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On Losing 'Denny' Thain

DURING his eight years of tenure as city clerk, "Denny" Thain has become pretty much of an institution at Prince Rupert's City Hall. He assumed the office of city clerk soon after the city was restored to autonomous government following the years of commissionership. An acknowledged expert and authority on civic affairs, successive city councils have leaned heavily upon his knowledge and advice. While he may have had his critics as any one so exposed to the public must have, there will be general acknowledgement that he has done a good job. Loss of "Denny" Thain will, therefore, be a blow at the City Hall and the appointment of a competent and fitting successor will be a problem that will require some careful consideration.

After all the city clerk is the key person in civic affairs, the liaison man and co-ordinator between the public, the council and the departments. All-round good city clerks do not come at "a dime a dozen."

Mr. Thain will be extended appreciation for the able work he has done in Prince Rupert and best wishes in the new appointment which he is taking.

The Halibut Problem

TO A LOT of people all this talk we have been hearing about the halibut "split" season and the whys and wherefores may sound rather complicated. But really it is simple enough and certainly some sort of a satisfactory agreement should be reached to meet the desired end.

The principal aim is to so time the fishing season that certain halibut grounds may be fished that are not being touched now because under the existing arrangement there is one grand rush immediately after the opening of the season and the quota is exhausted and the fishing closed before these fish—established as a separate run—have reached the banks concerned.

Now a conference board at Seattle has come up with the suggestion that the object of lengthening the season might be more efficaciously effected by reverting to the former curtailment plan. Thereby trips would be staggered to lengthen out the season. One advantage of such a curtailment plan over the split season would be that there would be an orderly landing of fish during the summer without a gap between two periods when there would be no fish.

It would appear that a sensible basis has now been arrived at whereby the governments should be able to give the International Commission the authority to at last settle this long-standing problem from a biological standpoint. The matter is now up to the Canadian government, it is stated.

Scripture Passage for Today

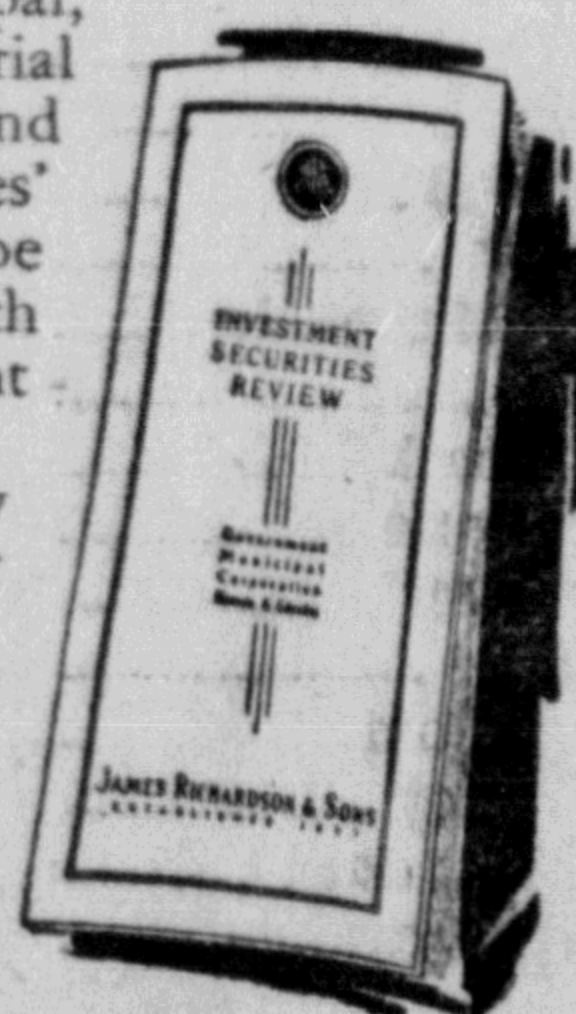
"I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people."—Luke 2:10

BUILD COMMUNICATIONS
 Expansion of communications services in Venezuela involves laying 7,000 miles of new overhead and underground lines.

NECESSARY STEP
 Immunization is the first line of defence against such diseases as diphtheria, whooping cough and smallpox.

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As I See It

By ELMORE PHILPOTT

INTERVIEW WITH LORD STANSGATE

LONDON.—Almost as soon as I got to Britain I learned that the press cable services had failed to adequately report to North America the strength, width and depth of the "no war with China" movement here.

For instance, many people told me of the two remarkable public meetings held in Kingsway Hall. By no stretch of the imagination could these be sneered as "Communist front" affairs. The large hall was filled, on November 27, and hundreds were turned away on January 8, when noted speakers from all non-Communist parties teamed up to demand containment of the Korean war to Korea.

I asked newspaper friends for their ideas as to the best person to see about the who's who and what's what of this movement. Their answer was, "See Lord Stansgate—he was the chairman."

I'm not ordinarily keen on interviewing peers, myself. But when I looked up the record and found that Viscount Stansgate is just a new name for the old-time Liberal—later Labor—MP, I decided to ask in an interview, which was readily granted.

LORD AND LADY Stansgate live at 40 Millbank, which is just a few stone-throw from Parliament. Their London home overlooks the Thames and is an unpretentious yellow brick, two-storey affair—one of a long, solid row of such.

A cheerful maid opened the door and, before I had time to take off my coat, a friendly old gentleman called cheerily down the stairs. Seeing that I am physically a bit of an old croak, he diplomatically suggested that I might prefer not to climb the stairs. But experience has taught me that the English rarely heat more than one room in the house, so I plumped for upstairs.

There was a bright coal fire glowing in the fireplace and His Lordship served coffee while we chatted in the plainly but comfortably furnished room. On the mantel were two Arabic-looking ornaments, featuring camels. There was a fine Chinese screen in one corner.

I studied Lord Stansgate as he excused himself to read a cable from the Sudan. He is shortish, and around 70 years of age, I believe, but looks younger. With his close-cropped hair, baby-pink face, he looks like a rather jolly edition of a clean-shaven Santa Claus—hill you get a good look at his fight-

Jim Mitchell Man of Year

James R. Mitchell, prominent British Columbia school teacher, son of Mrs. John R. Mitchell, Atlin Avenue, Westview, and one time member of the Daily News staff, has been voted West Vancouver's "Man of the Year" in a poll conducted by the West Vancouver Times newspaper.

For many years, Mr. Mitchell has been identified with the West Vancouver High School and 750 pupils there gave him mass support in the poll. There were nine other nominees for the honor.

Mr. Mitchell has taken a leading part in many community activities at West Vancouver and for twenty years has been master of ceremonies of the May Day celebration there.

His eyes are exactly the same shade of light brown that you see if you look closely at a lion's. When I saw them I figured he must really have earned that long list of decorations that he won as an airman in World War One.

BEFORE I HAD a chance to ask the old boy anything, he played an old trick, to which they say Lloyd George was partial—that is, to interview the interviewer.

When he found out that I have lived for many years on the Pacific coast, he began to quiz me about the extent of the Russian penetration there—back a couple of hundred years ago. I was able to tell him that the Russians had, in fact, established themselves far south of where Vancouver now stands—had, in fact, held a firm foothold near what is now San Francisco.

But I soon brought the conversation around to the recent meetings and to the now-famous debate in the Oxford Union, where no less than three of the Wedgwood-Benns took part—Lord Stansgate and his son David upholding the resolution that British policy should cease being so subservient to that of the U.S.A. and another son (now a Labor MP) arguing on the other side that Atlee had already done a fair job of re-establishing British independence from U.S. over-domination.

The vote, incidentally, was about 300 to 295—that is, was split almost exactly even as to whether or not Britain was or was not too subservient.

(This is the first of two articles covering Elmore Philpott's interview with Lord Stansgate.)

LETTERBOX

VOTE 'YES' FOR ARENA

Editor, Daily News:
 May I express thanks to you for your help in surveying public opinion in this community about the need of additional recreational facilities for ourselves and our children in the form of an artificial ice arena.

There are a few points which I might help to clarify concerning the proposals submitted to the recent annual meeting of the Civic Centre. One is in regard to the site. We had in mind the acquisition and holding in trust of the land adjoining the new Legion as the logical spot for a future hockey arena which this city will some day undoubtedly demand. It is central in location and has solid rock bottom—a very important point according to engineers who were consulted.

However, it is obvious that one must develop a generation able to use such facilities and equally obvious that now is not the ideal time to construct structures involving large amounts of structural steel even if it is appropriate to think about site and future financing.

For present needs the modest structure recommended needs no heavy steel and would be part of the present Civic Centre Building. With the support of the curlers in town and their financial aid I am convinced that it can be built in time for operation next year, especially if we receive the help from the Civic Centre which I feel we are entitled to receive. If support is not forth-

coming I expect that a small independent curling rink will be built and an important source of revenue for the rink lost.

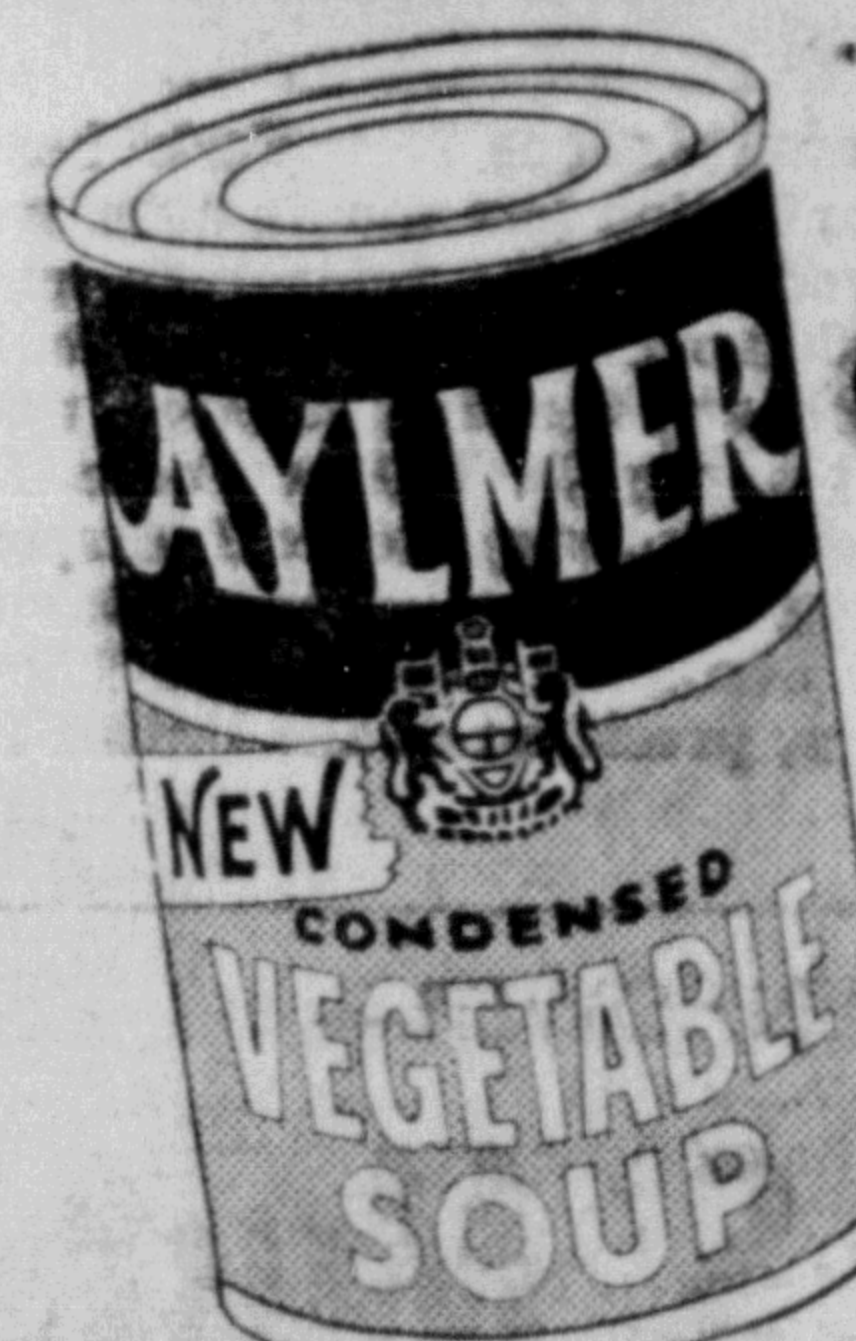
Your ballot is realistic in its approach and I feel you should be congratulated on the inclusion of the question regarding financial support. We can't have this worthwhile addition to our community recreational facilities unless we are prepared to pay for it though the individual per capita responsibility would not be large.

I hope that you will receive a veritable flood of favorable ballots preferably marked "yes" to all questions. Such a project will make our city a better place to live in and keep our young people more inclined to make this community their future home instead of drifting off to far away places. At the present time we have not too much to offer them. One mother recently said to me: "The only sport for boys in this town in winter is basketball and there's nothing for girls." I admit this may be overstating the case but hockey, curling, figure and pleasure skating with roller skating in the summer would make Prince Rupert a healthier and happier place in which to live.
 L. M. GREENE.

Daily Health Hint

In industry, medical service and health education programs in some plants have cut down sickness rates by at least 50 per cent.

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For full details apply to:

- The Registrar, Royal Roads, Royal Roads, B.C.
- The Registrar, Royal Military College, Kingston, Ont.

THE CANADIAN SERVICES COLLEGES

MARRIED 65 YEARS
 ST. JOHN'S, Nfld. (C)—Mr. and Mrs. William Curran of Holyrood celebrated the 65th anniversary of their wedding here. They have seven children, 23 grand-children and 19 great-grandchildren. Curran is a well-known fisherman on the salmon river.

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