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## Steeped in Apathy

THE city of Prince Rupert has pending an event of extreme importance—a mayoral by-election which is less than three weeks away. Yet, there hasn't been a breath or a whisper of anyone slated to enter the race.

It doesn't look like there's going to be any kind of election at all—just a matter of last-minute rail-roading, or someone unfitted walking into the mayor's seat because there is no contest.

This is a case about which Prince Rupert citizens should do a lot of thinking, and some worrying as well. It is time that citizens here did a little worrying about the future of their city because they themselves are responsible for its future.

There are a few things in our city about which we can be proud, but there are many more about which we should be ashamed. If anything good is said about a community, it is a direct reflection on the people living there, but, by the same token, if there is unfavorable publicity it is laid square and fair into the laps of those who make up the community—and that's where it should be.

Perhaps Prince Rupert is a city where most people come to make their "stake" and then get out to retire somewhere else. But in the meantime, these same people live here for 20 years—or more—and they should not be satisfied with "just any old thing," as has been the general attitude here for many years.

George is a noble fellow in this city, but he is a very elusive character. We haven't found him yet. "Let George do it." Yes—but where is George? Maybe he's out fishing!

Yet despite what attitude the people of Prince Rupert are taking, progress and prosperity is reaching out its fingers towards them. But if the fingers are not given a helping hand, they will turn elsewhere and with them will flee progress.

A mayor in Prince Rupert does not have to be a scapegoat—not if he's a fighting man, and that is the type of man we should have to represent this city which is on the verge of stepping into the circle of the rest of this province's progressive communities.

This city can take its place as a major part in the development which surely will come to the North, but not by letting the little man around the corner—George—do it. And one of the main factors to play a part in the development of any community is a sincere interest of its members in their own civic affairs.

## How About It?

PERHAPS it was as a result of an editorial in The Daily News that the membership of the local museum increased by more than 12 per cent the following day. But when that increase is based on a membership of 25, it is not striking at all. It does point to the fact, however, that there are some who desire to support the museum, only they "just haven't got around to it yet."

Well, now is the time. It is a good investment, and the museum and its officials are worthy of this tangible expression of good will of the citizens. The membership card entitles the holder to free admittance to the museum any time. It isn't possible to see and learn about all the exhibits at one visit anyway, so members will want to return for other inspections.

## As I See It



by  
Elmore  
Philpott

### \$40 Or \$50 Pensions?

PARLIAMENT will meet in a few weeks to enact the new old age pension law.

The main feature of the new law is that everybody in Canada will receive \$40 a month, starting at age seventy, and payable for life.

Rich, not-so-rich, and poor alike will receive this benefit—exactly as the children of the rich, not-so-rich and poor already receive the Children's Allowance.

But the whole working population will pay into the scheme over the whole working lifetime. Hence the scheme should not be considered as a pension in the old sense.

It is the beginning of a new era in Canada where the entire nation will lay aside so much of its earnings to look after its old age. Canada has decided to treat the entire population as one big family.

As old age is something all humans must face, Canada takes a great forward step by this great plan of systematic self-help.

BUT THERE are other features of the plan which in my opinion are bad.

Pensions are still to be paid, on the old means-test basis from age sixty-five to age seventy. This seems to me to defeat the main argument in favor of the new plan.

Either the means-test principle is right, or the no-means-test principle is right. If we are going in for the no-means-test principle, then why not go the whole hog and finish the job? Why try to operate two different schemes on two basically different principles?

UNDER THE old scheme, now to be superseded, several of the provinces were paying bonuses, over and above the \$40 grant. These bonuses range from \$2.50 per month in Yukon Territory, to \$10 per month in Alberta and B.C.

Now see what hopeless confusion will arise if the government tries to operate TWO BASICALLY DIFFERENT PLANS.

It would be downright cruelty to reduce the present pension of \$50 per month which some old folks are already receiving. They have already qualified for this on a "means test" basis.

But how can the provinces continue to pay the bonus of \$10 per month, to those already getting the full \$50, without also paying the \$10 bonus to those who in future may need it also?

THERE IS another weighty argument against the two, differently based plans.

One of the great arguments in favor of the no-means-test principle is that such a plan may be administered at a tiny fraction of the cost of a means-test plan. But by continuing to pay pensions from sixty-five to sixty-nine on a means test basis, then from seventy onwards on a no-means-test basis we completely nullify one main argument in favor of the no-means-test plan. We require a considerable corps of civil servants, otherwise unnecessary.

THERE seems to me to be only one way out. The pension should be at least \$50 per month, and it should be paid to everybody at a certain age—without means test of any kind.

If the national government figures that it could not finance a universal scheme, granting say \$50 per month to everybody at age sixty-five, then why not compromise half way between sixty-five and seventy?

But if we are to go on the new, right principle—let's go on it with both feet, and with our whole hearts. Let's not fall between two stools.

FIRST TAXI  
The horse-drawn cab for carrying passengers was designed by Nicholas Sauvage, a Frenchman, in 1660.

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## Parties Campaign On Diverse Tacks

By J. C. GRAHAM  
Canadian Press Correspondent

AUCKLAND, N.Z. (CP)—The New Zealand general election to be held September 1 sees the opposing parties campaigning on different issues. That's one of the things that make this election one of the most unusual in New Zealand history.

Since modern party government was introduced 60 years ago, it is the only election to be held before it is legally due. Every other New Zealand parliament has either run its full three-year term or else has had its tenure extended because of war or economic conditions.

The last election was in 1949 and the next wasn't normally due until 1952. In the House just dissolved, Prime Minister Sidney G. Holland's National Party government had 46 seats, against 34 for the Labor opposition.

Both the National Party and Labor are contesting all 80 seats in the coming vote. The Communists are running a few candidates but all these are expected to lose their deposits, as they have done in every recent election.

### NEW PLATFORMS

For the first time in two decades, the central issue of socialism versus private enterprise is not the dominant theme in the present campaign. The National Party government is asking the electors to endorse its crushing of the industrial upheaval which gripped New Zealand for five months this year, while the Labor party as its chief platform is attacking inflation and high living costs.

Both Prime Minister Holland and Opposition Leader Walter Nash have proposed substantial income tax reductions and extensions of the big social security structure. Both steps are considered practicable in view of the present buoyant state of New Zealand's finances.

Other points in the government platform are reduction in prices of bread, flour, butter, tea, gas and gasoline, and an increase in universal superannuation payments. These are payments to persons over 65 regardless of income. Eventually they will replace old age pensions, now paid to persons of limited means, which are higher than the present superannuation payments.

Labor's platform includes tax reductions, increases in many social security benefits, free dental and optical services, a return to building state houses for rental only, rent reductions on present state-built homes, re-imposition of import controls on goods which can be produced in New Zealand, and maintenance of the civil airways as a state concern. The airways have been offered for sale by the present government.

### SURPRISE ELECTION

The election announcement was a complete surprise but the Labor party rallied vigorously and declares it is confident of regaining power. For the time being at least the breach between industrial and political sides of the labor movement has been healed, and trade unions are giving Labor candidates their full support.

Underlying the whole campaign is the handling of New Zealand's biggest industrial dispute in many years, which began with a strike of longshoremen in February, spreading to miners, seamen and sections of the transport and meat workers. It ended in July with the complete defeat of the strikers.

Moderate trade unions sided with the government against the strikers throughout, but political Labor attacked the government's handling of the dispute and termed emergency powers taken to deal with it anti-democratic and "Fascist."

The government's attitude was that the strike was part of a world-wide Communist conspiracy and that drastic measures were necessary to deal with it. Several prominent trades union leaders widened the gap with the Labor party by asserting their agreement with the government view that the strikes were Communist-inspired. Their difference have been healed for the moment.

The Labor party was in power for four years until it lost the 1949 elections. It opened a strong assault on government methods used to settle the strike when parliament assembled recently. A series of non-confidence motions however were easily beaten down by the government majority. But Prime Minister Holland seized the opportunity to call the election on the strike issue.

FAMOUS CLOCK  
CANTERBURY, England (CP)—The famous clock in St. George's Tower, damaged by German incendiary bombs in 1942, has been saved from demolition. A fund of \$600 has been raised to repair it.

Canada's first fall fair was held at Windsor, N.S., in 1765.



TAM RIDES THE PRAIRIES. (Ed's Answer — "Try Prince Rupert")

## ray..

### Reflects and Reminisces

A surplus of \$409,000,000 is announced by the Minister of Finance, Hon. Mr. Abbott. Should the Minister give any signs of embarrassment, it is a simple enough matter to find any number of persons—including newspaper employees—prepared to offer suggestions.

A number of slot machines have been reported found in the Saskatchewan River. Suckers might find some use for them.

### WHAT! NO SHOW?

Prince Rupert's many gardens continue to look their best, even with autumn near, and a crispness in the air. Tourists, strolling up town, pause and point at colorful displays at the homes of C. A. Berner and G. F. Forbes, as well as the blooms in the CNR park. Obviously, they are quick to respond to the charm of what they see. And while on the subject, what has become of the annual flower show? It had won a place in local affairs, and greatly stimulated interest in horticulture.

In future, advice from Ottawa says, an underground device will shoot news through a tube, and in this way save minutes. Already, quite a few of us feel some of it is pretty well shot before release.

### NOW WE KNOW

An Ontario wife recently made the pleasing discovery that her husband had hidden \$3,000 in the family ice-box. At last, one understands what cold cash means.

Several ships have called at Port Churchill to load wheat, but finding so little available, returned overseas to wait a while longer. If there is to be such a thing as competition, there is a port in northern British Columbia to be considered. Not a grain of wheat, and not even a glimpse of a boat seen here in years and years.

### NEWS DELAYED

When the average afternoon daily misses delivery, or is a

### LUCKY BOY

WINDSOR, Ont. (CP)—Two-year-old Randall Sisson can thank his lucky stars that he has only a slightly wounded posterior after sitting down on a crochet needle. The 6½-inch needle penetrated five inches into the boy's body just missing his spinal column.

### DEER STALKERS

An average of 30,000 deer are killed by hunters in Nova Scotia each year.

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## Alta. Has Frost

EDMONTON — Frost was reported from various parts of Alberta Friday night. It was not regarded as severe enough to do any harm.

by sailing ship, and by coach from Dover to the metropolis.

The daily crisis—anticipating tragedy and excitement — no sense of security—haste, anxiety—and reading all about it a few moments after it takes place—nothing tranquil — could this help to explain, "death was due to a heart attack?"—read so frequently today.

England and Wales are divided into 62 administrative counties for purposes of local government.

Careful,  
Mister....  
that's  
dangerous  
stuff!



Maybe you don't think that money can harm you. But nowadays, unless you handle it with care, it can make things tougher for you—and others.

If you spend it on things you think may soon be scarce or may cost more later, you will help drive prices still higher. And that will hit you where it hurts—in your own wallet.

But every dollar you save now—in life insurance, bank deposits, or savings bonds—helps keep prices down. And it can work for you in other important personal ways.

For instance, you may need money someday for an unexpected emergency. Or, perhaps, for starting a new business... buying a new home... sending your boy or girl to college. These and countless other plans may remain just dreams—unless you have more money saved.

In your savings plan, life insurance meets a special need. For you can use it to combine savings with financial protection for your loved ones.

So, to help keep prices down... to provide for your tomorrows... SAVE!

A message from the  
LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES IN CANADA  
and their representatives

## Minister Opp To Vacation For School

WELLINGTON (CP)—The Minister of Education, Mr. Algie, has declared his position to high school working during holidays.

"I was not pleased that large numbers of students were going to seek employment in the next vacation," Mr. Algie said.

"I should issue a warning. The vacations of these are two in each year, one partly for rest, refreshment and partly for scholars to review their examinations. The schools are doing."

The holiday system here is different from Canada. The seasons are reversed. The winter starts here at the New Zealand schools have a vacation of two or three weeks in the fall, a similar one in the spring, and the "long" of six to eight weeks in the summer.

## TEACHERS DISAGREE

With the current labor age it has been easy for to get temporary work rates of pay during the terms. More than 50,000 attend full-time schools and half as many get part-time technical.

Some teachers and education authorities disagree with the minister's view that light work in the open-air work on farm good change from school and that pupils return such jobs just as fit to studies as those who go to holidays in recreation.

This section maintains is no reason why pupils not get valuable experience in the working world and same time earn some money when the offers.