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"Land of Never Never"

All our sympathy goes out to Miss Kathie Housser.

Miss Housser is a student in a British Columbia school, and is learning about British Columbia out of a remarkable book called World Geography. It was written by an American for American students. After a sketchy special revision, it was sold to British Columbia schools by an American firm with a branch in Toronto.

Miss Housser is learning some remarkable things about B.C. and Canada.

Such as that Ocean Falls gets less than 60 inches of rain a year, while Victoria gets up to 80. That salmon and halibut are being fished out on this coast and ought to be preserved.

That experiments have been on growing grain in the Peace River Block, but that wood and furs will remain its primary products. That camels were used in the construction of the Cariboo Road.

That the Cariboo and Okanagan are intermountain steppes, poor land for grazing or farming. That Vancouver's main marine commerce is in silk. That the Fraser River provides water for a great irrigation scheme.

Well—and so on, and so on. World Geography's omissions are equally as remarkable. In describing the interplay of transport and geography it fails entirely to mention the effect of the CPR and Pacific trade on Canada. Or Canadian air transportation. A small special section at the back strives to remedy some of these defects as an afterthought.

The book is obsolete, inaccurate, slanted, incompetent and half devoted to the largely exploded theories of so-called geopolitics, popular 30 years ago. The geopolitics section fully justifies Miss Housser's accusation of propaganda. It is remarkable. In a B.C. school it might even be described as amazing.

It is so full of refined, high-minded, 100 per cent American, nickel-plated sentiment it sounds like Pollyanna and the late John Foster Dulles singing a duet in the editorial offices of the Ladies Home Journal.

Yes, sir — educationwise, as the Americans say, Miss Housser has a real tough row to hoe.

—The Vancouver Sun.

CONSTITUTION GUARANTEES FREEDOM

Voluntary news curb won't work in U.S.

By HAROLD MORRISON
Canadian Press Staff Writer

WASHINGTON (CP) — President Kennedy's plea for voluntary restraints in publishing news that might prove helpful to the Communists appears to be a further reflection on the Cuban debacle and the part the United States played in it.

A high administrative source, considering himself a sadder and wiser man after the ill-fated Cuban rebel invasion maintained that some news stories written before and during the invasion attempt helped Fidel Castro smash the commando-type force and capture most of the 1,300 men.

Castro himself later bragged that American newspaper reports assisted his intelligence appraisal. However, there is some indication his major intelligence came from spies planted in rebel ranks.

For weeks Castro had warned his followers of a possible invasion attempt — long before the general American public became fully aware that something was afoot.

There even have been unconfirmed reports that his spies helped make movies of the rebels in training, with the films slipped out to Havana, and that the Bay of Cochinos where the rebels landed in the swampy southern side of Cuba was actually a trap with Castro waiting armed with heavy artillery.

At the same time Kennedy found himself surrounded by advisers who, the administrative source indicated, so badly underestimated the Cuban situtaion that the president was shocked by the stunning defeat. He is reported reluctant to accept any more "assumptions" from the Central Intelligence Agency and the defence department until Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor, former army chief of staff, makes a thorough investigation.

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It's in this atmosphere of having suffered personal loss in prestige as well as loss of prestige for the United States that Kennedy now asks newspapers to think twice about publishing news that may not serve the national interest.

Speaking before the American Newspaper Publishers Association in New York Thursday night, Kennedy said:

"Every newspaper now asks itself, with respect to every story: "Is it news?" All I suggest is that you add the question: "It it in the national interest?"."

Washington newspaper men say that because of the heavy competition for news, a voluntary form of restriction or censorship won't work. The American constitution guarantees freedom of speech and freedom of the press. Outside of a declaration of war and revival of emergency powers, Kennedy would find it almost impossible under current conditions to impose compulsory censorship.

LETTER BOX

Deputy minister defends role of collector

The Editor,
The Daily News

On April 12 I wrote to you acknowledging your letter of April 10 to which was attached an editorial and two news stories regarding the recent visit of the vessel "Martha Bakke" to Prince Rupert. I have now received a most comprehensive report from the Collector of Customs and Excise. I can only conclude that the news stories and editorial were based on a misinterpretation of what actually took place and possibly a misunderstanding of the responsibilities of the Collector.

The Collector has a responsibility under the law to see that no person except the pilot is allowed to board a vessel before it has cleared quarantine. If the press were permitted to board a vessel prior to clearing of quarantine and the ship had a quarantinable disease aboard, the press would be quarantined in the same manner as crew members of the vessel. Undoubtedly, if this should occur, the press would be among the first to be critical of the lack of control. Even the pilot, who must be routinely vaccinated, would be quarantined if it were found necessary to impose a quarantine after he had boarded the vessel and would not be released until medical officers of the Department of National Health and Welfare were satisfied that he was not likely to develop one of the major quarantinable diseases. This very serious consideration alone justifies the prohibition of anyone else being permitted aboard the vessel before quarantine clearance.

However, beyond that there is the right that the master of the vessel has at all times of denying permission for anyone, except those legally entitled to do so, to board the ship. In this case, and only after quarantine requirements had been satisfied, the master agreed to permit four members of the U.S. Coast Guard to go aboard to assist ambulance men and Dr. Wilson, Senior Surgeon of the Sitka Hospital, who had been despatched to the ship some 300 miles offshore to render medical attention to the injured aboard the ship.

The only others permitted aboard were the Customs and Immigration officers, the Harbour Master, the local Ship's Agent, the manager of the Stevedoring Company and a number of longshoremen who were required to prepare the hatches for discharge of cargo but were not allowed below decks.

The master of the vessel, exercising his prerogative, refused permission for any other person to go aboard, including members of the press, television and radio.

With these facts before you I feel sure you will recognize that the comments which have appeared in your paper concerning these events do an injustice to the collector. Mr. Krook has been commended from other sources for his part in giving to Prince Rupert the reputation of a fine port of call.

DAVID SIM,
Deputy Minister of
National Revenue,
Customs and Excise.

EDITOR'S NOTE: There was no misunderstanding of what was said to the press, radio and television representatives. Word came down from the ship that the Collector of Customs said they couldn't go aboard.

Money all right

The universal regard for money is the one hopeful fact in our civilization.

Money is the most important thing in the world. It represents health, strength, honor, generosity, and beauty as conspicuously and undeniably as the want of it represents illness, weakness, disgrace, meanness and ugliness.

Not the least of its virtues is that it destroys base people as certainly as it dignifies noble people. — George Bernard Shaw

A Bible Thought for Today

And Moses feared, and said, Surely this thing is known. — Exodus 2:14.

In folly we fear what man might think or do; yet man can only kill the body; but God will judge the soul.

JOHN H. STEELE, managing director of Royal Victoria Waxworks and former principal of Roosevelt Park school in Prince Rupert, scrutinizes wax figures before special press opening Friday night at Crystal Gardens in Victoria. Museum, connected with Madame Tussauds in London, officially opened Saturday. Wax figures shown are those of Sir Edmund Hillary and Sherpa guide Tensing, conquerors of Mount Everest.

The Packsack of Gregory Clark

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Has anybody seen a breakdown of the costs of making a space rocket? Where does the money go? How many men does it take to put one of those things together? How much metal, how much fuel? How do you put hundreds of millions of dollars into a few dozen things that go whoosh no place in particular?

Several million dollars go into the making of a big modern jet aircraft. Why this should be so is something of a mystery, too, unless the capital investment in large permanent manufacturing plants and the salaries of platoons of high priced executives are the major items in the cost of the machines.

But why the cost of rockets should be so vastly greater than the cost of aircraft is something that some enquirer ought to find out for us. The rockets are not particularly large. You can spend only so many thousands or tens of thousands of dollars on an engine. Transistors and all the fancy gadgets cost so much a gross. Chemicals for fuel cost so much a gallon. Time and a half for overtime is so much. Even platinum costs only so much an ounce.

Where do the hundreds of millions go?

Into what?

Frightening possibilities

Canadian and U.S. scientists have made a discovery that holds tremendous posibilities for the abolition of pain—and profoundly frightening opportunities for rendering one man the mere pawn of another.

Laboratory tests on rats show that electrical stimulation of a certain part of a rat's brain, by means of a carefully placed electrode, is more pleasurable to the rat than food, drink, sex, or, any other reward in the world.

So happy-making is this stimulation that, when the rat learns how to press a lever to receive this electrical "fix", it will do so with single-minded intentness until it drops in pleasurable exhaustion.

Harper's magazine reports that electrical brain stimulation (ESB) gives human patients immediate relief from pain. They become "euphoric, laugh out loud and actively enjoy themselves."

ESB can apparently be used repeatedly without damage. They say there is no danger of addiction as there is with most pain-killing drugs. It does not dull the mind.

This means that even the most hideously pain-wracked patient could die in peace and with dignity. ESB might well become one of the greatest boons given to man by man.

But it could also become the means of terrifying tyranny. If the behaviour of animals can be controlled in this way, so can the behaviour of humans, the scientists say. And it makes possible the reduction of human beings to happy, biddable automatons.

"In its capacity to suppress anxiety," Harper's says, "ESB resembles the mythical drug soma, used in Aldous Huxley's Brave New World to enslave mankind."

This immensely important scientific development, like the development of atomic energy, has very great potentialities for both good and evil. But to fail to find out how ESB may affect mankind and how mankind could control its use, may be just as perilous as our failure to assess and control nuclear developments.

gems of thought

Right motives give pinions to thought, and strength and freedom to speech and action.
—Mary Baker Eddy.

However brilliant an action, it should not be esteemed great unless the result of a great and good motive.
—La Rochefoucauld.

The noblest motive is the public good—Virgil.

All Aboard

with G. E. MORTIMORE

What happened to the phonograph? They call it a "record-player" now. I'm still comparatively young, I keep telling myself, but every so often I absent-mindedly reach down an antique phrase and use it, the way a man might grab an old moth-eaten hat from the cupboard in the dark and wear it down the street.

The other day I stopped myself just in time from saying "magic lantern." I quickly amended it to "slide projector"—the tame, colorless and neutral phrase that you must use nowadays.

I looked in the dictionary. "Magic lantern" is still listed there, but in speech it is far out of style. I'm sorry about that. It brings to mind a simple, whole-hearted world of marvels and adventure, when people still were naive enough to be fascinated by an unmoving picture on the screen.

Now we are ashamed of that old enthusiasm, and we try to show our sophistication by using a gray, leaden phrase like "slide projector." How wrong we are—and how dull.

The words "gramophone" and "phonograph" are not loaded with the same kind of power. "Gramophone" conjures up a picture of a scratchy, wind-up machine with a big horn. "Phonograph" makes me think of a more pretentious machine in a cabinet, playing tunes of the 1930s and 1940s.

Neither of these words has much color. But "record-player" is totally flat and limp. Surely we could have done better than that. Someone should offer a prize for the best words to describe new inventions.

Not long ago I caught myself saying: "Well, it's nearly time to buy a new bathing suit."

It came as a shock to realize how outdated that remark was. The last time that men and boys wore bathing suits was in the 1930s—early 1930s, at that.

Since then, the term has been "swimming trunks" — or to be more up-to-date—"swim trunks." Nobody bathes. Nobody has bathed for 20 years. The word has almost Victorian connotations. Now, everybody "swims" — even if they can't swim a stroke.

It will be quite a number of years until I apply for a pension, but I am old enough to remember the days when men and boys wore bathing suits. Often they rolled them down to the waist.

Long after trunks had come into general use, there still were some gaffers who clung to their suits. (Maybe they were gaffers in their 30s and 40s, soon through a youngster's eyes.)

Sometimes, on a warm and dark summer night, we would plunge into a pool of the river with no suits or trunks on—a very old-fashioned style of swimming which is modern enough to be illegal, even today.

Advertising in The Daily News Brings Results

SCENE FROM FAIRY TALE — This looks like a scene from Goldilocks and the Three Bears but is only a picture taken at Toronto's Roverdale Zoo. Blonde Lillian Domenico plays with one cub while two other cubs stare at her. Hundreds of Toronto area residents are taking advantage of improving spring weather to visit the zoo. — CP Photo

Duke of Edinburgh's scheme

Juvenile statistics which are of interest this month concern the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme directed by Sir John Hunt, leader of the victorious Commonwealth Everest expedition of 1953.

During the last 12 months, he reports, 25,000 boys have entered for the awards, almost as many as the total entries during the three previous years since the scheme's inception. Boys between 14 and 19 are challenged to reach standards of achievement in leisure-time activities, comprising public service, expeditions and pursuits, and fitness.

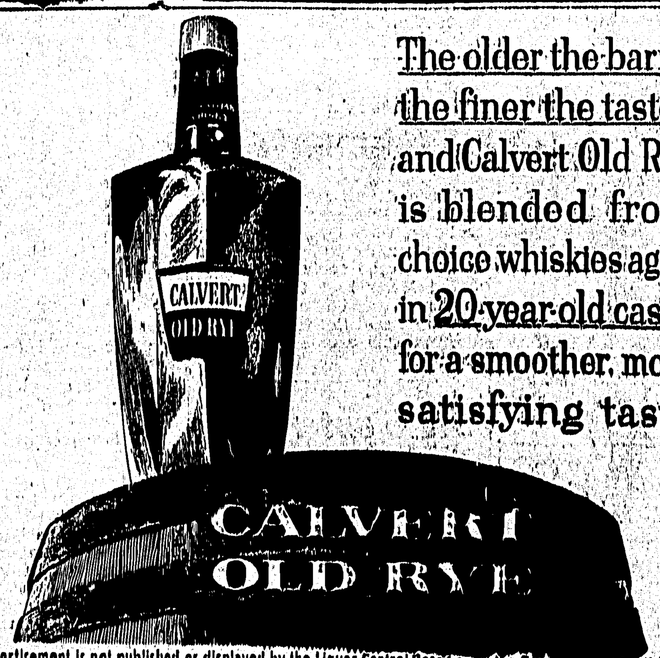
A similar scheme, launched for girls in 1956, has had comparable success. Girl participants have almost doubled in number, to about 0,000 in two years.

Sir John Hunt is gratified by the scheme's success in training young leaders. Most of the 027 who have gained gold medals, as well as others who have reached the silver medal standard, are helping to cultivate younger boys and girls in the arts of living, public service and enterprising adventure. — United Kingdom Information Office.

State, press share fate

Our republic and its press will rise or fall together. An able, disinterested, public-spirited press, with trained intelligence to know the right and the courage to do it can preserve that public virtue without which public government is a sham and a mockery.
—Joseph Pulitzer.

CANADIAN LEGION
BINGO
8th game—$50
No Games Under $15
Blackout Jackpot in 50 numbers — $500
— CONSOLATION: —
51 numbers $450 — 52 numbers $400
53 numbers $350 — 54 numbers $300
55 numbers $250 — 56 numbers $200
57 numbers $150 — no less than $100
Legion Auditorium, Tuesday, May 2, 1961
EVERYBODY WELCOME



The older the barrel the finer the taste... and Calvert Old Rye is blended from choice whiskies aged in 20-year-old casks for a smoother, more satisfying taste

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