

Wednesday, October 17, 1951

An independent daily newspaper devoted to the upbuilding of Prince Rupert and Northern and Central British Columbia.

Housing

EARLY action on the long-mooted low rental housing scheme for Prince Rupert is a matter for much gratification.

Meantime, it is to be hoped that something also may be done before long in aiding builders of their own homes here—people who are now almost priced out of the market.

Very wisely the federal government has eased its restrictions on mortgage money under the National Housing Act.

Even with the new regulations, automatic provision of badly needed housing should not be taken for granted. The shortage of mortgage money, though easing, is still reported acute by lending institutions.

However, the government's action on mortgages should help the immediate housing problem. If other issues are tackled as courageously and promptly, as they arise, there can be no doubt that Canada's shelter position will be immeasurably improved.

Immunization Week

THIS is National Immunization Week in Canada when health authorities throughout the Dominion call to the public attention the dangers of diphtheria, whooping-cough and smallpox and the means for protecting children—and others—against these diseases by immunization which service is made readily accessible to the public from the family doctor or the public health services.

Last year in Canada there were 12,182 cases of whooping-cough and 421 cases of diphtheria, and 354 victims of these two diseases, which health authorities have established are preventable, lost their lives.

There are still a few people in the country who do not hold with immunization practices but their number is constantly growing smaller in the face of increasing medical achievements and proofs along this line.

An important thing about immunization is that it not only protects the person who is immunized but the other person as well.

Sleeping Late

IT IS not so bad to sit up late at night if you can sleep late in the morning, observes the Vancouver News-Herald. That is what many people arrange to do.

But the birds will not sleep any later. Nor will the sun co-operate by staying longer below the horizon. Traffic cannot be rerouted beyond the range of sound.

There will, too, be people who went to bed very early. Consequently they have neither the need nor the desire to lie in bed very late. When they get up they will draw baths.

No doubt these people, wanting to know what has transpired during the night, will turn on a radio news program.

Little dogs next door will bark, little children will play under your window. People will slam doors.

These noises will arouse your curiosity. They will create anxiety about your most cherished possessions. It will do no good to cover your head with a pillow. So you might just as well get up and try to get through the day with the help of aspirin and coffee.

People who propose to sleep late should realize that they can achieve their end only by persuading all of mankind and nature to do so along with them.

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As I See It



by Elmore Philpott

Best Show in Britain

LONDON. — The best show in Britain, especially at election times, is in Hyde Park of a Sunday afternoon.

Two weeks ago there was a definitely hushed note to the proceedings—with the King on the operating table. Last winter, when I was here before, the speeches by the Tories, for instance, had a studiously jolly air—a sort of "let's go slumming, you chaps."

It is very different now. They had the biggest crowds I ever saw in Hyde Park this afternoon—and the Tory speaker had the biggest crowd of all, but it was mostly hostile.

I HEARD about six religious speakers, usually with small crowds, some telling of the second coming of Christ. I listened a few minutes to two young Spiritualists, with their hair studiously pulled down to make them look unusual.

One was in hot argument with a British housewife about which produces what—mind matter or matter mind. I saw one heckler so badly worn a freakish, bearded young speaker that the latter simply quit and left his speaking place.

I listened to half a dozen Irishmen, all "agin" the (British) government. Also I heard a Fascist, with an audience of five, argue that Britain had Fascism already under Mr. Attlee. I saw a fierce two-man argument between a speaker who said that Britain got no help from America in the recent war and a very dirty, dishevelled, but strongly opinionated man who answered:

"Aw, come off it—where wuz you, anyway—blindfolded down the bleeding cellar?"

A NEGRO for the Colored Workers' Association told of what happened to him when he landed as a seaman in the southern U.S. in 1921. It was not very nice.

One clever Irishman had the biggest, jolliest crowd of the day by setting himself up off the beaten track and over a low fence—so that he escaped most competition from other speakers and hymn singers. His wisest crack was at the expense of Winston Churchill:

"I know a gentleman," he said, "who gets £5,000 a year for going like this." He mimicked Churchill's famous V sign.

NO LABOR or Liberal speakers were speaking during the hours I was in Hyde Park today. But both the Conservatives and the Communists—side by side—were having a lively time—the Tory the hottest.

Last winter the crowds would give the Tories a respectful hearing, interrupting only enough to show them they thought the line handed out was mostly eyewash.

But now it is very different. The Tories had different type speakers, too—very working-class in appearance. In fact, when I first went up to their crowd, I thought it was the Communist meeting, for the speaker so looked the part. He was trying to convince a vociferously skeptical audience that under the Tories social welfare would be just as well maintained as it had been under Labor.

EVEN IN HYDE PARK the British show some of their most admirable national characteristics. The actual on-the-spot debate is much more intelligent than we ever have it in Canada in public meetings.

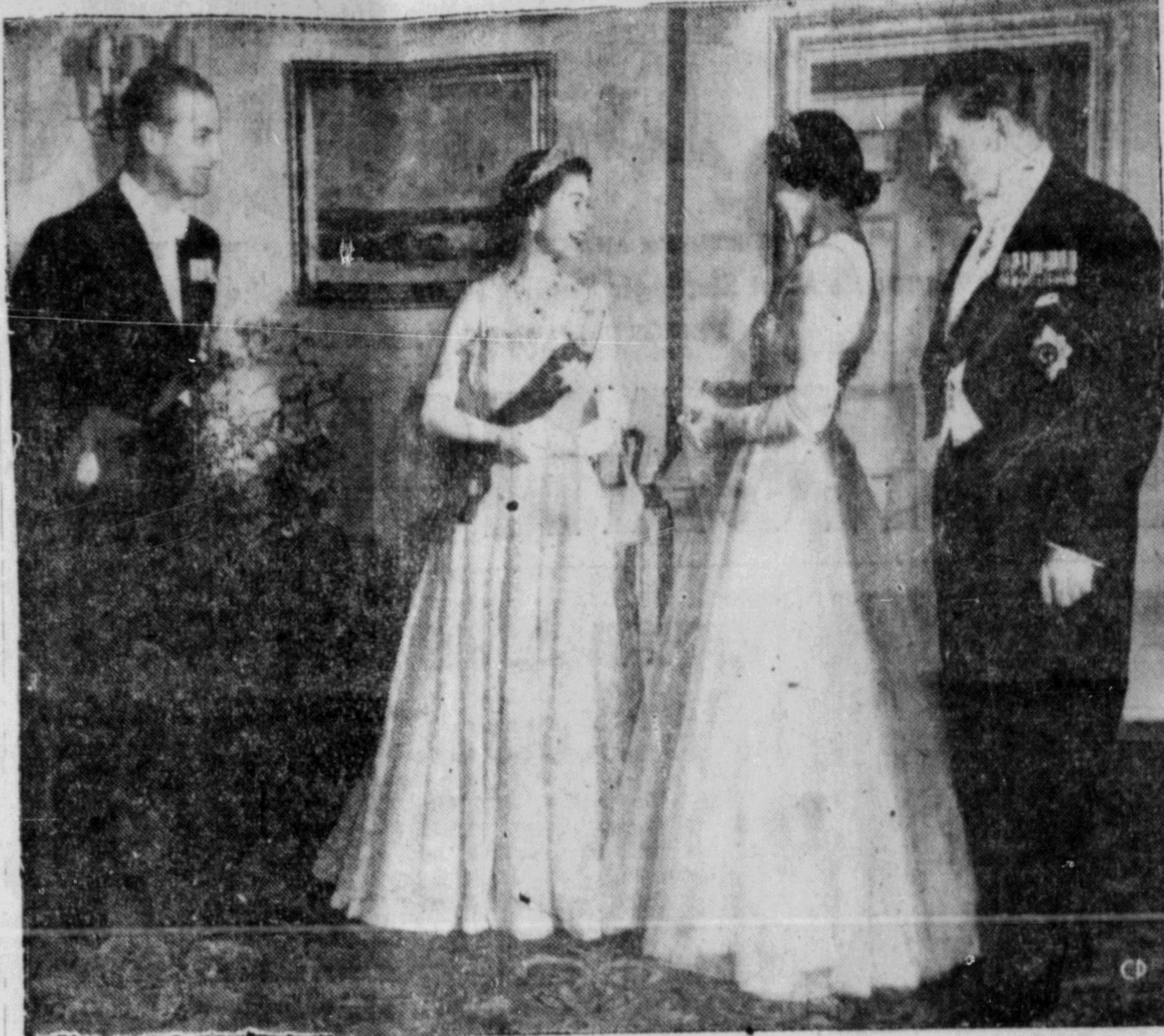
I can remember speaking to stormy meetings myself. Also I can remember when the late R. B. Bennett was Prime Minister when in an hour's speech, hardly a sentence he said failed to get the answering roar of boos.

But here in this poor man's parliament—Hyde Park—it is not just blind opposition—it is not just negative reaction.

The speaker must actually debate his crowd. They are just too well informed for him to get away with anything—and that goes for Conservatives all the way around to Communists.

Also, if the British ever were inhibited and shy, they certainly are not when they go to Hyde Park. If they think the speaker is talking rot, they say so—women as well as men.

Prince Edward Island is only a little more than one-sixth the size of Vancouver Island. P.E.I.'s area is 2,184 square miles and that of Vancouver Island about 12,408 square miles.



AT STATE DINNER—Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh are seen with Governor-General Viscount Alexander and Lady Alexander outside the dining room in Government House, Ottawa, following the state dinner to the Royal couple Wednesday night.

ray .. Reflects and Reminisces

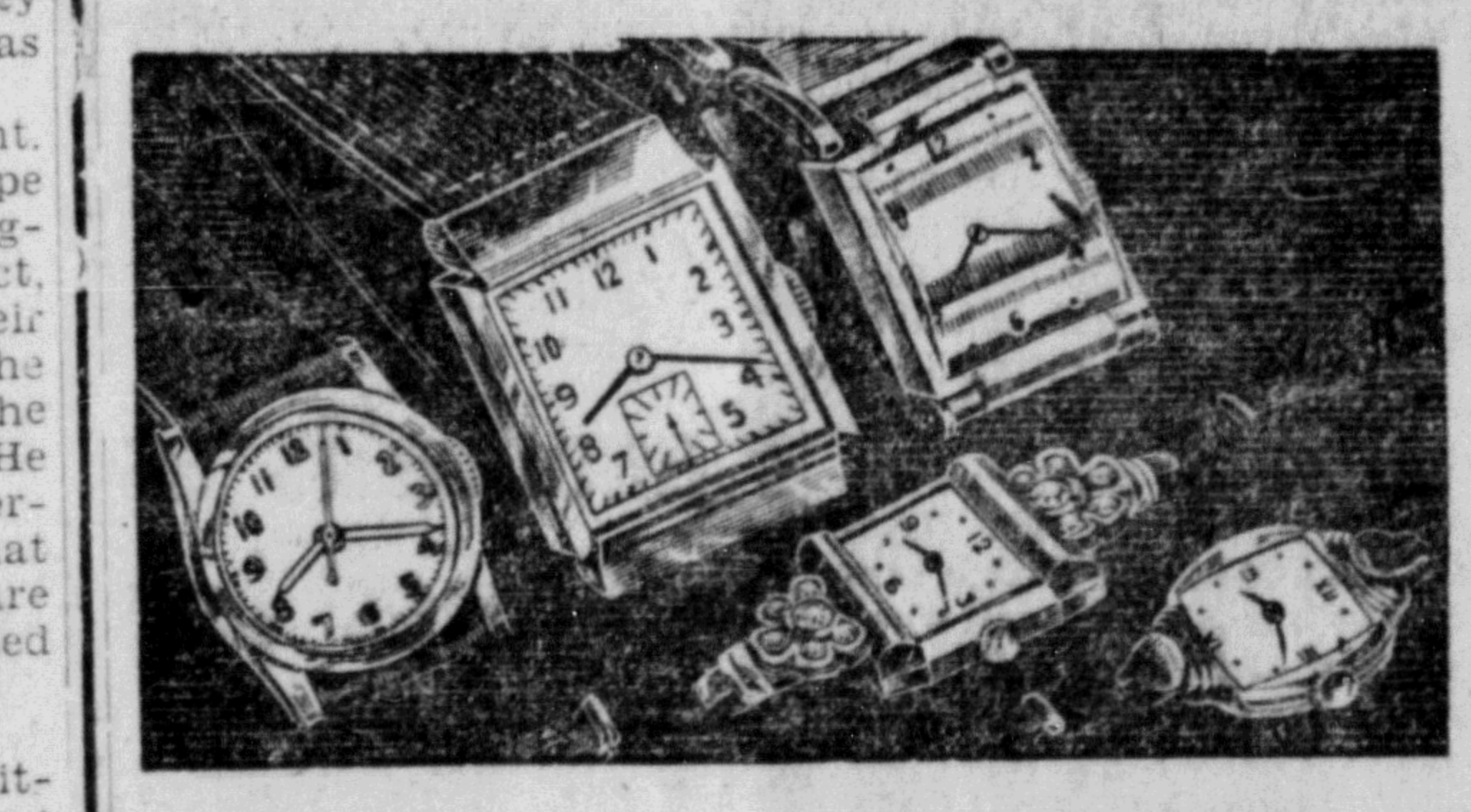
in. It's a change that's making piling more pronounced.

A MASTER DEAL Disraeli has been dead for many a year but could he hear Egypt telling Britain to get out of Suez he might have a few pertinent remarks to make.

The physical short cut was also an advantage that gave power and prestige on a scale never approached before. Before Suez, contact with Eastern seas and hard-won possessions meant navigating the Cape of Good Hope. No nation gained greater and more immediate saving in distance and in time.

Cold Weather Hitting Crop

EDMONTON — Cold weather has practically brought harvesting on the prairies to a halt again. A heavy loss in crop already becoming apparent.



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Milk Price Takes Jump

As milk prices went up three cent a quart in Vancouver this week, an increase of three cents a quart in Prince Rupert is announced.

Other Vancouver milk prices are: special, 24c a quart; butter-milk, 19c; skim milk, 18c; sub-standard cream, 49c; table-cream, 92c; whipping cream, \$1.35.

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Rich Tuna Disappear

Appear to Have Gone Altogether From B.C. Waters VANCOUVER (CP)—The elusive tuna, worth more than \$1,000,000 last year, and more than that in 1948, have again disappeared.

Two of the best-equipped research vessels in the Canadian and United States government patrol fleets have returned with empty hooks after extensive cruises, covering a giant square of the Pacific Ocean between Cape Blanco and the Queen Charlotte Islands.

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