1910 — PRINCE RUPERT DAILY NEWS — 1961

An independent newspaper devoted to the upbuilding of Prince Rupert and Northern and Central British Columbia.
A member of the Canadian Press — Audit Bureau of Circulation
Canadian Daily Newspaper Publishers Association
Published by The Prince Rupert Daily News Limited

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Authorized as Second Class Mail by the Post Office Department, Ottawa.

THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1961

Helping students now investment for future

In a few short weeks, the student community of your university will enter the occupational world . . . your sphere, the world of jobs and occupations.

Many of them will come, or have already come, to your community to ask for employment; work which will mean the difference between returning or not returning to the University of British Columbia in the fall.

Each year, the community is called upon to absorb more and more of these part-time student workers. However, each year the job opportunities shrink, the student enrollment grows, and a larger percentage of students go without jobs for the greater part of the May to September period.

There are only some 11,000 university students seeking employment, many who leave the province or even the country. This leaves an available work force of some 9,000 or 10,000. The employment of these students is the concern and the responsibility of the whole community.

Most university students must make many sacrifices to attend university. Out of their summer earnings must come some $1,200 in fees, expensive text books, clothing (for the most inclement time of the year), residence and board.

Most students are, in effect, mortgaging their future. It is their hope that within the span of four to seven years they will earn a degree and become worthy and contributing members of society. It is in the interests of the communities they will serve, to assist them in any way possible.

Students of the University of British Columbia are not looking for charity, they are willing and prepared to give their labor and services in return for adequate renumeration. The motto of the university, "Tuum est," can be applied to the community, "It's up to you."

Restricting memoirs

The White House and Windsor Castle lately have pacted their servants not to write memoirs.

At the same time there should be another way of preserving the privacy of "royal families" and not stop their servants forever from writing about them. Let's recommend a 20-year period of immunity as a starter. After that it should not matter too much and the information should interest historians rather than scandalmongers.

Elizabeth Keckley's "Behind the Scenes" appeared in 1868, only three years after Lincoln's assassination, and the world would be poorer without it. So would the images of Lincoln and his wife. Memoir-writing secret-service men, ushers and valets have helped to complete many biographical pictures. We still can enjoy the story of President Taft stuck in a normal-sized bathtub.

When these stars on the historical scene accept their roles, they belong to history. In good time we should hear what their intimates knew and thought about them.

Unquestionably President Kennedy would like to cut his steak without having the dimensions and weight given to the press on the morrow but in 1989, giving him the benefit of re-election, it won't cause self-consciousness and a biographer may be able to make something significant out of it.

Perpetual silence as the price of castle employment shows a sense of noblesse beyond the call of a democracy or even of a constitutional monarchy these days.

— Dallas Morning News

WOULD UTILIZE FACILITIES

Longer university year to speed education

In the past 10 years, Canadian universities have met — and conquered to a large degree — a crisis of growth.

The post-war rush for education has not died down. Instead, it has been accelerated. All available forces have been mustered to meet the crisis — government, industry, private individuals have all aided the universities. No thinking Canadian would deny that the money has been well spent.

Canadian university students still use a timetable designed for the agricultural economy of a century ago. The school year still ends in time for students to help with the spring planting. Classes still don't begin until the heaviest part of the harvest is complete.

But very few students are needed any longer to help out on the farm.

Thus, for several months of the year, the multi-million-dollar plants of Canadian universities stand almost idle, populated only by a comparatively few Summer School students. Is this efficiency?

Against lengthening the college year to fill the gap there are two main arguments, that students need time off to earn money to continue for the next year at school, and that an accelerated course will sap the mental energy and enthusiasm of students and teachers alike.

But how many students will find summer work this year? And even in years when employment opportunities are good, is it in the national interest that students take months from their education to engage in what is generally unskilled labor?

It cannot be argued that financing a university education in Canada today is an easy task. But there has been a great increase in the number of scholarships, bursaries, and loans available not only to the brilliant student but also to those who show determination and average ability. In many cases these could make the difference between taking time off for outside work and being free to pursue a course without interruption.

To the argument that teachers and students need a change of pace, it cannot be denied that scholarship cannot flourish where the scholar is tied down by a heavy teaching schedule. But does this argument justify keeping our universities closed for several months each year? A rotation system, giving teachers the necessary time for research, could surely be arranged.

It is by no means sure that the student needs a long holiday, from an academic standpoint. Certainly when he has completed his education and enters business or a profession, he cannot expect a recess of three to four months each year.

A possible answer might be a system of six-month semesters. Students with sufficient funds, or those with scholastic aid, could continue their work without a long vacation, completing what is now a four-year course in three years. Those who found it necessary to earn money could take off a complete six-month term. This would in part eliminate the jamming of the student labor market which now occurs in the early summer each year.

— The Windsor Star

INTERPRETING THE NEWS

Cuban invasion may affect more world problems

By CARMAN CUMMING
Canadian Press Staff Writer

Prime Minister Nehru put his finger on a worrisome feature of the Cuban invasion when he said that it might affect the solution of other world problems such as disarmament "and possibly Laos".

There is a two-fold danger: that the dispute between the U.S. and Russia over Cuba may carry over into other spheres of negotiation and that the Kennedy administration may lose stature among neutral nations, particularly in Latin America.

Despite American insistence that only Cubans are involved in the attack on Fidel Castro's regime, the undeniable fact remains that the United States has given at least moral backing to a revolt against a government to which it is treaty-bound.

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Although diplomatic relations have been severed, the U.S. and the Castro government still are bound under the Organization of American States treaty, which stipulates that no country has the right to intervene "directly or indirectly, for any reason whatever" in the internal affairs of another member state.

At the United Nations Monday U.S. Ambassador Adlai Stevenson denied that the offensive had been launched from the U.S. A few hours earlier State Secretary Dean Rusk also had stated a U.S. policy of non-intervention.

But both officials conceded that U.S. sympathies are with the rebels and both avoided a definite commitment that the U.S. is not giving back-door aid to the anti-Castro attackers.

Meanwhile Cuban exiles were being openly recruited on U.S. soil. The New York Times has said flatly that the exiles have been training for the invasion in the U.S. and Central America for nine months.

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American leaders, firmly believing that the overthrow of the Castro regime is in the best interests of the Cuban people and the entire hemisphere, appear to hope that a quick and successful end to the revolt will justify the means.

But whatever the outcome, the position of American diplomats at world conference tables will be damaged.

Protests by the U.S. over Russian arms aid to the Laotian rebels will not carry the same weight. The U.S. reputation for careful adherence to treaty obligations may be tarnished.

And any future statements by American leaders urging that international disputes be settled by negotiation; that force not be used to achieve political ends, may have a hollow ring.

NUTS TO YOU — The fate of the missing golf ball often gives food for thought to many golfers. But whoever thought of the missing ball as food for squirrels? Believe it or not, the Grandview Golf Club at Oshawa, Ont., has proof of one stealing rascal. A cache of no less than 61 balls was found no farther than 50 yards from the club house. But the squirrel in this picture was stuffed. — CP Photo

All Aboard with G. E. Mortimore

Coming soon: One whole year's holiday every seven years. Wages for doing nothing. Schools where people learn how to play. These things may come true within the lifetime of babies who were born today. Perhaps they will come sooner.

They are the likely results of automation—setting machines to do the work of people.

Professor Charles S. Burchill, professor of economics and history at Canadian Services College, Royal Roads, put forward these ideas recently in a talk to a New Party seminar in Victoria.

Mass idleness is nothing new, he pointed out. It has long existed in primitive societies, where most work is done by muscle power; "most of the population is rural and most human effort is concentrated on maintaining or augmenting the food supply."

"Since the growing or harvesting of foods is essentially a seasonal occupation a backward society enjoys (if that is the right word) abundant leisure or concealed unemployment.

Personal enjoyment

"The leisure may be devoted to personal enjoyment. Medieval Europe, for example, celebrated more than 100 holy days during the year, during which no work was normally done, and work was sadly interrupted, as a rule, on the day before and on the day after the holiday.

"This frivolity was deplored by the 17th century puritans, whose ideals of thrift and industry fostered the growth of the modern commercial and industrial society.

"Occasionally the mass unemployment characteristic of a backward society might be organized to carry out wars or construction of vast projects . . ."

Backward societies were changed by the use of machines to replace human and animal labor. People moved from country to cities.

"The initial stage of the industrial revolution require a huge and rapid accumulation of capital, so that leisure becomes a thing of the past. Hours of toil are long, child labor and female labor are ruthlessly exploited, and idleness is neither supported nor tolerated.

Output of wealth

"In the later stages, as the output of wealth increases, children disappear from the labor market, women are excluded from indulging in mining and other unladylike occupations, hours of labor are reduced and the increasing leisure is accompanied by a great increase in standards of consumption.

"Now automation is simply the second stage in the industrial revolution. The first stage made obsolete the social requirement for human muscle; the second stage will make obsolete a great deal of human skill."

Already the Russians have built a completely automatic factory to make aluminum pistons for cars and trucks. The only people who were there are a few supervisory technicians and maintenance men.

Society has adjusted itself to automatic machines in earlier times. Never before, however, have there been such massive advances. Nowadays, completely automatic factories can be designed to make almost anything.

Emphasis on politics

"How rapidly the substitution of automatic machinery for skilled labor will actually take place is no longer a technical problem—it is a problem of political economy with the emphasis on politics rather than on economics."

"We can expect the rapid extension of automation throughout industry what will be the effect on our society?

"There should first of all be a great expansion in the output of goods and services . . . There will be a great shift of personnel from obsolete skills into the skills needed in the new age.

"Moulders will become mathematicians; machine-minders will become laboratory technicians, boiler-makers will become ballet dancers, and so on. This will involve massive retraining programs if potentially valuable human material is to be salvaged.

"Even with the best possible planning, many will be incapable of retraining, and will be relegated as unemployable to the social scrap heap."

I asked Prof. Burchill if he thought anything could be done to help the people who will be idle.

Put out to pasture

"Quite a number of people will simply have to be put out to pasture," he said. "Those who can't make any significant contribution.

"We'll have to give them some sort of a welfare pension—enough to satisfy their minimum wants, so that they won't have an urge to go out and pick pockets."

The money for pensions will keep buying power up. The work week will be cut to 36 hours. Workers will be able to take a "sabbatical year"—a year's holiday every seven.

Will we be able to induce enough people to work, when it's possible to get a fair amount of pay for doing nothing? Yes, Prof. Burchill thinks. For one thing, many people actually like work. Also, work will bring somewhat better money than idleness.

Won't our goods be too expensive on the world market, when people are taking life easier? It probably won't matter; each continent, in time, will become nearly self-sufficient.

Some people will go to school to train for recreation . . . learn how to have fun.

And the old puritan idea—that hard work is godly, and idleness sinful—will fade away. It is already fading now.

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

GATHERING SHELLS

Upon this summer day the
shore demands
That we come take a walk
across the sands,
Gathering shell on shell to fill
our hands.

Small shells and large, fluted
and curved and veined
Treasure of ocean depths
freely obtained
Where tides have flung this
bounty to be gained.

We pick up white and pink,
mother of pearl,
Serrate and spiral, turning
whorl on whorl,
Where foam-encrested waves
curl and uncurl.

—Louise Darcy.

The Packsack of Gregory Clark

Copyright: Canada Wide

Across the street from the busy hotel was a parking lot in which I got a front row position, at 50 cents the first hour, to await a party of friends who were making a brief call within. Cars and taxis came and went busily from the main hotel entrance which was presided over by a uniformed doorman. There was a space of about 100 feet boldly marked at either end by big signs prohibiting parking in the area of the hotel's entrance.

The parking lot attendant, an old friend of mine, came and sat in my car with me for a smoke.

"I get a great kick," he said, "watching the motorists who try to park in that reserved area. All day long, that doorman is kept busy chasing people away."

As we watched, three or four cars in turn whipped into the ends of the reserved space to try and snuggle up against the prohibitory signs. Each time the doorman came and waved them away. Yet here fair across the street was a parking lot.

"You'll notice one thing," said my friend. "Without exception, not one of those who try to sneak in are those who look as if they needed to save 50 cents. They're all smart, well-to-do, prosperous types, driving swell cars."

In the half hour I watched there was not one exception.

BCAA WARNS MOTORIST

Arrange for impartial check of used car before purchasing

Special to The Daily News

VANCOUVER — Used car buyers should realize that the shiniest model on the lot is not always the best, warns the B.C. Automobile Association, pointing out that a fine finish can be a cover-up for many things that can go wrong later.

The first step in buying a used car, the BCAA advises, is to shop only at a reputable dealer who is known for good cars and fair treatment of customers.

Next, if you cannot arrange to have the car examined by an impartial expert, try this bumper-to-bumper check:

- View body at an angle to spot rippled surface — an indication that the vehicle may have had some extensive body work.
- Apply light finger pressure to the edge of the lower body to see if there is any "rust-out."
- Examine the door and door frames for damage, try the locks, latches and windows for easy movement.
- Check the seats for sagging or broken springs, look for worn paint, scuffed carpeting and other signs of interior wear or abuse — these are usually better indications of a car's usage and care than the speedometer reading.
- Check brake and pedal height. Pedal should be firm, not spongy.
- Check tires for even wear.
- Turn on engine, listen for any unusual noise as you alternately let it idle and race.
- Look under car for signs of gas, water or oil leaks.

If these check out, take the car for a test ride. Pay particular attention to steering (is there too much play?), shifting (is it smooth and quiet?), general handling.

If you plan to buy the car, the BCAA says, make sure you get a guarantee that covers both parts and labor.

Short sermons

You begin to feel your age when you realize that the beautiful blonde looking your way is giving your son the once over.

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Injustice: If you make out your income tax correctly you go to the poorhouse; if you don't, you go to jail.

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The first thing needed to make a dream come through is to wake up.

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