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MEMBER
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Democracy Exemplified . . .

Freedom of speech and freedom of the press have been well exemplified in Canada during the current discussion of overseas reinforcements and conscription. In how many other countries of the world—even so-called democracies—would people have been permitted to say and newspapers been allowed to print utterances and news such as have been so freely vented during the past few weeks in Canada? We cannot imagine, for instance, an officer in the armies of some countries being permitted to make statements such as Major Connie Smythe made about the state of reinforcements or where army officers have been allowed to air their personal views on government military policy such as Sixth Division officers commanding did in Vancouver a week ago.

In some countries publicity in press and air would have been banned for incidents like these in Quebec, Vernon, Prince George, Terrace, Nanaimo, Chilliwack and Courtenay.

As for the army personnel, there are regulations laid down which forbid officers expressing their opinions as did Smythe and the Sixth Division officers. There is reason to believe that, in view of recent developments, there may be a tightening down now.

There are often times when it is really in the interest and even the safety of the public that opinions and incidents should not be too much projected into the limelight.

Let's Get Together . . .

It pays to be co-operative, and it will pay the people of Central British Columbia to lift up their eyes and see beyond their immediate confines. The time is now opportune to see ourselves as a mighty inland empire requiring a unity of voice and a unity of purpose rather than separate communities, each with its own demands, and unconcerned about the adjacent towns and districts.

United for the common good of all, a great empire can be developed in Central B.C., extending from the Alberta boundary clear to the "Sunset"

port of Prince Rupert and extending south deep into the Cariboo and north to the last outpost.

Prince George and residents have long smiled superiority when we have along the C.N.R. line. Much of this criticism has not been fair or just, but heard criticism of ourselves by towns we have done little or nothing to overcome it. We, in turn, have criticized the others, and all this has made for disunity in our country for many years.

Central British Columbians have for decades sought to interest the southern part of the province and influential men in the wonders and the needs of our country. But this has been spasmodic. One town or city would act at a time. And many times one community would ask for something that was bitterly opposed by another.

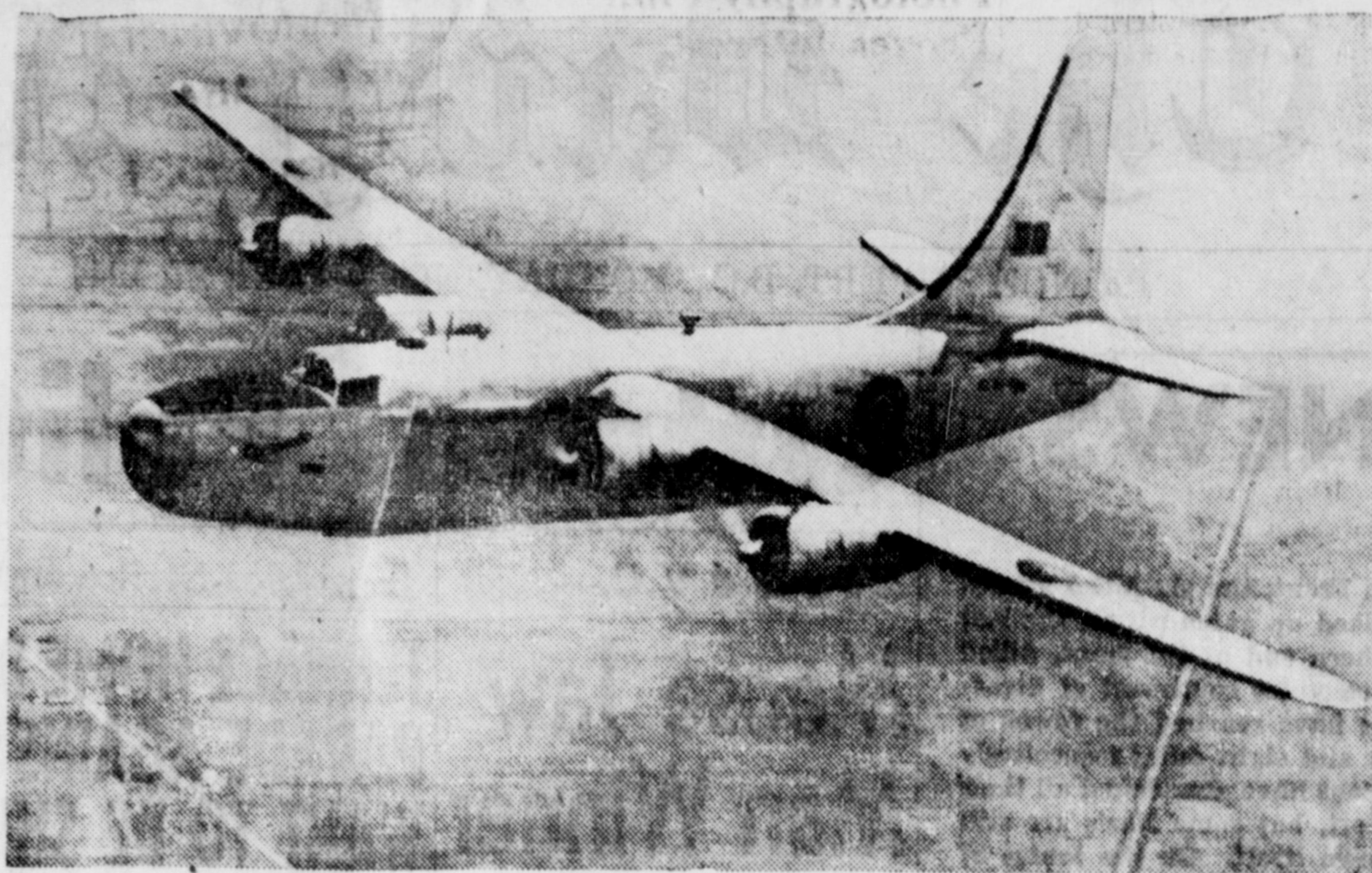
The question of a road to Alaska has long been a sore point. Our lack of unity on this question certainly didn't help when study was being given the route for the Alaska Military Highway, which is to be abandoned.

Now Central B.C. has another chance. Leading men in the Pacific Northwest States are more than passively interested in having the United States build a highway north to Alaska that will connect them with that north-domain and at the same time open the Alaska Panhandle unto them.

Now is the time for all Central British Columbians to see the broad picture. Now they must appreciate that what benefits any one part of our interior empire will benefit all.

Irrespective of where a new road to Alaska started in Central B.C., all of our country would benefit. Realizing this we must express ourselves as agreed on the need and the importance of such a road. By speaking as one, and speaking loudly, we will lend encouragement to our American cousins in the Northwest States. Their enthusiasm for the project might well lag if we showed no interest in a project from which we would benefit so generally.

Last June there was an effort to revive the annual sessions of the Associated Board of Trade of Central B.C. Nothing has been done. Let something be done. Let all boards of trade agree to accept the invitation of the Vanderhoof board to meet in that town, to meet soon, and determine a common policy for Central British Columbia that will benefit all and make this part of our country better known. Let us dedicate ourselves to a new spirit of co-operativeness so we may make better and greater strides in the days to come. —Prince George Citizen.



WHAT TYPE OF AIRCRAFT IS THIS?—You couldn't possibly know unless you were in on the secret. It is the AL 504, Royal Air Force Transport Command Liberator, so modified that it is the only one of its kind in the world. Known as a "Commando" it has logged more than 400,000 miles travelling on historical war missions and special flights to every part of the globe and it is the most famed aircraft operating out of Canada. Recently, it inaugurated the new Canada-Australia regular air service. Some months ago the standard stabilizer fins of an orthodox Liberator were removed and a single tail, 31 ft. from the ground and highest fitted to any aircraft, was substituted. Seven feet were added to the length of the aircraft to permit installation of arm chair seats, beds and an electric kitchenette. As the "Commando" was unique, the photograph could not previously be published, but is now released because there is no likelihood that on future special missions the aircraft will be with range of the enemy. (RCAF Photo).

BEECHAM'S BARBS STILL HAVE STING

LONDON, Nov. 27. — Sir Thomas Beecham, the famous British conductor, has worked up quite a reputation for stirring up fireworks in musical circles and London musicians have learned to their sorrow—that his spell in North America hasn't changed him any.

A reception was held in his honor at headquarters of the London Philharmonic Orchestra

and he took advantage of the occasion for one of his scathing speeches.

"Musical institutions here are still walking in the same dear old morass of reactionary unbelief," he said.

"Orchestras are playing badly as ever. You can take this with a pinch of salt—but not too large a pinch."

He didn't blame the Philharmonic entirely. It was a scandal, he said, that it had no assistance from state or industry.

"The New York Philharmonic

Orchestra has about \$900,000 a year from the U. S. rubber companies. This enables it to have the right number of concerts and rehearsals.

"Organization in the United States is 50 years ahead of what it is here."

"HAPPY DUSTMAN" DIES

LONDON, Nov. 27.—Seth Egbert, the "happy dustman" of pantomime and variety shows, died here recently. Egbert and his brother Albert, who died two years ago were among Britain's best known double-act comedians.

ODD ACCESSORIES
Marie Antoinette wore potato blossoms as decorative pieces in her hair.

Letters to the Editor

IN FAIR PLAY

Editor, Daily News:
We, the undersigned, in the interests of fair play, wish to state that we were present throughout the "Back McNaughton Rally" Monday evening, and at no time did we hear Mr. Mickleburgh, the speaker, or Mr. Casey, the mover of the resolution from the floor, or anybody else, say anything that could be even remotely construed as meaning that our boys overseas should be denied reinforcements. In our estimation, the whole purpose of the meeting was as a step to see that the boys should get reinforcements by the quickest methods determined in the light of existing conditions.
H. A. HANSEN.
ALIX PONDER.
JACK LAMB.
P. S. TARANGER.
DORIS BLAKEY.
M. E. FURLONG.
E. GOODMAN.
S. S. BASHIER.
HAROLD PONDER.

Editor, Daily News:
I was a party to this endorsement in spite of the fact that I voted at a previous Legion meeting, held earlier in the month, demanding conscription. I do not deny this but I studied the situation as the news came in and became of the opinion that the issue of conscription was being made a political football and therefore endorsed the McNaughton resolution.

Naturally, Vic Houston, with his Davie in Italy, wants the same as we do—full reinforcements for all our boys but Vic does not help the cause by pouring scorn on those who differ as to the best means to be employed in bringing this about. I have a treasured letter from Vic in my possession, written about four years ago, tendering his sympathy for the loss of our boy in the service of Canada and humanity. I have known Vic for almost twenty years and received many kindnesses at his hand (yet we have never agreed on politics or religion), and I wonder if he means what he says now, and I quote "Then a quicker way of shortening their lives" should be found (I am one of the lives referred to)—or, if he meant that—did he mean what he said in that treasured letter of four years ago?

Thank you, Mr. Editor.
HAROLD A. PONDER.

SAME OBJECT

Editor, Daily News:
As the campaign manager referred to in V. G. Houston's letter published in last Friday's paper, I ask that you publish my reply.

The meeting referred to, held in the Labor Progressive Club-rooms, endorsed McNaughton's plan for reinforcing the Canadian army overseas.
It was also resolved that all home troops be urged to go ac-

C. N. S. S.
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