



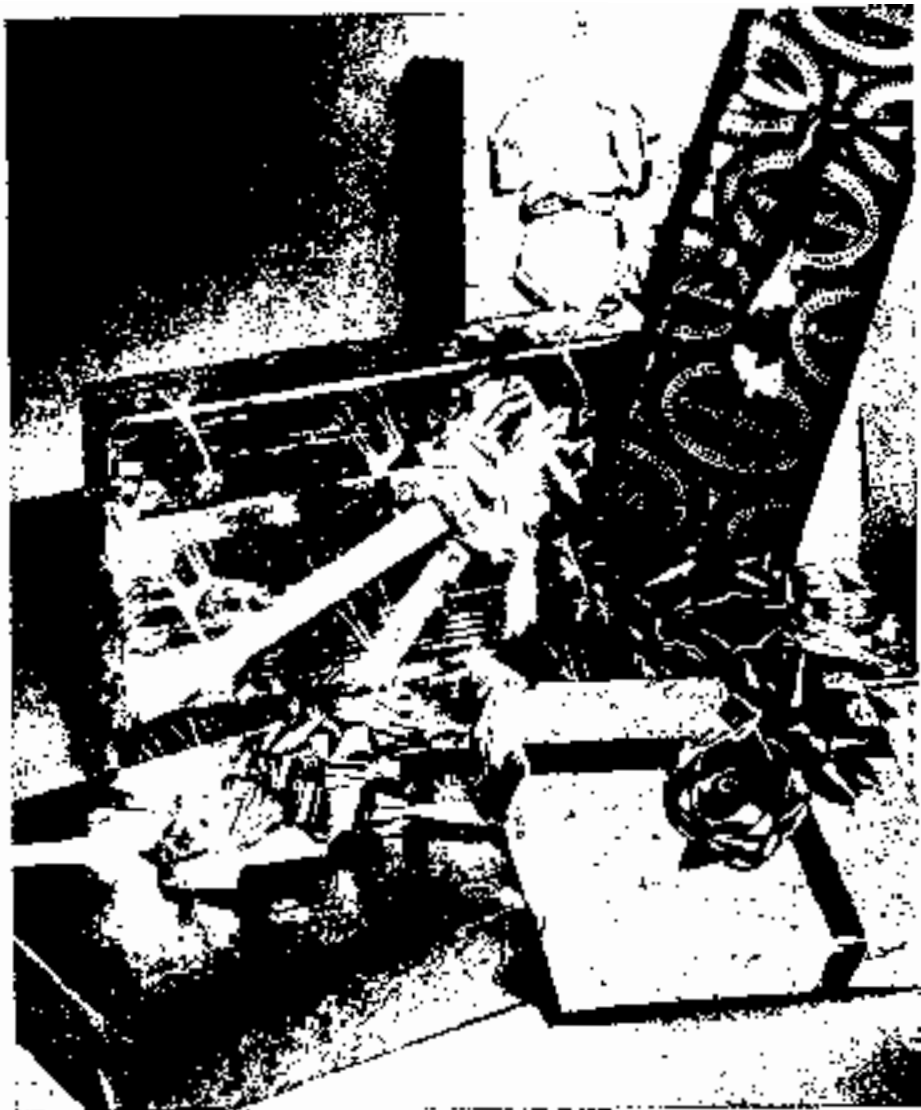
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The Icelandic Canadian

Volume XXV, No 2

Winnipeg, Canada

Winter 1966

EDITORIAL—WHAT'S LEFT OF CHRISTMAS?, Caroline Gunnarsson 14

SPECIAL FEATURES

LEIFR EIRIKSSON, Haraldur Bessason..... 11
GUTTORMUR J. GUTTORMSSON, Caroline Gunnarsson 21
ICELAND TO RECEIVE MANUSCRIPTS, Haraldur Bessason. 36

MISCELLANEOUS

INTRODUCTION TO QUEBEC 17
I WAS A SEPARATIST, Dr. J. B. Rudnyckyj..... 19
THE ICELANDIC LIBRARY, U. of M., Hrund Skulason 23
GOLDEN BOYS' GOOD CITIZENSHIP AWARD 26
CENTENNIAL REPORTS 28, 30
SIR WILLIAM STEPHENSON 31
DR. SNYBJORN A. HANSON 39

FICTION

THE TABLES TURNED, Bogi Bjarnason 34
THE IMPOSTOR, by Einar Benediktsson,
Translated by L. L. Bjarnason, 40

IN THE NEWS

24, 25, 27, 35, 47-57

NEWS SUMMARY

59

THE ICELANDIC CANADIAN

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

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

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

Representatives in Iceland—Anna J. Jónsson, Hverfisgötu 112, Reykjavik

Baldur Þorsteinson, Skrifstofa Skógræktarfélag Íslands, Reykjavik

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

EDITORIAL**What's Left Of Christmas?**

What's left of a modern Christmas when it's taken out of its tinsel wrappings?

The same old Christmas and it's in full possession of you. It's here and your heart's all in it, or is it Christmas that's in your heart?

It doesn't matter. This is no time to sort out cause and effect, but something prompted you to pack a hamper for an old lady you had heard of but never seen; something moved you to send the intended New Year's ham to a family who had had some hard luck lately and something made you give a dollar you couldn't afford to a foreign relief fund.

Christmas is a mood and a spirit that lives on faith, mystery, love and memories, which are some of the ingredients of the very soul of you. The highest faith, the deepest mystery, the broadest love and the longest memory make the happiest Christmas. That's why you have been such a spendthrift ever since Christmas got mixed up with the crisp winter air.

It's mixed up with winter air?

Christmas is part of everything it ever touched, and that's one of the reasons the tinsel wrappings around it get thicker by the year. Let a custom, a song or a story, a wax candle or a scrap of colored paper somehow get into somebody's Christmas memories, and it becomes a part of his family life with a lease on eternity.

For homes are open at Christmas and friends enter. They eat, drink, talk, sing, listen, laugh and enjoy, and

Christmas generosity is enormous. It gives and takes with equal joy and with reckless abandon. You see a custom or an idea in a friend's home and it's framed in the charm of Christmas. So you take it home, use it and make it part of the legacy you leave for your children.

Such is the magic of Christmas. We fall in love with a new tradition every year and adopt it without even thinking to ask its nationality. Someone may inquire several generations later when no one can be sure from where it came, so we blithely claim it for our own. Nobody objects for the first owners didn't know where their clan found it, anyway.

Such is the oneness of the human race at Christmas.

The holly wreath, that bright and lovely circlet of green leaves and crimson berries that digs its thorns deep into your flesh if you hang it on your arm for a moment, endures as the most loved of Christmas decorations. Our forebears with their deeper humility hung it as a symbol of the crown of thorns worn by the grown Christ child when he gave his supreme gift for humanity.

Christmas is for children.

Christmas is for you. Once a year you become a child again so you can enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

That is God's ancient, eternal and unchanging gift to Christendom.

—Caroline Gunnarsson

LEIFR EIRIKSSON

An address delivered at the Leifr Eiriksson Festival in Winnipeg on October 21, 1966

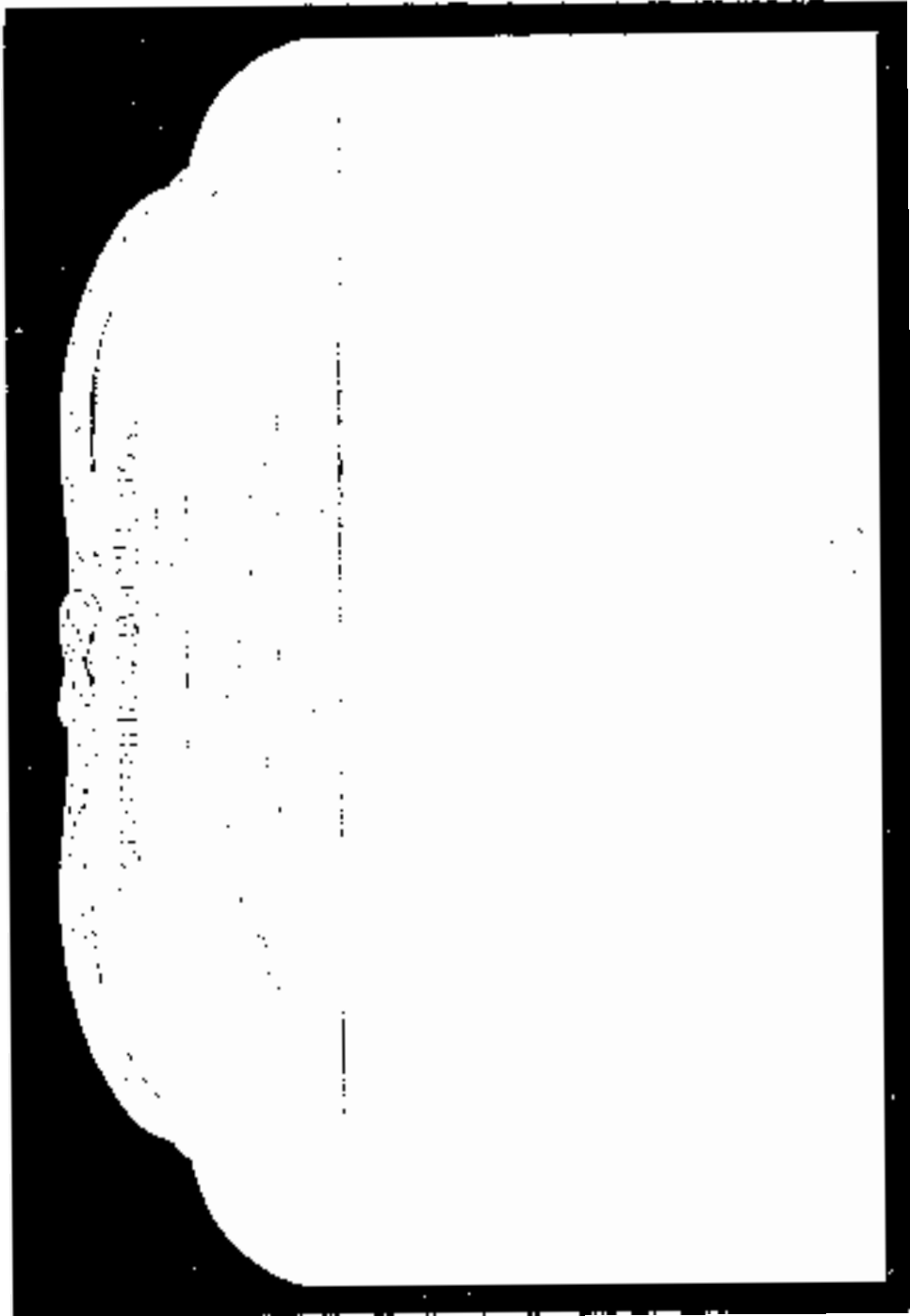
It is a great honour and a distinct pleasure to be asked to give a talk about Leifr Eiriksson. Lately I have had the opportunity of reading a fair number of books and articles about him. Some of these works may be regarded as valuable contributions to an intriguing field of study; others are less significant as one might expect. I have noticed, for instance, that in my daughter's history book for grade V it is stated that the relatives of Leifr Eiriksson celebrated his discovery of the Western Hemisphere in song and saga and that the celebration continued for generations until people grew so song-weary that they stopped singing. The same textbook implies that after a considerable period of silence memories about Leifr and his achievements began to grow hazv and that people finally decided just to forget about him and his Vinland. How this story found its way into Canadian textbooks remains a mystery.

As a result of confusing accounts of this nature our young people inevitably get the impression that if Leifr Eiriksson ever existed he must have belonged to the world of the supernatural—the world of elves, ghosts or even angels. It is of course known to you that Vikings are not to be confused with angels, and far be it from me to maintain that Leifr Eiriksson was one when he became the first European to step ashore in North America. He may have become an angel after his death, since it is reason-

ably certain that he became a Christian and received a Christian burial in Greenland at the first church to be built in North America. That church was named for Leifr's mother and called Thjodhild church.

Who then was Leifr Eiriksson? Who were his ancestors? What was his nationality? When was he born and where? Certainly, Leifr Eiriksson does not deserve to be treated like a man from nowhere. An ancient source about his father Eirikr the Red, contains two different accounts. One account states that Thorvaldr, i.e., Leifr's paternal grandfather came from Norway to settle in Iceland. The other account maintains that both Thorvaldr and his son Eirikr the Red came from Norway and settled in Iceland. In Iceland Eirikr the Red married a lady by the name of Thjodhildr. Thiodhildr was a third generation Icelander. Her grandparents were Norwegian pioneers in Iceland.

It is safe to assume that Leifr Eiriksson was of Norwegian descent and that he was born in Iceland some time after 960 A.D. Dr. Helge Ingstad, the eminent supervisor of the recent archaeological research in Newfoundland, has just come up with the theory that Leifr Eiriksson may have been born in Greenland. That theory is unacceptable, because it might imply that Leifr undertook his explorations in North America a few years before he was born.



If we follow the conventions of Nordic pioneers, we can rest assured that Leifr Eiriksson's grandfather, Thorvaldr Asvaldsson, was a Norwegian, at least before he settled in Iceland. His son Eirikr, during the early part of his career, may have been referred to as a Norwegian and an Icelander, but we know for certain that after Eirikr the Red and his son Leifr reached Greenland and settled there, they were not referred to as Norsemen, Vikings, Norwegians nor Icelanders. Whether we like it or not, they were called Greenlanders, not to be confused with the native Skraelings, i.e., the Eskimos. Our oldest source for this assertion dates from the first quarter of the 11th century.

This is all that needs to be said about the national origin of our celebrated North American pioneers. I suggest that we avoid such vague terms as Vikings and Norsemen in our discussions on this subject and that we use instead the terms Norwegian, Icelander, and Greenlander. It is unfortunate that vagueness in this regard has created the impression that Leifr Eiriksson must have come from a land similar to that of Santa Claus. This unneces-

sary vagueness is one of the reasons why the story of Leifr Eiriksson is often presented in the form of a myth in North American schools (I do not know what they do in Spain). No one in particular is to blame for this, but it is certainly our duty to destroy the myth concept wherever we find it.

The discovery of the Western Hemisphere and the subsequent explorations there about the year 1000 A.D. were a fitting climax to the Viking Age. Leifr Eiriksson belongs to that period of history, and his accomplishments should be seen and evaluated against that background. The Viking Age provided courageous seafarers with both long and intensive training in the art of navigation; this period of training extended over several centuries. It had its beginnings along the Scandinavian coastline where communication with off-shore islands was an important part of everyday life and provided a constant challenge to ingenious builders of ships and to daring sailors. Before long, they built ships that were not only capable of short voyages, but were sturdy enough for long and arduous voyages to the east, to Russia, to the British Isles and south along the western shores of the European mainland. Finally, they were used for the crossing of the often treacherous North Atlantic between Norway and Iceland.

THE LEIFR EIRIKSSON PLAQUE

Rt. Hon. Lester B. Pearson has agreed on behalf of the Government of Canada to accept a plaque setting out the discovery of North America by Leifr Eiriksson, as a Centennial gift from the Icelanders of Canada. The plaque, which is approximately seven feet wide and four feet high, will be placed in a public building in Ottawa and all that remains to be done officially is the selection of the site which will be made by the Prime Minister.

The Canadian Icelandic Centennial Committee
S. A. Thorarinson, Sec.

As we can easily understand, it was not enough that the Norwegians built ships of good quality for voyages to Iceland, they also had to provide crews of valiant men for their ships. Neither would it have been satisfactory, if the Icelanders in Eirikr the Red's home district in the western part of Iceland had contented themselves with maintaining a fleet of ships capable of reaching Greenland. Fortunately, they considered they had a responsibility to

enter accounts of important voyages upon historical records and faithfully preserve these records. Without these sources the name of Leifr Eiriksson himself would not have been known to us until a year ago when the famous or notorious (it all depends upon how you look at it) Vinland map was presented to the scholarly world. As you will recall, specialists at the Yale University and the British Museum in London have dated the map in question as pre-Columbian. The map does not only show Vinland, it also contains the names of Bjarni Herjolfsson and Leifr Eiriksson.

I do not want to minimize the significance of the Vinland map, and I sincerely hope that the arguments for its early dating were based on a sound foundation. Nevertheless, it is a subsidiary source. The two existing sagas about Greenland and Vinland are of prime importance in our discussion, even though they contain some obvious discrepancies concerning the discovery of this continent and the date of that discovery. One saga, "The Saga of the Greenlanders" gives Bjarni Herjolfsson the credit for having discovered or sighted the new land in 986 A.D., it further implies that Leifr Eiriksson sailed from Greenland to explore this new land after learning about it from Herjolfsson.

The other saga, "The Saga of Eirikr the Red" does not even mention Bjarni Herjolfsson. It states that Leifr Eiriksson accidentally discovered the new land to the westward when he was driven off course on a voyage from Norway to Greenland in the year 1000. Scholarly research in recent years lends strong support to the basic historical outline of the saga which gives credit to both Bjarni and Leifr. If you wish to do so, you may well refer to both men as discoverers. Her-

jolfsson's discovery appears to have been too accidental to disqualify Leifr Eiriksson as the leading figure in the history of Vinland. If we accept the account of the 12th century "Saga of the Greenlanders" about the collaboration of the two explorers, an important feature has been added to our image of Leifr Eiriksson. The account reveals that there was nothing accidental about his accomplishments and it describes him as a serious explorer who meticulously prepared his exploratory voyage to the Western Hemisphere. I should like to emphasize at this point that contrary to the thesis of recent books on Vinland, a theory about its discovery has never existed. Our sources contain reliable testimony given by men who came close to being Leifr's contemporaries. Since the word theory implies an element of doubt, it is more appropriate in our present context to refer to an historical fact. Accounts of the discovery of Vinland are well documented. In a book by a German historian from about 1075 A.D. there is a passage on Vinland based on the testimony of His Majesty the King of Denmark. In addition to this, the most reliable historian of the Middle Ages, Ari the Learned of Haukadalr in Iceland, wrote an interesting account on Vinland about 1122 A.D. That account was based on information which had been obtained from a man who had been to Greenland and had become acquainted with one of Eirikr the Red's companions. To this we should add the already mentioned sagas, and geographical maps from the Middle Ages showing Vinland. Last but not least Canadians are fully aware of the recent archaeological discoveries made in Newfoundland. These discoveries have proven that some of the explorers of

the Sagas were in Newfoundland about the year 1000.

Leifr Eiriksson has been given a good deal of publicity in the last two or three years. Some of this publicity has defeated its purpose. In spite of this, there is no reason to be pessimistic. The Vinland map has attracted great attention and even though its dating has become a matter of controversy, the map has served as a very useful reminder to those who think that they are doing Christopher Columbus justice by setting him up as a stereotyped dogma impervious to scrutiny.

Leifr Eiriksson was an unusually accomplished man. The older of the two Vinland Sagas has it that he was both tall and strong, impressive in appearance, wise and moderate in behaviour. His qualities were noticed in such high places as the Royal House of Norway where Leifr came to be regarded as a distinguished visitor.

Good fortune was on Leifr's side. On important occasions it provided a favourable wind for his sail, and it gave him once an opportunity to rescue a few Norwegians who had broken their ship on a reef somewhere off the eastern shores of North America. The records imply that by rescuing these men, Leifr earned himself the nickname "Lucky". This shows us that in his day people were so human that the discovery of a new continent was not considered to be of as great importance to an Icelander as the opportunity of saving the lives of a few Norwegians. Of course, it is tempting to give this ancient source a new interpretation by suggesting that it was Leifr Eiriksson's good luck that prevented the shipwrecked Norwegians from reaching Vinland ahead of him.

It is on record that Leifr's father, Eirikr the Red, was such a confirmed

heathen that he refused to share living quarters with his wife after she had accepted Christianity. Whether this parental discord had any damaging psychological effect on the son, Leifr Eiriksson, we do not know. Nevertheless, it is certain that in those days some people were torn between heathendom and Christianity. Some of them tried to be on the safe side by worshipping Christ and the Mighty Thor simultaneously.

From the foregoing, it can be seen that Leifr Eiriksson lived in a period of transition. He himself became the first man to explore the new world, and his naval exploits coincided with the introduction of Christianity into the Northern countries. There is every reason to believe that Leifr had to trade his old religion for a new one. Our sources even associate him with a major Christian mission. However this may have been, his efficiency as an explorer seems to have overshadowed his accomplishments as a missionary.

Leifr Eiriksson did not inherit the violent temper of his father Eirikr the Red, but he inherited his courage and qualities of leadership. Both father and son possessed such strong yearning to explore the unknown that according to Mediaeval concepts of geography they came close to stepping off the rim of the world. However, one can truthfully say that if Leifr Eiriksson heeded superstitions in any way, he must have concealed such beliefs carefully. Instead of becoming frightened when he reached the edge of the world, he was delighted. He found its beauty and good qualities intoxicating and according to the sources the grapes in Vinland were also intoxicating. The story is told that one of Leifr's men consumed one grape too many, and as a result this poor man began to speak in a foreign tongue. That event mark-

ed the beginning of bilingualism in this part of the world! Racial discrimination also occurred when the North American Indians made it abundantly clear that the presence of Icelanders was not to be tolerated. This type of discrimination was different from the one known to us. In Leifr Eiriksson's day, the white backlash had not come into existence.

The descriptive names which Leifr Eiriksson gave the regions which he explored testify to his keen poetic talent. These names also suggest that he was a publicity minded individual and eager to present North America to Europeans in a suitable manner. This could not have been done more fittingly than by describing Vinland as the land of intoxicating grapes and with abundance of such things that people most desire. Our sources go even as far as to record that the morning dew in Vinland was of a sweeter taste than anything that could be found elsewhere. As a publicist, Leifr Eiriksson was his father's equal; as we all know, Eirikr the Red was shrewd enough to give the name Greenland to a glacier-studded Arctic region in the hope that such an attractive name would make people eager to go there. This unique flair for advertising makes both Eirikr the Red and his son Leifr worthy of being referred to as the first North Americans.

It is important for us to remember that in Leifr Eiriksson's day, news

spread slowly. At the time of the discovery of America, Leifr's language had not yet been used for writing and efficient news media had not come into existence. Everyone is the victim of both time and circumstance and Leifr Eiriksson was no exception because he deserved more immediate acknowledgement than he received. Nevertheless, the discovery of America was duly recorded, and we have ample reason to take comfort in the fact that the role of Bjarni Herjolfsson, Eirikr the Red, and Leifr Eiriksson is steadily becoming clearer. The day may not be far off when it will be generally accepted that the Vinland voyages should not be regarded as an isolated event, but as an important prelude to permanent settlement of Europeans in North America. It is certainly to be hoped that the Vinland map will bear up under scholarly scrutiny so that it will be found acceptable as a connecting link between Leifr Eiriksson and Christopher Columbus.

It is our duty to give Leifr Eiriksson the recognition which he deserves. This distinguished gathering is a clear indication that the descendants of the north are now in a position to provide our celebrated explorer with the support which he needs to become permanently settled in the land which he discovered almost a thousand years ago.

—Haraldur Bessason



INTRODUCTION TO QUEBEC



MR. C. E. DOJACK, PRIME MINISTER DANIEL JOHNSON, and JUDGE W. J. LINDAL taken at a banquet tendered the forty-two editors who visited Quebec in October. The tour was sponsored by the Centennial Commission, the Department of Citizenship and Immigration of Canada, the Province of Quebec, Expo '67, the City of Montreal and Hydro-Quebec.

In the early years of the Canada Press Club, formed in 1942, there were two editors, one Ukrainian, the late M. Stechishin, and one Polish, John S. Pazdor, who had never met one another but who, through their weeklies, had often taken positions which seemed antagonistic. An unconscious feeling of misgiving and lack of trust developed.

A few years later Mr. Stechishin had occasion to refer to the fellowship

developed in the Club. As an illustration, he pointed to Mr. Pazdor saying: "There is John Pazdor. I did not know him before we joined this Club and had some misgivings about him. Now we have come to know him and we are very good friends."

A getting together of this type, but on the national level, occurred last fall, the significance of which cannot be over emphasized.

Before the month of October this year the ethnic editors, particularly those of the West, knew very little, if anything, about Quebec.

During the week of October 16, forty-two ethnic editors from all over Canada toured the Province of Quebec. The tour was sponsored by the Centennial Commission, the Department of Citizenship and Immigration of Canada, the Province of Quebec Expo 67, the City of Montreal and Hydro-Quebec.

The editors arrived in Montreal, Sunday night. Next day was spent at the Expo 67 site. The superlatives that have been used in describing that gigantic undertaking are fully justified. One stands in awe as he contemplates what man can do—and in a few months—building an island! undulating highways crossing various levels; innumerable buildings, all works of art and imagination in themselves. To visit Expo 67 next summer is to see what a collective purpose with imagination can accomplish. It will become very evident that only a united Canada could have undertaken a task of that magnitude and carried it out.

On Tuesday, October 18, the huge power project of Hydro-Quebec at Manic (Manicouagan) was visited. Here top level management and expert skill is required and it was a pleasure to be told that almost all the personnel are French Canadian. They can respond no matter how big the job. Again a mere Quebec or any one province becomes unthinkable.

The group, travelling in a chartered plane, proceeded south on Wednesday and crossed the St. Lawrence to Rimouski, which may be termed the capital of the Gaspé Peninsula—a large tract of marginal land. We were told that here we might meet indifference. Far from it. A member of the School Board

asked for two copies of the brief which the Canada Ethnic Press Federation had submitted to the B and B commission. He was pleasantly surprised to hear how interested the ethnic group were in Canadian unity.

The highlight of the trip was the two days in Quebec City.

At a banquet tendered the visiting editors by the Government of the Province of Quebec, the Prime Minister, Daniel Johnson, was the distinguished host. In his address and in conversation at the table during the dinner hour he explained the French connotation of the word "nation". In that context and with that meaning the French nation of Canada has no boundaries. It may be said to consist of one large geographic area, Quebec, with areas scattered throughout Canada, large and small, which are not exclusively French Canadian but have a substantial French population. Combined, and, culturally speaking, they constitute French Canada.

On Friday morning the editors visited Laval University, the oldest university, and undoubtedly one of the two or three leading universities of Canada. At noon they were received by Mgr. Louis Albert Vachon, Rector of Laval University, M. Louis Philippe Bonneau, the Vice-Rector, and some of the leading officers of the University. In an address of welcome the Rector made reference to the common cultural affinity of all Canadians, but at the same time emphasized the distinctiveness of each culture. His words struck a common chord in the hearts of all present, made them feel that they had reached a cultural level higher than before.

In Quebec City the editors were billeted in French homes which proved to be an excellent arrangement. There was a delightful tete-a-tete each of the

two nights before retirement, carried on to midnight. Fortunately Thursday morning was open and visits were made first at the breakfast hour with the hosts, and then travelling with them in the morning to different historic spots in the city.

The City of Quebec has a distinct character of its own. It has succeeded very effectively to retain the historic past, yet has kept apace in modern development. The old parts of the city have not become slums; there is a quiet dignity about them which impresses the visitor.

The Citadel, as an entree into the walled city of old, has no parallel in Canada. The Plains of Abraham are there to behold, not as the battleground of a victor and a vanquished but as the site of the first step that led to a Canada. Even the passage from the St. Lawrence River to the top of the steep river bank at Point Levi, has not been eradicated but is a paved and much travelled road.

Friday afternoon Arvida was reached, that gigantic complex where about seven thousand employees extract aluminum from bauxite imported from South America. In 1965 the total production of primary aluminum was 997,400 tons, the largest production of aluminum in any one plant in the world. Arvida, a planned city for the employees, has a population of 15,300

of which 85% are French and 15% from twenty different ethnic origins.

The huge main Arvida plant is a building a mile and a quarter long.

Friday night the group stayed in a hotel in Chicoutimi, again a fascinating combination of the old and the new.

Saturday morning the group departed by plane to Montreal. At noon they were the guests of the City of Montreal and in the evening there was a farewell banquet under the auspices of the two Quebec public relations groups. Mr. Louis Martin, President of U.C.J.L.F. (l'Union canadienne des journalistes de langue française) was in the chair. The speaker of the evening was Hon. Jean Marchand, head of the new Department of Manpower. He very clearly and forcibly outlined Canada's new immigration policy, which centres upon bringing people to Canada from any country provided they have needed skills.

On Sunday, October 23, the tour of Quebec by the ethnic editors of Canada was concluded. A return visit of French-speaking editors of Quebec to the west will take place next spring, probably in May. Then the French and ethnic editors will be able to say in slightly different words, what M. Stechishin said to J. F. Pazdor: "We have come to know one another and we have become good friends."

LAVAL EPISODE

I was a Separatist

At Laval I became a separatist . . . Federation, Dojack and Judge Lindal, Quebec Director of Citizenship Branch. Alban Daigle, Centennial Cultural Chief Zybala, and others, including Sonia, Stephy, Olga, etc.

A real separatist, even with permission of all authorities concerned: both Presidents of the Canada Ethnic Press

I separated myself from the whole group in the sunny morning of Oct. 21st and went my own way . . .

To be exact, the whole group separated itself from me: it was not I but they who left the magnificent Arts Building on the campus (our morning meeting place) to see Atomic Reactor and Science establishments at Laval. I stayed in the Arts Building and started my separatist way with a visit to the University Library on the fifth floor. The visit was "ethnically" most rewarding: I found here a rich collection of Canadiana, even *Ethnica Canadiana*.

So my "separatist way" led me down to the office and laboratory of my friend, Gaston Dulong, Chairman of Linguistics. What a difference in past and present premises of his library and linguistic collection!

—Listen Gaston,—I said in French—I have important business to discuss with you!

It was in London, England, last summer, that a new scholarly venture for Canada was initiated. I read the state-

ment made before the plenum of the Ninth International Congress of Onomastic Sciences:

"To mark the Centennial of Canada (1867-1967) and in implementing the resolutions of the previous Congresses the members of the 9th International Congress of Onomastic Sciences have formed a **Canadian Institute of Onomastic Sciences** with the aim to develop this important branch of humanities in Canada".

(Dr. Rudnyckyj omitted to state that he was made President.)

"The first Canadian meeting of the Institute shall be held in Ottawa in June 1967 during the meetings of the Learned Societies of Canada"

In two hours of my "separatist action" at Laval I gained new friends for an important project for 1967 and the following years. We all meet in Ottawa in June of that year and will contribute our modest share to the Centennial celebrations.

J. B. Rudnyckyj, Wpg.

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Mr. and Mrs. Jakob F. Kristjansson of 246 Montgomery Street, Winnipeg, were honored by relatives and friends on October 2nd at an open house reception at the home of their son Lorne, 118 Baltimore Rd., on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. Guests were received afternoon and evening.

Mr. Kristjansson was born in Iceland and came to Canada at the age of 15. Mrs. Kristjansson, the former Steinun Hallson, was born in Winnipeg. They were married in the Unitarian Church

in Winnipeg on Sept. 22, 1916, by Rev. Rognvaldur Petursson. Over the years both have been active in affairs of the Icelandic community. Mr. Kristjansson retired in 1960 after nearly 20 years on the Winnipeg staff of the National Employment Service of Canada.

They have three children, daughter Rubina of Winnipeg, son Lorne who is property administrator on the staff of the Great West Life Assurance Company, and son Dr. Fridrik, a geneticist on the staff of the Central Experimental Farm in Ottawa.

GUTTORMUR J. GUTTORMSSON

To Canadian letters, the contribution of Guttormur Jonsson Guttormsson can be counted a lost inheritance, its influence upon the shaping of a unique Canadian literature a lost opportunity.

It is part of a fabulous legacy of early Canadian prose and poetry that is fast becoming the exclusive possession of Iceland because the majority of Icelandic Canadians have lost the key to it. Before and after the turn of the century, an astonishing number of young men and women were producing Canadian literature of enduring excellence in the Icelandic language. They depicted and interpreted the Icelandic settlers and their new environment in unforgettable terms, and wielded the artist's subtle power in keeping alive their awareness of political and social issues in the new world.

Some were self-educated people in the old tradition. Some were college-bred liberals in the European tradition of the day. Well on their way to literary distinction before they left the old country, many of these men and women continued to fight its battles from afar on one hand, while taking vigorous stands in Canadian politics on the other. Nearly all were so caught up in the lure of the prairies as to leave to posterity works of fiction and poetry hauntingly Canadian in fact and feeling.

Guttormur J. Guttormsson's six volumes of verse, his fiction, plays and journalistic writings have immeasurably enriched this legacy, and in a way which makes its loss to Canadian letters particularly regrettable.



1878 —1966

As an artist, Guttormur was a unique creature of the Canadian soil and an Icelandic cultural heritage. He was born to both on the shores of Lake Winnipeg 88 years ago. This child of enlightened and eager immigrants grew up with the rigors and tragedies of pioneer life in Manitoba at the beginning of the last quarter of the 19th century. He grew up, too, with the magnitude of a lake the size of an inland sea in his vision, with the murmur of ripening wheat fields in his ears, and the deep, eloquent silence of the

Manitoba woods stirring his soul to speech.

Speech came — in the voice of the lake, the wheat fields and the woods, but in the words of the Icelandic language. For this was the poet's inherited tongue. He possessed it completely from childhood, wielded it with creative power and sensitive warmth.

But it was not the prevailing speech in the country of which he wrote, and translators have not so far captured the essence of Guttormur's work. The excellence of his light humor and subtle satire, the poignancy of his tragedies have somehow defied transit into another language.

This is a loss not only to Canadian letters, but to the natural growth of the feeling of national identity as well. That feeling thrives on filial love of the soil, and Canadians became a predominantly urban people before they had time to sink their roots deeper than a few generations into rural soil. During those generations few took time from the arduous toil of breaking the soil into productiveness to write the kind of literature that could stir the weary sod-breakers to a sensuous awareness of the land they hoped to possess.

Guttormur's story is in some ways like that of many another born in the settlement along Icelandic River around the time the first settlers arrived there from Iceland in 1875. He was born in 1878 on land homesteaded by his father in 1876. In 1886 his mother died, in 1896, his father. An orphan at the age of eight, he grew up

on the family homestead and left it, as a young man, only long enough to earn funds to purchase it and farm it for the rest of his life.

This affinity for the land can hardly be ascribed to outstanding talents or tendencies as a farm laborer, nor did the farm become productive of monetary wealth. But Guttormur seemed rooted in its soil, and all his works, even those most universal in theme, bear the mark of that affinity.

Although Guttormur's formal education began when he first entered school at the age of 12 and ended with three months in grade six, he became comfortably conversant with the English language, was an avid reader of the best in English literature and kept abreast of local, national and world issues by constant explorations with the help of his two languages.

Orphaned so early in life, Guttormur's formative years were bereft of parental guidance. But it is a safe conclusion that his parents had taught him to read before their death; had led him to sample some of their favorite poetry as well as the Icelandic folklore and fairytales which were part of a child's birthright in the early days, and that they had implanted in him the curiosity that makes a reader.

It must be true, too, that the very essence of the wilds of Manitoba was part of his being, that its magic tantalized his senses to an awareness that makes a poet of a master of words.

Caroline Gunnarsson



The Icelandic Library at the University of Manitoba

by Hrund Skulason

I have been asked to write a short article about the books presented to the Icelandic library at the University of Manitoba.

The donors have been many and the books of great worth.

The value of any book is a matter of individual taste, and can not always be measured. To the scholars the books pertaining to the subject they are interested in are all important. The historian looks with distain on the simple novel. The man of science wants only scientific works and often what is of value to one is of little interest to another.

To my unacademic mind all books are treasures. The simple novels, even the "Neðanmáls" stories from Lögberg-Heimskringla have their value. They have given many a reader enjoyment, and even food for thought. A single sentence can bring back cherished memories, and cause the reader untold joy. A simple poem by an unrecognized poet can bring a lonely soul closer to its Maker. So, who can then decree that even the simplest of books may not serve a purpose? Thus the value of a book can not be entirely measured by its literary achievement.

To a university library such as the Icelandic Collection, books of literature, language and history are all important. Also any book, periodical, pamphlet and manuscript that the library does not possess.

As a great number of books have been presented, it is impossible to

mention all, so I will single out the ones not before in the collection, or those of specific value.

The first on the list will be *Framfari*, presented in one volume by Dr. A. N. Sommerville. This is a priceless heritage, because between its two covers is the story of the striving and aspirations of a people struggling for survival in a new strange land. This copy was originally the possession of Jonas Stefansson, one of the pioneers of 1875.

The generous yearly donation from the Government of Iceland is of course the mainstay of the collection. Without this support it would be impossible to obtain all the new publications each year.

The collection of Dr. K. J. Austmann contained many noteworthy books in excellent condition such as Ibsen's *Peer Gynt*, translated into Icelandic by Einar Benediktsson, and published in Reykjavik, in 1901. It is said to be the first numbered book printed in Iceland. Only thirty copies were printed and this is copy no. 27. The price was 100 krónur, which at the time was equivalent to two months wage for printers plus the yearly wage of three women domestics. (Cf. Landsbókasafn Íslands, Árbók 1946-'47). The book is in a deluxe gilt-edged binding and in a cover. The diary of Jóhann Magnús Bjarnason, *Dagbók mín I*, has the inscription in Icelandic—"I begin this diary on the 1st day of Nov., 1902, at Geysir, Man., J.M.B."—it ends June 25, 1917, at Otto, Manitoba. *Dagbók*

II. begins August 7, 1917 at Otto, Manitoba and ends Nov. 24, 1924, at Wynyard, Saskatchewan. We did not receive Dagbók III. There are also the manuscripts of: *Haustkveld við hafið*, *Ljóðmæli* og *Ævintýri* og *dæmisögur*. Manuscripts of works by noted authors are always treasured and the library takes pride in possessing them.

The library "Árgalinn" of Langruth, Manitoba, presented several volumes not before in the collection. Of special interest were the books of Jón Sveinsson: *Á Skipalóni*, *Ævintýri úr Eyjum*, and *Nonni og Manni*. They have been out of print for a number of years and are therefore rare.

The Fred Fridfinnson collection contained the following: Halldorsson. A. L., *Fruits of the valley*, Jónasson, Jóhannes úr Kötlum: *Eilífðar smáblóm* and *Samt mun eg vaka*, and Sigurdson, Gus: *Pencil-Stub stanzas*. It also included valuable selections of music by numerous composers, such as: Jón Fridfinnson (some of his compositions in manuscript), Björgvin Guðmundsson; S. K. Hall; Sigvaldi Kaldalón; Gunnsteinn Eyólfsson; Sv. Sveinbjörnsson, etc.; also S. Coleridge-Taylor: "Hiawatha's Wedding Feast" and a book of songs by Harry Lauder, the title page of which is missing, but it has his photo and autograph on the first page.

The R. Fowler donation contains a varied selection: fiction, poetry, religion, philosophy and health. *Heimilislæknirinn* and *heilbryðisvörðurinn* and "Jónassen's: *Ljósmóðirinn*" were not in the collection, also "Harpa", a collection of choice Icelandic poetry.

The presentation from Miss Theodora Herman was of special interest and included, to mention only a few volumes, the following: Cleasby-Vig-

fússon: Icelandic-English dictionary; Jónasson, Jónas: Danish-Icelandic dictionary; a deluxe edition of a volume of Longfellow, placed in Rare Book Room; The Graduale (Grallari) Editio XIX, Hólum, 1779; numerous volumes by the late Dr. Jón Bjarnason and a folio of his personal papers and letters; The Passion lament of Jón Arason (Píslargrátr), translated into English by Charles Venn Pilcher (typed), and "A manuscript under consideration", the fifty Passion-hymns of Hallgrímur Pétursson rendered into English verse and prose by Charles Venn Pilcher, the last-named being the only copy in circulation.

Dr. P. H. T. Thorlakson presented a number of books in memory of his father, the late Rev. Niels S. Thorlakson. The following books in the English language are of special value: Buchan, John (Lord Tweedsmuir): *Canadian occasions*; Dufferin, Lord: *Letters from High Latitudes*; Gjerset, Knut: *History of Iceland*; Kirkconnell, Watson: *The Flying Bull*, and Leach, Henry G.: *A Pageant of Old Scandinavia*. Also presented were personal papers and letters of the late Rev. N. S. Thorlaksson from 1907-1922.

Except for the first volume the donations have been listed in the order of the size of the collections. There have been many smaller donations that time and space do not allow to mention individually, but all are an asset to the library. I would, however, like to mention a donation by Mrs. Kristin Johnson that is to be kept for the archives—a funeral service for Guðlaug Runólfsdóttir, by Rev. Bjarni Thorarinnsson, Winnipeg, April 27, 1900, and two hymns by Sig. Júl. Jóhannesson, sung at Benedikt Frímanson's funeral, November, 1917.

Manuscripts were presented by Mrs. A. Gunnlaugsson, North Battleford, Saskatchewan. They are the works of the late Rev. Gunnlaugur E. Gunnlaugsson, of Brandon, Manitoba, and contain sermons, plays, and "Gerðabók" bindindisfélagsins "Bróðernis", the minutes of meetings of a Good Templar Lodge in Brandon during the years 1891-1895.

Mrs. Inga M. Halldorson of Chicago, Illinois, presented "Old letters from Iceland", written to Jón Halldorsson, who for many years lived in Long Pine, Nebraska. They are very legible and date from 1875-1886.

Dr. and Mrs. Arni Helgason of Wilmette, Illinois, presented a very interesting book. The cover has "Pre Columbian Historical Treasures 1000-1492" the title page "The Flatey Book and recently discovered Vatican Manuscripts concerning America as early as the Tenth Century."

The manuscripts and many old and valued books in the collection await the future historians and maybe some day they can be a source of information to someone that wants to write about the "Good old days."

Thor Thors Icelandic Fund Shows Continuing Growth

The three-year campaign to establish a Fund for underwriting student exchange with Iceland in honor of the late Thor Thors, Icelandic Ambassador to the United States, is halfway completed. Generous contributions recently received from the EPH Foundation of Detroit, Michigan, and Icelandic Airlines have brought the total Thor Thors Fund figure to approximately \$37,000 in gifts and pledges.

In addition, the Foundation is currently making awards to Icelandic students in the name of the Thor Thors Fund from a special \$25,000 grant donated by The Rockefeller Brothers Fund. This grant, however, must be expended for scholarships within a five-year period and cannot be considered as part of the permanent Fund.

The campaign will continue through 1967 and it is hoped that the goal of

\$100,000 will be reached. A Fund of this size is necessary because only the income of the Thor Thors Fund may be used for student support. The capital in the Fund will be held in perpetuity, invested and administered by the Board of Trustees of the Foundation.

Bringing young Icelanders to the United States for study and research is a pressing need and the Thor Thors Fund was established to help toward this end. Contributions to the Fund should be sent to The American-Scandinavian Foundation and in order to take advantage of the Foundation's tax-deductible status the checks should be made out to the Foundation. However, an accompanying letter should specify that the gift is for the Thor Thors Fund.

Golden Boys' Good Citizenship Award won by W. J. Lindal



Walter J. Lindal

Judge Walter J. Lindal of Winnipeg was among ten prominent Manitobans who were presented with 1966 Golden Boys' Good Citizenship Awards by the Manitoba Travel and Convention Association at an association dinner November 5 in the Marlborough Hotel in Winnipeg, in recognition of outstanding service rendered by them to the province over the years.

The presentations were made by His Honor, Richard S. Bowles, lieutenant-governor of Manitoba, Judge Lindal is, among many other things, chairman of the editorial board of this magazine, and the board tenders its congratula-

tions to him on being awarded this honor.

In making the presentation to Judge Lindal, the Lieutenant-Governor said of him as follows:

The ancient Greeks felt that the good life was necessarily the varied life—that man was enriched in proportion as he was well rounded in the arts and ennobled as he exercised his diversity in freedom.

In Judge Walter Jacobson Lindal we have a man of whom the Greeks would be proud, and his arts and skills have contributed in such a variety of ways to the development of our province and to the unity of our Dominion.

His remarkable career began as a most brilliant student, graduating with honors from the University of Manitoba in both arts and law. He served with distinction during the First World War and was one of the victims of gas warfare from which he made a fighting but full recovery after only one year.

He complemented his career in law with a career as a writer. He wrote that significant book, "Two Ways of Life—Freedom or Tyranny" — one of the outstanding works dealing with the principles of freedom.

His knowledge and skill contributed to the preparation of lectures on ideologies of World War Two, which were required reading for the entire Armed Services.

The Minister of Justice, seeking a lawyer of repute and a scholar of re-

nown, sought him out and at the request of the minister he accepted an appointment to the bench—where he served with distinction for 20 years.

He was well aware of the magnificent contribution made by our varied ethnic groups to our Canadian way of life, and to our Canadian culture. In recognition of their importance he formed the "Ethnic Press of Manitoba", later the "Canadian Ethnic Press Federation" — and became its first president.

His belief that advantageous employment develops good citizenship moved him to assume the burden of the chairmanship of both the Winnipeg and Regional Employment Advisory Committees to the National Employment Service, and ultimately saw him assume the burden of chairmanship of the National Committee.

That our people might know, not only the rights and duties of Canadian citizenship but the pride they could properly share in the story of their

past, he wrote "The Canadian Citizenship Act And Our Wider Loyalties" and "The Saskatchewan Icelanders—A Strand of the Canadian Fabric". Rumor has it that he is now working on a new and comprehensive article dealing with "The Icelanders of Canada" for the Centennial publication.

The Citizenship Council of Manitoba and the Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism have both received the benefit of his great knowledge and experience.

Judge Lindal! As a soldier, as an author, as a lawyer, as a judge, an outstanding Manitoban — you have made this province of ours a better place in which to live — you have given us a better understanding of each other, and the problems we must face and solve together.

It is with great pride that I present you with this 1966 Golden Boys' Good Citizenship Award.

TREASURES FROM MANY LANDS CENTENNIAL EXHIBITION OF THE CITIZENSHIP COUNCIL OF MANITOBA

The first Centennial project of the Citizenship Council of Manitoba will be a display of treasures brought by citizens from many lands, which will be held in Eaton's Annex 15th of January. The co-operation of all Manitoba citizens is needed to make this a truly representative display. In our diverse population there must be a variety of beautiful and unusual articles that could be loaned to make an interesting exhibition. Some suggestions are —

paintings, sculpture, furniture, books, clothing, jewellery, tapestries, scrolls, lace, crystal, old photographs, porcelain, clocks, etc., etc.

More will be heard of this project but in the meantime anyone who has suitable articles is invited to contribute. Should more information be desired about this unique Centennial project please phone one of the following numbers:

GR 5-6870 — HU 9-6664 or SU 3-7305.

Centennial Report

The Manitoba Centennial Corporation

Scarcely two months remain before Canada's gigantic birthday party begins December 31, 1966. Never before has the new year in Canada been hailed with such a hearty welcome. Bonfires across the entire country will roar their bright flames into the sky in symbolic fires of friendship between Canadians everywhere. Every bell in Canada, from the largest Cathedral carillon to the tiniest school handbell in a remote hamlet, will peal a resounding note of celebrity to proclaim Canada's first one hundred years of nationhood.

A myriad of activities is planned for Canada during 1967 as diverse as the mosaic which makes up our country. Like Canada as a whole, which was never a melting pot, but a homeland where the cultures of immigrants were embraced rather than erased, each community in the country has chosen its own way to celebrate 1967. The number of towns which have chosen to honor and immortalize their earliest settlers with parks, plaques, and memorials is particularly heartening, and typical of Canadians. For, while our 1967 celebrations project the future progress and stature of our country, we still pause in the 100th year to recognize humbly the courage and bravery of those earliest settlers whose beliefs in freedoms and in the better life brought them to a barren and often hostile land to build with their physical and spiritual strengths a land where their descendants would live a rich and fruitful life.

Each community in Manitoba is being visited this fall by a representative of The Manitoba Centennial Corporation as part of the final stage of planning for Manitoba's celebrations. Films and slide presentations have been shown to rural committees in some 40 towns, bringing them up-to-date on plans and projects throughout Manitoba. When the meetings are completed 280 towns will have met with the Corporation to report on their celebration plans for 1967, and to learn of their neighbor's

The resourcefulness and imagination of Manitoba centennial committees is continually heartening. Riverton is building a garden as a suitable setting for a memorial to their earliest Icelandic pioneers, the first of whom landed on the very spot where the space-age sculpture will stand. Also housed within the garden plot is the burial place of the children of the first settlers who were victims of typhoid.

Eriksdale, a community of approximately one thousand, has built a community centre of which an urban area would be proud; Lorette has built another fine hockey and curling rink, mostly with volunteer labor. The Dutch community of Brandon is planting a tulip garden where 10,000 bulbs will blossom in the spring of 1967. St. Laurent is building a park and playground, and bordering it with centennial trees and shrubs. Museums, offering a permanent home to artifacts of early agriculture and homemaking,

are dotting the province. Old buildings are getting a face lifting, and comfortable homes for senior citizens are going up in many communities.

These are only examples of the 200 individual projects happening in Manitoba which will enrich our province immeasurably in recognition of our country's centenary.

Everywhere there are plans to Beautify Manitoba. Service and youth groups, religious and fraternal societies are spearheading clean-up, paint-up and tree planting drives, the lasting benefits of which will be felt throughout Manitoba during its second century. Participation by the people again finds an opportunity in this program. If every household pledges to remove their own eyesore to make their house and garden sparkle, Canada will acquire a new look from Atlantic to Pacific.

Plans for Festival Canada on Tour are progressing and will bring to Manitoba world-famous orchestras and theatre companies. The first Festival Canada performance will be held January 11 in Brandon when Les Feux Follets will perform. Communities looking for special entertainment for any of their local celebrations can contact The Manitoba Centennial Corporation, 55 Princess Street, for names of performers who will be available. If you are thinking of a national celebrity, Don Messer and His Islanders will be performing across Canada next summer. On the tour Marg Osborn, Charlie Chamberlain and the whole gang will join Don to provide a variety of old-time country music. Any town, or group of towns, wishing to sponsor the Islanders should contact

Jerome Shore at 55 Princess Street, Winnipeg 2, to enquire about bookings.

Local communities are also well along with their entertainment and celebration plans. Picnics, reunions, agricultural fairs and sports days will get a Centennial flavor. In Virden the women's group is planning a Centennial Ball for January, with guests appearing in historic costume. Costumes of 1867 will be worn for many events to add to the excitement. Children's and adult pageants are in preparation in many towns and will be presented as part of the local celebrations program. In many cases the local plans will centre around the Confederation Caravan appearances. The 1967 Calendar of Events for Manitoba is rapidly filling as the Corporation hears of plans in all points.

Construction at the Centennial Centre in Winnipeg is very exciting. The basic design of the building is now clearly evident, the round dome of the Planetarium has risen above the boarding, and the metal frames of the Concert Hall's windows are in place.

Orders for License Plates are growing to an impressive number as service clubs and voluntary organizations canvass the province. The actual souvenir plates will appear later this fall on vehicles of all kinds.

There's an exciting bustle everywhere in Manitoba as everyone prepares for a year-long birthday party. It is very heartening to learn that towns are incorporating in their celebrations dedications and religious observances, youth and children's participation, as well as a lot of 'hoop-la' for everyone.

Centennial Commission Youth Travel Program

by JOHN FISHER, Centennial Commissioner

(Canadian Scene)—Youth travel programs and cultural exchange visits between communities and ethnic groups are organized and financed by the Centennial Commission to help promote understanding between Canadians separated by great distances.

The idea behind such programs, of course, is that 1967 is a good time for every one to get to know Canada better and to learn more about its peoples, its varied geography and history. But government programs act merely as catalysts. The idea will become a complete success only if Canadians, motivated from within themselves and on their own initiative, get on the move in '67 to see more of Canada.

Many of us don't take the opportunity to do a little amateur research on Canada even at short distances. I met a middle aged man who had lived most of his life 90 miles from Niagara Falls but had never seen that great wonder of the world, even though he had toured the United Kingdom and half of Europe during the last war.

For the affluent, a trip across Canada could well replace a European holiday. (Though the distance is as great, the fare is less). For those of us who can't afford such a trip, we need only to choose a travel radius of one or a few hundred miles to fit the pocketbook, and pick an interesting spot we've never visited.

We have no shortage of fascinating communities, historical sites and natural wonders. I'll wager that many Nova Scotians and other Maritimers have not visited the old French Fortress of Louisbourg, now being restored on Cape Breton Island; such history on the mere printed page stirs excitement and wonder. How many B. C. mainlanders have really explored the beauties of Vancouver Island and met the interesting personalities who live around the island ports and towns?

I imagine I could pick anyone at random on the main street of any Ontario town and find that he has not explored the unbeaten paths around the tobacco country and old Loyalist communities along Lake Erie's north shore, the old German-Canadian settlements in the Kitchener area and studied the Huronia museum on Georgian Bay. If I were an Albertan, I would want to see those Japanese Gardens, Lethbridge's own Centennial project, and perhaps meet some of the enthusiastic Canadians of Japanese origin who were right behind that community effort.

Lot of people in La Belle Province have neither roamed the narrow streets of the old town of Quebec nor taken a motor trip through the wild country around the end of the Gaspé.

Let's make Centennial Year the time for a real Canadian holiday with a purpose: to know more about our country and our countrymen.

Sir William Stephenson

and the Caribbean Cement Company of Jamaica.

One of the many successful business enterprises with which Sir William Stephenson, formerly of Winnipeg and formerly director of the British secret intelligence organization in America in World War II, has been associated, is the Caribbean Cement Company of Jamaica.

Sir William's valedictory address on relinquishing his chairmanship of the organization, delivered at the annual general meeting of the Company in April of this year, bespeaks his successful piloting of an enterprise launched some fourteen years ago.

The following are excerpts from Sir William's report.

"The beautiful island of Jamaica and her hospitable, industrious and progressive people came into my life early in the 1940s when my activities during World War II necessitated numerous visits to the Caribbean islands. I was impressed with the industrial potential of Jamaica, especially as the stability of the people began to unfold itself during my continuous contact with them.

When I acquired a house at Reading just after the end of World War II, I learned from the then Governor, Sir John Huggins, of the difficulties the Government had encountered in their efforts to attract investors to participate in the establishment of a cement manufacturing plant in the island.

In response to the Governor's urgent request, I undertook to establish, purely in the interest of public service, a cement manufacturing plant.

The task was formidable and certain other large international cement manufacturers had decided against the venture. In addition Jamaica, at that time,

was mainly agricultural with little or no industrial background and Jamaican businessmen, except for a few, were doubtful of its success.

Our cement plant started production on 7th February, 1952, and represented the end of investigations that had been carried out from time to time over a period of some 25 years by the Government of Jamaica and several other interests.

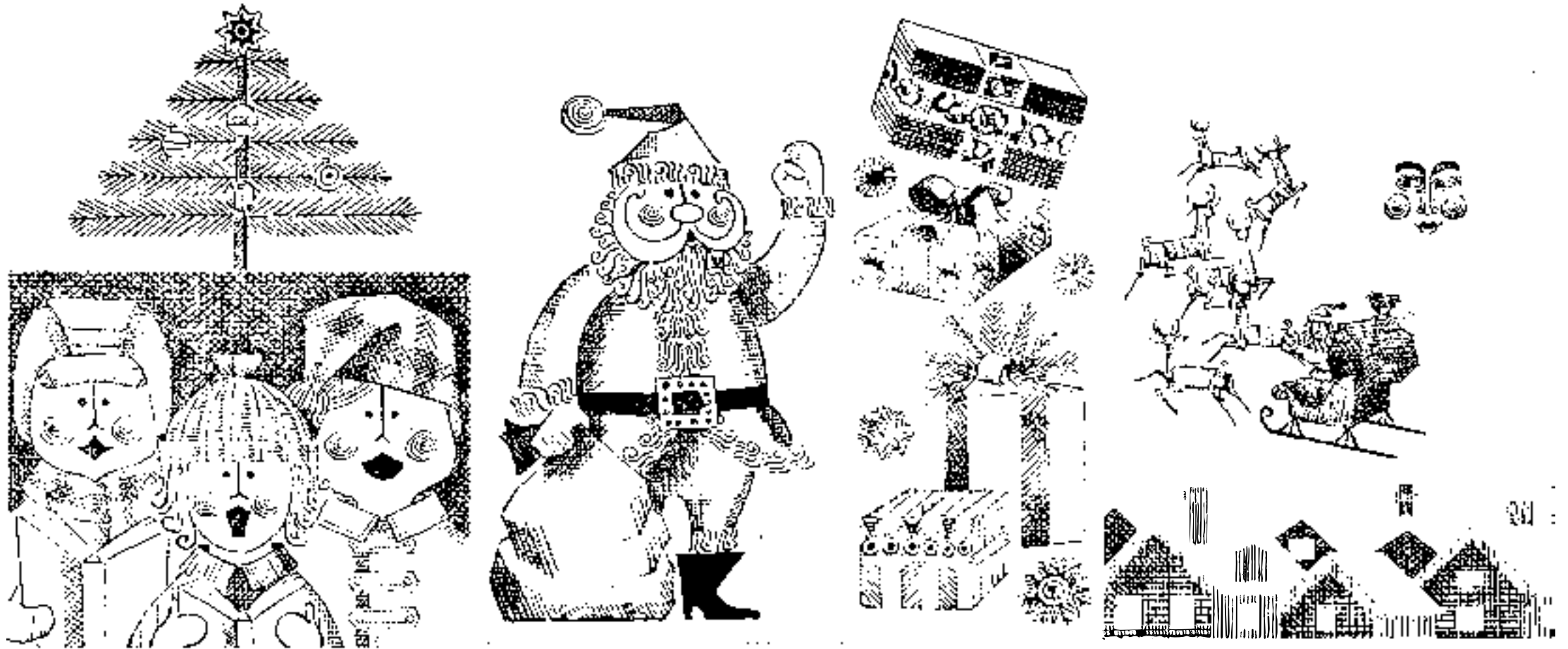
It also marked the achievement of an objective, the practical results of which placed our Company in the vanguard of the industrial development of Jamaica.

Since the commencement of operations in 1952, our Company has moved from strength to strength and has passed through many phases of expansion to meet the growing needs of Jamaica. The original plant had a rated productive capacity of 100,000 tons of cement per annum. This exceeded Jamaica's annual demand for cement in 1952 by about 36,000 tons.

My faith in Jamaica's potential was justified when in 1956 the rated capacity of the plant had to be doubled to 200,000 tons per annum in order to meet the demand. Notwithstanding this expansion, the rate of Jamaica's economic growth was such that by 1961 it was again necessary to double the rated capacity of the plant to 400,000 tons per annum.

This faith in the future of Jamaica I take with me as I move into retirement from the Board of Directors of our Company on January 11, 1966".

— An account of the Icelandic background of Sir William appeared in the Winter, 1962 issue of the *Icelandic Canadian*. —W.K.



The Wonder of Christmas

Cherished customs are an important part of the wonder of Christmas. The evergreen, it is said, was worshipped by Britain's Druids as the conqueror of winter's darkness. Its first recorded use as a decorated Christmas tree came in 1605 in Germany ...and since then a bright tree has become part of

Christmas observance all over the world. □ We wish that this may be for you and your family the most wonderful Christmas of all. We extend personal season's greetings to each of our friends throughout the Province. May Manitoba hold much for you this Christmas.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to one and all!

Labatt Manitoba Brewery (1966) Ltd.

THE TABLES TURNED

by Bogi Bjarnason

The doctor needed no second look at the man in the doorway. What ailed him was patent in his eyes — the wild look of violent insanity. Nor was confirmation of his diagnosis left long in doubt.

The man brusquely announced his mission — he was "the scourge of God", sent to show mankind the errors of its ways. He was to begin his ministry in a nearby city, where he would call down the wrath of The Lord upon the wicked as a notice to all and sundry that The Day was at hand. Was, he asked, the doctor prepared to arrange for his immediate conveyance thither? The doctor was so prepared, and proceeded immediately to make appropriate arrangements via the telephone.

Result, a car pulled up a few minutes later, the driver an efficient-looking man in the uniform of an R.C.M.P. constable. Providentially he was about to set out for the city in his car when the doctor called, and he would be glad to accommodate the doctor's friend with a "lift". They could get going forthwith if the gentleman was ready.

While the constable confronted the man, holding his attention with conversation, the doctor was manoeuvring to get behind him. After signalling the constable over the man's shoulder he threw his arms about him, effectively pinning his arms while the constable whipped out the handcuffs and clamped them on his wrists. Ensued a brief

but violent struggle during which the man was further restricted by hobbling and so rendered absolutely harmless. Thus confined he presented no problem to the constable on their way to the psychopathic in the city. They would therefore be on their way. Before they left, however, the doctor gave the constable two peppermints designed for emergencies. Should the man become obstreperous en route the constable might be able to get him to take one of the mints, which contained enough dope to knock out the strongest man. The other was pure mint, recognizable by a tiny M on one side, which he might eat to disarm suspicion when offering the other to his fare.

Of course the man became violent en route and of course the constable resorted to the dope to quiet him. How he came to reverse the doctor's instructions about the mints will be understood by those who know how the human mind sometimes reverts to opposite poles under strain. The constable swallowed the dope while his passenger ate the harmless mint. Result — a bewildering drowsiness, with realization of his stupid mistake. He tried valiantly to fight sleep, but finding that he was being overcome he stopped the car at the side of the road and then promptly passed out.

The demented man, with that peculiar cunning of the insane which sometimes baffles the comparatively sane, at once realized his opportunity

and proceeded to effect his release. Searching the constable's pockets he found the key to the handcuffs, which he promptly removed, as well as the wrappings about his knees and ankles. Thus free he drove the car off the highway upon a less frequented road where, in the lee of a thicket he proceeded to change clothes with the insensible constable. This accomplished he drove back upon the highway and resumed the journey to the city.

Now while he was most definitely *non compos mentis* upon the need of immediate "scourging" of the world and the important part assigned to himself in the work, he was quite clear-headed on other things, after the manner of many so disordered. He knew,

for instance, quite definitely whether they had been speeding, and the significance of the constable's sleep and how it had come about. Whether he would have his little joke in what followed or whether he ascribed insanity to the constable is not clear. At any rate he drove directly to the asylum, completely changing identity with the constable, who still slept, whom he turned over to the institution, explaining that the man's peculiar aberration took the form of imagining that he was constable so-and-so, R.C.M.P., and that upon awaking he would probably insist with some emphasis upon this point. They would, he entreated, understand and humor him.

This explained he drove away.

Notice in Scan

The monthly bulletin of the
American-Scandinavian Foundation

The Scandinavian Seminar is now accepting applications for its study program in Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden for the academic year 1967-68. This opportunity to combine living with learning will have special appeal both for college students and other adults who would find a year of study in a foreign country of special value.

The student in the Seminar program lives for 2 to 8 weeks with a family in his Scandinavian country, using its language daily and sharing in the activities of the community. For the major part of the year he lives and studies at a Folk High School — a residential school for young adults. He is completely separated from his fellow American students during the Seminar year, except for the short periods when he participates in the intensive language courses and the three general

sessions conducted by the Seminar in Denmark, Norway and Sweden. An important aspect of the student's Seminar program is an individual study project in a field of special interest to him.

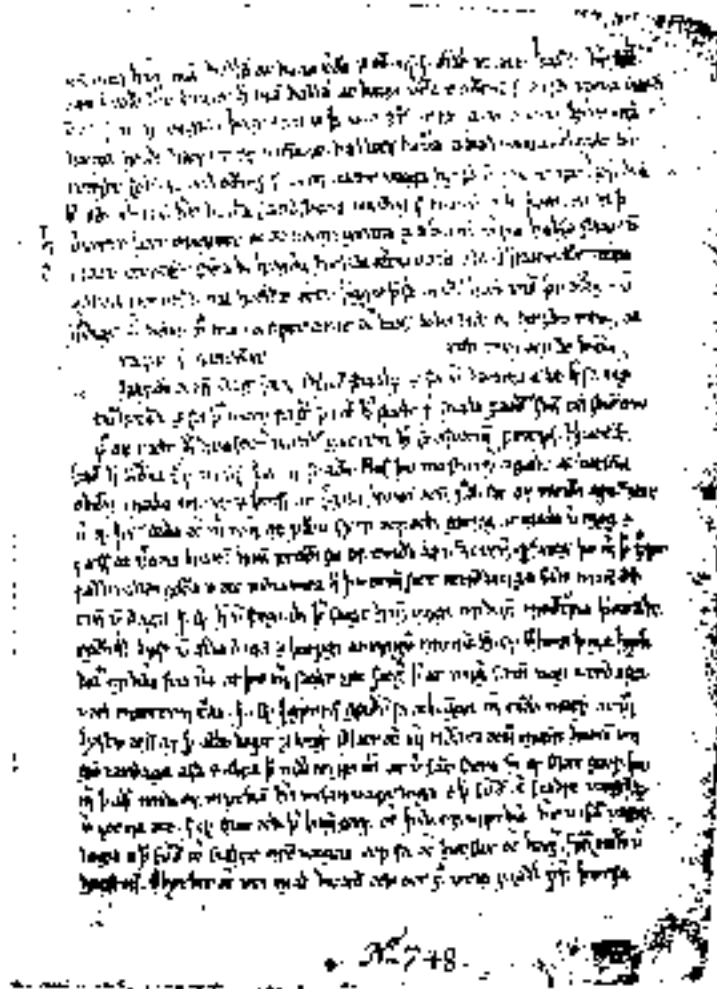
Over 100 American colleges and universities have given either partial or full credit for the Seminar year.

For complete information write to SCANDINAVIAN SEMINAR, 140 West 57th Street, New York, N.Y., 10019. —Scan

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Readers are asked to give careful consideration to the above announcement. It is the view of the magazine board that we all should give thought to the question of having steps taken to inaugurate a similar study program in Iceland and vice-versa. This subject will be further discussed later.

Iceland To Receive Old Manuscripts From Denmark



A page from the Codex Regius of Sæmundar Edda

It is believed that the Icelanders began to write in the vernacular about 1100 A.D. During the next centuries numerous valuable books or manuscripts were produced in Iceland. Some

of these manuscripts have been preserved in their original form; other manuscripts existing today are copies of ancient originals.

The Old Icelanders appear to have taken little interest in the visual arts. Instead they found artistic expression in words and books; these books represent an important cultural heritage and Iceland's contribution to Medieval literature and history. Their content is the product of an old civilization on which Icelandic nationhood and independence are based.

For centuries Old Icelandic historic and literary works were little known outside Iceland. It was not until the 17th century that the continental Scandinavians began to realize their historic value. At that time Sweden was at the height of her power and politically more influential than Denmark, her chief rival for power and influence. However, the Danes were able to claim that their state had a firm foundation in history, and these claims they based on historical works written about 1200 A.D. by their illustrious historian Saxo Grammaticus. The Swedes found it most annoying that comparable records should not have been preserved in Sweden.

The strong desire of both the Swedes and the Danes to prove their respective historical rights as a leading nation in Scandinavia explains why both took an immediate interest in Old Icelandic books on Scandinavian history when such books became known to them. As a result of that interest a considerable number of Icelandic manuscripts found their way to Swedish collections. However, Iceland was a part of the Danish state and therefore Copenhagen was considered the logical place for most of her ancient books.

As is well known the Icelandic Arni Magnússon (1663-1727) was an exceedingly active and successful collector of Icelandic Manuscripts. These manuscripts were deposited in the famous Arnarnaganean Collection at the

University of Copenhagen (the Collection was named for Arni Magnússon himself). A considerable portion of the Arnarnaganean Collection perished in a fire in 1728. In spite of that loss the collection has remained an important centre of Icelandic studies to this day.

Shortly before his death, Arni Magnússon bequeathed his collection to the University of Copenhagen. No one should blame him for being unable to foresee the cultural and political revival that was to take place in 19th century Iceland. In 1730 it seemed unlikely indeed that Iceland would ever be able to provide the necessary facilities for a manuscript research centre. However, the possibilities of reclaiming certain historical documents from the Arnarnaganean Collection were considered by prominent Icelanders as early as 1837. Similar claims were discussed shortly after the turn of the century. Nevertheless, it was not until 1930 when Iceland celebrated the millennium of Alþing that Icelandic parliamentarians first suggested that all Icelandic manuscripts in Denmark be returned to Iceland. After Iceland received full independence from Denmark in 1944 these claims were renewed at meetings held by representatives from both Denmark and Iceland in 1945-46. Only two years later (in 1947) a vigorous campaign in support of the Icelandic cause was conducted by students in 49 schools throughout Denmark. The students submitted "an open letter" to the Danish Government in which it was requested, "that the Icelanders be given back their treasures". This campaign did much to create a public opinion in Denmark in favour of the Icelandic cause. It appears to have convinced many that in this particular instance "cultural rights" should prevail over "legal rights".

On April 27, 1961 the Danish Parliament passed an Act authorizing the Danish Government to transfer Icelandic manuscripts from the Arnarnaganean Collection to the University of Iceland. However, opponents of this legislation managed to have its enactment postponed by claiming that the new law involved an act of expropriation. On the 19th of May in 1965, after the theory of expropriation from 1961 had been proven invalid, the Manuscript Act was passed for the second time by the Danish Parliament. Members of the Arnarnaganean Executive Council who were strongly opposed to the idea of returning the manuscripts to Iceland appealed their case to the Danish Courts of Justice. The validity of the Manuscript Act was first ratified by a District Court, and finally on the 17th of November, 1966 the Supreme Court of Denmark ruled that the Icelandic manuscripts in the Arnarnaganean Collection should be handed over to the University of Iceland. The ruling of the Supreme Court resolved a complicated argument. This argument concerned both Iceland and Denmark. However, it is important to remember that the Icelanders were not directly involved in the dispute. The question of returning the Old Icelandic manuscripts to their homeland became a court case after the Arnarnaganean Executive Council had gone so far as to question the rights of the Danish government to follow the instructions of the Danish Parliament.

Even though the political rights of the "manuscript dispute" has now been disposed of, much remains to be done before the plans of the actual transfer of the manuscripts can be finalized. The Manuscript Act specifies that the Icelanders will receive what may be regarded as their own cultural

possessions. It is pointed out that such cultural possessions comprise the following:

1(All originals or copies of original documents concerning Iceland, and other items which may be regarded as ancient holdings of Icelandic private or public collections.

2(Works that were definitely composed or translated by Icelanders, i.e., if such works either deal with Icelandic matters or belong to the late Medieval literature. (These items are loosely translated here).

The Act further states that in addition to manuscripts from the Arnarnaganean Collection the Icelanders will also receive the two highly valued treasurers of the Royal Library in Copenhagen, i.e., *Flateyjarbók* (which contains among many other things the Saga of the Greenlanders which is the oldest account of the Icelandic discovery of this continent), and *Codex Rerius* (The Royal Book) of *Sæmundar Edda*.

Finally, the Act states that criteria determining Icelandic and non-Icelandic cultural possessions will be applied by a committee of four specialists—two from the University of Copenhagen and two from the University of Iceland.

Although the committee of Danish and Icelandic scholars has a most difficult task to perform, all Icelanders have ample reason to be grateful for the conclusion which Danish authorities have now arrived at on the issue in question. The political solution of the "manuscript dispute" is an important milestone in the history of Icelandic independence; it is also our opinion that it augurs well for the future of that independence.

—H. B.

Dr. Snybjorn A. Hanson



Dr. Snybjorn Alfred Hanson

Dr. Snybjorn Alfred Hanson, formerly of the Gardar-Mountain vicinity is the son of the late Vigfus and Margret Hanson. His paternal grandparents were the late Snybjorn and Solveig; his maternal grandparents the late Bjarni and Gudbjorg Jonasson, who came from New Iceland and homesteaded north-west of Gardar.

Dr. Hanson, after completing high school in three years entered the University of North Dakota where he had his pre-medical training, and was one of two students whom the Dean of the School of Medicine recommended to enter Temple University in Philadelphia, Pa. Dr. Hanson received his degree in medicine from that institution in 1932, and later had his intern training at the Municipal Hospital in Philadelphia.

At the completion of his internship, he was recommended to be the chief

resident doctor of that hospital.

For a number of years he practiced medicine in Gloucester, N. J. but seeking further education, he enrolled in the Graduate School at the University of Pennsylvania, where he specialized in Pediatrics and minored in Psychiatry receiving instruction from some of the nation's best psychiatrists, receiving his degree in 1945.

For several years, Dr. Hanson lectured in the Graduate School Of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. At present he is on full staff of Cooper Hospital in Camden, N. J. and also on the staff of The Children's Hospital in Philadelphia. Connected with several doctors in a suite of offices, Dr. Hanson also has active practice in the suburbs of Haddenfield and Collingswood and has several patients from Gloucester and Philadelphia.

He was married to the late Kathleen Ahern of Philadelphia, and is the father of two children, a son and a daughter, both married and residing in Collingswood, a suburb of Camden, New Jersey.

A widowed sister, Arnetta. Mrs. Pevton D. Moncrief, resides in DeWitt, Ark., with one son. A cultured refined woman she has done much for the children of her neighborhood by her private kindergarden in her home. Near her, in Hot Springs, Ark. is her brother, Leo, a retired businessman. Two other brothers are: K. O. Hanson of Sun City, California, who earned his B.A. degree at the University of North Dakota in 1933 and for years has been employed by business firms in California. T. L. formerly a farmer in the Gardar vicinity now operates a trailer court in Devils Lake, N. Dak.

Dr. Snybjorn Alfred Hanson's kind disposition and pleasant personality has greatly enhanced his medical career.

THE IMPOSTER

by Einar Benediktsson

Translated from the Icelandic by L. L. BJARNASON

The story which follows relates incidents accurately which took place many years ago in a certain district in Iceland. Therefore, this story contains a factual account even though the names of people and places have been changed and a few incidents omitted in the story in order to disguise the identity of the real protagonists and the actual geographic setting.



One day in the middle of the summer three men were riding over the heath which lies between two fertile farming areas in the north of Iceland. Two of them were middle-aged men, the third was young, one might guess about 20. It was apparent from their riding gear that the youngest was an Icelander and that the others were foreigners.

They halted by a stone which stands in the middle of the heath, where travelers are accustomed to rest their horses. They dismounted and set their saddle bags on the smooth plot of grass in front of them.

"Look here, Sigurd", said one of the foreigners in good English, "won't you have a little bite of what we have brought along with us from home? I noticed that you didn't eat anything at all this morning. And a whiskey—eh? English food and drink always taste mighty good up here on the heath."

The one who spoke did not wait for an answer but motioned to the other, who was obviously his servant, that he should open the saddle bags. Then he threw himself down by the baggage, took off his linen hat and wiped his forehead with a red-bordered silk handkerchief.

Sigurd answered in the same language and declined politely. "I couldn't eat a thing—at least not until I get home," he said pointing over the heath to the green valley which extended from the lower part of the dale to the sea between the heath and the nearest mountain. "The day that I come home and the day that I leave I never have any appetite because of some strange uneasiness."

"Indeed, anyone who has been young recognizes that. It left me long ago—for I am at home everywhere," said the Englishman as he twisted the cork off a bottle of whiskey.

The sun shone high in the heavens, the butterflies fluttered, and the flies buzzed all around. The bushes in the hollows in the heath creaked from the heat and the drought. The cries of the curlew and the songs of the sandpipers resounded everywhere. From a little distance one could hear the murmuring of a river which ran from the heath down into the valley, changed course when it reached the lowland, and wound in long narrow curves down through the valley. Here

and there the sun was reflected on the river where it widened and dark cliffs overhung it where it cascaded in waterfalls. A gentle summer breeze crept across the countryside, and the ocean was smooth as glass and beautiful as far as the eye could see.

The Englishmen ate and drank heartily and refreshed themselves well, but the young man was restless and spoke but a few words to his companions. He gazed across the countryside where columns of smoke rose straight up into the air, higher and higher, as if they were reaching up to the clouds which, motionless, spread over the mountain peaks and gave promise of fair weather.

"What is it that you are so eagerly looking forward to seeing at home?" asked the Englishman, the leader of the group, at the same time filling a tin cup with Scotch whisky. "One should never look forward to anything," he added and leaned back against his saddle. "It is precisely one's hopes which cause one the greatest sorrows in life; he who is not waiting for good things to happen will not be disheartened if he is not presented with roses."

"But then he is not in a position to appreciate the happiness which is afforded a man who sees his hopes realized," answered Sigurd dryly. He resented that this foreigner should compare what he was thinking about with the hopes of other men.

The Englishman continued his point of view. "The joy which one experiences upon the realization of one's wishes is both uncertain and costly", he said, "in the first place it is uncertain because it is only in the most exceptional cases that the longings of a person come true. After all, man is so constituted that he does not have sense enough to train him-

self to wish for precisely those things which in all probability he will be able to attain. Quite the opposite! Man needs that most often which providence is least willing to grant him. And so happiness becomes too costly for a person. The human soul always desires to reach new heights—otherwise the joy over that which has been attained turns to sorrow."

The Englishman looked at Sigurd with the cold gray eyes of a hunter as he made this speech, but his expression was kindly, and he smiled; he knew from long experience what it means to be young and to look forward to being able to go back home.

Sigurd was the son of the vicar in this parish and had been sent off to school when very young. He had been three or four years in Reykjavik when his studies began to bore him. He declared himself a graduate from the college in Reykjavik. He stayed at home with his parents for a while and did nothing. To his parents the sun shone always on him and they let him have his way in everything.

When Sigurd was about eighteen years old, an emigrant from America he returned to the district. Many years before he had taken everything he possessed west across the ocean, but now he returned to the scenes of his boyhood. He had so much money that he was able to buy the land from which he had departed when he went west. He settled there with his wife and his grown-up daughter, who, alone, of several children, was willing to return home to Iceland with her parents.

The original name of this returned traveller from the western world was Thordur Hakonarson, but now he called himself Valdal, the name of his home in Iceland. This name he bore from then on in that district and his

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wife and daughter too, following the American custom.

The name of the daughter was Sara—Miss Sara Valdal as she was usually called at the trading center and at the home of the vicar. At the latter place she was a constant visitor; after all it was only a short distance between the two farms.

Sara Valdal was welcome everywhere in the district. People considered it a pleasure and even an honor when she visited them, and nearly everyone did everything possible to get acquainted with her and to make friends with her. She was pretty and graceful, sang better than any other girl in the district, danced beautifully, was not at all bashful and spoke with ease to everyone. Men became merrier when she was present and missed her when she left. When a concert or gathering took place in the district and people discussed what had happened and how the merriment had been carried on, her name was mentioned. The question was asked whether she had attended—if she had not been there it was not considered to have been a pleasurable event. Whenever an argument arose as to whether this or that was thus or so, people would always say: "Well, at least that's what Sara said. . ." And if Sara had voiced an opinion on a matter, there was no further argument about it.

This young and beautiful American girl enjoyed going to the vicarage more than anywhere else. Cultured people were there, there was always enough of everything, and the most handsome young man in the whole district was there. The vicar himself was very fond of parties, as long as they were conducted in moderation. He had originally studied divinity at the University of Copenhagen but poverty forced him to leave school. He had to

be satisfied with a course at the pastor's school. But now he had one of the finest congregations in the country and was well liked by all, "both within the church and without," as the local sheriff always said when people began wagging their tongues about the vicar. The wife of the vicar came originally from Reykjavik. In her day she had been a strikingly beautiful woman and a leading "star" at the dances in the capital. But now she had become exhausted by the loss of her children and other misfortunes and devoted herself exclusively to the management of the farm. She was seldom gay, but she did nothing to prevent others in the family enjoying themselves. If Sigurd, the couple's only surviving child, was at home and took part in some amusement, then the mistress of the house was always ready to provide whatever was needed — a room, coffee-cakes, and the key to the organ in the parlor. At such times she smiled benignly on the young people when she saw they were enjoying themselves.

And generally there were many parties and much merrymaking in the district. There was a glee-club, a thespian group, a wrestling society, and in four homes there were organs. However, the best organ available was the property of the church, but the church was always allowed to remain open during the week. It was the organ that first brought Sara and Sigurd together. He played very nicely and had an opportunity to practice every day, even on those days when all the others were at work. He was, therefore, the only one who was available to accompany her singing at any time, and nothing leads the thoughts of a young man and a young woman together more than to find that they are standing together alone—

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by themselves and away from the group—even though for only a short time.

They became engaged and received the blessings of their parents when Sigurd sailed to Copenhagen. Sigurd would have been there longer, at least one more year, completely happy and carefree, if the longing to see Sara Valdal again had not driven him home. He took passage with one of the first summer excursions to the harbor and trading center which was nearest to the vicar's farm, and there he met the Englishman with whom he was now travelling.

The previous summer, the Englishman had journeyed all over the country with the same servant who was now with him. It was rumoured that he had bet a huge sum in England that during the course of five years he would ride once over all the main roads of Iceland. Certainly, Sigurd had seen in his possession a peculiar map on which all the main roads had been traced and the names of the guest houses in the whole country had been recorded. The Englishman had eagerly accepted Sigurd's suggestion that they travel together and that they stop at the vicarage which was right on the road and was favorably referred to in all foreign travel folders.

Sigurd knew very well that everyone would be overjoyed at his homecoming. He had not a single enemy there; even the dogs would jump up on him for joy. He pictured in his mind's eye how fondly the people would welcome him and how his mother would be overcome with joy when she saw her son, the apple of her eye, come home again, young and splendid from his trip abroad. All this he pictured in his mind and in the centre of the picture, where everything that he loved most at home passed before him, stood Sara

Valdal, his beloved, her arms outstretched to him with that indescribable innate grace and charm which enchanted all who beheld her.

He jumped up from the ground on which he had been sitting, pounding the handle of his whip against his riding boot in his impatience at the Englishmen who still reclined at ease, smoking their pipes and staring silently up at the heavens.

When Sigurd jumped up from the mound, the Englishman, raising himself on his elbow, drew a huge silver watch from his vest pocket and looked at it. It was four o'clock, exactly time to set out again if the schedule was to be followed. Up to now he had left each place precisely at the moment that had been fixed in his travel schedule.

It was approximately a two-hour journey down into the valley. Sigurd urged them to hurry, as much as he could, but the Englishman held his horse back, letting it choose its own pace now as before. But finally they came down off the heath, and now on the other side of the river the slope of the home field lay before their eyes.

Sigurd asked the Englishman to forgive him for riding on ahead of them. He intended to explain that he had visitors with him. Galloping home at top speed, he soon recognized the faces of those standing on the grassy slope near the farmhouse. Among them were his parents. He spurred his horse across the home field and saw that one face was missing. He had written that he would arrive on this very day and felt certain that from time to time during the day someone must have peeked out to see whether he was coming into sight. But what was the reason that Sara was not there with the others to meet him?

(continued in next issue)

THE MAN WHO DISCOVERED AMERICA

Eirik the Red sailed westward from Iceland in A.D. 985 and discovered Greenland. With his family, he settled in one of the fjords of Greenland and called it Eiriksfjord.

In the year A.D. 1000, Eirik's son, Leifr, who was born in Iceland, attempted to sail from Iceland to Eiriksfjord, but was driven off course in a south-westerly direction, and discovered what is now Labrador. He sailed further south and came across wooded land, probably Newfoundland.

Leifr, sailed still further south, and landed at the mouth of a river. He went ashore and found wild grapes growing in a pleasant land. He called the land "Vinland" or Wineland. This was on the east coast of what is now the New England States.

The Icelandic people can indeed be very proud of their country's part in the discovery of North America and of their contributions to the growth of Canada.

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IN THE NEWS

MR. JOE SIGURDSON ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE CANADA MINK BREEDERS ASS'N



Joe Sigurdson

One of the largest gathering of mink ranchers from across Canada was at the International Inn in Winnipeg, on September 21 and 22, at the fourteenth annual meeting of Canada Mink Breeders Association. Joe Sigurdson of Lundar, Manitoba was unanimously elected president of the national organization. There were more than 150 registered members, of which twenty were directors representing the ten provinces.

The budget for the forthcoming season was approved at \$470,000.00, with advertising and promotions accounting for the greater part (\$400,000). Greater emphasis will be placed on the European market, which is becoming increasingly important in the market-

ing of "Canada Majestic" pelts. If space is available next year, C.M.B.A. will have a booth of their own at the world's fur fair, in Frankfurt, Germany. Trade calls will be made to merchants and manufacturers in Munich, Germany; Paris, France; Rome and Milan in Italy; Geneva, Lausanne and Zurich, Switzerland, and London, England. Plans were formulated to participate in the work of promoting mink at Expo '67. Mr. Sigurdson flew to Toronto on October 28, for a meeting with the advertising agency and committee to finalize the plans.

Members heard a report on the new franchise program, inaugurated by C.M.B.A. last year in Canada; the start of an intensive program in the U.S.A.

Last year's crop, moved through auction, numbered 1,305,848 pelts. There are six major auction companies in Canada. Many buyers fly in to attend these auction sales, buyers from Europe—West Germany, France, Italy, Switzerland, South America, Africa, and the United States.

★

James Thorkelson of Winnipeg, a graduate in pharmacy of the University of Manitoba, last spring went to Tanzania in Africa where he will work in a hospital or teach pharmacology. Mr. Thorkelson had volunteered to go abroad for two years for the Canadian University Service and is presently at Muhimbili Hospital in Dar es Salaam, the country's capital.

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Dr. Eric Lawrence Sigurdson,

Dr. Eric Lawrence Sigurdson B.Sc., (E.P.) returned to Canada from London, England this fall to accept a professorship in electrical engineering, with the University of British Columbia. A 1962 graduate of science in physics engineering from the University of Manitoba, Dr. Sigurdson earned his doctorate in four years of post graduate studies at Imperial College of Science and Technology, London, England—two years on an Athlone fellowship and two years on a National Research Council of Canada grant. He is the son of Dr. and Mrs. L. A. Sigurdson, 1246 Wolseley Ave., Winnipeg. He married the former Jane

Knight at Gosport, Hampshire, England in 1964.

★

**ROSALIE MORRIS AWARDED
BURSARIES**



Rosalie Morris

Rosalie Morris, of St. James, Manitoba, has been awarded three Lutheran Church bursaries: The Ladies Auxiliary Bursary, the Contingency Bursary, and the Lutheran Students Bursary.

This scholarship entitles Rosalie to take a course of her choice at Waterloo Lutheran University in Waterloo, Ontario. She has decided on an Arts course, after which she plans to enrol in an education program.

Rosalie graduated last June from St. James Collegiate with a 72% average. Aside from her school work, Rosalie found time to participate in extra-curricular activities. In Grade XI she belonged to the Inter-School Christian Fellowship Movement. For the past four years she has been an active member of the St. Stephen's Luther League and this past year she was president of the Mount Carmel

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Youth Guild. The young volunteers of this guild cared for and supervised many activities for the underprivileged children in Winnipeg.

Rosalee is the daughter of Mrs. George Morris of 358 Mandeville St., St. James. Mrs. Morris (Lara) is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gudmundur M. Bjarnason, of Gimli, Manitoba, formerly of Winnipeg.

—S. B.

★

AWARDED \$2,400.00 IN
SCHOLARSHIPS



Timothy John Turner

Timothy John Turner, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Turner of London, Ont., entered the University of Western Ontario College of Science this fall after graduating from Central Collegiate in London. Mr. Turner, whose maternal grandparents are Mrs. Soffia Benjaminson and the late Thomas Benjaminson of Lundar, Man., was awarded, on leaving high school, an

Ontario scholarship of \$400.00 and a board of governors' scholarship of \$2,000.00 by the University of Western Ontario. He plans to study medicine.

★

MISS LAUGA GEIR HONORED



Miss Lauga Geir

Miss Lauga Geir of Edinburgh, North Dakota, a teacher by profession and long known among United States and Canadian Icelanders as an accomplished writer, was honored by friends and admirers on September 25, at a gathering of Icelanders from both sides of the border in the Lutheran Church at Gardar, N.D.

Paying tribute to her work and influence over the years were many speakers, including former students, personal friends and representatives of Icelandic-American and Icelandic-Canadian organizations. Principal speaker was Dr. Richard Beck, of the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks. An outline of Miss Geir's life and works was presented by the chairman

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of the gathering, Magnus Olafson, president of the Lutheran congregation at Gardar.

Alvin Melsted showed slides of and outlined a play, "In The Wake Of The Storm", written by Miss Geir and presented at Gardar in 1956. This play was published in New York in 1957, and has been presented in its English version in Manitoba and North Dakota, and in its Icelandic version in Iceland.

Miss Geir holds bachelor of arts and master of arts degrees from the University of North Dakota.

was awarded a grant by the Dept. of Education in Iceland and this fall went to Reykjavik to pursue studies at the University of Iceland leading to a master's degree in Icelandic literature. Daughter of Dr. and Mrs. J. Reid Taylor of Winnipeg, she became interested in Icelandic while holidaying at Gimli during summer vacations, and for four years has pursued studies to this end at the University of Manitoba under Prof. Haraldur Bessason, professor of Icelandic. Miss Taylor is not of Icelandic origin and was chosen for the grant on the basis of her achievements and interest in Icelandic.

★

★

MISS JUDITH TAYLOR STUDYING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ICELAND

BRILLIANT STUDENT



Judith Taylor

A graduate last spring in arts of the University of Manitoba, Miss Judith Taylor of Winnipeg this year



Janet Hannesson

Miss Janet Hannesson finished Grade 12 studies at Selkirk Collegiate last spring and in her final examinations had an average of 91.5 per cent. With this achievement came many honors and awards. She was given the Governor-General's medal, given a cup by the collegiate and named Student

Leland HOTEL

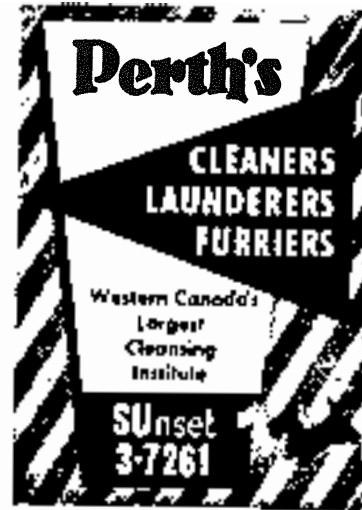
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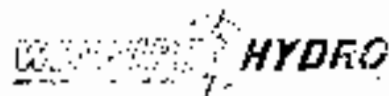


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of the Year. In addition she was awarded an Isbister scholarship, but was unable to accept it because from other sources she received higher grants toward a four-year study in her chosen field.

She attained highest marks in four Grade 12 subjects, and in each case was given a book award. Apart from this she was crowned Queen of Job's Daughters Bethel 4 in Selkirk in June. Her achievements came to light at the collegiate graduation exercises in October.

And then in late November she was one of 12 top Grade 12 students from across the province who were presented with Manitoba government gold medals for academic achievement. Each of the 12 gained highest aggregate marks, one in each of the nine Isbister districts outside Metro Winnipeg, and three in Metro Winnipeg proper. The medals were presented by Hon. Dr. George Johnson, minister of education, in a ceremony in the Manitoba Room of the Legislative Building in Winnipeg. The ceremony was attended by parents of the winning students.

Miss Hannesson is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Hannesson of Selkirk and is now a student in the Faculty of Nursing Arts at the University of Manitoba.

★

AMBASSADOR OF NEW HEARTS

A children's heart specialist at Augustana Hospital on Chicago's north side is becoming widely known as the "Ambassador of new hearts" to people in Iceland. So says an article which appeared recently in the publication, The Illinois Lutheran.

The article says Dr. M. Augustsson, director of the cardio-pulmonary laboratory at Augustana, visited and gave several lectures at the University of Iceland in Reykjavik last spring. Since then, five Icelandic children have come to Chicago for open heart surgery. Five more are expected for surgery before the end of the year.

The Augustana Hospital cardiac team is headed by Dr. Augustsson and Dr. Thomas G. Baffes.

The University Hospital in Reykjavik is not presently equipped for open heart surgery, and during the fall of this year one or more doctors from the University Hospital were expected in Chicago to study Augustana's facilities for this type of surgery.

Most of the children brought to Chicago have been accompanied by one or more parents who speak Icelandic only, but they encounter very little difficulty as special arrangements have been made for them in a mid-north hotel. The hotel management provides accommodations at a special rate for the guests from Iceland during their usual two-week stay.

The article explains that Dr. Augustsson is himself a native of Iceland, having graduated from the University of Iceland in 1952. He interned in a Minneapolis hospital for one year, and spent the next three years at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., two years in pediatrics and one year in physiology.

Returning to Iceland in 1956, he spent two years in pediatrics at the University Hospital comprising nearly 400 beds. The pediatric section, accommodating 60 beds, is supported by a Reykjavik women's club.

Dr. Augustsson returned to the Mayo Clinic in 1958 to become first assistant in pediatrics at the famous Rochester hospital.

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Chicago became his headquarters when in 1959 he continued his practice in pediatrics and cardiology at Cook County Hospital.

He became director of the cardiopulmonary laboratory at Augustana in 1963. During this time he had served also as assistant professor of pediatrics and cardiology at Loyola University.

He is special consultant to Mercy and St. Joseph Hospitals in Chicago and St. Francis Hospital in Evanston, also in Illinois.

★

RHODES SCHOLAR SELECTED



Warren Magnusson

Warren Magnusson has been selected as the University of Manitoba's Rhodes scholar-elect for 1967.

Warren is an honors arts student at University College, University of Manitoba. He studied grades 1-X in Ontario and grades X-XII in North Dakota, graduating from Minot Sr. High School in Minot, North Dakota, with highest honors. At the University of Manitoba, he is specializing in Economics and Political Science.

He has taken an active part in student activities, being House Leader of

the University Liberals and Prime Minister in the University Model Parliament in 1966; also editor of the *Fourth Estate*, the journal of University College. He is a former President of the University United Nations Club (1965-1966), University College Debating Chairman, and travel director for the Conference on Commonwealth Affairs.

Other activities includes service as officer cadet in the R.C.A.F. University Reserve, with a commission in the Supplementary Reserve, in October, 1965.

Warren plans to study Politics, Philosophy, and Economics at Oxford University.

He is the son of Group Captain and Mrs. Norman L. Magnusson, of Ottawa. His paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Ari G. Magnusson of 594 Lipton Street, Winnipeg.



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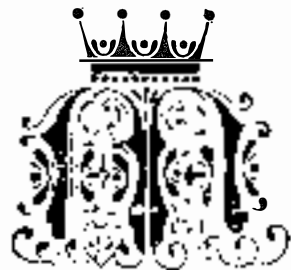


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NEWS SUMMARY

Eric Stefanson of Gimli, MP for Selkirk constituency, was named chairman at the first meeting this fall of the Icelandic Celebration committee. Jakob F. Kristjansson of Winnipeg was named vice-chairman, S. Alec Thorarinson of Winnipeg secretary and Paul Hallson, Winnipeg, assistant secretary, Helgi Johnson of Gimli treasurer and Dr. Keith Sigmundson, Winnipeg, assistant treasurer. Sub-committees were appointed.

Other members of the celebration committee are, from Winnipeg, B. Valdimar Arnason, Prof. Haraldur Bessason, Baldur H. Sigurdson, Harold J. Johnson, John J. Arnason, Theodor Asgeirson, Kristjan Kristjansson, Wilhelm Kristjansson, Brian Jakobson and Daniel N. Stefanson, and from Gimli, Ingi Bjarnason, Richard Arnason, Barney Baldwinson and Kjartan V. Geirholm. Mrs. Ingibjorg Jonsson of Winnipeg, editor of Logberg-Heimskringla, is a committee life member.

Under consideration is to make the celebration in 1967, Canada's centennial year, a two-day affair.

The 75th anniversary of the founding of the women's association, Vonin, Markerville, Alta. was observed last August 6 in the old community hall there, Fensala. The event brought memories of the early days for many. It was in the years 1888 and 1889 that a number of Icelandic families reached Calgary, then the end of steel. Thence they made their way the 100

miles north overland to uninhabited territory. The original association was formed in 1891, but by 1896 most of the settlers had moved to a new settlement near Markerville, and there the association was reactivated and named Vonin. Mrs. Sigurlaug Kristinson was named president, Mrs. Holmfridur Goodman secretary and Mrs. Sesselja Bardal treasurer. Current president is Mrs. Frida Olson.

Two young women of Icelandic origin completed training as nurses in September at Grace Hospital in Winnipeg. They are Helen Carol Thorlacius, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arni Thorlacius of Oakview, Man., and Deanna Tomasson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Helgi K. Tomasson of Winnipeg. Miss Tomasson is now a nurse in the hospital at Kapuskasing, Ont. and Miss Thorlacius in the hospital at Yorkton, Sask.

Rev. S. Octavius Thorlakson was honored at the convention in May in Los Angeles, California, of the Pacific Southwest Lutheran Synod on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his ordination. A special plaque, signed by Dr. Franklin Clark Fry, president of the Lutheran Church in America, and Dr. Carl W. Segerhammar, president of the Synod, was presented to him. Mr. Thorlakson was ordained at the convention in Winnipeg of the Icelandic Synod on June 25, 1916.

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GOLDEN WEDDINGS

Mr. and Mrs. Gudjon Danielsson of Arborg, Man. were honored by family and friends in August on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. Both were born in Iceland and came to Canada at an early age. They were married at Arborg in 1916 by Rev. Johann Bjarnason and took up a homestead in the Arborg district following their marriage. They still live on the original farm. They had seven children of whom six are living. The latter are son John, a corporal in the Royal Canadian Mounted Police at Keinas, B.C., Baldur of Arborg, Ingimar and Gordon at home, and daughters Alma, Mrs. John Riordal of Charleswood, Man., a graduate nurse, and Gudny Gene, Mrs. W. J. Palson.

★

Mr. and Mrs. Otto Kristjanson of Geraldton, Ont. were honored by family and friends in August on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. Both were born in Iceland and came to Canada with their families while young. They were married at Cypress River, Man. by Rev. Fridrik Hallgrimson and moved to Winnipegosis, Man. where Mr. Kristjanson was a house builder and carpenter for 20 years. In

1937 they moved to Geraldton where Mr. Kristjanson with sons Kris and Ed and a nephew, Eggert Borgford established what is known today as the Geraldton Millworks. Mr. and Mrs. Kristjanson have 7 children. Daughters are Laurie, Mrs. John Pecky of Haileybury, Ont. and Selma, Mrs. Les Browne of Elliott Lake, Ont., and the sons, besides Kris and Ed, are Harold in Guatemala, Dr. Walter, a physician at Atikokan, Ont. and Skuli in Toronto. There are 21 grandchildren and one great grandchild.

★

A vase made by Mrs. Rurick Bjornson and a petit point picture, the work of Dora Breckman, were awarded first prize in their respective categories at the handicraft show of the Red River Exhibition in Winnipeg in July.

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Air Canada	38	Montreal Trust Co.	8
Arlington Pharmacy	60	MacDonald Shoe Store Ltd.	42
Arthur A. Anderson Travel Service.....	64	McDonald-Dure Lumber Co. Ltd.	7
Asgeirson's Ltd.	6	McKague-Sigmar & Co.	64
Bardal, A. S. Ltd.	6	National Grain Ltd.	3
Beaver Moving & Storage	62	Nell's Flower Shop	64
Benjaminson Contractors	48	O'Neill & Hunter Ltd.	60
Bird Construction Co. Ltd.	61	Orchid Florists	60
Blackwoods Beverages	57	Park-Hannesson Ltd.	54
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Brooke Bond Canada Ltd.	5	Patterson, N. M. & Sons Ltd.	56
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Can. Co-Op Wheat Producers.....	46	Roberts & Whyte Ltd.	48
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Free Press Weekly	50	Singer Company of Canada	2
Greater Winnipeg Gas Co.	44	Standard Dairies Ltd.	5
Guttormson, P. T.	61	Supcrete Ltd.	62
Grey Goose Bus Lines Ltd.	60	Tallin, Kristjanson, Parker, Martin & Mercury	8
Hudson Bay Co. Ltd.	Cover	Thorarinson, S. A.	64
International Inn	42	Thorvaldson, Eggertson, Saunders and Mauro	64
Investors Syndicate of Canada	7	Thorlakson, Dr. P. H. T.	6
Independent Fish Co. Ltd.	60	Town Council of Selkirk	58
Keystone Fisheries Ltd.	48	Towne, Pontiac, Buick Ltd.	50
Labatt Manitoba Brewery Ltd.	32-3	Union Loan and Investments	60
Leckie, John Ltd.	11	United Grain Growers	4
Lakeland Dairies	48	Viking Printers	60
Leland Hotel	54	Vopni, R. B. & Co.	60
Malkin, Dr's C. and S.	64	Westbrook Medical Centre	64
Man. Bridge & Engineering Works.....	52	Western Paint Co. Ltd.	7
Manitoba Hydro	2	Whitehall Laundry	5
Manitoba Rolling Mills	56	Winnipeg Hydro	54
Manitoba Telephone System	52	Winnipeg Supply & Fuel Co. Ltd.	42
Maple Leaf Mills Ltd.	1		
Marlborough Hotel	58		
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