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Britain's Position

THIS IS NO TIME for gloating with anything in the way of political satisfaction over the critical economic situation in which Great Britain finds itself. Possibly, other than a Socialist government might have been making a better job of things. However, that is quite a hypothetical supposition. It is equally possible that no other government could have done better. Indeed, it might even have had more serious industrial troubles than those which the present government has had to deal with.

What we are all hoping for, of course, is that Britain may soon be finding a solution of her troubles and an easier row to hoe. Her position is a difficult one and, in some ways, seemingly unnatural but there it is! Sometimes, it seems that the monetary and fiscal angles are somewhat rigid and that there might be a little more give and take. However, there is also the rest of the world to contend with a grim economic struggle for survival ever to be considered.

In international, like in other business, sentiment is often lacking.

Now and during the next few weeks it will be well for Americans, Canadian and Britons to keep firmly in mind the political as well as the economic aspects of their mutual relations. These weeks promise to be trying ones, testing patience and wisdom among the western nations. The test will come in the field of economics and international politics. It will be fought out in terms like "dollar scarcity," "sterling area," "transferability of credits," "convertibility of currencies." It will concern imports, exports, employment, prices.

It would be well, though, that we do not become so fascinated with the entangled trees that we lose sight of what Stalin, Molotov, Vishinsky and their friends will be watching—namely the forest.

As in the war so in the postwar conflict, the strength of the west has been built around the keystone of co-operation. The global dyke against communism is of paramount importance. Trading positions of the nations are, of course, to be considered but the political solidarity of the west is the first consideration of all.

BIG RESPONSIBILITY

THE NATIONAL electoral decision removes one major worry that has been hanging over the country since the campaign started, observes the Financial Post. There is no question of an ample working majority for the new government.

Had either of the major political parties been forced to depend on a minority group for parliamentary support, there would have been no hope of stability at a time when a strong, stable government is of the utmost importance.

But the present top-heavy majority was neither necessary nor desirable. Not only did it mean the loss to the country of many promising young members of other parties who had much to contribute to Canada, but it is potentially hazardous for the country. A one-sided House increases the risk of the government extravagance and of the Cabinet ignoring parliament.

Lack of a more powerful opposition means still greater responsibility for Mr. St. Laurent. In any democracy the party out of power is only second in importance to the one that is in. In constructive criticism, in keeping the government on its toes and in fighting for economy in the spending of public money the Opposition has a vital contribution to make.

But Canadians generally can be thankful that the election was decisive and that at the head of the new government is a man who commands of all universal respect.

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RUNS LARGEST WOMEN'S SECTION

Editor of Canada's largest daily newspaper women's section, that of the London (Ont.) Free Press, Mrs. Marjorie Oliver was in Prince Rupert yesterday afternoon aboard the Princess Norah after making the round trip to Alaska and was a caller at the Daily News office. The London Free Press carries at least seven pages of women's news a day and sometimes more as compared with two or three in the most of the larger metropolitan dailies.

So popular are the social pages of the Free Press, said Mrs. Oliver, that there has to be a limit on what is accepted for publication. It is physically impossible to handle many contributions. Mrs. Oliver does not have to send her reporters, of which she has a staff of seven, to weddings. The people bring them in and do it promptly too.

Recently the Free Press published a notable one hundredth anniversary number. It was the largest single issue of a newspaper ever published in Canada and took a whole year to prepare with three months of concentrated effort by the whole staff before it was finally issued. "I wonder how we ever accomplished it" said Mrs. Oliver. "It was a great job of journalistic organization."

Mrs. Oliver was not to the newspaper business born or trained. When she became widowed several years ago in



NAVY ASSISTS LEPER BABY—Enroute to naval hospital in the South Pacific, a baby boy, known only as Jose, a native of the Yap race, is held by a U. S. navy man, just two hours after his birth to leper parents. The mother and father are members of Hansen's leper colony on Tinian island in the Marianas. The child appeared to be normal in every respect.

Prince Albert she got a job in a newspaper there and liked the work to which she applied herself diligently and progressed well. "Yes, we have to work night and day," she said, "but I wouldn't do any other kind of work for the world."

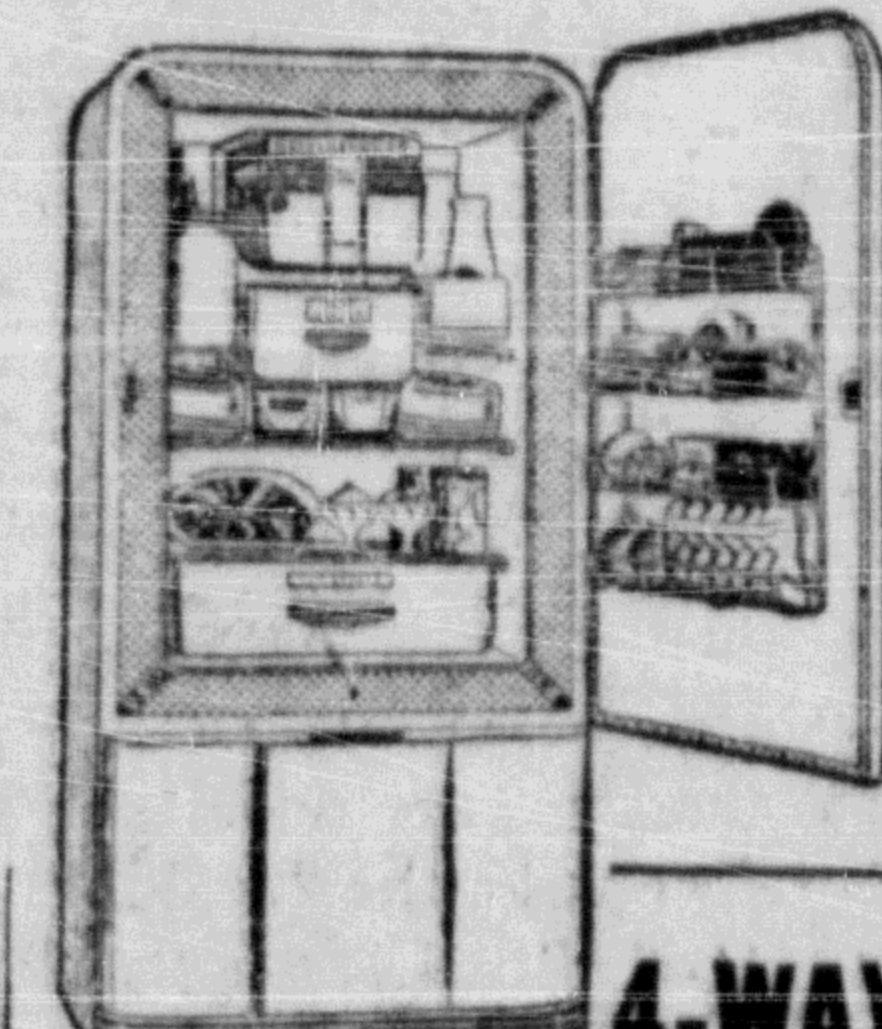
Ray Reflects and Reminisces

While some folks profess to regard it as an easily understood and unadorned chore, there are also those who confess to a feeling of curiosity about this business of helping get out a paper. They have any number of unanswered queries. They liked to watch the sheet "being put to bed" and listen to the low, regular rumble of the press. They are not sure pictures can be made on the premises. To explain by saying, off hand, that mats are cast or cuts used, does not enlighten in the least. As for the linotype? That's a study in itself. People sometimes inquire where news comes from and all of this, he said, is not so simple to answer to the outsider.

Perhaps it would not be a tiresome notion to reminisce a bit longer about newspapers, and the life in general, nearly fifty years of it spent drifting across Canada from the Maritimes to Skeena. Everywhere, duties and responsibilities, problems and people have been much alike and, on the whole, useful and pleasant experiences vastly outnumbered the distasteful and unwelcome. One can remember so many incidents, anecdotes and happenings that can occur only where records of day to day developments are being chronicled.

So now, with the elections safely over, school holidays in

What is news, anyway? There are occasions when a good story is instantly spotted by one man and not even noticed by another. News is being created everywhere all the time. What to some is all important is to others of trifling concern. Summing it all up, news is life, and it can come from any part of the earth. Speaking of relative news values, if your home in Rupert burned down this afternoon, the tidings, to you would be more vital and startling than word of a faithful earthquake in the South Sea Islands.



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