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Poppies honor dead, help survivors

ON November 11, 42 years ago, September 2, 15 years ago and on July 26, a mere eight years ago, three wars in which members of the Canadian armed forces gave their lives, came to their ends. Since September, 1914 a total of 104,000 Canadians have been killed fighting for a cause they thought was right.

Tomorrow, the symbol of their sacrifice, the Flanders poppy, goes on sale across Canada to honor those who died in battle and to give assistance to those who came back, especially the maimed, the blind and the halt.

The disabled war veteran, widows of men who never came back and their dependents are the direct beneficiaries of the Canadian Legion's Poppy Day sales. The contribution you make in buying a poppy to wear next Friday on Remembrance Day helps provide funds for emergency aid such as food, shelter or medical expenses for veterans in need; it helps provide bursaries for their children's education in deserving and needy cases; it provides extra funds for handicapped veterans whether they are Legion members or not.

Simple in design, the Flanders poppy represents two things. The blood-red petals stand for the blood which was shed by the wounded, the black centre for the dead whom we will honor on November 11. By being as generous as we can when we buy our poppies we can truly say with a clear conscience that we have kept faith with those who lie "in Flanders Fields."

Coffee break creeping nuisance?

In defence of the now universally taken-for-granted 'coffee break,' Dr. Felton of the Schools of Medicine and Public Health of the University of California says it is a valuable health asset and provides for the individual growth of employees through frequent relaxed relationship with fellow employees.

"It is," he says, "the town meeting brought up to date and dressed in working clothes."

Many employers think differently. Some might go so far as to say that the professor's specious gobbledygook is merely an effort to rationalise an unnecessary habit only perpetuated because of a general hesitation to try and break it.

In many branches of industry the demand for labor is still in excess of the supply and employees have been known to quit rather than forego a privilege which, like many other privileges, has come to be considered a right.

In these days of short working hours and lessened physical exertion it is difficult to believe that three to four hours of undemanding work cannot be endured without a rest period of 15 to 30 minutes or more.

Double that daily and add the additional time taken by many female employees to prepare for the break and to get settled after the break and it will be found that the employer is often paying out hard cash for very little work.

It is, of course, very nice to have the town meeting on the boss' time. We can think of many other activities that would provide "relaxed relationship with fellow employees": cribbage, for instance, or poker, or tennis.

The modern concept of the worker as a tender and hyper-sensitive plant to be carefully cultivated in deluxe surroundings and subjected to a minimum of exertion, is but one aspect of a Pollyanna no resistance tendency which will eventually ham-string competition with more aggressive rivals for world trade.

Some employers with large city businesses have termed the coffee break a creeping nuisance which has grown insidiously and will continue to expand.

We have known the office manager of a large Vancouver department store to shamefacedly ask a credit customer to come back later for an adjustment of his mixed-up account because the girls were all out for coffee. That is perhaps an extreme example but it does support the old adage "Give 'em an inch and they will take a yard."

We have heard local taxpayers complain about our municipal employees being hauled by truck to a coffee bar for the necessary daily interludes of relaxed relationship. This may be derided as petty critcism and when a custom is widespread it would be difficult indeed to discriminate.

Perhaps what is needed at this juncture is an Oliver Cromwell to inaugurate a trend back to the old practice of giving a full and honest day's work for a full day's pay. But we do not envy the innovator his task. He would, no doubt, have to resort to more than two coffee breaks daily to successfully battle the formidable opposition, by which time his ulcer will have given him an excuse to forego the coffee break habit himself.

But how many will help him to carry the torch, in the face of the universal chant,

"Come all the bosses of the world in arms,
and we shall shock them,
Naught shall make us rue, if to the coffee
break we remain but true."

—The Powell River News

Delbrook's sensible graduation

Delbrook senior high school principal J. D. Siddons' move to retrieve graduation celebrations from the parent-disturbing artificiality of adolescent cafe society to the atmosphere of a school function should be welcomed by father and mothers everywhere.

Many parents have voiced concern about graduation celebrations getting out of hand both from the financial as well as the moral aspect, for the practice of extravagant dinners and dances and all night parties. Too many students have been denied participation because theri parents could not affaord it, or because they sensibly did not agree that their children—and high school graduates are still children—were yet of an age for dusk to dawn hi-jinks.

Mr. Siddons' restrictions will no doubt be met by initial opposition by students, for youth is sensitive to control. But it is interesting to note that the students in the North Vancouver high school are showing sense and reasonableness. The principal says their initial displeasure is changing to enthusiasm.

This, too, is characteristic of youth, for while teen-agers enjoy freedom, they are basically sound enough to appreciate reasonable control.

So for Delbrook senior high school, the graduation will be celebrated at the school, with no dinner jackets for boys or expensive gowns for girls, a midnight curfew and a pairing of boys and girls who haven't arranged dates.

We feel that this formula will restore a school spirit which has suffered from partially-attended, out-of-school celebrations, and that it will make graduation festivities something more to be remembered than an all-night binge.

Perhaps other high schools and their principals may follow suit.—The Vancouver Province.

INTERPRETING THE NEWS

Macmillan keeps sights on world peace

By BORIS MISKEW
Canadian Press Staff Writer

The British government is pledged to keep its sights aimed at world peace but it is not letting wishful thinking jeopardize its position on the international scene.

In the speech from the throne, read by the Queen Tuesday, Prime Minister Macmillan's Conservative government promised to work for the improvement of East-West relations and called for closer co-operation with the United States in the "defence of peace."

Before the contents of the speech, which contained few surprises, could be thrashed out in the House of Commons, the prime minister moved to implement one aspect of the policy by announcing an agreement to provide a base in Scotland for American nuclear submarines equipped with Polaris missiles.

Macmillan, noting anxieties among the members, emphasized that no decision by the U.S. to use the missile would be taken without prior consultation with Britain.

This statement brought a surprised reaction from Washington, where officials said the U.S. had made no such direct commitment.

In the Commons Wednesday the foreign minister, the Earl of Home, attempted to explain away the conflict. He declared:

"It is quite clear from the prime minister's statement that although he is sure there would be consultation wherever possible, it could not necessarily be guranteed in the case of an emergency."

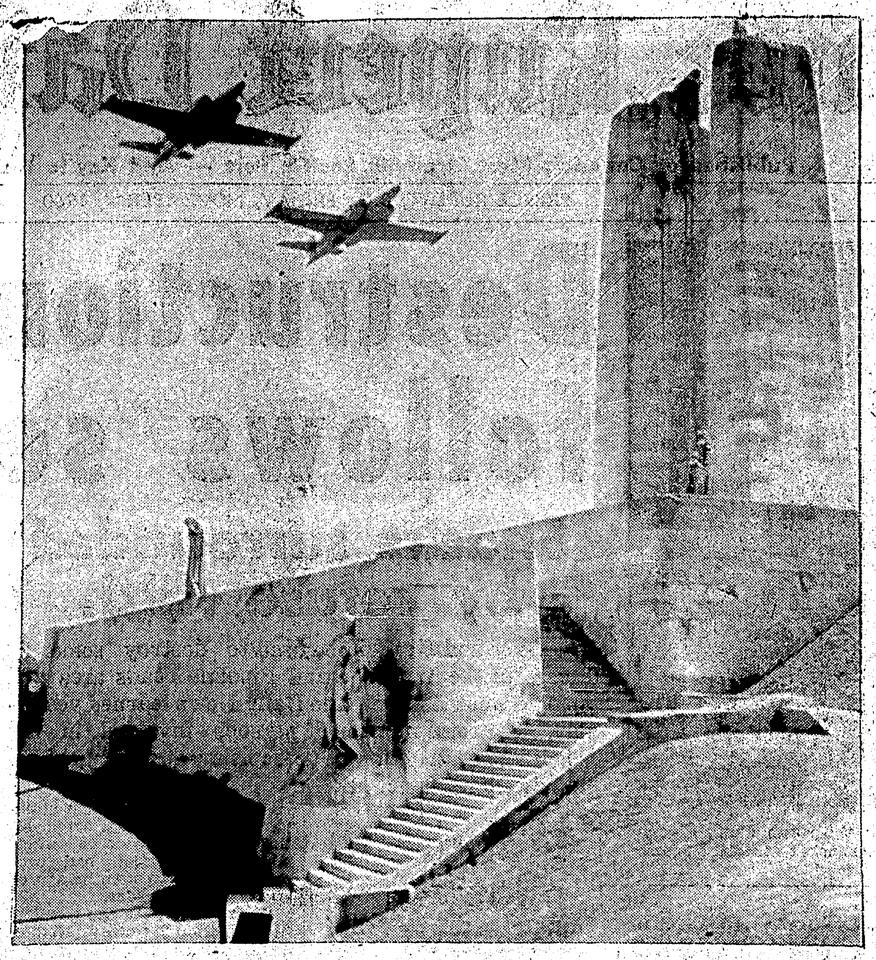
As was expected, the missile base announcement brought immediate reaction from Moscow. Russia warned Britain that the projected base at Holy Loch on the Clyde will be the target for "an inevitable retaliatory blow" if used for aggression.

Much of the proposed legislation announced in the throne speech has been pending for some time. Controversy during the session is likely to centre mainly on the proposed increases in pensions and other social benefits. The increases would not be large.

A Bible Thought for Today

I will give unto him that is athirst of the water of life freely. Rev. 21:6.

We can cultivate a desire fo rinjurious things. They are costly always. The finest things of this life and the one to come are free.



AERIAL SALUTE—Two RCAF CF-100 jet interceptors fly low in aerial salute over the Canadian War Memorial at Vimy Ridge in France where Remembrance Day services will be held next Friday, November 11. It is in memory of the men who died in the First and Second World Wars and the Korean War that we are asked to buy Flanders poppies tomorrow.—(CP Photo from National Defence).

Senator Kennedy challenging Nixon right in vice-president's own state

This is another in the series on key states in the U.S. presidential election.

By MORRIE LANDSBERG

SACRAMENTO, Calif (AP) — Senator Kennedy is seriously challenging Richard Nixon where it may hurt the most—right here in the vice-president's home state.

No doubt that's why the candidates themselves reserved California for the important last days of the campaign.

Kennedy is here now in his second round of appearances. Nixon, who made two earlier visits, plans to return next weekend.

The latest professional poll, among 3,018 voters in 16 of the 58 counties, favored Nixon 49.9 to 43.9 per cent, with 6.2 per cent on the fence.

But Las Vegas bookmakers list Kennedy as a 7-to-5 favorite in California.

LANDSLIDE SET SCENE

Democrats feel the scene was set in 1958 when Governor Edmund Brown, a Roman Catholic, led a Democratic landslide that captured every state office but one.

This year the party staged a successful registration drive that gained 19,000 voters and boosted its 3-to-2 registration lead over the Republicans to 1,400,000. The Republicans picked up 406,000.

"If it weren't for the religious issue, there would be no doubt of the outcome," says Roger Kent, Democratic state chairman, who nevertheless predicts Kennedy will carry California by a comfortable margin.

V. John Krehbiel, Republican state chairman, says he isn't worried by registration figures.

Krehbiel says he is convinced Democrats will cross party lines, as they did for President Eisenhower, who carried California in 1952 and 1956 by more than 600,000 votes.

Employment 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. I am building a house for my brother-in-law and he pays me 70 cents an hour. May he put stamps in my unemployment insurance book?

A. You would be insurable only if the arrangement under which you work is an actual employer-employee arrangement. More information regarding the terms and conditions of the employment would be required to determine this. You should supply full details to the local office and request a ruling.

Q. If an employer places contributions which have not been legally earned in the insurance book of an employee in order to help him qualify for unemployment insurance, can the employer be prosecuted

A. Yes. Not only will the employer be prosecuted, but so will the employee. Such offences are serious and are usually handled under the Criminal Code since penalties are more severe than under the Unemployment Insurance Act.

Q. Can employers be prosecuted for failure to keep insurance records for employees?

A. Yes. Employers are required to have contribution records for all insurable employees. These, together with payroll records and related documents, are subject to examination by the Unemployment Insurance Commission auditors. Full information is contained in a booklet entitled "Employer's Handbook on Unemployment Insurance" which is available at any office of the Commission.

All Aboard with G. E. Mortimore

"How would he have done, married to a different woman? What kind of life would she have had, with a different husband?"

Looking at people and wondering in this way is a useless hobby, but it is amusing.

The man who has climbed to the limit of his ability with the help of a clever wife is a well-known figure. There are probably thousands of his kind. Their wives are spiritual technicians, knowing how to keep that complicated machine called a good husband in good running order with praise, criticism, comfort or silence, at the right time.

Some essentially weak and unbalanced men go a long way with the help of such women as that.

♦ ♦ ♦

And then there are wives who are so feckless and mean-spirited that they drive their husbands to work hard to compensate for a miserable home life. Such a husband may become brilliantly successful, or jump off a bridge—or both.

Sometimes you see a man who is strong enough to carry a weepy whiny and negative wife along with him, and do well enough regardless; or a woman of stern character who forces a weak husband along, to the great discomfort of both of them.

It is heartening to see (as well as you can make out from outside) a husband and wife who appear to complement one another perfectly, each of them having good points that support the other one's faults.

♦ ♦ ♦

But the saddest spectacle of all is the husband and wife who have the same faults of character.

When both the husband and wife are untidy, indecisive, grown-up babies, each one of them looking on the other as a substitute parent and expecting help that never comes — they're in for trouble all their lives.

Does it seem incredible that there are people like that in world? I know some. Their only hope is that one or other of them will grow up while they are still young enough.

The Packsack of Gregory Clark

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While some rascals don't look like rascals at all, but like deacons, the general rule is that a shifty individual looks shifty, male or female. Why, then, do people do business with obviously shifty characters?

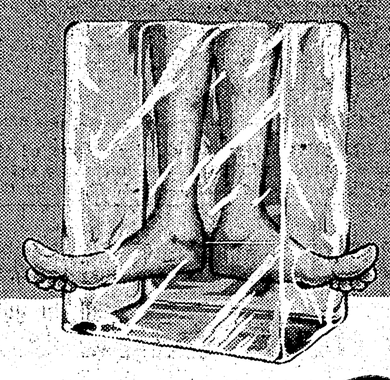
The answer may be that those who do business with shifty individuals are looking for a little fraudulent advantage or even illegal profit, and are therefore a little shifty themselves. An acquaintance of mine has been complaining bitterly about a suit of clothes he bought recently which in less than a month's wear lost its shape and began falling apart in the way cheaply made clothes do. From one of his business confreres I learned that he had been involved in an accident at the plant in which his clothes were damaged, and his employer had told him to buy a new suit and charge it to the firm.

After shopping around, he found a shifty gentleman in the clothing trade who agreed to sell him a suit for $45 and give him a bill for $75.

Naturally, the shifty gentleman gave him a $35 suit. Which accounts for the necessary indignation of the buyer, who has to appear to be outraged that a $75 suit should look so bad so soon.

EDITOR'S NOTE—Signed articles and editorials credited to other newspapers do no necessarily reflect the views of The Daily News.

Feet like ice?



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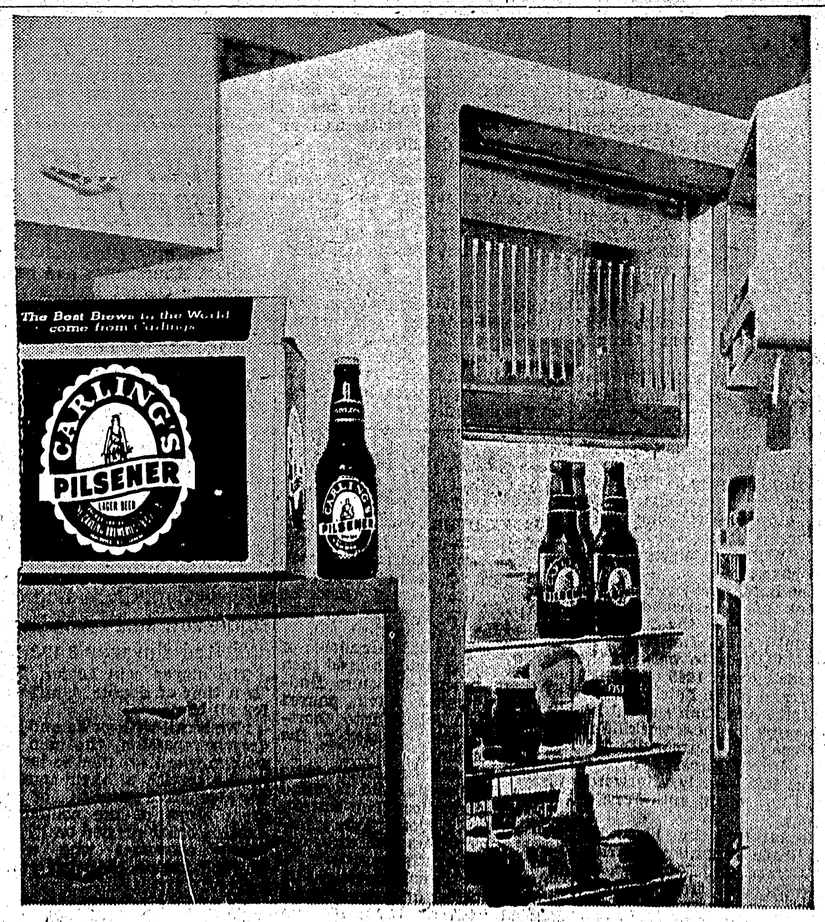

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