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Plaudits for Robert Byng Gordon

Academic honors have come to a Prince Rupert youth, his family, School District 52, Prince Rupert Senior High School, and this city with the winning of the Governor General's silver medal for the Grade 12 student with the highest standing in British Columbia by Robert Byng Gordon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl R. Gordon.

Few people know what an accomplishment this is. While Robert has not had an academic standing of lower than a straight "A" since Grade 6, the amount of competition he was up against from the Lower Mainland centres was enough to make the brightest student quail. In the big Vancouver and New Westminster schools, brilliant students are segregated and assigned special teachers specifically to shoot for the major awards and scholarships. But Robert came through with a 95.625 average to top the province and win for himself a proficiency scholarship of $500 besides the coveted silver medal.

His feat has only been duplicated once in Prince Rupert school history and that was when Mary Orme, daughter of former mayor C. H. Orme, won the Governor - General's medal for topping B.C. as a Grade 8 student taking high school entrance exams.

Robert is following in some famous footsteps. The first winner of the Governor-General's medal was Phyllis Gregory of Rossland, now Mrs. Frank M. Ross, wife of the former lieutenant - governor of British Columbia. Mrs. Ross, as a girl and a young woman went on to win high academic honors in Canada, the United States and England. During the Second World War, she became controller of fats and oils in Ottawa. John Ozeroff of Rossland, whose average of 98 per cent stood unchallenged for many years, won the Governor-General's medal in the mid-1930's. He is now one of Canada's top atomic scientists on the National Research Board.

We are sure that Robert's accomplishment will be the first step in what undoubtedly will be an outstanding career. We commend Robert for his feat, congratulate him for bringing fame to this northern port and wish him well in all his future endeavors.

Senate issue recalls earlier speech

Four years ago, speaking at Carman in the 1957 election campaign, Prime Minister Diefenbaker said he would reform the Senate so that it could "discharge its responsibility in obedience to the needs of the people rather than blindly following the government's dictation."

If this meant anything, it meant that the Senate was to be more independent and to have more discretion in dealing with legislation coming up from the Commons.

Nothing has since been done to reform the Senate except that the majority in the Commons became Conservative instead of Liberal while the Liberal majority remained in the Senate.

In this situation, the Senate has shown more independence.

Mr. Diefenbaker is again talking about Senate reform. But now he is talking about changes which would curtail the Senate's independence and make it more subservient to the government.

The immediate reason for the Prime Minister's displeasure is the Senate action on the tariff bill, an action which seems to follow rather closely the ideas of Senate reform which Mr. Diefenbaker held four years ago.

The Senate did not reject the bill but merely amended the most objectionable section which denied the right of appeal from rulings on what goods are a "class or kind not made in Canada."

Instead of rejecting the amendment and talking about clipping the Senate's powers, the Prime Minister would have been on firmer ground if he had accepted the amendment and stuck to the Senate reform principle he stated in the election campaign which took him to power.

There have been strong indications that a general election might be fought on the Senate issue. If this were to appen, then the Carman speech would have to be rewritten.

— The Winnipeg Tribune

MORE LETTER EXCERPTS

Junior's frog not expecting . . . it's a boy

By HAL BOYLE
Associated Press Staff Writer

NEW YORK — More fragments from letters some people would like to get — but rarely do:

"Gee, Mom, I hate to tell you this — but I can't bring my pet snake home from summer camp after all. It got away. And more bad news. My pet frog isn't going to have kittens. It's a boy."

"It is with real pleasure we inform you your recipe for making chocolate-flavored peanut butter patties has won first prize in our national contest. You and your husband can pick up the $10,000 check — and the two round trip tickets to Paris — at our office whenever you. . ."

"Your boy's feat in pitching a no-hit victory for his kindergarten baseball team has come to the attention of our organization.

"In keeping with the program of the New York Yankees for long-term player development, we are willing to give your lad a $60,000 bonus to sign with us now. Naturally, before reporting to us, we would prefer that he go on with his schooling — as later it will be necessary for him to autograph baseballs."

"We are returning your cheque for $75, covering the latest instalment due on your loan. When Bascom G. Goodheart, our president, died last month, he left a proviso in his will that all outstanding loans be cancelled. So you owe us nothing. Would you like to start all over, and borrow some more?"

"Frankly, despite what your wife says, the test we gave your daughter shows she has a tin ear and absolutely no native musical talent. In our opinion it would be a waste of your money to buy her a piano. You could do more for her sense of rhythm by buying her a yo-yo."

"Often through the years I have bitterly regretted rejecting your proposal. Since father passed away and left me his great big bank to run all by myself, I have felt even more lonely. So if you'd ask for my hand again, I'd be glad to share. . ."

". . . . It was one of those unfortunate mix-ups which I'm sure you'll understand. But the fact is we have the wrong X-rays. It is not your wife who is going to have triplets. . ."

INTERPRETING THE NEWS

India's economy boosted by western aid

By V. M. NAIR

NEW DELHI (Reuters) — India's ambitious economic development plans have received a fresh impetus from a recent promise of aid from Western countries.

A total of $2,500,000,000 has been promised by the United States, Britain, West Germany, Canada, Japan, France and the World Bank during the next two years. This amount will meet practically all the foreign currency requirements of the first two years of India's third five-year plan (1961-1966).

Although th eaid offered is still far short of the estimated $500,000,000 total currency deficit in the plan, India can draw up its industrialization program for the next two years without worrying about meeting immediate foreign currency bills.

The third plan is by far the most ambitious attempt ever made by India to establish a self-generating economy capable of turning out machinery, consumer goods and jobs.

Failure to achieve its ambitious targets of employment and industrial output, observers here believe, could deal a death blow to India's 13-year struggle to build an independent and prosperous democracy in Asia.

During the five-year period, an estimated 118,000,000,000 rupees ($24,780,000,000) will be spent on almost doubling the country's steel production to 10,000,000 tons, increasing food output by almost 50 per cent to 100,000,000 tons, creating 10,000,000 new jobs, and providing free and compulsory education for all children from six to 14 years.

The plan aims at an over-all increase of five per cent a year in the national income. While it is generally considered to be sound and well-balanced, some experts have described it as over-ambitious in the present context of India's limited resources.

These criticisms are dismissed by Indian officials as based on incomplete knowledge of present conditions in the country. The annual per capita income in India to day — 330 rupees ($69) — is among the lowest in the world. The population, already 408,000,000, is rising at the rate of 8,000,000 a year.

The first two five-year plans prepared the ground on which to build a solid industrial base.

Thus, at the end of the third plan, in 1966, India will have reached the "take-off" stage on the road to rapid industrialization. The fourth and fifth five-year plans — 1966-1971 and 1971-1976 — should see India emerge as an industrial giant in Asia, with a self-reliant self-generating economy, according to officials here.

A Bible Thought for Today

Be not forgetful to entertain strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. — Hebrews 13:2.

LETTER BOX

Former Simpson teacher, nurse beginning to miss town already

The Editor,
The Daily News:

This is a message to old Tillicums at Port Simpson.

Sunday evening last week, about 9:30 p.m. we were honored by a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Ted Auckett from Port Simpson on the first lap of a contemplated trip across the continent.

We had not met before, but had always read Mr. Auckett's columns in The Daily News on old Port Simpson with interest, and found them very interesting to both my sister and I, as we had lived there for many years when we were young. We had a big talk on the old place, as it is today.

Mrs. O'Neill was a good listener as she had never been there but had hailed from Winnipeg. She was like the fellow, from Chilcootin, who I once asked what boat he had come up the Skeena River on and he said: "Heck, I came the other way — on a mule." However, she was happy since the rest of us were having a good time.

Our visitors had their movie projector along, and about 11 o'clock, after some refreshments, we had a movie show, mostly of scenes of Port Simpson and catching oolichans on the Nass. A lot of the scenes were still familiar, but a lot lost since we lived there.

Sister Katie missed seeing anything of the hospital where she trained as a nurse. Our Anglican church was no more, but I understand the United church now has its beautiful deep toned bell. I hope the minister in charge has learned to ring it with a "powerful stroke" like Father Hogan used to do.

Of course, most of the people shown in the films were young people, mostly perhaps born since we were there.

Our guests pointed out some of the older tillicums by name, some we still could remember. Henry Bradley, Moses Gray, Mr. and Mrs. Henry, Charlie and Mrs. Dudoward, and Mrs. Lawson.

I was disappointed not seeing one of Mrs. Ernest Dudoward who was the "Ammabash Shim Hanna" Annie Livingston as I remember of Port Simpson.

Our friends told us the years had dealt very kindly with her and she still had her charms.

They also pointed out Henry Brentzen's son, but of course he was very young when we knew him. We had a lovely evening visiting old Port Simpson in the films, which lasted until nearly 2 o'clock in the morning.

Katie took your old teacher and nurse home with her to camp at her "Smokehouse" for the night. We liked our visitors very much and sure enjoyed seeing the show. It was nice to see grand old Mount McNeil still standing there so stately and grand yet and in the same place.

I told our visitors some of my memories. One about old George Pemberton and his No. 12 boots (and both for the right foot) which Henry Brentzen had given him a bargain on and gave them to him for a dollar. How he wore knickerbockers with the big boots pointing to starboard and said "Me high-toned now, just like an Englishman."

Our new friends got away in the morning after a good breakfast cooked by Sister Katie "Port Simpson style." They hoped to make Prince George that night. My concern for them was I didn't think too highly of their old flivver which was loaded to the gunnels. If they make

(Continued on Page 5)
See—"LETTERBOX"

The Packsack of Gregory Clark

Copyright: Canada Wide

One of my fishing cronies lives next door to a prosperous craftsman who is an ardent and vocal member of a trades union. Over the garden fence and on their respective verandahs, they have had many a lively debate on labor unions, especially when there are those occasional outbreaks of violence by picketing in which curiously anonymous strikers beat up non-strikers, or when strikes on railroads or other public services bring great inconveniences, if nothing more, to the whole community.

The doughty trades unionist neighbor is always able to defend such cases to his entire satisfaction.

"But last week," says my fishing pal, "my neighbor was stricken, in the middle of the night, with a gall bladder attack. His own doctor was out of town on holidays. He spent two hours trying to locate a doctor, at three a.m., and finally, on the advice of the police station, was taken by his family to the emergency ward of a hospital.

"But you should hear his outraged denunciations of the medical profession. All he could get was some answering service. I am waiting until he is fully recovered before I ask him if he ever tried to get a plumber or a plasterer at three a.m.

Lazy lips

From The Financial Post

A speech expert from Trinity College of Music, London (England, that is) says Canadians are "lazy lipped."

"There aren't very many Canadians who speak — perhaps you'd better say articulate very well," Miss Greta Douglas told the B.C. Speech Arts Festival the other day.

No doubt there is great room for improvement in the average Canadian's articulation of his language. It is lazy-lipped, all right, when the population as a whole accepts "gonna" for "going to" and can blithely contract "how are you" to "hya" or even "hi."

However, quite apart from Canadian sensitivity to criticism from the Old Country, it is passing strange that a Britisher should be chosen to adjudicate a Canadian speech festival. We just don't use the same idiom.

It is even more strange that the British expert should single out lazy articulation as her prime target. As the late George Bernard Shaw was wont to point out, there is no part of the English-speaking world where spoken English is contracted with more reckless abandon than in England itself. "Waistcoat" becomes "weskit"; "White Sunday" is "Whitsun" and on and on ad infinitum.

And now, one wonders, does Miss Douglas herself articulate that old English classic "Cholmondeley"?

We'll wager a "hape-knee" she says "Chumley."

Short sermons

Folks who try to maintain a budget today have living proof that both ends won't meet.

With the classics

Urban Roses

Each morning I lift my blind
to stare
Into the concrete garden
where
The love we've planted in
each other's grown
Tangled and wiry, rooted in
stone.
Not softly yielding as flowers grow,
But coarse and spiked with
thorns as though
Proof to the world that roots
can claw
Through scars of the earth
to rock and draw
Strength from granite and
stonily
Hold back the world from
you and me.

—Ted Isaac

Quite

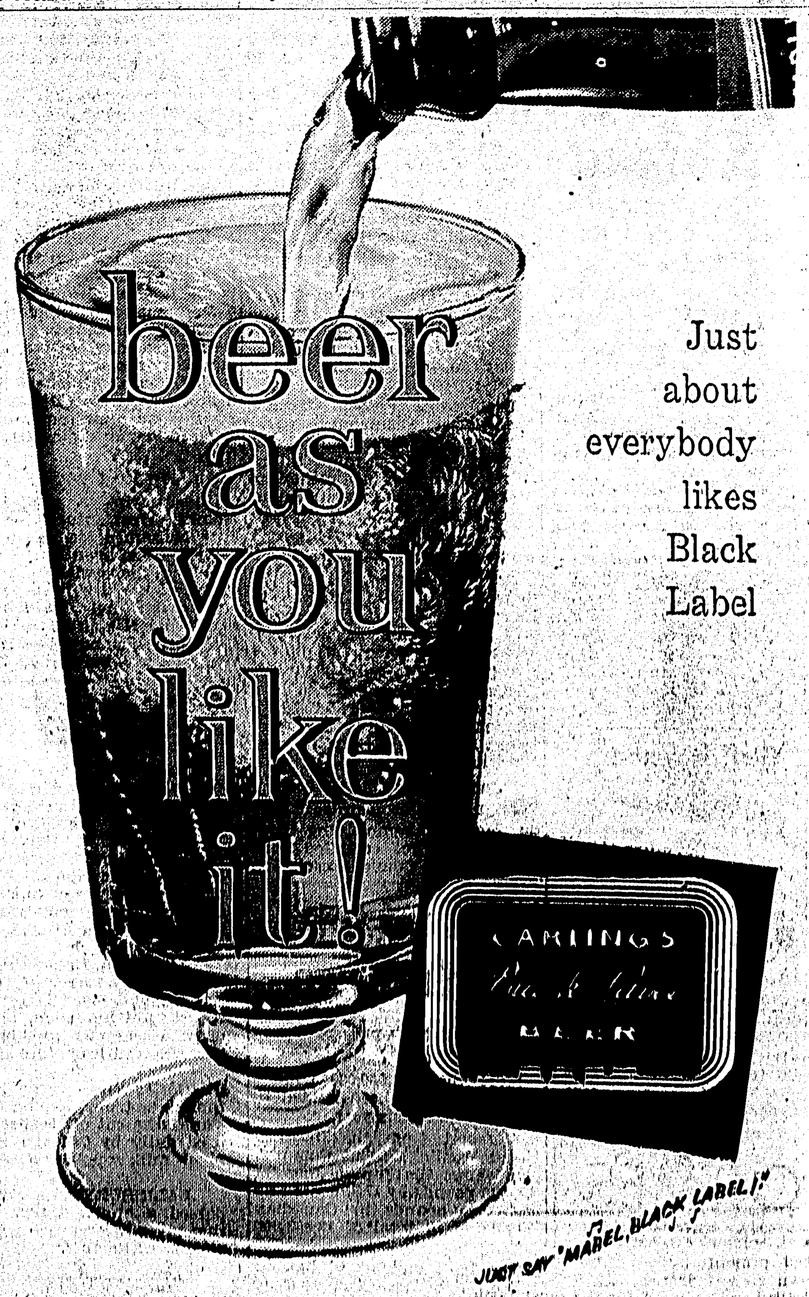
Councillor Mrs. F. M. L. Richards said that manure was mixed with the flood water and added:

"This makes it a different cup of tea entirely."

—From a Sussex paper's report of floods at Shoreham.

Before you buy any home fire alarm, ask your Fire Department for advice

Don't give fire a place to start!



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