

Independent daily newspaper devoted to the upbuilding of Prince Rupert and Northern and Central British Columbia.
Member of Canadian Press—Audit Bureau of Circulations
Canadian Daily Newspaper Association.
Published by The Prince Rupert Daily News Limited
J. F. MAGOR, President H. G. PERRY, Vice-President

Subscription Rates:
By carrier—1-yr. \$10.00; 6 mos. \$6.00; 3 mos. \$3.00; per month \$1.00; per year, \$10.00
By mail—Per month, 75c; per year, \$8.00.
Authorized as second class mail by the Post Office Department, Ottawa.

Our Own Flag

SINCE Canada has piece by piece been taking down the rigging which made it a part of the British Empire, it is illogical that we are still unable to boast a Canadian flag.

There is much to be said in favor of being independent as a nation without severing the bonds of loyalty which join us to Britain. We are old enough and big enough now to decide our own course in domestic and world affairs. In fact, this independence involves a responsibility which should further hasten our maturity.

But if our independence is acknowledged only by dry statutes in a book, it is unlikely ever to seem very real or inspirational. Something a great deal more obvious and dramatic is needed. The Frenchman singing "La Marseillaise" never wonders if he has a country of his own; nor does the American cheering the Stars and Stripes; nor does the Briton watching the Queen go by.

Elizabeth is our queen, too, and held in great affection. But most of the time she is very far away and meanwhile we have no national symbols which we can quickly recognize as our own. By song we divide our allegiance between "God Save the Queen" and "O Canada," and further reduce the effect by struggling between two versions of the latter. The Union Jack is our flag but an ensign often can be substituted without causing much disturbance.

If it is confusing to us, it is even worse to those outside. As a result, we usually advertise ourselves abroad by a picture of a Mountie which, if anyone starts to think about it, suggests that Canada is best known for its police activities.

While composition of a new national anthem is fraught with danger, the design of an original flag should not be difficult. Some experiments have been made and have been shouted down, but the effort should continue. The unity that would come after the flag is accepted would be worth all the differences that went before.

A Scientific Fisherman Today

WHEN a fishing vessel gets into trouble off the coast, it is not generally realized what a large investment may be at stake. Besides being in danger of losing his boat and therefore his means of livelihood, the fisherman often stands to lose a supply of scientific equipment which would surprise those who believe that successful fishing is still all a matter of luck.

It is figured that a brand new little gill-netter, normally requiring only one man to operate, will cost up to \$11,000 if all the modern devices for navigation and fishing are included. Of this amount, nearly \$4,000 may be spent on special equipment.

One of the devices which has come into use is the echo-sounder. With this instrument the fisherman is able not only to find fish schools but to determine their size, the direction of their movement and often even the type of fish in them. It also helps to locate the natural habitat of the fish sought and the depth at which to set the gear effectively.

Another device is the echo-ranging equipment by which it is possible to follow herring schools off-shore in areas previously unexplored.

By use of such instruments the fleets can locate and stow away catches, and follow up by informing shore plants of the extent of their catch by radio-telephone. This instrument not only makes it possible for the marine superintendent to deploy vessels to best advantage but enables fishermen to keep in touch with one another. By this means they can also advise shore plants if more boats are needed and can keep them informed of the size of their catch.

It is estimated that today approximately one-third of the fleet of 7,000 gill-net boats are equipped with radio-telephone, and many have echo-sounders and automatic pilots.

As the efficiency and value of the equipment increase so, no doubt, will the care with which fishermen protect their craft.

Scripture Passage for Today

"My sheep . . . shall never perish."—St. John 10:27 and 28.

HISTORIC MILL

BOURN, England (CP)—Bourn mill, oldest post windmill in England, dating from 1620, has been scheduled as an ancient monument for preservation.

RECORD OIL OUTPUT

SASKATOON (CP)—Saskatchewan's oil production of 1,215,511 barrels for the first nine months of the year was more than the output for all of 1950.

As I See It



by
Philpott
Elmore

George Drew Told Truth

FOLLOWING my flashback article on the Conservative leader, a reader sent me a copy of the smashing attack George Drew made on the war-makers in 1931.

It is titled SALESMEN OF DEATH—The Truth About War Makers. It appeared first in Maclean's for August 1, 1931, and was reprinted in booklet form.

The front cover note says it is "a plain spoken denunciation of the armament industry which makes wars to make money . . . This Frankenstein monster will be smashed or it will smash civilization."

GEORGE DREW showed how a professional lobbyist, Dr. William B. Shearer, had earned \$51,230 from the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Co. "for sowing seeds of hatred and distrust in the minds of the (disarmament) delegates from the U.S. and Great Britain and he claimed (in court) a further \$255,655 as a reward to a good and faithful servant whose labors had helped to reap the harvest of huge orders for battleships which had been imperilled by the possible success of the conference."

Mr. Drew touched on the sinister mystery man, Greek-born Sir Basil Zaharoff, and showed how such like had been behind every war of the preceding half century.

BUT George Drew's greatest service was in showing how directly Canada was involved. He wrote:

Several years before the (1914) war, when Sir Frederick Borden, then Minister of Militia in the Laurier government, and Hon. Louis Philippe Brodeur, who was later Minister of Naval Affairs, were in London, they were lavishly entertained by officials of Vickers Limited. At dinner in the Carlton Hotel one night Mr. Brodeur was astonished at a remark made by their host who had been complaining bitterly of Premier Campbell-Bannerman's attitude toward disarmament.

"Business is bad," he said. "How could it be otherwise with a man like Campbell-Bannerman in office? Why, we haven't had a war for seven years."

He made a similar comment later to Sir Frederick Borden and two of his colleagues in the cabinet, both of whom are still living, saying that the government were a hopeless lot, and that the Empire was going to the dogs as there had been no war for several years and there was not even one small one in prospect. These conversations made a profound impression on Sir Wilfrid Laurier, to whom they were later repeated.

CANADA and other free nations are today compelled to spend an appalling amount on self-defence. Given the actual situation, there is no escape, without risking outright disaster. We have to stand firm for the crude measure of world law and order we have achieved. We must press ahead for more effective UN peace organization.

But if we want to know how our world got this way, let us ponder not only the Red threat but what George Drew wrote in 1931.

More Trouble Brewing With Freedom Sons

CRESTON, B.C. (P)—Explosions in the hills and a meeting of angry Creston townfolk brought fresh reminders during the week-end of British Columbia's long-standing Doukhobor problem.

Restrictions on renting or selling Creston-district land to Sons of Freedom Doukhobors was advocated at the meeting, called to discuss a series of mysterious fires which have flared in recent months.

Explosions were reported by RCMP at Nelson, 50 miles away. They reported dynamiting of three power poles, one of them only three miles from Nelson, and were working on a theory that terrorists were responsible.

YOUNG NIGHT OWLS

TIMMINS, Ont. (CP)—Police have been warning boys and girls found on the streets after the nightly curfew at 9 o'clock.



CHIEF JUSTICE — William Bridges Scott, 64, QC, has been appointed associate chief justice of the province of Quebec Superior Court. He was head of a prominent Montreal law firm and active in legal, municipal, industrial and educational circles. He was for many years an alderman in Montreal's suburban Westmount and a batonnier of the Montreal bar.

OTTAWA DIARY

By Norman M. MacLeod

When a person takes on the glamorous but difficult and many-sided task of being Prime Minister of this country, he literally never knows what he may find himself doing.

If Rt. Hon. Louis St. Laurent hadn't already discovered this truth on sufficient previous occasions to inure himself against surprise, he would have learned it the other day at Rockcliffe airport here when he took off for the Prime Ministers' meeting in London.

Only a handful of spectators was on hand to see the Prime Minister and Finance Minister Douglas Abbott off. Mr. St. Laurent singled out a couple of newspaper correspondents who were amongst the group. He told them he knew how busy they were with the parliamentary session in progress, and that he appreciated their courtesy in being present.

"But, Mr. Prime Minister, you are going to make a short speech here before you take off," one of the newsmen pointed out, just to indicate to the PM that he and his colleague were present simply in the normal line of duty.

Mr. St. Laurent looked a trifle puzzled at the newsmen's remark. But he was both very positive and unhesitating in his reply.

"No," he said. "I am not. I am not making any speech here."

Just then a representative of the National Film Board arrived with a motion picture camera. Another representative of the CBC quickly connected up a portable microphone. And one of the Prime Minister's secret staff thrust a document into Mr. St. Laurent's hand with the perfunctory explanation:

"Here, sir, is the speech that you are to read for the newsreel cameraman."

The Prime Minister said nothing to the two newsmen. He didn't even look his embarrassment. The situation was too common to even call for any embarrassment. He just moved over to the microphone and read the speech.

Frank Lennard (PC, Wentworth) was one of several of Parliament's politicians who took a busman's holiday during the United States election campaign by motoring down and attending a number of the Eisenhower-Stevenson meetings.

He was impressed by the gusto which the United States people impart to their democratic processes and by their intolerance of any inhibitions which might interfere with getting their point across.

He reports he was intrigued particularly by a streamer which spread itself across the top of the platform at one Eisenhower meeting. In letters three feet tall, it proclaimed:

"Voting for Stevenson after Truman is like leaving a soiled diaper on a baby and just changing the safety pin."

LATEST REPORT

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HERE

... and NOW

By LARRY STANWOOD

Let the manager-council plan of civic government idea simmer another few days. Many have taken note of its reference in this column in the past weeks, but nothing can be done about adopting such a plan for a while yet.

First, a bylaw must be demanded by five per cent of city voters—and that should be easy, from all reports.

Secondly, the bylaw which will call for a change to the manager-council plan of civic government must be passed by the taxpayers. It is too late now to present such a bylaw at the Dec. 11 elections. But there's next year to think about.

Meanwhile, all candidates for the posts of aldermen (four to be elected) will be asked what they think of council-managership. Their answers will be reported in this column Saturday.

A lady writer wonders if ever anything will or can be done about providing an alley on the south side of Third Avenue.

The parking problem prompted this query, she says. Recently, she has had serious trouble in getting to park anywhere near her home which is in one of the apartment blocks situated on the south side of the street.

There is a problem, no doubt. But there doesn't seem very much that can be done to remedy it—at least not by creating an alley through a solid wall of hard rock. Short sightedness or lack of town planning must answer for this dilemma.

The lady in question is not the only one in such circumstances, nor is Third Avenue the only street without an alley. Matter of fact, there is a decided dearth of alleys throughout the city, which bears evidence in the number of garbage cans placed in front of residences where they are subject more easily to the ravages of the underfed canine, of which there is little dearth in Prince Rupert.

This column is inclined to agree with outdoor writer Eric Martin on many of his points brought forward in debunking the great cry and how raised about flooding Tweedsmuir Park.

While, certainly, something has to be sacrificed where any gain is made, perhaps some of the accusations against the method of developing one of the biggest storehouses of hydro-electric power in the world, have been prompted more by desire for publicity than by good common sense.

From one thing, however, we should not be shaken: Parks are parks and wherever and whenever our parks lie in jeopardy through the inroads of industry, the people of the province should have a say whether or not we should let the parks go.

Not only that, but the people should be thoroughly acquainted with what is taking place in such negotiations; what is the ultimate result and effect on the future of industry, compared to loss of natural resources.

A good example in point is the proposed Aluminum Company of America development in the Alaska panhandle and the B.C. water right that must go with it. While this area is not parkland, it's still B.C. watershed. Canadians as a whole and B.C. residents in particular will want to know what the score is from every angle.

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HOUSING

Application forms are available from the City Clerk and the undersigned and should be completed and returned before 5 p.m., Friday, December 12th.

All applications received will be considered and preference will be given to larger families now living in sub-standard accommodation.

E. V. WHITING,
Secretary-Manager,
Prince Rupert Housing Authority,
Room 25, Besner Block.

Ray Reflects and Reminisces

A British Columbia girl recently reported she had lost her beautiful mink coat for the second time. Wonder if the mink knows this. He lost it only once.

The only males we know who know how to handle women are still in the cradle, comments the Brandon Sun.

Once mail delivery becomes effective in Prince Rupert, the use of post office boxes will cease. But there will still be a number of persons who stand in line to inquire "anything for . . . ?"

FASHION NOTE: The difference between a new \$7.50 men's shirt and a new \$5. men's shirt is four pins.—Province.

Frank H. Leale of Niagara Falls is an old newspaper man, and you can't make him or his partner think they were better off fifty years ago. Circulation hand press rattled it off, no one worked fewer than ten hours, and no one ever thought of overtime, or overtime pay. But board only cost \$11. per month.

Popcorn manufacturers are reported to be experimenting with various flavors, including garlic. Why not just popcorn?

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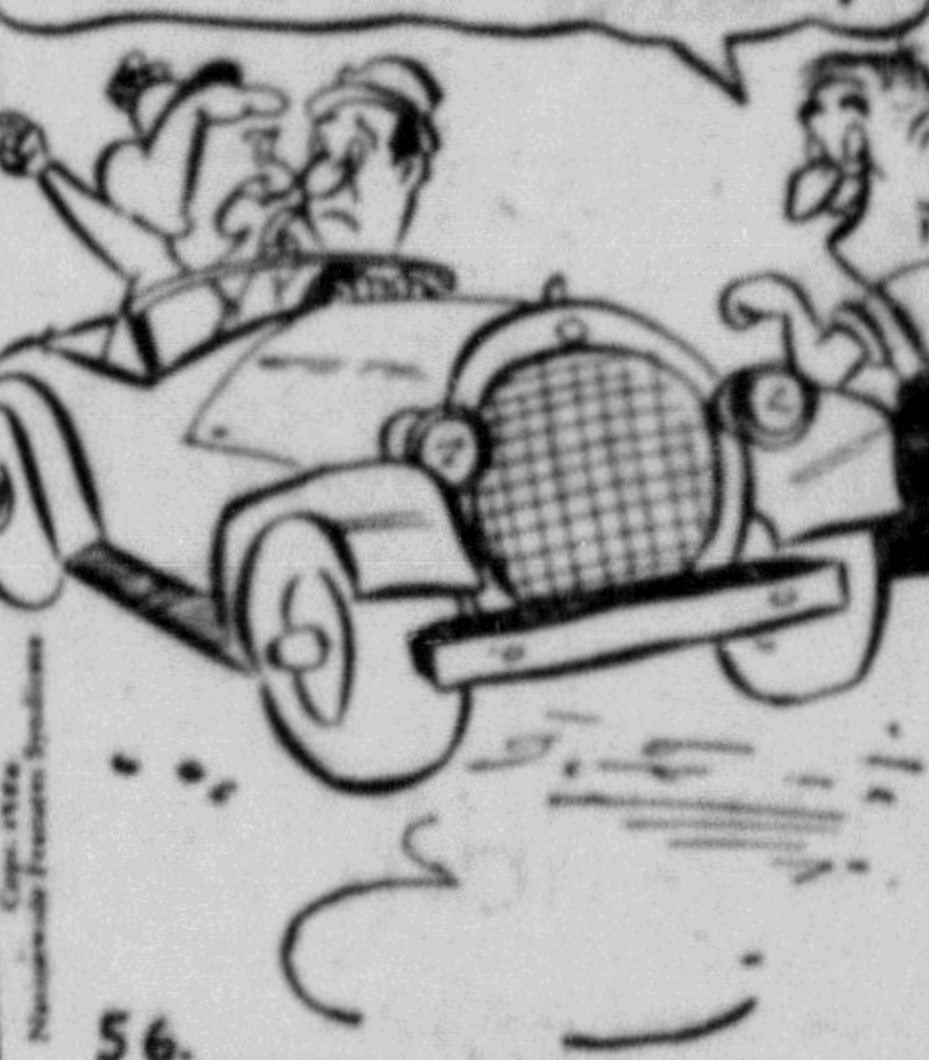
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CANADA IS ON THRESHOLD OF VAST ADVANCE, SAYS B of M PRESIDENT

B. C. Gardner Sees Voluntary Savings As "Seed Corn of Industrial Growth"

GORDON BALL, GENERAL MANAGER, REPORTS RECORD B of M ASSETS, DEPOSITS, LOANS—REVIEWS GENERAL BUSINESS CONDITIONS

MONTREAL, Dec. 1—Affirming that Canada stands "on the threshold of vast industrial advance," B. C. Gardner, president of the Bank of Montreal, today emphasized four factors of "fundamental importance to their country's future well-being," in his address to the B of M 135th annual general meeting. These covered Canada's continued dependence on foreign markets, the recognition of productivity as the key to progress, the role which saving played in a dynamic economy, and the growing function of government in the economic and social order.

Gordon R. Ball, general manager, presented the bank's 135th annual statement, reporting record total assets of \$2,286 millions and record deposits standing at \$2,148 millions. These compared with assets of \$2,221 millions and deposits at \$2,085 millions at the 1951 year-end. Total current loans, another new high, were \$663 millions, an increase of \$45 millions. Dominion and provincial taxes were \$5,918,000, and net earnings amounted to \$5,668,778, of which \$4,500,000 was paid out in dividends at the rate of \$1.95 per share. An addition of \$2 million was transferred from the profit-and-loss account to the reserve fund, now standing at \$53 millions.

Need Remains for Markets Abroad

The B of M president noted that "our impressive industrial expansion has as yet done little to render us less dependent on export trade," and that much of the new industrial capacity being established in Canada today is for the "large-scale production of materials that will have to find external markets if the enterprises are to prosper."

"The course of business in the United States, and its influence on that country's demand for the bulk of Canadian products, are of greater direct concern to us than ever before," Mr. Gardner added. "We also have a vital and continuing interest in the recovery of the dollar purchasing power of the Commonwealth and of other overseas countries."

Another facet of the same problem, Mr. Gardner stated, was that "Canada can ill afford the competitive disadvantage that would result if the domestic level of prices should rise faster than corresponding prices in other major countries."

Actual Output Grows Slowly

Great as Canada's material progress has been, Mr. Gardner said, "the over-all gain in output that can be achieved from one year to another is relatively limited." It was, in fact, only about one and a half per cent per annum for the average Canadian.

"Yet it is out of this relatively modest annual gain in productivity," he said, "that all desire for enhanced living standards, for greater social security, and all the growing requirements of the community for defence, capital expansion and increased governmental services must be met, if they are to be met."

There was a real danger, Mr. Gardner maintained, that, in the competitive jostling of various groups and interests, "too much may be demanded too quickly," resulting only in a reduction of "the quantity of goods a dollar bill will buy."

Profits Have Role as Savings

The president next discussed the vast capital requirements of an expanding economy, and their tendency to "run ahead of new savings provided voluntarily by the Canadian community." He said that, normally, the largest single constituents of voluntary saving was money ploughed back into industry itself through the use, for corporate purpose, of undistributed profits and depreciation reserves. "Such retained funds are, therefore, the seed corn of industrial growth. Far from being anti-social, they are a social necessity."

Turning to the role that should be assigned government in the social and economic order, Mr. Gardner observed that "the demands of the community for civilian services provided by government seem to grow from year to year," and there seems to be an increasing tendency to run to government for protection against the "ordinary hazards of day-to-day business." But "the services provided by government must be paid for out of the pockets of private citizens," and "increasing governmental cost can be a retarding influence on Canadian progress."

General Manager's Address Mr. Ball stated that, again this year, the "board of national economic activity" would probably show new high records for output, employment and income, but the "margin of gain will be relatively small."

Consumers, he said, had recently been spending more freely, especially on durable items, but "selling has been 'off the shelf,' bringing inventories down to more conservative levels." Reflecting this drawing down of stocks, manufacturing output in physical quantity has been running somewhat below last year.

Livestock and meat prices were still adversely affected by the U.S. embargo, Mr. Ball noted, but Canada's greater wheat crop had been safely harvested. Canadian defence spending and U.S. military orders in Canada were growing, along with private capital expenditures.

Referring to the exceptional strength of the dollar in the last year, the general manager said it reflected "both the favorable situation of the Canadian economy in the present time and also, through external investment, an optimistic appraisal, by outside observers, of the country's future prospects."

Advocates Free Sterling Rate

Mr. Ball commented that Canada's abandonment of a fixed exchange rate had resulted in a less speculative, more soundly based inflow of capital for long-term investment. He also noted that, within 15 months after the exchange rate was freed, Canadian exchange control was completely abandoned. These lessons, he thought, might in some measure apply elsewhere.

In the case of Sterling, Mr. Ball pointed out that "the defence of a fixed rate seems to be one of the influences contributing to recurrent drains on exchange reserves and to continued dependence on restrictions and controls."

These controls were becoming more difficult to apply effectively. The advent of full convertibility and elimination of exchange controls might be "greatly hastened" if the Sterling exchange rate were first to see to find "a realistic level determined by market forces." Mr. Ball concluded his address with an expression of thanks "to those 10,000 people who, in their various capacities, are serving the bank so faithfully and so well." "I am confident," he added, "that our staff, in addition to doing their work efficiently, are building for the bank through courtesy and cheerfulness, an enormously valuable fund of goodwill."