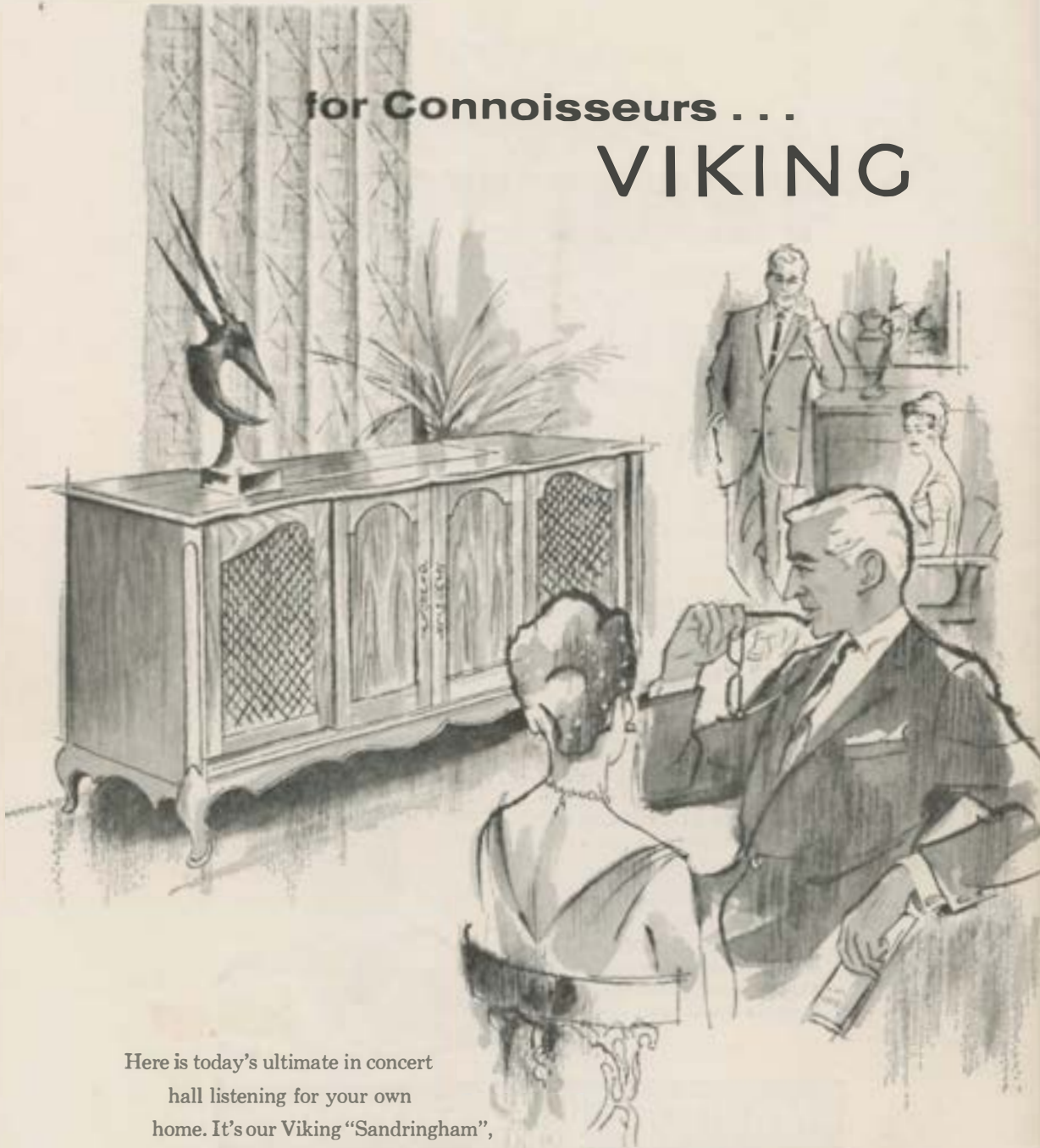


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The Icelandic Canadian

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EDITORIAL

We Ought To Fall In Love With Canada

No Canadian culture, we are told by critical foreigners who take the attitude that we have had time to become a nation.

No Canadian culture, we say mildly of ourselves and lean smugly against the cushioning excuse that we are still so young as a nation.

This lifeless reaction to any affront we face as a nation is the real villain. It is the basic reason for the absence of Canadian culture, if it is true that there is none.

Literature, music — all the arts — are the offspring of the spirit. So are the peculiar tastes and appetites developed in a people by circumstances and environment—the special impact upon people's nature by the country they inhabit.

"O Canada, our home and native land," our great-grandparents sang hopefully to a European tune, their hearts buried deep in the soil of the homeland.

Is this to be the first and last national anthem or ode of love written to Canada in the English language?

We are still singing it with about as much feeling as did our great-grandparents, and we think of our country as a youthful and innocent maiden, indiscriminately distributing material gifts from a horn of plenty.

When is she to become a mother, loved with a simple primitive passion we cannot explain because she has given birth to a spirit uniquely our own?

Canadian citizenship! That seems to be the ultimate aspiration, and we are never officially asked to confess to it as a nationality. Printed documents are satisfied to enquire into our "racial origins," and the answer to that question shares honors with our claim to Canadian citizenship.

Citizenship and nothing more!

In an age that decries nationalism as a savage passion, we are almost pure.

But like all people who are purer than it is human to be, we are missing a grand emotional experience—a creative experience that could kindle the sparks of a unique and wonderful culture.

It is true that as citizens we are well fed boarders, living on the fat of the land, sapping the sugar maples, catching the milk and honey that is supposed to drip from every straw into elegantly polished chrome vessels.

This seems to be the burden of our song, if we ever feel stirred to praise our country. But it is a song that can change its tune any time, with the changing winds of trade and the fickle favors of natural elements. So tangible a wealth is at the mercy of moths, rust, grasshoppers and hailstorms.

These elements can change the color of our sunsets and the contour of our mountains, too, but the beauty of the land survives. The wheat will rise again to ripple timelessly like a golden sea, season after season, though the rage of unbridled elements has beaten it into the parent soil.

Oh yes, there is a whole world of beauty and majesty in this country we fail to call ours with any degree of possessive passion.

If ever we discover our senses, we will invest our love where it belongs, and our country will endow us with the gifts of exquisite enjoyment we

deserve. So far we have stopped at the stomach and it has been well rewarded.

But the eyes, ears and finer senses, with open access to the spirit—are they to remain **immune**?

A mere citizen is no more than a permanent boarder paying his honest dues in loyalty and responsibility, all the while suffering deplorable poverty of the spirit.

As such we are cheating ourselves. We ought to fall in love.

A passionate response of the spirit to a country like ours must give birth to a culture so rich and unique that the world will sit up and wonder.

Caroline Gunnarsson

In the Editor's Confidence

In the next issue will appear a translation of a most remarkable constitution, — the Constitution the settlers of Nýja Ísland prescribed for themselves on January 11, 1878, little more than two years after the first settlers landed on Willow Point on October

22, 1875. That Constitution is a part of all that the Historic Sites Advisory Board of Manitoba had in mind when it decided to erect historic markers in the first permanent Icelandic settlements in Canada.

—:—

This year applications were received by the Icelandic Scholarship Committees from seven very promising

students. Particulars of the awards will appear in the next issue.

Dr. Vilhjalmur Stefansson



Scientist and Litterateur

Dr. Vilhjalmur Stefansson

"Beyond the Sunset"

in the whole course of its life history the little town of Arnes, Manitoba, were to make no other major contribution to the world, it would still have assured itself an honored place in all the annals of man's restless and heroic search for knowledge by being the birthplace of Vilhjalmur Stefansson. Most of us, as far back into childhood as we can remember, have known the name Vilhjalmur Stefansson as that of one of those romantic, more-than-life-size figures who call back to us from the far horizons of adventure.

But it was not, it has to be admitted, the fact that Stefansson was born in Manitoba that roused our interest in him. Not where he came from but how far from it his indomitable spirit led him into the trackless and forbidding reaches of what he was to call the "friendly Arctic": that was what fired the fancy of his whole generation and of all of us who grew up during his long lifetime. With his death at 83, he joins that **almost legendary company** which ranges from far travelling Odysseus and Marco Polo to **such mighty friends of his**, and friendly rivals as Scott and Amundsen and Peary.

The strides of some men are too wide for local measurements. They step across all local, and indeed all national, boundaries. If we are justified in feeling a possessive pride in the great enterprises of Vilhjalmur Stefansson, it is not because we live in Manitoba, where he was born, or in the United States, where he grew up. It is as members of the human race that we can share in the expansion of the spirit in a world which by those enterprises he enlarged.

But if at the same time we remember with a special, sentimental sort of warmth that it was from Arnes, Manitoba, that he set out upon his Odyssey, there can hardly be much harm in that" —Free Press 28-8-62.

All that can be said, perhaps all that need be said upon the passing of Vilhjalmur Stefansson on Sunday, August 26, 1962, is to tiptoe over some facts and comments to substantiate how temperate that lofty and inspiring tribute is which appeared on the editorial page of the Winnipeg Free Press two days later.

Heredity

Vilhjalmur Stefansson was born in Arnes, Manitoba, on November 3, 1879. His parents, Jóhann Stefánsson and Ingibjörg Jóhannesdóttir, came to Canada in the large group of Icelandic

immigrants, who settled in the north half of Nýja Ísland in 1876. When Vilhjalmur was only eighteen months old his parents moved to North Dakota where he spent his boyhood years on his father's farm.

Formal Education

Writing in O. S. Thorgeirsson's Almanak, 1913, Rev. Friðrik J. Bergmann said that Vilhjalmur early showed a bent to learning, "var snemma bókhneigður". On completing public and high school he entered the University of North Dakota but did not graduate. In the fall of 1902 he trans-

ferred to the University of Iowa where he came under the guidance of a Norwegian Professor, Flom by name, who interested him in Norse studies. Prof. Flom was instrumental in obtaining a scholarship for the promising student at Harvard University, where he specialized in Anthropology, graduating in 1904.

The winters of 1904-06 were spent at Graduate Studies in Harvard, at first intended in preparation for a British Anthropological expedition in Africa. In the summer of 1904 Stefansson visited Iceland and in 1905 he made an archaeological expedition to Iceland under the auspices of the Peabody Museum of Harvard.

Vilhjalmur Stefansson received his M.A. from Harvard in 1923 and a P.H.D., honoris causa, from the University of Iceland in 1930.

Genesis of Stefansson's Intense Interest in the North

Destiny decreed that Vilhjalmur Stefansson was not to go to Africa. He accepted an offer to be ethnologist on an expedition to the Eskimos in the MacKenzie delta under the auspices of the Universities of Harvard and Toronto, where he stayed for 18 months (1906-1907.)

He decided to go ahead of the chartered ship and some time before its arrival reached Herschel Island which is close to the Arctic coast about 75 miles west of the mouth of the MacKenzie River. How a bent to exploration became an intense interest in the Arctic is described by Dr. D. M. LeBourdais, writing in *The Canadian Geographical Journal* (see *Icel. Can. Summer 1961*).

"While at Herschel Island waiting for the expedition's ship to arrive, he was told by sailors from a whaler of

Eskimos they had seen in Victoria Island who resembled people of European ancestry. The possibility that these strange people might be descendants of the lost Norse colonists of Greenland fired his desire to see them at first hand.

"The ship was wrecked and Stefansson found himself footloose on the Arctic coast. With little money and no knowledge of the ways of the country he decided to learn how to become self-supporting by living with Eskimos and, nearly as possible becoming one of them. During the winter of 1906-07, he was a member of two successive Eskimo households".

Though this first expedition failed Stefansson was determined to find the people who resembled Europeans. He succeeded in obtaining backing for a second expedition (1908-1912, 53 months) under the auspices of the American Museum of Natural History, New York, and the Canadian Government. His intentions had been to go alone and live mainly off the country, hoping that he would find the lost tribe. R. M. Anderson, a naturalist, and an Iowa classmate, asked to be permitted to go with him and the sponsors agreed.

There were considerable delays and it was not until in the spring of 1910, on the south shore of Victoria Island, that Stefansson met the white Eskimos he had been so anxious to see. His impressions of that historic event is thus described in his book "My Life With the Eskimos."

"When I saw before me these men who looked like Europeans in spite of their garb of furs, I knew that I had come upon either the last chapter and solution of one of the historical tragedies of the past, or else that we had here a new mystery for the future to

solve: the mystery of why these men looked so much more European-like than other Eskimos if they are not of European descent."

land Colony" and marshals facts in support of the Norse and hence Icelandic origin of the "blond Eskimos" as they were humorously called by some reporters of the day.

Discovery and Science Conjoin

Even though this discovery did not reveal needed clues for positive identification that did not lessen Stefansson's ardour. His mental vision widened. He could see that "a land in which children are born and live happy lives through to old age cannot be the terrible place of popular imagination". (LeBourdais). In his expeditions Stefansson found that he, equally as well as the Eskimos, could live off the Arctic. But in that experience and in the existence of the Eskimos themselves, reasonably contented, he saw more than a mode of living. He became a student of the Arctic and its people.

The third expedition (1913-18) was under the auspices of the Canadian Government. Stefansson was Commander of the expedition and his assignment was to explore **the land and seas** in Canadian and Alaskan sectors of the Arctic. He returned just before the Armistice of 1918, and proceeded to dovetail what he had seen and learned in his Arctic World with what had taken place in the outside world. Here the mind of the scientist conjoined with that of the discoverer. Realities were viewed from new perspectives. In cold reasoning startling predictions were made.

In 1922 Dr. Stefansson published "The Northward Course of Empire". In it he followed the philosophy he introduced in *The Friendly Arctic* and maintained that Canada would be developed from south to north, even into the archipelago of the Arctic Islands. Purely as a scientist he was much



The Explorer

There is no direct proof that the white Eskimos Stefansson encountered are descendants of the lost Icelandic Colonies in Greenland. The Greenland tragedy greatly disturbed Stefansson. In his book "Unsolved Mysteries of the Arctic" he discusses in great detail the "Disappearance of the Green-

impressed with what Russia was doing in the far North, and almost sounded notes of warning and advice as reported in the Associated Press despatches upon his death.

"In 1922 he predicted that air traffic between North America and the Euro-Asian land mass would lead over the North Pole. In 1954 regularly scheduled transpolar air service was inaugurated.

"He foresaw the day that submarines would travel under the Arctic pack. In September, 1913, he discussed the possibilities with one of his men, the late Sir Hubert Wilkins, while camped on an ice floe, during a sledge journey. Stefansson said the submarine would be a reliable and valuable research base because it would surface in open lagoons through the polar pack."

In August 1960 the atomic-powered submarine "Seadragon" on a voyage from Portsmouth N. H., to Hawaii, completed the first underwater transit of the Northwest Passage in the Canadian Arctic.

Retirement into other fields of action

In 1919 Stefansson retired from active exploration and devoted his limitless zeal and energy to studying, writing, lecturing, and to the assembling of an Arctic Library.

During the years many honours have been bestowed upon Dr. Stefansson. He received honorary degrees of Doctor of Laws from no less than six universities and medals from numerous American and European Geographic Societies. He was a Fellow of many Learned Societies and a recipient of the Order of the Falcon of Iceland.

The Man of Letters

Vilhjalmur Stefansson was a profuse writer. He wrote 26 books most of which were on the far north and its

people. But the range was wide, including, the Associated Press dispatch says "anthropology, geo-politics, economics, linguistics, technography and religion". In 1960 he wrote "Cancer: Disease of Civilization? an Anthropological and Historical Study." In 1936 he ventured into new fields when he wrote "Adventures in Error". In addition to his books he wrote over 400 articles on related themes.

Vilhjalmur possessed the gift of writing, gained from experience and his fondness of literature. Like so many of Icelandic stock he was a poet, a gift disclosed in his translations more than in his original attempts. His translation of Icelandic poems reveals his appreciation of classic Icelandic prosody. The following are the original and his translation of the first verse of "Veturinn", The Winter, by Bjarni Thorarensen:

Hver riður svo geyst
á gullinbrúvu
háfan og hifin
hesti snjálitum,
hnálega hristanda
hríngan makka,
eldi hreifanda
undan stálsköflum.

Who rides with such fury
A fiery charger —
Through the high heavens
A horse snow-colored?
The mighty steed
From his mane tosses
Frozen flakes
That flutter earthward.
(note the Icelandic alliteration.)

This man of letters could not retire and may be said to have died with pen in hand. Only a week before he passed away he completed a draft of his autobiography. His gifted wife, the former

Evelyn Schwartz Baird, an author herself of several books, will no doubt pick up that pen, edit the draft and make it available to the world.

The Impressive Lecturer and Writer

Vilhjalmur Stefansson was an eloquent and forceful speaker and after his expeditions was in constant demand as a lecturer in North America and abroad. He was on the Chautauqua circuit when that system of summer lectures and entertainment was at its best.

Dr. Stefansson was not the kind of orator who swayed for the moment. He was genuinely humble, did not seek to make people say "Isn't he a wonderful speaker", but rather "He is right."

This approach and its effect is revealed by Raymond Holden in his Foreword to the first issue of "Polar Notes: Occasional Publications of the Stefansson Collection", which came into existence in Stefansson's honour in the year of his eightieth birthday. In the Foreword Holden recalls that Stefansson was up north when his publisher was printing "My Life with the Eskimos". a book which Holden regards as "one of the most extraordinary ever to come from the hand of an explorer". The exact title had not been settled. "Stef", Raymond Holden says in the Foreword, "had said that he did not wish any personal pronoun in the title, so the publisher, who could not believe that his author meant what he had said, had the happy idea of leading off with 'My Life'".

In the following words Holden sums up the impression created in the minds of people who had heard him or read his books or other writings.

"Vilhjalmur Stefansson has done more than merely influence people

through his work and through his vast store of polar lore which he has accumulated for posterity. He has influenced men in his own field and drawn others to that field by the force of his interest in them and their work and by the lively and vigorous charm of his inquiring mind".

The Dartmouth Arctic Library

Aside from his scientific explorations and his interpretation of geographic facts in the light of human actions Stefansson's great contribution to the world is the Dartmouth Arctic Library.

The first article in the first number of Polar Notes, by Evelyn Stefansson, under the title "A Short Account of the Stefansson Collection", opens in these words:

"About thirty-five years ago, Dr. Isaiah Bowman, Director of the American Geographical Society of New York, suggested to his Board of Councillors that instead of selling some 300-odd polar duplicates from the Society's library for a pittance, they be given to his friend, the Arctic explorer Vilhjalmur Stefansson. The board accepted his suggestion, and in Stefansson's hands the volumes became the nucleus for a collection which grew during the 1940's into the largest polar library in the world."

The following in the same article gives an insight into Stefansson's traditional approach when service of enduring value could be rendered.

"From the moment Stefansson decided to form a polar library, his entire income, beyond his living expenses, was spent on books. On his lecture tours he inquired about and visited second-hand book stores at each new town, sometimes finding bargains that seem incredible today."

Mrs. Stefansson points to one of Vilhjalmur's rare finds. In the late eighteenth century two British explorers, Dixon and Meares, had explored in the Arctic and a controversy arose on the accuracy of their respective writings. Their books and controversial pamphlets were rare and commanded prices from \$100 to \$450. One of them "Further Remarks on the voyages of John Meares" was not available. "Then one day", Mrs. Stefansson reports, "in a pile of books which had come to a dealer from a liquidated private estate Stefansson happened on a complete set all for only \$30.00."

With the expansion of air service, particularly northern operations, there was a constant demand for information on the problem of cold-weather flying. Private corporations and governments turned to Stefansson and his library. There was an equal dearth of accurate information on polar waters. It was found that the Stefansson library had better facilities than the Navy for preparing sailing directions and giving directions to Coast Pilots for Arctic and sub-arctic waters. Stefansson and his staff prepared three volumes which dealt with waters surrounding Iceland, Greenland and Northern Canada.

Evelyn Stefansson continues the build-up.

"The Coordinator of Information (later the Office of Strategic Services), the Arctic Desert and Tropic Information Center of the Air Force, and the Corps of Engineers, were other government connections of varying duration. A contract with the Office of Naval Research was perhaps the most important of all and brought the library to its final stage of development. This was for the preparation of an Encyclopedia Arctica, similar to Britannica and Americana in covering every branch of

knowledge but limited to the Arctic and subarctic regions of the world. The size was estimated at about five million words and twenty volumes".

Later in the same article Mrs. Stefansson continues:

"When progress on the Encyclopedia was halted in 1951 because of the government's concentration on other activities, the library had grown to such proportions that Stefansson felt that the time had come to transfer it to an institution that could administer it more effectively than a private owner could . . . In December 1951 arrangements were made to transfer the entire collection to Baker Library. At the time of the transfer, there were more than 20,000 bound volumes, about as many pamphlets and numerous manuscripts, including six million words of manuscript intended for Encyclopedia Arctica. . .

"Less than a year after the move, Dartmouth College acquired the collection through the generosity of Albert Bradley, a trustee and an alumnus of the class of 1915".

The library expanded rapidly. New quarters had to be erected and in the spring of 1960 the Stefansson Collection was moved "to a handsome, spacious new home within the Library. . . The new accommodations were made possible by the continuing generosity of Albert Bradley '15" (Polar Notes II).

The following extracts from a letter written by the Commander of the U.S.S. Seadragon are an indication of the value of the Stefansson Collection for polar travel above and under water.

The North Pole,
25 August 1960

Dear Dr. Stefansson:

This letter commemorates the transit of the U.S.S. Seadragon from the

Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean, via the Northwest Passage and the North Pole. It is the first complete transit of the Parry Channel by any ship and the first east-west transit of the Arctic by submarine . . .

"The books that you sent me were constantly at hand. Your 'Friendly Arctic' stayed on my desk throughout the cruise to date . . .

"The association with you and Mrs. Stefansson, has therefore, not only been pleasant and inspiring, but it has been a direct contribution to our success."

In 1960 the Library contained 26,000 books. A tape recording section has been added. Thus expands the Stefansson Collection of the Dartmouth College Library.



Stef

The Public Relations Man

A glorious achievement

This amazing achievement, by a Norseman, compels a footnote.

To find a suitable word or phrase to encompass the noble yet driving force behind that achievement is dif-

ficult. But one exists, if it is not misconstrued. Vilhjalmur Stefansson represents the **viking spirit** at its best. The essence of that spirit is to be found in "Hávamál", the Messages of the High, composed, probably in Norway, long before the Viking raids of the ninth and tenth centuries, carried by word of mouth to Iceland and recorded there in the Poetic Edda. Dr. T. J. Oleson, professor of history at the University of Manitoba, in "The Viking Spirit", (Icelandic Canadian, Summer 1961) summarizes the messages from the High as an admonition "to strive to understand the essence of things" and "to render material environment conducive to better living."

It was more than a desire to maintain their freedom that caused our forefathers to sail to Iceland. Within half a century Althing, the Icelandic Parliament, was established.

It was more than a desire to improve their economic conditions which caused the Icelandic pioneers to migrate to a New Iceland, "Nýja Ísland" on the west shore of Lake Winnipeg. Within three years a remarkable constitution was drafted and adopted by democratic process of government of that unorganized Canadian territory. As if a presagement, Vilhjalmur Stefansson was born in that self-governing area less than two years after that constitution was adopted.

If Stefansson had sought only to explore he would have earned for himself a place in history among famous explorers, mountain climbers and deep sea investigators. But he sought more than that. The same innate driving force urged him on whether he was on the ice floe or at study of what he

had explored, in an igloo or in an apartment in New York City. The urge to exploration, the painstaking work of the scientist and researcher, the power of interpretation of geographic facts and relating them to human life

and action, the gift of impressive expression moulded through an appreciation of literature—it all combined to give to the world a man whom we now, through his bequeathment, clearly see “beyond the sunset.” —W. J. Lindal

A TWO-WAY TRAFFIC

It is only within the last twenty years that special emphasis has been placed upon the value of personal contacts. This increased emphasis applies whether the relationship be at top levels where representatives of nations meet, at commercial enterprise levels where public relations officers meet executives of other establishments, or at community levels where representatives of social organizations seek to extend their services. A few decades ago public relations officers were hardly known, now one exists for almost every enterprise of any consequence.

Vestur-Íslendingar have ever since the pioneer days realized how necessary it is that contacts with Iceland be maintained. As often said before, the Atlantic had to be bridged. The first and easiest bridge was memory, ever fresh in the minds of the pioneers until they were no more. Then there were communications and publications. These have been maintained almost at full strength but a change in media had to be made, English gradually finding a place alongside of Icelandic. Both are now media of communication.

Then there are the personal contacts, visits back and forth.

The people of Iceland and their kin in America have not been slow to

feel the value of personal contacts and the emphasis placed upon them in the world of today. On both sides of the Atlantic increased recognition is given to the benefits acquired through such visits. To us they are a pleasure, they serve to replace fading memories, and diminishing command of the Icelandic language. To the visitors from Iceland they also are a pleasure, and at the same time they provide a means whereby the visitors can better understand us and the inevitable transformation taking place here. To all these visits serve to strengthen the bonds of a common ancestry and a common heritage.

It may be that in the past the visits to Iceland have been more frequent and in larger numbers than to America. But this year there was a pleasant breakthrough. An organized group of 42 Icelanders, ranging in age from 11 to 73, under the guidance of Rev. Bragi Friðriksson and Guðni Þórðarson, made an extensive, though hurried trip across North America from New York via Minneapolis, through Winnipeg and the Icelandic districts between the lakes, to the west coast and back to New York.

Better ambassadors of goodwill cannot be obtained and this should continue to be a two-way traffic.

TOAST TO CANADA

delivered by Olafur Hallson Eriksdale, Man., at the Icelandic Day Celebration at Gimli, August 6th, 1962

Mr. Chairman, lovely Fjallkona, Honored guests, beloved family.

I said beloved family because we have met here as a family, one of Canada's many ethnic family groups, the Icelandic immigrants to Canada and their descendants, and I am deeply grateful for this opportunity to address you. Many of you are my personal friends, as were your parents and grandparents before you. At your hands I have received innumerable acts of kindness in my sixty years of life among you. From the bottom of my heart I thank you. The majority of you were born here and naturally you love Canada, she is your country.

It is perhaps fitting that one of the old immigrants should give the toast to Canada, one of the group about to bow out, for each year takes its heavy toll. Let me assure you that we too love Canada for all she has done for us and our children and grandchildren.

Lovely young Canada and yet so wise, who accepted us as her own, but let us be free to be ourselves. On these terms she has received all her immigrants from many lands, including the French and the British, asking only that we respect her laws and be loyal to her. That may well be the foundation for her future greatness as a nation.

In my own mind I have given Shakespeare the credit for this, the British majority in Canada being mindful of the Shakespearian pronouncement “To thine own self be true, and it must

follow as the night the day thou canst not then be false to any man.”

Canada puts her people of many origins to the Shakespearean test, giving them a free rein, even encouragement to be true to themselves, to love and cherish their ancient tongues and their best loved and time-tested cultural treasures they bring with them from their Motherlands.

Let us take a look at the subject of our talk, Canada. We see an immensely large country, one of the world's largest, four million square miles of land and water. She is very rich in natural resources; her three oceans and innumerable lakes and rivers are teeming with fish of all kinds. Canada is one of the world's largest producers of food of all kinds, exports large quantities of lumber and is the world's largest producer of paper, rich in oil wells and natural gas. Great coal deposits; in short, minerals and metals of all kinds in plenty. Just last month Newfoundland started work on a mountain of rich iron ore in Labrador, which can be mined without going underground, some of the ore being just one foot below ground surface. There is lots of it—the mountain is 20 to 30 miles wide and 70 to 80 miles long. Only last week an iron ore was discovered in the Yukon, said to be of extra high grade, suitable for the making of steel. Yes, Canada is rich, very rich. No wonder people want to come here. The Canadian people enjoy the second highest living standard in the world. I mention that, though it is

doubtful whether that is anything to be proud of with half of the world population subsisting near starvation.

Canada is also a great trading country, is in 6th place in volume of world trade, a remarkable achievement for a nation of only 18 million people.

Canada's Greatest Resource

I am wasting time talking of things you all know. I shall turn your attention to Canada's greatest natural resource, her people. There are 18 million of us. What a wonderful collection of people they are.

We have one great thing in common, we are all immigrants or descendants of immigrants. All, except about 135 thousand Canadian Indians and about 20 to 30 thousand Canadian Eskimos who were in charge here until the white people came and took things over. Both of these people are highly intelligent.

A word about our Indians. These once proud and vigorous people are now suffering from a terrific inferiority complex. We have, by our treatment of them, robbed them of their pride and self respect and the confidence they once had in themselves. One of the greatest hurts one human can inflict upon another is to use his superiority whether assumed or real to cause another to think less highly of himself than he should. This the white people of Canada have done to the Indian population. It is our duty as individuals and the duty of our government to repair that wrong. Let us cease to treat them as inferior second-class citizens. The Indians are sensitive to slight and they have inborn natural dignity which causes them to shun the company of those who look down on them. That is why I believe they have been so slow to assimilate and take up

our way of living, preferring to live on reservations.

Our Canadian Eskimos are considered by those who know them best to be one of the world's most intelligent people. They had to be intelligent to be able to survive in the Arctic by no other means than those supplied by their ingenuity and the materials at hand. It is to be hoped that we do not make the same mistake in their case as we did with the Indians.

The Three Population Elements

The 1961 census reveals that dividing the eighteen million Canadians into three main groups, approximately 44% are of British origin 30% French and all others 26%. The British immigrants to Canada have proved eminently true to themselves. They brought to Canada from England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales their fourfold cultural heritage. In Canada they and their descendants have lovingly guarded and cherished their British cultural heritage and further enriched it. They have been tireless in their efforts to generously share their culture with all the people of Canada. The results have been good. Canada has been enriched and British culture and the English language are here to stay.

The French, the first immigrants to Canada, brought with them a French cultural inheritance and the French language. For three hundred years the French immigrants and their descendants have remained very constant, loving and cherishing French culture, adding to it through the years so that it has now become French Canadian culture of no mean importance. In the Peace of Paris of 1763 when the British took over Canada, the French won for themselves freedom of religion and official status in Canada for the French

language. Thus it came about that Canada has two official languages, English and French and is a bilingual country. The 1961 census reveals that only 12 per cent of the Canadian nation speaks both English and French. This shows a high degree of indifference on the part of both the French and the English speaking majorities to each others culture and language. The majority of both of these groups seem to be satisfied to be one language people. This situation presents a barrier to a full understanding between these two important racial groups, and if allowed to continue is a danger to Canadian unity. The danger signs can be seen now. What should be more natural for a French Canadian who wants to add another language to his accomplishments than to select English. Indeed for their own good French Canadians, as many as possible, should become perfectly bilingual, for until they do they will not be able to take their full share, to which they are entitled, in the life of this nation. The English speaking people of Canada, who speak no other language than English, should for Canada's good become interested in learning French. In this way Canadian unity for the future will be assured.

THE THIRD ELEMENT

Now we come to the all other national origins—the 26% of our people, numbering about 4,680,000. These comprise about 100 odd ethnic groups of many lands, some very large such as the Germans, Ukrainians, Dutch and Jewish immigrants and their descendants and some very small such as the Danish, Norwegian, Swedish, Finnish, and Icelandic, each of which numbers about twenty thousand. These 100 odd ethnic groups have brought with them

their various cultural heritages and their languages. They lend colorful variety and stimulating energy to the Canadian scene. They have integrated readily into the national life, showing a remarkable readiness to learn the languages of Canada, either English or French as the case may be. The proof of this is found in the 1961 census which shows that only one per cent, that is 180,000 of the Canadian people, speak neither English nor French—a remarkable showing when we consider that for the last several years Canada has received about that many newcomers annually. These people have brought to Canada much linguistic knowledge, most of them being bilingual in having their mother tongue and English or French. A large number are multi-lingual. It is to be hoped that these various groups of Canadians of many origins will remain true to themselves and to their best loved traditions, thus enriching Canada as the British and French have already done. I quote you an eminent Canadian of British descent, a former Governor General of Canada, Rt. Hon. Vincent Massey, who, when on a speaking tour of Canada in the early 1950's had this to say: "It is in the interest of Canada that its racial groups each retain their particular characteristics. No one wants a country which would be an agglomeration of citizens of various origins who have sacrificed their most personal and original characteristics". I notice with some alarm there seems to be a growing tendency among some of the young descendants of the various immigrant groups to disdain the opportunity they have to learn in their parents' home the language of their forefathers. They seem to think that to become a good Canadian one should forget his former cul-

The Icelandic Celebration 1962

The 73rd annual Icelandic Celebration, held at Gimli on August 6th, once more proved to be a most successful occasion. Moreover, it had certain distinctive features this year which gave it added colour and significance. Among these features were the new backdrop which had been painted for the stage, and the most varied display ever of Icelandic national costumes.

Many of these costumes were worn by female members of a group of native Icelanders, who were making a tour of the northern United States and Canada, and who were making this celebration a part of their itinerary. The long black gowns, ornate with gold filigree belts, with lace jackets or aprons, lent great charm and colour to the occasion. The presence of these visitors from Iceland—there were over forty of them—served to emphasize and strengthen that relationship with the Homeland which is the basis of Icelandic Canadian culture.

The large new backdrop paintings behind the Fjallkona's seat of honour are the work of the well-known artist Arni Sigurdson of Seven Sisters, Man. These depicted significant aspects of Icelandic life and culture. The central theme was "Logberg" where the first freely elected parliament assembled in 930. Flanking this were paintings of Iceland's principal sources of wealth—a fleet of trawlers, representing the fishing industry, a modern farm scene to represent agriculture, and Iceland's largest waterfall—portraying the unlimited resources of water power and the country's scenic beauty. The famous stratified rock formation

'Studlaberg' (where, it is said, the rocks echo more clearly than they do anywhere else in the world), echoes the nation's pulse through the medium of the Fjallkona, and this painting, most appropriately, was located right behind the Fjallkona's throne.

The Fjallkona (Maid of the Mountains) this year was Mrs Ingibjörg Goodridge—dressed in the traditionally impressive robes of her station—and attended by Joanna Ingimundson and Shirley Bjarnason.

John V. Arnason of Winnipeg presided over the program, which included a number of brief addresses, music by the Gimli RCAF Station Band, and vocal solos by Miss Margaret Jonasson and Miss Patricia Johnson—both of Winnipeg.

The Toast to Canada was proposed by Olafur Hallson of Eriksdale, Man., and the Toast to Iceland by Heimir Thorgrimson (former editor of "Logberg"). An original poem, by Dr. S. E. Bjornson, appropriate to the occasion, was read. Greetings were brought by Health Minister George Johnson, on behalf of the Government of Manitoba, by Rev. P. M. Petursson on behalf of the Icelandic National League, by Mayor Violet Einarson—speaking for the town of Gimli, and by Mayor Lloyd Henderson for Prtage la Prairie. Gretir Johannson, Icelandic Consul, presented a plaque—centred by the Icelandic flag—as a gift from Ásgeir Ásgeirsson, President of Iceland, in appreciation of his visit to Gimli last year.

As usual, the festivities began in the forenoon with a colourful parade of floats. First prize was awarded to

the Viking Ship entered in the parade by the Gimli Chamber of Commerce, with the Minerva 4-H Club placing second. A program of athletic sports was held throughout the afternoon, and old friends enjoyed exchanging greetings and news with other friends, some of whom perhaps they only see on this occasion.

An interesting feature of the day's activities was the unveiling of a Hi-

storic Sites Marker in the Park—commemorating the arrival of the first Icelandic pioneers in 1875.

The evening sing song was led by Mrs. Elma Gislason and Mr. Gustaf Kristjanson, with Mrs. Jona Kristjanson accompanying at the piano. The dance in the evening brought to an end another most satisfying and really quite distinctive Celebration. —G.K.

NATIVE ICELANDIC INSTRUMENT OF SONG AND STORY MAKES ITS RE-APPEARANCE

If most of us were asked to call to mind an antique musical instrument it is not likely that we would be apt to suggest a "Langspil". In fact, few of us have ever heard of it. Nevertheless, this unique Icelandic instrument was, in earlier days, in general use throughout Iceland. During the past century or so it has completely disappeared from use, and practically none remain in existence—even in museums.

A revival of interest in this medieval musical instrument has recently made itself felt, however, due almost entirely to the efforts of the Icelandic folk-singer Anna Þórhallsdóttir. Fascinated by the possibilities of this instrument, she proceeded to have one especially constructed for her by a well-known violin-maker in Kaupmannahöfn, using as a model an actual Langspil which is still in existence in the museum in Kaupmannahöfn. This latter instrument is believed to date

from about 1770. Anna Þórhallsdóttir spent several months studying the history of the instrument, and at the same time taught herself to play upon it. This is no easy task, since there were no teachers or even performers who could be of any assistance to her. With the help of a book (published about 1885) she was able to master the intricacies of the instrument and has since used it extensively to accompany herself in her renditions of old Icelandic folk-songs, and for this she has won for herself high praise.

The Langspil is a fiddle-like instrument with three strings. It is laid on a table when played, and is played with a bow. The instrument which Anna Þórhallsdóttir performs upon is, of course, the only such instrument in actual use today.

The langspil was known in New Iceland, in the early days of the settlement. —G. K.

Two Historic Icelandic Sites in Manitoba

The Historic Sites Advisory Board of Manitoba is performing valuable public service in erecting markers on historic sites in the province. In this way the student of tomorrow will in a realistic way be brought to the scenes depicted in the official record in history books.

Markers have been placed by the Advisory Board in two historic places which mark important events in Icelandic settlement in Manitoba.

THE GIMLI MARKER

One of these Markers was placed in the Gimli Park, in Gimli, Man., and was unveiled on the day of the Icelandic Celebration at Gimli on August 6, this year. The Marker faces 4th Avenue, the south boundary of the park and is a few yards in and to the left of the gate into the park. Behind it is the pavilion and to the left is the grandstand which this year displayed the beautiful paintings by Arni Sigurdson of scenery in Iceland.

The Marker commemorates the arrival at Willow Point on October 22, 1875 of about "250* travel-weary men, women and children", as Olafur Hall-

* In the summer of 1875 285 Icelandic immigrants, most of them temporarily stationed in Kinmount, Ontario, travelled to Winnipeg with the intent of settling in "Nýja Island", New Iceland on the west shore of Lake Winnipeg, which had been picked out for them by their advance agents, the leaders of whom were John Taylor and Sigtryggur Jónasson. The group reached Winnipeg in October, and a few remained in Winnipeg but most of them continued down the Red River to the allotted area. They left Winnipeg on October 17th and reached Willow Point October 22nd, 1875.

son said in his Celebration address that day, "with no other shelter than a few tents—an enormous task before them to build winter quarters out of materials at hand".

The inscription on the Marker reads as follows:

WILLOW POINT GIMLI

In October, 1875, the first Icelandic Settlement in Canada was established at Gimli. The original destination of this group of about 250 settlers was the Icelandic River but due to the threat of winter they were landed at Willow Point south of their destination. Gimli was selected as a site for the settlement and there the first buildings were erected. The following year upwards of 1200 settlers established themselves along the west shore of Lake Winnipeg. This was the foundation of the largest Icelandic settlement outside of Iceland.

Historic Sites Advisory Board of Manitoba
1961

The unveiling of the Gimli Marker took place immediately after the close of the formal programme of the Icelandic Day celebration. Following a brief address by Hon. George Johnson, the Manitoba Minister of Health and member for the constituency of Gimli, the Marker was unveiled by the Fjallkona, the Maid of the Mountains, Mrs. Ingibjörg Goodridge. Her Worship, Mrs. Violet Einarson, Mayor of Gimli, read the inscription and spoke briefly, Mr. Hartwell Bowsfield, Secretary of the Historic Sites Advisory Board was present.

THE ICELANDIC RIVER MARKER

In 1876 the Icelandic settlement continued north as far as Hecla Island. It centred on a townsite on the banks of the river which the Icelanders named Icelandic River. The hamlet on the townsite, now the village of Riverton, was at first named Lundi.

The Constitution for the whole settlement, adopted January 11, 1878, provides that Lundi and Gimli were to be alternate centres for general meetings in the settlement. For many years the north and south settlements were distinct, in fact to some extent they still are, Camp Morton being on the dividing line. The Historic Sites Advisory Board very properly decided to place a Marker in both the north and the south settlements.

The north site selected is on the north bank of the Icelandic River. It is only a few yards from the place where the settlers landed in 1876. The Marker with a second marker setting out the geographic location of the site, is on ground dedicated to the village, between Highway No. 9 and the wharf on the north bank of the river. The inscription on the Marker reads as follows:

ICELANDIC SETTLEMENT RIVERTON

In 1876, the year following the landing of the first Icelandic settlers in Manitoba at Willow Point near Gimli, upwards of 1200 settlers located along the lakeshore from Gimli to the White-mud (Icelandic) River and Hecla Island. Three townsites were surveyed at Gimli, Sandy Bar and Lundi (Riverton) as centres of Icelandic settlement. At Riverton settlers took up all the frontage lands on both sides of the river below and three miles above this point and east of the river to Lake Winnipeg.

Historic Sites Advisory Board of Manitoba 1961

Riverton plans call for the placing of a cairn on the dedicated site in 1976 in honor of the original pioneers who settled there a hundred years before. The south district has already a cairn in honour of the Gimli pioneers so in course of time the two original settlements will each have a Cairn erected by the local residents, and a Marker, erected by the Historic Sites Advisory Board of Manitoba. —W. J. Lindal

TWO AWARDED DIPLOMAS IN MUSIC

Mrs. Russell McCreedy, St. James, Manitoba, has passed her final examinations for her A. R. C. T. Piano Teacher's Diploma, with honors (Associate Royal Conservatory, Toronto). Mrs. McCreedy is the former Shirley Thordarson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Thordarson, Dominion St., Winnipeg.

The McCreedy's have three children, Janis, 16, Norma-Jean, 12, and Kevin,

6 years. Janis holds her Grade 8 Toronto Conservatory certificate.

Miss Sigrid Bardal qualified for her Solo Performance A. M. M. Diploma in Piano (Associate in Music, Manitoba) in the recent Western Board examinations, conducted by the School of Music, University of Manitoba.

Sigrid is the daughter of Mr. Paul Bardal and the late Mrs. Bardal.

Mrs. McCreedy, her two girls, and Sigrid Bardal are studying with Miss Snjolaug Sigurdson.

The Lutheran Church in America

The largest merger in the history of Lutheranism in North America took place on Thursday June 29th 1962 in Detroit's Cobo Hall Arena. It was estimated that more than seven thousand persons, delegates from all parts of the continent, and visitors from the synods concerned, and from abroad, were present for the solemn and triumphant service of praise and thanksgiving which marked the occasion. This merger was the fruit and the culmination of six years of meetings and negotiations among the leaders of the various groups, dealing with points of doctrine, law and polity. The merging groups were the hundred and two year old Augustana Synod of 630,000 members, primarily of Swedish background; the ninety year old Evangelical Lutheran Church of 25,000 members mostly of Danish origin; the seventy two year old Suomi Synod with 36,000 members of Finnish ancestry; and the biggest of them all, the United Lutheran Church of America, with 2,500,000 members, which represents a half a century old merger of several synods originally of German origin, but now consisting of many national groups, including the Icelandic Synod which was founded almost eighty years ago. This new Church is now the largest in membership among Lutherans, and one of the biggest Protestant groups on this continent. The theme of the Convention was: ONE LORD, ONE FAITH. The unity of faith and spirit was manifested in a mass communion, attended by nearly six thousand people, with forty clergymen administering the sacrament at a specially

constructed communion rail stretched along the whole length of the Arena Hall.

The divisions among Lutherans on this continent have been primarily of ethnic nature. Each racial group, settling in the lands of their adoption, was determined from the beginning to preserve and perpetuate as long as possible their national culture, their language and their distinctive ecclesiastical tradition. The church became a bulwark in the battle for the preservation of cherished ethnic values. Thus there emerged as many synods as there were national groups of European background. Some of the racial groups became divided among themselves due to different emphasis on certain points of doctrine, or due to a preference for certain types of church administration. There were those who clung to the high church tradition of the home lands; others were pietistic, and some quite liberal in their interpretation of the confessional writings of the church. The human element has also played a large part in the divisions among Lutherans on this continent. The conflict of strong personalities, and the contest for leadership is quite apparent in many chapters of the history of the church. But a new spirit has emerged with the passing of the decades, and the outward pressure of our times,—the spirit of tolerance, and the desire for unity. One of the great unifying factors within the church, is the universal, and the now almost exclusive use of the English language in its worship services and work. It has become increasingly obvious that the former

divisions were no longer necessary, or even sensible. For the sake of economy in money and man power it became necessary to eliminate needless duplication of effort. It was also felt that in a world filled with conflict and confusion, the church must present a united front, and declare its common confession of one faith and its loyalty to one Lord.

The Icelandic Synod, which since 1940 has been a member of the United Lutheran Church in America, decided as a matter of Christian duty and practical necessity to join this merger, after the plan had been endorsed by its member congregations. This Synod has endeavoured, in spite of its small size and scattered constituency to preserve the faith of the fathers, for almost four score years. In the effort to preserve the faith in the **language** of the fathers, this Synod has had the same experience as other racial groups on the continent. This has been a losing battle along the entire front. This is of course only natural and inevitable development in view of the needs of a thoroughly English speaking generation, and the assimilation of races and ethnic groups within the church. At the present time only two congregations of the Icelandic Synod are using the language of the old country in their worship services, and one of them only occasionally. The congregations no longer find it feasible to have the Icelandic language spoken in their churches, even when Icelandic ministers are available, and most of the Synod's clergy are now of non-Icelandic origin. Under the circumstances the Icelandic Synod has shown true churchmanship and the proper ecumenical spirit by directing its brooklet into the broad stream of continental Lutheranism, and thus contributing to the preservation and promotion of

the faith of the fathers in the language of their children.

At the last convention of the Icelandic Synod it was decided to create a CONFERENCE OF ICELANDIC LUTHERAN CHURCHES, and this decision was endorsed at the constituting convention of the Lutheran Church in America, in Detroit. According to the constitution of this Conference, its objects are: 1) To preserve the existing fellowship of the members of the former Synod; 2) to re-establish fellowship with congregations and individuals that once were members of the Synod, and 3) to maintain religious and cultural ties with the State Church of Iceland. This Conference will thus be a spiritual successor to the Synod, and will carry on its functions, other than financial and administrative. It is proposed that this Conference shall hold annual meetings for the inspiration and fellowship of its members and others who cherish their Icelandic religious and cultural heritage.

The Lutheran Church in America is divided into thirty-one Synods, mainly on geographical lines. Thus there are three synods of this general body in the Dominion of Canada, one of which is the CENTRAL CANADA SYNOD. This Synod consists of about one hundred congregations, located in Saskatchewan, Manitoba and western Ontario. Most of the Icelandic congregations will belong to this Synod. The Central Canada Synod held its constituting convention August 27, 28, 29, in the new Parish Hall of the First Lutheran Church in Winnipeg.

The general president of the thirty Synods constituting the Lutheran Church in America, is the Reverend Dr. Franklin Clark Fry of New York, one of the leading figures in world Protestantism today, former president of the largest body involved in the

merger, president of the fifty million member Lutheran World Federation, and chairman of the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches.

At the constituting convention of the Central Canada Synod, the Rev. Dr. Otto Olson Jr. of Saskatoon, Sask.,

former president of the Canada Conference of the Augustana Synod was elected president. On assuming office on January 1st, 1963 he will take up residence in Winnipeg where the headquarters of the Central Canada Synod will be located.

—V. J. Eylands

Very Promising Artist



Karen Ingibjorg Johannsson

Five awards within 18 months have been won by a young Winnipeg art student, Karen Ingibjorg Johannsson, 19, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Skuli Johannsson, Suite 5, Roberta Apartments, 668 Sargent Avenue.

In 1961 Miss Johannsson received from the Manitoba Association for Art Education a merit award when her original work was selected for the Annual Exhibition of Manitoba School Children's Art in Winnipeg. This work was on public display during Easter week and subsequently was exhibited throughout the province during the balance of the year.

This year Miss Johannsson received a certificate from the Royal Drawing Society's Exhibition in London. Eng-

land, termed on the certificate "The Children's Royal Academy". The certificate stated that art work she submitted was "highly commended." Her specific piece of work was a plant drawing.

In July of this year Miss Johannsson won honorable mention in an art competition sponsored by a North American greeting card firm. Winning honorable mention with her were two other Winnipeg students, Murray Vernon Desmond Pay and Donald Edward Wozniak. Top award in the competition, a \$400 scholarship, went to five students, four American and one Canadian. The latter is Dawn Alexis McLeod of Regina, Sask. Entries in the competition from 125 contestants included 750 paintings.

Last spring among school awards at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto Miss Johannsson won honorable mention for her entry, a mural three by six feet. This encompassed school activities in mural form.

Also last spring she was given a merit award for scholarship in art by her school, Daniel McIntyre Collegiate.

Miss Johannsson was born in Reykjavik, Iceland, in 1943 and came to Canada and Winnipeg with her parents in 1955. She attended elementary school in Iceland and to date has received the balance of her education in Winnipeg. She began full-time studies in fine arts in September.

Maria Gudmundsdottir in International Beauty Congress



Miss Iceland (Maria Gudmundsdottir) with Stanley Olafson, amiable Icelandic Consul in Los Angeles. The event was a dinner given by the foreign consuls for the beauty contestants.

Maria Gudmundsdottir, 20, Iceland's delegate to this year's International Beauty Congress in Long Beach, California breezed through to the semi-finals but was outclassed in the final judging which bestowed the crown of Miss International Beauty 1963 and the \$10,000 (American dollars) that went with it upon a comely brunette from down under, Miss Australia.

This was the first trip to America for Maria, only child of Gudmundur Gudjonson, an architect in Reykjavik and she terms it "wonderful" from the time her lovely long legs stepped from a plane on the eastern coast at New York until her blue-gray eyes scanned the Pacific and Long Beach in California.

During her ten eventful days with the Pageant she roomed with Miss United States and Miss Turkey and before the end of the event, she had cemented sound friendships with them and many of the other 51 delegates from almost every corner of the world. It is always a heart-warming sight toward the end of the beauty pageant to see these contestants rushing around to get each other's autographs and expressing the hope that they may meet again "someday".

At 5'9", willowy Maria shared the honor of being tallest in the Beauty contest with Miss Norway.

"I used to cry myself to sleep because I was so long and lanky", confessed the lovely entry from the land

of "frost and fire". But that was before the fashion and photography field opened up for her and welcomed her height and slender 130 pounds as well as her near-perfect features and photogenic smile.

Maria is enjoying her career as a fashion and photographer's model in Europe and it would take something very special to keep her in America. Her working headquarters are in Paris.

"From there I go to different parts of Europe, sometimes South America, showing the new fashions of many clothing houses". Maria recently posed for Coca Cola in Paris and her picture will be seen on the firm's calendars next year and in magazine advertisements.

At the moment, fun-loving Maria is not "marriage-minded". "That will come later," she smiles. Her hobbies are reading and learning languages. For exercise she plays handball and during the contest, she proved she was one of the best "twisters" in the group

of lovelies.

When asked how the young people of America impressed her, she said: "I have found them very well mannered and polite to both the young and older people."

As to the average American and Icelandic, she thinks that perhaps there is a difference.

"From what I have observed", she ventured cautiously "Icelanders seem to work hard all winter and to save so that they can take off the summer months and have fun. Then they go back to work and save again for the next summer's fun."

About not winning the contest, Miss Iceland shrugged her beautiful shoulders "Win or lose, I have had an experience I'll never forget and met some very nice girls and other people I'll never forget. I'm very grateful that I reached the semi-finals and grateful to my sponsors and Iceland for sending me to America."

—Rhuna Emery

Some 160 people attended when members of the Icelandic-American Society of Southern California and friends in Los Angeles gathered at an evening dinner May 23 in the Cockatoo Inn in Los Angeles for an early celebration of the Icelandic Independence Day. A four-piece orchestra played during the dinner hour and president Jonas Kristinsson presided. Gunnar Matthiasson led in the singing of the United States and Icelandic national anthems. Larry Thor presided during the program of entertainment. Speaker was Stanley T. Olafson who brought greetings from Hon. Thor

Thors, ambassador of Iceland to the United States and Canada. There were many visitors from far and near, a number from Iceland.

Members of the Icelandic Society of Northern California gathered June 17 in the Marin Town and Country Club in Fairfax, Marin County, to celebrate the Icelandic Independence Day. Speaker was Rev. S. O. Thorlakson. Community singing in Icelandic was held and a harmonica solo by Johann Sorenson enjoyed. There was an exceptionally good attendance and the gathering included many visitors, a number of them from Iceland.

NOSTALGIA

From the Icelandic of Thorgils Gjallandi

Translated by BOGI BJARNASON

Thirty years have passed since I visited The Springs yet, to this day, one circumstance of that visit—a circumstance of no great significance in itself—persists in coming back to my memory, asleep and awake.

Upon a small hill of gravel, near The Springs, we came upon the whited skeleton of a horse.

We remarked at the time that probably the animal had sought in the hills, freedom from the tyranny of man and had found here its final rest.

We speculated somewhat upon the probable history and fate of the animal, but present cares soon claimed our attention, and in due time we were again on our way.

In the years intervening, the little mound with its burden of whited bones has persisted in coming back to my mind, again and again.

At long last the speculations upon the probable history and fate of the animal have resolved themselves into a story. By dint of bridging the gaps between the dreams, I have succeeded in evolving a complete and harmonious whole; but what parts of the story originated in dreams, and what is conscious elaboration is not clear to me as I write. The story, as I have pieced it together, is in this wise:

The horses had spread out over the greensward below the Hill Farm. The soft southerly breeze played with the grass, bending the heavier-headed stalks with an even, undulating motion while the shorter growth responded

with a nervous twitching. The reddish light of early morning poured over the scene, giving to all life its diurnal lease and benediction.

The animals, to the number of thirty, were hungry, with sides drawn, and showing the effects of the long journey. They wandered about cropping the succulent meadow-grass, occasionally stopping to roll and stretch their limbs.

Two youths stood watch over the herd to see that no animal wandered off.

The long-awaited caravan had finally come out of the north—this trek to which the youths had been looking forward all spring. They had awakened early and easily this morning, and they felt lithe and gay as they ran about upon their duties. They studied and appraised every animal in turn, occasionally mounting those which they could approach.

Others among the herd were untamed and shy, and these showed a proclivity to wander afield. They occasioned the boys some trouble, shying at every attempt to halter them.

But one particular animal gave them the greatest concern—a light bay mare with a golden sheen to her mane, and a white patch between the eyes. She was restive, with an evident desire to stray westward in the direction of the river which at this point raged along and was the reverse of inviting to anyone who might wish to cross over. Yet the youths were not over-confident that

the animal, given the chance, would stop to weigh the difficulties of such a crossing.

"She is the prettiest animal; I would choose her from the lot for all her perverseness," was the comment of the elder of the two swains.

"I agree with you," responded the other. "I hope she is the one Father is to get."

"I hope so too," rejoined the elder. "I wish I had the means to buy her outright. She'd be a treasure, I'll wager. Note how she leads the others."

"She's a beauty. Father will buy her, surely." Then the boys paused to gaze at the mare as she trotted up the slope in the van of the scampering herd.

At noon the itinerant herdsmen had risen, and after the midday meal went to where the herd grazed, followed by all the men native to the place. This was a day on which the hands desisted from all but demanding work, and to which they had looked forward.

"Which animal had you earmarked for me?" asked the farmer, looking over the lot with a critical eye.

"The choice is with you," said the horse-trader; "but I had picked for you the one with the star on the forehead."

"Untamed, isn't she?"

"All but; only broke to halter. I have mounted her on two or three occasions, along the way. She's a good animal, but needs conditioning."

"She's thin," remarked the farmer. "Probably run down during the winter."

"She suckled a foal for weeks. It was transferred to a nurse when I finally succeeded in making the trade. She comes of a good line."

"And the price?"

"Twenty-eight dollars. You can have her for as much as I paid."

"Comes high. Twenty-five is enough

for a six-year-old suckling mare. Isn't that the age you gave?"

"Yes, but I have had offers of thirty dollars. You shall have her for the twenty-eight, as I said before. Otherwise, pick from the herd."

"Star" was accordingly saddled and bridled for a trial ride by the farmer, after which an agreement was reached at twenty-eight dollars, to the great delight of the farmer's two sons.

"She may attempt to steal away," warned the trader. "Watch her well until she has become accustomed to the new surroundings. I could wish that she turn out as well as old 'Shaggy'. But the quality is there."

"The river will stop her if she tries to run away," replied the farmer. "Besides, she will have attention."

A short time later the trader departed with his herd.

Star and some of the animals native to the farm were corralled out of sight of the departing herd. When the hands returned to the corral after watching the herd recede in the distance, they came upon a lively fight, the new recruit standing her ground against the onslaughts of the local force and holding her own.

For a week the animals went about in hobbles, but the bands chafed cruelly on the legs of Star, who was unused to such restraints and had not acquired the skill of hopping.

On the Sunday morning following, the animals were corralled preparatory to the ride to church. The farmer saddled Star, determined to test her qualities as a mount.

This was before the days of prohibition, and the men of the valley rejuvenated their souls with the Word of God and their bodies with wine. When they returned from church they were late, and somewhat the worse for drink. The mounts were hot and spent;

the Sabbath had brought them little fare and less rest, whether in corral or at hitching post.

Star had stood the trip well, all things considered. She was admittedly second to 'Shaggy', the prize of the ranch and, by reason of this, somewhat of a disappointment to the farmer, who lost sight, for a nonce, of the fact that Shaggy had been spared the vicissitudes of the winter which the other animal had suffered.

"She'll do no running away this night, tired and hungry as she is," said the farmer as he removed the bit. "Moreover, she's taking up with the other animals and beginning to feel at home." All the horses were turned free.

The folks at the Hill Farm slept soundly that night and arose at a later hour than was their wont on Monday morning. It was presently noticed that Star was not to be seen, and from that day was never heard of, despite extensive searching and inquiry. The farmer nursed an itching palm, while the two boys mourned her passing in tears.

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When the animals had stretched and rolled in the grass and taken the edge off their appetites, Star betook herself off at a canter toward the river. The fording gave her little pause and she breasted the strong current easily. The opposite bank was difficult, and its ascent would have troubled a less determined beast. But the longing for home carried her on; it was breeze to the sails of her strength.

She struck out in a direction bearing to the south of the beaten way—in the direction of home and the herd, the freedom of open pastures, and of the young and lovely colt, her progeny.

She whinnied once only, then settled into a stride over stones and hillocks, over upland and lowland.

Her sides grey with the silt of the river and unprepossessing in appearance, she took her way without pause over sand and over lava, barren wastes of the volcanic hills.

Farther up, the glacier reflected the morning sun, and from under its foot there issued a torrent of muddy water in a continual series of rapids, formidable to any who would pass over. On the greensward at its eastern bank an animal, light bay in color and with a spot of white between the eyes, cropped at the grass—the Star of our story. She only paused to thrust her nose into the water, snorting thrice in succession before she turned away.

She was less ready to attempt this crossing than the first river in the morning. The sands and the bogs and the intervening desert had sapped her courage as well as her strength. She wavered before the fury of this torrent.

Farther up, the river ran wider and with less haste, and the approaches on both sides were of drift-sand. She explored this ford with her nostrils to the water and turned around and around before plunging in. Its fury smote her, and she was obliged to call forth the last units of strength and skill, with her life at stake. There could be no turning back in the swirl of water, and she battled on, now holding, now gaining. Fear lent her strength; one supreme effort and she gained the sandspit. She emerged winded, but stayed on no ceremony and quickly resumed her way. Head and mane rode the water, while a following swirl suggested that her back was but thinly covered. The nostrils, agape, were well above the surface, and the teeth met determinedly, while

two parallel furrows formed before her with every exhalation of her breath. She made steady headway despite the current. It was a sight to admire, this equine head, with its shining eyes and determined expression, as it glided upon the surface of the water.

The sandy ooze at the western shore was less difficult to negotiate than where she entered, yet it taxed her to the utmost to reach firm footing. Emerging, she ran to dry ground farther up the slope, where she rolled and stretched luxuriously. Rising, she shook herself and forthwith resumed her way.

Before her stretched a barrier of lava, rotten, sharp-flanged and treacherous remains of an ancient outflow. She explored the edge for a possible crossing, and made the venture at a point which appeared to her most feasible. Beyond, she could see inviting streams and green upland grass. She trod warily, nostrils exploring ahead, but despite her utmost care the surface shell crumbled frequently. She trembled with fear and her heart raced with anxiety. The last lap was the worst—the boulders larger, looser and less solid; but this was comparatively narrow, and beyond lay safety and succulent grass.

She arched her back as she essayed the first few steps upon this last section of the barrier. Tense as she was, she reacted with a violent start to the first break in the surface-shell, when the right fore-hoof went through. One swift wrench and she would be free; but before she could recover footing the left rear leg went down, locking in the sharp-edged slit as she lurched over on her side. And then commenced a series of pitiful efforts—the frantic struggles of a wild, terrified, high-strung animal. Blood streamed from gashes in her head, and superficial

wounds multiplied with every renewal of the struggle. And because the break occurred at a point of declension in the terrain, her weight bore downwards and suspended from her left rear leg, now badly bruised, still held fast in the rock-slit. She struggled and rested by turns, the agony of impending death surging in upon her; the sun beat down in fiery intensity and she was covered with the froth of her sweating; the eyes rolled, by turns showing all white, while the wheeze of labored breathing and the crumbling of lava broke the desert stillness.

One more lunge and Star was free. One edge of the slit imprisoning her hind leg had crumbled. Now to regain her feet.

A miracle! Star was alive, and no bones broken. She was across, but in what a pitiable state! Trembling with fear and spent with exertion, the left hind leg useless—bruised and bloody from knee to fetlock, and throbbing with pain. For a long while she stood, overwhelmed with the weight of the situation. Then she set off, limping her way towards the greensward.

The sun in heaven, "God's eye", looked down upon her plight with indifference; did not so much as hide his face with a passing cloud, but shone on with his usual brilliance. He shines upon the evil and upon the good; he pursues his even way, above the pain and misery of earth; shines with equal radiance and warmth whether or not the mites of earth weep and pray for deliverance; is equally indifferent to man or beast. He changes in no wise for all that.

There is verdure aplenty at The Springs when the season favors growth. But the winds, sweeping off the glacier, are changeable and treacherous—rains with high gales; blinding snow with paralyzing cold.

This year the spring had come early and remained. The summer following proved more changeable, notably the latter part.

The poor bay mare, alone in the region of The Springs, was spare of flesh when autumn came upon her.

The lameness in the left hind member persisted. Other bruises were healed.

Her expression was listless; gone was the tireless energy of a prior season; gone, also, the independence and ambition.

But her nostalgia remained, undimmed in its fervor.

Her formerly bright eyes no longer shone clear and radiant. They were dim with dreaming, and reflected the tiredness within.

Like the eyes of the man who has wept greatly—whom sorrow has laid low.

The autumn found her reduced to a mere shadow of her former self.

On three legs she could not essay the long and arduous way home, however much the longing consumed her, however hard it was to bear the solitude and rigors of her position.

Chilling rains set in early, followed by heavy frosts. Ice formed upon The Springs and the greensward withered. Winter crept upon her, blasting and merciless. Scarcity, hunger, starvation.

On the morning of the thirteenth of Yule, Star stood upon a bleak gravel-mound, the floods surging all about her. As the day wore on it grew colder and ice formed where land and water met. The storm bore down from the east, and she turned her buttock to, quivering before it.

Darkness fell, and a shrouded quarter-moon shone feebly. It was a dismal night to be abroad.

The stillness of death, and nature

herself congealing.

From afar was borne the sound of rushing water, from the east and from the west.

At midnight Star was still in the same place. Then she lifted up her head and gazed long and earnestly westward—saw the green pastures, where she had gambolled as a colt, and the other animals cropping nearby. The vision was but faint at first but came into relief as she continued gazing, until it stood out clear and bold. The scent of succulent grass assailed her nostrils. At last, at long last she was approaching home.

It was lovely, this HOME!

Now the vision bore across the river and up the farther slope. There, with the rest, was her light-maned colt. She lurched forward to meet it, and as she lurched she fell.

The storm whistled over her prostrate form.

Death was again. It was he who lent her the means to reach the longed-for goal. Then, as so often before, he succored the stricken.

Death, who brings rest and peace to the sore oppressed.

Far removed from the haunts of men, upon a bleak knoll, the bones of Star lie bleaching in the elements.

Rain and snow, sunshine and shadow, are upon them day after day, year after year. Save with the writer, they give no one concern.

My emotions are stirred in thinking upon her—this lone animal, which hearkened to the call of affection and the pleas of the heart; strayed from the way, and lost her life in the wilderness.

Which thereby suffered and pined, solitary, forgotten.

In the desert, in the wilds.

BOOK REVIEWS

A NOTABLE WORK ON THE VIKINGS

Holger, Arbman, **THE VIKINGS**. Translated and edited with an introduction by Alan Binns. New York: Frederick A. Praeger, 1961. Pp. 212; 67 photos, 38 line drawings, 6 maps. \$6.50

This authoritative work on the Vikings is a most welcome addition to the extensive literature on the subject in English. Dr. Arbman, who is Professor of Scandinavian Archaeology at the University of Lund in Sweden, is a highly regarded specialist in Viking art and archaeology, with numerous significant publications in his field to his credit, as well as with first-hand experience of having excavated a number of sites in Europe.

His work under review bears ample evidence of his ripe scholarship and insight, and presents a well-rounded survey of the Viking period. The author bases his discussion and interpretation of life and culture in the Viking age on both historical sources and archaeological information, succeeding excellently in investing that distant age and its people with convincing reality. Naturally, on the other hand, in the coverage of such a large subject, in terms of time and geography, there are bound to be points of honest disagreement among scholars in the field.

The first chapter of the book provides an excellent account of "The Background in Scandinavia" previous to the Viking Age. The opening paragraph strikes at the heart of the matter:

"A new culture is usually a gradual development, but in some circum-

stances very wide-ranging changes can happen very quickly without our being able to tell what the decisive factors were. Contacts with foreign countries are important, but rarely alone decisive. The Viking Age in Scandinavia may seem at first to have been a period of sudden change, but a closer study of the archaeological material shows that a fundamental continuity underlies it. A gradual development in contact with Western Europe was already taking place in the preceding period, the Vendel age, indicated by the boat graves near Vendel church in Uppland in mid-Sweden. In these as in other boat-graves the dead were buried with food and weapons, and goods which already included glass beakers and woolen cloth from Western Europe."

The author goes on to prove this contention with a penetrating evaluation of archaeological finds in Sweden in particular, and elsewhere in Scandinavia, describing climate, settlements, military camps and graves, the growth of market towns and the type of merchants found in Scandinavia at that time. Here is indeed brought together much salient and revealing information on the subject.

The following chapters deal in considerable detail with Viking colonization of the British Isles and Atlantic Islands, and on the West European continent; also in turn, with "Swedish Vikings in the East", the colonization of Iceland and Greenland, and the Norse expeditions to North America.

Especially interesting and enlightening is the chapter dealing with the expeditions of Swedish Kings to Russia and their establishment of colonies

there. Here, as throughout the book, the author draws both on historical material, in this case particularly the early twelfth-century Nestorian Chronicle, and on the archaeological discoveries available.

Then comes the closing chapter, on "The Art of the Viking Age", which, to this reviewer at any rate, is the most important part of the work. Here Dr. Arbman analyzes in great detail and with commensurate penetration the Art of the Vikings as preserved on weapons, ornaments and other objects notable in the Oseberg find from Vestfold in South Eastern Norway, which is of basic significance in this connection. He takes, of course, due notice of similar or related archaeological material discovered elsewhere in Scandinavia, but this is limited in scope.

Alan L. Binns, Lecturer in Anglo-Saxon studies at the University of Hull, has effectively translated and edited Professor Arbman's Swedish text, and writes a highly informative intro-

duction, where he rightly stresses the sometimes overlooked, or at least underestimated, "technological" side of the achievements of the Vikings, in ship-building, navigation and trade. This leads Mr. Binns naturally to a detailed discussion of "the tools of trade" of the Vikings, their ships and weapons. Nor does he neglect other phases of Viking life and civilization.

Numerous excellent photographs, line drawings, and several maps add to the general value and visual appeal of this very fine work. Further, there is a select bibliography, which shows clearly how wide the author has cast his net for his material. The explanatory notes on the plates included are also a valuable addition, as is the index.

In conclusion, it may be noted that the book, which is splendidly printed and attractive in appearance, is Vol. 21 in the series **Ancient Peoples and Places** under the general editorship of Dr. Glyn Daniel, and fills its place with distinction. —Dr. Richard Beck

THE ICELANDIC SAGA

by **PETER HALLBERG**,
translated into English by **Paul Schach**
Lincoln 8, Nebraska: University of Nebraska Press, pp. 179.

"Without exaggeration they (the Sagas) can be designated collectively as the sole original contribution of Scandinavia to world literature."

Peter Hallberg, in the introduction to **The Icelandic Saga**.

"The Poetry and prose of mediaeval Iceland constitute the most unique and probably the richest and most varied literature of any country of Europe in the middle ages."

Paul Schach, in the Preface to the translation of **The Icelandic Saga**.

"Peter Hallberg's **Den islandska sagan** is the most readable and reliable introduction to the Sagas of Icelanders to come to my attention since the publication of Sigurður Nordal's remarkable monograph *Sagalitter-*

aturin (1953). Indeed, these two slender volumes supplement each other in a most fortunate manner."

Paul Schach

The readers of Peter Hallberg's **Icelandic Saga**, whether they be of Icelandic origin or not, are indeed greatly indebted to the author and translator of this first rate and very readable work. It is rather remarkable that the author should be Swedish and the translator American.

Both author and translator show intimate knowledge of the entire field of Old Icelandic and other old Norse literature, both prose and poetry. They also show intimate knowledge of modern studies in this field, including Icelandic, Danish, Swedish, Norwegian, English, German and American studies,

all in their original language. This rating of Old Icelandic literature can therefore be accepted as being well-founded and, furthermore, indicative of qualification and incentive to produce a work of special merit.

The chapter headings are like apertures opening on interesting vistas. They are understandably the best guide to the subject matter of the book, indicating its wide sweep and variety of topics. The chapter headings are: 1. From the Settlement to the age of the Sturlungs; 2. The age of the Sturlungs to the Fall of the Commonwealth; 3. General characteristics of the Sturlung age; 4. Survey of the Literature of Iceland in the Twelfth and Thirteenth centuries; 5. Oral tradition and literary authorship and fiction in the Sagas of the Icelanders; 6. Style and character delineation; 7. Dreams and Destiny; 8. Life values

and Ideals; 9. Humor and Irony; 10. Several Individual Sagas; 11. The Decline of Saga Literature; 12. The Saga and Posterity.

The author praises the sagas for their epic quality, first rate artistry of characterization, and extraordinarily objective and realistic approach. Illustrative excerpts from the sagas are given in translation, in modern English but retaining the strength and atmosphere of the original.

The presentation is selective, concise, and lucid; the style stimulating. There is a close analysis of variant texts of several passages by critics for and against controversial points of view, such as on the origin of the sagas. There is a survey of the historical and cultural background of the saga period essential to a valid study of the sagas.

W. Kristjanson

Winner of Alma Wynne Memorial Trophy

At the Manitoba music festival held in Winnipeg, Man. in March Mary Margaret Nowell won the Alma Wynne Memorial Trophy. This competition is confined to winners in the intermediate vocalists who have won in their class. Mary won the intermediate mezzo soprano class.

In writing of the final concert of the festival Mr. Ray Maley music editor of the Winnipeg Tribune said: "Mary Nowell, 17, beautiful young blonde for whom I predict great things, revealed that most beautiful quality of soprano in her performance."

Mary Nowell won silver medals—Royal Toronto Conservatory 1960—61 and a Frederick Harris scholarship in 1961. At present she is appearing on the CBC-TV program "Swingalong".

She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs.



Mary Nowell

J. Gilbert Nowell and granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hillman.

Golden Wedding Anniversary



Hakon and Gudny Kristjanson

The golden wedding of Hakon and Gudny Kristjanson, formerly of Wynyard, Saskatchewan and now of Vancouver, British Columbia, was celebrated by a large gathering of family, relatives and friends, in the lower auditorium of the Unitarian church, in Winnipeg, August 25. The actual wedding date was October 8, 1912.

Their three sons and their wives were present, also their three daughters. All the children are university graduates, five from Saskatchewan and one from the University of British Columbia.

Jonas Ingiberg Kristjanson received his B.S.A. in 1947, specializing in Agricultural Engineering and soil research. He is now with the Department of Agriculture in Regina.

Gustaf R. Kristjanson graduated in Arts, started to work for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation in 1947 and is now in charge of Drama Production with the C.B.C. in Winnipeg.

Arnthor Marino Kristjanson is a science graduate, specializing in chemistry. He obtained his Ph. D. from McGill and is now Professor of Chemistry at the University of Saskatchewan in Regina College.

Lilja Gudrun, Mrs. J. E. Hearn, received her B.A. from Saskatchewan, majoring in English. For some years she was Librarian at the University of Southern California, a post she relinquished only a short time ago.

There are twin daughters. Una, Mrs. W. A. Stewart, of Halifax, majored in

English at the University of Saskatchewan.

The other twin sister, Svava, Mrs. C. R. Robbins, of Ottawa, took her first three years undergraduate work in Saskatoon and graduated from the University of British Columbia, majoring in Biology.

All six children won scholarships or other awards in their undergraduate work and distinguished themselves in extra-curricular activities.

Attendants at the wedding in 1912 and present at the golden wedding were the bridesmaid, Mrs. Ingibjorg Sveinsson, and the flower girl, Mrs. J. Tergeson, a niece of Mrs. Kristjanson.

Master of ceremonies was Franklin Olson, a nephew of Mrs. Kristjanson. Congratulatory messages were read and addresses were delivered, the latter by Mrs. Tergeson; Hjalmur F. Danielson, a former classmate of the bridegroom at the Manitoba Agricultural College; W. J. Lindal; Thorvaldur Thorvaldson, a nephew of the bride; and Mrs. Margaret Sigurdson a niece of the bride who in her remarks

emphasized the warmth and hospitality in the home of the guests of honour. An original poem by Dr. S. E. Bjornson was read by Arni Sigurdson.

Vocal numbers, including solos, duets and trios were contributed by Mrs. Evelyn (nee Thorvaldson) Allen, a grand-niece of the bride; Mrs. Stewart; Mrs. Robbins; and Gustaf Kristjanson. Songs selected were old-time favorites of the parents.

Hakon Kristjanson was born in Suður-Þingeyjarsýsla, in Iceland, in 1885. The family emigrated to America in 1893, settling first in North Dakota but moving to Saskatchewan in 1902.

Mrs. Gudny Kristjanson was born on Hecla Island, Lake Winnipeg, in 1890. She attended Normal School and taught for five years in Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

Immediately after their marriage, Hakon and Gudny took up their residence in the Wynyard district. On retirement from the farm, they resided for four years in Saskatoon. In 1953, they moved to their present home in Vancouver.

W. Kristjanson

Diamond Wedding Anniversary

On Sunday, August 19, about 150 people gathered in the Unitarian Church in Blaine, Washington, to pay tribute to Rev. Albert E. Kristjansson and Anna Kristjansson on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee of their marriage sixty years ago.

When the guests of honour arrived in the church parlor they were escorted to the head table by their daughters Nanna, Helga Sigurdson and Johanna (Jo-Ann) Franklin, to the accompaniment of the wedding march played by Mrs. V. W. Nemyre. On

one side of the honoured guests at the head table were Mr. and Mrs. Sigurdson and on the other side were Mr. and Mrs. Franklin. At one end of the table was Tryggvi Kristjansson, a brother of Albert, and at the other end was his niece, Freda, Mrs. H. E. Garez.

At the centre of the head table was a wedding cake and flowers decorated the tables in the parlor.

Mrs. Franklin, speaking on behalf of the three daughters, Nanna, Sigrun Soffia, who could not be present, and herself, expressed with warmth and



Rev. and Mrs. Albert Kristjansson

feeling their sincere appreciation of all that their parents had meant for them, and paid tribute to them for the hospitality they had shown in their home at all times and the service they had rendered for the church and to the public. Mrs. Franklin then opened the more or less official programme.

Many of the felicitations and words of appreciation were expressed in poetry. Gunnbjorn Stefansson, Pall Bjarnason and Dr. S. E. Bjornson read poems they had composed for the occasion. Dr. Bjornson read original poems by Dr. J. P. Palsson of Vancouver and Vigfus Guttormsson of Lundar, Man.

Addresses were delivered by Mrs. Marja Bjornson of White Rock, B. C., Mrs. Olafia Melan of Winnipeg, Tryggvi Kristjansson of Gimli, Frank Fredrickson of Vancouver and others.

A number of congratulatory messages were read, including one special-

ly touching from Rev. E. S. Brynjolfsson, seriously ill in Vancouver.

Three musical selections were rendered by the well known Breidfjord Quartette.

Rev. Albert and Anna Kristjansson thanked their daughters and those present at the pleasant and dignified gathering.

Rev. Albert Edwald Kristjansson was born in Iceland, April 17, 1877. His parents emigrated to Canada when he was 11 years old and settled in the Gimli district where Albert resided for 18 years. He served for a term in the Manitoba Legislature and is a past president of the Icelandic National League. He is now Minister Emeritus of Blaine Unitarian Church.

Mrs. Kristjansson, Anna Petrea Jakobsdóttir, was born in Iceland June 22, 1881, and emigrated to Canada with her parents when she was two years old. —W. J. L.

SCHOLARSHIPS



Miss Lynn Thorkelsson

Miss Lynn Thorkelsson of Thompson in Northern Manitoba in August was named the first winner of a Malcom Construction Company Limited scholarship established this year at Thompson High School for competition among Grade 11 and 12 graduates. She was chosen for the award from the approximately 250 students at the school. The scholarship carries all the requirements of the governor-general's award and will be competed for annually. Enrolment at the high school does not now qualify the school for a governor-general's award. Miss Thorkelsson had previously won a Canadian scholarship and her sister Ione an award for highest standing in Grade 9. They are the daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Thorkelsson. Mr. Thorkelsson is the son of Mrs. Gudrun

Thorkelsson, 943 Lipton Street, Winnipeg, and the late Hallor Thorkelsson.

★

An Isbister scholarship was awarded Hadley Jon Eyrikson, a first-year law student at the University of Man. following examinations last spring which he passed with honors. Son of Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Eyrikson, 500 Basswood Place, Winnipeg, he received his bachelor of arts degree from the University of Manitoba in 1960.

★

AWARDED A RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP OF \$2,650.



Ross Gerald Legrand

Ross G. Legrand, son of Gerald F. and Evelyn (Athelstan) Legrand of Minneapolis, Minnesota, graduated from Carleton College with a bachelor degree in June, 1962. Mr. Legrand has

been awarded a research assistantship worth tuition plus \$2,650 a year at Princeton University graduate school of Psychology where he will spend the next three years earning his Ph.D.

In 1958 he was awarded a scholarship of \$2,500. See The Icelandic Canadian Autumn 1958.

★

Gary F. Legrand graduated from the Institute of Technology, University of Minnesota with the degree of Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering, June 1962. He is the son of Gerald F. and Evelyn (Athelstan) Legrand of Minneapolis, Minnesota. Mr. Legrand has accepted a position with the Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company and plans to study for a master's degree. Garry is married and has one child.

★

JAMES T. WATT

AWARDED FELLOWSHIP OF \$1,500



James T. Watt

In the summer, 1962, issue appeared a brief item on the graduation of James Temple Watt of Toronto from

the University of Toronto. In the report it was stated that he was planning to proceed to post-graduate studies.

Later it was learned that Mr. Watt had been awarded a teaching fellowship of \$1,500 at the McMaster University in Hamilton, Ont. Next winter he will teach history some hours a week and at the same time study for his master's degree.

Mr. Watt is the son of Mrs. Johanna Watt and the late James Watt of Toronto, grandson of Asdis P. Johanneson, formerly of Winnipeg and now of St. Catherines in Ontario.

The Icelandic Canadian extends congratulations to this promising student.

★

AMBITIOUS STUDENT

teaches during summer holidays



Donald Wayne Swainson

In the summer, 1962, issue of the magazine appeared an item announcing that Donald Wayne Swainson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ingi Swainson of Winnipeg, had been awarded a University of Toronto Special Open Fellowship of \$2,500.00 plus fees.

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Instead of holidaying during the summer holidays this energetic and promising student taught summer school at United College, Winnipeg.

★

Kenneth Vilhelm Paulson of Wynyard, Sask., last spring was awarded a 1962-63 National Research Council studentship of \$2,400 for continuation of his studies for a philosophy doctorate in physics at the University of Saskatchewan. Mr. Paulson is a graduate of the University of Manitoba with a bachelor of science degree and was awarded a master of science degree at the fall convocation last November of the University of Saskatchewan. He is the son of Mrs. Bjorg Paulson and the late Paul Paulson of Wynyard.

★

ALLAN BJORN FREDERIKSSON,
B.Sc., M.S.C.

Allan Bjorn Fredriksson, son of Rev. J. Fredriksson and the late Tina Fredriksson, graduated from the University of Minnesota in June, 1958, with the degree of Bachelor of Science in animal husbandry, and with the Masters degree in 1960. Allan will complete his Doctors Degree next spring.

Allan completed his high school studies in Deloraine, Manitoba, and two years of forestry in Bottineau, N., Dakota.

Mr. Fredriksson enlisted in the 5th Armoured Division, U. S. Army in 1952 and served in Korea.

Allan Fredriksson always took a very active part in extra-curricular activities both during his high school years and later. He was president of the Lutheran Student Association and a member of the Farmhouse Fraternity. He was awarded the man of the quarter and received a trophy for being the most valuable football player on the farmhouse team.

JOHN STEPHAN MATHIASON

John Stephan Mathiasson, B.A., M.A., has left for Cornell University where he is continuing his studies for the doctor degree in anthropology. He received his B.A., degree from Manitoba and his M.A. degree from the University of Michigan.

During the course of his graduate studies John Mathiasson has received a number of scholarships and bursaries which have enabled him to continue his studies. Last summer he taught sociology at the University of Manitoba Summer School.

In addition to his studies at Cornell leading to the P.H.D. degree John has been taking Icelandic from Vilhjalmur Bjarnar, the Librarian in the Fiske library.

John Stephen Mathiasson is a son of Mrs. W. (Jona) Kristjansson of Winnipeg and her former husband, the late Matthias Mathiason.

★

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA GRADUATE

Stephan Vilberg Benediktsson, Degree of Science in Civil Engineering, son of Rosa and the late Sigurdur V. Benediktsson,

★

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA GRADUATES

Jerome Conrad Bernhoft, Cavalier, N. Dak., Bachelor of Science, son of Mr. and Mrs. Christ Bernhoft.

Paula Jo Geston Heigaard, Gardar, N. Dakota, Bachelor of Science in Education and Bachelor's Diploma in Teaching. Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe S. Geston.

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Elias Wilmar Vatnsdal, Hensel, North Dakota, Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. Son of Mrs. Theodore (Ted) Vatnsdal, of Grand Forks, and the late Mr. Vatnsdal.

Kenneth Franklin Johannson, Langdon, N. Dakota, Juris Doktor. Son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Johannson.
Randolph Evan Stefanson, Grand Forks, North Dakota, Juris Doktor. Son of Mr. and Mrs. Skuli Stefanson.

**1962 GRADUATES OF MANITOBA
TEACHERS COLLEGE
of Icelandic descent**

James Duncan Anderson, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Anderson, Libau, Manitoba.

Patricia Carole Jones, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Jones (mother Icelandic), 463 Berwick Place, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Gordon Edgar Bardarson, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Bardarson, Hnausa, Manitoba.

Evelyn Rae Lowry, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Lowry, (mother Icelandic), Darlingford, Manitoba.

John Julius Erickson, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Erickson, Lundar, Man.

Irene Nordal, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Nordal, Selkirk, Man.

Ingrid Janet Gislason, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. Gislason, 567 McNaughton Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Ronald Victor Sigurdson, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Sigurdson, Swan River, Manitoba.

Diane Rebecca Gottfried, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Gottfried, (mother Icelandic), Box 450, Gimli, Manitoba.

Carolyn Gladys Skagfeld, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. Skagfeld, St. Vital, Manitoba.

Mary Alexandria Halderson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Halderson, Ste. 2-214 Furby St., Winnipeg, Manitoba

Brian Clifford Thorarinson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thorarinson, Riverton, Manitoba.

Albert G. H. Johannson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lorne Johannson, 491 Newman Street, Winnipeg, Man.

Karen Petrina Thorkelson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. Thorkelson, Lundar, Manitoba.

Jo-Anne Stephanie Johannson, — daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Steve Johannson, Gimli, Manitoba.

Patricia Mae Thorlacius, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arni Thorlacius, Ashern, Manitoba.

Darlene Dorothy Tomasson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Helgi Tomasson, 1325 Valour Road, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

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EDITOR OF LOGBERG-HEIMS-

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★

MARATHON SWIM ON CLEAR
LAKE SUCCESSFUL



Mrs. Ingibjorg Jonsson

Mrs. Ingibjorg Jonsson, editor of Logberg-Heimskringla, Winnipeg, only Icelandic weekly newspaper in North America, toured Iceland this summer as guest of the Council of the Vestmann Islands and the Icelandic National League of Iceland. She was accompanied by her sister, Mrs. Thorunn Valgardson of Moose Jaw, Sask. They left in July and returned in September.

Since the death of the late Einar P. Jonsson, Ingibjorg has very ably performed the duties of both the editor and business manager of Logberg-Heimskringla. This merited honor will strengthen the bonds of affection and



Rev. J. Fredriksson

Thursday, August 16th was an eventful day which will go down in the records as the date on which Clear Lake was conquered by Erickson's marathon swimmer, Rev. J. Fredriksson, 61-year-old Lutheran pastor.

When the swim got underway in the early hours of Thursday morning, it was indeed a very cold August morning with the air temperature being in the 40s. Rough water also was a factor at the north end of the lake. The marathon swim came to a successful ending about 2:30 p.m.

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Rev. Fredriksson ate broth and meat sandwiches for nourishment in the water.

The 19-mile swim across frigid Clear Lake and back was sponsored by the Erickson Lions Club. Thousands watched from shore, many more from small craft. Authorities kept them at a distance.

The determination, stamina and fortitude required to accomplish that swim is a credit to Rev. Fredriksson's determination to successfully complete the marathon swim.

Last year Rev. Fredriksson was unsuccessful in a similar attempt on August 24th when high winds forced a halt to the swim at 12:15.

Other long swims he has previously made were: Lake Metigoshe, N. Dak., about 5 miles, Sylvan Lake, 4 miles, Lake Newel, Alta., 6 miles, Coeur de Lake, Idaho, 7 miles, and across and back at the Narrows, Lake Manitoba.

—The Erickson News, Aug 23, 1962

★

COUNCILLOR BJORN JONASSON HONORED

Approximately 150 people crowded the Canadian Legion Hall at Ashern, Man. in July to honor Bjorn Jonasson on the occasion of his retirement after 42 consecutive years as member of the council of the Rural Municipality of Siglunes, 30 years as councillor and 12 as reeve.

Hon. George Hutton, minister of agriculture representing Premier Duff Roblin, presented Mr. Jonasson with a Manitoba pin for distinguished service to the municipality and province, and reminded his listeners such a pin "couldn't be bought. It had to be earned"

Lawrence Smith, president, on behalf of the Union of Manitoba Municipalities, presented Mr. Jonasson with

an honorary membership pin, the second such award to be made

Oli Erickson, reeve of Lakeview Municipality and a former reeve of Siglunes Municipality, presented Mr. Jonasson with a reclining chair on behalf of Siglunes municipality residents.

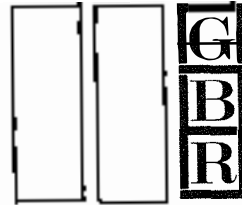
Other speakers included Stuart S. Garson, former premier of Manitoba and federal minister of justice who in early years was solicitor for Siglunes Municipality, Eric Stefanson, M.P. for Selkirk constituency, G. R. Duncanson, reeve of Eriksdale Municipality, Kari Byron, reeve of Coldwell Municipality, Elman Guttormson, M.L.A. for St. George constituency, and Herman Plohman, present reeve of Siglunes Municipality who was chairman. Also at the head table was Jonas, a young brother of Mr. Jonasson.

Speakers related how Mr. Jonasson, who will be 78 this fall, homesteaded in 1908 in the Silver Bay district west of Ashern when there were no roads and he was one of the first white settlers in the territory. They told how Mr. Jonasson had devoted himself to bettering the community and building roads throughout the municipality which over the years won several Good Roads Association awards.

★

COUNCILLOR KARI S. JOHNSON HONORED

The council of the Rural Municipality of Argyle in southern Manitoba in July honored Kari S. Johnson of Baldur on the occasion of his retirement after 38 years' service with the municipality. Argyle Reeve E. Alec Graham presented Mr. Johnson with a cheque for \$500, as a gift from the ratepayers of the municipality. Council members and Eric Norberg, municipal secretary-treasurer, presented him with an engraved clock.



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Qualified Adoption Agencies in each city and district are eager to discuss adoption with any married couple who are interested in adopting a child. Roman Catholic and Protestant residents of Greater Winnipeg should call the Children's Aid Society of Winnipeg, (WHitehall 2-0511), and Jewish residents may call the Jewish Child and Family Service (JUstice 9-6343). Each call is considered on an individual basis. We cannot guarantee that all couples will be able to secure an adopted child, but most couples will.

No agency has restrictions or requirements which revolve around residence, citizenship, housing or high income. The fundamental concern is that adopting parents be able to offer a child love, and create in their home the warmth and unity of family life. The father may be a labourer, a salesman, a doctor; have little formal schooling or a university education. The needs of children are varied, but the one thing a child must have is a home of his own. Persons of every nationality, creed and colour are welcomed, whether they live in a house

or an apartment so long as they can provide the basic necessities of family life.

The ages of adopting applicants are considered, and their health is important, although handicapped persons are considered, as well as those who have been seriously ill in the past, then medical reports from their doctors are obtained by the agency. Persons who have been previously married and widowed, or divorced, can also be considered as potential adopting parents.

There is no long waiting list of adoption applications. A couple may be approved for adoption as early as four months after they apply. The number of children a couple may adopt will, of course, depend upon the kind of children the parents want, upon their ability to provide security for a large family, and upon the number and kind of children available for adoption at the time. A social worker will try to help the parents every step of the way. There is a nominal fee for completion of the adoption but there is provision that this may be waived.

Every day a child is born who will never know what it is like to have a home of his own, or parents that he can call his own, unless he can find some family, somewhere, who can accept him, love him, and cherish him as one of their own. Foster home care is, at best, a substitute. Adoption is the only avenue open to a full, rich life for each of these children. Their opportunity for happiness depends entirely upon the numbers of parents who seek to adopt a child (or children) into their homes.

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NEWS SUMMARY

Sveinn Skorri Hoskuldsson, who attended the University of Manitoba during the 1960-61 term as a student from Iceland, has been appointed lecturer in Iceland at the university at Upsala, Sweden. It is understood his duties begin this fall.

While in Winnipeg Sveinn Hoskuldsson made a special study of Gestur Palsson. It is expected that a book or an extensive report on Palsson by Sveinn will soon be available.

★

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Mrs. Elma Gislason of Winnipeg was elected president at the 37th annual meeting of the Western Canada Unitarian Women's Alliance held in July at Hnausa, Man. Miss Gudbjorg Sigurdson of Winnipeg was named vice-president, Mrs. Gudrun Eyrikson of Winnipeg secretary, Mrs. P. M. Petursson of Winnipeg recording secretary and Mrs. Margret Sigurdson of Gimli financial secretary. Retiring president Mrs. Sigrud McDowell presented her report and told of the Unitarian conference at Fort Qu'Appelle, Sask., which she attended last fall.

★

Visitors from near and far attended when the Icelandic-American Society in Chicago, Illinois, staged its celebration in June marking the anniversary of the independence of Iceland. Valur Egilsson, president, presided, and speaker was Paul S. Johnson, vice-consul for Iceland. The program included community singing in Icelandic and a showing of a set of films of Iceland. Dancing followed and continued into the small hours of the morning. Approximately 63 people attended. Welcomed among visitors were a number from Iceland, at the time on a North American tour.

★

A shortage of medical doctors looms in Iceland according to the May issue of the World Medical Journal. The Journal says failure to earn an adequate living had led to emigration from Iceland of many doctors to the extent that the country is now confronted with an acute shortage. It is predicted that by 1964 it will be impossible to maintain the present level of hospital services.

The president of the Icelandic Medical Association is reported to have said doctors in Reykjavik work 55 to 85 hours a week. The maximum earn-

ed by general practitioners is said to be a little more than \$200 per month.

★

Miss Irene Henrickson was among 30 graduates of the Royal Alexandra Hospital School of Nursing at Edmonton, Alberta, last spring and was awarded the Royal Alexandra Hospital Women's Auxiliary award for general proficiency. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Henrickson of Edmonton.

★

Two major events this summer for the Edmonton Icelandic Society at Edmonton, Alberta, were the annual meeting and annual picnic. The meeting was at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Don Shaw May 28 and was presided over by president Gunnar Thorvaldson. Mrs. Lorraine Gislason read the minutes and Bill Backmann presented the financial report. Mrs. Orr gave a talk on the needs of the Icelandic Old People's Home at Vancouver, B. C. The picnic was held June 17 in Victoria Park under sunny skies. The Fjallkonan (Maid of the Mountains) was Mickey, Mrs. Don Shaw who was crowned by Mrs. Margaret Cameron who played the role last year. The program included a parade, races and a baseball game.

★

Dr. P. H. T. Thorlakson, prominent Winnipeg physician, was named a member of the Manitoba Hospital Commission when it was formed last spring by the provincial government. The commission has five members.

★

A prominent educator from Iceland, Dr. Eysteinn Tryggvason, this summer was appointed professor of geophysics at the University of Oklahoma at Tulsa. Dr. Tryggvason received his education in Iceland and Norway. He is married and has two children.

★

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