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Let's Take a Look at BCHIS

SINCE Premier Bennett has put hospital insurance at the top of his government agenda, we believe that he should make public at an early date the Stevenson and Kellogg report on the subject.

For too long now hospital insurance has been kicked around as a political football and there is disconcerting evidence that the new government contemplates heaving it clear out of the park. This intention has not been expressed in so many words, but any move to put the plan on a voluntary basis would accomplish just that.

If hospital insurance barely survived on compulsory premiums, there is not a breath of hope for it on voluntary payments. However, in the Stevenson and Kellogg report, which is understood to have cost the province close to \$100,000, there is very possibly a solution.

If, as announced, the enquiry discovered a way to save more than \$1,000,000 yearly in administrative salaries alone, there is every likelihood that it offers other recommendations which would put the program on an efficient working basis.

We have gone too far with hospital insurance, and drawn too much benefit from it, to abandon it because of some minor unpopular features. Moreover, as we have already paid well for the list of recommendations now in Victoria, we should have a look at it before it is discarded in the interests of a vague pre-election promise.

UNDER OUR ROOF

By John Sturdy

Tapeworm of the Brain

Yesterday afternoon our small son turned up in the shed with a sour expression on his face. At first I thought he was sore because I was reading one of his comic books, a weird tale about a well-built lady called "Nyoka, the Jungle Girl," but when I gave him the book he still looked at me distrustfully.

"What's our name stand for, Daddy?" he suddenly demanded. "Why," I said, "the name Sturdy means strong, steadfast. It is a renowned old English name. One of our ancestors..."

"That's what I thought you said," interrupted the small son. "You've been fooling me all this time, with all that steadfast and strong business. Why didn't you tell me the truth, Daddy?"

"What are you driving at?" I demanded. "I found out what Sturdy really means," he piped up. "It's a disease caused by a larval tapeworm of the brain."

I stared at the child in absolute horror. For a moment I could not believe that those words had issued from his small mouth. A larval tapeworm of the brain! And my own flesh and blood saying it to me!

"How dare you speak like that!" I thundered. "Oh, it's all very well for you to splutter, Daddy," said the small son. "But I looked it up in the dictionary. Sturdy is from the Old French *sturdus*, which means *Gid*, or *Sturdy*, a disease caused by a larval tapeworm of the brain."

"Huh?" "You should have told me, Daddy," he added, and walked out of the shed.

LOOKS IT UP Of course I didn't believe him. I tried to lose myself with Nyoka the Jungle Girl, but it wasn't any good. The more I thought of the child's words, the more haunted I became.

Eventually I couldn't stand it any longer. I sneaked over to our house, where our guests, Hamish and Little Augie and Col. C. Skeffington-Smuts (Ret.), and his wife Anastasia are living, and I crept into the living-room and found the dictionary.

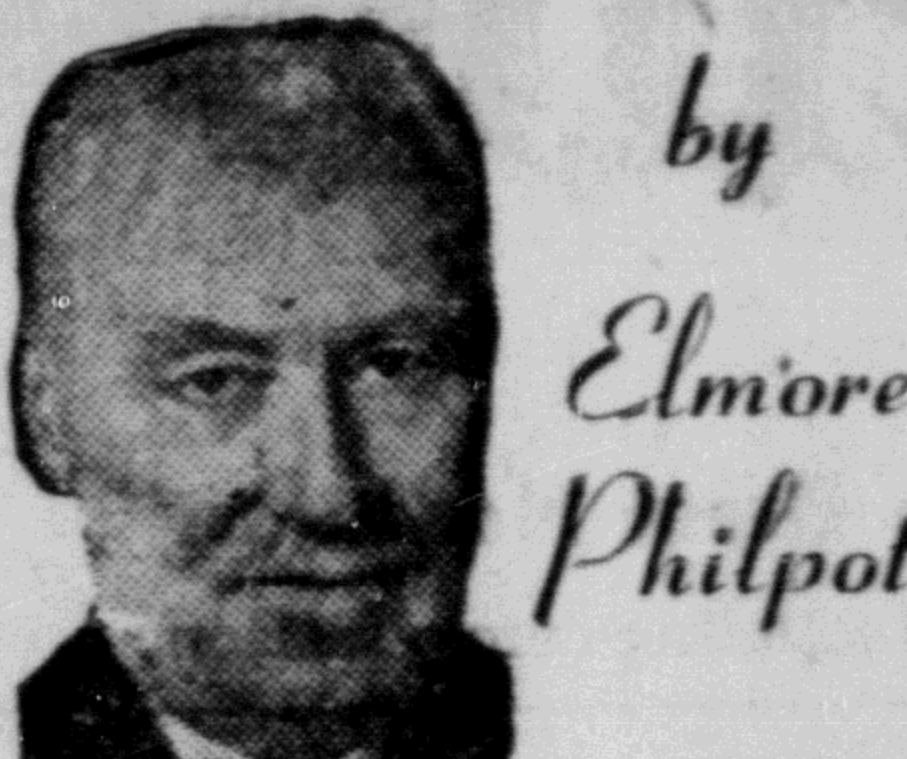
To my horror there it was: STURDY (OF) VET. A disease caused by a larval tapeworm of the brain. (See *GID*).

Well, I didn't have time to see *GID*. Just at that moment Col. Skeffington-Smuts entered the room and said, "Oh," when he saw me. "Anything I can do for you, my man?"

"Colonel," I said, "I'm the fellow who owns the house, remember? Sturdy is the name." "Oh, quite!" said the Colonel. Then suddenly he looked very disturbed. "Oh, I say -- hey, chaps! Chaps, come here!"

The chaps turned out to be Hamish and Little Augie who entered on the run. "Here's the fella," said the Colonel, and I found Hamish and Little Augie staring at me. I thought there was a hint of tears in Hamish's eyes. "Sit down," he said softly.

As I See It



For Instance Drugs

GULL LAKE, Alberta.—Here at the Alberta School of Religion you often hear the wisest ideas given out by some country minister, maybe in a conversation around a tree, or on the sands beside the lake.

For instance, this one I heard this morning about drugs. A bunch of us had been talking about education, and how every generation of youngsters has to learn some of its own lessons for itself.

But one quiet voice warned of carrying this idea too far. "You can't just sit back and say, O leave the kids alone and they will try out things for themselves and sooner or later find what is good and what is bad. Suppose they try out drugs. Soon most of them are ruined, almost beyond all hope."

He developed the idea a bit, along the lines that you could not leave bottles of poison around and expect an infant to try out one after another and see which was good and which was bad for him.

I MYSELF know of people who were caught by the drug habit, but who were cured, with the help of old-fashioned religious conversion. But I also know of several other fine young lives which were ruined so utterly by drugs that most of us would say those poor souls were damned beyond all hope of redemption, here or anywhere. I don't think these country ministers would agree with that pessimistic judgment for they would hold that there is no limit to the love or saving power of the Almighty Father.

But if there is one menace on this earth, more ruinous than any other I have come across it is the traffic in narcotics.

JUST a year ago, when I was here on the prairies before, they were holding a conference in Saskatoon on ways and means of dealing with the drug menace. It is almost ludicrous to look back on that conference now, for over and over again speakers said that there was no widespread addiction to drugs among teen-agers in Canada, as everybody knew there was in the U.S.A.

Now we have been rudely shocked out of our complacency and learned that dozens of youngsters in Vancouver alone have already been contaminated at ages as young as fifteen or sixteen.

SURELY there is a crying need for education on this matter not only through the churches, schools, YMCA, etc., but in every single family in the land.

Any father or mother who lets a son or daughter grow up to fourteen years of age without telling him or her the terrible truth about drugs has not done a good job. The same goes, even more, for older sisters and brothers, for the youngsters often listen to them more than to parents.

Every youngster should know that the "hit" notices get out of drugs soon becomes such a craving that almost all the victims lose all moral sense and will do literally anything—no matter how criminal—to get more drugs.

I THINK a person who commits murder is a minor lawbreaker compared with the vile creature who, for profit, deliberately ruins a youngster's life by enticing him or her to become a drug addict. Once caught, not one victim out of a thousand ever escapes.

So long as we retain the death penalty for any crime, including that of murder, I would make it cover the higher-up organizers of the drug traffic—for these are human monsters.

As for the victims, the addicts, they are sick people and should be treated as such. The most sensible way to treat them is in institutions specially set up. It is better to give the victims what they must get—to prevent them from stealing, murdering, or becoming prostitutes to get the money to buy what is literally worth more to them than life itself.

But every Canadian youngster should be taught that the drug habit is the quickest, shortest, surest road to hell-on-earth.

HIGH POSITION OSHAWA, Ont. (CP)—Leslie Loucks, an employee of the public utilities commission, had the task of painting the city's 79 metal lamp posts, using a none-too-steady 20-foot ladder. He said the height didn't bother him; only the thought that he might spill paint on some husky pedestrian.

OCEAN OUTPOST The French island of Martinique in the West Indies sends two senators and three deputies to the French parliament.

EUROPEAN PEAK Highest mountain in Europe west of the Caucasus is Mont Blanc in France, reaching 15,781 feet.



U.N. FILMS TV program for Latin American countries, first of a series entitled "United Nations Round Table." These are filmed on kinescope and will be presented on television stations of Mexico, Cuba and Argentina.

US Builds 'Rival' Atom Submarine Power Plants

By FRANK CAREY

WASHINGTON (AP)—The United States has two "rival" atomic submarine power plants under construction.

Theoretically, one could be smaller than its competitor while producing equal energy. It also could be more hazardous to operate, stopping just short of being a potential atomic bomb.

Arctic Pantries Of Army Signals Filled For Year

OTTAWA (CP)—The Army reports that its string of signal stations in the Arctic now has chicken dinners stored away and a lot more food besides.

This was one way of reporting that the job of provisioning the 15 stations of the Northwest Territories and Yukon radio system with rations to last until June, 1953, has been completed for another year, thanks to a combination of aircraft, trucks, trains, boats and barges which took the food as far as 2,000 miles.

The job was handled by the western army command and transport office and the service corps supply depot in Edmonton.

Cooks at stations in Aklayik, Fort Smith, Good Hope, Hay River, Norman, Norman Wells, Providence, Radium, Reliance, Simpson, Wrigley and Yellowknife in the Northwest Territories, McMurray and Chipewyan in northern Alberta, must order their groceries early in the year to get them before river navigation closes in the fall.

During May and June, 80 tons of food and supplies valued at \$28,000 were sent into the northern detachments to feed 164 men.

STARTED BY TRUCK From Edmonton, giant semi-trailer trucks, some refrigerated to carry perishables, sped north on the MacKenzie highway to Hay River on Great Slave Lake. Here the stores trans-shipped to river boats for the long haul up the MacKenzie River over the Arctic Circle to Aklayik.

More supplies were moved by rail to waterways on the Clearwater where they were packed again on to river boats for the trip down the Athabaska to Lake Athabaska and along the Slave River to Great Slave Lake.

Supplies must be specially packed at the Edmonton supply depot. In charge of the depot is 2nd Lieut. H. A. Anderson of Saskatoon, who with Sgt. B. G. MacKay of Ottawa, supervises packing and shipping.

"We pack most stores in wire-strapped trade cartons, stuffed with shredded paper and corrugated cardboard," explained Lieut. Anderson. "Glass jars are our chief headache. They have to be individually wrapped and padded. Anything that can be damaged by water, dry cereals, peas, beans, flour, tea and sugar has to be waterproofed by dipping their cartons in wax."

The chief shoppers are Lt.-Col. G. F. Stevenson of Hamilton, Ont. On his staff are Maj. C. B. M. Foster of New Glasgow, N.S., and Staff Sgt. H. T. Saunders of Calgary.

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Reflects and Reminisces

Children, so it is said, are losing faith in fairy tales. Perhaps it is because of fewer honest-to-God children.

ASK THEM! The CCF convention in Toronto urged war on poverty but declined to take from the resolution any move meaning restoration of military preparedness. Necessary though preparedness might be sometimes, it could not take the place of positive action to end poverty and exploitation. The debate was bitter. Wonder how they feel about accepting fifty years ago wage scale, with 1900 cost of living basis.

War's shadow again dims the Balkans. Broadcasts tell alarmist stories of trouble involving Greece and Bulgaria that might lead to Number Three. Long previous to forty years ago, and after, from the Balkans came endless tales no one in Canada heeded. Each was tiresome, and what was told never got anywhere. Mr. Canadian, if you're around 38 or 40, you'll remember 1914. That year did.

The happy employer is indicative of a satisfied employee and the latter is always the most efficient. Customers are very sensitive to this. Nothing may be said but the customer always leaves a store with some thoughts somewhere in the back of his head. His future patronage is largely determined.

SOMETHING FOR PERUSAL Copies of the 136 page St. Thomas Times-Journal are being received in Prince Rupert. It gives a lot more of the intimate history of Ontario than the average school ever hope to equal. It was, for example, at St. Thomas, a train hit and killed P. T. Barnum's monster circus elephant, Jumbo. This was prize publicity for St. Thomas. They talk about it yet.

The Social Credit government orders new doors for the British Columbia cabinet room, so that it will be impossible for anyone in the corridor to overhear a possibly important conversation. The job is quite unnecessary. In modern journalism, responsible correspondents are never found there!

SAME OLD SPORT Churchill is not eighty, but give him just a few more years! There are those who feel age should have nothing to do with government responsibility. Mr. Churchill lights a fresh cigar, and remarks that a prisoner of war is someone who has tried to kill you, and having failed in the attempt requests you not to kill him.

BUSY SUMMER MONTREAL (CP)—While McGill University professors and students are away for the summer, registrar T. H. Matthews stays on the job coping with hundreds of applications from prospective students in 50 countries. He hopes to get his vacation in November or January.

FAMOUS ROOM The court room of the Vintners' Hall in London was built in 1446 and survived the great fire of 1666.

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Wake up, Prince Rupert

We Need an Airfield

Can we secure a land airfield now? In this writer's opinion can be done but only by the realizing the utmost importance of this air field and the tremendous importance to Prince Rupert and pressing for it.

My thoughts on this matter are not new and have been pressed now for over two years. I have been taken to Vancouver-Sandspit-Whiteair service which bypasses Rupert should emphasize matter. This is only a beginning. We must wake up to reality.

Prince Rupert can and should be a big city in future years. Pioneers knew that. We have men of today must carry on. We cannot afford for the of our children to lose reality.

Dark Outlook For British Export Market  
LONDON (CP)—Growth of man and Japanese competition coupled with the danger of increased wages in British industry may price overseas markets, according to a report released by the treasury.

In 1948 exports from Germany and Japan were 13 per cent of British volume, but by 1951 they risen to 67 per cent. In the period the share of the exports enjoyed by the former enemy countries fell from two per cent to one per cent, while Britain's fell from 12 per cent to 10 per cent.

To keep our share rising further, says the "we must keep our prices competitive. The danger of it is that wage increases force up our prices and will be competitive no longer. This possibility, together other drastic cuts in import report adds, is even a

Many local citizens undoubtedly have had the advantage of travelling to the present day world business centres. The writer has not been off to London, Paris or Tokyo. On this side some of you have gone through air fields in San Francisco, Dallas or Miami. I have been fortunate in seeing Chicago, New York, Washington, Detroit, Montreal and Toronto air fields. I am not trying to compare cities such as these with Prince Rupert. However, it is only by seeing the huge air fields and tremendous traffic in cities of this size that one really appreciates the importance of the modern airplane in our present day living.

If you will refer to the front page of the Daily News of August 7, a feature article reads: "Union S.S. Can't Increase. Curtailing Considered." People would have to be blind if they did not realize that we are fast approaching the day that cities will depend on both air traffic and air freight. Both, steamships and trains must realize that this is inevitable. Prince Rupert will eventually have its land air field. It is bound to come but in this writer's opinion, by the time it comes we will have lost any chance of securing the flights that are now being planned and which are so important to a community such as ours.

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