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Unions and Communism

YEARS OF HARD and secret work by a handful of Canadian communists seems to have paid off manyfold. It is probably no coincidence that the Red-inspired disagreement among Canadian seamen has been used to foment trouble in the ports of the world just at a time when the trade and dollar crisis has impeded the free interchange of goods and thus imperilled the democracies of the world.

The world-wide rash of strikes might well fall into a pattern—a made-in-Moscow pattern. A seemingly insignificant Canadian labor dispute ties up two ships in the Thames, brings out on strike the thousands of dockworkers in the world's largest port, and the communist-controlled World Federation of Trade Unions does its best to put the London strike on a world-wide basis. Then the Red-led Australian dockmen refuse to unload a strike-bound Canadian ship loaded with coal, and Red-led miners strike in the hope of bringing Australia to apoint of industrial collapse. In the meantime, Moscow's old and faithful friend, Harry Bridges, holds Pacific island trade crippled for months with his insane demand for a wage increase in Honolulu that would give a stevedore a higher income than a skilled mechanic.

It is fortunate for Canada—and for the world—that many Canadian union leaders have had the moral courage to openly attack the Communists who have led the seamen's strike and who have secretly infiltrated into other unions. It is not impossible that the country's most effective defense against the Red Trojan horse will come from courageous union leadership.

ISLANDS RECOGNIZED

THE THOUSANDS of islands scattered along the coast of British Columbia and Alaska are given a resounding boost in a recent issue of Saturday Evening Post. Says the article, in part:

"Just across the international boundary begins an archipelago of thousands of magnificent islands most of which are still vacant and under ownership of the provincial government of British Columbia. They are available to Americans and Canadians at prices beginning at $10 an acre. Mostly scattered through the 400 miles of the Strait of Georgia and Queen Charlotte Sound, the islands recently have been discovered by Americans in droves and the more southerly ones are going fast. The climate of the whole area is quite equable the year round and there are thousands more to the north. Southern Alaska has another couple of thousand vacant, and quite habitable which are a good bet if you want to "crawl up and pull the ladder after you" as the islanders say.

"Remarked an Ohio business man, who owns an island:

" 'The minute I step ashore—well, a feeling of calm and contentment comes over me. It's like magic, as if being surrounded by water cuts off my usual worries. If everyone in the world had an island he could get away to once in a while, I wouldn't be surprised to find most of our problems solved.' "

SAFETY IN STRENGTH

PROTECTION of the growing generation against war can best be served by providing now more than a billion dollars wherewith to arm united nations in Western Europe. President Truman utters an appeal that comes close home.

Should Washington not feel disposed to aid the United Nations in such a vast way, the ultimate consequences might be very grave. Aggressives could and would grow because there would be nothing to stop them. It is too much to expect that the present trend, from the standpoint of the Soviet with all that such implies, would moderate in the slightest degree. Again would it be shown how weakness invites invasion.

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SAW CHANGE IN CALGARY

Mr. and Mrs. William Rothwell of Sherbrooke Avenue, pioneer residents of Prince Rupert, are home from a visit to Alberta where the former had the pleasure of a reunion with an elder brother. They had not met for many years.

The Herald, Calgary's first daily, prints an interview, with portraits of each. It reads as follows:

"Calgary has certainly changed a lot since I was last here," William Rothwell, 54, a longshoreman from Prince Rupert in town to visit his brother, James, 62, 1108 Fourth Street East, a fire chief and maintenance mechanic with Burns & Co. Ltd., who he has not seen in 31 years, declared Friday.

" 'When I was a boy the only school in Calgary was on Centre Street between Fourth and Fifth Avenues and the only bridge over the Bow was a wooden structure that was nearly falling down. The C.P.R. station was just a little shack in the same place as the station is today.'

"The Rothwell family first came to Calgary from Yorkshire, England in 1902. They lived in "The Bow Cottage" in what is now Hillhurst district. At that time this area was all ranch land belonging to Alf Riley and the two boys helped Mr. Riley with his farming and rode his horses.

" 'There was a Church of England and a few houses. That's about all,' they said.

"The last time the brothers saw each other was in 1918 in Calgary when Bill was discharged from the army. That was the last time Jim saw his sister, too, Katie, 53, from Victoria was passing through Calgary on her way to England with her husband who was in the Canadian Army Postal Corps.

"Bill, accompanied by his wife, arrived in Calgary Thursday from Edmonton.

" 'We wanted to be here in time for the Stampede,' they said—'But we just couldn't make it. I like what I've seen of Calgary very much,' Mrs. Rothwell declared."

Jimmy Langridge's Farewell Party

Robert Brewerton was host Monday evening at a surprise party at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. Brewerton, for Jimmy Langridge who will shortly be leaving Prince Rupert with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Langridge. The evening was happily spent in the playing of games and refreshments were served. The farewell gift was a camera. Those present were Fred Kristmanson, Georgie Thain, Neoland Bechin, Melvin, Raymond and Harold Paulsen, Chris Erickson, Alf Hodgkinson and Jack Flewin.

MASSET TO GET PLANE LANDING

Masset, one of the Queen Charlotte Island points, which now has a daily seaplane service out of Prince Rupert, is to be provided with adequate seaplane landing facilities in the near future. With that end in view, an immediate survey of the situation has been authorized by the Department of Public Works. Seaplanes at present land at the Masset wharf but with some difficulty owing to its nature.

Ray Reflects . . .
. . . and Reminisces

An interview with Bill Hanrahan in Wednesday's News described the typical prospector. Reading it cheered one up. Sixty seven years young, Hanrahan has shared in all the booms for half a century. Hardy and adventurous, his optimism lasts as long as life. If it didn't he would not be a mining man. The west would be the poorer but for the priceless services of these roving old gentlemen and the big strike "just around the corner."

Americans, says a periodical, are finding an attraction in the thousands of islands fringing the shores of British Columbia and Alaska. Many are buying. It is a fact that some United States islands are thickly populated. Manhattan, for example.

A mining camp has to be pretty poorly nourished before it can be said to be a ghost, utterly. The Premier mine slumbered softly for a year and, while that did not cause Stewart to wear a smile, conditions could have been more serious. Stewart worried along, serene in the belief of a coming resurrection, and the hunch was right. Even now, with the mine on the eve of returning production, Prince Rupert can feel the welcome change that's settling in, in the Portland Canal region.

There is a place on the coast line of Vancouver Island within handy distance of Victoria where the annual rainfall is usually hundreds of inches. But few ever hear of this, save through the yearly provincial weather report—and then quietly. Meanwhile, hosannas for Victoria, not far away, where Canada's most perfect clime beams. It can be that way in this interesting land.

Ottawa would have a museum—greatest in the whole world, no less. That's all very well, but it should be distinctly understood that superior totem poles are highly prized and becoming scarcer all the time.

Changing from the crowded streets of Montreal to Saskatoon as the prairie town looked in the spring of 1906-07 had contrast. That much was certain. There might have been 7,000 people. Instead of French-Canadians all seemed to have hailed from Ontario and Manitoba. All were married to Saskatoon. They were born boosters, which may help explain today's university, the towering Bessborough Hotel, and a hustling city of perhaps 50,000. Saskatoon, forty years ago was just another town—but with driving force and united effort. There were a few natural advantages, but nothing to shout about.

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C. F. P. Faulkner, Victoria; S. H. Gilmour, Victoria; A. Williams, Vancouver; E. J. Shaw, Vancouver; D. W. Rideparth, Smithers; G. Naylor, Vancouver; A. S. Fleetham, West Vancouver; Mrs. A. Husband, Queen Charlotte City; S. S. Leith, Smithers; P. L. Swanell, Prince George; J. E. Mathieson, Mamming Mills, B. C.; Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Constantino, Masset; E. P. O'Connor, Vancouver; Mrs. A. Lerum, Smithers; Miss E. Thomas, Vancouver; A. Rogers, Vancouver; C. N. Shears, Vancouver; Mrs. H. W. Magnusson and children, Ketchikan; Mr. and Mrs. H. Vincent, Los Angeles; F. W. ... Vancouver; Mr. ... Twitty, Chicago ... land Hazelton ... elton; Mr. and Mrs ... ley, Rheneteck ... Steele, Edmonton ... Edmonton; Miss M ... couver.

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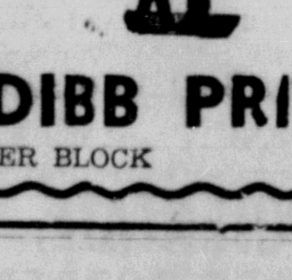

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