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Music and Drama Festival

PRINCE RUPERT'S largest and most comprehensive Music and Drama Festival to date gets under way tomorrow and continues until the end of the week. Full programs for adjudication will be participated in by talent drawn not only from the city but various parts of the district.

The entry list is larger than ever before and the items for presentation more varied—the program being of such scale that it has been necessary to go beyond the confines of the Civic Centre to find venue.

The Music and Drama Festival is, indeed, a splendid institution in the cultural and educational life of the community. The widespread interest that is being taken in it speaks well for the progress of city and district along these very desirable lines.

Festivals of this kind need not be regarded merely as competitions for a few people with special gifts. They should be thought of as a means of bringing to all our people the knowledge and understanding of music and the dramatic arts.

Prince Rupert people will have the opportunity this week of learning more of these arts by attending as many festival programs as possible.

Organization of this event has entailed a great deal of thought, effort and time by the committees in charge, led by the president, Mrs. Earl Becker. They are to be commended for their good work and the part they are playing in developing a very important phase of good community life. The success they have attained should be gratifying to themselves as it should be appreciated by the community at large.

Civilian Defences

PRINCE RUPERT has been named as one of five vulnerable target areas in the province of British Columbia should war arise out of the present crisis. President Truman of the United States said even yesterday that the world was now on the brink.

Speaking last night, Hon. W. T. Straith, minister of education, who has been entrusted with the organization of civil defence on the provincial level, emphasized the urgent necessity of communities getting organized.

Now that we have been officially designated as a vulnerable area of possible enemy attack, it would appear to be about time that, without excitement or panic, we were beginning to accept a realistic appreciation of the necessity of getting prepared for possible disaster.

In view of the general outlook, it would appear that time is running short and that we should not be delaying much longer. If attack came tomorrow, we are afraid that Prince Rupert would be in a state of panic-stricken chaos. If we don't know what to do, we should be finding out without delay so we may act accordingly.

Scripture Passage for Today

"Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ."
1 Corinthians 11:1.

Speaker's Apology Infrequent Event

LONDON (CP)—The Speaker of the British House of Commons, Col. Douglas Clifton Brown, celebrated an anniversary with an apology.

On the day he started his ninth year as speaker, Col. Clifton Brown conveyed to the House his regret at using the word "impertinent" to describe

a question by Alan Lennox-Boyd, Conservative.

Some authorities described this as the first occasion in modern times in which a Speaker had apologized for unfairness or a minor impropriety. Parliamentary correspondents, however, recalled that Col. Clifton Brown himself had apologized three years before to a Labor back-bencher.

Mr. and Mrs. John W. Bond sailed this afternoon on the Camosun for a three months' visit in Vancouver and Victoria.

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P. G. BARR,
Officer-in-Charge,
Text-Book Branch,
Victoria, B.C.

VICTORIA REPORT

by J. K. Nesbitt

VICTORIA.—Some interesting anniversaries are going to be marked in British Columbia in the next month or so. We have now reached the stage of our history where we are marking 100th birthdays—and that shows we are growing up. A 100th birthday in the New World is quite an age.

Next week it will be 100 years since the little barque Tory reached Victoria from England, bringing a boatload of passengers from the British Isles, people who pioneered here and became leading citizens. Many of them became rich and they founded families whose descendants are still community leaders in this province.

It took the Tory six months for the voyage from England, around the Horn and up the Pacific Coast to Victoria. She was only 105 feet long—and only 25 feet wide—and yet into this little vessel were crowded 105 passengers. They lived mostly on hard tack and salt pork and each day the captain handed out a ration of rum to keep his passengers contented. Now and then, in a calm, the men fished, and so some variety was added to the menu.

Men and women who have become famous in our history were aboard the Tory. There was young William John Macdonald, a Scot. He worked hard in this new land and he made money. He became Mayor of Victoria and a Canadian Senator at Ottawa and he built a fine home that he looked like a castle, on the waterfront in Victoria, and he called his castle "Armada."

Capt. and Mrs. E. E. Langford and their five daughters were aboard—and they started the first farm at Colwood, where the Royal Colwood Golf Club is today. They had with them aboard a shirazi mastiff dog and a goat—so there was fresh milk now and then.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Blinkhorn were aboard too, with Mrs. Blinkhorn's 14-year-old niece, Martha Cheney. A few years after their arrival Martha was wed to Capt. Henry B. Ella and they built "Wentworth Villa," one of the fine big early-day homes of Victoria, on Fort Street hill.

Others on the Tory were John

Irvine and his wife, from the Orkney Islands. They took up land at Cedar Hill, three miles from Victoria, and called their place Rose Bank Farm. Still living at Rose Bank today is their youngest child, Margaret. She's 86 now, but still hale and hearty and does her housework each day.

Senator Macdonald, as he grew old, wrote his memoirs: "Very monotonous sailing week after week, without seeing any life besides sea birds and porpoises. Although the voyage was long and tedious I had no wish to leave the ship and so many friends made on the long voyage."

Some other famous British Columbians arrived here also, a century ago, in June—Robert Dunsmuir and his wife. They came around the Horn and stopped off in Oregon when their first son James was born. Robert Dunsmuir was a Scottish coal miner and he found a new seam of coal near Nanaimo and so almost overnight became a multimillionaire. He built Craigdarroch Castle in Victoria—for he had promised his wife that if she would come with him to the New World he would build her a castle. But—before the castle was ready, Robert Dunsmuir died and his wife lived in her castle in lonely widowhood for 18 years.

The son James became Premier and Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia and he built Hatley Park—the mansion eight miles from Victoria that is now the Canadian Joint Services College. Robert Dunsmuir and his wife had eight daughters and two sons, and James Dunsmuir and his wife had eight daughters and two sons—and it was a dynasty as romantic as any founded in California by the bonanza kings who built their mansions atop San Francisco's famed Nob Hill.

Report from Parliament

By E. T. APPLEWHITE, M.P.

BURNS LAKE BUILDING—I have been doing what I could during the past few days to persuade the government to acquire a site for a federal building in Burns Lake. The obvious and spectacular growth of the community, together with the limited ground available, makes it, I think, imperative that we should pick up a couple of lots for this purpose at once.

I will admit, quite frankly, that I consider it would be a wasted effort, however, to try to get such a building built this year as the diversion of building materials to purposes more urgent than office buildings is the present policy—a policy with which I agree.

Atlantic Fisheries—Either St. John's, Newfoundland, or Halifax, Nova Scotia, will become the permanent headquarters of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries, as a result of the decision taken at the first meeting of the Commission held in Washington, D.C., April 2-10. United States Commissioner Hilary J. Deason, chief, office of foreign activities, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior (what a title!), was elected chairman of the Commission, and the vice-chairman is United Kingdom Commissioner A. T. A. Dobson, fisheries adviser, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, both of whom will serve for two years. William Robert Martin, senior biologist at the St. Andrews, N.B. Biological Station, was appointed acting executive secretary for the period July 1, 1951 to June 30, 1952.

This first meeting adopted rules of procedure, a budget, and established a number of permanent standing committees. Once again it is impressed upon me how far ahead of the East we are on the Pacific.

Elections Committee—The special committee on revision of the Dominion Elections Act, of which I am a member, was set up last week. Chester McLure, Conservative of Queen's County, Prince Edward Island raised a question of privilege, the complaint that no P.E.I. member is on the Committee. As Prince Edward Island has a grand total of four members in the House, and there are now at least eighteen standing and special committees of the House, I can't quite see how P.E.I. is to get on all of them.

After Budget—The long budget debate is now over and the budget has been approved in principle. The uncertain state of the world was well summed up in Finance Minister Abbott's state-

ment that this is an interim budget and that he would be reluctant to come to the conclusion that we should adopt a permanent policy looking to an annual budget of four billion dollars. It is quite impossible to lay down a permanent policy when no one knows whether we are going to have peace or war. If the situation gets worse, taxes will have to go still higher but, on the other hand, if there should be a better prospect of peace, then these interim measures can be dispensed with. This budget is a true reflection of the worldwide uncertainty, as the decision to provoke a world war, if made at all, will not be made by the Canadian Government.

Abbott's Qualities—Mr. Abbott's outstanding qualities were never shown to better advantage than in his defence of this budget. He stated, when speaking a second time, that he had not intended to do so as (to quote Mr. Abbott) "Unlike the leader of the Opposition (Mr. Drew) I endeavour to avoid repetition as much as possible," and he had taken an hour and twenty minutes to outline both what he conceived to be the economic position of Canada and the budgetary proposals which he had to make. A great deal had been said about the fact that the revenue for the last four or five years had in each case greatly exceeded the estimate which Mr. Abbott had made at the time of his budget forecast. He pointed out that invariably he had indicated the basis on which his estimates had been made and that it is certainly better for a Minister of Finance to be over-cautious than unduly optimistic.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Peterson and three children left today on the Camosun to take up residence in the south.

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As I See It

by
Elmore
Philpott

CANADIANS AT ROME

ROME, Italy.—Among about a hundred and fifty people from all parts of the world who are here to devise ways and means of establishing actual world government, there are three Canadians. I am the only official delegate from Canada, but my wife and Mrs. DesBrisay of Vancouver are also registered as observers. This works out fine, for they beautifully represent Canada at the social functions, such as the Mayor of Rome's reception in the City Hall.

I sit in on the actual discussions of all the problems concerning world government.

AT THIS POINT I THINK I must include a little note about what we mean by "world government."

What is the difference between the old League of Nations or the present UN and the kind of world government we want?

The difference is that the UN is a mere association of sovereign nations. It has power only to make recommendations. It cannot make LAW.

In the UN it is as if we were trying to govern Canada by having each provincial GOVERNMENT send appointees or employees to Ottawa to try to make agreements on the way to run all Canada. We in our own experience have seen that such an arrangement never works out. We can't even get the Ontario and Quebec governments to agree with the rest while we vainly try to do business on the govern-

ment-to-government level.

Yet we blithely imagine that we might get Russia and U.S.A. to agree at UN, although we can't even get the Canadian governments to agree in conference at home, dealing with infinitely simpler matters.

WHEN WE GET THE KIND OF world government which is predicted in the Bible, of which Rennyson called "the parliament of man, the federation of the world," we will make law on an entirely new and higher level. And we will do it by parliamentary process.

Instead of having three-level democracy as we now have, we will have four-level democracy. We will elect local aldermen, etc.; we will elect our provincial legislatures; we will elect our national MP's exactly as now.

BUT WE WILL ALSO THEN ELECT WORLD MP's, and they will have the power to make WORLD LAW.

AS SHERLOCK HOLMES would have said, all the above is elementary, my dear Watson, so people well versed in higher constitutional matters.

All kinds of democratic believers in world government accept the general principle of world government, as stated above. But here are sharp differences as to the best means of getting world government.

One school of thought believes that it is wiser to start with regional federations. For instance, there is strong support here, especially from the Italians and French, for the idea of a United States of Europe. Its advocates believe that it would be a good thing for all Western Europe to

form one grand union, with much the same set-up and powers as the U.S.A.

Another school, also represented here, believes that the present North Atlantic Pact should be transformed into an out-and-out federation. That is, all the western democracies, including the U.S.A., British Commonwealth and all free Europe, would join in an outright federal union. In this there would be one citizenship, one armed force, one foreign policy, one money and one free trade and free migration area.

But over as against this regionalist approach, there are those who believe in sticking to the idea of "one world now." Many of these believe that regional federations would actually make the danger of world war greater, and not lesser.

Others believe that the amount of energy necessary to put it

through Atlantic Federation, the federation of the States of Europe, would much better results than the present world situation. But I have the impression that the British, French and the other side-stepping their own countries, how warily nations must be set to the whole international set-up.

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