

Denny Thain Waxes Poetic In Discussing Civic Woes

PORT ALBERNI.—Waxing poetical, City Clerk Dennis Thain effectively and without opportunity for retort penned the city's reply to a citizen's complaint—first about a ready-mix cement operation near his property, then about a neighbor's goat which he claimed ate his shrubs.

William Riley, complainant, who lives on the banks of Roger Creek, started the exchange of poetical correspondence. This was Mr. Riley's "letter" to city council, read by Deputy City Clerk Dick Harrison:

'Tis not my wish, please hereby note,
For me to get my neighbor's goat.
But then their tastes for trees and flowers,
Shrubs and things, not theirs, but ours.
Make me wonder if I may not
Shoot the blighters on the spot.
What doth my worthy council say?
Should I tolerate or slay?

In true Shakespearean tradition, City Clerk Thain's answer was returned, hardly before the laughter subsided in the council chambers:

The council heard your sad lament
Twixt goats and ready-mix cement,
'Twould seem your life's a chain of woes
Where Roger Creek so gently flows.
They wish their bylaw did forbid
The keeping of a goat or kid.
Alas, alack, it is not so.
I've searched the records to and fro—
No legal band there seems to be,
And you must of necessity
Have recourse to the civil courts
That handle such-like wrongs and torts.
The use of force we can't condone,
Your punishment we'd all bemoan.
Best we can do that we can see
Is to extend our sympathy.

Mr. Thain was former city clerk of Prince Rupert.

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from the Outside Looking In"

an angle of the forthcoming civic elections and power referendum that some citizens may have looked has come to mind. There is a duty to shed light on it, strictly in the best interests of the community as a whole.

dent. They feel that with such good management, their investments have an excellent chance of being fruitful.

And it is on this score that our elections and the power referendum figure in the picture.

Here, in a nutshell, is what is meant.

We can be dead sure that the investment and industrial interests have been watching our conduct of the situation, trying to evaluate the effects of the outcome of the elections (and the power referendum in particular) on their future position.

They will be watching us on December 13 even more closely.

Doubtless, they will not be too happy with the way the power referendum has been handled thus far, because it certainly has been a prime example of ill-considered management. Some even may have taken the power referendum situation as indication of the shape of management in the future.

So let's make it plain to this latter group that they are wrong, and reassure the others at the same time, that their investment is just as bright as it ever was.

Let's do this by voting "no" to the power referendum, thereby facing up to an earlier shortcoming and providing proof that we are again "good managers."

Let's show them that as traditionally "good managers" and business-conscious people, we do not close the doors to business unfairly, and without looking to the future consequences.

Let's be sure we don't "scare off" those interests upon whose success hinges so much of our future success.

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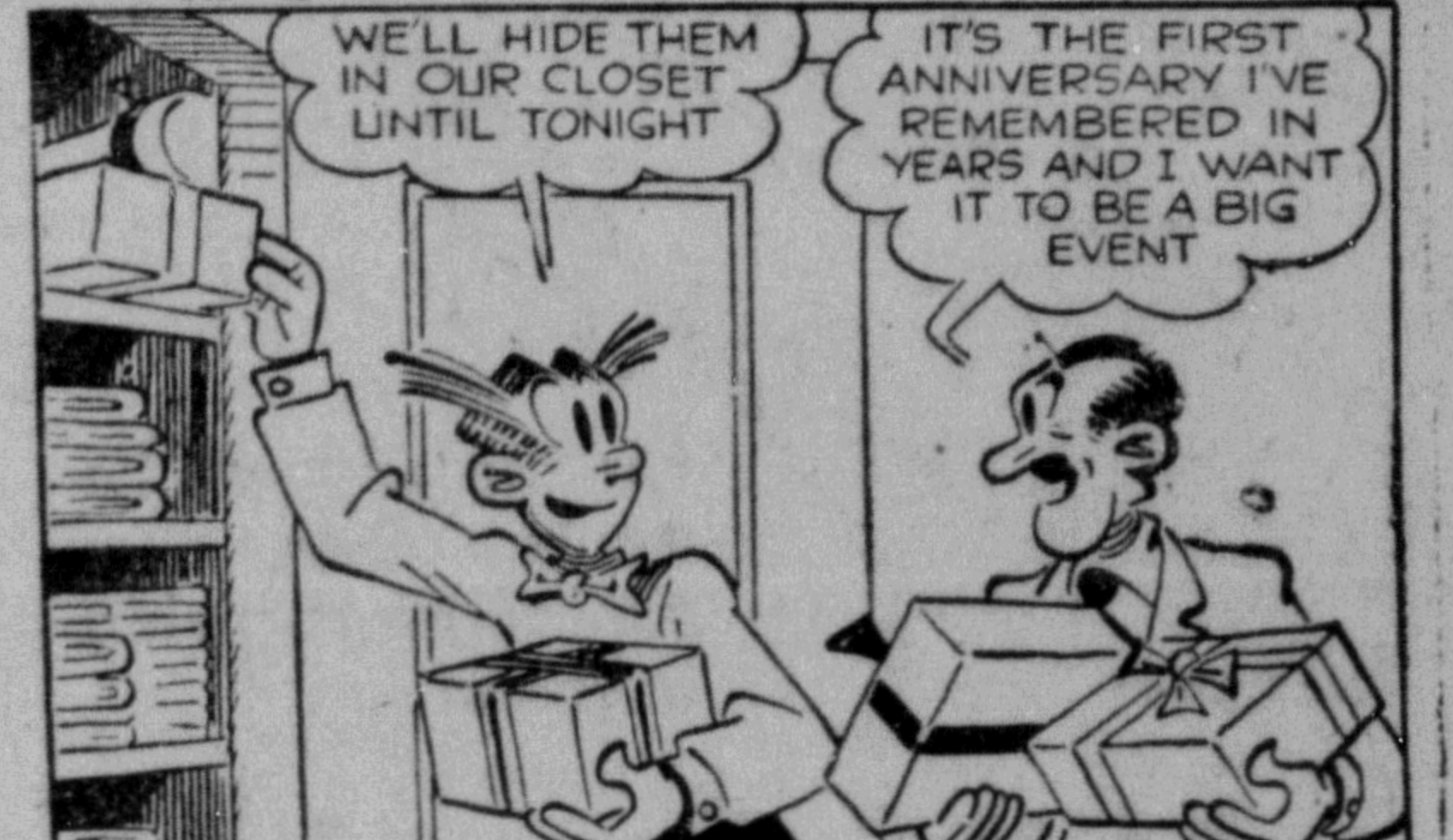
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