Prince Rupert Daily News

Monday, December 17, 1951

An independent daily newspaper devoted to the upbuilding of Prince Rupert and Northern and Central British Columbia.
Member of Canadian Press — Audit Bureau of Circulations
Canadian Daily Newspaper Association.
G. A. HUNTER, Managing Editor; H. G. PERRY, Managing Director
SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
By carrier, per week, 20c; per month, 75c; per year, $8.00; by mail, per month, 75c; per year, $8.00.
Published every afternoon except Sunday by
Prince Rupert Daily News Ltd., 3rd Avenue, Prince Rupert.

Exchange Control Lifted

ABOLITION of the Canadian federal exchange board regulations, which imposed restrictions that even after ten years we still considered a nuisance, will be welcomed, primarily because the move at Ottawa returns to us another of the very important freedoms which we lost during the war.

Now we can go back and forth to the United States or elsewhere, spending as freely as we like and bringing back goods without limit although, of course, we will still have to pay the duty.

We will be able to send to the United States for what we like without having to go any longer through what sometimes seemed endless and certainly time-wasting explanations. And, when we come to paying, we will be able to send our checks just like we do for Canadian-purchased goods without all the red tape at the bank what with forms, certifications and special orders.

These are some of the smaller aspects which are welcomed with the removal of the foreign exchange controls.

From a broader angle, the action bolsters our fiscal and international morale by the confidence that is inspired through the fact that the government, after due consideration, must be satisfied that the Canadian dollar will be able to maintain its strength in the world market—the natural wealth of the country should insure that—and that there cannot be imminent danger of war or serious international complications at this time.

How Celanese Does It

COMMENDABLE, says Financial Post, is the program of Celanese Corporation of America to keep the financial community of Canada informed in the widest sense of its plans and progress.

The program had its curtain-raiser in Toronto the other evening when some 200 bankers, insurance men and other leaders in the financial community were guests of Celanese Corporation president, Harold Blancke. In a pleasantly relaxed atmosphere Blancke gathered his guests together, told them how his $40 million Columbia Cellulose plant at Prince Rupert was making out, reported on progress in construction of the $54 million Canadian Chemical plant at Edmonton, sketched in Celanese Corporation over-all policy, business philosophy, plans and expectations not only as they affected purely Canadian operations but in the world scope. Followed a blanket invitation to "put any question you want."

Thus did the men who raise the money for Celanese Corporation enterprises in Canada get a first-hand report on how the investment they guide is put to work.

It's a policy Blancke has followed in U.S. for several years and this yearly get-together is now assured as a permanent feature of the Celanese investor-relations effort in Canada.

It's a program worthy of wider adoption.

Scripture Passage for Today

"He ordained twelve, that they should be with him.
—St. Mark 3:14.

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As I See It

by Elmore Philpott

Bobsled From Heaven

IT WAS away back in the early years of this century, when we prayed for the big bobsled.

The Philpott tribe was not yet complete that Christmas. Only about nine or ten of the final total of thirteen children were born by then. But we lived just at the foot of the steep slope everybody called the Hamilton "mountain". A breath-taking bobsled run ended almost literally at our back door. Our house, having so many kids of its own, naturally attracted many more, like a big magnet pulls in loose iron bits.

We already had hand sleighs, on which we whizzed down the mountain side dozens of times daily, in the approved "belly flammer" style. But we wanted a good big bobsled, where a dozen or more boys and girls could sit, back-to-tummy and share the thrill that comes only from group adventure.

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MOTHER TAUGHT us year in year out that God answers prayer. We never missed family prayers in our house, at breakfast, and every kid was taught to say his or her prayers before piling into bed at night.

So that Christmas all the boys and girls in the Philipott tribe prayed loud and long for that bob. We hoped the Lord was hearing our prayers in heaven but we made darn sure that both father and mother did, downstairs.

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WEEKS BEFORE that joyful Christmas our intelligence service accurately informed us that dad had already ordered the bob from a handy-man and family friend, a Mr. Beckerson. I can't remember exactly how we found out, but I think the finder-outer must have been our sister Leah. She was a natural born genius at finding out secrets. For instance, a few years later when in some boyish trouble I had decided to "run away from home" Leah found my goodbye note before I could get out of the house. Her shrieks of laugher roused the family.

"Elmore's running away from home and he's made his will. Listen to it".

She read out the part where I bequeated my tool chest to the particular brother with whom I had not had the fight that day.

I tried to kill her,, but she was too hard to catch.

But to get back to the bobsled from heaven. This time all of us had to KEEP a secret. So we prayed for that bob because we wanted it, and with a lot more certainty after we knew it was, as young folks now say, in the bag. But we prayed too after we saw how much that meant to the old folks. Even we hardened little sinners sensed that it would have been a real shame to spoil the whole thing for mum and dad, so we had to go through with it. No professional bunch of troupers ever put on a better act.

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THE DAY before Christmas was perfect. There was a clean blanket of white snow. All sleigh bells sounded cheerful in those days—and when dad drove off in the cutter, behind Gypsy, our chestnut mare, those bells sounded happier than ever.

Just after dusk dad drove in again, but this time without a sound. He had the bobsled tied on behind the cutter. He stealthily hid it in the hedge along the drive. In a few minutes, unknown to dad, one of us boys had sneaked out to examine it. The whisper ran like wildfire when he came back in: "It's a dandy—it's a beauty—it's a peach."

But now more than ever, the act went out.

"Don't forget to say your prayers, and don't forget to pray for the bob."

"No, mum—we won't forget. We'll pray—sure we will—you bet."

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EARLY Christmas morning we trooped down. Mum made us sing outside the door, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow." We joyfully got the card telling us where to find the bob, and we never let on we had already seen it.

It must have been about our happiest Christmas. The bob was wonderful. But the look on our parents' faces, in all those weeks, was, you might say, even more so.

VICTORIA (CP)—A civic bylaw is being drawn up to give police more control over loose horses. The move followed a recent incident when a riderless horse crashed through a red light and two stop signs, disrupting traffic.

DIRECTS KOREAN TRAFFIC—Provost Corps L/Cpl. A. D. Theoret of Cornwall, Ont., directs traffic before a maze of tactical road signs in Korea. L/Cpl. Theoret is stationed at the Canadian Army's 25th Brigade headquarters. (CP from National Defence)

Pension Program Leading Measure of Fall Session

By D'ARCY O'DONNELL
Canadian Press Staff Writer

OTTAWA (CP)—The fifth session of Canada's 21st Parliament, called primarily to provide pensions of $40 a month to Canadians 70 and over, and now about to close for the holidays, has dealt with a wide variety of other topics.

Almost from the time the special fall session opened October 9 priority was given to government business. No time was devoted to the study of bills sponsored by private members, but they were given full opportunity to express their grievances during a long-drown-out debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne.

The pension legislation, completing a revision of the old-age security program, provided for federal pensions to all 70 and over, regardless of means, if they have lived in Canada for at least 20 years. Payment will start in January and are expected to go to some 700,000 Canadians.

TAX CHANGES

Three tax changes were made to finance the $400,000,000 program.

Finance Minister Abbott announced a two-per-cent increase in both the tax on personal incomes and on corporate profits. But a ceiling of $50 a year was placed on the amount a person will contribute to the pension fund through personal income tax. Two per cent of the 10-per-cent sales tax was earmarked for the pension fund.

At the five-month spring session, the government was authorized to share on a 50-50 basis with the provinces the cost of $40-a-month pensions to the needy, between 65 and 69. The payments will start as soon as agreements are concluded with the provinces. An estimated 145,000 Canadians will qualify for the pensions, to be financed out of general revenues.

The new acts will replace legislation under which pensions of $40 a month were paid to persons 70 and over who had lived in Canada for at least 20 years and who could prove their need for a pension. The federal government paid 75 per cent of the cost and the provinces the remainder.

High on the list of important measures at the fall session was one authorizing establishment of a crown agency to construct the St. Lawrence seaway with or without United States Co-operation. An agreement was concluded with Ontario for the development of power resources on the International Rapids section of the river.

No one expressed outright opposition to construction of the seaway, but several opposition members urged that simultaneously with the project steps be taken to develop the resources of the Maritime and prairie provinces.

Three bills providing for equalization of freight rates across Canada were endorsed. The legislation was recommend-

(Continued on page 4)

ray . . Reflects and Reminisces

Today, the trained Canadian private soldier draws $156 and found. That's a lot better than the lean and unlovely $1.10, gorblime.

This is the season when some folks like to linger in the post-office lobby, hoping for a letter that has yet to arrive. There's every indication of a strain on patience. And to keep peeping through the letter boxes at the stacks of mail ten feet high, waiting to be sorted is not helping the situation in the slightest.

Some day, this week, will be the year's shortest. Few of us would know, unless told. But it's cheerful to realize that from now on, flower gardens, sulphur and molasses, holidays and maple sugar will be just that much nearer.

If a nation is to be restored to a more satisfactory state, a return to confidence in the currency is a good way to start. In fact, it's the only way, as Mr. Churchill evidently thinks.

"Unless we get ahead with a planned build-up of the forces, we might as well quit and do it now." Of course, General Eisenhower, speaking in Paris, did not say that. Yet it's what he meant. Meanwhile there's a U.S. election next year and plenty feel Ike would look well in the White House.

Yes, the cost of what you place on the table three times a day keeps climbing. Why shouldn't it, when fewer and fewer people are farming, others eating and feeding more and more people doing something else to earn a living?

Memorial in Two Languages

Bilingual memorial service—in English and Ukrainian — was conducted Friday by Senior Captain George Oystryk at the Grenville Court Chapel of the B.C. Undertakers for the late Charles Gabura before the remains were sent to Terrace where interment was made at the week-end. There was also a solo in Ukrainian by Captain Ostryk — "This World is Not My Home."

Mrs. J. C. Gilker presided at the organ and hymns were "Rock of Ages," "Jesus, Saviour, Pilot Me" and "Safe in the Arms of Jesus."

Countrymen of deceased acted as pallbearers. They were William Mentenko, John Mulak, John Haidek, Dan Sawchuk, Nick Mentenko and Fred Prystay.

HONORS QUARTERBACK

REGINA (CP)—A group of grade eight students here has formed a Junior Red Cross branch named "The Dobber," in honor of star quarterback Glenn Dobbs of the Saskatchewan Roughriders, who lost to Ottawa in this year's Grey Cup final.

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