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Is this our driest summer?

Our unprecedented summer of clear, dry weather looks as though it is about to end within the next few days.

From the viewpoint of one who thinks there is only one fine combination for summer — sea and sunshine — the change is to be deplored. For those who are fighting fires in the interior any change can only be for the better. This also applies to the fishermen who have had their catches restricted, in spite of a boom year for them, because the streams are too low for the fish to move up to their spawning grounds. And also for those in villages and towns where water is getting in short supply.

On the prairies the year's grain crop went almost by the board because drought conditions killed much of the grain before it had time to grow or mature.

So, all in all, warm, dry sunny weather isn't quite so good for us as we imagine it.

In the sheltered harbor of Prince Rupert, too, we have been unaware that many apparently good fishing days have been anything but that owing to high winds. Wherever the winds have gone they haven't come around here. They haven't got into the interior, either, as planes have been grounded by smoke haze and spotting aircraft — known as "bird dogs" — have been unable to spot for the same reason.

Unfortunately we have been unable to obtain figures covering this period of the year further than a few years back, but if it isn't the driest on record, it must be very close to it.

Victoria Report by J. K. Nesbitt

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA — It appears very much as if Mrs. Frank Mackenzie Ross will be new chancellor of University of British Columbia, succeeding the late A. E. Dal Grauer.

If so, it will be an excellent choice. I do not think, but I cannot be sure until I check, and that will take time, that there is another woman university chancellor in Canada.

Mrs. Ross, born in Rossland, and still not 60, has already had a distinguished career. She was the only woman wartime government administrator in Ottawa; she was in charge of conserving precious fats and oils.

For five years, from 1955 to 1960, she was mistress here of Government House, when her husband was the Lieut.-governor.

She's a UBC graduate, has received many UBC honors, has been on both the Senate and the Board of Governors.

A university chancellor is not merely a figurehead, as many people appear to believe. The chancellor is the presiding officer of the Board of Governors, which runs the finances of a university.

Mrs. Ross is a born organizer, a hard worker, a good financier. Once she makes up her mind that something must be done, it's as good as done.

When she first went to Government House she horrified the staff by refusing breakfast in bed, rising at six, getting right to work, and staying on the go 18 hours a day. She disliked pink teas, wouldn't have Government House functions for only the elite, which annoyed the elite.

When the new Government House was building Mrs. Ross took over, to the irritation of many people, who felt she should have played the helpless dowager, letting people who wanted to feel important, take over the entire job. But Mrs. Ross, bcause she was the lady of the house, felt it her duty to know everything that was going on. Not one detail escaped her.

She was very young when she was left a widow with two small children, and she had to get out and earn the family living in Ottawa, but she had the education, and the ability, to take important positions.

As chatelaine of Government House she met and entertained some of the world's most distinguished people—the Queen herself, Princess Margaret, the Princess Royal, Queen Mother Elizabeth, Princess Alexandra of Kent. She and her husband went to Princess Margaret's wedding.

Mrs. Ross is now mistress of three homes —a mansion in Vancouver; a summer home at St. Andrew's-by-the-Sea in New Brunswick and a ranch house at Cloverdale, where her husband indulges his only hobby of raising thoroughbred ponies imported from Wales.

Socialist experiments

Saskatchewan has had a Socialist Government for the past seventeen years. In the first speech from the Throne of this Socialist Government in 1944, it was announced that capital development would be undertaken by the Government and no longer left in the hands of private enterprise. The results were illuminating. Projects taken over by the Government included a woollen mill, a tannery and shoe factory, a fish filleting plant, two insurance organizations, and two marketing boards with exclusive rights to acquire and sell timber cut on Crown lands and furs trapped in the North.

Six of these projects, taken over from private enterprise by the Saskatchewan Government, incurred heavy losses—a total of $523,000 in the case of the woollen mill. In due course all six projects collapsed. The air line, the bus service, the insurance groups and the marketing boards have carried on chiefly because they are protected from all competition.

Potential invsetors in Saskatchewan were so discouraged by the Socialist policies of the Provincial Government that in the two years 1946 and 1947 only 550 mining claims were staked in Northern Saskatchewan compared with 9,777 in Manitoba. Oil companies transferred their operations to Alberta, one of them bringing in the great Leduc field.

By the end of 1947 the Socialist Government of Saskatchewan had discovered by harsh experience some of the fallacies of Socialism so it tried to woo private enterprise to aid development agan. The oil companies returned and expansion resumed.—

—Toronto (Canada) Outlook.

INTERPRETING THE NEWS

Soviet said to have won poker hand

By DAVID OANCIA
Canadian Press Staff Writer

Soviet Premier Khrushchev may have won the first hand in the international poker game over Berlin.

A growing number of observers are beginning to wonder whether the German and Berlin problems haven't been transformed beyond recognition by the measures Walter Ulbricht's Communist regime took Sunday.

There was a tendency at first to write Ulbricht's move as a panic measure. But observers now are beginning to view it as a carefully calculated move which may have achieved a number of goals important to communism.

Permanent success, however, will depend on whether or not Ulbricht and his Soviet mentor can make the measures stick.

MADE THREE AIMS

This is what they have accomplished so far:

● They have halted the flow of refugees to West Berlin by plugging the hole through which their manpower drained away.

● They have succeeded in incorporating East Berlin into East Germany. Legally, it's part of an area occupied by four of the powers that fought Germany during the Second World War.

● They have quarantined the West Berlin showplace of capitalism and virtually placed it out of bounds to East Berliners and East Germans.

They have done all this with the minimum amount of provocation to the Western powers. West Berliners and the "occupation forces" of Britain, the U.S. and France still are able to travel to the Communist sector without hindrance.

WANT ACTION

West Berliners understandably are incensed and feel actions should be taken against the Communists. But Western leaders—with the possible exception of those in Bonn and Berlin—appear to have concluded that Ulbricht's measures do not merit retaliatory measures at this stage.

The crisis is far from over. But its peak may have passed. The West now is confronted with an entirely new situation.

"The idea that West Berlin is a political asset which the West must not negotiate about, because negotiation could bring no gain but only loss, now looks less plausible than it did," says The Economist of London.

West Berlin still remains a source of trouble, annoyance and expense to the Communists. But this does not automatically make it a Western political asset.

WESTERN JOB

The Western nations are left with the responsibility for the lives, freedom and the interests of 2,200,000 West Berliners.

This doesn't mean that Khrushchev holds all the aces.

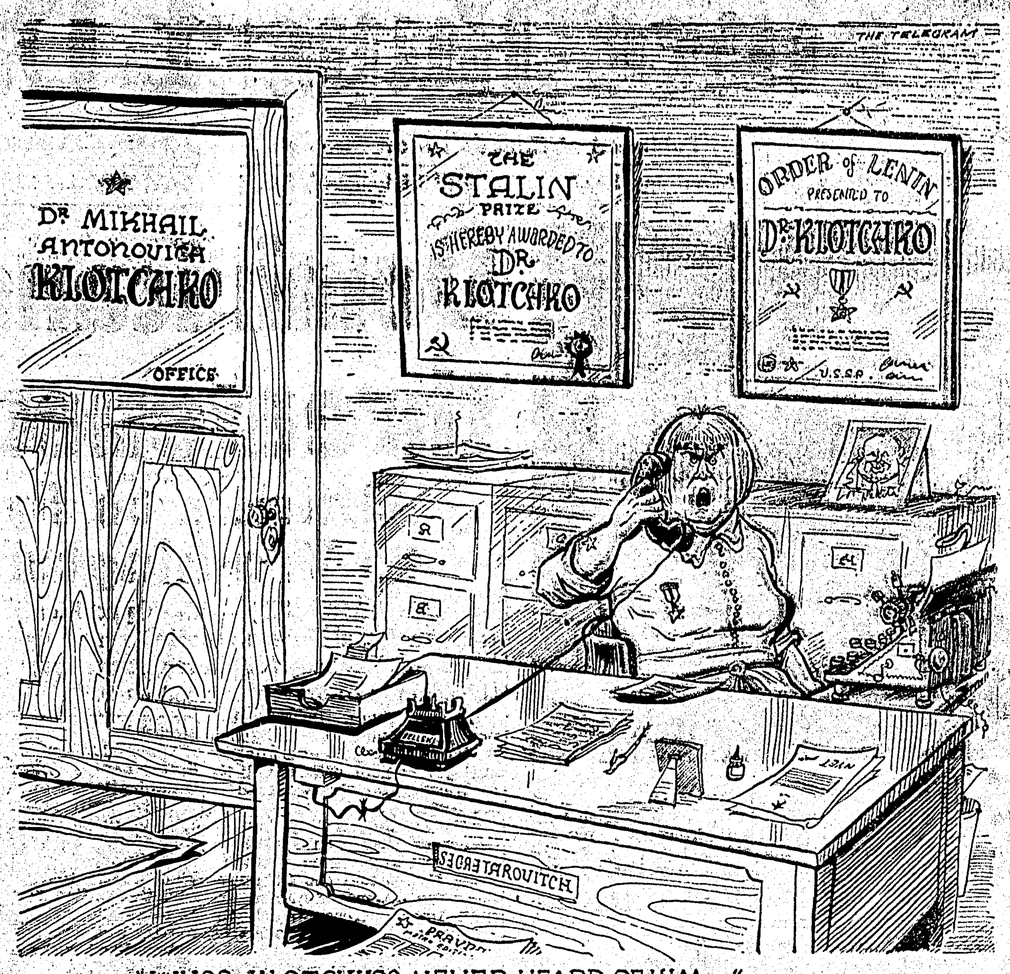
Dennis Healey, the Labor party's shadow foreign secretary, said in a statement Khrushchev has "screwed the lid down on East Germany and there could be an explosion any moment."

"At the moment the terror in East Germany has put world opinion solidly on our side."

A Bible Thought for Today

Who can discern His errors? Psalm 19:12.

An atheist once told us that the Creator made an error in making the world surface three fourths water. But the sea supplies two hundred miles of depth atmosphere without which rains would not water the earth which would be mostly desert. Volcanoes spread trace elements in the soil, without which life would be impossible. Fools can find many mistakes of th eCreator but wise men cannot find any.



"WHO? KLOTCHKO? NEVER HEARD OF HIM ..."

Ah yes! Those were the days

By HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK (AP) — Some say this is the best time to be young. Some say there never was a worse time.

Many a man or woman, middle - aged or older, feels a bit sorry for young folks who can't remember when—

You could buy a white shirt for a dollar bill.

No child dared to call its father or mother "stupid" or "silly."

Anybody who went up in an airplane and came down safely got his picture in the newspapers.

A child's biggest thrill was to be lifted to the back of one of the big grey horses in the local fire station.

HIGH-BUTTON TEMPER

Father flew into a terrible temper if anyone lost the fancy buttonhook he used to fasten his high-button shoes.

Everyone over 60 foretold the weather by his rheumatism.

Only the very rich could afford doctors who called it arthritis.

When a fellow found it hard to read the small print in the mail order catalogue, he went to the dime store, pawed through its display of spectacles — and bought the pair he could see with best.

The proudest kid in the block was the one with the most warts.

Many people shuttered their bedroom windows at dusk because they believed the damp night air was poisonous.

Only city folk bothered to lock their front doors. Who-ever heard of burglers in a small town?

Nobody had heard of government relief cheques. Families were expected to look after their own poor relatives.

THE JOLLY OLD PLUMP

Fat people were thought to be happier — and likely to live longer—than thin people.

If you had a second helping at dinner, the beaming hostess took it as a personal compliment to her cooking. She had no idea you were eating to camouflage a hidden neurosis.

Anybody who could imitate bird calls or play a musical saw had an artistic future in vaudeville.

A family looked forward with more excitement to an evening at the local amusement park than they do today to a two-week trip to Bermuda.

Ah, those were the days! Those were the days indeed!

Uranium boost expected soon

URANIUM CITY, Sask. (CP) — With boom-time world uranium markets shrinking, Crown-owned Eldorado Mining and Refining Limited already is buying a ticket on the resurrection bandwagon it expects to see rolling by 1970.

"We hope the demand for uranium will have increased considerably by the 1970s," says mine manager J. M. Douglas of Uranium City, "and we intend to be ready to meet the demand with peak production."

Preparations include a $3,000,000 hydro - electric plant which is under construction, sinking one of the mine's three shafts another 2,000 feet to more than a mile—now nearly completed — and plant improvements to cost more than $100,000.

Mr. Douglas says the average daily run of 1,600 tons of ore through Eldorado's plant will continue until September, 1964.

"With a reasonable share of the United Kingdom contract now under negotiation we will possibly be able to add another year to this. Peaceful uses of uranium are continuing but there may be a lean period in the late 1960s."

INSTALL ORE SORTER

"To make the most of the lean years, Eldorado now is installing a nuclear storage tank, an assay spectrometer and an electronic ore sorter.

"The three-storey ore-sorter building will house four ore-sorting units which marshall once a conveyor belt all material from underground of more than three inches in diameter.

"As the rocks fall off the end of the belt, they pass an electronic scanner, like a geiger tube. If the rock contains uranium ore, it falls straight down into a bin, and is fed into the mill on another conveyor belt.

"If it doesn't contain uranium, an air jet blasts the useless rock into a waste bin."

Ben Gurion given setback

Israel's shaky climb toward political stability suffered another setback during the young country's general election.

Premier David Ben-Gurion had appealed to the people in the listless election campaign for an absolute majority of 51 per cent in the Knesset (Parliament) and a mandate to reform the electoral system.

Under Israeli law such a majority is necessary before the government could consider electoral reform. But Ben-Gurion's Mapai Labor party, which advocates a change to a constituency election system from the present proportional representation, lost support.

The Mapai, which held 47 of the 120 seats in the last Knesset, suffered a loss of about four per cent of the total vote but the party still managed to muster more than double the votes of its nearest rival.

When the final results of Tuesday's election are available, the party will wind up with about 41 seats and will likely form Israel's fifth parliament in coalition with several other parties.

The present caretaker government, headed by Ben-Gurion, will remain in office during inter-party coalition negotiations which may take weeks or even months.

The election, two years after the previous contest, did practically nothing to steady the political picture in Israel. The country has had nothing but coalition governments since it was established in 1948.

QUICK CANADIAN FACTS

An estimated 4,211,400 Canadians receive cheques from the federal government each month—family allowances 2,500,000; universal old age pensions 900,000; civil servants and employees of Crown Corporations 340,000; veterans and dependents 180,000; aged, disabled and blind pensioners 157,000; members of the armed forces 12,000; RCMP 5,400.

POLAND'S RULER — Thin-haired Wladyslaw Gomulka heads the ruling Communist hierarchy in Poland. The 56-year-old leader once imprisoned by the Communists, has steered Poland since 1956 between the desires of a devoutly Roman Catholic population and the political demands of the Soviet Union.

(CP Photo)

Honest credit bill

The principle underlying S1740, Sen. Paul H. Douglas' bill to require merchants and money lenders to inform consumers exactly what interest they are paying, on a simple annual rate, cannot reasonably be questioned. But the bill has serious faults.

Retail merchant groups are opposing it because they believe it impossible for storemen to compute and inform their customers of credit costs on a simple annual basis, particularly as used in carrying charges for a revolving credit account and for small credit sales. The accuracy of an "instant computer" shown a Senate committee has been challenged, and a merchant would be risking an FBI investigation each time he made a minor mistake.

All Aboard

with G. E. MORTIMORE

The door-to-door salesman put down his case and sat in the chair under the willow trees.

"People are much more friendly in the places where there is some shade," he said. "They sure are crankly in hot weather, along those streets that have no trees.

"The best-tempered people are the ones who live by the lake or the sea," he said.

Sales resistance, he observed seems to go up with temperature.

Door-ot-door salesmen might be wise to give away young trees to their customers who live on barren streets. In this way they would build long-term goodwill.

However, some customers are too hospitable. Another door-to-door man who picks up and delivers dry cleaning, told me that if he accepted all the glasses of beer that were offered to him along his route on a hot day, he would soon be in jail for impaired driving.

So he thanks the people, and turns all the offers down.

Quote, unquote

Salesweek:

"'Deciding what to give used to be a major problem here,' says a branch sales manager in Chicago, 'until we finally gave up fighting it year after year.

"'Now we give everyone liquor — a case to our big customers, half a case to lesser accounts and a bottle or two for now-and-then customers: Since our gift list remains relatively constant, we know every man's tastes by now.'

"Other companies have stopped giving liquor. Explains one assistant to a sales vice-president: 'We felt it was consumed and forgotten. I think we even got blamed subconsciously for hangovers.'

"A firm which gave liquor to everyone two years ago last year switched to pheasants and turkeys. 'Everyone gives liquor,' says the sales manager. 'We simply felt it was losing its significance and value as a gift.'"

The Packsack of Gregory Clark

Copyright: Canada Wide

In driving a car, only a fool will take his eyes off the road.

But driving an outboard motor skiff or a motor boat, a good many of us who would hate to admit we are foolish will take our eyes off the water ahead.

In boats, there is a natural instinct in man to enjoy the scenery, to gaze about. This is a privilege denied us by narrow pavements. The water is wide. And it is free. Much of the joy of boating lies in the sense of freedom it inspires.

But all over Canada, our waterways are rapidly becoming as heavy with traffic as our highways. And the hazards of that traffic are likely to be several times greater simply because of the spirit of freedom that is inherent in boating of all kinds.

Governments are pondering the problem of water traffic with growing anxiety. But they are up against something worse than human nature. They are up against a human instinct, the instinct to gaze around.

Unemployment questions and answers

In this column we publish questions about unemployment insurance and employment, together with answers which may be of interest to you:

Following are some questions 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.

Q. I have been paying unemployment insurance contributions for over a year, but my book has been kept by my employer, and I don't know where I stand. Now I am going to change my job. What do I do about my book?

A. You are permitted under the provisions of the Unemployment Insurance Regulations to request your employer to give you an opportunity of inspecting your unemployment insurance book while it is in his safe keeping. However, such a request must not be made more than twice a month and your employer will set a convenient time for such an inspection which will be either within or immediately before or after working hours.

Just before you leave your job to take other employment you should ask your employer for your insurance book. He will give you your book properly stamped to date and will ask you to sign a receipt for it.

A wealthy Texan, just back from a trip to Europe, met a friend in Dallas.

"Welcome back," the friend said. "Did you pick up a Picasso or a Van Gogh?"

"No," the Texan replied. "They all have left-handed drives. Besides, I already have two Cadillacs and an Imperial."

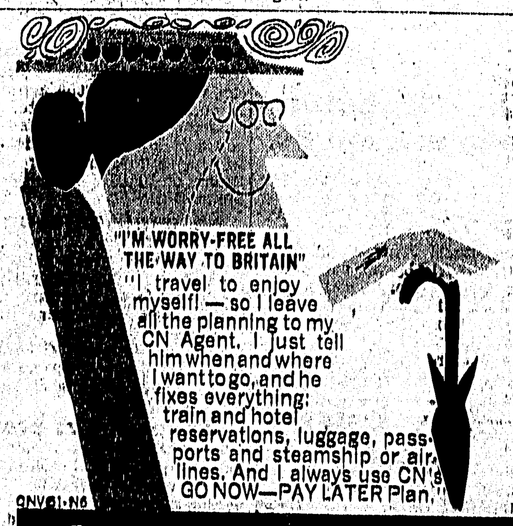
✦ ✦ ✦

Two old duffers, long retired, were sitting around the floats at Cow Bay reminiscing about this and that.

"I can remember way back when I was interested in girls," the first guy said, adjusting his teeth.

"That's nothing," the second replied, "so can I."

"But I can't remember why," the first continued, shaking his head.



FALL SAILINGS TO EUROPE FROM MONTREAL!

SAILING DATE	SHIP
Sept. 14	Empress of England
Sept. 18	Saxonia
Sept. 18	Seven Seas
Sept. 19	Homeric
Sept. 21	Empress of Britain
Sept. 22	Carinthia
Sept. 28	Empress of Canada
Sept. 29	Ivernia
Oct. 1	Ryndam
Oct. 5	Empress of England
Oct. 6	Saxonia
Oct. 8	Homeric
Oct. 12	Empress of Britain
Oct. 13	Carinthia

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