

Prince Rupert Daily News

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Egypt and The Sudan

ONE of the strangest factors in the Middle Eastern situation is the Egyptian insistence on "unity of the Nile Valley"—on their demand for recognition of Egyptian sovereignty over the Sudan.

Support for the Egyptian claim among the Sudanese is small and becomes smaller. But what is strange is that the Egyptians themselves do not really want what they so insistently demand. For they know quite well that, if the Sudan were handed to them tomorrow, they could not, in fact, either govern it or maintain sovereignty over it. They cannot admit this in public; but they will freely admit it in private.

Historically, Egypt and the Sudan have never, except for brief periods in their long history, been united. From time to time, from the second millennium B.C., the rulers of Egypt have invaded, and for a short time ruled over, the Nile Valley above the cataracts. But the union has never been permanent.

The British policy has been that as rapidly as possible the Sudan shall become completely self-governing; and that self-government shall include the right to self-determination, the right to choose whether to be associated in some way with Egypt or to be entirely independent of her.

The transition is already making rapid progress. There has been an elected legislature since 1948.

The British policy for the Sudan has the general approval of the Sudanese. The Egyptian government may proclaim the unity of the Nile Valley. It may issue "decrees" about the government of the Sudan. It may order the dismissal of the Governor-General. It may do all sorts of things. Their only effect will be to inflate Egyptian nationalism and to make more difficult any rational settlement of the other problems concerning Egypt and the "Western" powers. That indeed, one sometimes suspects, may be their real purpose. For Nahas Pasha and his colleagues know quite well that what they are demanding is a pure fantasy, which they themselves probably do not really desire.

Over 45!

WINSTON CHURCHILL is turning 77. On his seventieth anniversary he was leading Britain during the most critical stages of the worst war in all history.

Today he is Prime Minister again, and we are being told forty-five is too old to hold even a picayune job.

LETTERBOX

Editor, Daily News:

The statement made in a letter to the editor in Tuesday's paper, to the effect that about five percent only of the children of Prince Rupert were decently dressed and cared for, shows either complete ignorance or poor eye-sight. The neglect of children by parents due to mothers working or disinterest in their welfare, reflects only on the character of these same people, and not on Prince Rupert as a whole. Therefore it should not be necessary for "Now Ruperts" to leave the city to raise her family. The care of such children is the responsibility of their parents, and their health, in the manner which she has so clearly indicated she deplores. of these parents individually.

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As I See It

by
Elmore
Philipott

Election Contrasts

GLASGOW.—One very striking difference in British and Canadian election techniques is that the British provide far fewer voting facilities than we do.

On election day I stayed in Rutherglen, a suburb of Glasgow, because I was keenly interested in the outcome there where the Labor MP had a margin of only 695 in 1950. About 44,000 persons vote there, that is, over 80 per cent of those eligible. Yet there were only about twenty polling stations.

In a similar constituency, say, in Vancouver, Winnipeg, Toronto or Montreal, there would be at least 200 polling stations.

ANOTHER striking difference was that each candidate was only allowed to use 30 cars on election day, and each car so used had to be registered and carry a visible licence to transport voters to the polls.

The idea is to deprive the richer parties and candidates of the advantage they used to have when they hired or otherwise secured great fleets of automobiles.

AS IN CANADA, the amount that each candidate may spend on his election campaign is fixed by law. It works out at 10 to 12 cents per registered voter according to nature of constituency. But I have the feeling they stick to the rules better here than we do in Canada where, despite the theoretical limit, the parties sometimes spend \$10,000 or even \$20,000 to win key seats.

Here in Rutherglen the legal limit is about \$2500. That's barely enough to pay for rent of halls and for one or two pieces of printed literature.

THE LEGAL ceiling on election expenditures, coupled with soaring printing costs, has cut away down the number of billboards and display cards used by the parties. The Conservatives used a few thousand posters six feet wide and 10 feet high saying "It's Time for a Change."

In England the bottom line reads "Vote Conservative." But up here in Scotland they prefer to say "Vote Unionist," and I noticed that Mr. Churchill always carefully said "Unionist," never Conservative, much less Tory.

(Incidentally, there is no odium to the term "Tory" here as there is in parts of North America, due perhaps to ideas carried down from the American revolution of 1776.)

THEY GO IN for a great many public meetings in the Labor campaign, and they shuttle squads of speakers from meeting to meeting. From what I have seen of their campaign management, I do not think they are any more efficient than most of our parties are in most parts of Canada.

The Tories, incidentally, stage-

Report from Parliament

By E. T. APPLEWHITE, M.P.

MASTERLY ADDRESS—An Ottawa district newspaper has unkindly suggested that the Debate on the Address just results in speeches extolling dim constituents, made by dimmer members. That certainly could not be said of the masterly address made by a British Columbian, Ralph Campney, parliamentary assistant to the Minister of National Defence.

There has been a great deal of talk about lack of information on defence matters but if we look at the statements that the Prime Minister has made in the House, at the many statements that Brooke Claxton has made in the House, in great detail, and at the white papers that have been tabled—the last session and brought up to date recently—and the many, many hours that the House spent on defence estimates. I think you will agree that the House and the country do not lack information. However, information must be kept up to date and Campney attempted to select some figures in order to give a statement of fact which it seemed to him might be helpful in bringing the situation up to date for the members of the House with regard to what is going on in the departments. While the figures of our armed forces, a growth of from 41,500 to over 84,000 in two and a half years, certainly form no basis for complacency, as many more men are needed, I believe they show, in a general way, continued and steady progress. This involves, among other things, accommodation and in that connection it might be of interest to you if I tell you that, in addition to the repair and reconditioning of existing accommodation, the construction of over 8,000 units of permanent married quarters at a cost of approximately \$10,500 per unit has been entered upon; and of these 5,100 have been completed to date and 3,500 are in various stages of construction. And you cannot turn out trained, fighting sailors, soldiers or airmen without having sound training plans, which have been set up. In the last two and a half years the army has increased from approximately 19,000 to about 45,000. Here I should like to correct the leader of the opposition when he stated, as he did, that the airborne brigade had been sent out of Canada. He said "If the explanation for not sending the airborne brigade was valid in the first place, what is the reason that we do not need a trained airborne brigade at this time?" The facts are these: A number of trained men from this

manage their biggest meetings much better than does Labor.

* * *

ONE OTHER striking difference here is how they count the votes.

Instead of counting them on the spot, as we do as soon as voting ends in each polling station, they seal the boxes and take them all to a central point in each constituency.

They are all opened and counted together. That means that fewer than half the returns are known on election night as most districts do not begin to count till nine o'clock the morning after election.

* * *

ONCE ELECTED, an MP gets about \$3000 per year on which he must pay income tax.

There is, however, no penalty for non-attendance as there is in Canada where the MP's get docked \$25 per day if they are absent too often.

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Reflects and Reminiscences

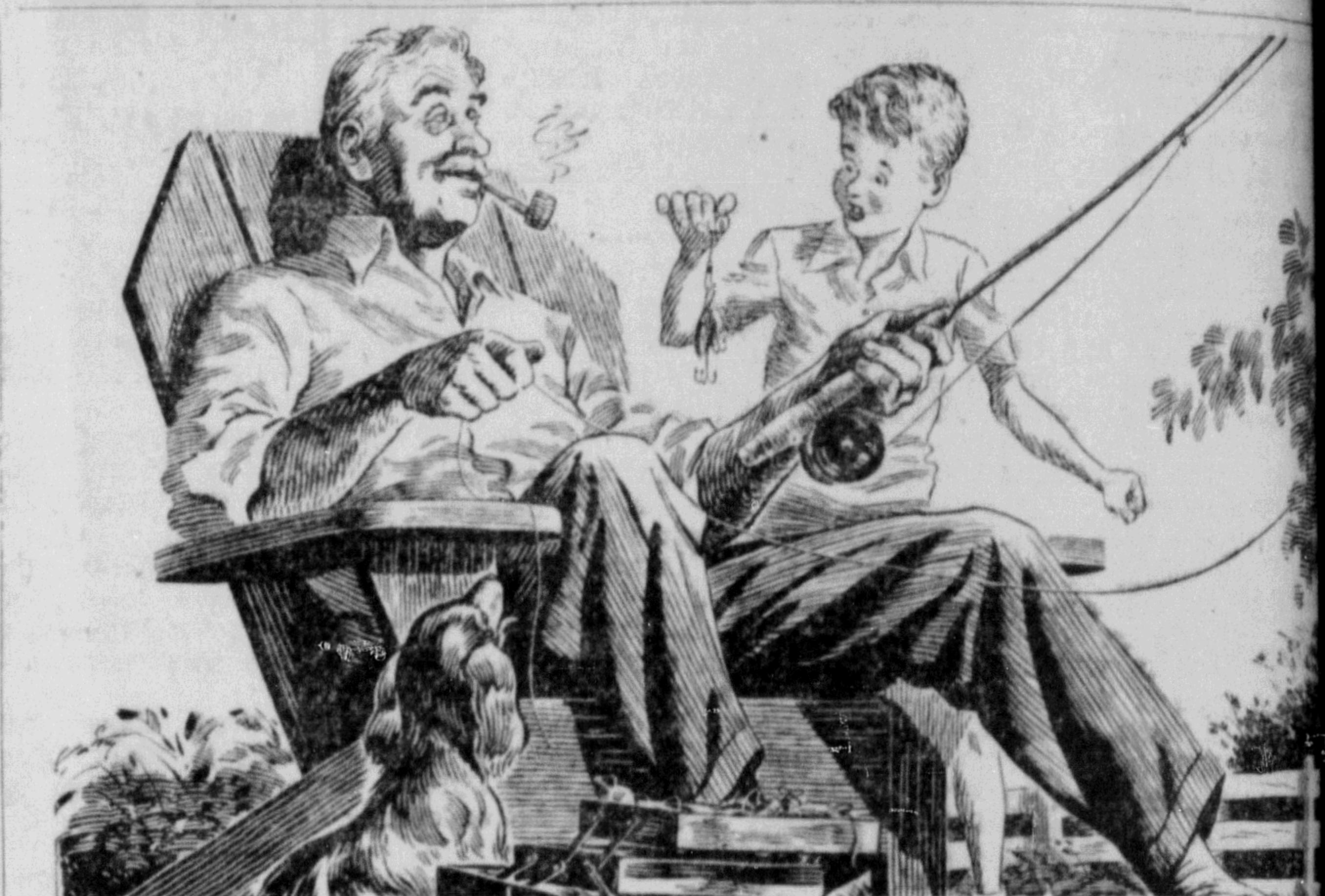
Two or three days after Churchill becomes Prime Minister, an entire infantry division is ordered to Suez. Some folks may be spoiling for a fight, but it's not Churchill.

IT ISN'T COMPLIMENTARY

Soon the parliamentary committee, appointed to study operations of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation should be deep in its thought-provoking mediations. A vast amount has already been performed by the general public.

When Princess Elizabeth visited Shaughnessy Hospital she ex-

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amined a small tin box of chocolates, displayed by George Eagle, hundred thousand other old given him—as well as were a 79-year-old veteran. It was (Continued on page 4)