

# M A R C H

## [BARGAIN]

4 In 1925 Québec rejected Newfoundland's offer to sell Labrador for \$30 million. It would have been a good buy.

## [HAIL TORONTO]

6 The city of York became the city of Toronto in 1834. Toronto would grow mighty (and some folks would say stuffy) in the course of the next century or so. In recent years it has become a whole new thing. Great waves of post-war immigrants from Europe have given it a dazzling array of new citizens and exotic restaurants. It has a subway that is a marvel of pleasant efficiency, a new city hall complex which includes a winter skating plaza and, most recently, the CN Tower, the tallest structure in the world that is not supported by guy wires. It has a restaurant at the top from which cosmopolites can look toward Buffalo, N.Y., far across Lake Ontario.

## [SMOOTH SESSION]

15 In 1906 the Alberta Legislature held its first session at the Thistle skating rink. The legislators have been avoiding thin ice ever since.

## [FUN AND GAMES]

17 By 1765 Québec City had enough Irishmen to make the celebration of St. Patrick's Day a practical necessity — which may not be as many Irishmen as you think.

On the same day 190 years later there was another outburst of sentiment: When Maurice Richard, the great hockey player, was suspended by the National Hockey League, riots broke out in Montréal.



## [TOOT]

18 The first railroad in all of Canada was completed, from La Prairie to St. Jean, Québec, in 1838.

## [REGARDEZ]

21 Intendant Jean Talon took the first Canadian census in 1666 and found, *mon Dieu*, that there were 3000 Canadians.

## [RINKY DINKS]

22 The first Stanley Cup game was played in 1894, making it theoretically possible to decide which was the best hockey team in the world. The problem has become more difficult since the Russians started playing.

Edgar Randolph "Painless" Parker, the world's most celebrated dentist, was born this day at Tynemouth Creek, New Brunswick, in 1872. Parker introduced laughing gas and inspired the movie, *The Paleface*, starring Bob Hope.

## [TAILS WE WIN]

26 *Bluenose*, a schooner of 154 tons, was launched at Lunenburg, N.S., in 1921. She would beat the U.S.A.'s *Gertrude L. Thebaud* and *Columbia* in celebrated international races and would, in time, be memorialized on the back of the Canadian dime. She was lost off Haiti in January, 1946.

## [KITTY HAWK'S GRANDSON]

27 On this date in 1969 the Department of Transport announced plans for the Mirabel International Airport, the first "Third Generation" airfield in Canada. The Mirabel, 34 miles west of downtown Montréal, will

begin handling international traffic this spring. By 2025 it will have six runways, 50 million passengers a year and a total area of 88,000 acres. Farmers will still plow much of the outlying land on lease, but they will not be allowed to plant corn or oats, which would attract birds.

## [TRES BIEN]

28 Plans for the bilingual university, Laurentian, in Sudbury (the nickel capital of the world), were announced by the Ontario legislature in 1960. There are now two, the other being the University of Ottawa. Several other universities have bilingual colleges.

## [FALL OUT]

29 The Niagara River went dry this day in 1848. An ice jam on Lake Erie cut off its water.

## [HOMESTEAD]

31 Two thousand colonists arrived from Liverpool in 1903 to homestead in the Prairies.

Newfoundland accepted Canada's proposal in 1949, eighty-two years after being asked, and became the tenth Province, in ample time for the Centennial celebration.

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