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Port in Emergency

THE STRATEGIC position of the port of Prince Rupert in relation to the Orient is again demonstrated in the emergency call here of HMCS Athabaskan coming home from the war in Korea.

Athabaskan was headed for base in Esquimalt but when the condition of a sick crew member so developed that immediate hospitalization was necessary, she cut at least a day off the trans-Pacific voyage to come into Prince Rupert. She took advantage of Prince Rupert's position as being 500 miles closer to the Orient than Victoria (and Vancouver as well).

In the emergency of war, Prince Rupert has often been used. It became a principal port of embarkation during the war.

Some day Prince Rupert will, undoubtedly, be more than a port of emergency in the Pacific theatre. It will become a port of permanent efficient usefulness which is its proper function.

Political Effects

THE DISMISSAL of General Douglas MacArthur is having political repercussions which threaten to work changes in places far less distant than Korea and China.

No one can tell yet what the net result will be after the Senate hearings have dug into the background of the controversy. But, so far, the most obvious political effect is a tremendous boost for the Republicans. Ousting a popular hero is politically dangerous at any time but Mr. Truman's action was even more of a jolt to most Americans coming at a moment when the disclosures of the Fulbright and Kefauver committees had driven his own prestige to a new low.

However, it is far from clear amid the shifting political currents and crosscurrents to assume what will happen in another year. A dozen different events could push the present issue to the back of the stage.

The unfortunate effect of the long-continued tenure by one party is to be seen. Developing weaknesses at home, having settled down to mere office-holding and the laxity of entrenched power, the administration may be said to lack leadership, vigor and imagination.

On the other hand, the MacArthur episode tends to show to what extremes some elements of a power-starved party may go in seeking to destroy an administration which under the constitution must remain until 1953 as the nation's agent in foreign affairs. The pressure of unlimited party warfare appears to be going just a little too far in the United States today.

Those British

WHEN Paul and Silas were thrown into prison they sang hymns of praise. When Britain found itself hedged about by continuing austerity, dollar shortages, war threats and American criticism, it put on a festival.

The analogy is not altogether fanciful. The fanfare of trumpets with which the Festival of Britain has opened is, in a very real sense, an assertion of faith. Unlike the great exhibition of 1851, this century's festival rests on no comfortable pride of expanding empire. It is more like Churchill's undaunted eloquence and the Cockney wit that flourished under exploding wartime skies—founded on character polished by adversity.—Christian Science Monitor.

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As I See It



by
Elmore
Philpott

SOUTH SLAVS FACE WEST

BELGRADE, YUGOSLAVIA. — Yugoslavia's Five Year Plan may have been over-ambitious, even from the beginning.

Those enthusiasts, fresh from their double victory, over the Germans and Italians from abroad and the right wingers at home, attempted to do TWO years after their revolution what Red Russia attempted only ELEVEN years after 1917.

Some of it, to Westerners, appears even now much like the Charge of the Light Brigade appeared to the French military expert:

"It is magnificent, but it is not war."

When you see youngsters, even in 1951, getting ready to build another hundred miles' stretch of railway, with only picks and shovels, you may think:

"Hats off to them, but does it make sense, when a few bulldozers would do the whole thing in a fraction of the time?"

BUT OVER-AMBITIOUS OR not, the Yugoslavs were far on the way towards completion of their goal when came the historic break with the Kremlin. Why?

Now comes the point of vital significance for us: Sixty per cent of Yugoslavia's trade had been with the Cominform countries, which were compelled by the Kremlin to blockade Yugoslavia. Yugoslavia could neither sell in her old markets nor buy from the countries with which she had contracts for supplies. Her Five Year Plan bogged down badly in spots.

But, still being a Communist-governed country, Yugoslavia could not readily get from the West Marshall Plan advances or other such support.

EVEN YET, THREE YEARS after the history-making break between Moscow and Tito, it is obvious that the Western nations in general, and the United States in particular, have not fully made up their minds as to their attitude toward Yugoslavia.

That brings us to what seems to me the greatest question of this decade:

Are we really fighting the cold wars, and actual wars, such as in Korea, to stop "Russian expansionism"?

Or are we really, secretly, fighting to maintain the capitalist system?

If we really are sincere in basing Western and UN policies in combatting the new, more subtle Red imperialism, then of all countries in Europe, Yugoslavia is the one most deserving of support. For the outcome in this country will have effects all over Europe and even in China.

WHAT IS IT THAT WE really fear in socialist economies? Certainly it is not the public ownership or state enterprise system. Even in old Tory Ontario, we had many ultra-successful public ownership en-



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terprises before World War I. Out in India recently, I chuckled to myself to realize how many purely socialist utilities the old British imperialists have inaugurated and bequeathed to the Indian republic.

What we are rightly opposed to in Communism is, surely, the harsh dictatorship principle—which is the negation of humanity, not to mention democracy: AND ABOVE ALL, THE DICTATORSHIP PRINCIPLE WHEN IT OPERATES AS THE NEW TYPE OF IMPERIALISM, WITH UNDERGROUND, HIDDEN PIPELINES OF RULE FROM ONE COUNTRY TO ANOTHER.

THIS GOVERNMENT OF Yugoslavia, in 1951, is still a dictatorship, but one which shows signs of democratic inclinations.

There is no democracy here, as we understand that term in the West—and let nobody fool us: There is no other meaning; there is no other true democracy.

But Yugoslavia faces West—not East. Get that fact—for it is the most important fact of the Yugoslavia of 1951.

This people's dictatorship, which is still run on police state principles, is honestly trying to work out a basis where it can combine what is best in the economies of the East and the democracy of the West. There are many signs that the rulers here really would like to combine Western democracy with their economy.

So far this is only a dream. It may be a dream beyond the capacity of this primitive country to realize, at least soon.

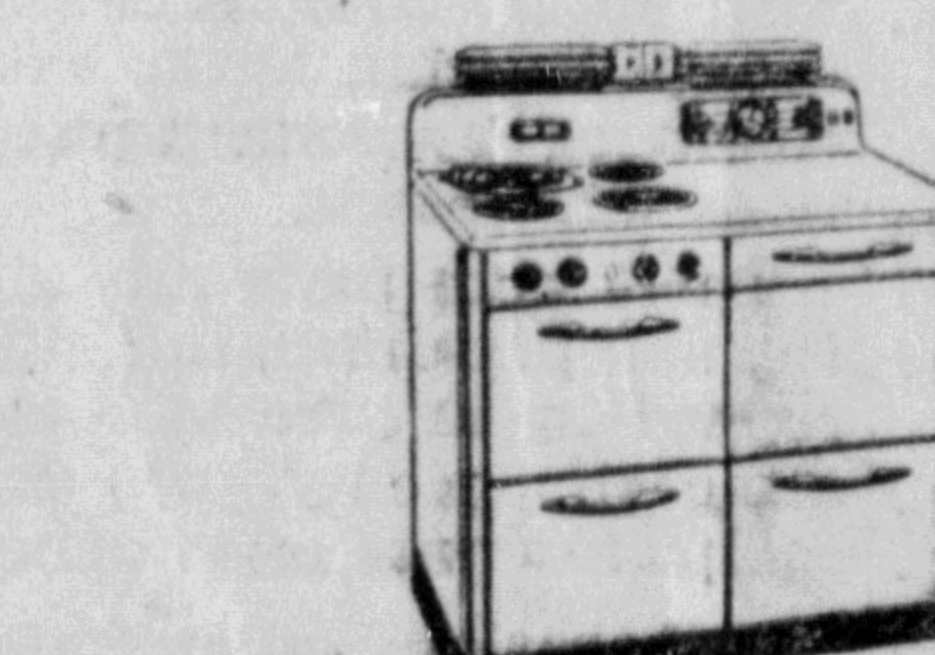
But we could try to make the realization come to pass. I do not believe that there is another country in all Europe where large-scale economic help would pay such big dividends for international peace and reconciliation, as this country, Yugoslavia.

Jones Act Suspension

WASHINGTON, D.C. —The House of Representatives merchant marine sub-committee Tuesday approved renewal of a bill which would permit Canadian vessels to serve south-eastern Alaska ports of Skagway, Haines and Hyder for the carry of American freight and passengers until June 30, 1952.

The suspension of the Jones Act is in view of the fact that these ports are not served at all or irregularly by United States lines.

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Reflects and
Reminisces

WELCOME

Serving for nine full months in the Korean war zone, the general record of the destroyer Athabaskan has been excellent, as one would gather from reading yesterday's News. It's a pleasure and an honor to have her in port. And as for the skipper himself, he's very, very good, and he is understood, he commands a right good crew.

WHEN IT'S EDUCATION

This being graduation time, it is suggested that a trip across Canada would be a gift to be remembered with pleasure for a lifetime. To every graduate it would be a school finishing experience. It would be more than that. Travel is education—particularly when one is a sharp observer. Canada is full of Canadians who, possibly have never been beyond the borders of their own provinces. How much more widely educated today, are the boys aboard the Athabaskan than they were ten months ago!

RESEMBLES ARGENTINE

Spain's people may continue to read the papers but they will peruse what General Franco and his government think they should know—but nothing else. It looks like this, when seven correspondents face handicaps and discouragement, and the chances of soon having a ticket for home.

LOOK FIRST CLASS

They turn out a ten page newspaper aboard the Athabaskan, too! It is said to be crisp, a bit spicy and informative which

is all that can be said for any sheet. There must be keen rivalry when the newsies struggle to be first to plunge overboard with the latest.

ALL IN A NUTSHELL

War: Something that starts by paying off old scores and ends by paying off new debts—Daffynitions.

Senor and Senora Pardos of Buenos Aires watch men and women in Vancouver entering beer parlors by separate doors, murmur "Verree, verree quamt," and take pictures to show friends back home. They hesitate to describe B.C. liquor laws for fear they won't be believed.

There's many a superb head of hair in Prince Rupert and it cannot be said all are owned by the ladies. A luxurious growth may not be cared for in any particu-



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lar way although combs are often carried. A brush might be embarrassing. As for shingling, that's something else again, and all we're prepared to say just now is that it means only a dollar a shot.

UP AND UP
Dr. W. G. Blair (PC) has told Parliament that the govern-

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