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Grain elevator big factor in city economy

THE report of the last nine year's activity of the Canadian Government elevator while not stupendous, compared to that of private elevators, is both encouraging and impressive in as much as it is one of the few remaining factors which still gives Prince Rupert the right to be called a major Pacific coast port.

Despite the dreams of the city's founders that this city would become the San Francisco of the north, shipping in the port of Prince Rupert has declined to an alarming degree over the past few years.

Apart from coastal supply vessels, oil tankers, passenger service from one steamship company, a few pulp ships to Watson Island and nine or 10 visits from cruise ships during the summer, there is little else but grain ship activity to help justify the city's claim to being a port of any stature. That Prince Rupert is still one of the world's top fishing centres few will dispute but there are signs that even that industry has been plagued by the doldrums.

One thing is clear, however. Without the elevator, a considerable income would be lost to city residents. The elevator provides a nucleus of between 50 and 60 men with regular employment for an annual payroll of $220,000. Every ship that calls for grain gives between 25 and 30 longshoremen employment resulting in another large payroll. A total of 4,648 Canadian National Railways cars which last year brought in more than 11 million bushels of barley, also keeps busy and employed a larger railway yard crew which the CNR wouldn't have to retain in such large numbers if grain cars weren't coming in here. Altogether, with an annual grant to the city, the elevator bulks large in the economy of this city. As long as Prairie grain growers have a surplus of grain, it is to be hoped that barley shipments not only continue to come this way but increase in volume, so that Prince Rupert will benefit that much more.

...And now the choice is up to South Africa

It must have taken both moral and political courage for Prime Minister Macmillan to tell the South African Parliament that Britain repudiates the idea of any inherent superiority of one race over another. . . .

He will not have persuaded white South Africans to change their views radically. They are too far committed to the apartheid program to abandon the whole of it.

But he may indeed have planted an idea in soil that has recently been cultivated to receive it. White South Africans themselves have been organizing to moderate apartheid policies. The ferment of nationalism in Africa has its counterpart in the ferment of ideas now taking place in South Africa. Ways of compromise are being sought, and compromise is the one road by which South Africa's problem can be resolved.

"We reject," said Mr. MacMillan, "the idea of any inherent superiority of one race over another. Our policy therefore is non-racial. It offers a future in which Africans, Europeans, Asian peoples of the Pacific and others with whom we are concerned will all play their full part as citizens in the countries where they live and in which feelings of race will be submerged in loyalty to new nations."

If this sounds Utopian it is nevertheless the only choice that remains in Africa, and particularly in South Africa.

On the day Mr. Macmillan spoke, Dr. Jan Steytler, a leader of the newly-formed Progressive Party, asked the House of Assembly to accept that the country is multi-racial in character and to reject any policy designed to partition it.

He was arguing for constitutional reform; it was not possible, he said, to maintain a position where three-quarters of the population were not given the opportunity to exercise their political rights effectively. The choice was not how the white could keep the non-white down, but on what basis could South Africa continue as a multi-racial country.

With some white South Africans thinking this way we should not despair of someday seeing more general recognition of the nature of the problem and the only remedy that can be brought to it. —The Montreal Star.

Slice this new cake—it's still full of nuts

If any illusion was abroad that the 60s might usher in an age of wisdom, forget it. Here we go again with a blazing international controversy over the House of Dior's pencil contours for women—the Line of Tomorrow.

The great issue is: Shall the symbol of 38-22-35 flourish as one of the great achievements of Western democracy? Shall milady's bust continue to bust out all over?

Not if Dior designer Yves Saint-Laurent has his way. He will swathe our girls in the flat-chested attire of the 1925 flapper.

Just a few weeks ago the columnists were shovelling derision on the decade of the 50s as they waved it a dry-eyed farewell.

Their prose ran the gamut from sad irony to long jeers as they recalled flying saucers, hula hoops, Bridey Murphy, TV quiz shows, Elvis Presley's shimmying pyrotechnics, sack dresses and so on. Oh, it was infantile, all right. And mad. Zany.

There seemed an implicit promise in those columns that the decade of the 60s would be different. We would be mature. Sane.

Well, we're a month into the 60s and locked in fierce argument for or against a mammalian slant to women's styles.

In this arena France and Algeria don't seem to exist, nor Khrushchev, thermonuclear missiles, world population explosions, Arab nationalism, hunger and unrest in Asia and Africa—nothing but the burning issue, shall madam be stacked or unstacked?

It makes one wonder about the West. Are we a fruit cake society, into which it is impossible to cut without finding it thick with nuts?

No doubt the 50s were crazy. The Dior argument is a sign we won't get out of the laughing academy in the 60s either.

—The Toronto Daily Star.

INTERPRETING THE NEWS

Canada may influence U.S. on disarmament

By HAROLD MORRISON
Canadian Press Staff Writer

In proclaiming her disarmament suggestions, Canada may be placing herself in a strategically important position in which to influence an undecided United States on the final course to follow.

Five countries — Canada, U.S., Britain, France and Italy—are meeting in Washington in attempts to reach a unified Western approach to the 10-power disarmament negotiations with Russia and her satellites, opening at Geneva March 15.

Two of the countries—Britain and France—were quick to crystallize their ideas and now Canada has added her thoughts. But much to the chagrin of the Allies, the U.S. still has no firm proposals of its own, though American experts have been working at the subject for months. . . .

Time is beginning to run out. Soviet Premier Khrushchev captured the initiative with his well-publicized massive plan for total disarmament during a four-year period. The U.S. has hammered at the need for foolproof inspection and control in any global program for reducing the arms race.

The U.S. also has made clear, in various statements, that such inspection and control must accompany each disarmament stage. On that there is no divergence in Western views. Even Khrushchev seems to be gradually dropping his opposition to stage-by-stage controls.

But where, apparently, the U.S. is slow is in bringing forward concrete proposals on specific fields of armament in which reductions could be started.

Representatives of France and Britain arrived in Washington with proposals of their own—proposals which at first contained elements of conflict, but now modified by significant points of agreement.

The agreement is on the importance attached to the French proposal that priority be given to elimination of nuclear delivery systems such as intercontinental missile systems and long-range bombers.

Canada openly supports this priority, at least as far as missiles are concerned, as part of a far-reaching scheme in which military space satellites would be banned along with biological, chemical and nuclear weapons.

It is conceivable that behind the U.S. slowness in formulating policy lurks a historic suspicion of European and Asian politics.

♣ ♣ ♣

But in the past the U.S. has shown high respect and sympathy for the international proposals of her northern neighbor, Canada. Canada often has played the role of mediator between the U.S. and European Allies.

Here is a case now where Canada has proposed disarmament ideas which have elements of agreement with European partners and yet contain certain specific safeguards which should appeal to the U.S. view.

One such attractive feature for the U.S. is that each country disclose its missile sites. Much has been said in the U.S. about Russia's missile lead and the danger this may mean for U.S. communities.

It might be reassuring to the U.S. if agreement could be reached whereby Russia would disclose all its missile site secrets.

ALL THAT GLITTERS—Winter is a depressing time for some but for those with an eye for natural beauty it offers artistic rewards. Among them are dramatic scenes such as this, taken in the heart of Toronto at the height of recent ice and sleet storms that brought more misery than joy. The full moon gives these ice-coated trees a cold quiet beauty which photographer John Millyard caught with a 30-second exposure. He used a Mamiyaflex twin-lens reflex camera on a tripod. His film was Ilford HP3. Aperture was f16. (CP Photo)

EDITOR'S NOTE — Signed articles, and editorials credited to other newspapers do not necessarily reflect the views of The Daily News.

All Aboard with G. E. Mortimore

The National Broadcasting Corporation is going to make a television movie of the life of Christ.

According to a dispatch from Hollywood, the movie-makers did a sort of test run with the life of Lincoln, and found that the people liked it.

"Lincoln always died at the box office," said producer Donald Hyatt. "And when our show was a success I think it proved you can say important things if you say them entertainingly."

It is a shame that Mr. Hyatt was born in such a late century. His words would have been an inspiration to St. Paul. They would have done wonders for the early Christian martyrs.

How the course of history might have changed, if the martyrs had been able to make Nero laugh.

And what a Gospel might have been added to the Scriptures. If an NBC man had been there to ghost it, and say the important things entertainingly.

However, it is not yet too late.

"What we want to do is to humanize Christ," Mr. Hyatt said. "If we can retain the essence of the Man, we can evade the pitfalls of pedestrian history such as getting immersed in factual details."

The movie-makers have succeeded well in avoiding those pitfalls, so far.

"Fact can be used in such a way sometimes that it defeats your purpose," Mr. Hyatt added. "We'll base our story on fact but let the scholars take care of the details.

"And even when they reach a decision based on their factual details it won't change Christ."

It would be foolish to leave too many facts lying around, to clutter up the truth.

Sad to say, there wasn't an NBC man around to co-ordinate the story conference, when Matthew, Mark, Luke and John were working on their first drafts.

If one of Mr. Hyatts men had been there, we might have had one script, instead of four. And the script would have been sure-fire box-office.

Never mind. NBC writers are on the job now. And their Subject may prove to be the Discovery of the year.

As an early forerunner of the modern publicity man said: "Let's chuck some of this seed around, boys, and see what grows."

Flag and anthem

Quebec Chronicle-Telegram

If we can judge by the number of petitions to the federal government, the vast majority of Canadians are anxious to see an official flag for the nation. A slightly lesser number are pumping for an official national anthem.

And right now, there are two private bills before Parliament, one sponsored by a Conservative member, the other by a Liberal, which aim at the goal.

On this question, there seems almost complete unanimity on desire. But that is as far as the unanimity goes. When it comes to design of the flag, and form of the national anthem, the one-mindedness disappears.

With the classics

Transporting books

"Those boxes you marked
Books," the mover said,
"Weigh more than all your
furniture. You know
We charge by weight." He
shook his puzzled head.
"You got ten times more books
than miles to go."
A mercy that, I thought. How
weigh the worth
Of friends that have transformed the lonely gloom
Of many a cold, strange place
with wit and mirth
And beautified an ugly, empty
room
With bindings bearing fond,
familiar names?
Books speak in trusted tongues,
both verse and prose;
Nor urge, compel, demand or
press their claims,
They share with me an inner
light that glows,
At this uncertain journey's end
I'll find
Old friends . . . and new,
horizons of the mind.

BETTIE CASSIE LIDDELL.

We have all sorts of Khrushchevs of our own amongst us. But such is our social setup that we don't let them get to the top. To suppose that Khrushchev is a peculiarly Russian type is absurd. I imagine we could line up five thousand loud, hearty, knobheaded bullies in any of our larger cities, and two or three in almost any township in the country. —GREG CLARK.

The Packsack of Gregory Clark

Two retail merchants sitting across from me in the railway dining car were discussing the merits of large mirrors on the front of their premises and in their show windows.

"I had a good big mirror on my shop front for years," said one, "but I finally came to the conclusion that the women who stopped to look weren't looking at the merchandise. They were looking at themselves, and so were blocking the view of the public. And when you figure all the cost of that window-dressing and equipment, and the damage to merchandise by sunlight and so forth, I figured that mirror was a waste.

"Well," said the other merchant, who was in ladies' wear, "I have had an entirely different experience. But I had good advice from one of the top men in our industry. He advised me to put a tall oblique mirror in my entrance, so slanted that women walking along the street could see themselves full length in it. I've got it big enough and conspicuous enough that nobody walking on the street can fail to see themselves, maybe for 15 or 20 paces. And when they see how dowdy they look, the women glance sideways, and there's my window full of the most attractive clothing of every description . . . My business went up fifty per cent after I put that mirror trap in."

What victims we are!

Threading needles

A household hint in one of our magazines suggests that the threading of a needle is easier if we cut the thread on a slant. But I've got a better idea: Use saliva and twist the end of the thread. A couple of special words for the occasion, uttered through clenched teeth, will help a lot, too, in needling the needle.

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