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Civic Interest Needed

TVIC nomination day is less than ten days distant and two weeks from this Thursday the election will take place.

But there is a deplorable lack of interest.

Two mayoralty candidates are definitely in the field and at least two more names are being prominently mentioned.

Nobody seems to be taking much interest in the aldermanic contest and that is too bad because one alderman is just about as important as the mayor in directing the serious business of the city.

The mayor might be called the front man (or woman) of the city and, in view of that, it is, of course, important that we have a good, capable, personable mayor with executive ability and personality.

But the mayor has to answer to his council. That is why it is important there should be good timber individually in the council which really decides the policy of the city and to considerable extent directs it.

It is all very well to criticize the city council, talking about what it does or does not do. Some of those who are the loudest in their criticism are, we have noted, those who are the most diffident about getting in there and taking a hand in the work.

So it is important that we should have good material not only on the city council but on the very important school board as well as the parks board which also is in a position to do very important work for the city.

It is to be hoped that good men will enlist themselves in the conduct of city affairs by offering their candidature.

Then when election day comes it is also desirable that there should be a big turn-out of citizens to express their preferences.

However, if we do not have some advance enthusiasm as can only be occasioned by good, healthy discussion among the candidates, there is little chance of enthusiasm at the polls.

It is indeed too bad that, with the rising importance of this city and the many civic problems that beset it, there is not a more active interest in the highly important business of civic government.

We may think our own personal and business affairs demand all our time and attention but we should also remember that, as goes the business of the community, so goes our own business.

It is to be hoped the next few days will see a lively awakening of interest in civic affairs.

Why Peace Delay?

T IS a little difficult to understand, if the ceasefire line can be settled and tacitly agreed upon as the line of demarcation after the armistice in Korea, why it should be necessary for the hostilities to go on for another 30 days, even if they are on a reduced basis.

It seems like going on with the killing and wounding after the most important part of the argument has been settled. If that is one of the formalities of modern warfare, it seems ridiculous.

Of course the truce and the armistice may not mean an end to the great idealogical warfare of which Korea is only a small part. But the cold war will never be settled as long as the hot war goes on.

GENERA'L EBELECTRIC

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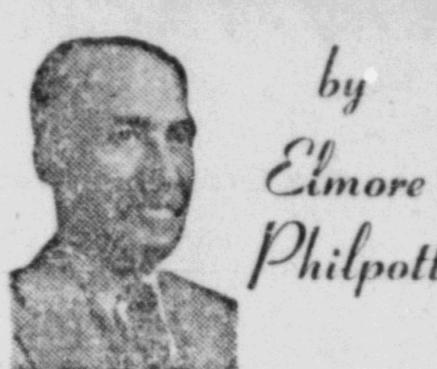
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Nix on Price Fix?

MANUFACTURERS are

descending on Ottawa like angry bees these days. For our parliament is toying with the idea of passing a law saying, in effect: "Nix on price fix."

For once, I am on the side of SOME of the manufacturersnot all. For it seems to me you just can't say no manufacture? may fix the price at which the retailer is to sell his product. are two sides to this

IT IS 30 years since I began to write in Canadian newspapers. In that whole time all the different papers for which I have written have been subject to the keenest competition. Yet the selling price of the papers was always printed on page one and I fancy any newsie who tried to sell those papers for less than the going rate would have had a hard time getting a future

Before that I sold vacuum cleaners, from factory to dealers. We charged the retailer about \$50 for the machine ne sold to the public at \$75. We would not permit any retailer to sell for less than the going rate-for obviously that would have worked havoc amongst all the other dealers. Yet we faced fierce, steady competition every day of the year.

IT SEEMS to me that there an important difference beeral manufacturers, acting in It's odd, but it's true:

Macey's department store and that will be. the Mixmaster company. When the big New York stores were trying to unload their surplus KARACHI ()-High grade chroenormous "bargain sales."

used the "loss leader" technique, on a commercial basis. Pakistan For instance they sold Mixmas- already produces 20,000 tons of ters for about \$23 which cost chromite annually. them \$29 apiece when bought wholesale. Naturally vast throngs came in to grab such bargains. And in grabbing such "sucker bait" article they natwanted. The profits on these latter sales more than offset the losses on the sold-below-cost Mixmasters.

WE HAVE had recent examples in Canada where manufacturers of standard necessities secretly and illegally combined to extort extra money from the public by fixing prices to the new count. public, and ruthlessly stamping

out any attempted competition. There is a vast difference between this form of conspiracy, and the fixing, by a single manufacturer, of the final retail price on his own unique prod-

The test of such difference is

Is there effective competition? Is the public interest protect-

In the case of a wide variety

of manufactured articles the public interest is protected because—even though each manufacturer may individually fix the retail price of his own product—he does not attempt to fix the price of his numerous competitors' products-all of whichcompete with his in open mar-

SUPPOSE an arbitrary, indiscriminate law were passed simply saying "No manufacturer may tell the retailer that he may not sell the product below such

and such a price." The early effect of that law would be that the big chain stores would quickly put out of business many-maybe mostof the smaller independent concerns. They would use the "loss leader" technique, exactly as did Macey's, and who could blame them? But only concerns with vast resources could attempt

The small merchant would be out of luck and out of business.

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VICTORIA REPORT

... by J. K. Nesbitt

Herb Anscomb Happy-Coalition Split and Election by September

VICTORIA. - Conservative Leader Herb Anscomb is walking in the clouds these days. He can entitled "Killing Christmas." Not remains largely unravaged and hardly believe all the wonderful news - Winston Churchill and his Conservatives back in power in ciples in the face of an insatiable Britain; the Conservative party of Ontario swept back into office with a tremendous majority.

Anscomb's positive now that his B.C. Conservatives will sweep the province at the next general election.

Meanwhile he's doing lots of spade work, repairing his political fences, telling his followers to get out and organize and be all ready for the fight. It would appear he's doing a better job of organizing than the Liberals who are bickering and fighting among themselves.

go their separate ways to the polls in a general election about

scomb has reason for buoyancy has been sent from a Canadian as he looks at Britain and On- penitentiary where he was servtario. Just the same, this ob- ing a life sentence to a British money) that the Liberals, under be feeling much better, having Boss Johnson, will be able to recently remarked "he is contake the government in the next vinced that all nationalism is provincial general election.

days are the CCF'ers. They don't he shot in Normandy in 1944. admit it in public, being always hopeful that their cause will win in the end. But the practical wiping out of the CCF from On- lifted. tario has been a bad blow. The old Socialist defeat in Britain, too, was a great disappointment to

tween the fixing of a fair sell- One wouldn't think political Prince George. There is a bridge ing price by the manufacturer, affairs in a distant country and acting entirely in the interest a far-away province could have of his own product, his own re- any bearing on affairs in B.C. tailers and his own customers. But they do. People have a tendand the fixing of prices, by sev- ency to get on the bandwagon.

collusion jointly to hold up the British Columbia isn't going to have a dull minute from now Take the now famous case of until election day, whenever

DISCOVER CHROMITE stocks last summer, they staged mite has been discovered in Balluchistan, believed in sufficient To attract the customers they quantity to warrant development

Reflects and

Reminisces

During November 560 families The talk in legislative corri- arrived in British Columbia from dors now is that the Coalition other provinces while 361 left will go through next session, for other parts of Canada. B.C. make an attempt to get back in is gradually being discovered. Yet the good graces of the public it's still a fact that Eastern (throw out the Milk Board, re- Canada is full of people" who move the ban on coloring of have never been west of the margarine, fix up hospital in- Great Lakes and who think that, surance). The Liberals and Con- because the coast is next door servatives will then split up and to Alaska, the cold must be cruel.

BACK HOME

It must be admitted Herb An- Kurt Meyer, former general, server woul bet (if he had any jail in Germany. He appears to dead." But not as dead as the Really down-hearted these eighteen Canadian war prisoners

> Perhaps what the poor old earth wants is to have its faith - Stratford Beacon-Her-

The PGE Railway can now be said to be getting up steam for across Cottonwood Canyon.

NEW CITIES

Kitimat's population, accorde ing to the Vancouver press, will soon be soaring to 50,000 persons One cannot but wonder if the same enumerators will take the official census.

Winston Churchill will visit Ottawa in January but there is not the slightest occasion for him to worry over frozen water pipes frost bites, snow shovelling or poorly heated rooms. Ottawa can found exceedingly comfort-

(Continued on page 6)

Were You Missed in urally saw other things they 1951 Enumeration?

The Daily News check on the 1951 census, which is being challenged for its short count of 8,465, may prove useful as a basis in any new count which may be made to find city residents who were missed by the enumerators.

People who were missed are being asked to communicate the omission with as little delay as possible so that basis may be established for the contention that there was a serious short count The city has enlisted the co-operation of service clubs in

DAILY NEWS CENSUS CHECK

A federal census taker did NOT call at my home and I have checked with each member ofmy family to make sure.

There are persons in my family. (signature) (address)



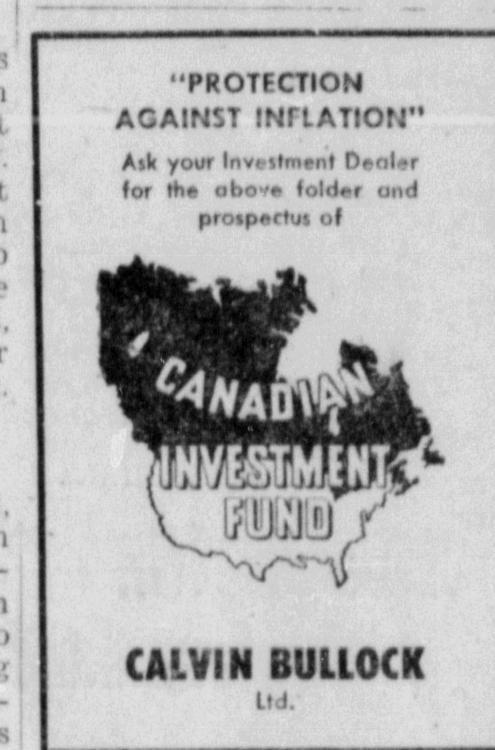
This advertisement is not published or displayed by the Liquor Control Board or by the Government of British Columbia.

LETTERBOX

SEATTLE APPRECIATION

Editor, Daily News: From the mad vortex of fevered to your earlier piece on the edi- indeed will be a good commercialism in whose en- torial page. slavement struggles this rich All best wishes to the Prince find than to go on with American metropolis of Seattle, Rupert Daily News. A paper fore you the knowledge Washington, it was heartening to serving an emerging community this world there is n read in your Daily News of No- that has behind it one of the everyone's need-but read in your Daily News of No- that has believe that enough for everyone's vember 13 the timely editorial most richly endowed regions that enough for everyone's PHIL PRICHAP would so dare flaunt their prin- hand of man. If you are able to and ever-encroaching commercialism that would make of Christian aspiration a ribald mockery and of our greatlyvaunted democracy but another victim to the fever of human greed. So, thanks again for the editorial. And I hope that you will continue to print material not entirely enslaved to the loudsung dictates of the dollar, "Thou shalt have no other gods before

Further about "Killing Christ-





Then \$1700 an ounce!

Ninety-three years ago, Queen's University, Kingston, gave a medal to its first graduate in chemistry. The medal was made of aluminum-which then cost \$17.00 an ounce.

Today aluminum costs only slightly over one cent an

The price has been brought down by mass production in huge plants using the electrolytic process discovered twentyeight years after the Queen's medal was presented.

By developing some of Canada's waterpower, previously running to waste, Alcan has succeeded in making this country the world's most efficient producer of aluminum, giving employment to many thousands of Canadians and through exports of "packaged power" aiding Canadians in acquiring the imports needed here. Aluminum Company of Canada, Ltd. (Alcan).

mas" I am enclosing an item from cherish and protect s the Seattle Times of this day clean northwest country November 25. Here is an item so unbridled acquisitives pertinent to the situation that it has lain waste the gre

might read well as a follow-up of this favored conting

1412 Summit

Seattle, 22, W



WHEN you consider the men, women a money needed to operate 3,700 branche you see what is involved in looking after the greatly increased demands made by Canadians upon their chartered banks.

> In ten years . . . with bigger staffs and higher wages, payrolls have jumped from \$40 million a year to \$102 million ... taxes, federal, provincial and

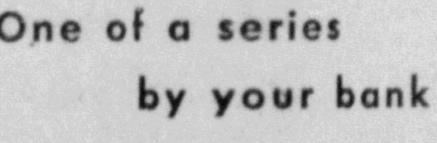
> municipal, have risen from \$9.5 million to \$20.7 million a year ... interest paid to depositors has increase

from \$22 million to \$57.8 million a year. And these are only three of many exp

items. Yes, today more than ever, it co

One of a series

money to run a bank.



Happy Christmas Darling!

And with love . . . from Mother and Dad . . . a very special present, her own bank book showing a Christmas deposit. Think about giving the "Juniors" at your house a "Commerce" account of their own. You'll see what a happy gift it is. Your teen-agers will feel so grown-up and important. You'll know what a good gift it is-a personal account encourages them to save for what they want.

It's simple when you know !

Remember, money-wise boys and girls are more understanding of their parents' planning, better prepared for their own future responsibilities.

