

## A MODERN PROPOSAL

by Gordon Swift

**For the Abolition of Poverty Within the Maritime Provinces; Thereby, Preventing such Provinces from Becoming a Hindrance to the Nation.**

It is a lamentable spectacle that greets those who journey into the Maritimes from more prosperous sections of the Dominion. (It should not be necessary for me to name these parts). The farther one struggles through this abysmal district, the more one sees of the destitution of the inhabitants, and the more obvious it becomes that something must be done to protect the interests of all the nation.

To illustrate my point on the deficiencies found here in the East, it is commonplace to see great droves of people, and this will be a shock to many from other areas, walking! and when they do drive cars, the models are at least a year old. Another point of disgust I have often heard mentioned is the almost complete lack of escalators. Even when it is found necessary to climb the stairs, which usually squeak, one has to tolerate sharing the stairs with people coming down on the same set. By far the most criticism will be levelled at the apparent enjoyment the people get out of their way of life and their determination to maintain it, possibly at a cost to the rest of their nation.

The present proposal, herewith, would completely alleviate the condition. It has been evolved only after consultation with the learned of the past and present, and such contemplation on the subject.

There are in the Maritimes in excess of 1,256,700 people. Between the years 1941-1951, there was an increase of slightly over 10% or about 12,500 people a year, with the number of births being in the vicinity of 150,000 a year. It has been estimated (and there is possible error here) that a child can be kept for twelve years on a total of \$3,000. Although some have been kept on much less, this is the minimum amount for a healthy youth. This if course does not take into account all extra expenses, which in my system would be abolished. In association with this, it has been estimated by an analysis of past years that approximately one-half the present population can be sustained under present conditions. We have therefore an excess of one-half million people in this deflated area.

This proposal is a constructive suggestion for the disposal of this surplus. I do not believe as does one of my contemporaries, that the answer is governmental support for moving the people out of the area. Rather I recommend a plan, based on proven principles, which has been used on whole populations in the past, and one which could turn a dependent group into a paying proposition. I suggest that the people of the Maritimes could supply a demand created by the great industrial growth of the more western states.

My belief is that the Maritimes should serve as a sort of arsenal of people to supply the demands of other districts. But, and this is most important, when these districts want people, they will be required to purchase the individuals (or groups) from the Maritimes. Those sold would of course have been taught to bear allegiance to their owners. (Some sort of branding system might be devised.)

As has been suggested earlier, the minimum sale price would be \$3,000 (average variety). It should be obvious that an industrialist could support many of these "workers" on the salary of one of his own who could be allocated to an easier job. I have suggested age twelve because below this age the wants are few, whereas above, the wants of the individual increase. The average fixed cost would therefore rise and the selling price would fall. In the other districts the wants of the older ones could be easily met by discards of other people.

To get down to a population of 500,000, the first group would have to be sold outright at a loss, however, in time this could be overcome. Eventually, one half of all children born within a given year would be shipped out twelve years later. The remaining half of the "twelve year crop" would be kept for obvious reasons. The product would be available at all seasons, but particularly during March and September.

There are numerous ways in which those left here in the Maritimes could be utilized. I wish to make a few suggestions on this question.

- 1) The Maritimes could be used as testers of new devices such as drugs and machines. In this way the other people would be kept free of adverse effects.
- 2) The Maritimes would be an excellent place to dispose of used materials (cars, refrigerators, and the like) which are not up to the "Joneses".
- 3) It would serve as training ground for the young adults of other people. They could send their sons here, let them make the usual blunders and not have to worry about effects to themselves. It could serve in association with the above as a time in which the usual urges of young people could be satisfied without own group. (Drinking and like habits).
- 4) In order to prepare people for their future work in the new

areas, they could be put to work building structures which would benefit their new employers; for example, building a causeway to a near island thus saving time usually spent waiting for a boat, digging a certain canal which would separate two of the provinces thereby shortening the sea route to the American markets, or building good roads so as to facilitate comfortable travel in the area.

- 5) As a by-product, the districts could be opened to tourists during certain seasons of the year. The attraction would be great, with the area becoming famous as a sort of a menagerie.

You must agree that these suggestions would keep the people industrious. One of the most discouraging aspects of this district to the people of our prosperous sections when they come to visit is to see great numbers of natives taking their time! It is not uncommon to see them sitting down and talking, just whittling or going fishing. According to the local papers which are gleaming daily, the news relaxation is one of the most important pastimes of the Maritimers.

I shall summarize now some of the advantages of adopting my system. Firstly, it would lessen the number of Maritimers, therefore cut out competition for important positions with their own children. There would be less begging from the East as well.

Secondly, if there should be some of these dependents do well and become prosperous, then the credit would go to the owner as well as any financial return that might be made. As it is now, the money is squandered in Eastern areas.

Thirdly, it would give the acquirers someone to push around and not worry about talkback. (And if they wanted to gloat, as they sometimes do, it would provide unlimited opportunity.)

Fourthly, it would serve the ever present needs of the gambler. Regular auctions could be held which should result in much enjoyment. Some of the prize specimens could even be raffled off.

Some people will complain that the suggestion are at least a little severe; some of the people being forced to remain, but this is one of the unfortunate drawbacks for which I have been unable to find a solution. Others have argued that there is a sound solution to be found by the lending of financial assistance to the area and giving them an opportunity to progress. This must of course be disregarded because if such were to be improvised, some of the other sections of the country might be deprived of something for a little while.

I myself have absolutely nothing to gain by this venture, therefore, I cannot be accused of devising it for my own good. My family no longer lives in the area and I soon am to leave on a voyage to Tupillil, where I plan to remain. C. W.

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## EngineEars

by Red 'N Black  
A NEW TREND?

Waterloo College, in Waterloo, Ontario, may soon start what could be a popular trend in engineering studies. The proposed plan would have the student engineer spend three months in the university, then the next three working in industry. This cycle would be repeated until graduation.

The purpose of this setup is twofold: first, to make full time use of the university facilities and cut down on overcrowded classrooms by having the student body split up into two sections; and, second, to supply more graduate engineers to match the increased demand now existing in the Canadian engineering fields.

Will this plan work? Surely the university curriculum can be built around three month cycles without too many drastic changes, but will industry, which has been used to hiring student engineers for summer employment, accept the new idea. What it boils down to is that industry would have to plan for student engineer employment the year round. Every three months, section A students would return to university while section B students would leave for work in industry. It might prove feasible for the engineering departments of larger companies to set up special student training programs. If both the student and industry were to benefit from these, the programs would have to be closely co-ordinated with the university curriculum. This seems the only way to insure that the student gets a chance to apply his theoretical training and, yet, still does productive work for his employer.

Now, with industry arranging training programs co-ordinated with university training, a more radical change might take place. (This is what is called, "going out on a limb"). The various industries might make up a quota, or allotment list, with details as to type of work program, type and number of engineers (students) required, experience to be gained, etc. These allotments, sent to the university, would be studied by the engineering faculty and they, rather than the company personnel, would place the students in jobs best suited to their individual abilities.

## Tom Thomson

Here in the Art Centre we now have a collection of one of Canada's best loved painters, Tom Thomson. He was one of Canada's first post impressionists, one of the first who dared to express the real character of Canada. He was one of the original Group of Seven (of Canadian Artists), a group which worked to create in simple lines, the beauty of Canadian barrens. The group aimed for straightforward design and simple structure from the vast tangled existence of Canada's wilds. Canada's wilderness, in turn, sought expression and Tom Thomson, the trapper, was able through constant contact with Nature to build one of our most sensitive and valued expressions.

Tom Thomson's rough sketches and paintings have special appeal to those who have little appreciation for other types of art. Among these are nature lovers and those who seek a recapturing of the rugged beauty in which Canada abounds. Thomson's work reflects his life! He was a trapper and left nothing in nature unobserved; a hero of foresters he will always be, having in his eye's ken a panoramic view of all things about him. His life was brief; few forget his untimely drowning, but he died in the country he loved best, the country he painted, the vast expanse of Northern Ontario. But his life was as full as it was brief. And so are his paintings

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## U. S. NEWS DOMINANCE

by Ken Grant

Is Canada's source of foreign news gradually moving under American domination? I feel that there are definite and recent indications that this is the case. Only this week Canadian Paramount News, our main Canadian source of movie newsreels ended its operations. No more will we hear the mellow voice of Wilf Barron, Canada's only movie commentator with his familiar "eyes and ears of the world". One more distinctly Canadian source of foreign news has passed from the scene.

This is only part of a broader decline which is also reflected in the authorship of foreign news in Canadian newspapers. More and more Canadian newspapers are withdrawing their foreign correspondents and making greater use of such sources as the New York Times and the Chicago Tribune for their supply of foreign news. Even at the United Nations Canada has only two journalistic representatives.

Such large Canadian dailies as the Toronto Star are cutting their budgets and as a result are withdrawing their resident foreign correspondents and making use of foreign news services.

Mr. Charles Lynch, C.B.C. correspondent, asks "how can we expect to learn about Canada's affairs in the U.N. and the world if we don't send more correspondents?" Mr. E. U. Schraeder, Graphic arts director of Ryerson Institute, labelled the high cost of maintaining a correspondent as being the main reason for the lack of Canadian newswriters. "It costs the New York Herald Tribune seventy five thousand dollars a year to maintain its Moscow news bureau."

In brief, this trend creates a dangerous lack of news material, exemplifying a distinctly Canadian outlook. This is an appalling situation which appears to have no present solution.

## PRIME MINISTER IS INFORMED

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signed to resolve the basic needs of universities and centres of higher learning and their members through the extension of material aid by members of the world university community to their fellow members who are in immediate need; and particularly through assistance to self help enterprises designed to meet long term needs. Ten percent of the funds given to the WUSC will help finance the annual International Summer Seminar in order to establish, through personal encounter, the basis of international understanding from which a spirit of international solidarity can emerge and a concern for mutual assistance and service can be developed through the bringing together of students and teaching staff, without prejudice to race, nationality, political and religious conviction, and social and economic background.

We feel that these developments merit the attention of the Canadian government, insofar as we believe it is in the interests of Canadian University students and Canada as a whole that every effort be made to improve condi-

honest and rich. His work, observed from close up or at a distance reminds one of a tapestry. His brush strokes are large, even rough, but definite. They stand out in order to remind the observer that he has waved his paint brush, not merely used some technique of photography.

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