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It Took a Long Time

ENTRANCE of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway into Prince George is now official and that city stands on the threshold of a bright new era.

Completion of the line is the happy outcome of a struggle that dates so far back and brought so many disappointments that the driving of the last spike comes almost as an anti-climax. There are, in fact, many old-timers who regard it with indifference. Having seen Prince George grow and prosper without the help of the PGE, they are inclined to feel that the railway has arrived almost as a fair-weather friend.

Those who were there 32 years ago, for example, read these various items in the Prince George Citizen:

"We have some assurance of welcoming the completed line to Vancouver next year."

"When the PGE reaches Prince George next year we should plan a celebration unparalleled in the history of our city."

"Welch contracting crews are now working only 12 miles south of Quesnel."

"Harry Perry has gone to Victoria to press for a speeding up in PGE construction to Prince George."

Anti-climax though it may be, the joining of the PGE to Prince George is even more important now than it was then. The railway has been carrying heavy traffic in spite of its incomplete state, and Prince George will now get its much deserved share.

We congratulate our neighbors to the east on its arrival into fresh prosperity.

Where Credit is Due

BEFORE Hallowe'en 1952 recedes too far back into history, a word of tribute is in order for those who made it a success.

Although the cooperation of every individual is, in the final analysis, the indispensable ingredient in keeping a celebration of this sort under control, there has to be some central plan for eliminating disorganized capers in favor of a main attraction which all can enjoy.

Such a plan was provided by the Kinsmen Club, and to that group must go special credit for a Hallowe'en that will go on the records as safe, sane and a lot of fun.

Thanks must also go to the police for their protective watch on activities. Although their presence was felt sufficiently to check any ill-advised notions, their duties were carried out in such a way that the buoyancy of the evening was in no way dampened. By being ready in force to handle any alarm, the fire department also made its valuable contribution to the security of the city.

For all those who helped, the success of the evening must be an agreeable reward.

Our Future Underground

THE UNITED STATES should take a lesson from Canada in promoting mining development, according to the Ketchikan Alaska Chronicle which observes that this country is bringing back mining as an important part of its economy.

"Not only do the Canadians provide grubstake money, a premium price for gold produced in new mines and some tax concessions, but there are in most of the provinces additional benefits," the paper remarks. "Free classes in geology and prospecting are offered. In Saskatchewan they are shown how to use technical equipment so they can look for uranium. They are flown free of charge to the prospecting areas. The province loans them tents, canoes and maps. At 30-day intervals a government plane flies in supplies and picks up ore samples for assaying."

There is every reason that Canada should do its utmost to attract exploration of its mineral resources. In a very literal sense, its future lies underground and its mining prospects are, perhaps more than any other single factor, the cause of its present rapid development. Due to the encouragement being offered to prospectors, 2000 new claims were staked last year. This year the figure is expected to reach 3000.

If its manufacturing processes and its population can catch up to its output of raw material, Canada will be well on its way to an economy which could be the wonder of the 20th century.

As I See It



by
Elmore
Philpott

Picks Stevenson

A WIT once wrote that a columnist gets paid for explaining to readers why things did not turn out the way he said they would last week.

Sir John A. Macdonald, our most astute Canadian politician, said: "You can never tell how a horse race or an election will turn out." But long experience has taught me that readers want a writer on public affairs to give his guess on forthcoming events—above all of elections. Many want this to have the laugh on the writer, if and when he is wrong—as he inevitably often is.

So, notwithstanding that I was so long since taught to be cautious at this game of political prediction, I hereby go out on the old limb again:

One week before the 1952 presidential contest I predict that Governor Stevenson will be elected, and by a margin of most impressive proportions.

MY CHIEF reason for figuring that Governor Stevenson will beat even the well loved General Eisenhower is because the United States is now divided on class lines, as never before in its history. It would be silly to say that the Democrats are the working class party of the United States and the Republicans are the party of property and privilege. Nothing in U.S. politics is neat and tidy.

But broadly speaking, the employee who works in overalls, or even white collar, is more likely to figure that his interests are better looked after by the Democrats than by the Republicans; and the very reverse is true of most of the employers. Moreover, the bigger and richer the employer, and the further away he is from the actual people who work with their hands, the more certain he is to be a Republican.

The mathematical fact is that the wage earners and suchlike considerably outnumber the others; and this is the most fundamental of all facts in U.S. politics since the invisible Roosevelt revolution deepened the lines of economic division.

ABOVE ALL, I figure Stevenson will win because the great mass of the people associate the Republican party with the Great Depression—just as they associate Roosevelt with the brave, clumsy attempts to end it. I would bet that the same fact applies in Canada.

Take any group of 10 or 20 people and play the game the professors call the "word association test." The professor reads out single words and the people playing the game must immediately write the first thing that comes into their heads.

If you played that game in Canada and called out "R. B. Bennett" a good many people would write down "depression" or "unemployment" or something else connected with the tragic thirties. That is even more true in the U.S.A. where working people, perhaps unfairly but naturally, associate the name of Hoover with the great stock market crash and what followed.

IN SPITE of General Eisenhower's deserved, immense personal popularity, he seems to me to have lost ground steadily in his actual campaign. To win he had to carry the independent vote—the floaters in between the two parties. The best proof that he did not do that is the open defection of the lifelong liberal Republican Senator Wayne Morse of Oregon. Also, the fact that the notorious Senator Joe McCarthy highlighted the final week of the Republican campaign—and did that in a silly speech which exploded like a damp, smelly squib—seems to me to point to the decline and defeat of the genial Ike.

CNR Profits

MONTREAL—Operating revenues for the Canadian National System, all inclusive, for the month of September, 1952, amounted to \$57,590,000.

Operating expenses were \$50,711,000 and the net operating revenue was \$6,879,000.

In September, 1951, revenues were \$52,937,000; expenses \$49,013,000 and the net operating revenue was \$3,919,000.

These figures are the operating revenues and expenses only, and they do not include taxes, equipment rentals, fixed charges,



SIGN TAX AGREEMENT—Finance Minister Abbott (right) looks on while Premier Frost of Ontario signs a five-year tax agreement between the federal and Ontario governments. For leasing his personal income and corporation tax fields to Ottawa, Ontario will get annual payments which in the 1952-53 fiscal year, will total \$117,000,000. All provinces but Quebec now have signed a tax agreement with the federal government. (CP PHOTO)

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Sky-High Food Prices Jump Living Costs in Northland

WHITEHORSE, Y.T. (CP)—Upset about high prices? Try these Yukon ones for size.

A housewife in Dawson City or Mayo pays about 50 per cent more for groceries than her counterpart on the "outside." In Whitehorse, she pays about a third more.

The average family of four in Dawson pays upward of \$150 a month for groceries and in Whitehorse upwards of \$100.

Wood, the basic fuel of the Territory, costs about \$30 a cord in Dawson and around \$19 here. It is not hard to burn two cords a month during a Yukon winter. Oil, common in kitchens, costs 39 cents a gallon here and considerably more in Dawson.

Transportation costs are, of course, the chief reason for the high prices. Most of the Territory's food is imported from Vancouver or Seattle, with some coming from Edmonton.

Food from Vancouver and Seattle is shipped by plane or boat to Juneau, Alaska, and thence by train to Whitehorse. During the winter, most perishable foods are shipped here direct by air.

Dawson, Mayo and other towns north of here get food by river boat or road in summer and by road alone in winter.

	Whitehorse	Dawson
Coffee, lb.	\$1.23 to \$1.30	\$1.40
Tea	\$1.25 to \$1.30	\$1.45
Milk, can	22	25
Soups, can	20	23
Salmon, 1 lb. tin	\$1.17	\$1.30
Sugar	17	18
Butter	80	95
Powder Soap	50	55
Flour, 50 lb.	\$5.50	\$6.50
Fresh vegetables (winter or "air" prices):		
Celery, lb.	35	90
Lettuce	40	55
Tomatoes	45	75
Meats: per pound:		
Sirloin roast	\$1.05	\$1.30
Rump roast	95	110
Sirloin steak	\$1.05	\$1.40
Chicken	105	95
Fowl	70	70

LETTERBOX

THIS COULD HAVE BEEN SERIOUS

Editor, Daily News:

Here is an incident of Hallowe'en night which was not reported, but should be because it may have been fatal. It may have killed not only one, but two people. It was laughed at, but was no laughing matter.

A young lady planted a rocket in a crack in the sidewalk, lit it and ran about 40 feet from the lit rocket. Reaching a spot where she thought it was safe, she turned around to see what was happening. She fell down and passed out.

When she came to, she asked her husband what had happened. Oh, nothing, her husband told her, "just a punch from your funny rocket." The woman had been "out" for a few minutes.

That rocket, some way or other swerved downwards and hit the woman on the shoulder, glanced upwards and hit her on the chin.

This result of a foolish prank might well have been more serious. The rockets should not be allowed to be sold. It's all right to have a night of fun, but not with such powerful weapons. This incident happened in the 1400-block, Eighth Avenue East, Hallowe'en night.

AGAINST ROCKETS.

RESPONSIBILITY OF EPIDEMICS

Editor, The Daily News:

I don't know the source of your information concerning the scarlet fever epidemic in the Topley-Perow district, but I hope you will publish corrections in your paper.

For one thing, the "unofficial" report you mention as to the cause of Mrs. MacLeod's death came from none other than Dr. Holmes of Burns Lake. Dr. Holmes was called out and diagnosed her case as scarlet fever.

For another thing, local residents are not taking "patent medicines" as per your report. Those who are taking any treatment at all are doing so by Dr. Holmes' prescription.

If no action was taken to check this epidemic at the outset, it was because of no fault of local residents. The very first cases were suspected to be scarlet fever by local mothers.

Parents and teachers were by now much concerned. They phoned doctors at Burns Lake and Smithers. No doctor was

prepared to assume the expense of coming out to take necessary steps in diagnosing and checking the epidemic, nor did any individual family feel it was their responsibility to assume this expense in behalf of the district.

After some cases were taken to hospital suffering relapse, and after Mrs. MacLeod of Topley died, some action began to be taken.

Some parents went to Dr. Holmes in search of some help or information that might help prevent others from taking the disease. He prescribed treatment, and so far it appears to be alleviating the trouble for those concerned.

If some parents wonder what taxpayers are maintaining a Health Unit for, they can hardly be blamed under these circumstances. And if some felt a little perturbed at your recent article, they shouldn't be blamed for that either.

It would be interesting if someone would tell us just what responsibility rests with doctors and health officials in a case such as the one we have been experiencing here.

RITA JOHNSON,
Perow, B.C.

Announcing

We wish to announce that our daily sales slips have been checked and the average daily sales during October computed by A. P. Gardner & Co. and we find

OCTOBER 24th
as our free day.

Bring in all sales slips
for October 24th for
refund.

Bulgers

Ray Reflects and Reminisces

NOW FOR THE NEW FUTURE

Congratulations to Prince George, Cariboo and that part of the province generally. The railway link has become an official fact, after forty years. How things will look forty years hence, is something else again.

Sky rockets, bombs and explosives of every description—some necessary, but many totally needless and highly dangerous—continue to increase.

One never associates Hallowe'en with sudden and violent death. How little did Mrs. George Poppin of Vancouver ever dream of it!

A wet, chill Sunday morning in November does not lure the average man to rise and shine—even if the sun won't. It was like this yesterday. Breakfast in bed came as a happy idea, but impossible under the circumstances. Solitary bliss, now and then.

Veep Candidates Get Unusual Play in 1952 Election Race

By JOHN TRACY

Canadian Press Staff Writer

NEW YORK (CP)—The vice-president of the United States often is ignored in practical politics but each vice-presidential candidate in the 1952 election campaign has taken a big share of public attention.

The vice-president has been described as only a heartbeat from the presidency because seven vice-presidents have reached the White House through the death of the President.

But the vice-president as such has little to do. The U.S. constitution outlines his duties in 23 words: "The vice-president of the United States shall be president of the Senate, but shall have no vote, unless they be equally divided."

Selection of a vice-presidential candidate often is done in cavalier fashion and last July both Richard M. Nixon, the Republican candidate, and John J. Sparkman, Democratic nominee, were chosen in huddles hastily convened after their running mates were named.

Nevertheless, Nixon for a time became an issue in the campaign when details of his \$18,000 expense fund were leaked. Sparkman attained more prominence than a vice-presidential candidate usually gets over the issue of "white supremacy."

Nixon became the centre of a national uproar when it was disclosed that more than 70 wealthy Californians had contributed to an expense fund for his use as a senator. His televised report on his financial

status was broadcast to millions. The ethics of his acceptance of the fund still is a subject of partisan controversy.

The fuss over Sparkman did not reach such proportions but drew attention in northeastern cities with large Negro populations. Governor Thomas E. Dewey of New York, supporting the Republican ticket, displayed on a television broadcast a ballot from Democrat-dominated Alabama bearing the words "White supremacy—for the right."

The implication was that Sparkman, from Alabama, was a supporter of white supremacy and a foe of equal civil rights for Negroes. The furor died down after it was explained that the "white supremacy" label had been on the Alabama ballot since the reconstruction days after the Civil War.

Sparkman and Nixon, both lawyers, each have had one six-year term in the Senate. Nixon, 39, was elected to the Senate in 1946 when he was demobilized from the Navy.

Sparkman, 52, started his political career 16 years ago when he was elected to the House of Representatives. He was elected to the Senate in 1946 and his record has been one of support for Democratic policies, except on a compulsory civil-rights bill.

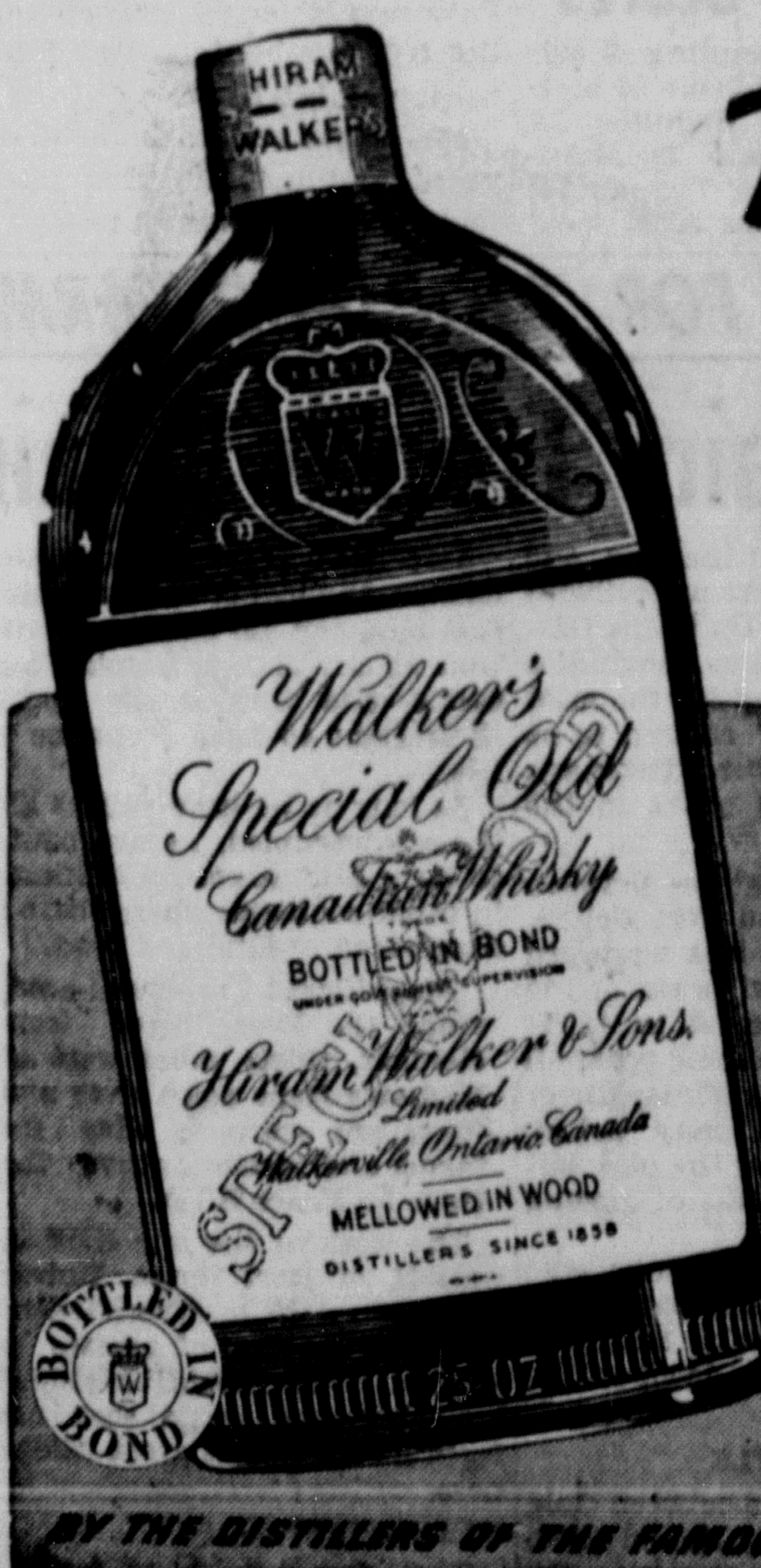
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ONE BY ONE

Feast, and your hall
crowned:
Fast and the world
Succeed and give and
you live
But no man can keep
There is room in the
pleasure
For a large and lovely
But one by one we
file on
Through the narrow
pain.

—Ella Wheeler

MAY A FAIR MOUTH

The leader of the Pro
Conservatives, Mr. Drew
ling to British Columbia
is described as "a real"
words, it need not be
should Canada have a
election next spring
about.

Man Mau terrorism
remains far from over
with nearly four thousand
rests and greatly widens
action. There's plenty
in which to make trouble,
being about three times
of Canada.

The world is stirring
says an astrologer, A
Chatham (Ont.) News
that more magistrates
persuade more driven to
the example.

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