SPRING 1969

THE ICELANDIC CANADIAN

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EDITORIAL

The Chancellor of the University of Winnipeg

Dr. Paul H. T. Thorlakson has been elected Chancellor of the University of Winnipeg.

The distinction Dr. Thorlakson has acquired in medicine, particularly in surgery, need not be discussed here. That service, his life's chosen calling, no matter how distinguished, is on the record and does not call for comment to the same degree as his numerous other public services which are not a matter of common knowledge.

To give an adequate account of these other services, purely voluntary and commanded by a deep sense of duty, would require many pages, but the qualities of mind which enabled Dr. Thorlakson to give the needel leadership and create the essential drive are more revealing than the actual results and provide positive proof of their innate merit. He has established precedents of immeasurable value. Here one need but refer to four extra-professional projects which have been successfully carried out under his chairmanship and guidance.

He was Chairman of the Committee of six which managed the campaign for the raising of a Foundation Fund for the establishment of a Department of Icelandic Language and Literature, in perpetuity, in the University of Manitoba. Over $200,000.00 were collected, and on a basis unique in the collection of monies for charitable and educational purposes.

On the death of the late Dr. B. J. Brandson, Dr. Thorlakson took over the chairmanship of the Council for the Betel Old Peoples Home of Gimli. He inaugurated an extensive program of renovation and expansion which required the raising of a substantial amount of money by public subscription. Later, this led to the establishment of a second Betel Home, located in Selkirk, Manitoba.

After a group had decided to launch a campaign to have a plaque erected in Ottawa as a centennial project commemorating the discovery of North America by Bjarni Herjólfsson and Leifr Eiriksson, Dr. Thorlakson was unanimously elected the Chairman.

For many years efforts had been made for the amalgamation of the Icelandic weeklies, Heimskringla and Logberg, but without success. Dr. Thorlakson had taken a prominent part in these attempts and he was one of the committee of five that succeeded in effecting the merger and presided at the formal amalgamating meeting.

The successful conclusion of these projects and Dr. Thorlakson's chairmanship call forth a question. Why did Dr. Thorlakson succeed so well in shepherding men and women behind him in carrying out undertakings of

diverse kinds, some of outstanding achievement, others delicate because of conflicting emotions and backgrounds?

Dr. Thorlakson possesses to an unusual degree qualities of mind which are essential, almost imperative, in carrying out projects which are of such a nature that many views and ways of approach are bound to arise. It it not out of the way to refer to some of them.

He may disagree with people, even sharply, but he always sets those disagreements aside if the people involved have the mental equipment and experience to make substantial contributions to the subjects or plans that come up for discussion.

Personal animosities do not influence Dr. Thorlakson. Former Prime Minister John G. Diefenbaker has often stated that he does not allow himself the luxury of hate. By that yardstick Dr. Thorlakson rates at the top.

To him very few, if any, subjects are non-negotiable and in negotiating he is always willing to yeild when the preponderance of argument is in opposition to the position originally taken by him.

Dr. Thorlakson has not a jealous mind and he is quick to congratulate when merited recognition is given to others.

In this shrinking world where a man of Asia can look into the backyard of a man of Miami, Florida, or, better still, where the actions of executives and planners, good or bad, very soon reveal themselves to a hungry press, and the impatience of a few students, who magnify the failures of the past, is immediately communicated throughout the world, in radio waves with the speed of light and in actual TV vision via satellites, co-operation and willingness to negotiate have acquired a new dimension in human action.

In a province of three universities, one large and relatively old, the other two only recently launched, a better mind could not be selected for the Chancellorship of the University of Winnipeg than that of Dr. P. H. T. Thorlakson.

—W. J. Lindal

Dr. Paul H. T. Thorlakson

PRESS RELEASE from the University of Winnipeg

Dr. Paul H. T. Thorlakson elected U of W Chancellor

Dr. P. H. T. Thorlakson has been elected as the second chancellor of the University of Winnipeg.

The prominent surgeon and community workeer was elected at a joint meeting of the U of W's senate and board of regents February 7. He succeeds the late R. H. G. Bonnycastle for a three-year term.

In announcing Dr. Thorlakson's election, U of W president Dr. W. C. Lockhart termed him "one of Manitoba's most eminent citizens who has always manifested a deep interest in higher education. In his many years as a member of the teaching faculty of the Medical College, he showed a real concern for the problems of students."

Dr. Thorlakson was born in North Dakota, but grew up in Selkirk. Following overseas service as a medical sergeant during the First World War, he received his medical degree from the University of Manitoba in 1919.

After practising at Shoal Lake, Man., and undertaking post-graduate training in surgery in London and the contient, Dr. Thorlakson entered group practice in Winnipeg in 1926. He founded the Winnipeg Clinic in 1938 and has been its president since.

Dr. Thorlakson served as surgeon-in-chief at the Winnipeg General Hospital and professor (now professor emeritus) of surgery at the University of Manitoba. He received an honorary doctor of laws degree from the U of M in 1952.

Dr. Thorlakson was the first president of the Manitoba Institute for the Advancement of Medical Education and Research, and also has served as president of the Manitoba Council on Education. He is the author of more than 70 scientific papers.

He was president of the National Cancer Institute of Canada in 1952.

In 1968, Dr. Thorlakson was awarded an honorary fellowship in the International College of Surgeons, the first Manitoba doctor so honored.

Dr. Thorlakson has been a member of the Manitoba Hospital Commission since its inception. He has held offices in many provincial and local organizations, including a number of Icelandic bodies.

Dr. Thorlakson, a member of the United Church of Canada, is married to the former Gladys Henry. They have twins sons, Robert and Kenneth, both surgeons at the Winnipeg Clinic, and a daughter, Tannis, now Mrs. George Richardson, of Winnipeg.

Extracts from the Address of Hon. Johann Hafstein

delivered at the Icelandic National League banquet held in the Fort Garry Hotel, February 26, 1969. (Freely translated by W. J. Lindal).

Your forefathers did not travel in state from Iceland. Yellow fields and meadows freshly mown did not await them on their arrival. But men and women have risen to fame from the marrow in the bones of poverty stricken migrants to the West.

Men departed and men remained. Those who remained have forged an independent state—they restored the ancient Icelandic Republic. Those who departed have shown in the new land that they are men of mettle. At no time have they neglected to: "clasp halfway across the brine the outstretched friendly hand." . . .

Hon. Johann Hafstein

You have guarded against any charge of not visiting in our island home. In your loyalty you are supermen. You usually visit us in the spring, in our "world of nightless springtime." That is well. The birds of passage come at that time, the plover and the sandpiper, "the swan on the lake and the thrush in the meadow." Then the land smiles in the sunshine . . .

It seems to me that I must be sincere and yet speak frankly to you, my dear friends. When I was young I did not regard Western-Icelanders very highly. Why did they go? Why forsake the mother country? The advancing years have developed a clearer and a wider view, a better understanding, new attitudes. I have tried to grasp the train of thought in the mind of the farmer in Iceland, when the meadow grass had withered, the ground was frozen, drift-ice in the fjords, livestock perished. What could the blessed farmer do? What hope could he hold out for his wife and the small children, anxiously waiting for help. How fateful the gigantic undertaking to tear himself away and head into uncertainty. It may be that the migration to the West just before the turn of the century was in certain ways more of an adventure and fraught with greater danger than a trip to the moon in the world of today . . .

I have hurled many questions and it is beyond me to answer them. The answers are to be found in the forgotten paths of your fathers and mothers on the prairies, in their struggles, in their endurance, in their victories. The answers are to be found, as well, in all that Vestur-Islendingar are today, and in their individual personal worth.

In our tiny nation there cannot be progress unless each individual perform something of merit, and there are a few who are brilliant, peers of the very best in mankind. Life in the Icelandic districts in the West has brought out the same truths. . .

When one analyzes the causes of migrations to the West, it must be remembered that "útþrá", the urge to reach out, is of the very warp and woof of the Icelandic mind. There is much to support this in Iceland even today. Does anyone doubt that it was an urge to high adventure which caused chieftains and owners of large farms in Norway to pull stakes, board small sailing vessels, and take with them their wives and children, their house and farm help, and point the bows of their ships to stars in the north. That in itself did not satisfy the longing to reach out. Eirik the Red pressed on an expedition of his own and settled a new land. He showed a modern technique for expansion in naming the new land Greenland. His son could not be held back. He was the first man from the Eastern Hemisphere to discover America and he called the new land Vinland. As you all know quite well many tales of adventure have been recorded and bear witness to the qualities of our common ancestors . . .

It may well be that the difficulties in life's struggles teach mankind to appreciate the blessings of life. I recall from the days of my childhood the picture of a handsome man. It was hung on the wall of a low-roofed Icelandic rural cottage. This picture attracted my attention. It was a picture of your most worthy Attorney General, Hon. Thomas H. Johnson, the first Icelander to be raised to cabinet rank in a Canadian government, and it happened here in Manitoba. The following words of wisdom have fastened themselves upon my mind: "Only the night can make the stars visible." Yes, this was worthy of note. We cannot see the glory of the firmament except in the darkness. We need obstacles, difficulties, frustrations, resistance, to be able to appreciate the truths of life and all its goodness. . . .

I close, my dear friends, by extending greetings and good wishes to you all and to your faithful organization, from the Government of Iceland and all the people of the homeland.

Let me assure you that there is genuine sincerity behind our good wishes. We appreciate and value highly all that you of the West have done, your loyalty to the Icelandic heritage and to the people of Iceland.

From left to right: Irene Eastman, Sigrid Johnson, Wayne Anderson, Eddie Stephenson, Kelly Medd, Stella Johnson, Esther Blondal, Ted Kristjanson, Dorothy Gislason, Barbara Gilliard, Janice Olafson. Missing from the group is Basil Magnusson.

Recipient, Ted Kristjanson. Hon. Johannes Haf-stein and Mrs. Haraldur Bessason and Sigridur Magnusson.

Once Again On The Crossroads

About thirty years ago a crossroads was reached in the affairs of the Icelandic communities in the West. It was plain to see that Icelandic, as the means of communication, was being replaced by English. The Icelandic media of communication, Logberg and Heimskringla were, by themselves, not sufficient to serve the Icelandic communities and the ever scattering Western Icelanders and their descendants. A crossroads had been reached and a challenge presented itself.

The challenge was at least partly met by the launching, in the year 1942, of The Icelandic Canadian. At present two media provide the needed service: Logberg-Heimskringla, primarily in the Icelandic language, and The Icelandic Canadian, exclusively in English. There also is the annual of the Icelandic National League, Timarit.

Now it appears that another crossroads has been reached or will be reached in the near future. Opinion is almost unanimous that in the West, indeed, everywhere except in Iceland, Icelandic will become more and more purely a cultural subject, studied in academic halls as other classical languages such as Latin, Greek and Hebrew. But Icelndic is more than a classical language, it is a living modern language.

Once again Vestur-Íslendingar, North Americans of Icelandic descent, Icelandic Canadians, Canadian-Icelanders or Icelandic Americans (it makes no difference what names are used) are on the crossroads. Is this living classical language to disappear completely from Western homes, become purely an academic subject of study?

Again there is a challenge. Again it is being accepted. A means has been found whereby the language may, at least to some extent, be returned to Western homes after the grandparents and parents of today are gone. The means is the provision for the study of Icelandic in Canadian and American universities. Here the position of primacy goes to the University of Manitoba.

Evidence of this primacy, and indeed of the power of this means of meeting the challenge, was in a very vivid and realistic way brought home to the packed audience in the concert of February 25, of The Icelandic Canadian Club. The eleven scholarship winners (one was unavoidably absent) were presented to the Guests of Honour, Hon. Jóhannes Hafstein and Ragnheiður Hafstein. All but two are taking courses in Icelandic with Professor Haraldur Bessason and the two come from homes where a strong Icelandic spirit prevails.

At the concert one of the scholarship winners—a fourth generation Icelander in Canada, Joan Sigrid Johnson—gave readings of Icelandic selections with flawless pronunciation, tone, and accent. Some of the others may not be as efficient in Icelandic but the pride of ancestry is there. And,one can rest assured, the same spirit prevails in all of Prof. Haraldur Bessason's students. By now the total number is considerable and from year to year the number grows. In course of time these students will become leaders in cultural circles. Some will continue reading and even speaking Icelandic. They all will hold aloft the Icelandic banner and will join with other agencies in maintaining Iceandic on this continent as a living and a classic language.

On the opposite page is a picture of the scholarship winners, the artists who performed at the concert, and the Guests of Honour from Iceland.

—W. J. Lindal

THE CANADIAN NORTH

Main part of an address delivered by Elman Guttormson, M.L.A., at The Icelandic Canadian Club concert, held in the Parish Hall of The First Lutheran Church in Winnipeg, February 25, 1969

We are proud of our Icelandic background—just as every group in Canada is proud of its background. We are prouder still of being able to use our background, our experience that has developed through history to the betterment of Canada.

Of the many examples that I could cite in detail, I have chosen to mention the lifelong work of Vilhjalmur Stefansson who was described in 1929 as the greatest living Canadian.

I have done so for several reasons—in growing order of importance.

First, he is of Icelandic origin—a matter of interest to this Club. But I must emphasize that this is actually the least important in itself. But it must be mentioned because it was his Icelandic background that directed his interest to Iceland, Greenland, the Canadian north, and, indeed to all regions of the world with the unique and special climatic conditions that exist in these areas.

Secondly, he was born in Manitoba—a source of local pride to all of us in the province, but still not too important from a point of view of his work.

Thirdly, he had a contribution to make to Canada as an individual. Whatever his racial origin, he was able to serve Canada and the world in a very special way.

When we think of Canada as a true north strong and free, just think about what that means.

Over half of Canada is actually outside the 10 provinces. We have what few countries in the world can boast about:

Elman Guttormson, M.L.A.

A frontier still to be fully explored—a frontier still to be developed.

So let us look at the work and the vision of one man and see if there is a lesson in it for us as Canadians.

Vilhjalmur Stefansson has been described as the great interpreter of the North. He was known throughout the world as an explorer, ethnologist, writer and lecturer, a pioneer in dietetics and founder of the world's largest Arctic library.

Stefansson was a lonely pioneer with radical theories. His efforts to revamp the popular and scientific conceptions led him on five different trips to the polar regions.

After what one could describe as his retirement from active explorations in 1919, he undertook a second brilliant career as a writer and lecturer.

As an explorer, he spent most of fifteen years in Northern Canada and Iceland. On these trips he lived, ate and slept with the Eskimos.

Stefansson explored the northern boundaries of Melville Island and added some 100,000 square miles of unchartered lands to the map. This is the equivalent of the British Isles. Indeed, he discovered a race of blond Eskimos in the McKenzie River area.

Later, as a writer and an acknowledged Arctic expert, he devoted his life to the conception of The Friendly Arctic.

He pointed out that the Arctic was a land of abundant game and a land where weather was no worse than that of the Northern Prairies. He described the Arctic as a great undeveloped empire—the true frontier of our times.

His was the pioneer instinct that brought the first Icelanders to the oftentimes cold land of Manitoba.

It is the same type of pioneering spirit that is needed to meet the challenge of our last great remaining frontier.

If there is a challenge for Canada now, it is in recognizing that full Canadian development cannot be achieved until the north is conquered. When we conquer the north, it will add a new spirit and a totally new unifying influence in Canada.

Why? Because we have developed it ourselves, and when people look upon Canada as 'the lady of the snows', they will look upon a land that has met and conquered the obstacles to full development.

What is the greatest obstacle? Vilhjalmur Stefansson had the answer.

It was fear—fear of the cold—fear of an inhospitable climate—fear of the unknown.

Manitoba's climate is almost as bad as that of the Arctic, Stefansson tells us. But we are surviving; we are flourishing; we are developing the minerals and the water resources of our northern areas. In fact the fastest growing town in Mantioba is in the sub-Arctic—Thompson.

What is the difference between Thompson and Miami? The houses are built differently. Shopping is in enclosed malls. If Thompson people want year-round tans, instead of just summer tans they have to use sun lamps.

Really, the point I'm trying to make is that Thompson residents live and flourish just as they do in Miami. And the people of Inuvik live and flourish just as do the people of Thompson.

So it is in part a question of overcoming this mental obstacle that is hindering faster development of our northlands. We are overcoming it.

Look at the great oil developments in the general area of the McKenzie River area and Brooks range; the mineral deposits around Yellowknife; the vast mineral wealth of the Pine Point region—and indeed the building of the Dew Line along the Arctic Circle.

All have brought new and growing development to the northland.

I think the recent move to establish the seat of government to the Northwest Territories at Yellowknife instead of having it operate out of government offices in Ottawa is a further indication that even in the bureaucratic mind the north is not too bad.

These developments are coming. They are perhaps slower than we would like to see, but they are coming.

And who was the spokesman for this? Who was the true advocate of this?

It was Vilhjalmur Stefansson.

He told us more—much more that can be done.

Let me tell you some of the things Stefansson said in an address that he made in May 1919—half a century ago —when he was speaking to the joint House of Commons and Senate of Canada.

He proposed a scheme involving the introduction of large herds of reindeer into the Canadian north—and the domestication of large herds of musk ox. Both these animals furnish a milk and a meat supply. In addition, the musk ox furnishes a wool supply.

He stated there is abundant vegitation in the Arctic which forms nutritious food for grazing animals that can be made available in winter as well. There are at least a million square miles of such grazing ground in Northern Canada. The winter climate of these regions is too severe for ordinary domestic cattle but musk ox and reindeer can graze there in the open the year around.

Stefansson also said that people who know reindeer meat consider it the best meat on earth. With respect to musk ox meat, he told the joint Houses that for the year he was in the north, this meat represented 90 per cent of his exploration party's food supply and that they found it indistinguishable from beef.

He felt that the Canadian North could be utilized to solve the problem of present and future food shortages, and that, in addition, the development of local food supplies would naturally expedite the development of mineral resources in the north.

With respect to transportation, this is what Stefansson said in the same address half a century ago:

"I have not the patience to enter into a discussion with those who say that transportation difficulties forbid going into this industry on a large scale.

If once you realize the tremendous potentialities of the north, you are in a position of those few who 40 years ago (now 90 years ago) realized the possibilities of Manitoba, and the problem to be solved will be merely the transportation problem of Manitoba over again for the least favored regions."

Many years later, Stefansson was asked: Can railroads operate in winter in the Arctic?

He replied: "You remind me of Blake. When they were trying to put through the Canadian Pacific Railway, Mr. Blake made himself quite famous by saying maybe you could operate a railroad in Manitoba in summer, but you never could do it in winter. And he said that if you carried all the resources of the prairies on that railway you couldn't pay for the axel grease. Canadians who say the north is no good should make Blake their favorite reading."

In one other area of transporation —aircraft—Stefansson was well ahead of his time.

In 1922, in the National Geographic Magazine, he wrote an article on the Arctic as an air route in the future. Since that time, in speeches and in publications, he has advocated the development of polar routes something that really has come into commercial importance in just the past decade.

Small wonder then, that Pan American Airways chose him as an advisor on northern operations from 1932 to 1945.

Small wonder then, that the great Crimson staging route of the last war —the great air link from Europe via Greenland to Churchill and The Pas was part of the Northern flying concept of Stefansson.

I wonder how many of you know

that the airfield at The Pas was built during the last war to evacuate European war causualties by the Crimson Route to this country.

How many of you realize that the large sanatorium at The Pas was originally built as a hospital for war casualties.

It is hard for us to realize that The Pas, Baffin Island, Greenland and Great Britain are in a direct line. **This is the shortest route to Europe.**

So the vision of Stefansson is slowly reaching fulfilment. The polar route is now a part of our everyday operation. We in Manitoba hope that with the completion of the great air cargo terminal in Winnipeg, and the use of big transports, that the Winnipeg to Europe route will become even more important in the exports of many of our products.

But important as transportation is, much of it perhaps can be attributed to the tremendous development in aircraft design. Our north is merely a direction in which to fly.

What we must do is use the new techniques of transportation in the physical development and physical placement of people and supplies in our northlands.

This brings us down, perhaps, to the nub of Stefansson's philosophy.

He is the one who has called our northland The Friendly Arctic.

He is the one who stressed that the northland was capable of settlement and development.

He felt that if a person had a misadventure in the north it meant that he had not taken normal precautions in living there.

Throughout his life, Stefansson led the fight for vigorous northern development. He noted that the most northerly city of any size on the North American continent is Edmonton. North of that—in Alaska, Canada and Greenland combined—are fewer than 1 million people, including Eskimos and there is no city larger than 50,000.

In the Soviet Union, in the corresponding area there are 100,000,000 people. Moscow, with a population of more than 5 million, lies 150 miles farther north than Edmonton. There are 50 Soviet cities of more than 50,000 population in the area.

Isn't it significant that Stefansson's book Northward Course of Empire in 1922 sold 40,000 copies in Russia and only a few hundred in Canada.

Stefansson urged a return to that old "get up and go" spirit that spurred pioneers into pushing Canada's frontier across the western plain and mountain region.

Stefansson put it: The north is not the end of the world; it is our last great remaining frontier.

Let us honor this prophet as he should be honored. Lets make Canada a FULLY developed nation, where we are truly a nation from sea to sea — thinking of the Arctic— to sea.

Who will do it? Canadians, Icelandic Canadians, Polish Canadians, French Canadians, English Canadians, Indian Canadians, Eskimo Canadians — the list is endless.

The list is as long as the names of the countries that inhabit our globe— for we have people from every country.

Let us think, then, of what the poet E. W. Thomson said:

We chide no stranger entering at our door
But bid him welcome, bid him share the meal!
His children yet the native sense shall feel
And what care we if 20 races blend
In blood that flows Canadian to the end.

EXCERPTS FROM AN ADDRESS DELIVERED BY THE LATE REVEREND ADAM THORGRIMSSON

AT WINNIPEG ON NOVEMBER 4, 1919

FREELY TRANSLATED BY HEIMIR THORGRIMSON

My Icelandic Friends,
Men and Women of Canada

I address you in this manner as my greeting would otherwise be inadequate. You are Icelanders because of your origins and because I know that you love your mother Iceland. But I greet you also as Canadians for you are no less Canadians for being Icelandic. Perhaps you are better Canadians for being Icelanders who have preserved their heritage.

It will not be denied that by force of circumstance we are possessed of a dual nature. We have vested interests on both sides of the Atlantic. Iceland has a place in our hearts and minds and in Canada you have acquired estates of substance that no less require your love and loyalty.

– – – –

Every ethnic group is duty bound to contribute to Canada in full measure whatever of value it may possess. Those who fail to do so betray Canada. We are few in number but we must contribute our share. It is not only our right but our duty to bring our influence to bear on the shaping of Canadian nationhood. We must realize that we are one group of many that make up the Canadian pattern, that we are men among men and must discharge our obligations to Canada to the fullest extent of our means.

– – – – –

Altogether too common is the erroneous and invidious attitude that we are in some way retarding the development of a true Canadian identity by holding fast to those things that are peculiarly our own. The reverse is true. By maintaining our self respect through an awareness of our essential worth we will in truth become better citizens of Canada.

There are those who say that we should as soon as possible and the sooner the better, become assimilated with those who were here before us. Others say that we should model ourselves above all on the English or the French for they are the most powerful groups in the country. I disagree. We should so live that in time to come it will be apparent that the Icelanders settled in Canada. Canada should in some measure bear our imprint.

Were we to pull in haste those roots of our being that lie in Icelandic soil and Icelandic tradition we would soon wither. While our people strike new roots they will gain sustenance from the soil that nurtured their fathers. If that heritage is denied or demeaned we inhibit our capacity for growth and lose our self respect in the bargain.

It is an ill omen for any people to shun its national heritage. We should preserve ours and help others to do likewise. We owe no less to ourselves or to Canada. To her we owe all that we can accomplish and working hand in hand with our fellow citizens we should dedicate ourselves to the task of making her a truly civilized nation, strong, vibrant and noble.

– – – – –

No man was more conscious of the necessity of preserving our national heritage than our late leader Reverend Jon Bjarnason. He saw clearly that the basic need was the preservation of the Icelandic language and could not bear to think that it would be lost with our generation. To ensure in some measure the future of the language he worked with boundless zeal to establish what is now known as the Jón Bjarnason Academy, a school dedicated to the preservation of the Icelandic tongue and of Icelandic traditions. . . . But who is to carry on. Who is to preserve the monument that Jón Bjarnason erected as a bulwark of our national heritage.

The question is, how much do we value this heritage. Some will say that the founding of the Icelandic National League shows that it is indeed valued. This movement is all to the good and thanks be to those who fostered its beginnings and brought it to fruition. But its work will be of no avail unless we assure the future of The Jón Bjarnason Academy, the only Icelandic institution of its kind in America.

– – – – –

I have one suggestion to make for the perpetuation of this institution.

You will recall that much has been said about the need and the duty to erect a fitting monument to our fallen soldiers. Ambitious plans were made but as you know the matter came to naught because of dissension and recriminations among those involved.

Could we honour the brave men of our race in more appropriate fashion than by erecting in their memory a structure that would house all that is Icelandic in this country—a home for our language, literature and art and a secure haven for all things pertaining to our history and traditions? Our Icelandic heroes who fell in the war were for the most part sprung from and nurtured in an Icelandic environment. Their courage, their chivalry, their patriotism, all had Icelandic roots. To them, their Icelandic nationality was precious.

Is it not possible that we could all unite in an endeavour to establish on firm foundations an Icelandic cultural centre—The Jón Bjarnason Academy—dedicated to the fallen Icelandic soldiers by an appropriate inscription above its portals? Would this not be the most suitable memorial? Our beloved soldiers would then be able to speak to us the words that they themselves would wish us to remember.

Long live Icelandic strength, manliness and self sacrifice.

Long live the Icelandic heritage in our country.

DR. JÓN STEFÁNSSON'S

HISTORY OF ICELAND

by **Lenore Borgfjord**

Dr. Jón Stefánsson is renowned for his scholarly achievements in the field of English literature and of history. Thanks to the generosity of his nephew, Baldur Steonback, the Icelandic Library at the University of Manitoba is in possession of the unpublished manuscript of Stefánsson's **History of Iceland,** along with other volumes by Stefánsson. This manuscript, which is among the earlier historical surveys of Iceland written in English, brings to light many interesting historical developments.

Lenore Borgfjord

Stefansson was born on November 4th, 1862, at Grund in Grundarfjord in Western Iceland. He grew up in a home where music and literature played an important part in the family life, his father being an excellent poet and his mother a guitarist and singer.

At an early age, Jón Stefánsson became an enthusiastic student of history and literature and attained equal proficiency in Danish and Icelandic. His intense intellectual pursuits explain why his parents sometimes described him in the context of these Icelandic verse lines:

"Hann nennir ekki neitt að gera
látum því strákinn stúdíera."

Stefánsson commenced studies in Latin under a French minister at Grundarfjord. With this basic education, he enrolled at Reykjavík College. The years from 1882 until 1891 were spent at the University of Copenhagen where, in 1889, he received a Masters degree in the History of English Literature and Language, and, in 1891, a PhD in Modern English Literature. From 1891-1894 he was a lecturer in English at Copenhagen University. Stefánsson was editor and writer of Skírnir from 1888 to 1892. He also held the position of Assistant Librarian of the Royal Library of Copenhagen from 1891 to 1893. He left Denmark for England and resided in London after 1894. During his early residence in England he lectured on Icelandic literature at Oxford and Cambridge, and in 1914 he became a lecturer in Icelandic at King's College at London University. Twice Stefánsson was the winner of an annual prize awarded by the University of Copenhagen. His award-winning essays bore the following titles: **Scandinavian Elements in Middle Scotland** and **Dialects in Wycliff's Bible Version, 1930.** The latter earned him the **Gold Medal of the University.** He wrote many articles and books some of which are listed below:

"Robert Browning"—Copenhagen, 1891. (a book)

Articles and Essays, Vol. 66—London, 1916.

"Iceland For A Holiday", Murray's Magazine, London, 1889.

"Les Oiseaux D' Islande", Hendaye, 1890.

"How Browning Strikes a Scandinavian", Browning Society Papers, 1891.

"Robert Bowning" in Nordisk Tidskift, 1891,

"Shakespeare at Elsenore", Contemporary Review, 1898.

"Old Norse Influence on English Literature" (in Danish), 1891.

"Denmark and Sweden with Iceland and Finland", 1916. (a book).

"Iceland and its Inhabitants", 1902 and 1906.

"Attempts of the Danish Kings to Sell Iceland to England and to Holland", 1468-1898.

"The Oldest Known Scandinavian Names", 1906.

"The Authorship of the Orkneyinga Saga", 1907.

"Western Influences on the Earliest Viking Settlers", 1908.

"Thomas Grey, the English Discoverer of Norse Literature", 1918.

"The Rebirth of Iceland", 1919.

"Iceland as a Link Between England and Scandinavia", 1917.

"Translation of the Oldest Norwegian Laws into English", 1919—unpublished.

"Ruins of the Saga Time in Iceland."

Stefánsson also wrote for such newspapers as the Daily Press, The Times, The Daily News, and The Nation. His interview with Bismark in 1892, appeared in five languages. Stefánsson held the position of a curator at the British Museum for more than half a century, and during his lifetime completed over three hundred paintings in watercolour. The last years of his life, Stefánsson spent in Reykjavík, where he died on July 20, 1952.

As a young scholar, Stefánsson had entertained the idea of writing a history of Iceland. This work was not completed, however, until fairly late in his scholarly career. This article contains exerpts from his unpublished manuscript of the history of Iceland. One must bear in mind that, since this work was completed, many scholarly articles and books have been written on Iceland's history. Stefánsson was a pioneer in this field, and his research and study is valuable to the student of Icelandic history. Because the publication of a manuscript of two hundred fifty-eight pages in its entirety is not possible, the following passages have been selected at random to enable the reader at least to sample Stefánsson's **History of Iceland.**

The history begins in the early 9th century with the Norse discovery and settlement of Iceland. Contrary to popular opinion, the Norsemen were not the first inhabitants of Iceland as is born out by the following passage:

"There were then Christian men in Iceland whom the Norsemen called Papa. Afterwards they left the country because they would not live here among heathen men, and left behind them Irish books and bells and croziers from which it could be seen that they were Irishmen."

Many different strands were woven into the pattern of early Icelandic society:

"Thus the most powerful and influential families in Iceland came from and via the Western Isles which are therefore next to Norway, the cradle of the new colony, a secondary cradle it is true, a half way house. Statistics of the settlers are in this case useless, for quality, not quantity, is here the main consideration. One Geirmund or one Helgi the Lean outweigh scores of lesser men. Most of the settlers from the Western Isles were Norwegians who had been there a short time or for years. Others were born and bred there

and had Celtic mothers. Helgi the Lean was the son of an Irish princess. The daughters of king Cearbhall of Osory married Vikings and their sons settled in Iceland. Other settlers were married to Gaelic wives and their children often spoke both languages. The Gall-Gaels or Foeign Gaels were Irishmen who had become heathens and joined the Norsemen. They were a mixed race.

The greatest chieftains among the settlers had lived for years in the West, had been attracted by the beauty of the Columban worship, had listened to Irish songs and sagas. Their prisoners would recite poems and tell stories to entertain their masters who had much to learn from them. The frequent intermarriages between Vikings and highborn Gaelic women were an important source of mutual knowledge for the two races, for such women would know by heart the old tales in prose and verse. Melkorka, teaching her son Olaf the speech and lore of her country, is a case in point (Laxdæla Saga). The hall of a viking chieftain in the West was a meeting place where heathendom and Christianity, Gaelic and Norse ideas, jostled each other and were debated and discussed. The art of story telling and metrical poetry had reached such a high stage of development among the Celts that the Vikings would have failed to show their usual power of adaptation and selection had they not learned from it, that power which stood them in such good stead in France and England.

In 1662, the Danish king imposed "absolute", authority over the Icelanders. More than a century later, discussion seems to have taken place between Danish and English authorities over Iceland's position as a part of the Danish Kingdom. **In the course of these negotiations, Iceland was very nearly brought within the jurisdiction of Great Britain.** Stefánsson has this to say in his book:

"During the Napoleonic wars Iceland suffered greatly. The Treaty of Armed Neutrality between Russia, Prussia, Denmark and Sweden threatened British commercial and naval supremacy. Pitt determined to strike a blow at Denmark. Orders were sent for the capture of the Danish colonies in the West Indies and on Jan. 14th 1801 an embargo was placed on Danish ships. The Foreign Secretary, Lord Grenville, asked Sir Joseph Banks who had been in close touch with Iceland ever since his expedition there in 1772 to write a memorandum about the annexation of Iceland which he knew so well. In his elaborate memorandum, dated Jan. 30th, 1801, Sir J. Banks declared that all Icelanders with whom he talked wished to be placed under British rule; 500 men could subdue the Island without striking a blow; if only three or four persons of authority were secured or sent on board British vessels—as he says in a letter to Magnus Stephensen—all resistance would be at an end and the population freed from Danish bondage. This plan came to nothing, for Pitt resigned in March 1801 and Alexander I, Tsar of Russia, withdrew from the Armed Neutrality, after the assassination of his predecessor. By the treaty of Oct. 23rd 1801 England retroceded the Danish colonies she had seized and released the Danish ships. Soon, however, Iceland was in still greater danger.

According to the Treaty of Tilsit, July 7th, 1807. Denmark was one of the countries which Russia and France pledged themselves into an adoption of the commercial exclusion of Britain, known as the "Continental System". Canning, Foreign Secretary, through some channel which is still unknown, became aware of the secret articles of this Treaty and feared that the Danish fleet might be used against England. Canning acted with great rapidity. At one o'clock on the morning of July 18th Francis Jackson of the diplomatic service was roused from his bed in Northamptonshire and told to sail immediately for Kiel to demand explanations of the Prince Regent of Denmark. His instructions were to demand temporary possession of the Danish fleet, under pain of immediate hostilities, with a promise that it should be restored upon the signature of a general peace. The brusque demeanour of Jackson irritated the Prince Regent who refused to surrender the fleet. A powerful fleet under Admiral Gambier sailed for the Baltic and 19,000 troops followed in transports under Lord Cathcart under whom Sir Arthur Wellesley was entrusted with the reserve. A peremptory demand to deliver up the fleet and the naval stores was addressed to the commander of Copenhagen who returned a temporising reply. Invested by sea and land Copenhagen was bombarded **Sept.** 2nd to 5th, and partially burned down. Copenhagen surrendered on Sept. 7th, the Danish fleet was taken to England as a prize of war —and never restored to Denmark. Denmark declared war on England after this international outrage which roused great indignation throughout Europe. No news of this war had reached Iceland and vessels bound for Denmark with Icelandic goods were intercepted and mostly taken to Leith as prizes of war. Sir Joseph Banks on Dec. 30th, 1807, wrote a memorandum to Lord Hawkesbury (Earl of Liverpool), Home Secretary, proposing that the detained ships and their cargoes should be restored to their owners, if native Icelanders, on condition that the Icelanders

transferred their allegiance from Denmark t Britain and replaced their Danish Governor by an English Governor, retaining their laws and their customs. The ships were not released till February 1808, and the few licences giv to trade with Iceland could not replace the wholly interrupted trade with Denmark. So there was a shortage of the necessaries of life, salt, iron, wool, even bread. English privateer committed depredations in the islands. In 1801 Captain Thomas Gilpin in the **Salamine** seized the public treasury at Reykjavík, 35,000 rixdollars, but this was returned by the British government, since Gilpin had no right to take it, according to his letter of marque. After the Revolution in 1809 Sir Joseph Banks persuaded his Government to declare Iceland neutral. An order in Council was issuel on Feb. 7th, 1810. H.M. with the advice of his Privy Council ordered "that the said Islands of Faroe and Iceland and the Greenland Settlements, and the Inhabitants thereof, and the Property therein, shall be exempted from the Attack and Hostilities of H.M. Forces and Subjects, and that the ships belonging to Inhabitants of such Islands . . . and all good being of the Growth, Produce or Manufacture of the said Islands . . . on board the Ships belonging to such Inhabitants, engaged in direct Trade between such Islands . . . and the Port of London or Leith, shall not be liable to Seizure and Confiscation as Prize . . that the People of all the said Islands . . . be considered, when resident in H.M. Dominions, as **Stranger Friends,** under the Safeguard of H.M. Royal Peace, and entitled to the Protection of the Laws of the Realm, and in no case treated as **Alien Enemies** . . . that the Ships of the United Kingdom, navigated according to Law, be permitted to repair to the said Islands. . . and to trade with the Inhabitants thereof; . . . that all H.M. Cruizers and all his Subjects be inhibited from committing any Acts of Depredation or Violence against the Persons, Ships or Goods of any of the Inhabitants of the said Islands."

The above excerpts are indeed representative of Dr. Stefánsson's highly informative **History.**

★

ARNI GUDNI EGGERTSON, Q.C., died on Friday, March 7th, 1969. There was not time, before the deadline for this number of the magazine, to prepare a merited article on this leading citizen of Winnipeg. It will appear in the Summer number.

★

Arni G. Eggertson, Q.C.

ICELANDIC and ENGLISH

by W. J. Lindal

Icelandic occupies the unique position of being both a mother language and a sister language to English.

This seeming paradox requires an explanation. To be a mother language Icelandic must be an ancestor language. To be a sister language to English it must be a descendant language.

In the civilization of the West there are two main groups of ancestor and descendant languages. There is classical Latin from which French, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese have descended. In the other group the ancestor is not a single language but a group of languages and dialects of widely scattered ancient tribes of Northern Europe, which G. M. Trevelyan and other historians have grouped under the word Nordic"[1] That word very conveniently covers them all, the Anglo-Saxons, the Germans, the Norsemen, and the Frisians.

The languages (and dialects) of all these ancient tribes are within the term "ancestor languages" and they have their modern descendant languages. The very wide gulf between the parent and the offspring languages is clearly stated by the lexicographer, J. A. H. Murray, who edited the Oxford New English Dictionary. He says.

> "Looked upon by themselves, either as vehicles of thought or objects of study and analysis, Old English or Anglo-Saxon and Modern English are for all practical ends distinct languages as much, for instance, as Latin and Spanish."

The simplest yardstick to apply in deciding whether a language is ancestral to another is this: if a student finds that a language from which his mother tongue descended is so unintelligible to him that he has to have it translated to get even the gist of what has been written, that language is not an older version of his mother tongue but a language ancestral to it.

With one exception the modern Roman and Nordic languages of Europe are descendant languages. That one exception is Icelandic, the language which the original Norse settlers brought with them to Iceland. The Icelanders have succeeded in retaining and preserving the original language to such an extent that the language of the Sagas is, in essence, the same language as modern Icelandic. The statement has been made by expert philologists, such as Frederick Bodmer, that the difference between modern Icelandic and Old Icelandic (Old Norse) is no more than the difference between modern English and the language of Shakespeare and Milton. No one would ever suggest that the Sagas should be translated for the youth of Iceland. The Englishman has to have Beowulf, written in West Saxon, translated to him. Latin is a foreign language to Frenchmen.

Another very important difference, which sets Icelandic apart from other modern languages of Europe, is the grammar and syntax. Icelandic has preserved to a most remarkable degree the accidence and construction of the original language.

It is here that one can see most clearly the difference between Icelandic and the modetrn Scandinavian languages, Norwegian, Swedish, and Danish. In these languages the inflexions, grammar, and syntax of classical languages[2] have largely disappeared.

As the merit of Icelandic in its relation to English rests partly upon it being a highly inflexional ancestral language it is appropriate to point out that Icelandic campares very favorably in that respect with Latin and Greek as subjects of study in language courses.

It is sometimes said that because of the lack of inflexions in English it is necessary to study Latin and Greek in order to learn English grammar, or indeed, the grammar of any modern European language. Icelandic is equally rich in inflexions and sentence construction but has the advantage of being a smoothly flowing, living, modern language.

A few Icelandic constructions equivalent to some of those in Latin and Greek, which the student often finds puzzling, may be given as examples.

The accusative with the infinitive in subordinate sentences: "Hann kvað tímann vera naumann", literally, "he quoth the time to be short", a common Latin construction.

The nominative with the infinitive: "Mér þykir hún vera nokkuð fín", literally, "I think she be refined in taste", a Greek construction.

The middle voice is very common in Icelandic, used more frequently than the passive and often has a different meaning than in the other voices. It serves a much wider use than the reflexive in English which is actually a verb in the active voice. The middle voice is common in Greek.

Icelandic has a tense corresponding to the aorist in Greek: "Hann var að fara", "he was going" (a continuous motion).

There are innumerable uses of the dative and the genitive without a preposition—a common construction in the Classic languages.

A general conclusion is drawn by this writer based upon both study and experience. The conclusion is that a scholar who has a good knowledge of Icelandic grammar and syntax can, without instruction and merely relying upon textbooks, acquire a reasonably sound grasp (aside from pronunciation) of any of the Indo-European group of languages, both ancestral and modern.

The main value, however, of Icelandic, aside from its own intrinsic worth, is its relationship to English.

The words "basic English" are often heard. C. K. Ogden in "Basic English: a General Introduction" has selected what he regards as an essential list for Basic English which contains only 850 words. What is most instructive in that list is that a large majority of the words are Anglo-Saxon, a compound which requires some explanation.

English is a Nordic language and its primary ancestral languages or dialects are West-Saxon, Anglian, Kentish, and Norse.

There were two Norse migrations to the British Isles, differing in time by about a century.

Towards the end of the eighth century migrations of Norsemen commenced to Ireland, the north of Scotland, and the islands around them. Later, many of these settlers or their descendants crossed the Irish Channel to what was then Cumbria (Midlands of England). The second migration started about a century later. These Norsemen were mostly from Denmark and hence were known as Danes. King Canute, it will be recalled, became

King of all Anglo-Saxon and Norse England. In the Midlands and Northern England there are hundreds of Scandinavian place-names. It is therefore obvious that, immediately prior to the Norman Conquest, dialects of Norse were spoken in a large part of what is actually referred to as Anglo-Saxon England, as distinct from Wales and Scotland.

It took about three centuries[3] to merge the four basic elements into one language, and if all four are included then it can be said that Anglo-Saxon is the ancestral language of English.

Care must be taken to distinguish the four ancestral languages or dialects and additions from other languages, notably the languages of the Britons, the Celts, and the Normans. They all are enriching additions, but only additions. English is a Nordic, not a Celtic nor a Roman language.[4] If a country can have a soul (the Soul of France) so a language can have a soul. The soul of Modern English is to be found in Old English or Anglo-Saxon, using that compound in the wider sense to include the four original elements.

Modern Icelandic is Old Icelandic or Old Norse streamlined to modern usage. Hence, as one of the four primary elements of English, it may be said to be a mother or one of the mothers of English.

Icelandic is a modern language, and though a Classic, is spoken with the same ease of flow as modern English, both drawing upon a common vocabulary. W. C. Packer, former Professor of German in Winnipeg, has said:[5]

> "The history of the Icelandic language is entwined with that of English from start to finish. We can consider them sister languages. Two thousand years ago the ancestors of both English and Icelandic spoke dialects of what was the same language."

The words of Dr. Kemp Malone, former Professor of English at John Hopkins University, are to the point:

> "As a Professor of English, I can bear witness to the importance of Icelandic studies for workers in the English field. My own scholarly career would have been impossible without the knowledge of Icelandic."

Mr. H. B. Scott Symons of the Royal Ontario Museum, and of United Empire Loyalist origin, has said:[6]

> "It seems clear to me that a study of Icelandic — ironically enough— would teach Canadians much about the Englishness of English. In a remarkable way Icelandic is, indeed, a Canadian Mother culture, and in particular a root culture for the English-speaking Canadian, quite aside from its own value as an independent culture."

It has often been said that it is easy to acquire a smattering of English but to master it is something only the artist can accomplish. The words selected by Ogden for his "Basic English" are almost all either Anglo-Saxon or of Icelandic origin. They are words that cannot be imported or manufactured. They are the words which give tone and color to choice English, be it poetry or prose.

1 Carlton S. Coon, the well known anthropologist of Gloucester, Mass., in his book "The Races of Europe" (1939) says that the word "Nordic" is the most famous word in anthropology. In his latest book "The Living Races of Man" (1965) he, however uses the word "Germanic" more often than the word "Nordic". In 1953 "The Nordic Council" was formed which comprises Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Finland and Iceland.

2 Here the word "classical" is not limited to Greek and Latin but includes any inflexional ancient language in which a literature has been recorded.

3 Murray, Encyclopedia Brittanica: "For three centuries, therefore, there was no standard form of speech which claimed any pre-eminence over the others. The writers of each district wrote in the dialect familiar to them: words written for Southern Englishmen had to be translated for the benefit of the men of the North."

4 G. M. Trevelyan, History of England p. 29 (1926).

5 Icelandic Canadian, Summer 1961, p. 18.

6 Ibid, Spring 1962, p. 17.

—The Manitoba Modern Language Bulletin, Autumn, 1968

The Honourable E. J. Benson, Minister of Finance, has announced a competition to secure a design for the 1970 Canadian dollar coin. The coin will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the entry of the Province of Manitoba into Confederation.

A first prize of $3,500 and three honourable mentions of $500 each are offered. Artists, sculptors and designers residing in Canada or Canadians living abroad are invited to submit entries before April 30, 1969.

Designs should incorporate definite Manitoba characteristics as well as the words "CANADA", "DOLLAR" and "MANITOBA" all in capital letters, and the figures "1870-1970".

Competitors should bear in mind that the design will be reproduced in relief on the surface of the coin and it is emphasized that the depth of relief of the present coin cannot be exceeded.

The winning competitor will be required to submit a plaster model of his design eight inches in diameter. A master punch will be reproduced from the model incorporating any modifications mutually agreed upon between the designer and the government. There will be no objection to collaboration between artists, sculptors and designers in the preparation of the plaster model.

Drawings should be eight inches in diameter. on black and white media, and mounted on stiff white cardboard 12" x 12" for ease in judging and filing. No additional lettering should appear on this face and all drawings should have a protective flap hinged at the top.

The back of the cardboard should carry a sheet of paper with the typed or legibly written name and address of the competitor and a description of what has been attempted in the design.

The governmtnt is under no obligation to use all or any of the designs. All drawings submitted will become the property of the Crown.

Requests made before May 31, 1969 for return of drawings will be considered.

A board of six judges under the chairmanship of the Master of the Mint will be appointed to select the winning designs. Entries should be sent to Mr. E. F. Brown, Acting Master, Royal Canadian Mint, 320 Sussex Drive, Ottawa 2, not later than April 30, 1969.

Manitoba Government
News Service,

your Government-sponsored

Manitoba Medical Plan

How it affects you

STARTING APRIL 1st

All Manitobans who are registered under the Manitoba Hospital Commission will be automatically enrolled in the new government-sponsored medical insurance plan.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE YOUR DOCTOR

What services are covered by the Plan?

All Medical Services provided in the Doctor's Office, in your Home or in the Hospital are covered except for certain exclusions such as those listed below.

EXCLUSIONS:

- Services for any illness, injury or condition for which indemnity is received under workmen's compensation law, occupational disease law, or similar legislation.
- Services, including examinations and reports, for reasons of employment, insurance, attendance at University or camp, or performed at the request of third parties.
- Preparation of records, reports, certificates or communications.
- Routine dental care including dental X-rays.
- Nursing services.
- Ambulance services.
- Medicines, drugs, materials, surgical supplies, and prosthetic devices.
- Fitting and supply of eye glasses.
- Physiotherapy and other similar treatments in or out of hospital.
- Immunization or examinations for purposes of travel, employment and emigration.
- Mileage, travelling time, advice by telephone or testimony in a court.
- Elective plastic surgery for cosmetic purposes except where the Manitoba Medical Services Insurance Corporation is satisfied, prior to the operation, that such surgery is medically required.

PREMIUMS:

Premiums are payable monthly, in advance, either by payroll deduction if you are employed with three or more employees or, directly to the majority of agencies collecting hydro and telephone bills, at any municipal office or, to the Manitoba Hospital Commission, 185 Lombard Avenue, Winnipeg 2, Manitoba. The Manitoba Hospital Commission is an agent for collecting premiums for the new medical plan.

Monthly premiums for medical insurance are:

$4.90 for single persons
$9.80 for a family

(If you are exempt from paying Manitoba Hospital Commission premiums, you are automatically exempt from paying medical premiums.)

IDENTIFICATION CARD

A joint medical and hospital registration certificate indicating a registration number will be provided to you before April 1st. The registration number will be the same number for both medical and hospital benefits and will coincide with the current Manitoba Hospital Commission number.

YOU'RE COVERED ALL THE TIME

Your new Manitoba Medical Plan also provides benefits to you if you are in need of medical attention when you are outside the Province of Manitoba.

Keep this ad for reference

Manitoba Medical Services Insurance Corporation

185 LOMBARD AVENUE / WINNIPEG 2, MANITOBA / TELEPHONE: 943-8401

MMSIC/3-69/No. 1

JON G. JOHNSON, Potentate Khartum Temple

The Nobility of Khartum Temple in Winnipeg of the Ancient Arabic Order, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, at a meeting on January 23, 1969, elevated Jon G. Johnson to the exalted office of Illustrious Potentate. As far as is known he is the first person of Icelandic descent who has been raised to the high office of Illustrious Potentate in the Shrine.

Jon G. Johnson

Jon G. Johnson was born in Winnipeg, August 25, 1908, the son of the late Helgi and Asta Johnson who migrated in 1900 from Iceland to Winnipeg where they lived the rest of their lives. Jon has lived in Winnipeg all his life with the exception of five years which he spent in Regina. In 1928, then twenty years old, he started to work for the Winnipeg Electric Railway Company. Though he obtained steady employment with reasonable chances of advancement he wanted to become an electrical engineer. Being employed, attendance at the University of Manitoba was out of the question, so he took the course extra murally and graduated in 1938 with the degree of Electrical Engineer.

In 1949 he joined the Westinghouse Company Ltd. as District Engineer in Winnipeg. Advancement was rapid. He was transferred to Regina in 1951 and became Branch Manager. In 1953 he was named Manager, Saskatchewan District as well as Manager of Candian Westinghouse Supply Co. Ltd. In 1955 he was appointed District Manager, Canadian Westinghouse, Winnipeg, and in 1958 became District Manager of all operations in the West. In that year he was named Mr. Westinghouse in the Western Region.

Potentate Johnson is a member of a host of organizations which include the Association of Professional Engineers of Manitoba and the Engineering Institute of Canada. He is a Senior Member of the Institute of Electrical Service and Electronic Engineers and President of the Electric Service League of Manitoba. He is a member of the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce and The Industrial Development Board.

Jon Johnson married Rosa, daughter of the late Petur and Johanna Petursson of Lundar in Manitoba. They have five children: Mrs. Joyce Dietrick of Regina, with four children; Mrs. Norma Young of Toronto with three children; Magnus Earl, an architect of Winnipeg, with three children; Carl Helgi of Winnipeg, an Advertising Representative, with three children; Jon Peter, at home, General Manager of Indus Equipment of which the family are major shareholders.

Congratulations are extended to the new Potentate.

NEW POSTAL RATE CREATES FINANCIAL PROBLEMS FOR PERIODICALS AND WEEKLIES

The original subscription rate of The Icelandic Canadian was $1.00 per year. This was in 1942. Ten years later it was increased to $1.50, and in 1962 was increased to $2.00 per year, which is the present subscription rate.

This is an absurdly low price for a quarterly which is generally 64 pages. The magazine has always been on a voluntary basis. The only exceptions are the Business Manager and the Advertising Solicitor. The Business Manager is paid an honorarium which is not sufficient to pay his secretary's salary for the time she spends on the magazine. The Advertising Solictior is paid a 25% commission on advertising. It is a pleasure to report that all editors gladly serve on a voluntary basis and there never has been any difficulty to find volunteers to fill vacancies.

For some time the Magazine Board has been considering an increase in the subscription rates. Costs of printing and of cuts are constantly increasing. The drastic increase in postal rates on second class mail, which comes into effect on Aprli 1, has compelled the Board to take action. It has reached the conclusion that the subscription rates should be doubled but that the new rates are not to come into effect until with the commencement of Volume XXVIII in the fall of 1969. This will give officers and members of The Icelandic Canadian Club an opportunity to express their views. The final decision will be announced in the Summer 1969 number.

Some time ago the Icelandic Canadian made an arrangement with the Atlantica Iceland Review of Reykjavik for a combined subscription rate of $6.00 per year. That arrangement will have to be changed upwards after the new rates come into effect.

It is only fair to readers and to members of The Icelandic Canadian Club that the price of some other quarterlies should be stated. The Canadian Author and Bookman, 24 pages, is $2.50 per year; The American- Scandinavian Review, about 105 pages, $6.00 per year; Scandinavian Studies, about 80 pages, $7.00 per year.

Suggestions should be sent to the Business Manager, on or before June 15, 1969.

ALAN BARDAL FINNBOGASON

Alan Bardal Finnbogason

"He fits into a situation so readily; the task before him is as if it were his life's work". These are the words of H. A. Steele, a retired executive of The T. Eaton Co. Ltd., addressed to this writer some years ago. The Company had loaned him to administer the Flood Relief Fund raised to distribute compensation for losses resulting from the disastrous Winnipeg flood of 1950. The man whom he referred to was Alan Bardal Finnbogason, also an employee with the T. Eaton Co. He took him with him to be his assistant in the administration of the Fund. It was a valuable experience for the young administrator.

Alan Finnbogason, son of Guttormur and Olavia Finnbogason, now of Winipeg and formerly of Lundar, was born on August 24, 1921. In 1939 he accepted an offer of employment with the T. Eaton Co. Ltd.. That was the year World War II broke out and in 1940 he joined the R.C.A.F. He served overseas 1942 to 1945 with the rank of Flying Officer. When the war was over he returned to the T. Eaton Co. and has been in its service ever since. The embryo businessman felt that he needed a little more academic training and made arrangements with the Company for taking two years Arts studies in United College, now the University of Winnipeg. In 1950 Mr. Steele and he were granted leave of absence for administration of the Flood Relief Fund. It proved to be a ten months assignment and millions of dollars were distributed.

On returning to Eaton's Alan's advance was steady, and indeed quite rapid. From 1951 to 1959 he was Assistant Manager in the financial department in the Winnipeg store and in 1959 was appointed Project Manager for the new St. James Service Building. From 1960 to 1963 he was Service Building Manager and 1963 to 1965 Customer Service Manager. In spite of his increased responsibilities Alan Finnbogason served in the reserve R.C.A.F. (5002 Intelligence Unit) for 8 years, 1952 to 1960. In 1964 he attended the Banff School of Executive Development.

In 1965 Mr. Finnbogason became Store Operating Manager in the main Winnipeg store and in 1967 another managerial task was assigned to him —that of Food Service Manager. He still fills this double administrative office.

Seeking to obtain the best possible instruction in the field of business management Mr. Finnbogason attended a four weeks seminar in New York last fall on "Top Management" under the auspices of the American Management Association (A.M.A.) reputed to be one of the best in the world.

In spite of his onerous duties with The T. Eaton Co. Ltd. Alan Finnbogason has contributed his ample share to public service and community work. He is a Past President of the St. James Y.M.C.A. and was on the St. James Civic Centennial Commission. He was a member of the Target for Economic Development Commission for the Government of Manitoba, which only recently made its report. He is a Vice-President of the Better Business Bureau and also Vice-President of the St. James Chamber of Commerce.

Alan Finnbogason is Vice-Chairman of the Air Cadet League of Manitoba and a National Director in the larger Canadian Cadet organization. He is a Past President of the United Services Institute and First Vice-President of the Manitoba Travel and Convention Bureau.

In 1949 Alan married Marguerite Olson. They have two children, Charles 15 and Eve 12 years old.

—W. J. L.

SONNET I

When I describe upon this lasting page,
The love I feel for you within my heart,
I realize tho' we give way to age,
Tho' time's grim stroke will move us far apart;
Some lover long ahead in untold book,
In chapters yet unread by time's keen eye
Will love, and on my humble words will look,
Will think and say the same as here did I.
For love dies not as mortal lovers do,
But lights its vibrant flame in young love's minds,
And thrives and brightly burns unending through
The ages, to complete its true design.
Tho' thrones may fall, be moulds to dust decaying,
Words live in lovers' hearts for future saying.

Paul A. Sigurdson
1948

Paul Sigurdson often composes in free verse. The sonnet is admittedly the most truly fixed verse form in the English language. Paul is equally at home in both. The above sonnet was composed in 1948. —Editor

REV. VALDIMAR J. EYLANDS, D.D.

A period in the history of the Icelanders in America has come to an end. In Winnipeg there is a vacuum. Dr. Eylands is gone.

These thoughts crowd one another in my mind; not only once but frequently. Not that they are a necessary nor a logical sequence. But why?

In the early settlement of Icelanders in North America the church played a very significant role—a role that was at once spiritual and secular. In some districts there would be home worship before churches could be constructed. In others small churches would be built surprisingly soon after settlements opened. Sometimes when the cultural rather than the spiritual need was uppermost a hall, a félagshús, would be constructed. But it served the purpose of a church as well. Thus the first public building in each district served both as a church and a place for social gatherings.

Church services were conducted regularly where ministers were available. There were itinerant ministers who visited the smaller and outlying districts.

The notable feature is that all the services and all the social gatherings were conducted in the Icelandic language. At first this was necessary because that was the only language most of the people knew. But the use of Icelandic in the churches was continued long after many of the churchgoers had become fluent in English.

From the very beginning, in addition to their spiritual work, the churches acquired a secondary function. They were the first and for many years continued to be the main protectors of Icelandic culture and guardians of the Icelandic language. The Icelandic Lutheran Synod took steps to engage a Lutheran pastor, Rev. F. J. Bergmann, to teach Icelandic at Wesley College, now the University of Winnipeg. In 1913 the Synod built the Jon Bjarnason Academy.

Both Lutheran and Unitarian students attended Wesley College and the Academy. Dr. Rögnvaldur Petursson, a Unitarian Minister, took the lead in salvaging the Jon Bjarnason Academy building when the financing had become sometwhat precarious.

It is a long story from the time the churches were the main agency for the preservation of the Icelandic heritage until preaching and all other subsidiary activities in the Icelandic language in the churches ceased. That sad yet inevitable story need not be related here. The end has come.

The end of an era is usually something gradual which cannot be fixed in time or place. But the end of the era of the church as a factor in protecting and preserving the Icelandic heritage on this side of the Atlantic can be definitely fixed. It took place in the year 1968 and may be pinpointed to either the last sermon Dr. Eylands preached in Icelandic in the First Lutheran Church in Winnipeg or the farewell function held in his honour in the church.

That is a definite compliment to Dr. Eylands. If he had not been both a pillar of the church and a leading guardian of everything Icelandic on this continent that last sermon or that farewell function would not have stood out so clearly as the end of an era.

The departure of Valdimar Eylands last fall created a vacuum in the Icelandic community in Winnipeg. Not that he was ostentatious which he was not; not that he was a tower of strength though he served faithfully with dignity and efficiency, with loyalty and devotion to his calling. And with loyalty to his heritage as well.

One could feel his presence or rather the impact of his departure was felt as a shock. Valdimar Eylands was like the air we breath—taken for granted. The mere fact that he was here made one feel secure. Strange though it may appear, but under the circumstances quite natural, the sense of loss in his departure grows rather than recedes as the months go by. A vacuum has been created.

But as it is a vacuum, and the one who created it is not far away, it can be filled from time to time. It is our hope that once in a while Dr. Eylands will find it possible to visit us in Winnipeg and preach a sermon in Icelandic. And if Mrs. Eylands and he should find it possible to tarry awhile good will result.

—W. J. Lindal

—Written February 2, 1969

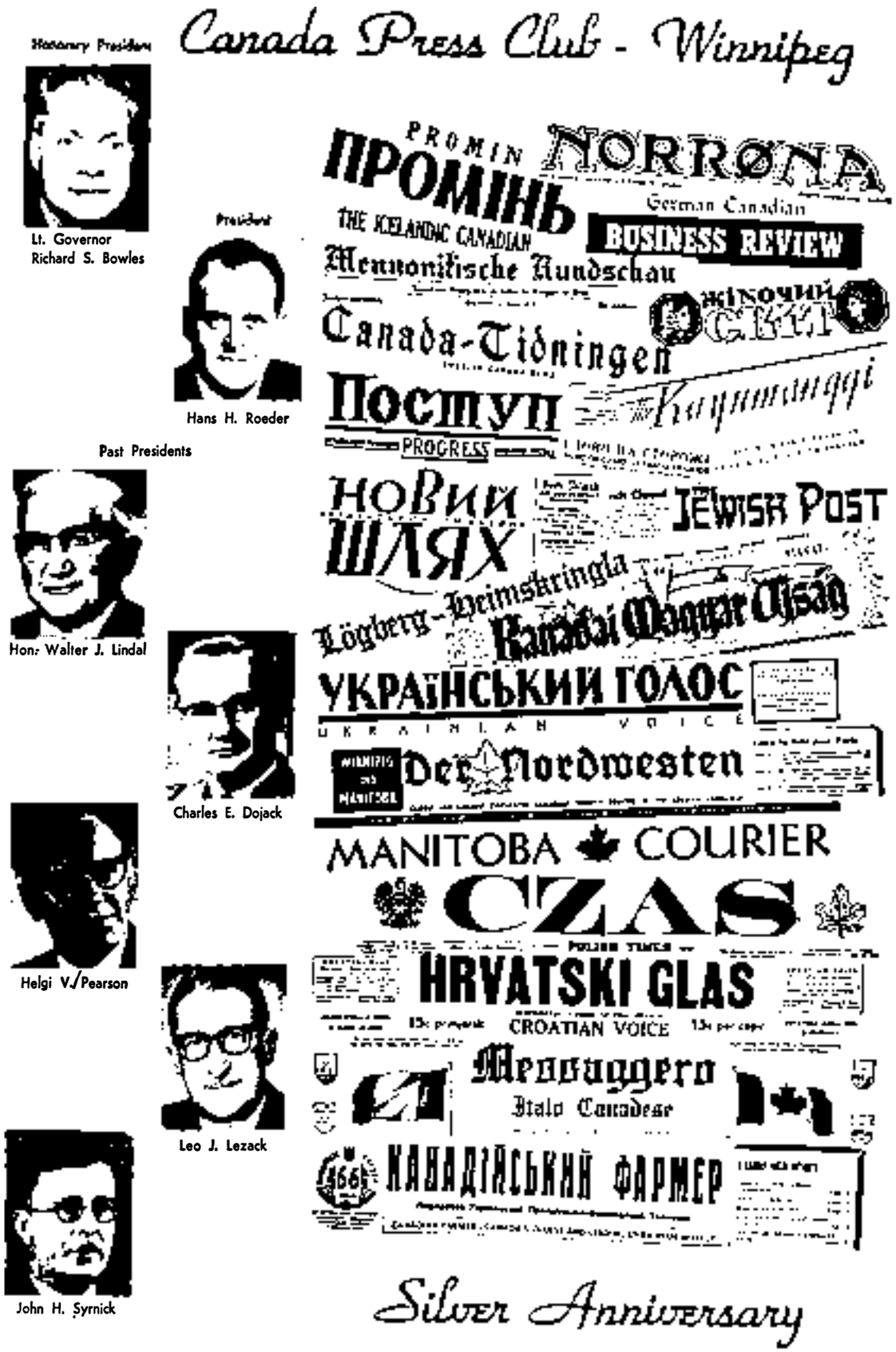
RECEIVE HONOURARY LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

Dr. C. J. Houston and his wife, Dr. Sigga Christianson Houston of Yorkton, Sask. received honorary life memberships from the Saskatchewan College of Physicians and Surgeons at the College's annual meeting in Regina in November, given them for 40 years of continuous service in the province. Both have practised in Yorkton since 1928 when they came there from North Dakota.

Dr. Sigga Christianson Houston was born at Grand Forks, N.D. and received her elementary education there and in Winnipeg. She received her medical degree from the University of Manitoba in 1925. Following graduation she spent some time in Winnipeg's Grace Hospital doing post graduate work in obstetrics. She also did post graduate work psychiatry in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Dr. C. J. Houston was born in Ontario and went to Saskatchewan in 1904. He attended school at Tyvan and went to Regina College before moving to Winnipeg where he attended the University where he graduated in medicine in 1926. He was certified in general surgery by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons (Canada).

A son, Dr. C. Stuart Houston, is assistant professor of radiology at the University of Saskatchewan.



Canada Press Club 25 Year Celebration

On February 1, 1969, The Canada Press Club of Winnipeg celebrated its 25th anniversary of the founding of the club, at a banquet and dance in the Fort Garry Hotel. About 250 members and friends were in attendance.

The guest speaker was Mr. John Fisher. former Centennial Commisioner and now special advisor on international relations, to the President of the Abitibi Paper Company Limited. In the course of his remarks Mr. Fisher complimented the Canada Press Club upon its wisdom in forming an organization for a better understanding among the ethnic groups of Canada. They all, he said, are strongly Canadian and seek to strengthen Canadianism. He, however, advised against the use of the hyphen and suggested that some other word be used than "ethnic" – this on the ground that all Canadians are "ethnics".

On behalf of the Government of Manitoba Hon. J. B. Carroll, Minister of Tourism and Recreation, presented the coat of arms of the Province to the Past Presidents of the Club and the present incumbent. They are Hon. W. J. Lindal, Charles E. Dojack, Leo Lezack, Helge V. Pearson, John H. Syrnick, and Hans H. Roeder, the present President.

Mr. Jack Willis, Chairman of the Council of Metro Corporation of Greater Winnipeg, presented to the same officers, Metropolitan Corporation certificates for their "Contribution to Canadian Betterment Through Journalism". Alderman Robert Taft, representing the City of Winnipeg, presented the Crest of the City to the past Presidents and the President who was in the chair.

Mr. Bill Trebilcoe the Free Press "Coffee Break" columnist and News Director of CKY, proposed a toast to the Canada Press Club and Hon. W. J. Lindal, the founding President, replied. He recommended that a common History of Canada, in both English and French, be published for use in all highschools throughout Canada, in which there would be a fair and objective story told of the contribution of all the elements which make up the Canadian population—the Aborigines, namely the Indians and Eskimos; the French, the British, and the various other ethnic groups.

The printed programme of eight pages was unusually attractive and interesting. On the front cover appeared a picture in color of the Legislative Building of Manitoba. On the inside front cover was an interesting summary, appropriate to relate there, of the leading projects which the Club has carried out. It was set out that the Club came into existence in the spring of 1942 when the editors and publishers of ethnic weeklies and periodicals foregathered "to interpret the Canadian scene and its problems, to promote a better understanding amongst the various national groups in Canada, and to study post-war problems in the light of the world situation as it develops from time to time."

In 1958, at a convention held in Ottawa, a nationwide organization was formed of all the ethnic weeklies and periodicals published in Canada. Hon. W. J. Lindal became the first President and Charles E. Dojack, Head of the National Publishers Limited of Winnipeg, succeeded him as President of the Canada Press Club.

The programme refers to three outstanding events carried out by the club. In 1962 it joined with the Citizenship Council of Manitoba in staging a two-day seminar on "The Canadian Identity". In 1965 the late Governor General of Canada, Georges P. Vanier, addressed a large luncheon gathering of over five hundred people in the Royal Alexandra Hotel. The visit was a result of the efforts of the Winnipeg officers of the Federation and five other public service organizations were asked to participate.

The Canada Press Club played a major role in the visit to Winnipeg of sixty-two French editors of Quebec and their wives. Accommodations were provided for the visitors in ethnic homes which became veritable schools for the study of the French and ethnic facts so important to a true understanding of Canadian problems.

—Arilius Isfeld

THE MANITOBA CENTENNIAL CORPORATION

Every former Manitoban, wherever he may be, is invited to "Come Home to Manitoba", in '70. There's a year-long series of events planned throughout the province—something for everyone—every day of 1970, Manitoba's 100th birthday year. And every Manitoban is urged to invite their relatives and friends from around the world to be with us to make Manitoba's birthday memorable.

Mr. Burt A. Robinson, a member of the Board of Directors of the Manitoba Centennial Corporation, has been appointed chairman of the "Come Home" committee, and announces that plans are moving ahead rapidly to invite every Manitoban back in 1970.

Manitoba is "where it's at" for 1970! Every municipality is planning "Come Home" celebrations. Cultural, educational, fraternal and sporting organizations will be holding reunions—why not participate? Schools will hold reunions, there'll be community picnics of the old-fashioned Sunday School variety, pioneer dinners, and many opportunities for "Whatever happened to . . . . ." sessions. The folks at home will be overjoyed with a visit, and the young people and children will be assured of a real homecoming—a Centennial visit to remember.

If you haven't made a visit in recent years, 1970 is a must; start planning now! Come home and see how Manitoba has grown. See the new developments in cities, towns and villages. Come home while everyone is here, and renew friendships with old friends. Join in the history-making of your province's 100th birthday.

Make your plans now; invite your family and friends to "come home to Manitoba in '70" for a memorable holiday.

Information is available from the Manitoba Centennial Corporation, 555 Main Street, telephone 947-5611.

THE MIDWINTER GATHERINGS

The annual midwinter gatherings held in Winnipeg towards the end of Februray centered, on this occasion, upon the fiftieth anniversary of The Icelandic National League. They opened with a service held in the First Lutheran Church on Sunday, February 23. The sermon was very appropriately delivered in Icelandic by Dr. V. J. Eylands, the former pastor of the church. His text was "O, maður, hvar er hlíðarskjól", from one of the psalms by Matthías Jochumsson. In referring to the world of today Dr. Eylands said: "The road is covered with snowdrifts; we have lost our directions." Rev. P. M. Petursson read the lesson and after the service refreshments were served in the church parlor.

The Monday concert was, as usual, under the auspices of Frón, the Winnipeg Chapter of the League. Professor Bessason delivered a learned address from which the Icelandic Canadian hopes to publish excerpts in translation. Heimir Thorgrimson took the audience back into bygone days in an address he entitled "Litið um öxl". Baldur Sigurdson read a selection and recited two poems, all in Icelandic.

Miss Judith Schenke sang solos, both in English and Icelandic and the Westdal girls, Carol and Laureen, sang duets. Miss Snjolaug Sigurdson was the accompanist. Miss Elaine Sigurdson played piano solos.

The President of Frón, Skuli Johannsson was in the chair.

The Icelandic Canadian Club concert, held on Tuesday night, packed the Parish Hall to the doors. It succeeded to a remarkable degree to give a picture of the past and provide a glimpse into the future. The occasion, as pointed out by the President, Gissur Eliasson, was primarly dedicated to the half century anniversary of The Icelandic National League. A large birthday cake had been prepared and it was put on display in the hall. A specially appropriate feature of the program was the projection on a screen of pictures of the first officers of the League and some of the more prominent officers of later years.

Piano selections were rendered by Miss Snjolaug Sigurdson and Mrs. Heather Ireland sang solos both in English and Icelandic.

Then a glimpse into the future was placed before the audience, or rather, eleven university students, studying Icelandic with Professor Haraldur Bessason, enabled those present to visualize the quality of people who would be holding the Icelandic cultural banner aloft when the people who are now performing that duty have passed on.

Hon. W. J. Lindal, chairman of the Canada-Iceland Foundation, asked the eleven students who had been awarded scholarships to come up to the platform, one at a time, to be presented with the scholarships. A second year student, Lenore Borgford, won the Icelandic Good Templar Scholarship of $200.00. Wayne Arnason was warded The Icelandic Canadian Club scholarship of $100.00. Elaine Sigurdson won the Mrs. Kristin Johnson scholarship and Kathy Medd the Harold Olson scholarship, each $100.00. The following were awarded annual Canada-Iceland Foundation scholarships of $100.00 each: Barbara Clifford, Irene Eastman, Sigrid Johnson, David Magnusson, and Janice Olafson.

After the scholarships had been presented Judge Lindal asked the guests of honour, Johannes and Ragnheiður Hafstein to come up on the platform and shake hands with the schalarship winners.

An obliging photographer took pictures, first of the students and the guests of honour by themselves and another of the students including the artists, Snjolaug Sigurdson and Heather Ireland. The latter picture appears on page 14.

Refreshments were provided in the church parlor after each concert.

The final event in the four day celebration was the banquet held in the Fort Garry Hotel on Wednesday night, with Rev. P. M. Petursson, the President of the League, in the chair.

The main speaker was The Honourable Jóhann Hafstein the special guest of the League on the occasion of its half-century anniversary. The magazine is publishing appropriate extracts from his address.

The other speaker was Dr. Richard Beck, now of Victoria, B.C. He read a poem composed by himself for the occasion. It is hoped that his address will be made available so that excerpts can be published.

Mrs. Thelma Wilson played piano selections and Mrs. Eve Allen rendered vocal solos.

His Honour Richard S. Bowles, who graced the occasion by his attendance, was presented with an Honourary Life Membership in the Icelandic National League and upon receiving the scroll addressed the gathering in his usual humorous yet thoughtful manner.

Hon. George Johnson, the Minister of Health and Public Welfare, brought greetings from the provincial government. On its behalf he presented Hon. Hafstein with a miniature Red River cart, the Manitoba symbol presented to distinguished guests.

An Honorary Life Membership in the League was presented to the Guest of Honour, Jóhann Hafstein, and also to J. B. Johnson of Gimli, who has served the League faithfully for many years. The fourth Honorary Membership Certificate presented that evening was delivered in absentia to Gwyn Jones, the well known Welsh author.

Hon. Jóhann and Hagnheiður Hafstein attended the opening of the Manitoba legislature on Thursday, February 27, and immediately afterwards left for Ottawa.

NEW HIGHWAY MAP NOW AVAILABLE

The 1969 Manitoba Department of Transportation highway map is now available. Three hundred thousand copies have been printed showing current road surfacing, highway numbers and new routings.

Additional information provided with the map includes a Manitoba mileage guide; distances between major points in the United States and Canada; street maps of a number of Manitoba communities, and information on public recreation areas, radio stations, border crossings and R.C.M.P. detachments.

A variety of photos show summer and winter activities in Manitoba.

Copies of the 1969 Manitoba highway map are available from the tourist information centres of the Department of Tourism and Recreation, and will be distributed through service stations, chambers of commerce, Government of Canada tourist offices in the United States, and through tourist branches of the other provinces and American states.

Red River Floodway Formally Opened

The massive inlet control gates of the $63 million Red River Floodway were raised symbolically Friday by Premier Walter Weir of Manitoba and federal Energy, Mines and Resources Minister J. J. Greene.

The act formally opened the 29-mile channel floodway, one of Canada's greatest engineering and construction achievements, in ceremonies conducted at the inlet control structure at the intersection of the floodway and the Red River, south of St. Norbert in suburban Winnipeg.

Premier Weir and Mr. Greene hailed the floodway as an outstanding example of federal-provincial co-operation, and as insurance against a repetition of disastrous floods in Metropolitan Winnipeg.

The opening ceremonies, presided over by Manitoba Mines and Natural Resources Minister Harry J. Enns, was an occasion of thanksgiving and symbolic significances: ,

When a low-flying Otter water bomber from the Manitoba Government Air Service dramatically dumped its load from its pontoons onto the floodway channel, its load represented water from the Red River and its many tributaries. Then, when the aircraft flew along the river, banked sharply to the right and flew along the floodway, it symbolized the floodway's job — to take flood waters around Winnipeg on the 29-mile diversion route.

When the premier, Mr. Greene and Mr. Enns planted three trees these symbolized new life, free of fear of disastrous floods, for Winnipeg. They were also the first step in a long-range plan to turn the area into a public park.

When the flood gates were raised, this demonstrated the method of controlling the amount of water fed into the river channel downstream and the floodway during floods.

When Premier Weir and Mr. Greene jointly unveiled two plaques on a seven-foot-high concrete cairn, this underscored the fact that the floodway was a joint federal-provincial project. The floodway was paid for by the federal and Manitoba governments, the federal government contributing 58.6 per cent of the total cost.

One of the plaques gave details of floodway statistics. The other, commemorating the opening, reads:

"Several times in history and notably in 1950, the rampaging waters of the Red River brought hardships and loss to the people of this area. The Red River Floodway, built to afford protection against damaging floods, stands as a monument to the concern of the Governments of Canada and Manitoba for the safety and well-being of the people of Greater Winnipeg and the adjoining municipalities boardering the Red River, and to the skill of the engineers who designed and built it."

The opening ceremonies were held against a backdrop of representative excavation and earth-moving equipment used on the floodway. Invited, in addition to the general public, were federal, provincial, civic and American government representatives, engineers, planners, contractors and others involved with construction of the floodway.

The event took place six years, almost to the day, from the time the then premier of Manitoba, Duff Roblin, and the then federal Natural Resources Minister Walter Dinsdale stripped the first sod from the floodway October 6, 1962, not far from the site of the opening ceremonies.

Mr. Enns, whose portfolio includes the Water Control and Conservation Branch which directed the overall planning, design and supervision of the floodway, noted that the project was completed on schedule in March of this year. In terms of yards of earth excavated—100 million cubic yards—the floodway was 40 per cent as great as the Panama Canal and 30 per cent bigger than the Canadian section of the St. Lawrence Seaway.

Premier Weir credited former Premier Roblin with foresight in taking action to get the floodway constructed. Manitobans were indebted to Mr. Roblin, he said, "for his courage and tireless efforts to make the floodway a fact and not just a paper drema".

The premier recalled that in the disastrous 1950 flood 100,000 persons were evacuated from Winnipeg; 50 of the city's 63 schools were closed; 10,500 homes were inundated, and the costs and financial losses associated with the flood totalled more than $100 million.

Opening of the floodway was the end of "an exciting chapter in Winnipeg's long battle with the floodwaters of the mighty Red River."

Mr. Greene said the kind of federal-provincial "partnership" that produced the floodway must continue, "not just to finance projects, but in conception, planning, management and developing of our natural resources."

"It is reassuring," he said, "to look upon this huge open waterway, and know that the floodway spells the end of this recurring nightmare. The $63 million cost of the floodway is not too much to pay—when we consider the hundreds of millions lost in the past—for an insurance policy to tame and control the ravages of nature and relieve the periodic siege in and around this fine city."

"This is an exciting moment for all of us," Mr. Greene concluded, "one of real historic significance."

Special guests at the opening were served luncheon on board a paddle-wheel riverboat during a cruise down the Red River. While on board ,they were shown a color film of the floodway construction.

From Manitoba Government News Service
Public Information Branch

The United States post office department in October issued a six-cent stamp honoring the early Icelandic explorer, Leifur Eiriksson, who sailed to Greenland and North America some 500 years before Christopher Columbus. On the stamp is a picture of the statue of Eiriksson which was made by the American sculptor, Stirling Calder, and presented to Iceland by the United States government.

MANITOBA PLACE NAMES

Markland: This was a small community and post office on the east shore of Shoal Lake originally located in Posen municipality west of Gimli. The post office was opened on November 1, 1897 and closed on July 31, 1940. B. S. Lindal was first postmaster, serving until 1921.

PINAWA is Western Canada's Nuclear Research Capital

by David Bergman

The Whiteshell Nuclear Research Establishment (WNRE) is located about 65 miles north-east of Winnipeg, Manitoba, and commenced its operations in mid 1963. Since then it has developed from a few basic buildings into a living research organization, still growing rapidly but already participating in the field of scientific research and development.

WNRE is part of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL), a Crown company owned by and responsible to the Government of Canada. In broad terms, AECL is responsible for research and development of peaceful uses of nuclear eneergy, as a contribution to the general welfare and in the interest of scientific and technological progress in Canada.

AECL has its principal research and development sites located at the Chalk River Nuclear Laboratories, Chalk River, Ontario, and the Whiteshell Nuclear Research Establishment, Pinawa, Manitoba.

Most of us tend to associate nuclear research with the development of nuclear weapons. Indeed, Canada's nuclear research program had its beginnings during the second world war, when a team of Allied scientists was assembled in Montreal for work in connection with the development of atomic weapons. With the end of the war, the Canadian effort was redirected toward harnessing the atom for peaceful service. It is interesting to note that today Canada shares a position among the top five nations of the world in developing peaceful uses of atomic energy. In their annual report of 1967-1968 AECL outline some of the important contributions of the corporation:

(a) operates laboratories for fundamental and applied research and engineering.

(b) designs and builds nuclear power stations, in co-operation with industry and utilities;

(c) provides nuclear consulting as required;

(d) sponsors research and development projects in industry and the universities in the field of nuclear energy;

(e) makes available its facilities and expertise to assist industry and utilities in putting nuclear energy to practical use, and assist the universities in nuclear studies;

(f) produces and markets radioactive isotopes for use in medicine, industry, agriculture and research;

(g) designs, manufactures and markets equipment for radio-isotope use.

Thus one easily concludes that this corporation encompasses a wide scope from fundamental research to practical applications and marketing of its work.

The preceeding list gives some idea of the importance of AECL but most people may ask what is atomic energy, why is it considered so important for its peaceful uses both today and in the future. Perhaps some may even ask what are its dangers.

One of the major uses of nuclear energy is in the production of electricity. More and more as our civilization advances we are making increasing demands for energy and electrical energy is no exception. Presently our main sources of energy are hydro electric power and fuels such as coal, gas and oil. The province of Ontario has harnessed most of its hydro electric resources now and must begin looking seriously to other sources of electrical energy. It is generally estimated that practicable sources of our main fuels (coal, gas and oil, etc.) will be exhausted in a matter of 200 years at most. The governments of the prairies are just beginning to tap our vast resources of hydro electric power. However, the main power resource we will look to in the future is the power obtainable from controlled nuclear fission reactions which are becoming more economical and practical as research continues. The term "nuclear fission" refers to the splitting or breaking up of the central nucleus of an atom. The nucleus is composed of neutrons, protons, and other elementary particles which account for most of the mass or "weight" of the atom. Only certain atoms can undergo fission. One of these is uranium.

At Pinawa, a new nuclear reactor has been constructed called the Whiteshell Reactor No. 1 (WR-1) which is the main test facility. The fuel used in the WR-1 reactor is uranium dioxide. When the nucleus of the uranium atom is hit by and absorbs a neutron, the atom splits into roughly equal parts and in doing so releases some energy in the form of heat. In addition, more neutrons are released which can split other uranium atoms. But before these neutrons can split other uranium atoms their speed must be reduced. This is done by surrounding the uranium fuel with a moderator which slows down neutrons which are moving through it. In Canada our reactors use heavy water (D^2O) (this is 10% heavier than ordinary water due to having more particles per molecule) as a moderator because it is the most efficient. These slowed down neutrons can then split other uranium atoms which release more neutrons. This controlled chain reaction is the key to operating a reactor. WR-1 is used to develop new fuels, and other materials that will enable designers to build future reactors that can be operated at higher temperatures and at greater efficiencies than are now possible. The development of new materials, however, is only one of several types of research currently underway at Whiteshell. One is surprised to find various biological research programs which are actively expanding. There is a growing demand for radio-active isotopes which are produced in nuclear reactors. Their use in medical research and treatment is already well established and industry is discovering more uses for isotopes as research tools, for non-destructive testing.

An important aspect of WR-1 is the use of a new type of coolant termed an "organic coolant". This is the fluid which flows over the fuel bundles in the reactor to carry away the heat produced during the nuclear reactions. The significance of an organic coolant is that it is relatively cheap and does not become as radioactive as coolants previously used. The organic coolant also has a high boiling point and may be used in low pressure reactors, resulting in lower capital costs. However, there also are problems associated with organic coolants and at the Whiteshell Nuclear Research Establishment scientists and engineers are actively studying such problems. Several countries have shown great interest in WR-1 and its experiments with organic coolants.

In the next stages of Canada's growth we will be more dependent upon the development of her technology for the use of our great endowment of natural resources. The peaceful uses of nuclear power and radioactive isotopes are being developed by AECL and Canadian scientists are making contributions which have given Canada a prominent place in the world's scientific community. Many problems are still left to be solved before we will be able to take full advantage of our almost unlimited nuclear energy resources. One is a problem of economics in that our present energy resources are still readily available and remain relatively cheap.

There are many problems still to be solved in the use of radioactive materials. It is only recently that economically feasible reactors have been developed. However, with the present level of nuclear technology there are large amounts of radioactive materials left over which must be disposed of. The problem of safe disposal of these wastes is a major one, but it will be solved.

Canadians are therefore very fortunate that, with our small population and wealth of conventional forms of energy, such as coal, gas and hydroelectric power, we have a great head start in the development of our nuclear power resources. We must use this opportunity to support the planned development of our nuclear technology and use our present energy resources wisely.

At Pinawa a staff of approximately 730 scientists, engineers and supporting staff constitute a broadly based research team which will almost double by 1975 according to present plans. Dr. Ara Mooradian, managing director of Whiteshell, evaluates their goals when he writes: "The chief purpose of WNRE is to add strength to the foundation on which the Canadian nuclear industry will continue to grow. By so doing we hope to contribute to the strength of the scientific and technological community in Canada generally, and particularly in Western Canada. We also expect to make significant contributions to the fund of world technology from which we continue to draw so freely. These are the tasks to which we address ourselves".

The Icelandic National League Anniversary

(AN APPRECIATION)

The fifty year period which covers the life span of the Icelandic National League, is one of the most fascinating, and at the same time, one of the most calamitous periods in the history of the world. The scientific and mechanical progress of this period has indeed been fascinating and unprecedented. It has in many ways been an interesting period in which to be alive. Nevertehless it has been a period of stark calamities on the world scene. It has been a period of wars, hot and cold, of carnage and cruelty. It has witnessed the collapse of powerful states, the emergence of nations, once considered secondary, as world powers, and the seeming deterioration of tried and tested standards in human relationships. In many instances brute force has replaced idealism, and the persecution of minority groups the principles of human dignity and democracy.

The Icelandic National League has, since its inception, been based on idealism, and its members have always constituted a minority group. That the League has not only survived, but prospered, in this turbulent age, is in itself a noteworthy accomplishment. It is also evidence of the faithfulness and lovalty of its members, and of the tolerance and soundness of the social structure in which it has lived and had its being. The organization has developed from very humble and inconspicuous beginnings into an international fellowship, which currently displays the names of two heads of State, as Patrons, on its letterhead.

It is obvious to any impartial observer that the League has exerted a wholesome and benevolent influence in two spheres. It has fostered fellowship and good discussion of common aims and objectives, and united people of divergent political and religious persuasions in the attainment of these objectives. It has, through all the years of its existence, published a magazine of high quality, thus demonstrating the ability of western Icelanders to engage in intellectual and literary pursuits. Through its cultural offspring the Icelandic Canadian Club, and its excellent periodical, a wide audience in the English speaking world has been enhanced in this hemisphere, and elsewhere.

The League has successfully endeavored to build a bridge across the ocean, and has fostered fraternal relationships with our kinsmen in the land of our forebears. It is recognized in the old homeland as the only agency through which the brethren in Iceland can officially deal with their Icelandic speaking compatriots in the Western World.

Fifty years is a long time in the life of an individual, or an organization, although but a moment in history. But the verdict of history will no doubt be, that during this short span of time, the League has been a good steward of the idealism and traditions handed down by the fathers, but it was for the perpetuation of these that the organization was created half a century ago.

It is said that the Arabs have a standard greeting which they express to their friends on festive occasions; "May you become a hundred years old, and grow to an enormous size."

Natural law makes the latter part of this wish unrealistic, so far as the Icelandic National League is concerned. But its many friends in North America, and in Iceland will express the hope that it may continue to live and prosper for another fifty year period, and thus, in due time celebrate its centenary.

—V. J. Eylands

BOOK REVIEWS

ICELANDIC POEMS AND STORIES
Translations from Modern Icelandic Literature.

Edited by Richard Beck. Freeport New York, Books for Libraries Press, 1968, 315 p. $8.50.

This anthology was originally published in 1943 by the Princeton University Press for The American-Scandinavian Foundation. This volume, the only one of its kind, as far as I know, bringing together Icelandic prose and poetry of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries in English translation, has long been out-of-print. The Books for Libraries Press has now brought it out in its "Granger Index Reprint Series."

Dr. Richard Beck, who edits this anthology, needs no introduction to readers of this magazine. We are all indebted to him for his many years of contribution to the study of Icelandic literature. Dr. Beck has published numerous monographs, articles, books, etc., among them, to mention only two, **History of the Icelandic Poets, 1800-1940,** (Cornell University Press, 1950) and **Icelandic Lyrics** (Reykjavik, 1930 and reprinted 1956) which he edited. Dr. Beck provides an excellent introduction to this collection, as well as informative biographical sketches for all the writers represented.

Modern Icelandic literature may be said to begin early in the nineteenth century with the influence of the Romantic movement and the national awakening which resulted in independence over a century later (1918).

All the writers from Bjarni Thorarensen (1786-1841), remembered for his "Eldgamla Ísafold" to Halldór Kiljan Laxness, remembered for his winning the Nobel Prize, are well known and established writers. Here is, therefore, represented a selection from the best of Icelandic poetry and prose of the past 150 years.

Most of the poetry is translated by Jakobina Johnson, while most of the short stories are translated by Mekkin Sveinson Perkins. Both these ladies are master translators of Icelandic poetry and prose respectively. Much of the lyric beauty, for example, of "A Greeting" by Jónas Hallgrímsson (1807 1845) and "Swansong on the Moorlands", "At Sunset" and "Voice of Song" by Steingrímur Thorsteinsson, is evident in the English.

For many centuries life in Iceland was a ceaseless struggle against ice and fire, as well as the sea which took its toll in lives, even as it does today. Many of the stories represented here show this. The sorrow, poverty and hardship which were a part of every day life are seen in such short stories as "The Tale of Sigurdur the Fisherman," by Gestur Pálsson (1852-1891) and "The Orphan" by Einar Hjörleifsson Kvaran (1859-1938). The pathetic figures of Sigmundur in Guðmundur Magnússon's "On the Beach" and Jón the Pauper in Kristmann Guðmundsson's "Such is Life" typify the poverty and loneliness so often encountered in these stories.

The reader would welcome more translations from the poetry of such masters as Stephán G. Stephánsson, Einar Benediktsson, and Davíð Stefánsson. He will, however, find these poets, especially Einar Benediktsson, in Eng-

lish translation in **Odes and Echoes** (Vancouver, 1954) and **More Echoes** (Vancouver, 1962) by the late Paul Bjarnason who has no equal as a translator of the poetry of Einar Benediktsson.

Being a reprint of the 1943 edition, this book is, unfortunately, dated. Additional information could have been added to the biographical sketches and new material by writers represented, as well as more recent writers, could have been included had this been a new edition. Yet **Icelandic Poems and Stories** will always be of great value and never out-dated as a representative selection of the period it covers. For this introduction to modern Icelandic literature, made available to the reader who does not know Icelandic, we are indebted to Dr. Richard Beck, as well as the translators, and last, and by no means least, to The Books for Libraries Press.

As a footnote, it might be added that it is hoped that someday a supplementary volume will appear to include selections from such writers as Tómas Guðmundsson, Guðmundur Frímann, Þórbergur Þórðarson, Guðmundur L. Friðfinnsson and the "atómskálds" (atom poets), to mention only a few.

—George Hanson

★ ★ ★

GOLDEN ICELAND

by Samivel, a distinguished French travel-writer.

Translated and adapted by Magnús Magnússon. Reykjavik, Almanna Bókafélagið, 1967, 307p., $12.00.

Numbered among the fifty most beautiful books published in France during the year it first appeared under the title, **L'Or de l'Islande,** this book has been translated into English by Magnús Magnússon—and it is no less attractive and fascinating. More than a travel book, although it contains accounts of early travelers to Iceland, **Golden Iceland** is a detailed and penetrating account of Icelandic civilization, especially during the early centuries.

The first third of the book is Samivel's excellent and scholarly account of Icelandic civilization and culture, translated and adapted (with alterations to suit the English-speaking public as opposed to the French public). In his preface, Magnús Magnússon is careful to note that "in essence . . . this is Samivel's book—learned, illuminating (and) full of rich poetic flavour . . ."

The remaining two-thirds of the book is filled with nearly a hundred and thirty excellent illustrations taken (with few exceptions) by Patrick Plumet and extracts from such sources as the ancient **Navigatio Sancti Brendani** (The Voyage of St. Brendan), where the old monk upon seeing from the sea the volcanic fires of Iceland for the first time, made the sign of the cross and exclaimed, "O Lord Jesus Christ, deliver us from this malevolent island," to the recent **Íslandsklukkan** (Iceland's Bell) by the Nobel Prize winner, Halldór Laxness. In addition there are extracts from such writings as Egil's saga, Grettir's saga, Eirik's saga, as well as the poetry of Sveinn Steinarr, which add literary flavor to the book and compliment the illustrations and text.

Something must be said about the many fine illustrations. The photographs (some in color) of the countryside, waterfalls, mountains, volcanoes, lava fields, animal life (mainly birds, sheep and horses) old artifacts, as well as the Icelanders themsleves, modern-day Reykjavik and greenhouses, would make the book worth the price. In addition there are reproduced a few old historic prints.

There is a section devoted to an account of the Greenland settlement. Also there are over thirty pages of detailed commentaries to the illustrations as well as a brief reading list.

If the old Irish monk's desire was to be delivered from this foreboding island (and it is not certain that St. Brendan ever visited Iceland), the reader will have his desrie increased to visit, or at least read more about, this magnificent and heroic land and civilization far to the north "at the gates of the world."

The price (twelve dollars) was quoted before the recent devaluation of the Icelandic króna, so the price may now be less. However, be that as it may, the reader will undoubtedly find this beautiful book well worth the price.

—George Hanson

DR. BALDUR H. KRISTJANSON IN TANZANIA

The Canadian Government is providing a team of experts to Tanzania to assist the East African country in the preparation of its development plans.

Four economists supplied by the University of Toronto will function as a project analysis and evaluation unit in the Tanzanian Ministry of Economic Affairs and Development Planning. They will assist in the analysis of development proposals put forward by various departments, assign priorities and help to complete the five-year national developmnt plan.

B. H. Kristjanson, deputy minister of the Manitoba Development Authority will be team leader. Frank H. Buck and Paul D. Earl of the University of Toronto will be team members. The remaining team member will be chosen later.

The university, under contract to the Canadian International Development Agency, will implement the project and provide research support facilities within its Department of Political Economy.

The university will also assist in the selection of Tanzanians for counterpart post-graduate training in Canada, with the objective of developing a fully-trained Tanzanian economic planning staff within the next five years.

Total cost of the five-year program is expected to be $1,420,000. The initial contract with the university is for two years at a cost of $465,000.

CIDA's program for Tanzania this fiscal year totals $3,000,000.

—Canadian International

—CIDA news release

From the Icelandic of **FRIÐJÓN STEFÁNSSON**

THE STRAW

translated by Caroline Gunnarsson

The doctor of history science trudged along the shoreline on his way to the hospital. The bay sparkled like a mountain lake on a sunny day. So gently the tide came in and so still were the lazy waves that a few sun-dried grains of sand floated briefly on their thin tongues as they licked them up and folded them in.

But the soft afternoon was lost on Dr. Jon. He was deep in conversation with himself.

"Duty, duty — what is duty? Who are the men that bow to duty?"

No answer. He sighed, scanned the shore for a big rock, saw one, sat on it and took off his hat. The sun caressed the bare spot at the peak of his cranium, but no answer came through. It would soon be half past two, he consoled himself, and then he would walk into the hospital and consult the doctor.

In the meantime he'd better stop thinking. He was out of logic on both sides of the issue and there was no point in mulling it over further. But was it really his duty to tear up his way of life as if a revolution had hit it? Was he to establish a home, hire a housekeeper—even—even marry?

Marry? Dear God!

Who could say that this sort of thing would be for the best of a little girl. anyway? And, come to think of it, would his brother-in-law consent to such an arrangement? Not many fathers would graciously give up a child like Lisa.

All this pondering was useless, of course, until he had discussed the matter with Olla's doctor. A nagging suspicion in the subconscious warned that this kind o fconference wouldn't solve anything, but he wouldn't wade to the bottom of that at the moment.

He raised a hand to his over-heated dome and gazed into the cold waters of the bay. But childhood memories rushed in on him in hot pursuit. Damn the human compulsion to think all the time. It left a man mighty vulnerable to confusion and turmoil.

"To be as lighthearted as Olla—what a gift from God a temprement like hers, his mother used to say of his sister, Olof.

It was true. Olla was a sunny youngster of sparkling humor and ready wit. She overshadowed him completely despite his years of higher learning. She was a gifted woman, Olof. That should have been clear to everyone. But it was, after all, not his mistake that he was the one chosen when the family means would not permit extensive education for both of them. Still he could never lay the stubborn guilt that haunted moments like this, when every thought and memory pointed to what might have been.

He had never been an intellectual, he reminded himself, just an average student who managed to plod his way to a doctor's degree in history.

On the other hand, it would have been a breeze for Olla if she'd been given the opportunity to put her mind to it. Perhaps her life would have taken a happier course and his been less complicated if their roles had been reversed.

He couldn't see where he had gained. Never a man who craved distinction, he took little pride in recognition and honors. While his small scholastic successes gratified him at the time, the pleasure palled quickly. His was a thin ego, he granted, partly because few had found occasion to boost it.

The only loves of his life had been his mother and his sister, Olla. Olla, a child only four years older than he when their mother died, became his strength and trust in his bereavement. Thoughts of his sister were seldom out of his mind, and at moments like this they took their accustomed shape. If she had not stood back to push him on to higher learning, both of them might have escaped the present crisis.

"What's done is done," he murmered aloud. For comfort he recalled a philosophy once thrust upon him by an eccentric classmate, which, nonetheless, he considered dubious wisdom. This fellow used to argue that there wa sno judging the impact of past happenings upon the present or the future. It was useless, he said, to ponder the might-have-been. There was no way of knowing what would have been best for an individual or what would have harmed him least. On the other hand, one could profit some, though not much, from one's own experience. But what course one would have taken through life had one landed in a different rut, was another matter. Of that one knew nothing. One could torture and tease the issue with wild imaginings and vague beliefs, but learn nothing, absolutely nothing.

Glib sophistry, thought the doctor of history science. It was altogether unlikely that Olla would have married that lawyer, Hakon, had she existed in different environment.

The doctor had never taken to his brother-in-law. He was an arrogant, sullen ass, and overwhelmingly lazy. Most unforgiveable of all was his indolence toward Olla and everything concerning their life together. Perhaps Hakon could hardly be called a drunkard, but he certainly seemed more at home in bars and clubs than with his wife and daughter, and he employed himself pretty steadily in card games with his cronies all over the city. As a provider, he was a dead loss. Or could there be any valid reason for a lawyer's wife having to place their only child in a day school in order to go out to work? No, whatever she said to the contrary, Olla was married to a worthless wastrel.

The doctor lumbered to his feet. He was not built for easy movement in the first place, and of late a certain thickening in front had encumbered his upward motions. Small circles built by children of sea-shells in the sand powdered under his feet as he started toward the hospital. It was almost half past two.

The youthful doctor of psychiatric science had not yet removed his white smock when the doctor of history science entered his office. He knew his visitor slightly, smiled affably and invited him to take a chair.

"I would like to ask your advice or at least consult with you on the case of my sister," began the doctor of history science.

"By all means. I'll gladly help if I can," said the young man.

"The problem really requires an introduction," said the professor.

The doctor of psychiatric science glanced at his watch and saw there the living image of the healthy young blonde with whom he had a date. "Fine," he said cheerfully, "I have no

further appointments until three this afternoon."

"Forgive me, doctor," the professor went on, "I must have asked you this before. But do you see any hope of my sister's recovery?"

"You have asked me that," replied the young man, "and unfortunately I still don't have the answer. There is little hope, but one should never discount the improbable. Sudden changes for the better can occur. New drugs and new techniques are introduced. One never knows, and one should not despair."

"This is so," observed the doctor of history science and stopped to clear his throat. "Perhaps you haven't been told, Doctor," he continued slowly, "that my sister met with a near fatal accident about a year before her mental breakdown."

"That so? I hadn't heard."

"I went on a trip east with her and her husband, Hakon — the only time the three of us weent anywhere together. We took a boat on the river, though we had been warned that the current was too strong for amateurs and a flimsy craft. It was senseless to flirt so recklessly with danger, but Hakon would have it. As was to be expected, the boat capsized. Hakon and I made it to the riverbank and clawed our way up, but Olla, I mean Olof, was carried downstream with the current. Hakon and I ran screaming along the river bank. That is to say, I screamed. Hakon couldn't get out a sound. Perhaps there was water on his lungs. I wouldn't know. But neither of us dared to dive in. We're not swimmers and the odds seemed against Olla, anyway. The point is that we didn't take a gamble for her—neither Hakon nor I.

"She was brought out alive, no thanks to us, but in the moment that I waited I learned the meaning of eternity. I couldn't have borne to see her drown before my eyes."

"That's understandable," said the doctor of psychiatric science.

"But experience has taught me that a man can bear anything, anything at all," said the doctor of history science.

"What?" said the psychiatrist.

The professor plunged on. "After the accidenet she spent a time in bed. Do you suppose this ordeal could have caused her mental breakdown, Doctor?"

"I really couldn't say", the doctor of psychiatry observed thoughtfully, "could be but doesn't have to be. It could have helped bring on her trouble, but on the other hand ,it mav have had nothing to do with it."

"Once while she was ill," related the professor, "I went to see my sister and she said to me out of a clear sky: 'What would have happened to my poor little Lisa if I had drowned in the river?' I said something to the effect that Hakon would have taken care of the child.

" 'I know he would have provided the necessities,' my sister said. 'If I could only be sure that Hakon would marry a good woman soon after I am called away, I would be happy.'

"I tried to laugh all this off as silly nonsense. She had survived our stupid escapade, I told her, and would soon be as good as new. But this time nothing could shake her sober mood. 'You have always been a good brother,' she said, 'and I want you to promise me something. If I am called away suddenly and Hakon doesn't marry a good woman soon after, you will take Lisa and look after her for me.'

"I was caught off guard, but tried to answer lightly, told her to stop this silly chatter, I wasn't likely to outlive her, besides I was a bachelor and a quite unsuitable father for a young girl.

"She insisted that I wasn't committed to bachelorhood forever. Even if I were, I'd be better off with a home of my own and a good housekeeper to look after my needs. I saw that flippancy was useless. Olof was dead serious and her mind made up. I must confess I did promise, but then her exact words were 'if I'm called away'."

Strange bird, this fellow, thought the young doctor of psychiatric sciences, and the healthy young blonde faded for a moment from his mind.

"I have thought a great deal about this promise," said the doctor of history science. "Should I look around for a housekeeper? It would be useless to approach Hakon for custody of his daughter before I establish a home. Even then he may not consent to it. But is this my duty? She used the term, 'if I'm called away,' you see. What's your feeling, Doctor?"

"That's a tough one," said the doctor of psychiatric science. "Duty is a pretty stretchable concept. You must let your free will decide for you. Do you really want to fulfill your sister's wish and would your doing so be of true benefit to your niece?"

The older man paused helplessly. "It's a terrible problem," he said. "I want to do my duty, but the radical changes involved frighten me. They're completely contrary to my natural instincts. I just don't know—just don't know if this is really my duty, all things considered. That's the whole crux of my problem."

"I'm in no position to advise you," said the doctor of psychiatric science, "particularly since I'm not acquainted with your brother-in-law. You should consult your relatives and close friends, who know more about the whole matter."

The doctor of history science bowed his head despondently. "If I only knew whom to ask," he whispered

At that moment the young man lifted his eyes to a clock on the wall.. With only four minutes to go until three o'clock, he shrugged off his white smock and was into his jacket before the older man spoke again.

"I understand," he said humbly, "It's impossible for you to solve this for me."

The young doctor opened the office door and smiled faintly. The two shook hands and turned in opposite directions—the doctor of history science bent and confused like a man left holding a broken straw.

The doctor of psychiatric science, this entire convresation out of mind, paced toward the wholesome young blonde he was to meet in a precise spot at precisely three o'clock.

To Honour Vilhjalmur Stefansson, Canada's Arctic Explorer

A monument inspired by an Eskimo stone structure and "inushuk" will be erected late this summer at Arnes, Man. in honor of Vilhjalmur Stefansson, renowned Canadian explorer, writer and polar consultant. Inushuks are stone figures in the shape of a man built by Eskimos to frighten caribou into an area where they can be speared or brought down with an arrow.

The annuoncement on details of the monument was made jointly by federal Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development Jean Chretien and Manitoba Minister of Tourism and Recreation John B. Carroll.

The monument, created by Toronto sculptor Walter Yarwood, will be made of stone blocks and will be inscribed with Stefansson's words: "I know what I have experienced and I know what it has meant to me". It will be located in pleasant park surroundings at Arnes provided by the Manitoba government which will undertake suitable landscaping and will maintain the memorial in perpetuity.

Born at Arnes, about 50 miles north of Winnipeg, Mr. Stefansson's main work was in the development and application of ideas for travel, living and survival in polar regions. He went on his first scientific expedition in 1904 when as a Harvard student he participated in a brief trip to Iceland.

Mr. Stefansson's most important work for Canada was as commander of the Canadian Arctic expedition 1913 to 1918. Purpose of the trip was both to explore new territory and gather scientific knowledge. This expedition recorded several new geographical features and filled in many blank spots on the map of the Arctic Archipelago. It also proved that extended sled travel across moving ice fields was feasible and that persons travelling in the north could survive using native food, clothing and transport.

In the 1920's Mr. Stefansson turned to writing and lecturing about the North. His best known works in this field were The Friendly Arctic and the Northwest Course of Empire in which he set out his philosophy of the north. He was formally thanked for his work by the Canadian government order-in-council issued in 1921. In 1952 the Canadian Board of Geographical Names honored him by naming a large island north of Victoria Island after him.

Mr. Stefansson went into semi-retirement in 1952 and died at Hanover, New Hampshire, on August 26, 1962. During his lifetime he was the recipient of several honorary doctorate degrees from various universities around the world.

IN THE NEWS

ALL-NATIONS CHAMPIONS

Marino Frederickson and his Icelandic rink, with Leo Johnson throwing skip rocks, won the first annual Manitoba-all-nations bonspiel and the Kiewel trophy by defeating Albert Olson's Swedish foursome 7-6.

The Icelanders had John Kjartanson and Marino Ingimundson on the front end, while Wally Bjarnason, John Epps and Al Colpitts rounded out the Swedish rink.

A German team, consisting of Walter Norget, Rudi Revel, H. Delfing and W. Beckman, edged the Hungarians 9-7 to win the second event. The Hungarian team was made up of C. S. Beagi, A. Oze, J. Kosary and skip Lloyd Krieger.

Lew Miles shipped his Jewish rink of H. Geller, H. Doctoroff and B. Fleishman to a 10-7 victory over the Irish foursome in the consolation event.

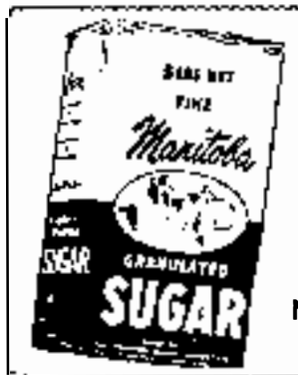
The colorful Irish team consisted of Hugh Mawhinney, Vic Black, J. Mackie and F. Loudon.

—Wpg. Free Press, March 25

T. D. (David) Einarsson, a native of Manitoba, this winter was appointed North African manager of G.S.I. which is a subsidiary of Texas Instruments of Dallas, Texas. He replaced Robert Patterson who had been manager there for the past nine yeears.

Prior to his Tripoli posting Mr. Einarsson served at Dawson Creek, Alberta, Willow Bunch, Sask., and two years in Sumatra, a part of Indonesia.

Mr. Patterson officially handed over his position to Mr. Einarsson at a luncheon attended by more than 200 persons. John Proffitt, G.S.I. vice-president for Europe, Africa and the



Middle East operations, announced the appointment. The operation consists of oil exploration for most major oil companies and Mr. Einarsson heads more than 180 European, American and Canadian workers.

He was born at Arborg, Man. and is the son of Mrs. Elin Einarsson and the late G. O. Einarsson.

★

The McMaster University Choir of Hamilton, Ont. in March joined with the Greater Winnipeg Schools Symphony Orchestra in a performance of Mozart's famous Requiem in the Centennial Concert Hall in Winnipeg.

Conductor was Prof. Frank Thorolfson, a former Winnipegger who was founder and conductor of the old Winnipeg Chamber Orchestra and Choir. Prof. Thorolfson is now chairman of the music department at McMaster.

Under his direction the McMaster University Choir has attained a high reputation in Ontario, and is noted for its enthusiastic approach and high standard of artistic excellence. Winnipeg's youth orchestra has been warmly praised in recent years by music critics and music festival adjudicators alike.

★

Dr. Helgi H. Austman in January was appointed a deputy minister in the Manitoba department of agriculture. Born and raised on a farm in the Arborg area, he is a graduate of the University of Manitoba, and received master of science and doctor of philosopthy degrees from the University of Wisconsin. In his new position Dr. Austman will concentrate on the development, co-ordination and evaluation of departmental programs, particularly as they relate to rural extension in agricultural development.

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