1910 — PRINCE RUPERT DAILY NEWS — 1962

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

JOHN F. MAGOR, President — J. R. AYRES, Managing Editor

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

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1962

Fuller picture needed on salmon process

The proposal of a Norwegian architect to introduce fish farms where salmon will reproduce year after year under artificially - created conditions without having to go out to sea to be caught by fishermen, stuns the imagination. The impact of the proposal, outlined in the January issue of the magazine The Canadian Fisherman by an English free lance writer, John J. Murdoch, is even more stunning here in Prince Rupert than in most other places in Canada. Last year, the local salmon catch surpassed the lower mainland catches and indeed was better than the halibut catch, in value if not in quantity.

The findings of Norwegian architect Karstein Vik and his brother, explode the myth that salmon spawned in fresh running water must leave fresh water for the sea to return to breed only once after a long period of time. In Mr. Vik's system as described by Mr. Murdoch, the eggs are fertilized and hatched in fresh water, the fry are gradually introduced to salt water subjected to tidal movement and grow up to 40 to 50 pounds in special pools. Furthermore there is a 75-percent survival aspect which is unheard of when salmon are in their natural habitat.

What this means then, if all Mr. Murdoch claims about Mr. Vik's system are true, is that the salmon will never reach the open sea but the salmon will be transferred from the hatcheries to the fish stations and the days of the salmon fishermen could be numbered.

However, as amazing as all this sounds, only Ireland has been allowed to share Mr. Vik's confidence. The editor of The Canadian Fisherman, knowing the implication of such a proposal to Canadian fisheries, checked Mr. Murdoch's report that Mr. Vik was planning to inaugurate fish farms in Iceland and was also planning to consult with Canadian fisheries authorities. Iceland had heard of Mr. Vik but not seen him, Ottawa had not heard of him or of his plan to come to Canada.

Be that as it may, Ireland has opened its arms to the Norwegian fish station wizard and has made great concessions to him on grounds of what it will do to its fishery. Should the plan come to pass and Mr. Vik turn his talents to aiding other countries, then Canada will certainly be high on his list.

The effect of this "automation of nature" could be to wipe out Canada's salmon fishing fleets, since all the salmon will be grown in pools, owned and operated by the fishing companies. Whether it will be a boon to the consumer we cannot tell yet. But it will surely drive thousands of salmon fishermen out of their line of work unless a hard core of them intend to compete against the artificially-raised salmon. It may be some years before the full impact of Mr. Vik's fantastic scheme takes effect in Canada, but Fisheries Minister J. Angus MacLean and his department could set salmon fishermen's minds at rest if a full investigation of Mr. Vik's scheme was launched immediately. We imagine that both the fishermen and industry would like a fuller, clearer picture of the whole process, as quickly as possible.

"MR PRIME MINISTER, I HAVE A NAME FOR YOUR PUP..."

INTERPRETING THE NEWS

Russia, China differ on right to independence

By W. N. EWER

of The United Kingdom Information Service

The attitude of the two great Communist powers to questions of "colonialism" and of the right of nationalities to independence is, as it has always been, contradictory.

In world politics both the Soviet Union and Communist China stand vociferously and on all possible occasions, as the champions of the right of all colonial peoples to complete independence and self-determination, in the name of the principle of nationality.

Yet at the same time they, equally strenuously, deny the same rights to nationalities which are under their own rule or their own control.

In a New Year interview published in Izvestiya, Mr. Khrushchev insisted once again that one of the most burning problems of the day is "the eradication of the colonial system".

Yet, almost at the same moment, in Pravda, Mr. Ilyichev (who stands out more and more as, next to Mr. Khrushchev himself, the most important member of the Party Secretariat) has been firmly denouncing "bourgeois nationalism".

"Under present conditions," he says, "the struggle against the remains of bourgeois nationalism is of great importance." Nationalism opens the way for bourgeois ideology. A persistent struggle should be waged against any manifestation of it, whether it be economic, political or cultural. The embers of nationalism are being artificially fanned by imperialist propaganda, and used for purposes hostile to communism.

Why, in Mr. Ilyichev's view, colonialism, assuredly be that of Mr. Khrushchev, should the "struggle against nationalism" be of particular importance "under present conditions"?

It seems clear that there are nationalist ferments within the Soviet Union which are giving concern to the Soviet Government. They may be in the European satellite countries. They may be among the Asian peoples of the Soviet Union. Probably all that we can say clearly is that they exist and that they are to be repressed.

It is, indeed, likely enough that the Soviet rulers have been, by their own support for the principle of nationality, themselves unintentionally encouraging members of nationalities inside their own borders.

A Kazakh or a Kirghiz might well be asking why what is a sacred right for the Asian and African peoples should be denied to those who happened to become subject to Russia instead of British, French or Portuguese rule.

These Asian peoples, moreover, do not remember that they are victims of colonialism, and that Russian colonialism, far from being "liquidated", is being extended and strengthened. Russian and Ukrainian settlers are being encouraged to move in large numbers into Asian lands. In Kazakhstan they already out-number the indigenous population.

The economies of the Asian republics are being geared to the needs of the Soviet state and a single Soviet type culture is being imposed, to which local cultures must conform. It is notable that Mr Ilyichev referred specifically to the need for struggle against cultural nationalism.

As in the Soviet Union, so in China. There, too, there is a big-scale colonisation by the Han (the racially and linguistically Chinese) of territories peopled by non-Han races. The conquest of Tibet drew world attention to the imperialist character of the Peking regime. But the Tibetans are not the only sufferers. The Han, under the pressure of their own increasing numbers, are on the move in inner Mongolia, in Kansu, in Sinkiang, steadily over-running the native populations. It is colonialism in the most literal meaning of the word.

This double standard — championship of nationalism abroad, repression of nationalism at home — must have its own embarrassments for the Soviet directors of policy and propaganda. They must be worried by the thought that their internal attitude must arouse deep suspicions in Asian and African minds of the genuineness and disinterestedness of their external attitude: as well as by the impact of their own propaganda on their own "colonial peoples".

Which makes it a little strange that Mr. Ilyichev should choose this moment to draw attention to the fact that the Soviet Government is currently engaged in a "struggle" against nationalism inside its own borders.

Which makes it

One can only conclude that something is going on which makes it imperative to call upon the Communist Party to devote more attention and energy to this "struggle"; and to announce publicly that it is "of great impotance under present conditions".

About Goa

Let us be perfectly clear what is at stake here, gentlemen. It is the question of the use of armed force by one state against another and against its will, an act clearly forbidden by the Charter. We have opposed such action in the past by our closest friends as well as by others. We opposed it in Korea in 1950, in Suez and in Hungary in 1956, in the Congo in 1960, and we do so again in Goa in 1961. — Adlai Stevenson, Chief United States Delegate to the United Nations.

A Bible Thought for Today

I have lived before God in all good conscience until this day. — Acts 23:1.

That would be a glorious and triumphant thing to say at the close of life.

ALL ABOARD with G. E. Mortimore

Resolutions: I will cease calling my wife "Smokey" and taunting her about the unsightly appearance of a cigaret dangling from the lip in the kitchen.

I will try to be more tolerant. Even though I am a non-smoker of five years' standing, I will try to remember that smokers are human, too.

As soon as I can afford it, I will quit trying to bully my wife out of smoking, and coax her with the prospect of a reward; instead, I'll use the carrot instead of the stick.

As soon as I can afford it (as I said) I shall use the method that my neighbor Bill used for his wife: offer her $100 to quit.

It worked. But $100 is an expensive carrot. I doubt that I will raise that amount in 1962.

In 1962 I shall try to shed the habit of reading several books at one time, and spotting them about the house in strategic places—lying open on the backs of chairs and on tables.

Instead I shall try to read one book at a time, and finish it.

I shall also try to get vital tasks finished in plenty of time. I shall try to have income tax forms completed at least five minutes before the deadline.

In 1962 I mean to stop animals and children from ruling my life. To start with, absolutely no more stray cats are to be admitted. This is an inflexible rule.

The house contains four cats now. Only two of them really belong there. The other two were dumped on us by friends and neighbors. We have not yet been able to steel ourselves to get rid of them—and every time we try, there are wails from the children.

The cats are to observe fixed hours in going out and coming in. There will be no exceptions to this order.

A way is to be found to stop the dog from barking. It seems to me that several other dogs in the neighborhood learned their barking from my dog, and bark in exactly the same way he does and he gets blamed for all of them. But this doesn't matter.

I mean to silence my dog somehow—with a no - bark muzzle or a sound-proof kennel.

I am going to get letters answered and papers put in order—even if it takes all my wife's spare time to do it.

Employment 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 understand that I may be disqualified from receiving unemployment insurance benefit, because I am guilty of making false statements about some earnings I had but did not declare. What is the most I can be disqualified?

A. According to the provisions of the Unemployment Insurance Act, a disqualification for each false statement may be imposed against future benefit in an amount not exceeding six times your weekly rate of benefit.

Q. If I am guilty of making false statements in an attempt to obtain unemployment insurance benefit illegally, could a disqualification against future benefit be imposed, and prosecution proceedings started against me at the same time?

A. No. If prosecution for an offence against the Unemployment Insurance Act is instituted, then a disqualification against future benefit shall not be imposed. For such false statement there can only be one penalty: either disqualification or prosecution.

Q. During the past summer, while on unemployment insurance, I went away on a three weeks fishing trip. My wife signed my name to the report forms and mailed them in. Why didn't I get my insurance?

A. Each person must sign his own report forms. Your wife, in signing your name, technically committed forgery, which is a serious offence. In addition to this is the fact that normally, while away on holiday, you are not available for work, and therefore not entitled to unemployment insurance benefit.

With the classics

Hence, loathed Melancholy,
Of Cerberus and blackest
Midnight born,
In Stygian cave forlorn,
'Mongst horrid shapes, and
shrieks, and sights unholy!
Find out some uncouth cell,
Where brooding Darkness
spreads his jealous wings,
And the night-raven sings;
There under ebon shades
and low-brow'd rocks,
As ragged as they locks,
In dark Cimmerian desert
ever dwell.

—John Milton.

Good Advice

The Packsack of Gregory Clark

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Any old soldier of the First World War will immediately recognize this new dance called the Twist. Maybe the soldiers of the Second World War, in which new delousing chemical powders were liberally used to keep down the vermin that had been intimately associated with soldiering from most ancient times, will not take the pleasure we old timers do out of watching a bunch of young people furiously dancing the Twist.

All it is, actually, is a good scratch. And memories flood upon the veterans of Ypres, the Somme, Vimy and Passchendaele when they witness a whole roomful of happy people going through the very same frantic activities they used to indulge in themselves the minute they got off duty and could hie themselves down into the dugout and engage in a real good Twist, wriggling joyously inside their raspy army underwear and war-profiteer khaki tunics and trousers to relieve the itch from all the little bugs that infested the lives of those most famous men of Flanders and the Pas de Calais.

The Twist is nothing new. It is as old as fleas.

gems of thought

Without punishment, sin would multiply.
—Mary Baker Eddy.

The seeds of our punishment are sown at the same time we commit the sin.
—Hesiod.

The certainty of punishment, even more than its severity, is the preventive of crime. —Tryon Edwards.

He who does not punish evil commands it to be done.
—Leonardo da Vinci.

Crime and punishment grow out of one stem. Punishment is a fruit that, unsuspected, ripens within the flower of the pleasure that concealed it.
—Ralph Waldo Emerson.

LETTERBOX

HOT POTATOES

The Editor,
The Daily News:

I feel that the letter regarding potatoes recently published in your paper over the signature of William Dunn should not go unanswered.

I bet Mr. Dunn didn't weigh the bag of potatoes he purchased. Had he done so he might have found that it contained 5 ounces more than the advertized weight. Could it be possible that Mr. Dunn has spent so much time measuring "murphies" with a set of micrometers that he is not aware of the fact that the kind-hearted inspectors of the B.C. Coast Vegetable Marketing Board make a practice of adding to each bag of carefully-selected potatoes a handful or two of equally selected small potatoes, for the children of course.

Mr. Dunn, quit looking at the price on the crown of that turnip long enough to imagine the joy brought to a little child's heart when mother hands over those itsy-bitsy spuds to be cooked in a teeny-weeny kettle.

And to hurt the feelings of the overworked and underpaid inspectors of the B.C. Coast Vegetable Marketing Board by shipping back to them a few spuds 1⅝ inches to 1⅞ inches in diameter which have been hand-picked to bring joy to the hearts of little children, is not British, it is not Canadian. By Gad sir! it is not even Social Credit.

Mr. Dunn, if you would read Chapter 4 of that masterly treatise "Growing Potatoes for Pleasure and Profit," by Dr. Scabbeon Soggy, professor of agronomy at the University of Spuzzum, you would learn that the measure of a potato is not in its diameter but its personality.

As you've been an engineer for the past 41 years and I've been a bum for the past 40, we've both endured practically the same years of suffering. But I must say the life-saver of all the stump-ranchers I ever knew was not the potato but home-brew.

In closing I should say that the one thing wrong with this country is that we have far too many people knocking such fine democratic institutions as the Coast Vegetable Marketing Board, the Interior Vegetable Marketing Board, the Milk Control Board, the Egg Control Board, The Small Fruit Control Board, the Tree Fruit Control Board, the Liquor Control Board and the Board to Control Control Boards.

And I remain, a small but tasty potato.

C. N. Taylor,
Prince Rupert.

The lighter side

A cannibal took his baby to a witch doctor.

"Doc," he said, "I don't know what's the matter with him. He won't eat anybody."

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

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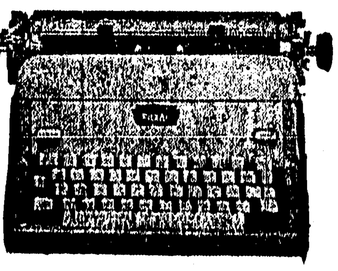
BETTER TYPING



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