, the Jutes, the Mercians, and the Norsemen. The Norse results from two migrations: one in the ninth century from present Norway to Ireland and Scotland, the other in the tenth century from present Denmark and Sweden. Old Icelandic, which through the centuries has changed very little, is Old Norse.

4. Then there was another Norse migration. William the Conqueror was

a descendant, fifth generation, of Rollo who came from the Scandinavian peninsula and founded Normandy. The word Norman is a softened form of the word Norseman. It is a matter of historic fact that the majority of the settlers of New France came from Northern France.

5. Hence, it may be said that in the English people there is a common Anglo-Saxon-Norse cultural background to which the language of the Celts and the Normans are added ingredients and in the French people there is a primary Latin cultural background to which the Normans made a substantial contribution.

#### Combatting Discrimination

6. There is one lesson in human relations which the Icelandic settlers in America have learned. It may rest upon the hardships encountered by their ancestors in their struggle against the forces of nature back in Iceland. Or it may be a lesson they, in common with all the so-called ethnic groups in this land, have learned. They learned it in a university which is undoubtedly the hardest but yet, in a way, the best of all universities. It is the university of



experience, and the toughest subject in that university is a study of the means needed to combat discrimination., that most insidious and persistent type of obstacle to true nation building.

7. Furthermore, let there be no misunderstanding on one point. The Icelandic settlers no less than other immigrants had to face discriminations, and with all other non-English speaking and non-French speaking newcomers they have had to learn a fundamental lesson and it is this: **work harder than the other fellow; acquire a better education; grasp every opportunity for better training; become more efficient; and above all, when opportunities come, even if the waiting may have been unwarranted, show in the performance of the task placed before you that you can discharge it as well, indeed better, than the other fellow.**

8. The reward, just like Shakespeare's "Mercy" is two-fold: It blesses the individual or group who practices the lesson learned; it elevates those about them, in that it enables them to see more clearly that God-given qualities of mind and body are distributed throughout mankind. Both combine in moulding a common Canadian loyalty; both combine in strengthening the feeling of brotherhood, which lies deep, though at times hidden in every human heart.

#### The Changing Environment

9. If one looks back on those years of adjustment and adaptation to find out how the assimilation of wave after wave of immigrants occurred, one feature of the environment appears basic. This was the hopefulness that a better world was being built by the

only means known to be available—hard work. This took many forms, both physical and intellectual, but the necessity of sustained application to the tasks at hand was taken for granted. This was a period in which the unity of Canada as a nation seemed assured.

10. Until the Great Depression of the thirties this spirit of progress and unity was quite real. But the world-wide erosion of national economies with massive unemployment everywhere weakened that spirit—and it weakened our faith in progress. Much questioning developed concerning the viability of the Canadian economy.

11. This was a time when national unity was put to a severe test. But strong actions by the Federal Government through nation-wide programs served to maintain the economy until World War II brought its own unquestioning demands for national unity. This continued to about 1950.

12. Having learned the lesson that hard work alone does not build a nation and, having seen the effects on output and employment of all-out national planning for war, Canadians began to believe that periodic mass unemployment was not inevitable. During the fifties we, in fact, accepted the view that through nation-wide cooperation reasonably full employment could be assured. We have now reached the point where we are committed as a nation to full employment.

13. This is the new commitment to which Canadians must adjust as a nation. It is no longer satisfactory to have high levels of employment in some provinces with severe unemployment in others.

14. The fact that this is a new concept and the fact that we have not learned to manage the economy so as to reach this new goal is putting a severe strain on national unity once more. The strain is most pronounced in Quebec where unemployment is more severe but national unity will be threatened everywhere in Canada until we succeed in equalizing opportunities (insofar as it is possible to do so) throughout the country.

#### A New Basis For Unity

15. We believe, therefore, that a new requirement for unity has emerged. If properly understood, and, if the requirement is met, Canada will be more unified than ever before.

16. This is the requirement of providing reasonably equal opportunities for all Canadians to find a meaningful and satisfying way of life. It is not a matter of giving favors or special consideration to any group.

#### Conclusion

17. Because many people in Quebec feel that they do not now enjoy equality of opportunity with other Canadians, severe frustrations have developed. Only when the economic basis

for these frustrations is removed will national unity be restored. Only when reasonable equality of opportunity is achieved will bilingualism and biculturalism be debated with intelligence and understanding.

18. Unless this fundamental point is understood by a broad spectrum of Canadians, discrimination against French-speaking Canadians will increase. A failure to understand will, in turn, intensify the demand within Quebec for a special identity.

19. It may be that in the study of the essential content of national unity Canadians have selected a subject on the curriculum in the University of Experience which, in import, transcends that of discrimination, indeed, every other subject for true nation building. We sincerely hope that the Canadian people will pass this subject with honours.

Dated at Winnipeg this 17th day  
of July A.D. 1964.

**W. Finnbogason**

President—The Icelandic Canadian Club

**Margret Ramsay**

Secretary—The Icelandic Canadian Club

## MEKKIN S. PERKINS

by the late DR. STEFAN EINARSSON, who died in Iceland where the article was written

The last letter I received from Mrs. Mekkin S. Perkins—but they were **many and** will go to Landsbókasafn, The Icelandic National Library—was dated November 28, 1963, 337 Wesley Gardens, Des Moines, Washington, U.S.A. She had moved there after her husband's death in Washington, D.C., 1955. In that letter Mekkin wrote me as follows:

"As for me, I am much better than I was last year, about three times as spry. You asked if I was as spry. That word has connotations, as you know. As a matter of fact I am toying with the idea of joining a prospective group flight to Iceland from Seattle next summer, that is, of course, assuming that the flight takes place and that I am able to go. My doctor tells me that I can go anywhere in the world if I take my medicine and a letter to a physician with me. So I hope to have the honor and pleasure of seeing you again."

When Mekkin did not appear with the summer birds from Seattle 1964 we knew something must be wrong. It was. She died from cancer July 21, 1964 I am sure as spry as ever. The parson at Wesley Gardens performed the last rites, her friends from there and from Seattle attending, among them her surviving niece Mrs. Lawrence Swett and Mrs. Jakobína Johnson, famous poetess, and a long-standing friend of Mekkin, who wrote her necrologue in *Lögberg-Heimskringla*. November 26, 1964. Some facts here are borrowed from that paper.

Mekkin was born in Winnipeg, Canada, September 18, 1887. Her parents, shortly arrived from Iceland, were Gunnar Sveinsson from Egilsstaðir in Fljótisdal and Kristín Finnsdóttir, daughter of the Reverend Finnur Þorsteinsson of Klyppsstað and Desjarmýri and his wife Ólöf Einarsdóttir. Her father's mother's name was Mekkin, a name Arab in origin, traceable back to a woman returning from the Algerian pirates of 1627. Her mother Kristín was the sister of the Reverend Jón Finnsson of Hof and Djúpivog, father of Government Minister Eysteinn Jónsson and the Reverend Jakob Jónsson essayist and playwright and father of Jökull Jakobsson, a successful playwright (*Hart í bak*) and novelist. These people did not have far to go to find poetic gift in their family for the parents of Finnur Þorsteinsson were Þorsteinn Mikaelsson poet farmer at Mjóanes, Skógum and his wife also a poetess, Kristín Jónsdóttir from Vallanes. Sigfús Sigfússon, folk tale collector was the son of Jóhanna Þorsteinsdóttir. About all these people one may read in *Austfirzk skáld og rithöfundar* (1961) by the writer.

Mekkin was born in the home of Jóhann Magnús Bjarnason, teacher and writer in Winnipeg where her parents first stayed. They were good friends. She grew up in Winnipeg, studying languages there at the Collegiate Institute, winning prizes and graduating in 1904. A little later the family moved to the West Coast, first to Blaine, then to Seattle.

Wanting to get a higher education, Mekkin paid for her tuition by teaching languages, her favorite subject. She won prizes for languages at the University of Washington as well as a "Bachelor of Arts Degree" in 1908. Likewise in Palo Alto, California, where she took her "Master of Arts Degree".

Soon (1914) World War I broke out. The Government in Washington, D.C. lacked translators to translate many European Languages expertly. Mekkin then must have known Icelandic, the Scandinavian languages, German and French. She made a quick decision deciding to go east and join the Foreign Office. There she passed all her examinations with flying colours joining the staff of translators. She added Spanish and Italian by studying in evening school. On the staff of translators she met and married the most experienced translator of all, Mr. John Wesley Perkins. This was in 1925. They were very happy together though they had no children and they made many friends in Washington.

I met Mekkin first on an expedition to Iceland celebrating the Millennium of the Althing in 1930. After that I went to see her in Washington, and she would visit me in Baltimore. During the depression her work was taken away from her, a ruling being made by Roosevelt that husband and wife could not be employed together so that she got plenty of leisure from her work. Then she started translating Icelandic short stories into English, a task that she was especially well fitted for. Mekkin naturally did not have a lot of Icelandic books herself. She would often borrow books from me, translate, bring back or send back her manuscripts for my checking. In this way she translated the stories later

published in **Icelandic Poems and Stories** by The American Scandinavian Foundation in 1943, edited by Prof. Richard Beck. Her friend Jakobína Johnson tells us that she left a collection of short stories enough to fill another book which I hope the American Scandinavian Foundation will publish as well as some of her beautiful poems, for Mekkin was a poetess like her forefathers perhaps better, for she was a perfectionist. Wherever she was she joined poet societies about which Dr. Henry Goddard Leach will know more than I. I do know that she translated a specimen of **Sólon Islandus** by Davíð Stefansson having a copy of that work in my library. We sent it to Knopf without result.

Mekkin came three times to Iceland, twice after the war, once with her husband John, or Nonni, as she called him, Icelandic fashion. He was as we said, a great linguist, specializing in the East European languages like Russian and the rest of the Slavonic languages, Finnish, Hungarian, and Estonian, or the Finno-Ugrian languages, probably also Lithuanian and Lettish, all of them rising national tongues after the first World War, and therefore important in Washington. But he knew also Icelandic and read with pleasure **Jón Gerreksson biskup** by Jón Björnsson. Nonni was stricken with his first stroke when he planned to go with his Master, F. D. Roosevelt to the Yalta Conference, February 11, 1945. He recovered partly and Mekkin tended him until his death in 1956. By that time she had contracted breast cancer which finally led to her death. The grief after her husband was deep and genuine, but she did not let that effect her spirits which always were high.

## Rev. Philip and Thorey Petursson



Rev. Philip and Thorey Petursson

It has been brought to our attention that certain errors were made in a preliminary news item that appeared in the last issue of the Icelandic Canadian. Appearing under the picture of Rev. Philip M. Petursson it was indicated that Mr. Petursson had "taken over" the duties as Director of the Western Canada Unitarian Conference. In point of fact he has been performing these duties in connection with his ministry of the Unitarian

Church of Winnipeg for many years and is simply continuing to perform that most important function. The news item likewise erroneously stated that Mr. Petursson served as Chairman of the Winnipeg School Board. While he gave distinguished service on that Board for nine years, he never actually held the position of Chairman.

The Icelandic Canadian regrets that these details were not checked prior to inserting the hastily prepared item,

and wishes to take this opportunity to congratulate Philip Petursson, not only on his many years of service to his church—a service which received such signal recognition when some 250 friends and associates gathered to honour him on the occasion of his retirement—but likewise to his contributions to the cause of Icelandic Canadian affairs throughout the years. Mr. Petursson is a charter member of the Icelandic Canadian Club and has served both as President and Vice-President of The Icelandic National League and is now its President.

Philip Petursson had for many years been a strong supporter of Heimskringla and to him more than any one man goes the credit for having brought about the amalgamation of Lögberg and Heimskringla. He was one of a special committee of 5 under the chairmanship of the late Stefan Hansen, which finally succeeded in effecting the amalgamation. He was made vice-president of the new publishers, The North American Publishing Co. Ltd., and later became the President. Last fall he was succeeded in that office by Grettir L. Johannson.

As already stated Rev. Petursson served with distinction on the Winnipeg School Board. At present he is on the Municipal Hospital Commission where he has served for many years.

In 1951 the Government of Iceland honoured Mr. Petursson by conferring upon him the decoration of Knight Cross of the Order of the Falcon.

Philip Petursson has been a strong supporter of "The Unitarian Service Committee" which gathers clothes and sends them to the needy in Korea, India and Greece. That Committee, with headquarters in Ottawa, has become internationally known for this deeply humanitarian service. The contribution of the Unitarian Church in Winnipeg has been magnanimous.

Mrs. Petursson, Thorey, through one of those sad misadventures in the Creator's provision for human life on Earth, selflessly served for many years—truly within the noblest trait with which women are blest.

Mr. and Mrs. Petursson are at present on a trip to Iceland. It would have been most appropriate if they had been allotted the tickets offered by Loftleiðir, but Philip's high sense of the duties of office, would have forbade that.

Philip and Thorey have one son, Philip Ólafur, who resides in Winnipeg and holds the position of Superintendent of Distribution for the Greater Winnipeg Gas Company. There are four grandchildren.

—W. J. L.



## Annual Meeting Icelandic-Canadian Club

The annual meeting of The Icelandic Canadian Club was held June 14, in the Parish Hall of the First Lutheran Church.

The President Wm. Finnbogason gave a written report which appears with this report and supplemented that statement by reminding those present that the Icelandic community was relatively small and how essential it was that all the organizations cooperate if objectives, as set out in the constitution, were to be carried out.

The report of the treasurer, Helgi Olsen, showed that the finances of the Club were in good shape.

Reports of committees were heard. They showed that the activities of the Club had been well carried out. There was one new project, the Christmas party for the "Senior Citizens". It proved exceedingly popular and will be continued.

The Editor-in-Chief of the Magazine Board read a carefully prepared report which appears with this report and added that a member of the B & B Commission told him that the report, aside from details, could be applied to any ethnic publication.

To his complete surprise an Honorary Life Membership in the Icelandic Canadian Club was presented to Hon. W. J. Lindal, Q.C., for "Many years



John J. Arnason

John J. Arnason was elected President of the Icelandic Canadian Club at their annual meeting.

of devoted and continuous service in the interests of "the Club, the magazine, the Chair in Icelandic and the Canada-Iceland Foundation."

In his reply Mr. Lindal thanked the Club for the honour and said that whatever service he rendered was prompted by gratitude to the people from whom he had descended and the land which now was his native land.

A resolution on a possible Leifr Eirikson Day in Canada or the erec-

tion of a suitable monument to Leifr Eiriksson, moved by W. J. Lindal, seconded by Dr. Baldur Kristjanson, was approved. The resolution is appended to this report.

The following were elected Officers and Members at Large for the ensuing year:

Past Pres., Wm. H. Finnbogason  
 President, John J. Arnason  
 Vice-Pres., Leifur Hallgrimson  
 Treasurer, Oliver G. Bjornson  
 Secretary, W. Leo Johnson

Members at Large: Mrs. Wm. Appleby; Miss A. Fridfinnson; Dr. Baldur Kristjanson; Mrs. W. Kristjanson; Judge W. J. Lindal, Thor Skulason.

The Icelandic Canadian Magazine Board: Prof. H. Bessason; H. F. Danielson; Donald A. Flatt; Miss Caroline Gunnarsson; Miss Mattie Halldorson; Miss Salome Halldorson; Arelius Isfeld; Gustaf Kristjanson; W. Kristjanson; W. J. Lindal; T. O. S. Thorsteinson.

## RESOLUTION

Passed at the Annual Meeting of the Icelandic Canadian Club, June 14, 1965

WHEREAS President Lyndon B. Johnson has proclaimed Leif Erikson Day in the United States of America;  
 AND WHEREAS Leifr Eiriksson was the first white man to discover America;  
 And WHEREAS there is sufficient evidence available to establish that some of the Greenlanders, who originally came from Iceland, reached the islands of Northern Canada and as far south as Newfoundland;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED

- (1) that the Government of Canada should by Proclamation and/or a Holiday recognize that Leifr Eiriksson was the first European to set foot upon Canadian soil;
- (2) that the erection of a suitable monument or other tangible memorial to Leifr Eiriksson be made a national Canadian Centennial Project;
- (3) that it be made clear that this recognition does not in any way effect Canada's recognition of the sailings of John Cabot and Jacques Cartier, nor the achievement of Samuel de Champlain who was the first European to establish a permanent settlement in Canada.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to Rt. Hon. Lester B. Pearson, the Prime Minister of Canada, and that copies be sent to Hon. Paul Martin, Hon. William M. Benedickson, Hon. Maurice Lamontagne, Rt. Hon. John G. Diefenbaker, Thomas C. Douglas, M.P., Robert Thompson, M.P., R. Caouette, M.P., Senator G. S. Thorvaldson, Eric Stefanson, M.P., Hon. Dufferin Roblin, Hon. Joseph R. Smallwood, Hon. Maitland Steinkopf, and John Fisher, Centennial Commissioner.

## The President's Report:

TO THE ICELANDIC CANADIAN CLUB,

MONDAY, JUNE 14th, 1965

One of the duties of the President of our Club is to report to the annual meeting on the activities of the Club during the past year. While I do propose to fulfill this constitutional requirement, I do not propose to do so at any length to avoid infringing to a large degree on any of the subsequent speakers' material.

Shortly after becoming your President I had the honour of representing you at a number of functions held in honour of Prime Minister and Mrs. Benidickson and their son, Bjorn, during their visit to this country. Their genuine interest in and their strong feeling of attachment toward the people of Icelandic descent in this country was not only flattering and appreciated but also served to tighten the knot of kinship that we feel for the homeland of our fathers.

For the first time our Club actively participated in the planning for the Icelandic Celebration at the request of the Icelandic Day Committee. A Committee under the most capable chairmanship of Laura Sigurdson prepared and displayed a museum of authentically Icelandic items which I feel was very well received by all those who had an opportunity to view it. A special thanks must go to the T. Eaton Co. Ltd., and Mrs. Harry Faier who assisted the Committee so much in its preparation for and the display of this museum.

At the first meeting of the year, in September, we were most fortunate in having Ambassador John P. Sigvaldason and his charming wife as guests of the Club. Ambassador Sigvaldason, who is Canada's first Ambassador to Iceland and Norway, of Icelandic descent, gave a most interesting account of his experiences while in the service of the Canadian Government's Diplomatic Corps. Later in that week, a dinner sponsored by the Canada-Iceland Foundation, was held in honour of the Ambassador and his wife and was attended by the executive officers of the Icelandic Organizations in this city.

The following regular club meeting was held in November and those attending were treated to an excellent musical program arranged by Miss Snjolaug Sigurdson.

During the evening of December 21 our club had a Christmas party for the senior citizens in our Icelandic community. This party was attended by 91 senior citizens who took part in the bus tour of the more prominently decorated areas of the City and then returned to this Church for a concert and coffee-party. A good deal of thanks for the success of this program is due to Mrs. Ninna Stephenson, Mr. Axel Vopnifjord, Laura Sigurdson and Mrs. Jona Kristjanson. They and many others worked tirelessly, at a very busy time of the year to make this a memor-

able evening. It is my hope that this party will become an annual event.

The annual Club dinner and dance held at the Marlborough Hotel on January 15th was well attended and the usual friendly atmosphere prevailed throughout the evening. The Children's Choir under the direction of Mr. Kerr Wilson did an excellent job of providing after dinner entertainment. We were delighted to have as our special headtable guests for the evening, the following people:

Consul Grettir L. Johannson,

Rev. Philip Peturson, President of the Icelandic National League and his wife.

Mr. Kobbi Kristjanson, President of the Frón Chapter, Icelandic National League and his wife.

Mr. S. A. Thorarinson, President of the Icelandic Day Committee and his wife.

A noon, on February 16th, the annual luncheon sponsored by your Club was held at the Mall Hotel. The guest speaker was Mr. Tryggvi Bjerring who presented an excellent talk on the Icelandic Businessmen of Winnipeg. Mr. Bjerring's humorous anecdotes of the early years were a pleasure to all those in attendance.

The annual concert held at the First Lutheran Church on the evening of February 16th was well attended. The guest speaker of the evening was Rev. Sveinbjorn Olafson of Minneapolis, whose subject was "What Price Glory". Following Rev. Olafson's address musical selections and the presentation of

scholarships rounded out the program for the evening.

In April, Mr. Allan Johnson, a high school teacher at Kelvin High School presented a most interesting series of slides and a talk on his three years in Ethiopia as a teacher in the employ of the Ethiopian Government.

In the fall of 1964, Judge W. J. Lindal and Mr. Baldur Kristjanson prepared a brief to the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism which was endorsed by the executive of the Club. This brief was enthusiastically received by the Commission and the authors were invited to a recent meeting of the Commission held in Winnipeg at which time they defended the Club's brief very capably. They are both to be congratulated for their excellent work on this project.

I was recently in receipt of an invitation from the President of the Icelandic Day Committee to appoint a representative of our Club to membership on that Committee. This matter was recently discussed at an executive meeting and the incoming Vice-President was selected as your representative on the Icelandic Day Committee.

That very briefly, ladies and gentlemen, sums up your Club's activities for the 1964-65 season.

It has been a privilege to be your President and a pleasure to have had the opportunity of working with the excellent executive that shared the management of our Club, with me during the past year. They all deserve special mention and I know that they

will forgive me if I restrict myself to drawing your attention to a special two without whom, and a few more like them, the Icelandic Canadian Club would in all likelihood be a club of the past, and who have requested to be relieved of executive duties this year.

I am referring to:

a( Laura Sigurdson, whose service to this Club extends back to its very beginnings. After these many years of hard work on your behalf Laura has requested to be relieved of executive duties in the Club. It is with reluctance but with understanding that your nominating committee agreed to her request. It has been an honour to have worked with such a faithful and hard working Club member.

b( Helgi Olsen, Helgi has served as your Treasurer for the last ten years. This job is often arduous and non-rewarding. He has maintained a watchful eye on the Club's finances and provided the necessary restraint on the executive when required. To keep the books of a relatively small organization such as ours can be very frustrating at times to say nothing of the duties of a collection agent for membership dues. Helgi has never complained and always has been ready to support anything that would enhance our Club as long as it was within our financial capabilities. I want to thank him for his years of faithful service to the Club.

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## Report of The Editor-in-Chief

At a hearing of The Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism, held in Winnipeg on May 17, 18 and 19, 1965, I was asked the following question:

"What purpose does a publication such as The Icelandic Canadian, which is published in English, serve in Canada?"

My reply, as closely as I can recall, was as follows:

The answer should be put generally first.

The descendants of the pioneers of the people in Canada, whose native language was neither English nor French, have a twofold duty to perform.

1. They owe a duty to the people from whom they have descended to help preserve the culture they brought

with them and make it a part of the cultural wealth of Canada. As the language is the main instrument through which a culture can be preserved there is a special duty upon these descendants to maintain a knowledge of the languages of their fathers.

2. These people also have their duty to Canada, a duty which is more than obeying laws and making a living. It calls for citizenship service at all levels, and of a high standard.

This twofold duty has its reward primarily in Canada, but also in the lands of origin in that it enhances the images created of the respective national groups both here and in the original homeland.

All ethnic publications seek to serve in these two fields. Some may use the language of origin exclusively, others may, to a certain extent, use both that

language and English (or French). others may use English (or French) exclusively.

The Icelandic Canadian is in the third category and publishes in English only. It may be said to be at once a Canadian and an Icelandic magazine. It seeks to reach people of Icelandic descent, not only because of a common background, but also in order that these people may the better combine their forces in the performance of their twofold duty here in Canada.

The Icelandic Canadian does its full share in supporting every effort to maintain on this side of the Atlantic our heritage, especially our Icelandic language. It records the achievements, particularly in the field of letters, of leading men and women of Icelandic descent and helps maintain contacts as the descendants of the pioneers scatter far and wide and a large majority marry people of other national origins.

The people of Iceland have their problems in maintaining the language pure and free of slang and foreign expressions. Leaders of thought, both on visits to Canada and the United States and in group gatherings with Vestur-Íslendingar visiting in Iceland, have without hesitation expressed their appreciation of the splendid record of people of Icelandic descent in the West. They have frankly admitted

that our determination to maintain Icelandic culture and language, has been a source of encouragement to them in their own struggles in combatting TV and influences from abroad because Iceland is now on an international highway and line of communications.

In this field the descendants of the Icelandic pioneers are an outpost of Iceland. We, as citizens of this land, must remember that we are a living example of the small group of Icelanders in this world, who are only a little over 200,000 in number. The Icelandic Canadian must impress upon its readers how important it is that the Icelandic image be a worthy and a noble one.

The people here of Icelandic descent see their duty clearly as Canadians and seek to discharge it in an equally worthy and noble manner. The Icelandic Canadian does its share in bringing leading Canadian events to its readers, referring to achievements of the past, and especially in discussing at the present time, almost a moment of crisis, Canada's many problems.

In assisting in discharging the twofold duty which rests upon the descendants of the Icelandic pioneers, The Icelandic Canadian performs its ample service.

—W. J. Lindal





## Farmer Realizes Lifetime Dream With The Purchase of a Stradivarius

by Florence Pratt



Stephen Kolbinson plays his 1721 Stradivarius

A Stradivarius violin, vintage 1721, has been added to a collection of fine stringed instruments in Saskatoon.

Stephen Kolbinson, who has been indulging a passion to own quality stringed instruments for many years, brought the rare violin from New York to keep company with two violins, an Amati and Guarneri, already in his possession.

Also in Saskatoon is a second privately owned Stradivarius, and a quartet of Amati instruments sold by Mr. Kolbinson to the University of Saskatchewan several years ago.

So many fine instruments in a single city, the size of Saskatoon, population about 113,000, must surely be some kind of record.

Prof. Murray Adaskin, head of the music department of the U. of S., said he considered this violin ranked among the best six of about 500 "Strads" known to be still in existence.

Mr. Kolbinson said Stradivari was known to have made about 1200 violins, violin cellos and violas, of which about 500 were still to be found.

Known to the trade as "The Archinto", after the name of a former own-

er, Count Giuseppe Archinto of Milan, the history of this violin has been vouched for by a recognized firm of dealers and violin makers, William E. Hill and Sons of London, England.

About the beginning of the 19th century, the violin was one of a quartet of Stradivari instruments owned by Count Archinto. Upon his death, the instruments passed into the hands of Passalacqua of Milan, who later sold them to J. B. Vuillaume of Paris in 1860-1865.

In 1865, a Manchester violinist, W. Bauerheller, purchased the Archinto from Vuillaume.

When the aging Bauerheller offered the violin for sale in 1907, it came into the hands of Hill and Sons, who resold it to an amateur who retained it until 1924. At that time it came back once more to the shop of Hill and Sons.

Not long ago, Mr. Kolbinson purchased the rare instrument through a New York dealer and brought it to his home here.

A farmer by trade but a collector of rare musical instruments by choice, Mr. Kolbinson said it had been his life-long ambition to own a few of the best of the world's violins.

Hill and Sons had told him they had always considered the Archinto to be one of "the most robust Stradivaris in existence, being without doubt, a thoroughly masculine fiddle and worthy of the greatest player."

"I decided I should have it", he said with a twinkle. "I had to sell quite a big lot of my land to buy it", but land seemed of little value as compared with the beauty and tone of the Stradivari.

Mr. Kolbinson really had no illusions about his own abilities as a violinist. He said he had been a farmer fiddler since childhood, but it was not until after he came to make his winter home

in Saskatoon in 1950, he was able to take any lessons.

Since that time, however, he has made a viola and plays it with the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra, as well as collected for himself the Amati and Guarneri violins, a Cassavant organ and Steinway grand piano.

"I always aim for the best", he said and explained that this attitude had applied to horses, "when I used to have them and to my land."

He was born at Brandon, of Icelandic parentage, but spent his childhood near Tantalton, in Saskatchewan.

In spare time between farm chores, he used to play the mouth organ, auto-harp and the fiddle, "which I learned by myself."

He started farming for himself near Merid, "but the land was so poor I left it for the loan company."

He began again near Kindersley, on land he "picked up cheaply" during the 30s. He continued "picking it up at the fairly cheap prices of those days" until by the mid 1940s he had about five sections of land. Some of this has now gone to his children, two boys and three girls, while the rest either has been or may be sold.

"Now, at last, with the kids grown and educated, I can do what I have always wanted to—play and collect violins," Mr. Kolbinson said.

Of farming during the '30's, he said his poorest crop was in 1937, when he had seeded 1000 acres and got back exactly 1000 bushels of grain. But the good years of the 1940's and '50's had amply made up for that very bad year.

Mr. Kolbinson enjoys comparing the tones of his three violins. Each had its own special qualities, he said.

It did not matter that they were not played constantly, because Hill and Sons had said these precious stringed instruments, rather like people, need-

ed a rest now and then, "I won't work them too hard," Mr. Kolbinson said.

Gently he lifted the well nigh priceless Strad from its velvet case, tucked it under his chin and drew the bow

across the strings.

The room was filled with sound—deep, velvet tones, so hauntingly beautiful in their mellow depth, mere words fail.

## The Thorvaldson Building—University of Saskatchewan

In September, 1963, the original Chemistry Building of the University of Saskatchewan was renamed "Thorvaldson Building". A huge addition to the building is being erected and will be officially opened during the conference in Saskatoon, June 5-8, 1966, of the Chemical Institute of Canada.

Writing in the Saskatoon Star-Phoenix of June 3, 1965, Percy H. Wright says in part:

"Dr. Thorvaldson is one of those colorful figures who would like to do the important scientific research work which it is his nature to do, well apart from any glare of publicity, but whose achievements become so outstanding that they find it impossible to 'hide their light under a bushel'."

"After the first poured-concrete foundation of Saskatoon buildings began to reveal deterioration from the action of alkali salts in the soil, Dr. Thorvaldson undertook to find out

why. His research was conducted with such good effect that the manufacture of a new type of cement, capable of withstanding the breakdown caused by alkali salts, was begun, and is available all over North America today."

Mr. Wright goes on to quote Dr. R. H. Bogue of the U.S. Bureau of Standards in this tribute to Dr. Thorvaldson's life-work.

"Prof. Thorvaldson has given his life to the study of cement and concrete. He is better known than anyone else in the world for his work on the durability of concrete, particularly in sulphate waters."

Mr. Wright continues:

"That his talents extend not only to scientific research but also administration is attested by his career as dean of graduate studies. After his stint as dean, he became a member of the University's Board of Governors in 1952, continuing until 1958."

## A RAP AT THE DOOR

by Bogi Bjarnason

The young scientist sat before his radio in his basement workshop, intent and serious. He spent a lot of his spare time here, fiddling with knobs and making adjustments. The instrument was largely of his own make and design, and because it was effective he took pride in it.

Of the order of radio hams, to which governments and broadcasting corporations had assigned a certain short-wave band, he was able to converse with his brethren the world over and frequently did so—one in Australia, one in South Africa, another deep in mainland Asia, who by chance knew Esperanto, with which he was familiar.

But of late a question beset him. Static, always a nuisance, he could undersand and deal with. But recently it had changed, taken on a pattern, which intrigued him. Applying time to it, he found that it was most intense at precisely half-hour intervals, lasting just three minutes. His experience could not account for it. If it was another ham deliberately interfering with the band, he was most persistent as well as regular. Interference by cosmic rays was not thus patterned.

The problem this raised in his mind induced him to ponder how he could change and maybe improve the instrument for better reception. He then had bulbs made according to his own specifications, radically different. Upon inserting them he was somewhat surprised to hear instead of the regular

static period a clear voice saying, "Mars calling to earth", in faultless English. This convinced him momentarily that a brother ham somewhere was playing a trick, and carrying it too far. How could a man on Mars, granted the possibility that the signal came from there, speak perfect English? It was preposterous.

But the voice continued. "Mars calling to Earth. For years we have been directing messages towards you, for three minutes on the half-hour whenever the two planets were within measurable distance of each other, on the short-wave band (he gave the figure)." He then switched to other languages which our young scientist, no linguist, thought might be Russian, French, German and maybe others, probably repeating the message.

The scientist switched his improved instrument to the wave-length indicated and sent his voice forth. Within a space of ten minutes he received a reply, with not a little agitation in it. "Your signals received on Mars, first time. Keep sending." Then after a slight pause, "Ever since you discovered the short-wave we have heard your signals. We have had radio for hundreds of years, so our instruments are vastly more sensitive than your crude young things. But in the hope that you would soon chance upon the one thing required to receive our signals we have kept bombarding you, and constantly listening for evidence that

you were aware of it, which now has apparently come to pass. . . . At first your words were a mere jumble to us, but we soon found the keys to all your major languages, so we get your news from many quarters. And since your pictures started coming we have learned a great deal about you and conditions on what you call Earth, so that you can tell us very little about yourselves that we do not already know. . .

"Now about the planet you call Mars (and sometimes 'the Red planet') and its inhabitants. — We number only about ten million, all clustered about our last and only and dwindling, body of water. The diameter of Mars is only half that of your earth, hence our gravitation does not recall all the water that evaporates. This is our big problem.

"But first about our planet, about which you probably know quite a lot. Our day is about the same as yours, and our two moons continue their several circles about us daily, 'at tree-top heights' as you put it (actually several hundred miles distant). Our climate is averagely some degrees colder than yours, with a greater variance between day and night, due to the thinner atmosphere. Our surface is less rugged than on earth, and is now largely barren, though parts are covered by a form of lichen.

"There is no animal life (not even insects) other than man and earth-worms, hence we are 100% vegetarians, the food concentrated to pellet form, highly nourishing. A form of grass lends itself to weaving into fine thread, so our clothing is warm and adaptable.

"Having ample coal and iron and other metals, as well as cement, industry has flourished, quite different from yours, since transportation as you

know it has not been a problem. In this field we are well ahead of you in many respects, having broken into the atom a long time ago, and of course having all the electrical power we could use. Our space ships, disc-shaped and cruising at 50,000 miles per hour, range far and wide, at times touching the outer rim of your atmosphere, whence they have photographed, techniques yet unknown to you, only the shape of lands and seas, even details of your cities. Indeed know a great deal about the earth, people and conditions there, not through your radio and TV, but by direct observation—and we are infrequently horrified by what we notably the mass

"About us Martians—We are physically not radically different from you. About the same height, our skin is fair (no exceptions), our hair light. We differ in that our chest is vastly greater (due to our thin atmosphere), and because of the lower gravitational pull our legs sustain less weight, hence are thinner and weaker. Face, arms, hands are similar to yours. Sight and hearing, we assume, are similar.

"Society—We are a classless commune. No private property. Everyone has everything he can use or want, hence no envy, no strife, little crime, and the absolute minimum of government. All are housed equally (and well). All work is done almost as a privilege, hence no need of pay or money. Because we are a limited number and homogeneous, this works ideally. (In your society this could not work with a very long time.)

"Our schools and universities teach very nearly the subjects, and in the manner yours do, as nearly as we can come to it. Mathematics and physics

come first. Till lately we have had but one language, but now some earth languages are being studied. Churches and religion, nil.

— — — —

"The foregoing is but a prelude to what we want to say to you, the gist of which is that we are faced with a serious problem. Our little water supply is visibly dwindling, and may last for only a few more generations. Then what? Annihilation. Unless we can find an asylum somewhere else. Where but on your earth? Satellites of other suns in our galaxy are too far off, even if suitable.

"So this is to suggest to you that you broach to your government (The United States), that it grant us immigration privileges—permission to land some of our space ships in the near future on an exploratory mission. It may well be that we could not withstand the physical change—to vastly increased weight, a richer atmosphere and other abrupt changes. Too, you may think that an influx of ten million immigrants is too great for one country to absorb. This we understand and respect, so will not press it.

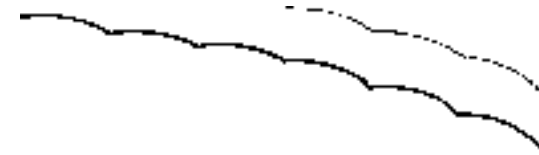
This is no more than a request that your government consider it.

"By way of recompense we could bring you information of great importance to you, not only in the technological field, in which we are in many respects far ahead of you, but in others as well. For one thing, we have overcome all our physical ills, and diseases which formerly carried off so many. Our span of life is double yours, and energy of the individual continues unimpaired into high age. We could impart many other things to you, all beneficial, of which you are yet but dimly aware.

"But if something of this nature is to come to pass, it must not be delayed too long. Transporting ten million people over a distance of forty million miles is a vast undertaking, which can be done only when the planets are in favorable positions. Our water is dwindling—disappearing. Hence the need for prompt action."

What manner of reply could our young scientist make other than that he would lay the matter before his government officials, which he promptly did.

There the matter rests.



## ICELAND REVIEW

Iceland Review, a quarterly magazine published in Reykjavik, might well drop the first syllable from its name and colorfully live up to the second.

Excellent photography and informative text, written in easy style by experts in the fields covered, open up a view of the saga land for English-speaking readers seeking a quick and entertaining introduction to modern Iceland.

The first 1965 issue carries on its cover a unique drawing of vikings by Gisli B. Bjornson. It sets the mood for the leading article, which delves into the history of Leifur Eiriksson, the Icelandic viking who discovered America and in whose honor Leif Eiriksson Day was recently named in the United States. The article written by Dr. Þórhallur Vilmundarson, professor in history at the University of Iceland, takes a comprehensive look at Icelandic land discoveries to the West, covering early voyages to Greenland and Vinland. Pictures accompany the article and a large map by Halldór Pétursson illustrates the routes of these early explorers.

The current issue features Akureyri, regarded as the capital of northern Iceland, and an article by Sverri Pálson

contains useful information for tourists as well as an interesting account of the industries and enterprises behind the growth and prosperity of the city. Pictures, aptly placed, tell a story of wild scenic beauty, cultivated parks and of architecture.

There are features about the Icelandic fishing fleet and shipping, about the airlines and varied industries, ranging in importance from the lucrative herring fisheries to the ancient craft of the silversmith.

Of special interest to footloose and explorative tourists are features about Icelandic Airlines' new RR-400 planes and the Greenland flights inaugurated by Icelandair.

The magazine is artistic in layout, with color photos as well as black and white on almost every page. At \$5.25 for the four yearly issues, it is an ideal gift for friends with personal ties in Iceland or anyone who derives hours of pleasure from thoughts of far-away places of unique character and scenic drama.

Subscriptions are handled by Icelandic consuls in Canada and the United States, or may be sent direct to the publishers of Iceland Review, P.O. Box 1238, Reykjavik, Iceland.

## Paul Sigurdson Writes and Produces a Play on "The Wolseley Elm"

Paul Sigurdson, teacher of English in the Collegiate of Morden, Manitoba, shows signs of developing his gifts as a writer to an unusual degree. Already he has written 25-30 short stories, 7 or 8 one-act plays, and 6 full three-act plays. At present he is working on a novel, preparing to publish a book of poetry, and working on a children's operetta, for which a Morden music teacher, Olga Friesen, is writing the music. Paul writes "This sounds like a lot of work, and perhaps it is; but the delights of creativity are highly rewarding, and very often creative energy is self-rejuvenating."

During this school term Paul produced an original play entitled "The Wolseley Elm". This play is a source of great pride to the people of Morden. It was played for three nights in the Collegiate Auditorium, and for one night in the town of Holland. It is quite usual for a High School teacher to produce a play, but very unusual to write it as well.

The Morden Times published a very favourable editorial on the play. Some extracts from it follow:

"Mr. Sigurdson seems to have found the philosophers' stone in writing about Canada. Under the guise of

comedy, irony, gentle banter and even farce, which he uses in "The Wolseley Elm", he has firmly shaken a few convictions which we citizens take for granted.

"The element of suspense was excellently held right through to the last scene. Mr. Sigurdson, while revealing a man's (and women's) weaknesses, shows a true writer's insight, and even sympathy, for his characters. None of them are treated negligently. Though they are figures of comedy, they evoke a certain sympathetic understanding. . ."

"Perhaps the most noted quality which shines through his writing and directing is his intense faith in people and the progress of life. Those of us who have had the good fortune to work with him have felt the clear-headed directing in the seemingly casual comment . . ."

The Icelandic Canadian has received the kind permission of Paul Sigurdson to publish one of his one-act plays in a later issue.

Paul is the son of Mrs. Pauline Sigurdson and the late Tryggvi Sigurdson of Morden, and nephew of Mrs. Lovisa Gislason, also of Morden.

—S.H.

\* Some years ago some women residents of the Wolseley Avenue district of Winnipeg protested the proposed action of the city authorities to cut down a very old elm tree which was thought to be a traffic hindrance. This is the incident that Paul Sigurdson used as the background for his play.

## Dr. A. M. Kristjanson of Regina, Sask. appointed Director of Extension Services

Dr. A. M. Kristjanson, at present Associate Professor of Chemistry in the University of Saskatchewan, has been appointed Director of Extension Services, Regina Campus, effective July 1, 1965, and raised to the status of Professor. Dr. Kristjanson will be responsible for extension programs and evening classes and will also act as an assistant to the dean of Summer Services.

In reporting to the Regina Leader Post Dr. Kristjanson said:

"In general terms, I take extension to refer to extending the general concepts, sense of values, specialized knowledge, etc., of the university to the larger community outside the university. The principal means to this extension I believe to be through programs of adult education, perhaps better termed continuing education."

Dr. Kristjanson was born in Wynyard, Sask., July 20th, 1920. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Hakon Kristjanson, formerly of Wynyard and now of Vancouver, one of six children, all university graduates, five from Saskatchewan and one from the University of British Columbia. Dr. Kristjanson received his doctorate from McGill University in 1949. On sabbatical leave from the University of Sask., in 1958-



Dr. A. M. Kristjanson

59 he studied at the Institute du Radium, Paris, France. In 1962-64 Dr. Kristjanson was a member of the Executive Committee of University Council in Saskatoon and in 1964-65 was chairman of the Executive Committee of Council, Regina Campus.

In 1961-62 Dr. Kristjanson was President of the Regina Unitarian Council and is now Vice-President of the Western Canadian Unitarian Region.

Dr. Kristjanson is the President of the newly formed Icelandic Canadian Club of Regina.

## Promising High School Student



Four graduation speakers at Balboa High School, San Francisco, took subjects for their talks from the poem by Edna St. Vincent Millay:

"The world stands out on either side  
No wider than the heart is wide;  
Above the world is stretched the sky—  
No higher than the soul is high."

One of the Students was **Gerald Ray Skagford**. Extracts from his speech follow.

"There lies before us all here tonight a great future. It is one of a world progressing and filled with the betterment of man. The world of the future is lighted by the torch we receive here tonight. In carrying that torch, we shall provide the energy which either strengthens or weakens its guiding beam. We will tonight take the torch and carry it, leading and forming a great new society, until the time comes when we will pass it on to

another new generation, whom we have guided as we were guided.

Yet the future, no matter how hopeful we are about it, is still filled with pitfalls, dark hours and unexpected events. If we could sit down and anticipate perfectly what our future would be like, then we would be perfect. But this is only a formless hope, incapable of being fulfilled in a world as complex as today's. Today, there is always that unknown factor sneaking in and ruining our most carefully laid plans. It's there, but where, how, why, when is it involved? Of a certainty, we can be sure that the road to a bright future will not be paved with gold, but rather, it will be strewn with rocks and thorns. No matter what we chose to do, there will be obstacles to overcome. There are also false images laid upon us, which as burdensome shackles, must be discarded.

"This is truly our future. Hopefully it is a combination of challenges which must be met, and when overcome, bring forth rich blessings. We must not look backward in anger, or forward in fear, but around in awareness. The past is the guide line of the future. Life has been our greatest teacher, and now we are going to put the lessons into practice. . . .

"This graduation tonight is only the side of the hill, and not the top where our future lies. We will always look to the future because the present doesn't satisfy us. Our ideal, whatever it may be, lies farther on, and we shall continue on to that future we embark on tonight."

Gerald Skagford is the son of Mary Mae and Bernard Skagford of 73

Tucker Ave., San Francisco. Bernard was born in Foam Lake, Sask., the son of John S. Skagford, born in Iceland, and Groa Skagfjord, born in Gimli, daughter of Thorsteinn and Kristín Vigfusson.

On graduating from Balboa High

School, Gerald received the Helsman Award for outstanding leadership and high moral standing. He is now attending San Francisco State College and plans to take a course at the University of California and study Icelandic, the language of his forefathers.

## G. Chris Breckman Receives Appointment



G. Kris Breckman

G. Kris Breckman, principal of Stonewall Collegiate, has been appointed by the Provincial Executive of The Manitoba Teachers' Society to the position of Executive Assistant.

Mr. Breckman has a B.A. and a B.Ed. degree from the University of Manitoba and for the last ten years has taught in various schools in Manitoba. At Breckburn School in Gilbert Plains he rose in four years, first to vice-principal and then to principal

the last two years. In 1959 he was appointed Principal of Stonewall Collegiate.

Mr. Breckman has for many years been associated with curricular activities of The Manitoba Teachers' Society and the Department of Education and is well qualified for his new appointment. He has during the last few years made constructive contributions to discussions at teachers conferences. The Stonewall Argus says in part:

"As principal and teacher he has been actively involved in a number of General course pilot classes and experimental classes at the high school level."

Mr. Breckman's new duties will centre on the Teachers' Society's Activities in curricular development.

Kris Breckman was born in Lundar, Man., and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. G. K. Breckman, now residing in St. James. He is married and has four children.

## THE CANADA-ICELAND FOUNDATION

### AND THE ICELANDIC CANADIAN CLUB SCHOLARSHIPS

The Canada-Iceland Foundation and The Icelandic Canadian Club are offering scholarships of from \$100.00 to \$200.00 for the 1965-66 academic term to students of Icelandic descent or other students showing an interest in Icelandic language and literature who have completed Gr. XII in one of the high schools of Manitoba, and who plan to attend the University of Manitoba or one of its affiliated colleges.

Qualifications will be based primarily on the results of the Department Examinations; but consideration will also be given to qualities of leadership,

and to need for financial assistance.

Candidates are hereby invited to send their applications to the undersigned before August 4, 1964, together with a statement of examination results and testimonials from two leaders in the community.

People who read this announcement are asked to bring it to the attention of any worthy candidate.

W. J. Lindal,  
Icel. Scholarship Com. Sec.  
788 Wolseley Ave.  
Winnipeg 10, Man.

## Named Chairman of Economic Board

One of Canada's best known economists, Dr. Baldur Kristjanson of Winnipeg in April was named chairman of the Manitoba Economic Consultative Board, succeeding J. R. McMillan who resigned last summer after having served as chairman during the board's formative years.

Dr. Kristjanson, vice-chairman and executive director of the board since it was formed in 1962, is continuing as executive director but has relinquished the position of secretary of the Manitoba Development Authority.

Dr. Kristjanson, Manitoba-born and educated, has won a continent wide reputation in the fields of economic development, agricultural economics and resources development.



Dr. Baldur Kristjanson



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## Graduates and Scholarship Winners



Donald Kenneth Johnson

Donald Kenneth Johnson has been a persistent scholarship winner, both in High school and universities. He completed Grade XI in 1952 and won the Dr. Paulson's scholarship of \$100.00 and also the Roger Goulet scholarship; in 1953, the Manitoba Hotelmen's and Brewers scholarship \$200.00, and again in 1954. In 1956 he won the Manitoba Telephone System scholarship of \$125 for highest academic standing in third year Electrical Engineering, and also the Royal Canadian Airforce Auxiliary Memorial scholarship of \$90.00. He secured his B.Sc.E.E. degree in 1957. He was a design Engineer with the Canadian General Electric 1957 to 1959, and Supervisor Engineer in the Canadian Arctic, on the Dew Line, for two years. Next he entered the University of Western Ontario and after two years secured the M.B.A. (Master

of Business Administration), and was awarded the gold medal for highest standing in graduating class in graduate school of Business Administration, University of Western Ontario. Since then he has been engaged with Burns Bros. & Denton Ltd. at their Head Office in Montreal.



Cyril Leon Johnson

Cyril Leon Johnson is the younger brother of Donald Kenneth Johnson. When he completed grade IX in Winnipeg he won a Public School scholarship of \$100.00. He completed grade XII in 1957, and was employed as a clerk and accountant at the Royal Bank of Canada until 1962. During the next three years he took a Correspondence course from Queen's University, which was open to bank clerks who had worked at a bank for some time. This secured him a diploma as F.C.B.

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A. (Fellow of the Canadian Bankers Association). On account of a very high standing the Royal Bank of Canada granted him, under the Muir Memorial Plan award, a three year Commerce Course at the University of Manitoba, with full salary with annual increments based on marks. After graduating in 1965 as B. of Comm. he was transferred to the Royal Bank of Canada, District General Manager's Department in Calgary, Alta.

Donald and Cyril are the sons of Fjola (Kristjanson) Johnson, and her late husband Paul Johnson, formerly of Lundar, Man. Their maternal grandparents are Margret and the late Magnus Kristjanson, pioneers at Otto, east of Lundar. Their paternal grandparents were Bjorn and Gudrun Johnson former pioneers at Lundar, Man.

★

**GOLD MEDAL WINNER**

**Bachelor of Commerce**

**Magnusson, Denis Norman**, University Gold Medal. Also won Paul David Russel Book Prize, for highest standing in Philosophy. Parents: Mr. and Mrs. Norman Magnusson, of Minot North Dakota.

**GOLD MEDAL WINNER**

**Dentistry**

**Johnson, Kenneth Lincoln**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Johnson, of Winnipeg, won the following: Dr. John W. Clay Medal, for the highest overall average in the four years of the course in dentistry.

Manitoba Dental Students' Wives Association Scholarship for the highest

standing in Periodontology in Fourth year.

**Master of Education**

**BJARNASON, Carl**, B.A., 1948, Manitoba. B.Ed. 1950, B. C., Thesis: "The Brandon School System—a Historical Survey and Ten-year Development Program" (as of Oct. 20, 1964) Parents: Mr. and Mrs. Sigurd Bjarnason, Brandon, Man.

**Master of Social Work**

**SIGMUNDSON, Jo-Ann Helga Emily**, B.A., B.S.W. Parents: Mrs. E. Stefanson, of Lundar, and the late Stefan Stefanson of Winnipeg. Grandparents: Mrs. Stefanson and the late Gudmundur Stefanson, Winnipeg.

**SIGURDSON, Engilbert**, B.A., B.S.W. Parents: Mrs. Thorbjorg Sigurdson, Winnipeg, and the late Kristjan Sigurdson.

**Bachelor of Arts**

**MAGNUSSON, Maria** (Honors) (as of Oct. 20, 1964). Parents: Mr. Agnar and Mrs. Lauga Magnusson, Winnipeg.

**BARDAL, Melinda Kristin**. Parents: Mr. Art and Mrs. Evelyn Bardal, Winnipeg.

**FLATT, Donald Arni**, Parents: Mrs. V. E. Flatt, Winnipeg, grandson of the late Arni Anderson, well known Winnipeg lawyer.

**GUTTORMSON, Irene Winnifred** (as of Oct. 20, 1964) Parents: Mr. and

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**WINNIPEG HYDRO**

Mrs. John Guttormson, Lundar.

HALLDORSON, Kenneth. Parents:  
Mr. Halldor and Mrs. Sylvia Hall-  
dorson, Hecla, Man.

JOHANNESON, Arleen Kristveig.  
Parents: Mr. Alfred and Mrs. Ber-  
nice Johannesson, Winnipeg.

JONSSON, Norman John Sigurgeir.  
Parents: Mr. Sigurgeir and Mrs.  
Gudny (nee Solmundson) Jonsson,  
Hecla, Man.

WENGEL, Aldis Ellen Anna. Parents:  
Dr. Roman and Dr. Aldis Wengel,  
Winnipeg. Grandparents: Mr. Paul  
and Mrs. Ellen Sigridur Thorlakson,  
Winnipeg.

**Bachelor of Commerce****Ross Douglas Maddin**

MADDIN, Ross Douglas. Parents: Mr.  
and Mrs. Charles Maddin, Win-  
nipeg. Mrs. Maddin is Herdis, daugh-  
ter of Mrs. Anna Eyolfson, formerly  
of Vestfold, Man.

During his school course he won  
these honors: 1960-61 at Daniel Mc-

Intyre Collegiate Inst. Grade XI he  
won the Governor General's Gold  
Medal; 1961-62 Grade XII he won  
the Griffin's Club Memorial Award  
of \$300.00; 1962-63 School of Com-  
merce-U of M Student Council,  
First year Representative; 1963-64  
Student Council Publicity Chair-  
man; 1964-65 Men's Sports Chair-  
man. School of Commerce —High  
Point Award, for most points scored  
in sports activities. Graduate Award,  
for most points in both athletic and  
non-athletic activities. Also took part  
in public speaking, football (Univer-  
sity Championships), basketball (fin-  
als), volley ball (finals), handball,  
and badminton.

**Certificate of Education**

HELGASON, Albert Sigurd, B.Sc.  
Parents: Mr. S. A. and Mrs. Joleen  
Helgason, Winnipeg. Grandparents:  
Mr. Jonatan and Mrs. Ingibjorg (nee  
Solmundson) Helgason, Winnipeg.  
Great grandfather: Rev. Johann Sol-  
mundson.

OLAFSON, Sandra Mae, B.Sc., daugh-  
ter of Mrs. Essie Olafson and the late  
Mr. Olafson, Birtle, Manitoba.

**Doctor of Dental Medicine**

BACKMAN, George Winston. Parents:  
Mr. and Mrs. Gudni Backman, of  
Clarkleigh, Manitoba.

**Bachelor of Education**

BACKMAN, Dorothy Salome, B.Sc.  
(as of Oct. 20, 1964). Parents: Mr.  
and Mrs. Gudni Backman, Clark-  
leigh, Manitoba.

ISFELD, Gudmundur Arelius, B.A. (as  
of Oct. 20, 1964). Parents: the late

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ISFELD, Gudmundur Bjorgvin Arel-  
ius, B.A., (as of Oct. 20, 1964). Par-  
ents: the late Agust and Olina Isfeld,  
Husavik, Manitoba.

WOOD, Jonina Ellen (Mrs. Arnold  
Wood, of Fort White, Man.), (as at  
Oct. 20, 1964). Parents: Mr. and Mrs.  
M. Gunnlaugson, of Winnipeg.

SVEISTRUP, Albert Haldor, B.A. (as  
at Oct. 20, 1964)

SVEISTRUP, Marvin Haldor, B.A. (as  
at Oct. 20, 1964).

Marvin and Albert are brothers,  
their parents being Mr. and Mrs. O.  
E. Sveistrup, Vogar, Manitoba.

**Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy**



James Michael Thorkelson

THORKELSON, James Michael, has  
been appointed by the Canadian  
University Service Overseas to go to  
Tanzania, Africa, in September, to  
teach Dispensing. (Tanzania, Tang-  
anyika and Zanzibar combined). Par-  
ents: Mr. and Mrs. D. O. Thorkel-  
son, Charleswood, Man.

**Bachelor of Fine Arts**

GILLIES, Emil August (as at Oct.  
1964). Parents: Mr. Jon and the late  
Mrs. Inga Gillies, Winnipeg, Man.

**Diploma in Dairying**

JACOBSON, Gestur Bryan. Parents:  
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Jacobson, Arborg,  
Manitoba.

**Bachelor of Commerce**

VOPNFJORD, Leonard Walter. Par-  
ents: Mr. and Mrs. Axel Vopnfjord,  
of Winnipeg.

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**Second Year**

SAMSON, Jon Timothy, B.A. Parents:  
Mr. and Mrs. John V. Samson, Win-  
nipeg, Man.

**Fourth Year**



Hadley Jón Eyrickson

EYRICKSON, Hadley John Leif, born  
Feb. 15, 1938 in Winnipeg. He re-  
ceived all his schooling in the City  
of Winnipeg, graduating in 1960  
with a Bachelor of Arts degree. In

the First Year of Law he won the Isbister Scholarship. In his Third year he received the Archie Micay Prize in "Corporations" and the Harley M. Hughes Prize for "Evidence". He received Manitoba Government bursaries for the 2nd, 3rd and 4th years, and was an honor student for 1st, 3rd and 4th year in Law. He is now with the firm of Asper, Freedman and Co., Winnipeg. He was admitted to the Manitoba Bar on June 7th, 1965. He is the son of Gunnlaugur and Gudrun Eyrickson, 500 Basswood Place, Winnipeg.

**FREDERICKSON, Derwin John.** Parents: Mr. and Mrs. John Frederickson, Benito, Manitoba.

**BJORNSON, Donald Gudmundur.** Parents: Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Bjornson, Winnipeg.

★

#### ERIC WILSON WINS CONGRESS OF STRINGS SCHOLARSHIP

Eric Wilson recently won a scholarship to attend the summer school of the Seventh Annual Congress of strings at Michigan State University. The audition was held in Winnipeg for Manitoba students.

The scholarship is co-sponsored by the American Federation of Musicians of the United States and Canada, and Michigan State University. The Congress of Strings student body is limited to one hundred winners of community auditions conducted by Federation Locals in the United States and Canada. Winning contestants between the ages of 16 and 23 will be awarded full scholarships providing eight weeks' intensive instruction (June 27th to Aug. 21st, 1965) under noted string teachers from the nation's foremost symphony



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Eric Wilson

orchestras. Several internationally known conductors will instruct student orchestral sessions.

Eric is well known as a cellist to the readers of this column for the many honors won by him in the world of music, and of which this is the climax to date. He is the son of Mr. Kerr and Mrs. Thelma (nee Guttormson) Wilson, of Winnipeg.

S. H.

★

Brian Ayotte received the Smith Kline and French Fellowship which will allow him to travel around the world. He will be the assistant director in a hospital in Quilton, India, which serves a poverty stricken area.

He will continue his medical studies in September at the University of Manitoba. Parents: Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Ayotte, Winnipeg. Mrs. Ayotte was the former Miss Anna Stephanson daughter of Mrs. Olga and the late Mr. Bjorn Stephanson, Piney, Man.

—For photo see Icel. Can. Autumn '63.

#### UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

**GOODMUNDSON, Terry Lloyd,** son of Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Goodmundson, Winnipeg, W. L. Wardrop and Associates Ltd. Bursary in Mechanical Engineering \$300.00.

**HURST, William Helgi Donald,** son of Mr. and Mrs. William D. Hurst, of Winnipeg, Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation Travelling Scholarship of \$500.00.

**JOHANNESON, Arleen Kristveig,** daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Johannesson of 94 Havelock St. Vital, Rosa Brook Scholarship for highest standing in English, \$150.00.

**SOLMUNDSON, Gene David,** son of Mr. and Mrs. Solmundur E. Solmundson, 838 Weatherdon, University Bronze Medal, Pharmacology and Award for Complete Denture and Removeable Partial Denture Prosthesis.

#### UNIVERSITY of SASKATCHEWAN GRADUATES 1964-65

##### Bachelor of Arts

**ARNASON, Helen Cecelia,** Spruce Home. Distinction in Arts and Science.

**JOSEPHSON, Ian Bruce,** Saskatoon

**SIGURDSON, Lorne Wavne,** Saskatoon, Sask.

**TRUSCOTT, Patricia Anne,** Saskatoon, Sask.

**ARNASON, Averil Evert, B.A. Hon-**

ours in Biology, Saskatoon.

**Bachelor of Science in  
Mechanical Engineering**

STEVENSON, Gerald Franklin, Gull  
Lake, Sask.

**Bachelor of Commerce**

JOHNSON, Martin Michael, Sask-  
atoon, Sask.

**Master of Arts**

MORRISON, Heather Gail, (nee Pet-  
erson), B.A., (Nov. 1964), Regina.

JOSEPHSON, Mundi Irving, B.A.,  
B.Ed. (Nov. 1964), Saskatoon.

**Diploma in Nursing at  
University Hospital, Saskatoon**

PETERSON, Karen Arlene, (Nov.  
1964), Wynyard, Sask.

SVEINSON, Karla Deene, (Nov. 1964)  
Kyle, Saskatchewan.

★

**Graduate in Waterloo University  
Ontario.**

Judy Gobel, daughter of the late  
Ben and Ranka Peterson of Saskatoon,  
received her B.A. degree last spring  
from Waterloo University in Ontario.

★

Wayne Bergthor, son of Mr. and  
Mrs. John J. Arnason, of 1057 Domin-  
ion St., on completing Grade IX, with  
an average of 92.9 was awarded by the  
Home and School Association a Gold  
Plaque, and a French-English Dic-  
tionary by the School Board for the  
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Michael Guy Skafel, son of Dr. Einar  
J. and Mrs. Skafel, of Brandon, has  
been awarded a Research Council Stu-  
dentship of \$3,000.00, for continuing  
his studies at the University of Sask-  
atchewan.

Eric L. Sigurdson, son of Dr. Larus  
A. and Mrs. Sigurdson of Winnipeg,  
has been awarded a Research Council  
Fellowship of \$3,000.00 to complete  
his studies at Imperial College, Lon-  
don, Eng., for a doctorate in Physics  
and Mathematics.

Dr. J. R. Oddson, who obtained his  
B. Sc. in Toronto, his Masters, and Ph.  
D from the University of Maryland,  
has been awarded a Post doctorate  
overseas Fellowship, of at least \$4,000  
at the University of Genoa, for further  
studies in Mathematics

★

**ELFROS PIANIST WINS AWARD**

Raymond Stephanson, a well known  
teen-age pianist from Elfros, won the  
\$225 CJGX award as the most promis-  
ing competitor in the Yorkton Music  
Festival.

He received his award at the finalist  
concert of the four day festival. As  
one of the competitors receiving the  
highest marks he also performed at the  
concert.

Raymond won the award last year  
and had made such good progress that  
he was again chosen to receive this  
cash award for further study.

Raymond now 14, has studied with  
Mrs. L. B. Crawford of Wynyard for  
a number of years and is this year also  
making weekly trips to Saskatoon for  
additional study with Mr. Lyle Gustin.

Mrs. Heather (Sigurdson) Ireland  
won the \$200.00 scholarship offered by  
the Registered Music Teachers As-  
sociation. The competition requires  
the contestants to perform numbers  
from 3 periods in music and each per-  
formance counts towards winning the  
scholarship. At the auditions in Feb.,  
singers must chose an aria from an  
oratorio and 2 modern works; in May  
an aria from an opera, and in June  
selections of German lieder. For the  
opera aria Heather chose "Printemps  
éui commence" from Samon and De-  
lilah by Saint-Saens.

The adjudicators for this scholar-  
ship were two professors from the Uni-  
versity of Manitoba, Robert Irwin and  
Leonard Isaacs.

Mrs. Ireland also won the \$200 Wo-  
men's Musical Club scholarship for  
which students of piano, string instru-  
ments and voice may compete. Singers  
are required to present a fifteen  
minute program consisting of songs  
characteristic of different periods of  
music. As a modern work Heather  
chose "I Hear an Army" by Barber.

The adjudicators for this scholar-  
ship were from Toronto, who were in  
Winnipeg for the June examinations  
in the various fields of music.

Mrs. Ireland is planning to further  
her studies with Professor Robert Ir-  
win, of the University of Manitoba.

The parents of Heather Ireland are  
Johannes and Bergljot Sigurdson of  
Winnipeg, Man.



## IN THE NEWS

### MAIN CREDIT FOR SPIROLL MACHINE



Marvin A. Thorsteinson

A machine for turning out hollow-core prestressed concrete has been invented and is now sold in the markets of the world to manufacturers of pre-cast, prestressed concrete. In the Financial Post of May 22, 1965, is a detailed article on the invention of this machine. The article contains the following:

"The final design of the machine is the product of many minds. Most of the credit is given to Marvin A. Thorsteinson, a 49-year-old native of Winnipeg. Thorsteinson is a quiet, soft-spoken, retiring man without extended formal education or academic degrees. His business experience has been in electrical mechanical lines.

In the circle in which he is intimately known, he is regarded as a mechanical wizard with inventive genius."

★

Miss Caroline Gunnarsson, magazine and women's editor of the Free Press Weekly Prairie Farmer, was elected Manitoba regional director of the Canadian Women's Press Club at its triennial national meeting in Montreal.

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Commander John Vernon Josephson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Vigfus Josephson of Klamath Falls, Oregon, was in May 1964 appointed Naval Adviser and Attache to the President and travels with him when requested. He graduated from Annapolis in 1949 and since that time his duties in the naval service have taken him all over the world, including Thule in Greenland. Through conscientious service this man has risen to the rank of full Commander.

Robert Walter Lindal, son of Walter S. Lindal of Blaine, Wash., was appointed to give the valedictorian address for the high school graduating class. The choice was based on academic, sports, and extra curricular achievements. Another Blaine high school student, of Icelandic descent, Judith Anderson, was runner up, and as she was awarded a scholarship, she was asked to be co-valedictorian. These promising students will no doubt be heard from again.

★

Kathryn Medd, age 14, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. D. Medd and granddaughter of Erik and Bjorg V. Isfeld, on graduating into Senior High, obtained a Certificate of Merit for having an over 85 per cent average mark, and a Pin in recognition of her being in the top 5 percent standing for Grade 7, 8, and 9. Her average this year was 90.6.

★

Dr. Stuart Houston, the son of Dr. C. J. and Dr. Sigga Houston, of Yorkton, Sask., where he has practised for a number of years, has been appointed a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians. Dr. Stuart Houston is on the staff of the University Hospital in Saskatoon.



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J. A. SCHIMNOWSKI, President

William Arin Sigurdson of Hensel, North Dakota, in May was awarded the degree of Master of Industrial Education after completing studies at the Texas Agricultural and Mechanical University at Colorado Station, Texas. Mr. Sigurdson has for a number of years been a teacher at the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks.

★

Arthur B. Martenson was elected president at the annual meeting in April of the Icelandic Canadian Club at Toronto, Ont. Magnus T. Paulson is immediate past president, R. V. "Kris" Kristjanson vice-president, J. O. Keith McMullen secretary and Mrs. Emily Ridding treasurer. Mrs. Margaret McMullen is corresponding secretary, J. Harold Broughton auditor and librarian, Mrs. Bogga Petursson hospitality convener, Mrs. Ruth Laban membership and attendance, Donald E. Gislason program, Robert W. Byron publicity and Mrs. Sigga More social convener.

★

Paul Bergsteinsson, son of Mr. and Mrs. I Bergsteinsson of Orange, California, this spring was awarded a National Science Foundation fellowship for graduate studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He is a graduate in engineering of Stanford University at Palo, Calif.

The fellowship awards are made in furtherance of the National Science Foundation's policy of encouraging outstanding students to attain advanced graduate training in the

sciences.

Graduate fellowships provide basic stipends for 12 months of \$2,400 for the first level of graduate study, \$2,600 for study at the intermediate level and \$2,800 for the terminal year. They include additional allowances for dependents and for limited travel.

★

Matthias Thorfinnson of St. Paul will retire in July after 40 years with the department of agriculture of the State of Minnesota. He has been executive secretary of the State Soil Conservation Committee since 1937. Mr. Thorfinnson is one of four brothers, sons of the late Mr. and Mrs. Thorlakur Thorfinnson of Mountain, North Dakota, all of whom graduated in agriculture from the North Dakota State College at Fargo, N. D.

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Sveinn Thordarson was elected president at the annual meeting in May of the Icelandic Association in Los Angeles, California. Helgi Karvelson was named vice-president, Baldur Gudjonsson secretary, Pall Juliusson treasurer and Peter Ronson trustee.

★

Siggi Vidal, a buttermaker with the North Star Creamery at Arborg, Man., in April won top honors at the inter-provincial competition at Edmonton, Alta. His total score was 98.1 to win him the first prize ribbon. At the Royal Winter Fair at Toronto, Ont., he also won the first prize ribbon. Mr. Vidal this year won second prize at both the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto and at the Manitoba Provincial Exhibition at Brandon with scores of 97.7 in each competition.

★

The Manitoba Teachers' Society presented a life membership to veteran teacher Miss Sigurbjörg Stefansson at the annual convention in Winnipeg in April. A graduate in arts of the University of Manitoba, Miss Stefansson was a teacher at Gimli schools from 1923 until her retirement in 1962 and over the years took a prominent part in the affairs of the society. She was for a time a member of the provincial executive. Born at Mountain, North Dakota, Miss Stefansson moved as a child with her parents to Wynyard, Sask., where she received her public and high school education.

★

Sigrún Margnúsdóttir of Smáratúni 23, Keflavik, Iceland, would like to correspond with a pen-friend, boy or girl, aged 16 to 18, in Icelandic or English.

Hulda Pétursdóttir of Grensasveg 52,

Reykjavik, Iceland, 15 years of age, would like to correspond with young people of Icelandic descent between the ages of 15-18, English or Icelandic.

Ingibjörg Gunnarsdóttir of Hátúni, 21, Keflavík, Iceland, would like to correspond with boys or girls in the West, age 16 to 18 years. English or Icelandic.

★

Dr. Richard Beck, who in 1929 began as professor of Scandinavian studies at the University of North Dakota at Grand Forks, was later head of the department, in June was honored with two other professors by the North Dakota State Board of Higher Education. Each was given the title of "University Professor" for long and distinguished service. University president George W. Starcher said the action was taken by the State Board of Education on the recommendation of the University of North Dakota Council of Deans.

In April Dr. Beck was made a fellow of the International Platform Association in the United States, an honor bestowed upon outstanding lecturers, actors and singers. Dr. Beck's nomination for the honor was made by this year's nomination committee of the association which this year is headed by author Lowell Thomas.

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**SOCIAL INSURANCE NUMBER**

The Unemployment Insurance Commission says that more than 6,000,000 Canadians have registered for Social Insurance Numbers, the number that provides identity for unemployment insurance purposes and that will become even more important to the individual when the Canada Pension Plan comes into effect. It is also noted that applications for Social Insurance Numbers are still being received at a rate of about 5,000 per day; Commission records reveal that many of these are from people who already have a Social Insurance Number.

The UIC emphasizes that, for their own good, Canadians must not have more than one Social Insurance Number. Multiple registration can become a serious problem for the insured person, and could even lead to his being considered, at least temporarily, ineligible for unemployment insurance benefits. Having only one Social Insurance Number ensures that unemployment insurance contributions are correctly credited to the individual having that number, but having two or more numbers means that contributions may be split into two or more accounts, all for the same person. Thus, when the insured makes a claim for benefits, only those contributions entered under one of the Social Insurance Numbers may be considered.

The Commission says that, while such problems can and will be cleared up, time lost in extensive checking of Commission records will result in a delay in handling claims for the insured.

The most common cause of multiple registration appears to be the frequent moving of persons from one job to another. Should an insured individual

change employment several times in one year and neglect to produce his Social Insurance Number card each time, he could become the owner of more than one Social Insurance Number. The resulting problems involved if he makes a claim for unemployment insurance benefits are obvious.

The UIC also points out that there is a heavy penalty for persons knowingly registering for a Social Insurance Number more than once.

The numbering system was instituted following recommendations of the Glassco Commission report on government organization to ensure speed and accuracy in handling present and planned social benefits, and to replace the old UIC number which had become obsolete.

—Due acknowledgement to  
Canadian Scene

★

Iceland will participate in the 1967 World's Fair at Montreal, Quebec. In making the announcement at the St. Helen's exposition site in November Canada's external affairs minister, Hon. Paul Martin, said Iceland was the 25th country to announce its planned participation.

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DATE	LOCATION
JULY 3-4	Selkirk
JULY 6	The Pas
JULY 7	Snow Lake
JULY 8	Cranberry
JULY 9-10	Flin Flon
JULY 12-16	Clear Lake
JULY 17	Sandy Lake
JULY 21	Portage la Prairie, Crescent Beach
JULY 22	Grand Beach
JULY 23-24	Victoria
JULY 26	Minaki
JULY 27	Ingulf
JULY 29-30	Kenor, Rabbit Lake
AUGUST 2	Big Whiteshell, South Beach
AUGUST 3	White Lake
AUGUST 4	Demonstration, Jessica & Rock Lakes
AUGUST 6-7	Brereton
AUGUST 9-10	West Hawk
AUGUST 11-12	Toniata
AUGUST 13-14	Falcon
AUGUST 16	Betula
AUGUST 17	Pinawa
AUGUST 18	Otter Falls
AUGUST 20-21	Nutimik

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