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Work of dedication continues

TWO earnest groups within the city have been working and are working still along separate lines but with a single, common goal—the spreading of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

On the one hand the British and Foreign Bible Society is working in conjunction this week with the Prince Rupert Ministerial association in observing the World Week of Prayer. A percentage of the offerings made at various city churches during the week of prayer go toward assisting the work of the Bible Society.

Only yesterday, 16 new Canadians were presented with editions of the Scriptures during the citizenship ceremonies at the Court House.

Sunday, the local camp of the Gideons International had dedicated and place 90 Bibles in various city establishments, where they will be ready to serve as a source of comfort and strength to those in need of spiritual aid.

Both these groups of dedicated Christians, are in a world all too ready to shun God, carrying out Christ's last instructions to His disciples:

"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

No greater work can be done than to pass on the words of God and His Son. Let us do our part in helping modern-day disciples continue their appointed task.

Participation main objective in music

Are too many Canadian children being taught to play the piano at the expense of symphony orchestras?

Dr. Boyd Neel, dean of the faculty of music, University of Toronto, feels there are.

As a result, he said in Victoria Thursday, "Canada is faced with a grave shortage of instrumentalists to man her growing symphony orchestras."

Irwin Hoffman, Vancouver Symphony Orchestra conductor, agrees that the ratio is at least five student pianists to one in the string, woodwind and brass fields combined, "but there is nothing basically wrong with this."

"Every child should be taught to play some musical instrument; it doesn't matter what it is," he said.

"The important thing is participation."

Dr. Neel, who will conduct the Victoria Symphony Orchestra at Sidney today and in Victoria Sunday and Monday, labelled the piano an "egotistic" instrument, since the pianist does not have to work with other players.

"New Canadian orchestras are springing up everywhere, but there aren't enough Canadians to fill them," he said.

"The prospects are simply appalling. We have to import talent from the U.S."

This is not the case with the Vancouver Symphony, says Mr. Hoffman.

"Possibly it is the climate or the musical opportunities here, but we are blessed that many musicians from other countries come here to live and to play in our orchestra."

He said that in past years the symphony has imported one or two musicians during a season, but won't be bringing any in this year.

The Vancouver Symphony and other groups here are working continuously, he said, to further musical appreciation among young people in B.C. in the hope that more and more of them will enter the musical field.

—The Vancouver Province.

Criminals for cocktails

Canadian liquor laws are always good for a laugh. Have you heard this one?

"Liquor may be kept, had, given or consumed by a person only in the residence in which he resides," says Section 43 (1) of Ontario's Liquor Control Act. "Except as otherwise provided," the section goes on to say; but the only other provision is that a man may drink in licensed premises.

Thus it's unlawful, in this enlightened province, to accept, or anyway to swallow, a glass of beer, wine or spirits in a friend's house. All the guests at every cocktail party are criminals—unless the party is held in a club or hotel.

This is socially ridiculous; but the law is equally silly if judged by plain logic or semantics.

It's apparently legal for a man to "give" liquor in his own house; but it's illegal for the recipient to consume it, unless the house happens to be his residence too. What is he supposed to do with it if he wants to stay within the law? Leave it on the mantelpiece and admire it from afar?

The Ontario act, like nearly every other liquor law in Canada, was written from the teetotaler point of view. It doesn't, as it should, start from the assumption that social drinking is a normal, ancient and permanent custom of the people. Instead, it assumes that this practice is anti-social and that drinkers ought therefore to be harried, regulated, bedevilled, impeded and pushed about.

Unenforced and unenforceable nonsense like Section 43 (1) is, of course, a direct result of this queer bias in the law-makers.

—The Financial Post.

Too much, too soon?

Trouble may come (for Canada) by demanding too many things at once. It may be legitimate to borrow for a home, but not for a home and a car and a television set at the same time.

However it is not simply a question of the amount of the indebtedness. A nation must be concerned also with what it is doing with the proceeds from the things for which it is going into debt. Are we using borrowed capital to develop resources which will serve the export market, which will earn foreign exchange and help eventually to finance the borrowing?

Or, instead of creating what Mr. Coyne calls "real capital"—applying human labor to produce durable things—are we borrowing greedily in order to make too many unproductive things, consumer goods which are used up in their enjoyment. This is the possibility which seems to concern Mr. Coyne most of all, not merely the amount of the borrowing itself. He says that unless we want to be dependent indefinitely on someone else's capital, we must "cut our coat rather more in accordance with the cloth."

—The Ottawa Journal.

INTERPRETING THE NEWS

Eisenhower budget forecast facing perils

By HAROLD MORRISON
Canadian Press Staff Writer

President Eisenhower, in forecasting a $4,200,000,000 budget surplus for the United States government in the next fiscal year, might recall the famous saying of British essayist William Hazlitt:

"There is many slip 'twixt the cup and the lip."

With the steel strike ended and the country flush with prosperity, it is fairly evident that government revenues will climb and that a budget surplus of some proportions might emerge if the line is held on government spending.

But this is a presidential election year and Eisenhower is likely to find the Democrats, who control both the Senate and House of Representatives, not as friendly as they have been in the past.

Many a legislator is likely to press for tax cuts or higher government spending as vote-drawing magnets. And leading Democrats are criticizing the Eisenhower administration for going too slow on defence spending, particularly missiles and high-powered space rockets.

Eisenhower is going into the fight with initial determination to allow only a small rise in government spending in the year that runs from July 1, 1960, to June 30, 1961. He informed Congress Thursday that he is basing his surplus forecast on expenditures of some $80,000,000,000, compared with this year's spending which may total a little less than his forecast of $78,000,000,000.

In the current fiscal year which ends in June, he hopes for a small $200,000,000 surplus, compared with last year's record peacetime deficit of $12,200,000,000.

Eisenhower also hopes to apply all of surpluses gained to reduction of the national debt, now at a record $200,000,000,000. The administration's view is that pressure on high interest rates may be reduced if the government can decrease its borrowing and thus ease market competition for money.

This easing of pressure on interest rates, while it would mainly affect the U.S., could also have a bearing on interest rates in Canada. A lot of Canadian firms and institutions float loans in the U.S., and if rates go down in the U.S., they might also go down in Canada.

In his "state of the union" message to Congress, he estimated that annual interest charges on the national debt total at about $9,500,000,000. It is clear, he said, that the "debt growth must stop."

At the same time, he indicated he will press for a boost in the present ceiling of 4¼ per cent on long-term government bonds. This demand for removal of the legislative ceiling—a demand which Eisenhower says is urgent—may be an indication that the administration feels stiff competition for money may continue for some time.

The skeptical Democratic Congress has called on the administration to demonstrate that it can produce its budget surplus without weakening American defences.

Influential Democrats made it clear they remain unconvinced that the "enormous defence power" Eisenhower said the U.S. has is sufficient to offset growing Russian military might. Most Democrats thought this no time to stand on a $41,000,000,000 defence budget when military costs are rising.

OUT OF SEASON—This 50-pound buffalo calf was wobbling around its mother in a remote section of the buffalo pasture a few hours after it was born. Winnipeg zoo officials are hoping the calf will survive the cold weather. Buffalo calves are usually born in June or July. Here, the mother's tail is raised in anger at the photographer trying to take calf's picture. —CP photo.

The Packsack of Gregory Clark

A couple of weeks ago, when the Great Men could not decide when or where to hold the summit meeting, it became apparent that sometime either earlier in April or later in May would likely be the date.

On the spur of the moment, I dashed off a cablegram addressed to Mr. Eisenhower, Mr. MacMillan, Mr. de Gaulle and Mr. Khrushchev, as follows:

"Can you come fishing around May sixteenth question mark Clintonia borealis will be in bloom and therefore trout rising like mad stop Don't bother bringing tackle will outfit you stop Due to limited accommodation tents and canoes won't be able to put up any additional guests just come yourself stop Guarantee good company stop Respectfully stop"

When I took it down and showed it to my wife, she said I was crazy.

"But look, darlin'," I explained, "they are just ordinary guys. They've got to get out of bed in the morning, like anybody else, and shave, and pull on their pants. They've got to tuck their shirt tails in, just like me. You mustn't think they are a different sort of being. I bet they'd come. And you get the four of them sitting around, at lunch, by the fire, eating speckled trout . . ."

"Are you crazy?" asked my wife.

So I tore up the darn cablegram.

All Aboard with G. E. Mortimore

Canada's railways are fighting to stay alive. So Bill Stephenson reminds us in the Star Weekly.

For short journeys, many Canadians would rather go by car, and for long journeys by plane. Trucks are stealing the railways' freight.

The railways must fight with one hand tied. They are hampered by rate and schedule rules that don't affect trucks and cars.

Canada seems to be turning her back on the iron road that made her a nation.

The number of railway employees in Canada fell by more than 9 per cent in 1958. Some railway stations were torn down. Others were marked for demolition. Railway towns dwindled in importance.

"A boy of today who dreams of becoming a railway engineer will be lucky when he grows up if he can even see an engineer, let alone be on."

But the railways have not surrendered. They are striking back with devices like automatic freight yards, "piggyback" freight service (trucks and trailers riding on railway flat cars, economy passenger fares, package deals and paylater plans.

Four can travel much cheaper than one on the CNR during off - season. "Package" fares cover ticket, meals, berths and tips.

Driving a car on a crowded highway can be hard work. Why do so many salesmen and holiday - makers choose to drive, rather than let the railway carry them?

The rail traveler can relax, enjoy the scenery, or do some of his paperwork en route. The driver of a car can't do any of these things.

I think the railways could lure back many of their customers from the roads, by offering cheap U-drive service at both ends of the rail journey.

It is already possible for rail passengers to have a U-drive car waiting for them at the station.

But the railways have not organized this service on a large scale, or advertised it with much enthusiasm.

Here is a plan they might follow: secure a contract with existing U-drive firms, or build the nucleus of a U-drive fleet of their own. Approach business firms, offer special package deals to traveling executives and salesmen, covering rail fares and meals and the use of a car at stopping points.

There would be difficulties. But I believe it could be done.

The railway smoking car has been a dull place since the salesmen began to travel by road.

On a coast-to-coast rail trip 10 years ago, I heard about 200 new jokes, none of which was fit to print here. I promptly forgot them all, because I seem to have an automatic censor built into my head, which shuts off memory.

I had made up my mind to take more careful note on the next trip, or bring a tape recorder.

This year I traveled all the way to Montreal on the CNR without hearing a single joke. The salesmen who might have told the yarns were rolling along the highway in automobiles, wasting their jokes on hitch-hikers.

I hope the railways bring in a U-drive plan to lure the salesmen back, so that I can replenish my stock of jokes on my next rail trip.

Letterbox

SLAVES BETTER OFF

The Editor,
The Daily News:

In reading your prominently placed reply to Mr. Gardiner's letter in the editorial section of your paper on Friday, January 8, 1960 the following items entered my mind.

You mention wishing the northern fishermen a better year in 1960. What have you done other than wishing?

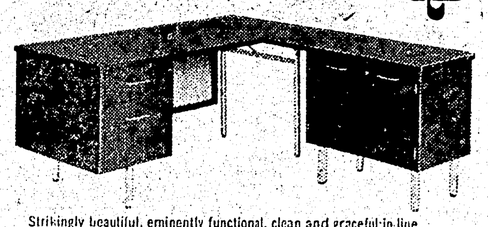
You mention strikes not paying the rent or buying the groceries. That's a very short term thought because if it were not for the determined efforts of unions to raise the wages paid to their members, you wouldn't be selling the Daily News to as large a circulation as you do because most people wouldn't be able to afford it.

You mention that an employee was paid for the work that he does and if there were no work that was it. There was a civil war fought in the United States for the freeing of the slaves but the way you have it, the slaves were much better off than the employees of this year of 1960, for, at least the person who made the profit from the work of the slaves was compelled to feed and house them when there was no work.

In your last paragraph you "still hope that the northern fishermen have better years in 1960 and 1961." The United Fishermen and Allied Workers' Union is doing more than hoping. It is working to establish better conditions for the workers involved. Money is not the prime object. Improvements in working conditions and in the standard of living have been made by the UFAWU for those working in the fishing industry as improvements have been made in other industries by the efforts of other unions on behalf of their members. We hope to continue that advance despite all the sniping aimed at us and we will continue to work toward this end in the years to come.

Florence Greenwood,
Recording Secretary,
Local 31, UFAWU.

Modal office furniture



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That which her slender waist
confined
Shall now my joyful temples
bind;
No monarch but would give his
crown
His arms might do what this
had done.

It was my Heaven's extremest
sphere,
The page which held that
lovely deer:
My joy, my grief, my hope,
my love,
Did all within this circle move.

A narrow compass! and yet
there
Dwelt all that's good, and all
that's fair!
Give me but what this ribband
bound,
Take all the rest the sun goes
round!

Edmund Waller.

gems of thought

Thought is the seed of action; but action is as much its second form as thought is its first. —Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Nurture your mind with great thoughts; to believe in the heroic makes heroes.
—Benjamin Disraeli.

Be temperate in thought, word and deed.
—Mary Baker Eddy.

Motives and purposes are in the brain and heart of man. Consequences are in the world of fact.
—William Graham Sumner.

I have never heard anything about the resolutions of the apostles, but a great deal about their acts. —Horace Mann.

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