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Bringing TV here no simple matter

The sudden spate of letters on the question of bringing television to Prince Rupert revives the old question of whether local residents want to get the quickest possible substitute for the real thing or whether they wish to work for the best. In the past several years, at least two private concerns have announced plans for a television station here. One was going to be a closed circuit proposition with customers paying a set fee per month for the privilege of the service; the other was going to be a private station affiliated with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. If either had appeared the slightest bit feasible, the proponents of either one would have gone ahead and completed their plans. On at least one occasion a survey was made of persons wishing to invest in a television set and then pay a monthly fee for service and we believe the answers were not sufficiently satisfactory for the promoters to follow through with their plan.

The City Council's television committee has met with CBC officials, it has co-operated with its field engineers and at the moment is waiting to hear the results of surveys made here. When the results are made known we will be in a better position to judge the cost of putting television into this isolated, mountain-bound port and will know our chances of having the federal government spend as much money as is required.

Both Conservative and Liberal candidates in the last federal election campaign placed a $100,000 price tag on a system whereby the Northern British Columbia Telephone Company's 10 micro-wave stations would be used to bring TV here. Since then, even that plan has not been considered as a sure-fire solution.

In any case, apart from making known the people's desire to have television here in Ottawa, there is little more the city's TV committee can do, except to explore all avenues, which it has been doing.

If people do not think City Council action is sufficient then there are other ways they can bring it to Ottawa's attention. They can write directly to the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation; they can tackle the Skeena District's MP Frank Howard when he is in town next Friday and Saturday; or they can inundate Mrs. Alixe Carter of Salmon Arm with letters, as she is the British Columbia representative on the Board of Broadcast Governors. Better still, get in touch with all three, then there will be no excuse for Prince Rupert's position not being known to them. However, we more than suspect, that the same answer will come back from all three: "That as soon as any decision is made, Prince Rupert's television committee will be informed. Thank you for your interest." Expenditures of $100,000 and upwards take time.

New light on moonlighting

The recent U.S. Department of Labor survey on "moonlighting" — a term used to describe the practice of holding down more than one job — is a gratifying document all around.

There is satisfaction in the knowledge that out of a working force of some 65,000,000 Americans some 3,000,000 have the initiative and drive to keep a second job.

At the same time, it is good to know that moonlighting is not contributing to any appreciable degree to unemployment. The department survey found that 1,200,000 of these second jobs were unsuited for unemployed persons and that only 180,000 of the second jobs were full-time. The typical moonlighter works a total of 50 hours a week with 11 hours devoted to the extra job.

This information should help clear up some of the complaints, especially rife in times of recession, about the "injustice" of moonlighting to the unemployed.

And that 50-hour week won't sound so awfully burdensome to many an American blue-collar worker who used to take a 48-hour week for granted. Nor, for that matter, to many a white-collar executive today who still puts in 50 hours — without overtime.

The Christian Science Monitor

ALL ABOARD with G. E. Mortimore

Charlie the storekeeper looks upon customers as pests.

He isn't rude to them. He just ignores them. Charlie's whole day—as far as I can judge—is spent taking stock or adding his accounts.

Sometimes a dozen customers will come into the store and stand there apologetically while the boss counts cans of tomato soup. They don't say anything. They seem to know their place.

Once in a while a customer will get restive and fidget a little. Charlie catches him with a reproving eye and goes on with his accounts.

He isn't a harsh man at all. He forgives his customers these minor lapses from good behavior.

He makes sure that his staff attends to business, too. There usually is just one girl on duty helping him. Charlie doesn't let her wander off catering to customers' whims. That would spoil them.

So Charlie drafts her to help check the stock. She is a good-natured girl, and sometimes she will peek out from behind the cash register as though to say: "Take courage, gang! As soon as we're through work, we'll have a get-together." That is the spirit that prevails in Charlie's store. Keeping the books and taking stock is the real work. Customers are a sort of by-product of storekeeping—a small problem to be disposed of when everything else is done.

The odd thing is that the customers keep coming back. Most of them like old Charlie. They wouldn't dream of boycotting him just because he happened to be busy with his accounts. That would be disloyal.

Besides, old Charlie is fairly tolerant about credit. Some of them are afraid that if they complain, the preoccupied smile will fade from old Charlie's face, and he'll say: "How about paying up, chum?"

That is the one thing, above all else, that his customers dread.

INTERPRETING THE NEWS

Canada, Japan gain rapport after PM's visit

By GRAHAM TROTTER
Canadian Press Staff Writer

Closer and more harmonious relations between Canada and Japan almost certainly will emerge from Prime Minister Diefenbaker's visit to the Asian country.

The two have much in common although they are at opposite ends of the Pacific Ocean and are different in language and culture.

There are two big connecting links. One is trade.

Japan is Canada's third-best customer and in normal times is second only to Britain in purchases of Canadian wheat. Canada is Japan's sixth-largest export market. With a population of 18,000,000 she buys more made-up textile products from Japan than does the whole of Western Europe with more than 200,000,000 people.

The other major link is the common incentives of the two countries in the cold war.

Each is a near neighbor of the Soviet Union. Geographically, Canada is caught between the world's two great antagonists, the U.S.S.R. and the United States. Japan not only lies within a few miles of Russian territory, but also has a neighbor the world's other great Communist state, China.

Both countries have been among the most vocal middle powers in condemning Russia's nuclear testing in the atmosphere. Japan is the only nation which has known the wholesale destruction of nuclear warfare and Canada knows by her geographical location what such a war could visit on her.

So the incentive to prevent a nuclear war is shared by both, but more important to Canada and the whole Western world Mr. Diefenbaker and Prime Minister Ikeda were able to solidify their approach on how this should be done. An unusual rapport was developed by the two, boding well for the future.

Memory for faces

Harold Macmillan's nephew, brewer and former Tory candidate John Cobbold, has been telling this story about an elderly man who said to his uncle: "Don't I know your face? Grenadier Guards?"

"Very likely, I suppose," replied the prime minister.

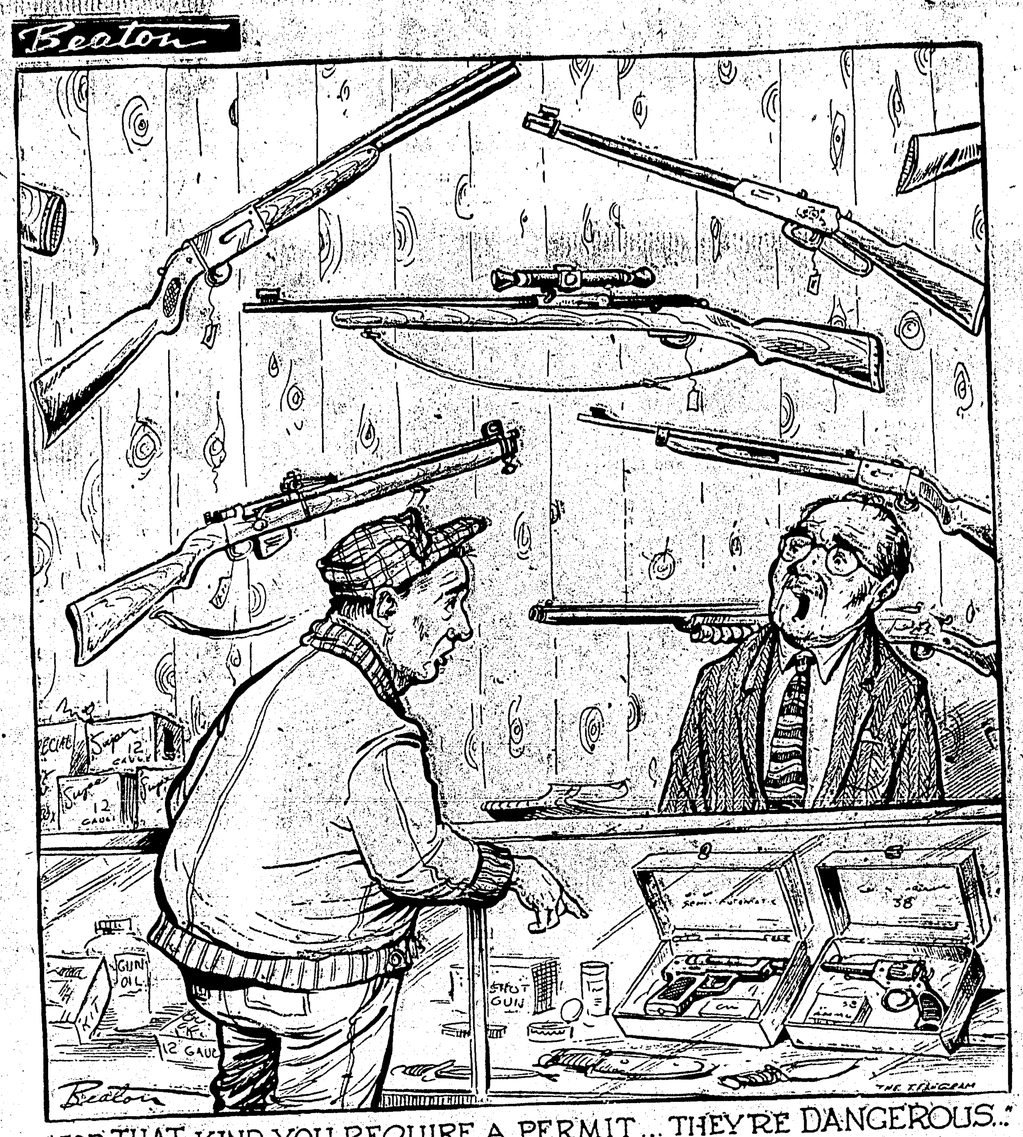
"On the Somme?"

"Yes."

The questioner brightened.

"I've got you, Lieutenant Macmillan. Never forget a face. Well, Macmillan, what have you been doing with yourself all these years?"

—London Daily Express.



"FOR THAT KIND YOU REQUIRE A PERMIT ... THEY'RE DANGEROUS..."

STUDY OF THREATS

Bomb fallout contains three bad actors endangering health: strontium, cesium, iodine

Three radioactive substances in particular need careful watching as fallout from nuclear testing increases. But at this point, their distribution appears well below the immediate danger level to human health. Last of three articles.

By ALTON BLAKESLEE
Associated Press Science Writer

NEW YORK (AP)—The main bad actor atoms in bomb test fallout are strontium, iodine and cesium.

Russia's gigantic 50-megaton-plus explosion shot another dose of them into the air, for winds to blow about and for rains and snow to bring down on people around the world.

Is this a cause of serious concern for North Americans?

No, at least not yet, says the U.S. Public Health Service, which is keeping a super-cautious eye on fallout.

The watch is maintained because fallout atoms are potentially a hazard, especially if quirks of wind and weather make some localities "hotter" than others.

The test fallout coming from great distance is of possible concern only if it gets inside the body.

MAY CAUSE CANCER

The trouble with strontium-90 is that it concentrates in bones, while iodine concentrates in the thyroid gland. Too much of these atoms might cause cancer of the bone or thyroid, or leukemia.

Cesium-137 becomes generally distributed through the body, including sex glands, where it might cause genetic changes.

How much is too much for humans? No one can answer this, because no one is sure how LITTLE radiation it takes to cause harmful effects on the human body.

To play it safe, international and U.S. experts have set extremely low maximum doses for daily intake by humans.

They think these tiny amounts would be tolerable without harm. They can't prove it. They don't know that fallout from tests so far hasn't gone above these limits.

These limits, as in the case of strontium-90 for example, are at least 100 times less than the amount of strontium required to produce bone cancers in laboratory animals.

FIGURES SECRET

Just how many of the bad-actor atoms were created by Russia's monster bombs, and all its current tests, has not been made public. Reason: The Soviets, as well as U.S. bomb testers in the past, have not divulged the makeup of the bombs.

One estimate is that a 50-megaton bomb produces 2,750 pounds of some 200 kinds of radioactive atoms at the outset.

Most of these "die" very quickly, and so don't travel far.

But strontium-90 and cesium-137 remain radioactive for many years. It takes about 27 years for half the original amount to disappear. If taken in food, these atoms can remain active in the body, emitting potentially damaging rays, for a long time.

Iodine-131 has a half-life—in which half of it becomes harmless—of eight days, only one-quarter of the original amount remains.

If milk became contaminated with iodine, keeping it refrigerated for a month would make it safe to drink, Dr. James Terrill of the U.S. Public Health Service points out.

From all bomb tests through 1958, the actual amount of strontium-90 in children's bones, on the average, was about 26 times less than the maximum amount deemed to be harmless if it is in bones. All the Soviet tests might double this—and it would still be about 13 times less than the estimated "safe" amount.

SET DAILY LIMITS

As a guide for protection, the Federal Radiation Council has set limits on the DAILY intake over an entire year, as measured in micromicrocuries of activity.

For strontium-90, this ranges from 200 to 2,000 and for iodine from 100 to 1,000. A micromicrocurie is one-millionth of one-millionth of a curie, with a curie being equivalent to the radioactivity in one gram (1-28th of an ounce) of radium.

The public health service is keeping a daily watch on radioactivity in the air, water and milk and some foods, to detect any dangerous increases.

If limits are approached or exceeded, then some action can be taken to protect people.

For milk, switching to canned or powdered milk—which had been on the shelf long enough—or letting fresh milk sit a while, could remove the danger from iodine.

Washing fresh fruits and vegetables carefully could remove fallout atoms.

If certain crops were found to be relatively high in strontium, they could be avoided as human food. Cows could be fed forage which had been stored inside barns or silos, and hence not touched by fallout.

The lighter side

Wife: You know, dear, you don't seem as well dressed as you were when you married me five years ago.

Husband: I don't see why not. I'm wearing the same suit.

Short sermons

Back in the good old days there was something to make you sleep—they called it work.

* * *

Before you flare up at someone else's fault, take time to count 10—of your own.

Incredible flutist

His flute made music on the wind,
A lambent solitary sound
That beat against the dark like flame,
That woke the night and gave it name.

He carved a cavern out of ice,
Hollowed a grotto forth in space,
Burned icicles, ignited rime
In the continuum of time.

Incredible how silver flute
Could so illuminate the night
And melt the frozen darkest heart
With sure acetylene of art.

—Victor Howes.

The PACKSACK

Of Gregory Clark

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It is time we developed a new word for cleaning woman. This is the title by which is known a new and important member of modern society. And she deserves a better designation. She is the day-worker in the domestic field without whom tens of thousands of homes in our big cities would be shambles.

She is the realist in the world of fantasy who knows that despite all the labor-saving devices of modern living, you can't get by without a little hard work at least once a week. A whole generation of housewives has now been raised up who are persuaded that life is just one round of pleasure. They are equipped with every possible appliance, from freezer and automatic furnace to hair dryers and spray deodorants. Their marketing for the household consists of shrewdly selecting things done up in cellophane which they collect in wheeled go-cars and the supermarket boy carries them out to the car trunk. Their off hours are filled with music and drama out of boxes in the living room. It is fantasy.

But once a week, the cleaning woman comes.

She cleans.

There ought to be a respectful title for her, like Home Hygienic organizer.

Letterbox

HOUSEWIVES' OPIATE

The Editor,
The Daily News:

I feel that your Sports Editor's remarks appearing on the sports page of my favorite newspaper require some sort of an answer. Please do not corrupt the minds of our up-and-coming Stan Leonards of Prince Rupert by telling them that 1961 television is bad for them morally or physically. He should know better than that.

Perhaps a housewife would be in a position to tell you that the word television means hours of entertainment while hubby is out in the rain trying for a birdie.

I sincerely hope that you have not misinterpreted my criticism of certain factions in this city who have not kept the public notified about us getting this medium of entertainment here, and the plausibility of building a golf course in the rain.

Ron Hartshorne,
Prince Rupert.

Support your local Winter Employment Campaign

Why postpone enjoyment of needed improvements around your home, plant or business!

Every year more Canadians learn that winter is the very best time to get all sorts of jobs done.

Skilled workers are more readily available and, being more productive, give you better value for your dollar. Many firms also offer discounts in the off-season lull.

In addition to home improvements there are many other things that can be done to advantage during the winter. They include such things as maintenance of lawn and garden equipment, electrical appliances, outboard motors and automobiles, as well as dry cleaning of drapes and rugs and replacement of upholstery, to mention but a few.

By taking a realistic approach to winter work you will also be helping your community by creating employment during the traditional winter lull. When everybody works, everybody benefits.

Plan Now to do it this Winter

For advice and assistance, get in touch with your National Employment Office

ISSUED BY AUTHORITY OF HON. MICHAEL STARR, MINISTER OF LABOUR, CANADA

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