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Lying Will Not Pay

WHATEVER may be the faults of the United States government and the American press in particular, deliberate lying is not one of them. If anything, they have erred on the side of telling too much of the truth. Throughout the Korean War the American press correspondents have reported every move of the UN forces in detail, and they have even forecast what the next moves were going to be. General MacArthur himself has talked too much. All this has provided the enemy with free and valuable military intelligence, and the result is the present disastrous situation. There is no need to fight lies with counter-lies, but it is suicidal in warfare to act as an intelligence agent for the enemy.

As for the final outcome of the present struggle of the western nations with the lying propaganda issued from Moscow, and the immoral tactics of the Soviet in the cold war, there can be no doubt. There is a divine edict against "whosoever loveth and maketh a lie," and "all the nations that forget God." If this world is to go on and the nations are to live together in peace, we must hold fast to the belief of the poet Patmore, that

"When all its work is done, the lie will rot;
The truth is great and shall prevail."

OLD DAYS AND NEW

EVERY routine occupation is monotonous, but few people think about the monotony. Someone has said that routine is one of the blessings of middle life. Young people are inclined to kick over the traces, but they soon get used to the harness and like it. They love to put on a uniform and march in unison. Old people are lost when they have to retire from routine. Without routine, community life, with all its interlocking organization, would be impossible. It was the same in the old days, except that the pace of life was slower and people worked harder and longer hours.

Looking back upon those old days, life does appear to have been more picturesque and humanly interesting than in this mechanical age, but occupations were no less monotonous and there was certainly more drudgery with little leisure. Mechanical appliances have relieved the modern housewife of the heavy labor that was the lot of her grandmother. Life in general today is undoubtedly more interesting. The difference is one of speed. Time itself seems to be speeded-up and the panorama of life moves so fast that we can't take it all in. Working people are not empty-headed; in fact, they have such a jumble of stuff in their noodles that they don't know what to make of it all. What the world needs is a pause for reflection. What we need is more mental rest and calm contemplation of the passing events in the light of eternity.

JANUARY DAYS

THIS dark period of early winter is when it pays to go around with your head down and not look up at the sky at all. Note, however, that you should be careful not to put your head too far down, or the rain will fall inside your coat collar on the back of your neck. The main thing is not to look up at the sky or think about it. The grim fact that the sun sets in the afternoon, not to rise until after breakfast the next day, cannot entirely depress the spirits of anyone who steadfastly refuses to notice.

Certainly you must avoid comparing this dismal situation with bright summer mornings. Some people, for fear of making the comparison, prepare for the present season by carefully not noticing the good seasons. Even in the spring or in golden autumn they go around with their heads down, lest they might see something beautiful and then remember it in the dark of early winter and feel depressed at what they had lost.

When the alarm clock rings in the morning gloom you should not recite poems like R. L. Stevenson's little character's having to get up by night and saying his prayers by candlelight. The thing to do is to keep your mind off its being dark.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE FOR TODAY

"Wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy."

—James 2:26.



As
I
See
It

By ELMORE PHILPOTT
OUR BRITISH FAMILY

THE PRIME ministers of the British Commonwealth are in London for a family talk. It is safe to say that never before have so many people in so many parts of the world been so eager to keep together this strange aggregation.

A few years back there were faint hearts who were prepared to concede that "we've had it." According to them, the British Empire was all washed up. Burma and even mighty India were on the way out, they said. The end was in sight.

I HAVE MADE many mistakes in my time—but thank the Lord I never fell for that one. I never for one moment believed or even feared that the British world community was all washed up.

In fact, one of the reasons why I did my bit in Canada for independence for India (though) my talks in favor of such over the CBC network stirred up the frenzy of our colonial diehards) was because a free India seemed to me the vital link in the greater British Commonwealth of the future.

I had the honor to print in this column the first accurate forecast of India's future relationship to the British world community. It was given to me at San Francisco in May 1945 by the brilliant lady, Mrs. Pandit, who is now India's ambassador to the United States. Nehru's sister told me then.

1. That a free India would declare her legal independence.
2. That, having done so, she would show willingness to become a full free partner of the British nations, and hence a more productive relationship and mutually beneficial relationship would be possible in the future than in the past.

AT SAN FRANCISCO the delegation headed by Mrs. Pandit had no official status. None of the official big wigs would dream of going to India's cocktail or tea party. They all walked past the door, looking the other way. But by next year, even before the final transfer of power, India was officially represented by a delegation headed by Mrs. Pandit.

Again I interviewed her, in this column. Again I asked her the key question. She replied like a flash:

"As I told you at San Francisco—"

She outlined once again the relationship which has since come to pass.
India walked out the back door of the old British Empire, based on inequality. But India walked right back in the front door, as a free partner. Nehru will be, in fact, the most influential figure at the 1951 conference.
The King is dead—Long Live the King. The Empire is gone. But the Commonwealth of free British democracies, is being reborn, stronger than ever because more necessary than ever for the welfare of the whole human family.

AS BETWEEN UNCLE Joe and Uncle Sam, few people in our part of the world need any more time to make up their minds. If it comes to a showdown, we will be with Uncle Sam.

But one reason for the renewed sense of family solidarity of the British Commonwealth is because Uncle Sam's way of running things is not the British way.

We never know when we wake up in the morning what our impulsive Uncle has got us all into or out of overnight. We remember that even in 1940 when Britain stood alone in Europe against the whole evil might of Hitler (then in compact with Stalin) that even our best U.S. friends, Roosevelt and Wendell Willkie, were both swearing against each other, both swearing solemn oaths that no American boy would ever be sent to fight in Europe.

We know that most Americans are not isolationists now—but we ask ourselves—could they be again?

So for this and a thousand—in fact for over 500 million reasons—one for each of our people—we stick to the good old British world family. It's not perfect. But we know where we stand with and in it.

Robert Cruickshank is sailing Thursday night by the Prince George after spending the Christmas and New Year holiday season visiting here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Cruickshank.

Victoria Report

... by J. K. Nesbitt

Making Preparations for Session—Government Postponing Esquimalt Argument

VICTORIA.—With announcement the 1951 session of the Legislature will open February 20, preparations are in full swing in the Legislative Buildings. Cabinet ministers are holding several meetings each week preparing their estimates. Finance Minister Herb Anscomb sits with a tough grin and tells

his colleagues they want to spend too much of the people's money. Each minister, naturally, thinks his department is the most important. Mr. Anscomb looks them all over with a cold, calculating eye. Even so—there are indications he'll have to find \$7,000,000 more for the coming year than he did for the current fiscal year. Costs are certainly not going down and education and social services are an ever-increasing burden.

This observer has long thought it might be a good idea and much more efficient if a session of the Legislature came every two years, as in some of the States. It would save money too—about \$200,000 a year.

The way it is now not much is done for about six weeks after a session. The ministers are tired and they must visit their home constituencies. Then comes the summer, and holiday time, and by the time autumn comes the government says, in effect: "Well, now, we mustn't make too many important decisions—the session will soon be on and we must consult the representatives of the people."

Actually, there doesn't seem any good reason why there should be a session each year. Of course, the system will never be changed. Only the MLA's can change it—and they're not willing to give up \$3900 a session.

Apparently the government is going to ignore the vacancy in Esquimalt until after the session. This is a bad slap at the people of that riding—and for political reasons. Esquimalt should rise up in its wrath and demand the by-election before the session. Neither Premier Johnson nor Tory leader Anscomb are happy about Esquimalt for they know there's going to be a family squabble to get the nomination with Liberals and Conservatives fighting each other. And so they're going to ignore Esquimalt as long as they can. It doesn't seem quite the kind of democracy we talk so much about.

There's going to be a State Ball at Government House this session, and the capital is greatly excited. There hasn't been a State Ball since 1938. It will follow the opening of the House and the first State Dinner.

Lieutenant Governor Clarence Wallace is now being measured for his court uniform—white satin knee breeches, white silk stockings, black slippers with silver buckles, a jacket loaded down with brass buttons and gold braid. This he will wear to the State Dinner and Ball.

Madame Speaker Nancy Hodges is going to England after the session, though she says she doesn't know anything about it yet and has practically denied newspaper reports that she will make the trip. Premier Johnson also has said he has heard nothing about the trip.

But it's generally known Madame Speaker, who is English-born, is going to Britain to dedicate the 108-foot Douglas fir flagpole sent by British Columbia.

Credit Bureau Is Working Well

Apparently everybody associated with the Prince Rupert Credit Bureau is happy at the manner in which the new organization is functioning.

Merchants are finding the service useful and effective in checking up on credit risks and Mrs. Catherine Laurie, Bureau secretary, says that she is getting a very gratifying degree of co-operation from the merchants in her work.

The Bureau now has sixty-two members and there are over 4000 names on the credit record lists. The national connection makes the references particularly useful through the availability of credit records of persons who seek credit privileges, many of them newcomers. Then local credit records are also available for references that may come from outside.

"It's a big job and it has its headaches," says the enthusiastic Mrs. Laurie. "But it has its satisfactions and is intensely interesting and the service we feel we are able to render is something of much satisfaction."

Mrs. Laurie told of one case where a pair of men, who had been on construction work here, incurred a rather substantial bill for car repairs at a local garage. Suddenly they left town. Not long after a reference came from the Edmonton Credit Bureau as to their record. The outstanding account having already been reported to the local Bureau, the information was speedily transmitted to Edmonton. Not only was the garage there saved getting a doubtful bill on its books but an arrangement was made for the liquidation of the "forgotten" account here.

Miss Jeananne Crawford, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Crawford of Stewart, was in the city aboard the Camosun today going south on a trip to Vancouver.

bia for the Festival of Britain. Last summer Madame Speaker represented B. C. at Newfoundland birthday celebrations in St. John's.



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Ray Reflects and Reminisces

The day is not so long that you notice the slightest difference. Yet, there is. Not much will be in evidence for many a week, and when it does set in the change will show Prince Rupert at its best. And that's a lot. Twilight, mingled with approaching midnight has a charm all its own.

Civil servants in Ottawa are not quite so exacting when it comes to overtime without pay. It's not uncommon to remain on duty till 6 or 6:15 instead of being away not later than 5 o'clock. However, the practice is not exactly what it appears to be. If the civil servants work longer without a large cheque, there come occasions when they leave earlier and receive money for so doing.

A department store Santa Claus in Milwaukee still chuckles when he tells it. A boy about eleven years old cautiously approached him and whispered that he would love to have a wife for Christmas.

Russia, one of numerous indefinite reports says, may attack Alaska. Had the Soviet never sold that part of North America to the United States, what then? Washington scored a bargain and even at that, knew little about Alaska. But for a country so much more convenient Canada knew less.

Sergeant George Burdick of California summed up the mood of weary troops in Korea recently when he remarked: "We want to get the ---- out of here. We weren't exactly beat. We were just fighting a lost cause." Along with summer clothes and winter weather.

How to start a life, comments the Juneau Empire, is today becoming a lost art. A generation or so ago, youngsters knew the mysteries of kindling. They had flames crackling and kettles singing in a jiffy. It's not like that today. If city schoolboys had to start the morning fires in heating stoves or kitchen ranges, they might feel cold as well as hungry before there was real heat.

There will be plenty to think of and talk about when youthful Canadian soldiers and sailors see home again. They are having invaluable experience. Many have never been far from the Pacific coast. Some, doubtless, have never been away from Canada. Description is not to be compared with having seen an alien land, for the first time. Scenes linger in memory. The world is so vast so unlike what you expected and so surprising!



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ANNOUNCEMENT

Announcement is made of the sale of R. E. MONTADOR LTD., real estate and insurance brokerage business, to H. G. HELGERSON LTD., as of January 1, 1951.

For the time being, business of R. E. MONTADOR LTD. will be carried on at the present premises, 355 Third Avenue.

In taking over this respected pioneer firm, H. G. HELGERSON LTD. hopes that it will be able to maintain its fine record of service to the customers, old and new, with which it becomes associated in the transfer.

Best wishes to all clients for the New Year and many more to come are heartily extended.

SPACE SAVER

Use of microfilm for compressing many words in a small roll was developed by Rene Dagron, French chemist, in 1870.

HISTORIC LIBRARY

The world-famous Vatican Library was founded by Pope Nicholas V from offerings of pilgrims in the 1450 Holy Year.

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