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How naive can we get?

The International North Pacific Fisheries Commission had a difficult decision to make when they opened northern Alaska waters to Japanese fishermen this week.

Here in Prince Rupert there appeared to be little comment, and probably because the whole matter seemed quite nebulous, even with the extensive reports made.

Statements made by fishing industry officials in the south to the effect it was an adverse move would tend to be hasty as it is likely they have not had ample time to properly study the situation.

Who can really tell, offhand, what effect the move will have on the Canadian fishing industry until the plan is actually put in motion and who knows whether or not Ottawa will ratify it?

The new plan is to allow the Japanese to fish herring off the west coast of the Queen Charlottes and take halibut from the eastern Bering Sea.

The fact no proof could be shown that herring or halibut were under extensive scientific study, that fishing of the stocks was already being exploited to the limit and that further exploitation would deplete the stock is apparently what incited the move.

Not proving the above three points and therefore opening the boundaries seems logical enough yet no one can hardly help think there must be more critical reasons for the decision. If there are it is naturally hoped they will be brought to light at once.

A charge by Homer Stevens of the Fishermen's Union that the commission is "giving Japan a wedge that would eventually open up the whole coast for Japanese fishermen" somehow seems melodramatic and a bit premature.

Who can forecast such an outcome? Surely the people who serve on the International commission are not that naive.

One official said Canadian fishermen would probably still take the same size catches of halibut from the Bering Sea.

This statement sounds much more practical.

As for being "a sell-out to keep Japan from pulling out of the three-nation north Pacific fisheries agreement when it is renewed next year" there seems to be little foundation to this comment made by Stevens.

The whole situation would indicate that many involved in the fishing industry could have pressed the panic button a mite too fast.

Time will tell.

Can we afford to keep up with Uncle Sam?

That old saw about "keeping up with the Joneses" has been pretty nearly kicked to death by now, but Canadians are still trying to do it — and on the grandest possible scale.

As a nation we put our living status on the level of Uncle Sam's, and then we find it impossible to maintain the pace without mortgaging our future.

The United States is the richest country in the world. The latest information on the subject puts Canada third in per capita wealth, Sweden being second.

In common cash, the average Canadian's pay cheque is 25 to 30 per cent smaller than the average American's. As a nation, our struggle to get abreast of the U.S. in living standards is like trying to keep as fine a home as the millionaire across the street.

Statistics show Canadians are living more comfortably than 10 years ago. We own more homes, cars and TV sets, and indoor plumbing is now the rule rather than the exception.

And yet we keep on striving to have the mostest of everything. We want two transcontinental railways, two national TV networks, two transcontinental air lines, a national defence structure that takes a quarter of the national tax income and now we are talking about another trans-Canada highway just after we have completed the first.

All these are fine. But how many of them can we really afford?

It is about time Canadians became more realistic and selective about where they spend their resources, and about how much they spend.

— The Vancouver Province

Prince Albert election

The loss of the Prince Albert byelection is a serious blow for the Lloyd government of Saskatchewan. The CCF had held the seat for the past 18 years and in a straight two-way fight lost it to the Liberals by a large majority.

The result can only be interpreted as an indication that the people of Saskatchewan — Prince Albert, at least — did not approve of the government's handling of the medicare dispute which rocked the province last summer.

As this is the third consecutive byelection in the province that the Liberals have won — and the government has lost — it would suggest that Saskatchewan is about ready for a change of government. The last provincial general election was in 1960, so, as the winds seem to be blowing against them, it is unlikely the government will call a general election for some time.

— Kelowna Daily Courier

HYDER ALASKA, STEWART, B.C.

Two towns that will progress

By JOHN MAGOR

In an age when towns are so conscious of population figures as an indication of growth, an item appearing in a brochure put out jointly by Hyder, Alaska, and Stewart, B.C., deserves some kind of honorable mention.

Referring to Hyder, it says:

"At the present time there are about 40 people residing here but this number will probably increase considerably in the next couple of years."

There is a perky optimism in this little sally into the future which is in keeping with the spirit of the whole district. Evidence of a past that bloomed and faded is all around and nobody in the area pretends to overlook it. As the brochure admits, "Hyder gradually shrunk to the point where it is but a ghost of its former self."

But in a place where opportunity has knocked often before, a lull in the proceedings is never too discouraging, and there is no despondency up there now.

When my wife and I arrived at Stewart recently on Northland Navigation's "Canadian Prince" we immediately discovered one of the reasons why. The dock at which we disembarked was littered with chunks of ore as if some prospector had gone berserk on his way out of town after striking it rich.

As it happened we had arrived on a day when our ship was to take on a load of ore from the nearby Premier mine, and pieces of the stuff had spilled from the sacks dumped around the dock. Wealth from this source is nothing new to Stewart and Hyder.

Put into operation in 1919, the Premier gold and silver mine paid almost $11 million in dividends in its first seven years of business. Closed reopened and closed again, it is now once more in operation with the discovery of another rich pocket in its productive entrails.

By itself this is not likely to make a drastic change in the level of prosperity for the two neighboring towns. Other industries such as logging, tourist travel, road building and the subsidiary services that go with these things will have their part in promoting new activity for the area.

But the generalization might be made that as mining goes, so go Stewart and Hyder. It has occupied most of their history — Stewart being the name of brothers who staked out many of the early mining claims there — and probably will continue to do so. In Hyder, Marie Meager who, with her husband, operated a saloon there, is said to have made several modest fortunes from tips passed to her across the bar before retiring in Oregon.

Tips still abound and by the law of averages in that mineral rich part of the country, some will pay off and more fortunes will be made.

Leaving Friday noon and returning Saturday night, and visiting the Canadian Prince's other ports of call en route, we were delighted with this excursion into territory where the old is so close and yet the new so imminent.

A small Russian blockhouse just inside the Alaskan boundary stands as a symbol of the past, while high on glacial ice behind the two towns men are creating engineering history by using ingenious devices to extract ore from what has been described as a mountain of copper.

For the traveller an extra visual pleasure is provided by a botanical quirk which allows many varieties of trees to grow in the area, breaking what heretics might call the monotony of our evergreen shoreline. Overhead a glacier hangs like a massive blue diamond set in a crevice of rock, emphasizing that wherever man gets a foothold on this coast, the wilderness is never far away.

A visit to this international tip of the Portland Canal is one to remember. We left feeling sure that Hyder will make good its little claim to an increased population, and there is no doubt that Stewart (pop. 500) will grow in corresponding measure.

"VERY DESCRIPTIVE SUGGESTION, McGREW... BUT LET'S KEEP THIS CLEAN..."

SIDELINE

With CHUCK DAVIS

This is the first of a new weekly series of columns, and I've spent a good many minutes sitting here, idly licking the lint off my jacket, trying to think of a good beginning.

The best one I've come up with so far is, "A bunch of the boys were whooping it up in the Malamute saloon," but I'm told it's already been used.

I was going to explain, in this first column of what could be a long run, what it is that I will write about, but I'm not too sure myself.

When I entered the office of The Daily News and, casually spinning a Smith and Weston 45 around my finger, asked if they'd be interested in a column, I was assured by the editor, who dived under his desk, that they might consider it.

"What do you write about?" his muffled voice asked from somewhere under his typewriter.

A quick check of the samples I had brought with me showed that they were about, among other things, camels, the Chinese language, English history, and rain.

Sincerely, though, we can read page after page about bombings, murders, floods, theft, car accidents, Elvis Presley, and so on, but how many newspaper articles are about a camel?

Ask yourself these questions: how much do I really know about camels? And do I care?

A line of personal background. I first came to Prince Rupert in mid-October, and I work as an announcer.

Training to be an announcer is an arduous task. You begin your first week of training with your mouth filled with 25 marbles. This teaches you to speak clearly, and to be plainly understood (by someone with 25 marbles in his ears). In your second week, they remove one of the marbles, and you train that way. In your third week, they remove yet another marble, and so on, and so on. Every week, one marble less.

When you've lost all your marbles, you become an announcer.

It's wonderful work, and I love every minute of it. And that's the last straight line you'll see in this column.

Except for this one.

✣ ✣ ✣

Occasionally, but not very often, I might comment on world affairs. I will always preface my remarks, however, by writing, "Today I am going to talk about world affairs." This will enable you to turn to the funnies faster. Let's face it, the less we all have to do with world affairs these days, the better.

Still, I couldn't help noticing that, less than a week after Khrushchev said that Communism was going to copy some of the good things of Capitalism, he revealed that a bunch of top officials in his party were involved in a bribery conspiracy!

Aren't they starting things just a little early?

Now, until next week, a fond adieu to my thousands of new fans.

According to Hoyle

Q. What are the odds against getting a perfect hand (29 counts in Cribbage? A.M.

A. The odds are 216,579 to 1. 5555J is the perfect hand in Cribbage and counts 29 if the Jack is the same suit as the starter.

Q. In Five Hundred, must you have a trump in your hand to bid a suit? J.C.

A. No. And you do not need a trump in your hand to raise a suit your partner has bid.

Q. What makes Combo-Canasta different from the original Canasta game? J.A.

A. The main feature of Combo-Canasta is a bonus of eleven cards for the player who completes the first Canasta in the deal. These cards become part of his hand—and are one reason why this form of Canasta is especially high-scoring and exciting.

today in history

By The Canadian Press

Nov. 22, 1962 ...

The French-language newspaper Le Canadien was founded by Liberal members of the Lower Canada legislature 136 years ago today — in 1806. Until then French - language newspapers were mostly literary journals or news sheets containing little but translations from the English. It published only one edition before it was ordered closed by the government but was revised and closed several times before its stormy career ended in the early 20th century.

1922 — The Royal Agricultural Winter Fair first opened in Toronto.

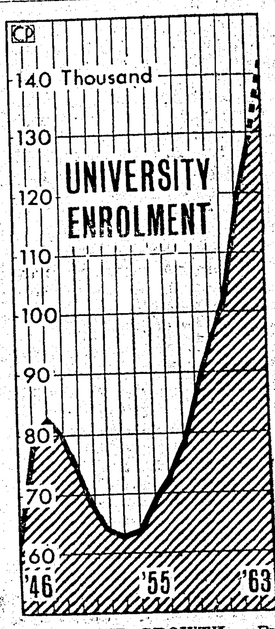
1950 — Two passenger trains crashed in New York killing 76 persons.

FOOD GUIDE

Senior citizens often have eating problems. Loss of appetite for properly balanced meals may be due to frequently nibbling between meals. Another problem is that those who live alone neglect to prepare balanced meals. A small booklet entitled "Food Guide for the Older Person" is available free from local or provin-

THE CROWDED NORTH

There is far more land in this planet's northern hemisphere than in its southern half, states Encyclopedia Americana. The great centers of world population are in east Asia, southern Asia, northwestern Europe and northwestern North America. All of these regions are in the Northern hemisphere.



CONTINUED GROWTH — Enrolment at universities across Canada climbed to an estimated 143,000 students this year, an increase of 14,000 from 1961. Graph shows annual post-war enrolment and the sharp growth since 1954. Increase in the late 1940s came with the return of war veterans.

quote, unquote

R. A. Butler, Britain's Deputy Prime Minister:

"Let no one think that, if pressed too far, we will not take vigorous action to protect our own interests, provided we can be satisfied that the action is in our own interests."

✣ ✣ ✣

Report on Paris fashions from columnist John Crosby in the Toronto Globe and Mail:

"Women this fall are wearing the bosoms flatter and their bottoms are carried higher and slightly to the right. They're still wearing dark circles under the eyes as if they were dead but enjoying it."

PROTECT CRIB

A baby's crib should be made safe by taking care that the sides and ends are protected so the child's head cannot become wedged between the bars. The sides should be locked when he is left alone. Bed covers should be arranged snugly as to prevent the child becoming entangled in them.

A bite from a dog, cat or other animal should receive immediate treatment. If it is a family pet, the wound should be cleansed and covered. If it is a strange animal, or is sick, a doctor should be consulted immediately.

The PACKSACK

By Gregory Clark

If we stopped calling it Communism and started calling it Absolutism, the true nature of our objection to it would be clarified in our own minds.

It is perfectly normal that Russia and its satellites, and China, should embrace Communism, that allows of no opposition, and is the pure example of absolutism, because the Russians and the Chinese have never known anything but absolutism throughout their history. It was not surprising that Germany and Italy should have fallen, for the absolutism of Fascism, because they too, until quite lately, have always been under the iron heel of absolute rulers.

How preposterous is the hope of advocates of Communism for the Anglo-Saxon peoples in various countries is revealed by their ignorance of our history. It is close to eight hundred years that the English have fought absolutism step by step and inch by inch, fouding Parliament in 1625, cutting off a king's head in 1649, ousting the land lords in 1832, clamping down on wealth's pretensions to absolutism with the Labor Government; and, in the Labor Party itself, ousting such of its own leaders as Bevan who showed too strong a tendency towards absolutism in the interests of Labor itself.

What the Communists abroad and at home don't comprehend is that our most precious heritage is the right to oppose.

LETTERBOX

THAT ONE DRINK

The Editor,
The Daily News:

Though I am a comparative newcomer to Prince Rupert and a more recent subscriber to your paper I would like to comment on your editorial of Nov. 14 regarding help for alcoholics.

Any possible advance in the medical or therapeudic fields to arrest the terrible disease of alcoholism is a boon to civilization. This disease is probably the cause of more deaths each year than any other disease or fault.

I have to regard the words in the editorial "recovered alcoholic" as most misleading and very untrue. I have been associated with Alcoholics for several years and I am sure the members of the local group will agree that there is no such status as a recovered alcoholic. You may become cured of drunkenness, but alcoholism is only arrested as long as that one drink is not taken.

The word recovered only gives a man or woman the idea that if they go on the wagon for a few months duration it will then be possible to become a social drinker.

However, such pleasure is never to be ours, as self-confessed alcoholics we learn through progress in AA and possibly by ourselves experimenting or by observing others whom we know going back to liquor and ending up in the same or worse condition.

I don't think we honestly begrudge others the ability to take liquor but we progressed to the point that liquor took us.

It is a great consolation to us alcoholics to know that there are now a number of groups and societies seeking an ultimate cure but at present there is no recovery medicine or therapy.

The most successful group right at this time is Alcoholics Anonymous and each year they help thousands of us to arrest the disease. Its chief requirement is self confession, honesty with one's own self and a belief in a Greater Power.

Our serenity prayer is applicable to all:

God grant me serenity
To accept the things I cannot change
The courage to change the things I can
And wisdom to know the difference.

Finally I would like to say that it is a wonderful feeling to know that I am an arrested case of alcoholism, able to enjoy my family, recreation, work, food and most of all life as nature intended it to be. Arrested? Yes. Recovered? Never, maybe.

An Alcoholic.

Holiday Hospitality
calls for CALVERT

Masterpiece
A luxurious blend of superb Canadian rye whiskies.

V·I·P
Custom-blended Canadian rye whisky for Very Important People.

Old Rye
Every drop has passed 90 quality tests. Your taste is the 97th check.

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