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Newfoundland and Defence

WITH THE FORESEEN entry into Confederation of Newfoundland the question arises of how the broad picture of Canada's national defence plans will be affected. Certain it is that in the next annual budget allocations will have to be made to include the setting up of air stations and possibly naval bases in Newfoundland. The question is will this be done at the possible risk of other projects in Canada suffering or will more money be found. As a military power in her own right Newfoundland is negligible. She has few manufacturing concerns that could be converted into war production and little or no military equipment of her own. Her biggest assets are natural resources, military bases and the well known fighting qualities of her rugged citizens.

Again the thought arises how when Newfoundland becomes a part of Canada will we cope with the situation of American troops and bases being located on our territory? It must be remembered that the United States was given a ninety-nine year lease on military and naval bases in the island colony by Great Britain. Will the acceptance of this establish a precedent of American troops training in our country in peacetime? How will this be received by other nations and will Canada's prestige as a free nation suffer accordingly?

Also it is a recognized fact that Canada could only offer token resistance should a strong foreign power attack our shores. Can we, therefore, commit ourselves to the extending of our already limited defence resources? These questions will certainly have to be given serious consideration before final commitments are made with Newfoundland. More than ever it is brought home to us the necessity of revising our national defence plans and increasing our stature in this vitally important matter.

O.K.—HE WAS DRUNK

"IT WASN'T HIS FAULT—he was drunk." Such was the line of conversation we heard from a couple of working girls on the street as we came down to the office this morning. And it made us think just how matter of course it is becoming these days to offer drunkenness as an excuse, just as though being drunk was something like being sick or in some condition that could not have been avoided.

How much is being got away with these days in the way of shirking responsibility by the excuse of being drunk is hard to say. Fortunately, there is at least one law where being drunk is no excuse but is an offence—that is the law in regard to motor vehicles where to be found in charge of one while under the influence of liquor is punishable by jail sentence with no option of fine.

Immoderate use of liquor and drunkenness are the cause of much grief and trouble these days—much too much. Too many offences, we feel, are condoned because of such drunkenness. Drunkenness is a poor excuse for any crime, we feel, the view taken by the law in some cases notwithstanding. It is about time that something was done about a situation whereby a person can be absolved of any kind of licentiousness or even crime because he has not enough control of himself to know when to stop drinking. When even working girls think that anything should be allowed to go just because a person has imbibed too freely, it is high time to call a halt. It is a poor commentary on the attitude of youth toward the use and effect of alcohol.

JUNIOR AND REALISM

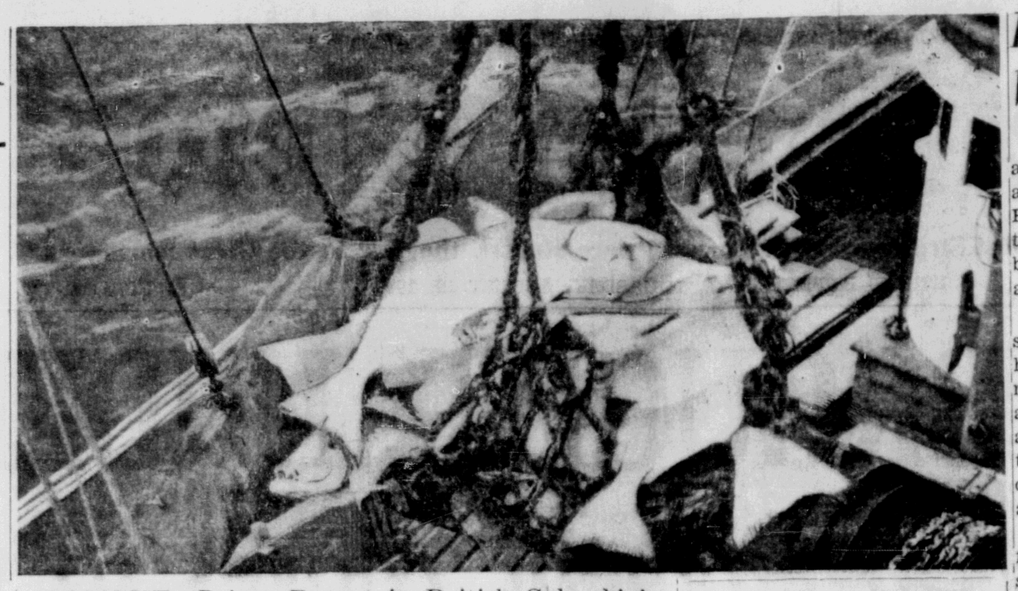
THE BATTLE of the Crime Comics goes on. The great majority of alert mothers and qualified experts—and the alert mother is often the best qualified expert—deplore the influence of these crude thrillers. But a few defend them.

A recent writer in the magazine Mademoiselle maintains that comics give children a sense of "reality," whereas most modern children's books are too full of "sweetness and light." Parents want to wrap their children in cotton wool, she declares, and adds:

> "In August, 1945, one single atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima killed something like 80,000 men, women, and children in the space of a few seconds, and every child in the United States over four years old knows it. Perhaps our own feeling of security is fed when we over-protect our children."

It may be true that modern parents frequently insulate their children from all sense of sharp responsibility and vigorous challenge in a mistaken desire to "protect" them. But are crime comics, radio thrillers, and gangster films the answer to the child's need for a more realistic approach to the world into which he is growing up?

Hardly. They are escapist fantasies which dull the child's sense of reality and responsibility at least as much as any saccharine fable of a world all sunshine and smiles. He may crave adventure stories painted in strong colors, but he will naturally respond to the very real qualities of heroism, honor, loyalty, kindness, and decency, which are part of the human race' greatest adventures—but are found so seldom in the tawdry wares of thrill-vendors.



HALIBUT—Prince Rupert is British Columbia's principal halibut landing port. Here is a typical picture of fish being unloaded at Prince Rupert. Halibut landings at Prince Rupert this year totalled about 11,000,000 pounds.

Reminiscences and Reflections
By W.J.

More Esthonians, not at all sure that Russia or Russian-dominated territory is desirable residential region, have arrived in St. John's, Newfoundland with the idea of locating in Canada. If they stay where they are, for a few more months, it wont be necessary to go any further west to be in Canada.

The election harvest report in Alberta is the heaviest ever known in that province. The Social Credit yield must be at least 500 bushels to the acre. All in all, the vote crop may be described as a bumper one.

Music will be permitted in Ontario cocktail bars but in a most discreet manner. Where the seating capacity is less than a hundred, the number of instruments must be limited to one. What's the matter with a smart looking little jewsharp or harmonica?

So great appears to be the hunger for even a morsel of praise that nearly anything goes. Quantity or quality—it's all the same. Even among the already famous, the craving for more and more, seems unappeased. Blandishments, adulation that, under other circumstances, would be insults, are accepted with apparent pleasure. Good work is entitled to reward. That's understood. But there is always a place to stop.

All sorts and conditions of people will miss Babe Ruth, whose general ability and popularity as a ball layer earned him a salary, sometimes as high as $80,000. A multitude mourn the loss—esecially income tax collectors.

The Skeena Highway is but a few years old but how difficult today to think of a Prince Rupert without a road outlet of any description! It does strengthen the conviction that the first settlers here were, after all, a stoic and determined lot of people. They had to be.

Now that programs of music are sanctioned in eastern cocktail bars, bring on a similar concession for western beer parlors. But nothing short of brass bands will do. It will take that much to smash the heavy gloom in some, or drown out the range and power of sloppy ballyhoo in others.

Rationing of butter in British Columbia may soon become effective. Not a happy outlook and, if the amount provided looks as delicate as what's set before you in some boarding houses or hotels, it is frail indeed.

TRY A CLASSIFIED AD!

Better English
By D. C. WILLIAMS

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "He came nearly winning the game."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "facade"?
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Anatomy, anachronism, analize.
4. What does the word "obtrude" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with cy that means "disbelieving in the sincerity of human motives?"

ANSWERS

1. Say, "He came near winning the game." 2. Pronounce fa-sad, first a as in ask unstressed, second a as in ah, accent second syllable. 3. Analyze. 4. To thrust out; eject. "Those talk the most who observe the least, and obtrude their remarks upon everything, who have seen into nothing."—Colton. 5. Cynical.

Stanley Wilkins, regional officer of the Social Security and Municipal Aid Tax, was the speaker today at the regular weekly luncheon of the Prince Rupert Rotary. He spoke of the operation of the new tax and answered questions after his discourse. President D. C. Stevenson was in the chair.

● MERCHANTS—Do you know that the Daily News is the most effective medium of advertising in Prince Rupert? No one misses your message if it's advertised in the News. It's the really efficient way of putting it over. tf

Eleven-year-old says Right Word, Wins Alaska Cruise

An eleven-year-old girl with a bright smile, an eager voice and a gift for words visited Prince Rupert Wednesday on a trip to Alaska which she won because she said the right word at the right time.

She was Miss Lois Martin and she won the trip to Alaska for herself and her mother in a name-guessing contest involving a large part of Vancouver and a mythical horse. The idea was to name the horse for a Vancouver automobile agency for advertising purposes.

Lois's idea of a suitable name for the horse, whose wise counsel will direct motorists to condition their cars at Colliers Motors was "Trusty" and now, according to the winner, advertising posters have blossomed all over the city informing drivers that "Trusty says to Collierize."

"It seemed like a name that would inspire confidence, so I sent it in," smiled Lois, who has a poise that is unusual in an eleven-year-old.

Her father, who operates a metal rustproofing business of his own, brought home the entry forms and Lois filled hers in immediately and sent it in to the competition headquarters. Her idea won her two round-trip tickets to Ketchikan on the Prince Rupert.

"It's been wonderful so far, and I'm certainly going to enjoy seeing Alaska. This is the longest boat trip I have ever made." Once, she made a train trip to Winnipeg.

Lois is a Grade Seven student at South Point Grey Junior High School in Vancouver.

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FACTS ABOUT SASKATCHEWAN
... and one Important Question

Saskatchewan's Socialist C.C.F. Government in the last legislature had a working majority of 41 seats.

Last month Saskatchewan voters reduced this majority to 9 seats. Most people there voted anti-socialist.

The two cabinet ministers chiefly responsible for introducing socialistic reforms were heavily defeated.

In two northern ridings where bad weather delayed the vote and where fishermen, trappers and lumber workers had been affected in their daily lives by socialized handling of fish, furs and forest products the Socialist government lost both seats.

The Government as an employer in Saskatchewan has not readily raised wages. In socialized industries, unions have come to new agreements not through negotiation with the government but through outside conciliation machinery and threatened strikes.

These facts speak for themselves — but they raise this question:

If the Government had completely socialized industry in Saskatchewan, how free would the workers have been to oppose it in any way?

"It is no accident that individual enterprise and freedom for the individual exist together."

●

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