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WHITECOURT
The News Magazine from the Radical Middle
Advisor

SEPTEMBER 2006 — VOL. 4 NO. 9 — CIRCULATION 5,250 www.whitecourtweb.com

Making lemons into lemonade

For better or worse, the multi-use debate has finally ended. There is still a split in the town, with comments about intimidation, misrepresentation, spending of taxpayers dollars and so on being bandied about in regards to some of the political tactics used. While such

alleged types of behaviour are unacceptable in the final analysis, it might be good to step back and take a wider view of the entire affair.

First and foremost, perception is such that each side of a debate will exaggerate

(Continued page 4)



Sagitiwa to Whitecourt - Part Two

By Jerry Graham
(Ed - the following is a fair use, first hand account of early days in Whitecourt)

The Whitecourt the author found nestled at the foot of the hill extended from the property of the late Pe-

(Cont. page 19)

Monthly Quiz

What am I?
The beginning of eternity
The end of time and space
The beginning of every end,
And the end of every place.

Answer on page 30

SoCred in town

Lavern Ahlstrom, leader of the Alberta Social Credit Party (pictured below in Friendship Park) and Execu-

(Continued page 15)

New radio station coming



Whitecourt will be getting its second radio station within a relatively short time. CIXM Country plans to begin broadcasting in September.

The station is a continu-

ation of the effort started by independents Ed and Remi Tardiff. It will be housed in a building opposite the downtown Video Gallery, helping revitalize downtown.



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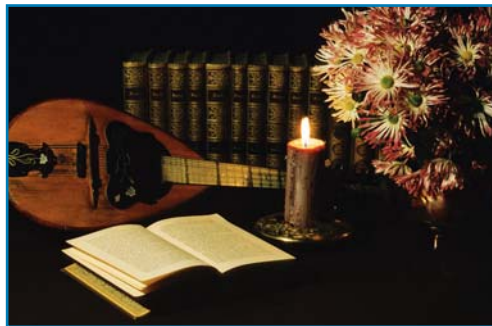
Setting the Record Straight on J.W. Leedy - Part Two

by Dan Parker

In Part One of this article it was pointed out how relatively recent history is often distorted by groups in positions of influence. It was also reiterated that the saying 'history is the myth of the victors' is an overstatement, with the truth coming out eventually about most historical events and personages. One such case of distorted history involves Whitecourt pioneer J.W. Leedy, who was a strong monetary reformer, and also the subject of a questionable article entitled *The Continental Commoner* by Karel D. Bicha, Professor Emeritus of History at Milwaukee's Marquette University.. This article resides in the Alberta his-

torical archives and should be appended with corrections, in the opinion of this writer.

Last month, it was pointed out that significant documentary evidence exists sug-



gesting author Bicha wrote the opposite of the truth in claiming that most people on both sides of the border used the word 'mediocre' to describe pioneer Leedy's abilities (outside of his speaking talents). Further to this, original material written by Leedy showed his views regarding deficiencies in banking legislation he had signed into law were undoubtedly the opposite of that ascribed to him by Bicha. The reasons for the inaccuracies are open to conjecture. Possible reasons include honest mistakes or a subconscious attack on someone who questioned the establishment Bicha is a part of.

It seems somewhat redundant to examine the other charges made by Bicha against Leedy, given the significant shortcomings of the piece in question already, as shown in Part 1 of this article. However, defending a

(Continued on page 11)

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The son-in-law interrupted. "I hate factories. I can't stand the noise."

"I see." replied the father-in-law, "Well, then you'll work in the office and take charge of some of the operations."

"I hate office work," said the son-in-law. "I can't stand being stuck behind a desk."

"Then what am I going to do with you?"

"Easy," said the son-in-law. "Buy me out."

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3. And from the pilot during his welcome message: "Delta airlines is pleased to have some of the best flight attendants in the industry. Unfortunately, none of them are on this flight!"

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Doctor, Doctor

A surgeon was checking on a patient who had a hernia operation three days before.

The doctor asked the man why he had not gotten out of bed.

"I hurt," the man said.

"You don't know how it feels."

"I know exactly how it feels," the doctor said.

"I had the same procedure last month, and I was back at work two days later. There's no difference in our operations."

"Oh yes there is," said the patient. "You had a different surgeon."

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Safety First

(As reported by mother)

I was driving with my three young children one warm summer evening when a woman in the convertible ahead of us stood up and waved. She was stark naked! As I was reeling from the shock, I heard my five-year-old shout from the back seat, "Mom! That lady isn't wearing a seat belt!"



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(Continued from page 1)

generate the shortcomings of the actions of its opponents, while glossing over those of its allies. This might seem obvious, but the degree to which reality can be filtered would surprise most people. A scientific study reported in the New York Times demonstrated that popular beliefs can actually override people's personal visual observations. Through MRI and brain scans, researchers determined that people can go along with a myth propagated by their culture or group, even when it contradicts what they are seeing; and still show no physiological evidence of lying.

Be that as it may, it is an old saying that "politics is a dirty game". It is more ac-

curate to say politicians are often forced to play a dirty game, since politics itself can be a noble pursuit, whereby lives, nations and the world can be improved. However, one merely has to watch a parliamentary debate for five minutes or read about the shenanigans that hit the mainstream media during an election, to see the truth regarding the current political state of affairs. Two caveats here are that the

newer the government, and the closer the government is to the people, the more pro-

fessional and honourable it is likely to be.

“ Through MRI and brain scans, researchers determined that people can go along with a myth propagated by their group, even when it contradicts what they are seeing; and still show no physiological evidence of lying. ”

As has been mentioned in these pages, politicians consistently finish last when Canadians are surveyed as to which occupation they trust the most. Much of this is no doubt due to the fact that most professions are not under a media spotlight. More importantly, the private banking system holds our elected officials in thrall, such that many decisions they make are based on the requirements of the

money system above, rather than on the wishes of the electorate below. It is useful for this hidden group to encourage the demonization of politicians, the better to draw attention away from themselves.

While currently there is no escaping the local effects, both social and economic, of our obsolete money system, there is much to be thankful for. First and foremost, the multi-use debate was really a tempest in a teapot in regards to more serious matters, whether at the local level or not. Egos were the primary casualty on both sides during the debates. It wasn't all that long ago, in historical terms, whereby dirty politics would have given way to violent

(Continued on page 5)

There can be little doubt that regardless of where the Multi-Use facility is built, it will be an asset to Whitecourt. If you have the time and inclination to help raise funds for this project, please apply with a letter/résumé outlining your abilities and interest in the project. Applications accepted until 12 noon, Wednesday September 6 at Whitecourt Town Office 5004 - 52nd Avenue Box 509 Whitecourt AB T7S 1N6 Fax 778-4166 E-mail jaygranley@whitecourt.ca Call Jay at 778-6300 if you have any questions.

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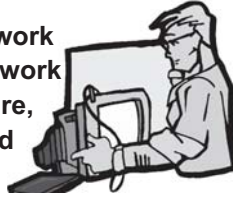




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(Continued from page 4)

confrontation. King Trevor's head, or Duke Larry's would be perched atop the 'Welcome to Whitecourt' sign at the closing of any significant principality dispute in the not too distant past. Politics as a dirty game is a distinct improvement. As much as the money system is criticized within these pages, raising the bar of debate is something that was encouraged by our hidden, 'permanent' government. This is not to say that further improvement is unnecessary.

Secondly, the multi-use debate sparked a resurgent interest in local decision making by Whitecourt's population. There is much good that can come out of this in the future. A fuller text of

Winston Churchill's famous quote follows, and it is hoped it can provide inspiration for those somewhat disheartened by the inevitable defects in our democracy. Churchill was speaking shortly after the defeat of totalitarian Nazi Germany and while Russia was suffering under a small group of elites who thought they knew what was best for everyone.

"We accept in the fullest sense of the word the settled and persistent will of the people. All this idea of a group of supermen and super-planners, such as we see before us, "playing the angel," as the French call it, and making the masses of the people do what they think is good for them, without

any check or correction, is a violation of democracy. Many forms of Government have been tried, and will be tried in this world of sin and woe. No one pretends that democracy is perfect or all-wise. Indeed, it has been said that democracy is the worst form of Government except all those other forms that have been tried from time to time; but there is the broad feeling in our country that the people should rule, continuously rule, and that public opinion, expressed by all constitutional means, should shape, guide, and control the actions of Ministers who are their servants and not their masters."

All in all Whitecourt is a

good town. Our local government has participated in some great improvements, whether it be Friendship Park, the pond and water feature at Rotary Park, the maintenance of everyday town infrastructure and so on. In the opinion of this writer, the multi-use location chosen was not one of the better decisions. However, that is a done deal, and it is only an individual opinion.

More importantly, what about the issues of health-care and long term care of our aging population, for example? There is lots of work to be done, and work that can be fun under the right circumstances. The democratic structures that have arisen as a result of the multi-use debate can do an invaluable

(Continued on page 10)

Town Press Release Summary

Construction on the Whitecourt Woodlands Multi-Use Facility is scheduled to start in September. Town Council accepted the official results from the August 14th Public Vote on the location of the Multi-Use Facility, and has awarded the tender for Phase 1 of the project. The tender, for a pre-engineered building, has been awarded to Brytex Buildings at approximately \$150,000 under budget.

Town Council is committed to enhancing and improving the Whitecourt Twin Arenas, and approved a number of short-term facility priorities at its August 21st Regular Meeting. Projects were identified by representatives of fa-

cility user groups.

Town Council is continuing to review and implement recommendations from the Corporate Review completed by G.B. Cuff & Associates earlier this summer. In July, Town Council formed the Recommendation Review Committee to review and discuss the recommendations.

The Committee has developed an implementation schedule and Town Council has already approved a number of new policies and procedures. The Recommendation Task List and Implementation Schedule will be updated monthly. It and the roadside cleanup program are available to the public on the Town's website at www.whitecourt.ca.

Ottawa - August 17, 2006

It has been a busy summer for many Members of Parliament and the Prime Minister is no exception. This past week Prime Minister Harper travelled to Canada's North and promoted our Nation's sovereignty. I am proud to support the Prime Minister in this endeavour as I believe the commitments he made will keep our country strong and free for years to come.

The Prime Minister spent time in Iqualuit, Alert, and Yellowknife and I know the time he spent up North gave him a new appreciation of the natural beauty that spans our large country. It also reinforced that we can no longer take our Northern lying areas for granted. We must commit to protecting it in order to keep all Canadians safe and to ensure that Canada gets the benefit of its northern natural resources.

While visiting CFS Alert, which is located at the most northern tip of our country, the Prime Minister took the opportunity to reiterate the Government's plan to strengthen Canada's Arctic sovereignty. Below are the announcements he made:

- Examine options for a deep water port in the Arctic that will extend the Navy's reach even further;
- A new Arctic training centre;
- New increased surveillance in the North to provide

CFS Alert Location

CFS Alert is the most northern permanently inhabited settlement in the world. The station is about 817 km (450 nautical miles) from the geographic North Pole.



Military personnel, and employees of the federal Department of the Environment comprise the entire population of CFS Alert.

The closest Inuit settlement is Grise Fiord, located about 725 km to the south. Although Edmonton is the nearest Canadian city at 3475 km, Stockholm is only 3282 km away. - *From National Defence website.*

patrols through the Arctic; and

- Revitalizing the Canadian Rangers.

Even though these commitments seem like they will only impact our Northern Territories, the pledge the Prime Minister made will affect all Canadians because it will protect our freedom and ensure that Canada remains a strong, independent, and free nation. It is time we act to protect ourselves and our interests. As the Prime Minister stated, "Sovereignty over one's territory is not a theoretical concept, and this Government is committed to defending it."

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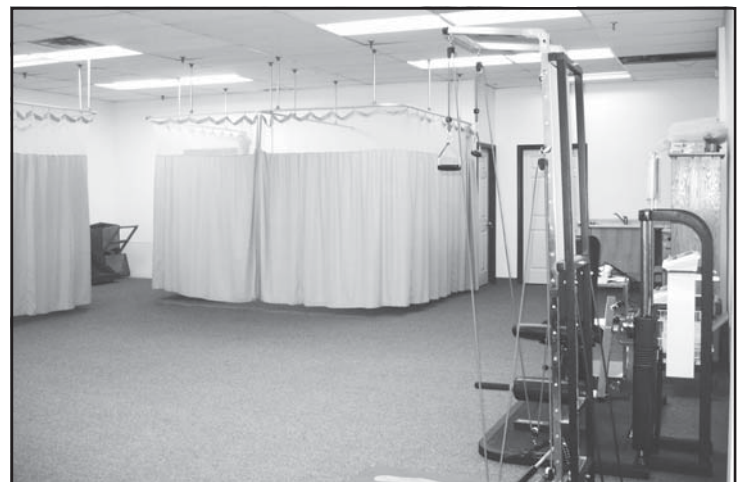
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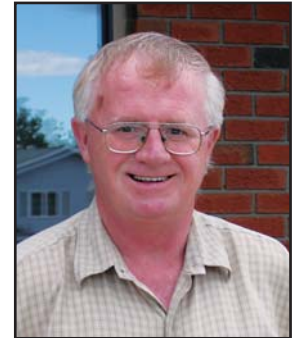
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Midtown Mall undergoing upgrade

There are plans in the works for Midtown Mall, which bode well for downtown revitalization. The mall aisleway will be extended into the former True Value location, with a bevy of new shops and a common area under development. Other upgrades are in the works.

Four of the new stores will have storefront access, as well as access from within the mall.

Bored on a city elevator?

1. Crack open your briefcase or purse, and while peering inside ask: "Got enough air in there?"
2. Grimace painfully while smacking your forehead and muttering: "Shut up, all of you just shut UP!"
3. Whistle the first seven notes of "It's a Small World" incessantly.
4. Sell Girl Scout cookies.
5. On a long ride, sway side to side at the natural frequency of the elevator.
6. Greet everyone getting on the elevator with a warm handshake and ask them to call you Admiral
7. When at least 8 people have boarded, moan from the back: "Oh no, motion sickness!"
8. Meow occasionally.
9. Wear a puppet on your hand and talk to other passengers "through" it.
10. Draw a little square on the floor with chalk and announce to the other passengers that this is your "personal space."

Canadian know-how to help homeless

(GNA) Westport, CT, USA, - Save the Children announced a new contract with a Canadian supplier, Britco Structures, to provide pre-cut, panelized houses to Indonesian families who remain without permanent housing 19 months after an earthquake and tsunami killed over 160,00 people in Aceh province, Indonesia.

Save the Children also has received support from the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT), which has agreed to provide training to staff to supervise and train communities on how to assemble the houses in Aceh province.

Save the Children will erect a first batch of 300 of the new pre-cut, panelized houses in Aceh province — with the first shipments due to arrive in mid-September. The houses are made of SPF (spruce, pine and fir) wood and treated with borate and Akaline Copper Quat (AQH), a wood preservative and termite treatment. This initiative is part of the agency's continuing efforts to address serious housing issues that have delayed construction of permanent homes.

Save the Children and Britco reviewed the first assembled home at Britco's headquarters in Vancouver on July 21, and the agency expects the first shipment of pre-cut homes to arrive in Indonesia by September.

<http://www.savethechildren.org/>

Peace building

(GNA) Victoria, BC, - The Global Alliance for Ministries and Departments of Peace gathered at Royal Roads University, Victoria, Canada, to advance the establishment of ministries and departments of peace in governments worldwide. Government and civil society delegates from Australia, Canada, Costa Rica, India, Italy, Japan, Liberia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Palestine, Philippines, Romania, Solomon Islands,

Spain, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States united to develop an effective global and national architecture for peace. In plenary sessions and working groups, the foundations were established for local, national, regional, and

international campaigns that will work towards conflict resolution and peace-building.

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(Continued from page 5)
service for Whitecourt in advancing such issues. Despite the expansion of long term health facilities, seniors in town needing help are still on waiting lists to be assured of a place to go in their old age. In that we enjoy so much that

was bequeathed the town by our elders, it seems a disgrace that more can't be done here. Such an issue could find former opponents on the multi-use location working together towards the same ends.

Looking back at munci-

pal election brochures from 2004, it seems somewhat amazing what has transpired in regards to the candidates over this issue. However, as in most things, the end of the multi-use debate is likely the beginning of some new crusade for civic advancement.

Boosting Civics Courses

While the multi-use is an expensive item and important to Whitecourt, it is not as in the same league as civic principles are.

One thing that became apparent during the ongoing debate was that something as basic as human rights under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms was often being taken very lightly in some cases.

The bottom line is that it should be examined whether our civics courses should be given a boost within our educational system and elsewhere .



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(Continued from page 2)

Whitecourt pioneer against an unjust legacy is just one purpose of this work. The following can also illustrate how reading comprehension and analytical ability can protect one from false information, regardless of the topic or source.

Bicha went on to write that Leedy was “neither a banking expert nor even a knowledgeable authority” on the subject that he devoted his life to reforming. One doesn’t need Jerry Graham’s account of Leedy as “a highly intelligent” man to sense something false here. We are supposed to believe that Leedy attained the position of Governor of Kansas, but was unable to become knowledgeable about a topic that he de-

voted decades working on. This rings false.

Without going into the veracity of mainstream economic knowledge per se, original source material shows Leedy had an astute grasp of economics and banking. In other words, as in most cases, what rings false according to basic logic, does indeed turn out to be false.

In *What’s the Matter with Canada*, Leedy points out how Mr. Vere Brown, the spokesperson for the Canadian Banking system, claimed there were two Canadian banks of any size that had failed since 1893.

Leedy gently and somewhat humously reminded him of the major one that he had forgotten about and provided the figures for the loss.

In another exchange with Banker Brown Leedy writes:

“The following can also illustrate how reading comprehension and analytical ability can protect one from false information, regardless of the topic or source.”

“In his article of March 26th in the Grain Growers’ Guide, Mr Brown says, “An advocate of the United States system of local banks has

arisen in Alberta in the person of J.W. Leedy.” Why not tell the truth? In the report of the official stenographer of the convention of the United Farmers of Al-

berta, on page twenty-nine, I am reported as saying: “I am not contending for the small bank system they have in the States, not at all (ed- Leedy goes on to discuss the banking systems of some other countries)... Whilst all the countries I mention are a generation ahead of us, New Zealand is a generation ahead of them.” Mr. Brown sat on the platform and heard me make this statement, and he has a copy of the stenographer’s report.”

It is worth noting that New Zealand was the only country to escape the Great Depression of the 1930’s before WWII started. Other countries, including Canada, did not restore sufficient liquidity to their monetary

(Continued on page 13)

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No Liquids or Gels for Air Travellers

OTTAWA – The Honourable Stockwell Day, Minister of Public Safety and the Honourable Lawrence Cannon, Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities, announced increased security at all Canadian airports following a major counter-terrorism operation in the United Kingdom. Individuals in the United Kingdom were allegedly intent on committing acts of terrorism using explosives on flights destined to North America.

The following security measures are in place until further notice:

Effective immediately and for all flights to and from the United Kingdom and the United States, liquids or gels in containers of any size are not permitted to be brought onboard by passengers; this includes liquids or gels in carry-on baggage; and effective 12 p.m. E.S.T. and for all other flights, including Canadian domestic flights, liquids or gels in containers of any size are not permitted to be brought onboard by passengers; this includes liquids or gels in carry-on baggage.

Liquids or gels in containers of any size include: all beverages, shampoo, suntan lotion, creams, toothpaste, hair gel, and other items of similar consistency.

Passengers may bring aboard baby formula, breast milk, or juice if a baby or small child is travelling. Prescription medicine with a name that matches the passenger's ticket, insulin and essential other non-prescription medicines are allowed.



Passengers should pack liquids or gels in checked baggage.

The Government of Canada advises all air travellers to keep these measures in mind when preparing for a flight, and to contact their carrier regarding any possible delays.

The Government Operations Centre is coordinating the response of federal departments and agencies, and will be communicating with provinces and territories throughout the day as needed.

Canadians travelling in the United Kingdom, North America and Europe can expect some delay related to increased security measures in all airports.

The Government of Canada remains committed to taking all measures necessary to protect the safety and security of Canadians.

Prescription drugs can be deadly

The Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) published that the FDA approved doctor prescribed drugs, kill 125,000 people annually in the U.S., more than a jumbo jet full of people crashing every day. JAMA amended their original figure to say "If over the counter drugs are included, the figure rises to about 200,000 people.

Prescription drug companies constitute the most profitable industry in the world. Approved drug use has skyrocketed in recent decades. The rising drug cost is a primary driver in medical cost increases, leading to cutbacks in other areas.

The U.S. government recently announced new legislation for football team names.

The Washington Native Americans will host the New York Very Tall People on opening day. Other key games include the Dallas Western-Style Laborers hosting the St. Louis Wild Endangered Species, and the Minnesota Plundering Norsemen taking on the Green Bay Meat Industry Workers.

The Monday night game will pit the Miami Pelagic Percoid Food Fishes against the Denver Untamed Beasts of Burden. The Cincinnati Large Bangladeshi Carnivorous Mammals will travel to Tampa Bay for a clash with the West Indies Free Booters later in Week 9, while the Detroit Large Carnivorous Cats will play the Chicago Large Mountain Mammals.

(Continued from page 11)

systems until the elites were threatened with an invasion from the outside. What is more, last month's *Advisor* republished figures by historian William Connellery showing a dramatic improvement in the lot of farmers during Leedy's term as governor. That is: unlike the establishment economic experts, Leedy's banking prescriptions, which he helped put into practice, actually worked. Canada would have been far better, had it heeded Leedy's advice that: "What drove a half a million people out of Kansas was exactly what drove many thousands of small farmers out of the prairie provinces".

Just as in the case concerning Leedy's intellectual abilities and his views on the Kansas banking legislation he signed into law, Bicha has missed the boat entirely on the point of Leedy's banking system knowledge.

Again, it should be pointed out it is not absolutely necessary to delve into other source material when a charge against a subject seems highly unlikely. There simply isn't time to research everything that is written. It is highly unlikely that a man of accomplishment like Leedy could not become knowledgeable about a topic he devoted his life to. One could simply put a question mark beside such a scenario; and if there were more such statements in a work, reject the piece as suspect. In this case, source material was used to show that Bicha's charge was again mistaken.

Bicha went on to write: "the major reform law of 1897, enthusiastically supported by Leedy, was entirely the work of Bank Commissioner John W. Breidenthal, a Populist associated with Leedy's faction of the party". Lest we miss the inference, Bicha also wrote: "though he exploited the achievement often enough, banking reform in Kansas during the Populist period owed little to Leedy's efforts." Here Leedy is being portrayed as a dishonest person taking credit for someone else's work.

The writer does not have the resources of academia to dig out the source material regarding the truth on this. Fortunately, in his haste, Bicha has again handed over the tools necessary to rebut the charge. In writing the law was "entirely" the work of one person within Leedy's faction, we are asked to imagine that Leedy had no input into a topic he felt passionately about, and which he had to affix his signature to before it became law. Further, we are asked to imagine that every other person in the faction also had no input.

For this to be true, Mr. Breidenthal would have had to sequester himself from all the other knowledgeable monetary reformers in his party and wipe his mind clean of everything they had ever discussed with him. Then when the work that was "entirely" his was finished, he would emerge from his isolation to have Governor Leedy sign it into law, still with no input from the rest of

(Continued on page 22)

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Mines Advisory Group: new technology doubles clearance speed

Story by Tom Morgan

GNA - Cutting-edge unexploded ordnance (UXO) detection equipment introduced to Laos by Mines Advisory Group (MAG) will double the speed the organisation can clear land. This in turn paves the way for other organisations in the UXO sector to benefit from the latest technology.

'Based on tests we have conducted since September last year, we are confident that we will see a 100% increase in clearance speed. This means we can double the amount of land we clear in a day,' said Stefan De Coninck, MAG's Technical Operations Manager.

MAG team leaders completed training on operating the new equipment last week. They are now able to use two types of detectors manufactured by Italian company CEIA and will in turn train other team members and villagers involved in MAG's Village Assisted Clearance methodology.

The new detectors make such a huge difference to clearance speeds for two reasons. Firstly, they are able to distin-



guish between laterite (high metal content in the soil), metal fragments and UXO. In the past, clearance was slowed by the need to investigate every reading from a detector.

Secondly, the new detectors are the first active detection equipment used in Laos designed specifically for finding UXO rather than landmines. This means that operators can search by walking in a straight line down marked lanes – which is much quicker than using mine detectors which necessitate the use of a 'side to side' search.
- -Good News Agency



In over 70 countries around the world, anti-personnel (AP) mines lie in wait, armed and ready to take a limb or the life of a child. These cheap and deadly remnants of war continue harming civilians years after the end of the conflicts in which they were planted. By their very nature they are unable to distinguish between the footsteps of a soldier and those of a child.

The Ottawa Convention banning anti-personnel landmines was the result of unprecedented close cooperation between civil society organizations and like minded governments concerned about the landmine issue. Initiated by non-governmental organizations which had witnessed first hand the devastating effects of anti-personnel mines, the call for a total ban on these weapons was later supported by governments which worked to enshrine such a ban in international law.

<http://www.mines.gc.ca/II/menu-en.asp>

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(Continued from page 1)
 tive Director Ken Shipka swung through Whitecourt on a trip through northern Alberta. Lavern farms near Rocky Mountain House, when he isn't spending time raising awareness about social credit.

Regardless of electoral prospects, the social creditors can function as the true conscience of government, in that they favour better social programs, while enhancing individual freedom. While this seems impossible according to today's conventional wisdom, the missing ingredient of reform of the money system makes such a state of affairs eminently doable. (See ex-central banker Bernard Lietaer on page 12 of the July Advisor for more on this.)

The SoCred policies are as below. It is encouraging to see some of them being advanced by leadership candidates for the Progressive Conservatives.

Dividends

Return natural resource revenue to Albertan individuals through the payment of a dividend, somewhat similar to the dividend received by all Alaskan citizens.

Health Care

Eliminate health care premiums, which constitute a major, thoroughly regressive tax. There should also be better support for preventative medicine and some therapies currently outside the mainstream medical establishment.

Re-regulation of Utilities

This is an essential service, which makes it more vulnerable.
 (See SoCred on page 30)



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It will be a great way for **MAX Members** to kick off the Back to School Sale and the Annual Turkey Threshold Promotion for **extra savings**.



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Riverboat races provide a great excuse t



Once again the August riverboat races were blessed with good weather, making for an enjoyable outing for many residents and visitors alike. With the Multi-Use

debate out of the way, it is hoped the new Economic, Development and Tourism department can rally a united council around promoting this event in Edmonton, pos-





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use to get out and enjoy the river valley



sibly in conjunction with other attractions. The goal would be to make Whitecourt a bigger destination for Edmontonians looking for a weekend away from the city.

Below, its boy versus dog in another contest taking place in the river valley. Families can relax in informal as well as formal viewing areas for this event.



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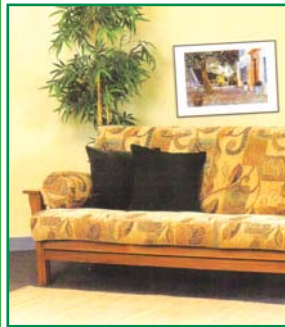
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Economic democracy experiment for online film

From Wikinews, the free news source you can write!

Matt Hanson aims to raise £1 million to fund the production of a feature-length film which would be distributed freely via the Internet under a Creative Commons licence, all funded through 50,000 people each donating £25 to the project (about \$50 CAD), which he's called 'A Swarm of Angels'.

No stranger to filmmaking, Matt has produced numerous digital short films, a series of books on digital filmmaking and set up the digital film festival onedotzero, now in its tenth year. He wants to finally make a feature length film, and decided that it was better to turn to the Internet for help and funding rather than plod through the usual 'development hell'.

"I wanted to put into practice what I've been preaching as a film futurist for ten years, and the technology and Internet infrastructure has just really caught up with that vision now for me to put it into practice."

The process is inspired



by the 'web 2.0' movement, using social and collaborative communities on the Internet. Matt doesn't see the funding as coming from donations, but as people paying a subscription to become part of a 'Swarm'. "Rather than the 'many producer' model, this is more of an 'smart consumer' model ... members can help implement and bring their expertise into play, and so become more actively involved in the production."

The project hopes to use professional actors and crew, but use qualified members from the swarm as much as possible. The cast and the crew, including any volunteers that get chosen, would

be paid for their work on the film, with Matt suggesting that this is "a great way for people to get into the industry".

Those members not directly involved in making the film can still participate in the process by discussing ideas on a messageboard, and having a vote on certain crucial decisions such as which script gets chosen for production. Asked how he would balance his own creative direction with input from members, Matt said "my vision will lead the project forward and define the parameters, but the Swarm can influence that, and indeed offer improvements or insights

(Continued on page 25)



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(Continued from page 1)

ter Gardner in the east to the dwelling now occupied by Reg Heward to the west. It consisted of a log store, a log dwelling next to the store, and a log storehouse or abandoned dwelling to the east thereof. Across the street, if indeed it was a street, and starting with the dwelling of the late P. Gardner, (this building a short time later housed the Bank to be established), and travelling in a westerly direction, came the dwelling of Dr. J.E. Wellwood, then a log building, (unoccupied and unfinished), which had been started with the intention of housing a livery barn, although livery barns are rarely situated on Main Street.

The pool room operated by one Henry Steward, a southern gentleman from Texas, was also housed in a log building, and offered what could be termed as good a collection of "pool sharks" as could be found anywhere. The pea pool game which went on almost unceasingly was no place for beginners or even average players. The boys were dynamite!

Over on the opposite cor-

ner, with the main entrance to the hamlet intervening, was the Stopping Place run by Mrs. Olson, a gathering place for all and sundry where the coffee pot was always on the stove. Axel, the 'Man of the House', (Mrs. Olson's husband), kept things enlivened by his ready wit, and ability to give imitations on the violin. Nothing ever seemed to bother Axel, not even what might happen to the woodpile should he pass away, as he only sawed sufficient for one day at a time, lest perchance he might not be around to bask in the heat his efforts had provided. A look at the family group showed Lillian (later, Mrs. Bob Wood) Bill & Albert (still here) Elsie and Anna. John came along at a later date.

A bit to the west, Dr. Wellwood had carpenters working on a new dwelling which was nearing completion (Reg Howard's residence). Immediately opposite the Olson Stopping Place was

another Stopping Place operated by Jim and Mrs. Harrop, and close by a red tin covered building which at one time had housed a pool room, but was now being used as a meeting place or village hall. Then at the bottom of the hill and to the south, Herb Wilson had his livery barn. Herb, by the way, had his residence a short distance to the rear of the red hall already mentioned.

“ This brought the realization that possibly the long journey with its attendant discomforts might really have been worthwhile after all. ”

Our driver, Shortie, deposited us at Harrop's, the Stopping Place on the north side of the street, and here a welcome discovery was made. Mrs. Harrop was an excellent cook who took a deal of pride in her culinary accomplishments, and set a grand table. Home made bread, buns and cakes etc. with little or no resort to canned goods, was indeed a far cry from what had been experienced at Springwater.

This brought the realization that possibly the long journey with its attendant discomforts might really have

been worthwhile after all. A pleasant surprise indeed. Besides looking after the Stopping Place, Mrs. Harrop was also capable of raising a family of (at that time) three girls and a boy. Jim, her husband, was busy with his homestead west of the McLeod River. Mildred Moore, (wife of Jack Moore), is the only member of the Harrop family still in Whitecourt.

The log store, operating under the name of William and John Torgerson, and almost invariably referred to as 'Torgersons' housed the Post Office and Land Office, besides stocking almost everything needed by homesteaders in the way of victuals and hardware, dry goods, and as they are wont to say in the advertising field, "other articles too numerous to mention".

The mail arrived twice a week by stage coach (visions of the old west) and this provided the only link with the outside world. There was no telephone or telegraph connection. Despite such lacks however, it is indeed interesting to note that during the period from possibly 1910 to

(Continued on page 20)

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(Continued from page 19)

1918 or so, a gentleman by the name of McAlpine operated a printing press, and published a weekly newspaper called The News Record. This had ceased publication prior to the author's arrival however, but it would be very interesting to speculate as to where the editor found his news. All this being some time before the advent of radio, and with only a mailing contact with the outside, one can only hazard a guess that The Editor must have had a very vivid imagination, and a keen nose for news. Possibly a lot of each.

But getting back to the store. This was operated by a father and son team, and I would make bold to suggest that the father, William Torgerson, might rightfully be called the Father of Whitecourt at that time. He was a man built along massive lines. A big frame with a heart to match. He listened to more tales of woe and hard luck stories than most men, but unlike most men, he usually did something, or tried to do something, to make life more bearable to all. In a word, he was a "touch" and one can only hope his abiding faith in humanity was

not misplaced, although he would not have survived long as Credit Manager for any corporation! His losses, and he had many, he took philosophically, no doubt in the belief that he had done what he should have done, and if the recipient failed to respond that was altogether beside the point.

The son, John, who had been seriously wounded in World War I, was a slim built youth, who despite his physical handicaps showed a remarkable ability in almost all sports, baseball, tennis, golf, hockey, etc. while he also, played a very scientific game of bridge and excelled at poker. A good number of pea pool players dropped out

when he entered the game, they being aware of the fact that they were getting out of their class.

The family lived in a log cabin adjoining the store, where Mrs. Torgerson and daughter Dolly (Wilma) held forth. Dolly, who had recently returned from Westminster Ladies College was unmarried, and later came to work in the Bank. By a stroke of extreme good fortune the author was able to change the young lady's marital status some time later. Let it be recorded that in the opinion of the author, John Torgerson will be remembered as one of the best all round athletes Whitecourt has produced. Another party, Johnnie Kly-

mok, who came along at a much later date will, in the opinion of the author be similarly remembered, and it was indeed most unfortunate that Johnnie died at a very youthful age. He really showed promise.

Dr. and Mrs. Wellwood had arrived here in some capacity connected with the railway, but the beginning of the war had seen all railroad expansion abandoned. Consequently, Mrs. Wellwood remained in residence here while Dr. Wellwood went off to war. It is difficult to conceive anyone of Mrs. Wellwood's many talents isolated in such a place, but here she was, and here she gave very

(Continued on page 21)



Whitecourt hamlet Main Street (north side, looking east): Harrop's Hotel, Old pool room (used for dances), Torgerson's Store, Torgerson's house, cache buildings. See map next page.

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(Continued from page 20)
freely of her time and talent to Whitecourt's development. She was a musician of great ability, a singer who had thrilled church goers in Toronto, and an organizer beyond question. For sheer excellence of presentation it would indeed be difficult to approach the high standards of the Christmas concerts she organized in conjunc-

tion with the Sunday School which she also conducted. Dr. Wellwood was invalided home, and was in and out of hospital a great deal, before eventually succumbing a year or two later.

It would not be right to pass the Wellwood menage without mention of one Syd Smith, who acted as a sort of batman there, an old English

remittance man, (remittance men were very common in those days, and the name has to be regarded as synonymous to expatriate, insofar as the banishment from one's homeland extended). In many such cases the embarrassment stemmed from the excessive use of alcohol by the expatriate -- not that the banishment to Canada either cured or curtailed such

activities,-- but it did at least remove them from the area where they could conceivably prove irksome to other members of the family.

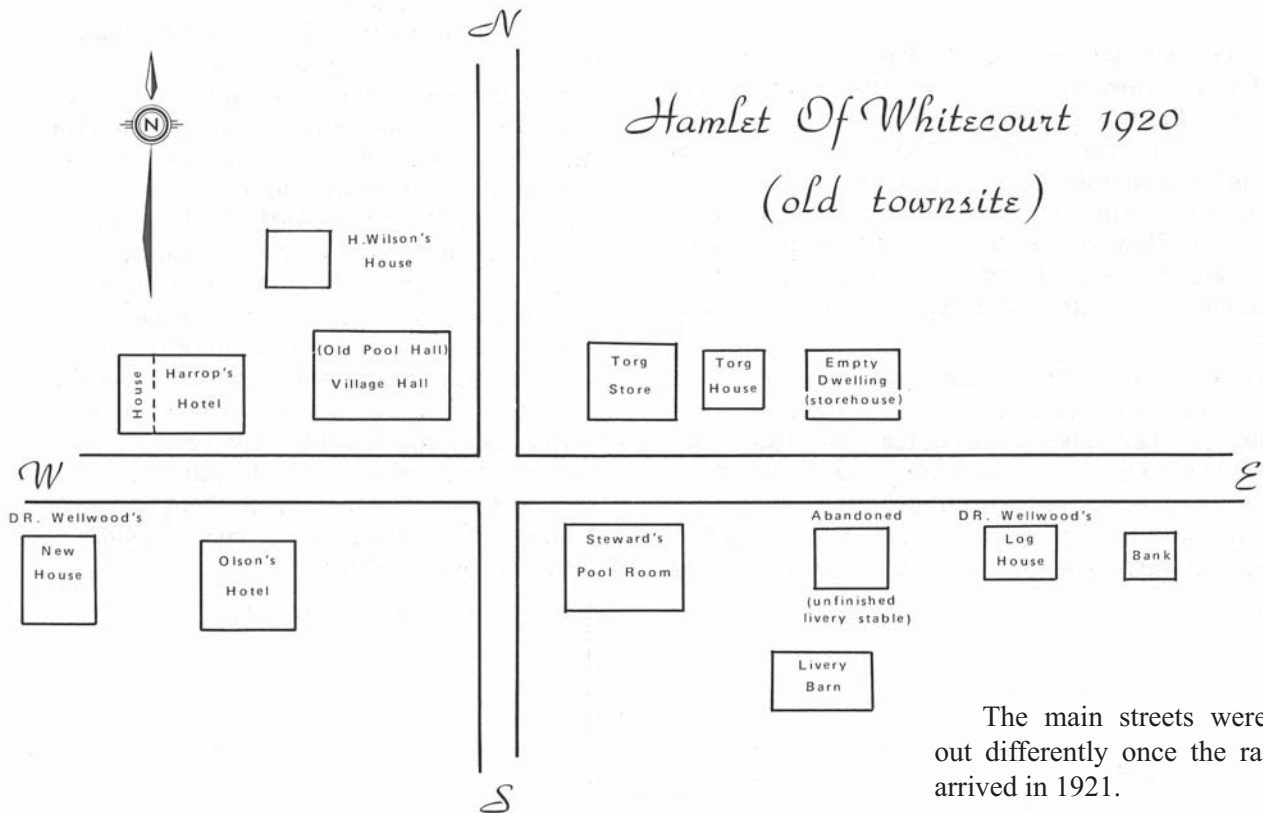
Going back a number of years to the days when the author attended school in Scotland, he can well remember the departure of one such individual for Canada.

(See Graham on page 30)

Jerry Graham arrived in March of 1920

Log Cabin School
52nd Ave & Millar Rd.

Hamlet Of Whitecourt 1920 (old townsite)



The main streets were laid out differently once the railway arrived in 1921.

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(Continued from page 13)

the party or the Governor.

Anyone with the knowledge of the political process that can be gained from such weighty tomes as the Edmonton Sun would know the scenario described by Bicha is impossible. Was the law written while Mr. Breidenthal was shipwrecked on a desert isle, with amnesia wiping his mind of any input from his colleagues; and with rescue coming just in time to rush the bill to legislature to be signed without any other party members having a chance to comment on it? Although this sounds facetious, such a scenario would be necessary for Bicha's statement to be accurate.

During his term as governor, the Spanish-American War of 1898 was fought. Bicha avers that when Leedy advanced civil rights by insisting on black officers in a battalion drawn from the black community, it was only for crass political considerations and that his motives for creating volunteer regiments with elected officers was done for the same reason. Since Leedy devoted his life to advancing individual rights, would it not be pos-

sible that he advocated black officers because of a belief in human rights? Is it not logical that a staunch advocate of democracy such as Leedy would push for elected, rather than appointed officers.

Again, the falsity of Bicha's stance rings clear, before any additional research is done. That said, the following is from an address Leedy gave while governor and gives some insight into Leedy's outlook regarding racial discrimination and oppression of the poor. The John Brown referred to in the speech is the famous anti-slavery advocate who was executed for his efforts in the slave owning states.

"Gentlemen of the legislature, we cannot hope in the short space of 50 days to correct all the mistakes, to remedy all the evils that have been made and have risen along with our magnificent civilization, but we should endeavor to accomplish such results as will demonstrate to those who follow us that our intentions were good, our actions determined, and our counsels judicious. We are mere hands on the dial-plate of Kansas. The works

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are beneath and behind us, where a million and a half of God's poor people toil and struggle. A generation has passed away since John Brown of Osawatomie struck one. Let us so live and so move while dressed in our little brief authority that those who look may hope that we have struck two.

John Brown, of
Osawatomie-he made
our soil so free,
Advanced the Kansas
thought so high, for
all the world to see,
His name called such a
paean forth, by Kansas
name and song,
**Men know the trail to
freedom runs away
from every wrong."**

The final charge that will be dealt with here (although there are many others in Bicha's nine page article) is Bicha's mention that after leaving office Leedy "participated in some dubious mining schemes with capital obtained from a mysterious source". No details are given in the article, although two newspapers of the time are footnoted. Given the veracity of Bicha's article regarding other matters, and the 'yellow journalism' of the day,

one is reminded of a situation whereby The National Enquirer is given credence as a source.

The reality is that one can say no mining project has a predictable outcome, particularly a century ago. Any financing in a private economy is just that, private. Indeed, it would be technically accurate to say any new business startup in Whitecourt is a dubious venture with capital obtained from a mysterious source. It would, however, create an entirely false impression, which is what purveyors of such language often intend. As in the other charges reiterated by Bicha, there is no solid supporting evidence given, just many indicators to the contrary.

Upon leaving office, Leedy commenced the practice of law in the small town where he lived, joining a fraternal body similar to the Masons. He then moved on to practice law in Alaska, becoming Mayor of Valdez Alaska, before finally coming to Whitecourt. As stated, here and in Edmonton, Leedy was instrumental in the formation of the United Farmers of Alberta, which brought

(Continued on page 28)

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Helping kids cope with bullies

(NC)-With the start of a new school year, many students become preoccupied with class schedules, homework and gathering their supplies. But for some kids, the return to school brings a far greater concern: bullying.

To help young people get the protection and support they need when faced with a bullying situation, Boys and Girls Clubs of Canada, with the support of Sears Young Futures, the Sears Canada community investment program, has developed a resource entitled "Bullying: What you should know. What you can do." Free copies are available at Boys and Girls clubs, schools, libraries and community centres across Canada, and can be downloaded at www.bgccan.com.

The guide offers practical tips on how to avoid being picked on by bullies, ways to deal with a bully, what to do if someone else is being bullied and where to go for help.

Coping with bullies:

- Bullies tend to pick on kids who are alone, so stick with friends, play in groups and try to walk to school with a buddy.

The comments of a young mother: Before I got married, I had six theories about bringing up children. Now I have six children and no theories.

- On the bus or in the playground, stay within sight of grownups whenever possible. If they can see you, they can help you.
- Leave expensive things and money at home. Bullies pick on kids who have things they can take.
- Practice showing confidence. Stand tall. Walk proud. If you look confident and make eye contact, the bully probably won't pick on you.
- Stay calm. Bullies love a reaction, don't give them one.
- Fighting back can make the situation worse, and you may get hurt. Get away. Find safety or call for help.
- Have a plan for dealing with bullies. Think of things to say ahead of time and practice them at home.
- Talk to an adult you trust for ideas and help. Keeping a secret only protects the bully and the longer you wait, the harder it can be to stop it. - *News Canada*

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Students to study light and darkness

(NC)-External lighting, particularly in big cities, does more than limit our ability to see the stars; it wastes energy and pollutes the atmosphere

by contributing to the increase in greenhouse gases.

As of August 2006, Canadian youth and their families will be able to become actively involved in learning about and measuring

the impact of light pollution on our night sky in their own neighbourhoods by taking part in a new Canadian Space Agency (CSA) project called "Star Count". This simple yet scientifically-based experiment challenges participants to count the number of stars seen in their area following a set of guidelines provided and input the result into a database developed in collaboration with NASA, available on the CSA website at www.space.gc.ca.

Once results are submitted, participants will have access to an updated map of North America that compares the number of stars counted by project participants across the continent along with information to explain their results. As an added feature of this project, Canadian Space Agency astronaut Dr. Steve Maclean will perform the same experiment during his upcoming mission to the International Space Station. Dr. Maclean's result will be shared with participants via the CSA's website.

Information on this project, available via the Educator section of the CSA website at www.space.gc.ca is available free of charge to anyone interested in participating.

The Canadian Space Agency's Education Program supports learning opportunities for Canadian educators, students, youth and families to increase the scientific literacy of the next space generation and to encourage the pursuit of careers in science and technology. - News Canada



A father often read Bible stories to his young children. One day he read, "The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city, but his wife looked back and was turned to salt."
His son asked, "What happened to the flea?"



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(Continued from page 18)
 I might not think of alone”.
 “Remember filmmaking is always a team effort - whether you are Martin Scorsese, Stanley Kubrick or Jean Luc Godard, you promote people within the project that will complement and bring something extra to the vision of the film. Give it more life. With the Swarm we are making that process more democratic, and giving a wider range of people an opportunity to shine and have creative input.”

Members are promised a collector’s edition DVD of the end product and exclusive merchandise, but the main distribution of the film will be via the Internet, using ‘BitTorrent’ and peer-to-peer networks. “Unlike many other filmmakers, I’m not wedded to cinema projection as the ‘be all and end all’ - I’m much more excited about people viewing remixed versions on their video ipods,” explains Matt.

The ‘remixing’ of the film will be possible thanks to it being distributed un-

der a Creative Commons licence. Matt suggests that the ‘younger generation’ is more used to being involved with and interacting with entertainment, and points to remixes of the Star Wars films (eg ‘The Phantom Edit’) as an example of these ‘mashups’. “At the end of the project I would love to have an event that showcased five wildly different versions of the film, different visions from people other than my definitive initial edit,” he suggests. The licence will be for non-commercial use only, however, and so commercial TV stations would still have to pay in order to screen the film.

The project is partly inspired by the success of ‘The Million Dollar Homepage’, in which British student Alex Tew aimed to raise a million dollars to fund his university education, simply by selling advertising space on a single web page. The publicity surrounding the idea, coupled with the ‘viral’ effect of Internet users passing the page on, meant that he eventually managed to make himself the

(Continued on page 26)

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(Continued from page 25)
 million dollars.

The success of these projects partly seems to depend on them being interesting and original enough to attract enough attention, and it's often difficult to see how they could be repeated. Copy-cat versions of the million dollar homepage have so far failed to hugely take off. When

asked about this idea, Matt responded "I already expect people to copy the model we are inventing with A Swarm of Angels - it's a perfect way to create cult media, where the director gets more creative control and organically funds a project, and the fans of the project get more involvement within it. If the market gets too crowded with these projects though,

then they'll have to be packaged differently to stand out. But that's what traditional film and media projects need to do anyway."

Over 600 members have signed up to the 'swarm' so far, which Matt comments is already an early success, but 50,000 members in total will be needed in order to fully fund the £1 million budget. Matt suggests that getting to the next stage, of reaching 1,000 members, followed by the phase of getting 5,000 members, will be the hardest part, as after that the film will be more 'tangible'. He expects to raise the full budget, but comments that if the fundraising stalls, "options will be presented by advisors and The Swarm, and based on some kind of consensus we'll come up with the best option for moving forward."

or through organisations like the UK Film Council, who award funds from the National Lottery. A tax credit for producers making small films in the UK was announced by the government in 2005, in a bid to give a boost to the UK independent film industry.

Matt says that the film will be "a thriller with soft science fiction elements", which he says will suit his target audience. "But it will have an indie edginess to it, and be far more visually inventive than you would get with a 'normal' British independent feature." Contributors to the project include artists 'The Kleptones', who will help with the soundtrack, comic book writer Warren Ellis and documentary filmmaker Grant Gee.

Traditionally, independent films are funded either through persuading wealthy individuals to invest, who sometimes are sometimes given 'Executive Producer' credits,

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A new Rotary District chartered in Russia

GNA - Last month, Rotary International District 2220, the first Russian Rotary District has been chartered. It includes all Clubs of Western Russia and Urals, the territory where almost 90% of Russians live. The Chain symbolizing the rank of Governor has been personally placed on DGE Andrey Danilenko by the President 2005-2006 of Rotary International, Carl Wilhelm Stenhammar.

More than 300 Rotarians gathered to celebrate this turning point in their lives, along with Rotarians from Western and Eastern Russia, Sweden, the USA, France, Australia, Italy, Germany, Finland, Austria, Romania, Spain, Moldova, Serbia, Slovenia, Kyrgyzstan, Japan, Canada, Madagascar and other countries.

www.cipitalia.org --*Good News Agency*

Previous Terry Fox Run. Details for this year's event are at right.



From the hard to find good help file

The diner was furious when his steak arrived too rare. “Waiter,” he barked, “didn’t you hear me say ‘well done’?”
“I can’t thank you enough, sir,” replied the waiter.
“I hardly ever get a compliment.”



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**Whitecourt
Events
August 2006**

(780) 778-5577 - 4907 52 Ave - KCGraphics@WhitecourtWeb.com

Community Connections

Thursday, September 7 - 6:30 – 8:30 PM

Location: Whitecourt Community Centre

Cost: \$10.00 per exhibitors table

Contact Name/Number: Community Services 778-6610

Event Description: Sign up or just learn about upcoming community programs and clubs.

Walk to Cure Diabetes

Sunday, September 10 - 5 km walk begins at 1:00 p.m.

Registration and BBQ start at noon.

Location: Whitecourt Twin Arenas - Parking Lot

Contact Name/Number: John Schneider 706-3347

Event Description: Join Whitecourt residents as they pick up the pace in the “Walk to Cure Diabetes” to raise funds for diabetes research

Terry Fox Run

Sunday, September 17 - Registration begins at 1:30 p.m. Run begins at 2:30 p.m. BBQ to follow

Location: Whitecourt Twin Arenas - Parking Lot

Contact Name/Number: Brady Patterson 396-9354

Kris McPherson 706-2008

Event Description: Join millions around the world to raise money for cancer. The 5K or 10K walk or run begins at 2:30 PM. There will be prizes, pop and a BBQ after the race.

Memory boards will be set up at I.G.A. and Extra Foods Saturday, September 16. The public is encouraged to post a picture or simply write a name of a loved one affected by cancer.

Volunteer Opportunities: run day registration, run day events, Terry Team Members (cancer survivors).

Name The Water Feature

August to September 2006

Send your entry to the Town Office at:

Box 509, 5004 - 52nd Ave.

Whitecourt, AB T7S 1N6

communityservices@whitecourt.ca

Contact: Community Services at 778-6300

Event Description: We want your help naming the Water Feature at Rotary Park. Send your entry in before September 29!

Volunteers Needed

Write Soon Literacy Society is a non-profit organization that offers FREE tutoring for adults that need assistance with Reading, Writing, Math and/or English as a Second Language. Please call (780) 778-5510 or email wsls@telus.net for more info. Volunteer tutors & students needed!

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(Continued from page 22)
high principles to the Alberta Legislature. It is worth noting that in conversation with one old-timer in town, Leedy was considered as fleeing from charges of horse thievery in the U.S., such is the power of false rumours to linger.

The final slight in the article deals with Leedy's obituary, whereby the Winnipeg Free Press described the latter years of Leedy's life as "pathetic" and that "from his own life of incessant advocacy he himself secured little. He died poor". Without going into details on happiness and spirituality, suffice it to say that by this estimation, Mother Theresa had an even more pathetic life.

Through all this, there is some credit given to Leedy. Despite his numerous supposed flaws, it is admitted he was an effective governor. Where Bicha is unstinting in his praise is in regards to Leedy's commitment and consistency in regards to monetary reform. What Bicha cannot grasp that this is no more noteworthy than a person having a consistent aversion to rape. There is a basic moral issue involved, that Leedy has the knowl-

edge to see.

Again, the reasons for Bicha's series of questionable assertions are unknown. However, they do fall into a familiar pattern. If Leedy is exceedingly intelligent, then he will be portrayed as limited intellectually; if he knows a lot about banking, then he will be said to know little of it; if he is honest, there will be allusions to "mysterious financing"; if he proclaims the banking legislation he signed into law in Kansas could use improvement, then he will be said to refuse to acknowledge any deficiencies in it; and so on.

To bring this back to the opening of Part 1 of this article, all this reminds one of the strategy of the founder of post WWII economics, John Maynard Keynes, who had stated "we must pretend to ourselves and to everyone that fair is foul and foul is fair". That is: the policy of macro mainstream economics is not to downplay or cast

“*As communications expert Marshall McLuhan stated, the big lies don't have to really be hidden, because they are protected by public incredulity.*”

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aspersions against the truth; it is to tell the exact opposite of the truth wherever possible. This is known as the big lie method of operation and it is effective simply because most people project their own innate decency on to others. Most people simply cannot imagine consistently telling the opposite of the truth. As communications expert Marshall McLuhan stated, the big lies don't have to really be hidden, because they are protected by public incredulity.

As was also pointed out last month, there is nothing new in such a ruling strategy, with the Roman propaganda about early Christians being given as an example. What is changing is that the Internet is democratizing information, so that the 'big lie' method of governance is on the way out; and the sooner the super-elites realize this, the better for all concerned.

A deeper problem is that Muslim extremists are well aware of what our press hides

from us. Here we are, trying to stop them from indulging in their flagrant human rights abuses by holding up the West as a good example. Yet the general population in Muslim countries know about the injustice of the West's lending practices and its effect on the poor. In holding out our own obsolete system as the only way forward, we have left most Muslims with no way out. This can only encourage them towards more of the extremism whereby their power mongering leaders are driving them.

This is not to suggest for a minute that the West should let down its guard. A strong military is necessary for a peace. However, the second critical ingredient for peace is justice, and our monetary system does not currently have that to offer. 'Peace through Justice' is a slogan for some working on such solutions to violence in the Middle East. So far there has been some successful awareness raising programs, including a letter of support from a U.S. Senator urging monetary reform in Iraq. Until such a way of justice, and truth, becomes the dominant strategy, it is hard to see how there can be peace, anywhere. Ω

(Graham from page 21)

As the train whistled its departure the man destined for Canada waved a fond farewell, and in a strong voice no doubt well fortified with ample potions of Johnnie Walker proclaimed, "I am leaving my country for my country's good". He was, no doubt, joining the ever swelling ranks of remittance men.

Syd Smith had been Dr. Wellwood's batman in the army or so it was suspected. Nothing ever completely satisfied Syd and no one ever believed anything would. He was that kind of man.

Next month Jerry Graham covers the rest of 'downtown' Whitecourt before venturing out to 'the flats' to describe more pioneers, including J.W. Leedy and Walter White. The full title of Mr. Graham's work is Sagitawa to Whitecourt – A Salute to the Pioneers.

Words of Wisdom

"Not a day passes over the earth, but men and women of no note do great deeds, speak great words and suffer noble sorrows.
- Charles Reade

Answer from page 1, What am I? The letter 'e'.

(SoCred from page 15)

able to overcharging. Furthermore, the infrastructure requirements are such that duplication of services and the paring back of reserve requirements demanded by competitive pressures do not meet the needs of the public.

Education

Eliminate public school fees and provide more low-interest loans and grants for post-secondary students. Currently, many students start their careers with such a heavy debt load that they are worse off than previous generations; even though we have far better technology that should guarantee more individual freedom.

Environment

Support for alternative sources of energy. In monetary reform, social credit also supports a closer correlation between activity that creates what most people would consider as wealth and activity that simply churns and burns resources to service the compound interest charged on debt.

Auto Insurance

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fordable.

Agriculture

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Democratic Reforms

Fixed election dates, free votes and support for a Triple E Senate.

Alberta Initiative

Vigorously defend Alberta's Constitutional rights.

Seniors

Restore Seniors' Benefits.

A more detailed policy platform can be found on www.socialcredit.com

The following is taken from the Alberta Social Credit Party website, which was compiled by this writer.

The Alberta Social Credit Party is neither a "right-wing" nor a "left-wing" political party. Social Credit seeks to return government to the people by allowing individuals, not "big business" or "big government," to control decisions which affect them.

We believe in the right of the people to benefit from

economic policy and the natural resources of Alberta and that the Government of Alberta should have the courage to boldly accept and represent the "provincial rights" of Alberta.

We advocate better use of the Alberta Treasury Branches and oil & gas revenues to help end "poverty in the midst of plenty".

One of our principles is that whatever is physically possible and morally right, should be made financially possible. The Alberta Social Credit Party is the only Alberta party that is willing to honestly discuss this critical issue.

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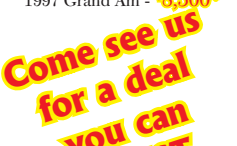
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