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# Rupert, not Kamloops, "Gateway to Alaska"

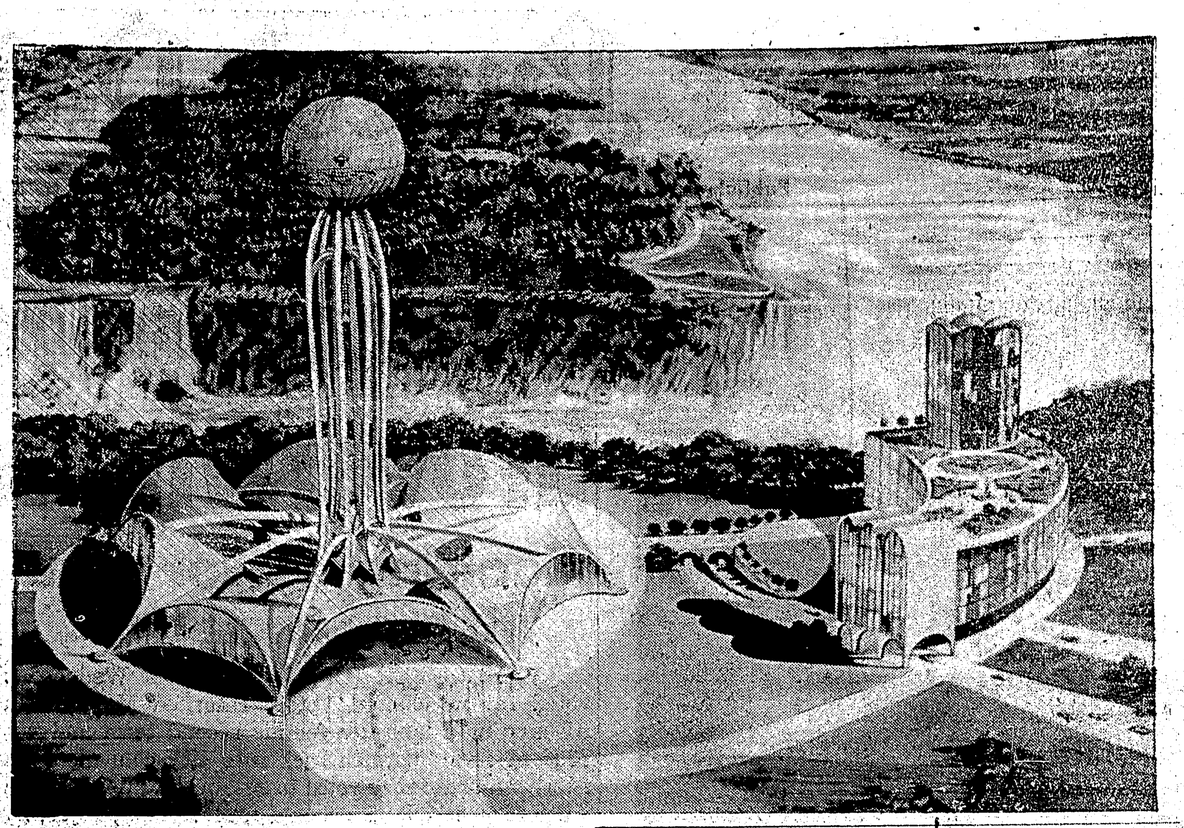
Prince Rupert, Highway 16 communities and members of the Northern Trans-Canada Highway Association should take particular note of the latest pronouncement of Maurice Finnerty, president of the British Columbia Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Finnerty is either slightly mixed up in his interpretation of the Battelle Report or he was just saying something nice to the Kamloops people to keep them happy. Monday night he said that Kamloops will be "the gateway to northern British Columbia and Alaska."

Now we have nothing against Kamloops, apart from its greediness to have two trans-provincial highways pass through its precincts, but we have news for Mr. Finnerty.

Prince Rupert is the "gateway to Alaska" and City Council, local Chamber of Commerce members and Highway 16 centres east to Jasper should not allow anyone to tell them differently or to spread the word that such is not the case.

Mr. Finnerty is correct when he says that the Battelle Report shows that a rail connection to Alaska "would prove uneconomical for Americans" and that a "well-planned highway system would not only pay for itself in B.C. but would be self-sufficient in covering maintenance costs as well." The only thing is that the links suggested in the Battelle Report are to start from Hazelton and go north to Jake's Corner and the Stewart-Cassiar road. To the best of our knowledge Kamloops wasn't mentioned.

Kamloops is in the happy position of having two railroads converging within its midst and the fact that it is on Highway 97 (1) which is the southern trans-continental highway. We know that as long as Kamloops' Highways Minister Gaglardi is in power, Kamloops will eventually have its link with Jasper. However, let us make sure that the Northern Trans-Continental Highway from Jasper to Prince Rupert via McBride and Prince George is completed first, so that traffic coming up Highway 97 (2), as well as Kamloops' Highway 97 (1), can go east and west at Prince George on the northern trans-provincial highway we are supporting. Thanks to the broken promises of the Social Credit government which pledged that Highway 16 would be paved by the end of 1960, all too few travellers have ventured west on Highway 16. They can't go east because the highway isn't finished. But once we get Highway 16 paved, then Prince Rupert will indeed live up to its name of "Gateway to Alaska" without having a southern Caribou-northern Okanagan community, which is already blessed with heavy rail and highway traffic, being given a title it hardly deserves by an undoubtedly well-meaning but somewhat misguided Chamber of Commerce official.



ESSENTIAL DESIGN of the multi-million dollar Canadian Global Centre proposed for Niagara Falls, Ont., above, is the work of Nat Winecoff, one of the designers of Disneyland in California. The Cultural Centre, topped by a 400-foot observation tower housing revolving dining-room, will provide space for a central permanent exhibition area where the nations of the world can display the customs, arts, and legends of their respective societies. International Hotel at right will house convention halls and first-class accommodation. The International Trade and Industry Exhibits will be housed in an area to the left of the Cultural Centre. The entire development is a multi-million dollar project — may be completed by 1963.

## Unemployment Questions and Answers

In this column we publish questions about unemployment insurance and employment, together with answers received from the Unemployment Insurance Commission. If you are uncertain about any point do not hesitate to send us your question. We will obtain an answer and publish it in this column.

Following are some questions with answers which may be of interest to you:

Q. An overpayment was established against me last year and I have now received a notice that Exchequer Court action will be taken to collect it. What can I do to avoid this?

A. If suitable arrangements are made to repay this amount over a reasonable period of time, they will be allowed and the Exchequer Court action delayed. However, you have already been advised of this before such action was considered necessary so that your failure to comply with previous requests for repayment has initiated this legal action.

Q. I have been fined in court for several offences against the Unemployment Insurance Act. If I don't pay the fine within a reasonable time, I shall go to jail. What can I do to prevent this since I have not enough money to meet the fine?

A. The Unemployment Insurance Commission cannot help you since the matter of fines is the prerogative of the court to administer. However, you can make your circumstances known to the court and appeal to the court for consideration.

## Quote and unquote

Norman C. Chadwick, vice-president, Avon Products Inc.: "Personal selling as an art, as a service, as a help, as a counsel has all but vanished from the scene. Mr. and Mrs. Consumer push the carts, roam the aisles, serve themselves, add up and double check and sometimes quarrel with the cash register, lug the goods home, and never see or talk with anyone remotely resembling a sales person."

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Santayana: "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

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Jean Paul Sartre, French existentialist playwright, in a Paris newspaper article: "The greatest scandal of the Cuban revolution is not the expropriation of the planters but the accession to power of children. Since a revolution was necessary, circumstances bade the children accomplish it. No one in Cuba is totally qualified to do what he does."

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Overheard in a Hampstead, U.K., coffee bar: "She's rather like Venus de Milo—beautiful but not all there."

## All Aboard with G. E. Mortimore

Most newspaper readers just aren't interested in articles about such topics as disarmament conferences, nuclear fallout and world overpopulation. So a friend told me.

"I haven't time to bother with that stuff," he said. "I leave that to the people I help elect to Parliament. That is what they're for. My job keeps me hopping. I do some community work. That takes a couple of hours in the evening. Then I just want to relax."

"You're too busy to bother about life and death?"

"That will go on, whatever I do," he said. "If it's going to happen, it's going to happen. That's the way most people feel. Let the think - boys do the thinking. That's why we elect them to the government."

"How are you going to find out who is the best man to elect?"

He shrugged his shoulders. "We have a good man now, John D.," he said.

"If so," I suggested, "you might have been just lucky."

"I'll bet you, people aren't interested in the think stuff," he said.

"I believe you're right," I admitted. "That's why our society is in danger of being snuffed out — because people are too lazy or too busy to inform themselves. The big bang might well come in our time."

"In your time, not in mine," he said. "I'm a lot older than you. One day, whoosh!"

"Meanwhile, enjoy yourself, do the job and do your community work, eh?"

"Yes," he said.

I believe he spoke for most North Americans. The United States has 6 per cent of the world's population, and consumes 50 per cent of the world's goods. Canada lives on almost as cosy a scale. We are getting too comfortable to bother thinking.

If we don't smarten up soon, one of two things may happen: We will perish in a false-alarm war; or the hungry nations will take us over.

DREAM OF DE COSMOS, BORN SMITH

# Victoria Colonist celebrates 102nd birthday

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA — Last Sunday was the 102nd birthday of The Victoria Colonist!

It's the oldest newspaper in Canada west of the Great Lakes, the oldest on the Pacific coast of North America.

It's one of three morning papers in B.C. — the others being The Province of Vancouver and The News of Nelson.

The Colonist was born December 11, 1858, fathered by that extraordinary character of our history, Amor de Cosmos, born Smith, christened William, in Nova Scotia. In the late 1840's, at the California gold rush he found so many Bill Smiths he became irked had the State Legislature change his name to Amor de Cosmos — lover of the universe.

De Cosmos himself wrote the first Colonist editorial. It said: "In our local politics we shall be found the sure friend of reform. We shall aim at introducing such reforms as will tend to government according to the well-understood wishes of the people."

James Douglas was the governor, an autocratic governor. He wanted no reforms by the people. He would bring in the reforms! We may well imagine he didn't like that first Colonist editorial — or De Cosmos either.

A few days later De Cosmos wrote in The Colonist: "Some persons have supposed that we have a personal antipathy to Governor Douglas."

Then the editorial went on: "We would willingly excuse many trifling errors, but prompted only by a pure and honest desire to benefit the country, we are compelled to set his acts of usurpation, of duplicity, of wrong and incapacity in their true light before the people."

Douglas now flew into a calm, but towering rage! This upstart from goodness knows where — this upstart with that rediculous name! He would show this upstart who was boss! He sought to us an old British statute that compelled a newspaper to post a bond of 800 pounds before it could do business. Douglas knew De Cosmos had no 800 pounds.

But De Cosmos had friends; they raised the bond. So it was that The Colonist was nearly collapsed by a politician before it got fairly going. And in due course De Cosmos turned politician himself — becoming B.C.'s second Premier, from 1872 to 1874, and later MP for Victoria.

Some famous names in our history have been connected with The Colonist. David W. Higgins, later Speaker of the Legislature, for years was its editor. Charles Lugrin once edited it, as did Charles Swayne, H. Sandham Graves, and now Richard J. Bower.

Millionaire James Dunsmuir, son of Vancouver Island coal baron Robert Dunsmuir owned The Colonist for years. Then came the era of the Matson family — J. S. H. and his sons Jack and Tim, before, a few years ago, the paper was sold to Calgary Max Bell's Victoria Press Limited, which also publishes the rival Times. Now the Sifton chain has joined the Bell interests in ownership of the two papers.

The Colonist has chronicled the daily doings of Victoria from the days when this capital was not much more than a wilderness Fort on the shores of the harbor Thousands of Victorians are unable to start their day without first reading The Colonist at their breakfast tables. Its pages, down through the years, present a detailed history of this city, and also of this province.

It was first called The British Colonist, but the word British was dropped when B.C. joined Canadian Confederation in 1871.

De Cosmos called his Pacific Coast paper The Colonist because in Halifax was also a Colonist. De Cosmos was a fighter for a Canada from Atlantic to Pacific. Newspapers called Colonist on both coasts symbolized his dream, for which he battled, and saw come true.

## The Packsack of Gregory Clark

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One redeeming feature of the present confused era is the fact that people still stop and watch the trains go by. Nobody looks up any more when an aircraft passes overhead. Even the mighty jets don't rate so much as a glance. Ten people can be standing forlorn at a bus stop and one of these whizz-bang red sports cars come barking and snorting furiously past; and not one of the ten will raise his eyes from the slushy pavement.

But wherever trains run, the whole world stops and stands to gaze.

The best way to perceive this is from your window in a train. Gathered at every station, however small, is a cluster of devotees, their coat collars turned up, their noses red, their heads raised in rapture as the cars flash by. Your train does not even pay them the compliment of slowing down, much less stopping. But there they are, infatuated.

In the fields, if it is summer, the plowman stops his tractor and stares. His dog sits down to gaze. In winter, the lonely figure, whatever he is doing out there in the bleak expanse, halts and turns to face the train, as though it were a ritual commanded of him.

In traffic in the cities, the motor cars slack speed as if by common consent to watch a freight trundle over a bridge. A hundred thousand little boys and girls will scramble eagerly into a hundred thousand late model cars to be taken to see the choo-choo.

## The lighter side

Bride: "The best two things I cook are meat loaf and apple dumplings."

Groom: "Which is this?"

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Patient's wife: "Is there any hope, doctor?"

Doctor: "It depends on what you're hoping for."

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She: "I wonder if you remember me? Years ago you asked me to marry you."

Absent-minded professor: "Ah, yes, and did you?"

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The junior executive had been complaining of aches and pains to his wife. Neither one could account for his trouble.

Arriving home from work one night, he informed her, "I finally discovered why I've been feeling so miserable. We got some ultra-modern office furniture two weeks ago and I just learned today that I've been sitting in the wastebasket."

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When the mother found her infant daughter eating handfuls of sand from the sandbox, she was frantic. She rushed the child into the house, made her drink lots of water, and then called the doctor.

After explaining what had happened and what she had done, she asked the doctor what she should do next.

"Just don't give her any cement," the doctor replied.

# Love on the collective farm

The young ladies who vie with each other for such titles as Miss Postage Stamp, Miss Canada, or Miss Universe have often attracted some good-natured ribaldry. Their charms are said to be carefully balanced by the judges with consideration of their intellectual gifts, and we would not dare to disbelieve them.

Both the judges and the young ladies should know that the strange rite of choosing a pin-up girl is a pleasant task compared to what happens in the Soviet Union. That nation's ideal girl was selected recently, not on the basis of vital statistics or charm but because she was a whiz at pig-breeding.

Tanya, a buxom lass of the Ukraine, won over a crop of expert milkmaids, harvesters and efficiency experts, and her picture duly appeared in the newspapers.

So what happened to Tanya? Were the readers fascinated by the record work on the collective farm? Did correspondents ask for more details of her hours of work and how she overfulfilled her quota?

Not a bit of it. Tanya was "embarrassed," she said, by the number of letters asking for love rather than labor. Some even wrote bad poetry to impress her. They actually asked for her own vital statistics rather than the secrets of successful pig-breeding.

The Soviet press is very indignant and prissy about the whole thing. Miss Pig Breeder of 1961 will probably be a mite less attractive, in the hope that the boys on the collective farms will keep their minds on the pig production curves. Ivan must be solemn.

— The Vancouver Province

## A Bible Thought for Today

Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for it. Ephesians 5:25.

Christ knew the great faults of the church of His day. He overthrew the tables of the money changers and drove them from the temple foyer. But He attended services and never left the church of His day. A very imperfect church is vastly better than none.

## With the classics

To maidens' vows and swearings
Henceforth no credit give;
You may give them the hearing,
But never them believe;
They are as false as fair,
Unconstant, frail, untrue:
For mine, alas! has left me,
Falero, lero, loo

—George Wither,

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