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More avenues of revenue needed by Civic Centre

THE board of directors and management of the Civic Centre are due plaudits for ending 1959 with a surplus. Only once before, in the last 10 years anyway, did the city's community centre end the year in the black and that was about four years ago, when it was $110 to the good. This year, not counting the Civic Centre swimming pool, the Civic Centre ended up the year with a credit balance of $2,546.

However, the Centre is in a ticklish position. There are no longer any bonds on which to fall back for capital expenditures or to meet any sudden financial crisis.

Major problem facing the board of directors is the formulation of a sound plan for gaining more revenue so the Centre may operate efficiently and still give the residents of this city all the services they desire.

The City of Prince Rupert has agreed to pick up the tab for the repair of the roof, which was in critical condition, but it has not completely agreed to finance all major capital expenditures as was suggested at the association's annual meeting in the report of Civic Centre association chairman Dr. W. J. D. Arnold.

There are a great many repairs and improvements necessary to keep the Centre in good shape and operating successfully. The City Council agreed to the roof job, but no statement or policy agreement has been reached on other matters. If City Council were to pay for everything the Centre needed in the way of capital costs, it would find itself but a step away from taking over the Centre and operating it as a municipal community centre.

Such a move would increase by thousands of dollars the cost to the taxpayers who already finance the Centre to the tune of $14,000, the present value of a mill. Lost would be the gifts of donors, membership fees in the form existing now and the support of large companies such as the Columbia Cellulose Company Limited which annually throws $3,000 into the Civic Centre kitty.

Eventually, whether they wanted it or not, the Centre would fall back on the city to pick up any deficit the Centre might incur, whether operational or capital.

Such a situation must be avoided at all costs. Whether by carnivals, exhibitions, special events or by charging more for what the Centre now supplies for nominal fees, the Civic Centre association has to explore more lucrative avenues of revenue and put them into practice with no chance of any loss.

With a streamlined group of standing committees now in force, the Centre must concentrate on fund raising of a type that will give the public its money's worth in entertainment and enjoyment so that parting with still more money will not be quite so painful. The Centre is in the black at the moment. Let us keep it that way and build up a much bigger bank balance without delay.

Credit union progress tribute to members

THE growth of the credit union movement in Prince Rupert is one which many other communities can envy. From a small beginning 20 years ago the Prince Rupert Fishermen's Credit Union was formed to make a certain group of fishermen independent of the large fishing companies. It grew to be the major financial backing of the Prince Rupert Fishermen's Co-Operative Association and as such has helped provide local fishermen with some of the finest vessels on the Pacific coast and has been a source of funds for fishing families by which they could improve their life and standard of living. At the same time they had a share in building up a bulwark against personal insolvency.

Five years after the first credit union was formed, the Kaien Consumers Credit Union was founded to serve the general public. Later still the Celco Credit Union was incorporated to help the employees of Columbia Cellulose Company Limited. Next month, to avoid duplicity of operation the latter two credit unions are merging to coordinate their purpose. In all the three credit unions have assets totalling millions of dollars and do equally large amounts of business annually.

The success of these ventures is a tribute to the men and women who have labored hard and long on behalf of their fellow members. On this, International Credit Union Day, we can only echo the felicitations of Prime Minister Diefenbaker when he says:

"The success of the credit union movement in Canada is proof that its members are conscious of their obligations and those of their organizations to the communities they serve."

INTERPRETING THE NEWS

Gaitskell lives up to true task of leader

By ED SIMON
Canadian Press Staff Writer

In his letter of resignation from the shadow cabinet of Britain's Labor party, Anthoy Greenwood expresses a view about leadership that is becoming fashionable in British politics.

"The task of a leader," Greenwood wrote, is to strive for unity, to seke a basis of agreemnt and not to place himself at the head of a faction . . . "

Party Leader Hugh Gaitskell, the argument runs, has placed himself beyond the pale of coming out wholeheartedly in favor of a British defence policy of seeking collective security within the Western alliance and striving for multilateral disarmament even though a substantial portion of his country wants to commit Britain to a neutralist course.

♣ ♣ ♣

While Greenwood goes on to attack Gaitskell for persisting in his course in defiance of last week's vote by the Labor party conference in favor of unilateral nuclear disarmament and repudiation of nuclear alliances, the case for compromise has been echoed by others who, unlike Greenwood, agree with Gaitskell on defence.

The ideal leader, according to this theory, bears a startling resemblance to Dwight Eisenhower who is not normally held up as a model of right-thinking socialists. The leader is an agreeable chairman of a squabbling committee too with a talent for avoiding awkward decisions that might offend his associates.

Gaitskell's critics within the party prefer to cite the example of Earl Attlee, recalling with a new reverence the former prime minister's habit of doodling quietly while firebrands like Sir Stafford Cripps, Ernest Bevin and Aneurin Bevan turned cabinet meeting into stormy debating forums.

♣ ♣ ♣

Similar considerations are reported to have prompted the choice of the urbane Harold Macmillan as prime minister in 1957 when the Conservative party left leaderless by the resignation of Sir Anthony Eden. The story ran that the likelier successor, R. A. Butler, was passed over because he had too many ideas of his own.

The truth of the matter is, as the aggrieved memoirs of several older Labor politicians have made clear, that Attlees' doodling masked a ruthless ability to make decisions and stick to them. And the Conservatives have gratefully discovered that Macmillan, too, is capable of enforcing his own views on his colleagues.

In short, the true task of a elader is to lead. Not the least of the deficiencies of the Labor party is its instinctive distrust of anyone who threatens to put the theory into practice.

A Bible Thought for Today

Jehovah will guide thee continually. Isa. 58:11.

TOP AIR CADET Joseph M. Green, 17, of Edmonton, was recently presented with a trophy to mark his topping a class of 396 in competition for scholarship flying course. Maurice Fallow, secretary-manager of the Edmonton Flying Club, presented the trophy while F/Lt. J. T. Fink, officer in charge of the course looks on. Competitors came from throughout the Dominion.—(CP Photo).

The Packsack of Gregory Clark

Copyright: Canada Wide

The word cheap is now very difficult to use. Once upon a time it had a simple and handy meaning. It comes from the old English word ceap, which meant a bargain, without any association with shoddiness. But in modern times, like so many good old-fashioned words its meaning has been steadily diluted and altered until it means something fairly close to the word cheat. When we say an article or a man is cheap, it is about the most we can say in derogation.

The word we want nowadays is inexpensive.

A lady in a mink cape and the airs of a female grandee, whatever that word is, came up beside me when I was choosing a necktie in the gents furnishings. She took my clerk from me as slickly as though I had not been there at all.

"I want," she said, "some inexpensive neckties. I have a crowd of young Air Force boys in civvies coming to my place on leave, and I want to give them some litle gift."

The clerk showed her some at $2, some at $1.50, some at $1 and finally from under the counter got some at 79 cents.

They were not inexpensive. They were cheap.

She took 10 of them. And do you know something? I bet they weren't for any young Air Force boys at all. I bet they were for her husband.

Poor guy!

All Aboard with G. E. Mortimore

The man with the notebook looked more than usually glum and censorious when he came in to the office yesterday.

"The profits made on school kids' supplies," he snapped, and gave me such a fierce look that I began to feel that it must be my fault.

He comes in everyweek or so to draw my attention to various flaws in our social order. He thumbs through the notebook to refresh his memory.

"Do you think that merchants are making excessive profits on school supplies?" I asked.

"Of course they are," he said. "They're coining money from it. Markups at least 33 and one third."

"The merchants would say they had to pay their light, rent and wages, and that would cut down the profit," I reminded him.

"Take a look at the prices," he said. "They're exorbitant."

"What do you want to do about it?"

Spend for teachers

"Let the schools distribute a package of pencils, books and papers to each child, free of charge or at a reasonable price. Spend the savings on school equipment or teachers' salaries."

"The storekeepers would scream loud enough to shake the nails out of the walls," I said. "They'd say you were sabotaging free enterprise, and all kinds of unpleasant things."

"Do it anyway," said the man with the notebook.

"I'd like to see it done, personally," I said. "However, I doubt if it will be. University book stores seem to be tolerated. I think the merchants have written off university people as hopeless radicals. But I have no great hope for cut-rate exercise books and pencils any lower down in the system."

My friend riffled another few pages in his notebook.

"When I was a kid and wanted a bicycle, I didn't just blubber for it," he announced. I waited for him to say some more.

Earned every penny

"I earned every penny of the price of the bicycle, when I was a boy in England," he said. "I worked for my Dad in the basement for a penny an hour, banging up coal and chopping kindling and things like that. The bike cost five pounds, 19 and 11 pence."

"How do you manage to remember the exact price after all this time?" I asked.

"Because I earned every penny of it," he repeated. "If I worked an eight-hour day, I was paid a shilling instead of eight pence.

"And when I got the bike, I appreciated it, I got it polished and shined as you never saw a bike before in all your years."

"I see what you mean," I said, 'but isn't that just our old cry about today's children having it too soft?"

"It's true, he said.

"I'm sure it is," I agreed. "But if you make the boy work in the basement to earn his bicycle, he'll be the only one in the neighborhood doing it. The rest of the kids will have fathers paying the bill for them at $2 a month. The boy working for his own bicycle will be considered a freak. And maybe he'll become a freak."

"Never mind," said the visitor. "It will do him good."

And as he left, stowing away the notebook in his pocket, I found myself at a loss for an answer.

Sound advice

From The Financial Post

Here are three sensible and constructive pieces of advice directed at union locals from the offices of the Canadian Labor Congress:

1. Any union that thinks it can settle all its affairs across the bargaining table and forget about the public is under an illusion.

2. Be truthful and accurate when disseminating information; if you have to lie, you haven't got a case.

3. You may be able to put over a fast story once on the public, but it will probably be not only your first but also your last.

This is the valid approach to progress in Canadian labor-management relations.

With the classics

Earth fills her lap with pleasues of her own;
Yearning she hath in her own natural kind,
And, even with something of a mother's mind,
And no unworthy aim,
The homely nurse doth all she can
To make her Foster-child, her inmate Man,
Forget the glories he hath known,
And that imperial palace whence he came.
—Wordsworth.

We never used to be able to find Grandmas glasses but now she leaves them right where she empties them.

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

Too secure

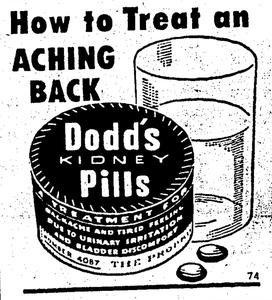
From The Printed Word

The state's increasing concern with the welfare of the individual automatically reduces the concern an individual has to have on his own behalf, unless he looks far ahead. Applied to the mass of the people it makes comfort a habit and habits can be insidious.

One printer-publisher in a smaller Canadian community, who still has to work for his life, looked over his staff to see which of the chaps in the shop would be best to groom for eventual taking-over of the business. It is still acceptable economics in this part of the world that a man who has worked hard to build an enterprise can get himself a little comfort in later life by gradually turning over some of the major chores, and the control, to a likely member of the upcoming generation. What shocked the printer-publisher was the realization that in his entire crew, fine young fellows though they were, there was not one ready to try for the job as boss-man. None wanted the responsibility.

He wondered, two wonders. First, how did the lot of them get to be so unconcerned And, second, who was going to guarantee them their habitual comfort when he got too tired or died?

How to Treat an ACHING BACK



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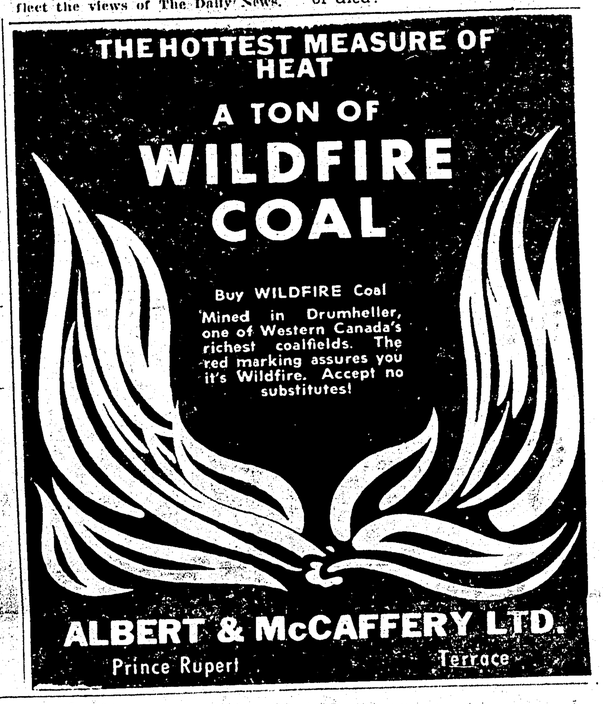

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