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MEMBER
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Good Premier, Good Government

John Hart, business man in politics, budgeteer extraordinary, purposeful in his policies, shrewd in his knowledge of men and life, is the nearest thing to a senior statesman to be seen anywhere in provincial politics in Canada of our times, says Western Business.

Not many business men make good in politics. Not many politicians make good finance ministers. Not many finance ministers invariably have good results to report. And no finance ministers at all, excepting Honorable John Hart of British Columbia, can say they've brought down nineteen annual budgets.

The fact that John Hart is premier of British Columbia is almost incidental to his being minister of finance. He had been in the house so long, he had handled his department so well, he was so universally trusted that when the coalition's top job went looking for an occupant in 1941, John Hart's name was so far ahead on the list that Abou-Ben Adhem wouldn't have had a chance.

Many an opposition leader or financial expert of the speaker's left has tried to analyze a Hart budget and make political capital by discovering legerdemain. Often they've been mortally certain that the whole picture was not exactly so good as it was claimed to be by the cheerful, quick-witted John Hart. But the efforts have invariably ended in the discomfort of the critic, for the Hart budgets have stood the test of time and the year's end so often found the minister reporting the results a little better than he had anticipated that a man's assignment to the task of slamming the budget became something to be dreaded.

The Hart method—one shouldn't call it technique, for that implies that

it is studied, and Hart is naturally friendly and courteous—is to disarm his critics with evidence of genuine interest in them as human beings and in what they are doing or where they're trying to go. It's impossible to get bitter with a man like that.

Press gallery men notice that in the parliament building cafeteria, at session time, the premier is as likely as not to drop into a seat with some C.C. Effers and lunch amiably with them, with never a suggestion that he might think they were a parcel of will-o'-the-wisp hunters. They like him. And yet they know that at this session of the house John Hart and his government have put it all over them, and that the word goes around British Columbia that this is the best government—this coalition of Liberals and Conservatives—that the province has ever had.

Talking of Dogs and Cats . . .

Since the war brought us our new prosperity and our greater population we have come to experience many types of nocturnal disturbances in addition to the old noises of the early morning canines carrying on their responsive howls and barks and the old tom cat calling with his pleading wail to tabby who in turn spits out her affection with wierd outcry.

In the old quiet days in Prince Rupert when there was nothing else to disturb our slumbers people used to write letters to the papers about the howling dogs and the yowling cats. We even used to write editorials about it once in a while.

It just occurred to us that, when the city council was talking about dogs the other night, some alderman might have said a word of sympathy for the poor folk who have to suffer the torment of the braying dog or the moaning cat. There are still some of us who think there ought to be a law against such things. It might even bring in a few dollars in revenue from citizens who do not appreciate what a nuisance their night meandering pets can be to quiet, law-abiding citizens frustrated in their wonted rendezvous with Morpheus.

PRINCE RUPERT BOY (Continued from Page 1)

for food has become a common thing.

"Some times she would hear footsteps on her roof and dogs howling. Then out would come that 44 and she would shove it aimlessly out the window, and 'boom.' Then everything would be quiet again. While I was there, some men were caught stealing turnips and the local magistrate had them beaten to death.

Japs Killed 700 Chinese

"Mother told me the Japs used to be right in the village but they had become too busy elsewhere to bother any more. They found out they couldn't subdue the villagers with patrols, so they sent over planes once to strafe the area. They killed 700 persons that way in a nearby village.

"After nine days I had to leave. Mother didn't want to come with me, but she asked me to take Bernice. So we left, coming out by another route from that I used going in. Bernice had never been on a bicycle before and kept falling off. She was getting tired and sore, so I finally managed to hire a tandem and two coolies to pedal for us. That was an expensive trip. It cost me \$2,000 a day for each of those coolies. Food also cost \$2,000 a day. The trip out was uneventful," Capt. Mah reported.

His trip into China wasn't, and looking back on the whole thing, the Chinese pilot realizes he did some foolhardy things. His friends warned him he was crazy to go into China with \$40,000 and in uniform.

"You're just inviting robbery, and if the Japs get you, they'll shoot you sure, especially if they find out you are flying for the Chinese government and the Americans," they told him.

Is Warned by Guerrilla Leader

Feeling sorry for the starving people he met, Capt. Mah spread his money around freely in tips. Too freely, according to a Chinese guerrilla leader who cornered him in his hotel one day to give him some advice. That advice was to stop flashing his money and to stay away from the girls in the next village. They were desperate and might easily inform on him to the Japs. Mah took the advice.

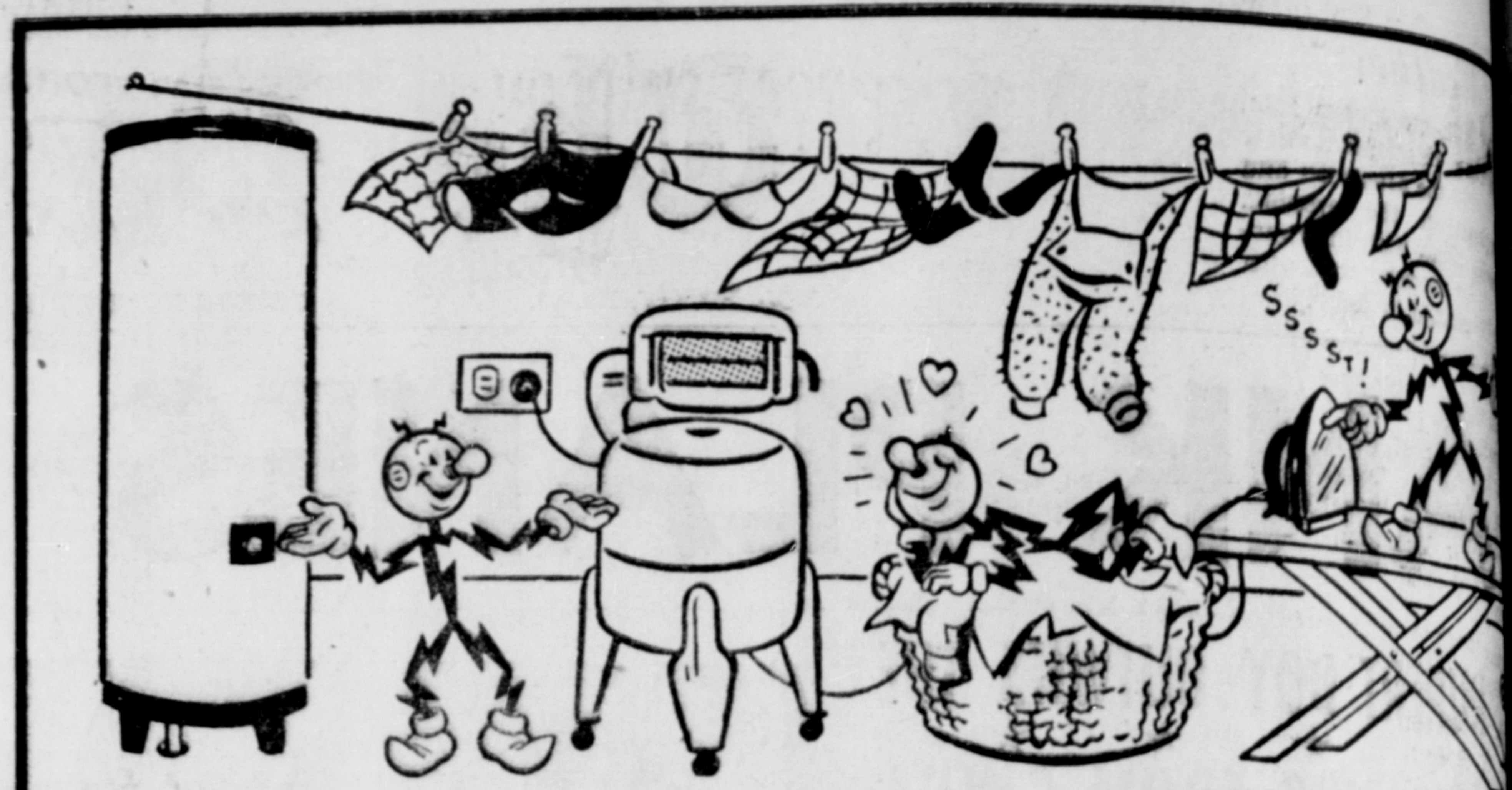
At one stage of the journey, Mah had the scare of a lifetime. He ran almost smack into a Japanese sentry. Should he run and take a chance on getting away? The Jap was carrying a wicked-looking rifle and giving this stranger in uniform a quizzical look. Mah took his life in his hands, walked calmly by the sentry and, as he passed, dropped a \$20 bill to the ground. The sentry stooped, looked at Mah again, then stooped to retrieve the bill. Capt. Mah rounded a bend and ran like a scared rabbit.

Mah now is on furlough for several months before returning to new duties. He arrived in Edmonton after flying from Calcutta to Casablanca in easy stages, then by ship to New York. He visited his sister, Mrs. Daisy Lee, in Toronto before coming west.

Last time he was in Edmonton was when he was a civilian instructor at No. 2 A.O.S. back in 1941. He held his commercial pilot's license in the United States before the war. He says he never knew what flying was until he got on the run from India to China across the Himalayas. The "Hump" is described by the Flying Tigers as being worse than combat, Capt. Mah said.

Had Fingers Well Crossed

He flies a C-47 transport, unarmed, and without any fighter



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escort. When the weather is zeroes on numerous occasions and drove off the Japs. The biggest kick Capt. Mah got out of his last trip was initiating his brother, Capt. Cedris Mah, also of the China National Air corporation, into flying the "Hump" in India just when ready to come home. "I showed him the 'Hump' and his work," Capt. Mah said.

REGISTRATION FOR FAMILY ALLOWANCES

Starts on
MARCH 22nd, 1945



**TO OBTAIN
THESE ALLOWANCES
every child under 16
must be registered**

PARENTS: Through the mail, shortly after March 22nd, all families will receive a Family Allowances Registration Form. Fill in this form as soon as it is received and mail it back in the envelope in which it came. Please do this promptly—it is in the interests of your children.

The form you will receive is very simple. There are only seven questions and only a few minutes need be required to complete the form, but be sure to answer every question.

Family Allowances are being provided to assist parents in the raising of their children. This monthly allowance is to be used for health protection, for doctors, dentists and nurses; to provide better food, adequate clothing and shelter, and to help equalize opportunities for all children.

INCOME TAX: No one will benefit from both Family Allowances and a full income tax deduction for their children. Parents have the choice of applying for their Family Allowances or not claiming the allowance and claiming the full deduction for their children under Income Tax. If they claim the Family Allowance, the amount of deduction from tax allowed for children under the Income Tax Act will be reduced by the amount of any Family Allowance received. Anyone who is uncertain whether or not he or she will benefit from Family Allowances more than from Tax Deduction should register for the Family Allowance and in this way be on the safe side. Incomes may change during the course of a year.



**PARENTS
YOU ARE HELPING YOUR
CHILDREN WHEN YOU REGISTER FOR
FAMILY ALLOWANCES**

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DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH
AND WELFARE, OTTAWA

UNITY BEGINS WITH "U"

We all realize, now, that we must have unity between the United Nations if we are to win this war and prevent another.

But do we realize that we cannot have unity between the nations without unity within them?

Unity does not mean that we must all think alike. It does mean that we must respect the thoughts and rights of others, and that we must be prepared to stick together.

Unity, like charity, begins at home!

What you and I say over the back fence multiplied by what all Canadians like us are saying—that is public opinion.

Are we personally building or breaking down unity? Do we like to pick holes in our fellow citizens who go to different churches, belong to different races, believe in different political creeds?

Do we like to repeat funny (but malicious) stories about the British, the Americans, the Russians and our other allies?

Ottawa, Washington, London, Moscow cannot make us united unless we truly want to be. Nations are groups of people—you and me multiplied. We are a democracy. It's up to us. Unity begins with "U."

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