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Land of the Future

ALTHOUGH the Canadian north is hailed as the land of the future, Canadians themselves are not doing much to contribute to this destiny. As it stands now, the northern two-thirds of Canada have less than 100,000 people. The country, in fact, has no city of more than 50,000 north of Edmonton, whereas Russia has at least 50, including Moscow.

The remedy seems to lie in making Canadians better acquainted with conditions in the north. An example is found in the common conception of the little-known country lying between Hudson Bay and the Mackenzie River. Far from being barren as is generally supposed, this territory contains almost limitless stretches of arable land which is seasonally covered with a healthy growth of vegetation.

Inhabitants of the fertile Hay Valley, approximately 1,000 miles north of our main cities, are able to vouch that they enjoy approximately 40 more hours of sunshine per year than their southern countrymen, and that their average summer temperature is only about 10 degrees lower. Explorers north of the arctic circle have often found themselves sweltering in more than 90 degrees.

The opportunities awaiting pioneers in the north are numberless. In the Peace River Valley of Alberta it is estimated that two and a half million acres are awaiting settlement. In the Yukon there is another half-million acres of good farm land, and northern B.C. has another million acres—all available as crown land for a few cents an acre.

Development of fur and timber industries in this area has been hardly touched. Mining experts also maintain that there are rich deposits of copper, zinc, silver, gold and tin in a territory which has scarcely been mapped, let alone prospected.

Although the northern oil industry is enjoying spectacular prosperity, it is estimated that north of the 60th parallel there is a half-million square miles of Canadian land favorable to oil deposits which are virtually unexplored.

Prospects such as these throw a flickering light on the cautious predictions that Canada will gain 20 million or so in population by the turn of the century. The predictions may be accurate enough, but surely we are capable of prompting our country to an extent whereby that figure would be multiplied by at least five times.

Health Leagues Everywhere

THE HEALTH LEAGUE OF CANADA is a unique organization.

Recently the World Health Organization announced that citizens committees to promote health will be formed in the various countries associated with WHO to assist in creating public opinion. The WHO through its director, Dr. Gordon Bates, has stated that the Health League of Canada is really the kind of organization needed and has invited the Health League to become the voluntary body representing World Health Organization in this country.

The Health League of Canada is of value because it is a voluntary body and voluntary associations are essential in all continuing democracies if we are to escape the dreaded totalitarianism. Similarly the Health League of Canada represents no special interest.

On its general council there are more than 60 nationally organized societies represented—medical and lay. This is a recognition of the fact that health is not only the business of the doctor and the health official but everybody's business.

Laws for the promotion of health may be suggested by the doctor or the scientist but the force of public opinion is needed before they can get on the statute books. We need look no farther than the fact that in Canada there are still eight provinces which lack province-wide compulsory pasteurization of milk. Every doctor knows that we should have such laws.

Unfortunately, to date public opinion (the opinion of the average citizen) has only been sufficiently organized in two provinces to result in government action.

The Health League of Canada should be made as efficient as possible in Canada and every effort should be made to create similar leagues in other countries.

THE LETTERBOX

Editor,
The Daily News.

There are a few odds and ends I wish to straighten out before we reach the New Year.

First, I wish to congratulate the successful candidates who have won seats on the City Council, School Board and Parks Board.

Each has a public duty to perform, and to them I wish every success.

It is also refreshing to note Mayor Whalen has no intention of deserting the ship at the end of 1953 unless by request at the polls.

I also wish to express regret that Alderman Prusky was unsuccessful in his effort to retain his seat as I consider he gave good service while in office. It confirms the old saying that uncertainty is the head that wears a crown.

I also wish to deal briefly with this subversive question raised by the Mayor and intimated by a Mr. Steigler in Friday's issue of the Daily News, as I am in absolute agreement with the written words of Dr. Johnson, the English philosopher, who many years ago wrote that an appeal to patriotism is the last resort of a scoundrel.

Again I associate myself with the sentiment expressed in a statement by the Prime Minister of Canada, Mr. St. Laurent, who said he has no desire to be Prime Minister of a country that decries it a crime to think.

Therefore he who labors in search of a fact should not be crimed for divulging the result of his labor. There is nothing sinister or criminal in open discussion on matters affecting the lives of people, a right handed down by British law and tradition. And I for one intend to make use of it despite the objection raised by the Mayor and his new-found friend, Mr. Steigler.

I also wish to point out to these pious patriots my sentiment and support were with DeValera in his struggle against the black and tan and with Gandhi and Nehru in their struggle to free India from foreign control, as I was with the Communist army in China against Chiang Kai Shek.

My sentiment has always been with William Lyon Mackenzie in his struggle against the family compact of 1837, and it was with George Washington's army in the American Revolution in 1777; also with President Lincoln's army in the Civil War against slavery in the U.S.A.; also with the Russian people in 1917 in that revolution—always with the underdog and definitely with the Spanish people and government against Franco in the Spanish Civil War. And I still am.

GEORGE B. CASEY.

Editor,
The Daily News.

Why can't a man who runs a welding business in Prince Rupert hire people who live here and are qualified to do the work when they hold B.C. welders' certificates, and who are also agreeable to joining the unions required for the job?

I have asked the boiler-makers' union to establish a local up here from which I would be willing to hire my men. They said no. They said they are not going to establish locals all over the province. They said they have one in Vancouver and one in Victoria and that is enough.

So they told me I would have to employ my men in Vancouver, pay their transportation both ways, pay their board and room, and in addition pay their transportation there and back every 30 days.

So this means that while men here are unemployed and could do the job, I must get my men from Vancouver.

Why do we have to do this? I have two men now who are from Vancouver, but to take them on I had to lay off two men who have a home and family in Prince Rupert, because we are not allowed to employ anybody here to do the job.

Three local men looking for work came into my shop the other day with tickets as B.C. Certified Welder Operators, but I had to refuse every one of them because they did not come from Vancouver.

On this score, I would advise all manufacturers to make sure that all their agreements are thoroughly read and that a clause is included stating they are allowed to hire men in the city where the work is being done, provided the men are qualified.

H. WALBAUER,
Industrial Welding Co.

Famous Building

Among many famous buildings in London which were destroyed or damaged by bombs in 1940 was the George Inn in the Strand. In the 18th century it was a famous coffee house, and its most illustrious patrons were Dr. Johnson, James Boswell and Oliver Goldsmith. The inn has now been restored and Christmas fare will again be served this year at "The Old George," as it is fondly called.

A Child's Life of Jesus



"He was telling the grownups things they had never known before."

A Child's Life of Jesus is one of the last books written by the late Fulton Oursler, noted author of such volumes as *The Greatest Story Ever Told*, *The Greatest Book Ever Written*, etc. This presentation of Mr. Oursler's book has been specially illustrated for newspaper publication by the well-known artist, Neil O'Keefe.

Chapter IV

Where do you think they found the Boy Jesus? In the Temple. And what do you suppose He was doing?

He was talking to the eldest and wisest men, telling them about God. Only twelve years old. He was telling the grown-ups things they had never known before. Jesus was the only person in the world who could do such a thing, because He was not only a twelve-year-old boy—He was God's Son and He and His Father were One.

There were tears in the dark eyes of Mary when she found Jesus. She had felt so sad, so lost without Him. But her Son said to her:

"Don't you know I must be about My Father's work?"

Then Mary understood and smiled. He meant God's work. She put her arms around Him and Joseph dashed away his tears with the back of his hand and they all started back home.

For many years they lived quietly in the white and green town of Nazareth. When Joseph was called home by God, Jesus took full care of His mother. Now He worked alone in the carpenter shop, and He missed singing with Joseph. But He and His mother Mary sang together. Jesus was a wonderful carpenter and always had plenty of work, and He had a great deal to think about: the work of helping all the people which some day soon He must begin.

In His heart Jesus was waiting for God, His Father in Heaven, to tell Him when to start, and one day He learned that the time had come.

That was when He heard about His cousin John. Far away in

Jerusalem, John was talking to crowds of people. He was telling them to be sorry for their mistakes and to make up their minds to be kind to everybody. He led them, one by one, into the river Jordan and covered their heads with water. That was called baptizing them. Baptizing was a sign that their souls and minds were clean now.

And John kept telling people that soon the Son of God Himself would come to talk to them.

So now Jesus said goodbye to His mother Mary for a while and walked the long, long road to where John was.

When John saw Jesus coming near he gave a shout of joy. While Jesus stood in the river, John baptized Him, and a white dove flew overhead and all the people heard a Voice from Heaven saying:

"This is my beloved Son in Whom I am well pleased."

Next Jesus had to test Himself. He walked out alone into the desert. For forty days and forty nights He stayed alone among the rocks and sand. In all that time He had nothing to eat and nothing to drink. He had no bed, not even a pillow. At night it was piercing cold but He had no fire. Bears and wolves were nearby, making noises in the night.

When the long time was over, Jesus was very hungry and thirsty, but now He had to face the worst time of all. He heard a wicked voice, trying to make Him do wrong things, and not help the people. Why did the good Jesus suffer like that? He did it to show us all how to be strong.

Tomorrow: Jesus performs His first miracle.

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OTTAWA DIARY

By NORMAN M. MacLEOD

The Consumer Price Index, a replacement of the old Cost of Living Index, was received with happy anticipation by politicians on Parliament Hill when it was recently unveiled.

The Government was happy about the new index because it was to give the people a truer picture of the impact of inflation on the nation's economy. The old Cost of Living Index compared today's prices with those of 1935-39 and the Government claimed it was unrealistic. A real impression, i.e., a less spectacular comparison, could only be received by making comparisons between today's prices and those of ten years ago.

NEGATIVE HAPPINESS

The Opposition was also happy, in a negative sort of way. The parties sitting opposite the administration hoped to be able to make at least a little political hay by accusing the Government of setting up the new index for the simple purpose of minimizing the steep rise in costs.

The Man in the Street, as usual, was merely an interested bystander. The important thing to him was, whether you compared today's prices with those of 1939 or 1949, they were higher than he liked them.

All three factions, the Government, the Opposition, and John Doe, were disappointed by the last Bureau of Statistics compilation of the Consumer Price Index.

The government was unhappy because it showed an increase from the previous month, from 116.0 to 116.1.

The Opposition was unhappy because while the Consumer Price Index was, indeed, at 116.1,

radically lower than the 184.8 figure the old Cost of Living Index would have shown for Nov. 1, the honest, non-partisan statisticians unwittingly took the wind out of their sails of criticism with a surprising revelation: While the new index climbed one point during October, the old Cost of Living Index, which continues to be compiled until people get used to the new one, dropped from 185.0 to 184.8. They asked themselves how they could successfully and with conviction accuse the government of trying to minimize the harsh fact of inflation when its new index rose while the old one dropped.

POSITIVE UNHAPPINESS

The Man on the Street was unhappy for the very primary reason that the rise shown in the Consumer Index meant higher bills. And he was especially sad because the increase was mostly due to increases in food costs.

The variation between the old Cost of Living Index and the new Consumer Price Index, of course, was due to differences in methods of calculation and in the number and types of items surveyed.

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As I See It



by
Elmore
Philpott

Some Prophet Poets

MR. DAVID SMITH sends me an old prophecy which he says is "even more remarkable than the one you often quote—Tennyson's Locksley Hall on the coming parliament of man."

It is from Gray's *Luna Habitabilis*, published in 1737, and reads:

The time will come, when thou shalt lift thine eyes To watch a long-drawn battle in the skies, While aged peasants, too amazed for words, Stare at the flying fleets of wondrous birds, England, so long the mistress of the seas, Where wind and waves confess her sovereignty. Her ancient triumphs yet on high shall bear, And reign, the sovereign of the conquered air.

Can anybody tell me whether the Gray who wrote the above was the famous Thomas Gray who composed the *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard*? The latter is held by many to be the finest poem ever written in English, and when I was a boy we all learned the story (or legend) that the famous General Wolfe recited it just before the Battle of the Plains of Abraham, remarking to his shipmates "I would rather have written that poem than take Quebec."

When I was a boy, also, people took for granted that "Britain rules the waves." You would have been considered plain crazy if you had predicted that by 1952 the Royal Navy would have become subordinate to that of Uncle Sam—with an American admiral actually in command of British ships, even in the North Atlantic.

Right now it would take considerable faith to imagine that the prophecy of 1737 could come true—for it is Uncle Sam and not John Bull who leads the traffic across the skies.

Yet Britain has made an astonishing comeback in jet aircraft. The big American airlines are now joining the other foreign buyers of the world to place orders for the new British-produced jet airplanes. "England" might yet regain air supremacy.

THE LEGENDARY Mother Shipton of Yorkshire, who lived about the time America was rediscovered by Columbus (nearly five hundred years after the Norsemen found it). Her rhymes have always had a great vogue among the common people, and there was quite a rash of revived Mother Shipton prophecies back about 1924.

Here is one I remember writing about then:

A carriage without horse shall go, disaster fill the world with woe.

A war shall follow, with the work where dwells the pagan and the Turk.

Quick as an arrow man shall fly (and so on).

There were also some astonishing lines about "then when the worse work is done, England and France shall be as one" and also an amazing reference about "When North shall thus divide the South, the Eagle shall speak in the Lion's mouth."

Remember that all this was written hundreds of years before there was such a thing as the United States or the American eagle as a symbol.

Try Daily News Want Ads

A1 PICK OF THE MARKET

1949 Plymouth Sedan—Smart, gray, reconditioned motor, good tires. Real family car. Only \$1435

1950 Ford Fordor—New paint, radio, heater, overdrive. Try it, you'll buy it at \$1845

1951 Pontiac Four Door—Nice throughout. Hurry at \$2065

Truck Department

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1946 Dodge Panel—Would make an ideal hunting truck \$835.00

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Ray REFLECTS and REMINISCES

The year's shortest day is due any time now. It can't come too soon.

The man who always hoarded his money used to be described as a miser. Today he's a genius.

General Eisenhower apologized to Canadian troops for keeping them waiting for some hours in cold weather. There are scores of generals—all unknown—who never dreamed of such an idea.

Promises multiply. There are alleged leaders in Ottawa who are saying some of us may yet live to see the day when the old age pension and baby bonus will overlap. Thus, everyone will be on the government's payroll.

ALWAYS VITAL

There's no getting away from it! No matter how much or how little is going on concerning fishing, Prince Rupert feels the pinch.

Just now the fish are down to a small handful. It will come back. That's the certainty.

Life: An everlasting struggle to keep money coming in teeth and hair from coming.

A sensible temper throughout the year is a head and hair from coming.

FORTY YEARS AGO

A document was found on street in Prince Rupert week. It certified that Dennis had been given a cal examination and was in a good state of health, signed by Dr. H. Ernest mayne, and Mr. Dennis, age was 32, a printer, and of residence at Sixth and ton Street. The paper was June 21, 1910. When Prince Rupert he moved to Francisco, later becoming tified with one of that great parks.



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