

OLD TRADING POST PRESERVED

Last month, the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Mr. Jean Chrétien, accepted the deeds of York Factory, "one of Western Canada's Oldest ports of entry", from the Hudson's Bay Company. At the ceremony, which took place at Lower Fort Garry, Manitoba, Mr. Chrétien said in part:

...York Factory was once the thriving export point for Western Canadian goods. Today it is inaccessible - so inaccessible that we cannot at this time develop it for the general public. But the day will come when it will no longer be locked in isolation, when Canadians can once again renew their understanding of bygone days by visiting the fort which will then be restored and interpreted in a fitting way.

The history of York Factory is bound to that of the fur trade, the first staple to open the Canadian West. Its rise and decline are a measure of the change in the means of doing business. Such change is part of history. But life goes on, Western Canada has become more productive than the pioneers could ever have believed possible. The old order changeth and giveth way to new. York Factory has been displaced by modern ports, modern transportation. The interplay of the forces of change, with the constants of man and his will to overcome obstacles has made Western Canada, indeed has shaped all Canada, and today we continue to grope with the forces of change. It is fitting indeed that we should take care to protect an element of the past which reminds us that change has been with man always and he has succeeded in managing it well enough to improve his lot in the past.

We invest in the past and in doing so we will save a monument for the future. We cannot develop this site now. We do not know when it will be developed. But if we do not take steps to preserve it now, there will be nothing worth preserving when the day comes, as come it will, when York Factory is once again on the paths of the traveller. The isolation of today is not permanent, just as the busy port of yesterday was not permanent....

CENTRE OF RIVALRY

The early history of York Factory was quite exciting. They say that in the first century of its existence the fort changed hands ten times and was the centre of rivalry between the two countries then engaged in the fur trade. I am told that, although it changed hands many times, it ended up in the hands of the English. Is there some hidden significance in today's ceremony? Not really, for today we are all Canadians and we own these things jointly and together. A more constructive arrangement I think.

There is significance that we are attending this ceremony at Lower Fort Garry. For this, too, has a deep connection with Canada's past. It was from York Factory to Lower Fort Garry that Hudson's Bay Company headquarters for Canada moved in 1878. These two sites are tied to each other and to the fabric of the past.

CELEBRATIONS IN 1970

This park will be taking an important part in the celebration of two significant events in 1970 - the centenary of the Province of Manitoba and the tri-centenary of the Hudson's Bay Company. When the development is complete this will be a magnificent portrayal of the fur trade, the role of the Hudson's Bay Company and of the entire Red River region - a sort of tri-period restoration and reconstruction to form one of our top-ranking historic parks.

Such parks will play a role in enhancing Canadian pride in our heritage. They have great significance for future generations. There are now 30 major sites developed to remind Canadians of the road along which our country has progressed. These major sites span a wide spectrum. They include the restoration of the fortress at Louisbourg in Nova Scotia and the replica of Jacques Cartier's ship, *La Grande Hermine*. They span Canada from Signal Hill in Newfoundland to Fort Rodd in Victoria, from Fort Malden near Windsor to Dawson City....

SLEEP-SOUND STUDY

If you let yourself be lulled to sleep by a quietly-playing radio you may be harming yourself without knowing it. This is a preliminary finding of National Research Council of Canada scientists using a new high-speed method of analyzing the effects of noise, such as from traffic, on sleeping subjects. Using the NRC method, eight hours of recorded brain wave patterns can be scanned in five minutes.

While the number of subjects studied is still small, it is clear that levels of noise as low as 50 decibels (the rating of a quiet radio) can disturb a sleeper without actually waking him. The nature of the disturbance involves a change from a deep to a shallow sleep, which is known to be deleterious to a person's well-being.

In the NRC studies, sleeping subjects are exposed to pre-recorded sounds in the "nuisance" noise region below the 85-decibel level - the point above which hearing loss can be sustained and measured.

METHOD

An electroencephalograph is used to record the sleeper's brain waves, this instrument being an excellent indicator of a subject's depth of sleep and hence of the degree to which a noise can disturb this condition.

The EEG signals are recorded on magnetic tape rather than on the standard electroencephalograph chart. The tape is slowed down during the recording period. During the playback, the tape is run through at 50 to 100 times the recording speed and the EEG signals can be analyzed and recorded by a sound-level recorder which retains the gross features indicating the depth of sleep.

This procedure permits an investigator to take an eight-hour EEG recording and scan it for meaningful data in less than ten minutes.