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SMITHERS

Mr. Clark, chief dispatcher for the Canadian National at Smithers, has been transferred to Edson and is leaving immediately to take up his duties at his new post. Mr. and Mrs. Clark arrived in Smithers last fall when he was transferred to this place from Kamloops. His successor at Smithers will be Mr. Trip-let who will come here from Kam-loops.

Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Gibson of Prince Rupert have arrived in Smithers to take up their residence. Mr. Gibson having succeeded I. Martin as Forest Ranger at this place. Mr. Martin, who was transferred to Pouce Coupe, left here last week for his new office and his family will follow him there shortly.

Stan Heavysides, who is now a member of the Canadian forces, arrived in Smithers last week for a

short visit to his old friends, being on holiday from Kingston, Ontario where he is at present in training. Mr. Heavysides was formerly an employee of the Canadian National Railways at Smithers and was one of the first to join the Searchlight Battery in Prince Rupert last fall. Later he was sent to Kingston where he is still in training but hoping to be sent overseas in the near future. He left Smithers on Tuesday morning to return to Kingston. He was entertained at a Smoker in the Legion Hall on Monday evening by a large number of his friends who gathered to welcome him back to Smithers and to wish him good luck for the future.

DEAR OLD LONDON

BLACKPOOL, Eng., May 16: (CP)—Crowded by summer visitors in this seashore resort on the British west coast, 3,000 civil servants brought here for safety during the winter are clamoring to return to the London offices.

SOMETHING DIFFERENT

One of the most distinctive and colorful as well as entirely delightful discourses ever presented in Prince Rupert was that of Miss Gaultier de la Verendrye, noted French Canadian lecturer on early Canadian and aboriginal folklore and arts and sciences, who appeared before some 120 persons at a dinner last night of the Women's Canadian Club. Miss Gaultier was appropriately costumed in Acadian Seventeenth Century peasant garb, entirely handmade in the fashion of the country. Her discourse was divided into three distinct sections—first an address on early French Canadian and Acadian traditions and customs; second, a rendition of traditional folk songs of the early French settlers of Quebec and Acadia in sweet voice with self-accompaniment on the cetha, an instrument of the table harp type, and, third, the presentation and explanation of a diversified and highly interesting collection of French colonial and aboriginal handicraft and art. Miss E. M. Earl, president of the Women's Canadian Club, was in the chair.

Miss Gaultier spoke of research work along extensive lines which she had carried out, French Canada and Old France she had found were inseparably linked up in their legends, songs and music. She differentiated between the French-Canadians of Quebec and the Acadians of the Maritimes who had come from different parts of France. The songs and legends of French Canada had been found, Miss Gaultier said, to be purer French than those of Old France itself. Much the same might be said of the peasant handicrafts. Miss Gaultier also spoke of the excellence of the ancient arts and handicrafts of the aboriginal Indians and Eskimos of Canada and particularly of British Columbia which she said were unexcelled.

Miss Gaultier made an appeal for unity of the French and English provinces which she felt should be one large family emulating that fine friendship which had become so cemented in time of crisis between old France and old England. The aboriginal people of Canada were equally as anxious to join in the battle. Miss Gaultier, in remarks along this line, was greeted with applause.

The speaker then turned to the music and songs of the French-

CALLED TO DEFEND THEIR COUNTRY



Behind a defence line north of Oslo, the Norwegian government rallied the country to resistance against a German army of occupation and mobilized reserves in the interior. Norwegian troops are shown at a military telephone exchange during recent winter manoeuvres.

Canadians and the Acadians. Most of these songs were sung to the rhythm of work. Here again the pure traditions of the French had been retained in legend, song and music. The language was even purer French than that of Paris. To describe the habitant French-Canadian dialect as a "patois" was in error. Miss Gaultier then proceeded to sing for her appreciative audience many typical folk songs of the French-Canadians and the Acadians, shanty songs of the lumbermen and then some Indian and Eskimo songs including one of the Nootkas on the West Coast of Vancouver Island.

Miss Gaultier first described in detail the Acadian costume which she was herself wearing and then described how such articles as shawls, quaffs (caps), scarves and many other articles of wearing apparel for women, men and children were made including the weaving of the materials and the coloring, all by hand and all from resources peculiar to the country itself. The ingenuity and the resourcefulness of the colonial and aboriginal peoples along these lines was effectively depicted. Apart from the clothing, Miss Gaultier also exhibited such articles as basketry, penknife statuary, paintings etc. The exhibits of native paintings were a revelation, showing a talent which probably the most of the listeners had never realized might exist among the aboriginal peoples even today.

FOGGY NORTH SEA
LONDON, May 16: (CP)—Arm-chair generals are reminded that the North Sea is the foggiest area on earth in the spring.

U. S. PROS AND CONS
SYDNEY, N. S. W., May 16: (CP)—America is strongly anti-Soviet, anti-Nazi and pro-Allies, but not at present strongly pro-British, said Mrs. Linda Littlejohn, prominent Australian feminist, returning home from the United States.

DIES WHILE HOME BURNS

William Demque Succumbs to Heart Attacks at Walecott

SMITHERS, May 16.—Tragedy struck at the home of William Demque, a farmer in the Walecott district, on Sunday. An overheated incubator set fire to the house and, while endeavouring to save some of the household effects, Mr. Demque apparently collapsed and died immediately, probably from heart failure.

Mrs. Demque was working on the opposite side of the house and, when coming around to where her husband had been at work, she found him dead upon the ground. The house was totally destroyed but some of the household effects were saved.

Mr. Demque was 49 years of age and was a veteran of the last war. The family had lived in the district for some years. There are two small children.

AUSTRALIAN FORCES
CANBERRA, May 16: (CP)—Official figures of Australia's fighting forces in February counted 120,000 men—army, 100,000; navy, 10,000 and air force 10,000.

TONS OF AUSSIE FRUIT
CANBERRA, May 16: (CP)—Contracts have been made for the United Kingdom for 24,500 tons of Australian dried vine fruits crop, including 8,000 tons of currants and 15,000 tons of sultanas.

COMMISSION REPORT PROPOSES CHANGES

(Continued from Page One)

tary and economic policies in Canada. They would be reflected in the general welfare of the Canadian taxpayer.

The present "inefficient and wasteful" tax structure, the commission reported, "sabotages" efforts to increase the national income and even depresses that income. While the proposed plan would not involve reduction of the absolute tax level, the commission said, it would permit substantial increase in the national income, which would make the present tax load relatively lighter.

The commission suggested that the added revenue required by the Dominion to carry this fiscal plan might be obtained by broadening the income tax base by substantially increasing the load in the lower and middle brackets, and increasing succession duties. It recommended the progressive elimination of the sales tax.

Municipalities benefit directly by being relieved of the relatively heavy relief burden, amounting to about \$20,000,000 a year, 80 per cent of which comes from real estate taxation. The commission also recommended that the provinces exercise greater control over municipal borrowing and budgeting.

Provincial Responsibility

Since the Dominion assumes responsibility for unemployment relief, kindred phases of the same problems such as unemployment insurance, a national employment service and right to establish basic minimum wages and maximum hours would also be placed under Dominion jurisdiction.

All other welfare services, the commission asserted, should remain the responsibility of the provinces, as they always have been.

It pointed with some intensity to the possible effects of uncontrolled rivalry between railways and highways in Canada, considering the situation a "menace to the financial solvency" of Canada.

It voiced no opinion on the question of railway amalgamation, holding that problem outside its scope, but urged an early general review of the freight rate structure. It was non-committal on proposals to merge the maritime provinces into one and the prairie provinces into another unit, but suggested substantial economies could be effected by establishing a court of appeal for the Maritime and one for the prairies.

The commission reported finding little grounds for popular complaints of great waste through duplication of government services, pointing out several other possible causes of waste there.

Regular Conferences

Recognizing the difficulties in every federal structure of maintaining maximum co-operation between governments, the commission urged Dominion-provincial conferences at regular intervals with a permanent secretariat set up. In the past, it observed, "the

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