

Thursday, May 4, 1950

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## George Pearson

THE British Columbia cabinet loses one of its towers of strength over many years in the retirement of health and welfare and provincial secretary. It had been obvious for some time that Mr. Pearson, after successive breakdowns, could not carry on but it was typical of his dogged conscientiousness that he would endeavour to continue even after all his friends knew that his duties were sapping and undermining his strength.

Unostentatious, yet effective worker, Mr. Pearson was one of the most respected members of the legislature and government during a long period of service which began in 1928 when he was first elected in the two-member seat of Victoria, later transferring to his own home town of Nanaimo. With seventeen years of cabinet service, he was long minister of labor and had been minister of health since 1948.

Mr. Pearson is a man whose first thoughts and sympathies were consistently with the common people and, in the two departments which he administered, he left his mark in their benefit as a legislator and an administrator. He had much to do with bettering the lot of the worker and the ordinary person and he was instrumental in the record for which British Columbia has long been known as the most advanced province in the field of social legislation. Some of his schemes he had to fight hard for and often against heavy opposition but, in spite of his quietude, he was a determined and an influential man and usually won through.

His many friends throughout British Columbia will hope that Mr. Pearson may soon recover from the illness which had kept him from his cabinet duties for nearly two months, and that he will be able to enjoy the fruits of the retirement which he richly merits.

## Drew Would Outlaw Reds

OTTAWA (C)—In a denunciation of Communism, George Drew, Progressive Conservative leader, yesterday asked the Commons to outlaw Communists in this country.

Branding the red doctrine as anti-Christ and most "terrifying and brutal reality" the world has ever known, he penned this amendment for the government's motion to go into supply: "This House is of the opinion that appropriate legislation should be introduced so that communist and similar activities in Canada may be made an offence punishable under the Criminal Code." Liberal and C.C.F. parties promptly declared their opposition.

Prime Minister St. Laurent told Mr. Drew Canadian laws

already were adequate to deal with subversive activity and said he felt the best way to combat communism was to show that democracy could work for the betterment of the people. Angus McInnis, for the C.C.F., and E. G. Hansuld, Social Credit, also opposed Mr. Drew's move.

## By-Elections Set In Eastern Seats

OTTAWA (C)—Prime Minister announced that by-elections for a Halifax Commons seat and two others will be held June 19. The other two are the Nova Scotia riding of Annapolis-Kings and Quebec's Montreal-Cartier.

By-elections for the remaining two of the five existing Commons vacancies will be held May 16 in Toronto-Broadview and Hamilton West.

PORTLAND (C)—Wholesale salmon prices skidded as much as 15 cents a pound this week as the first Columbia River catches of the new season went on sale. Dealers priced chinooks at 45 to 46 cents a pound. Fishermen were receiving 20½ cents a pound from canners and 25 cents on the fresh market.

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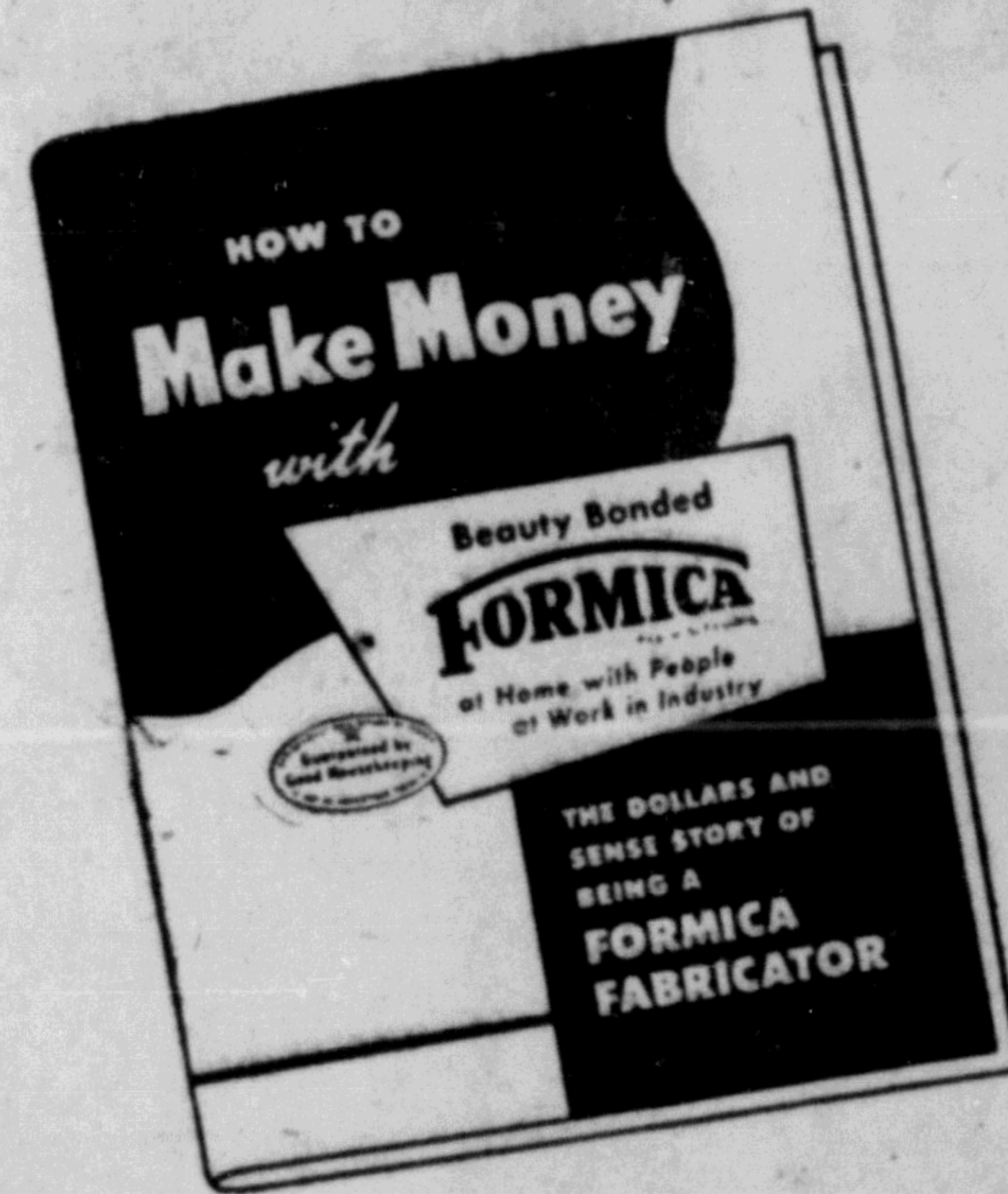
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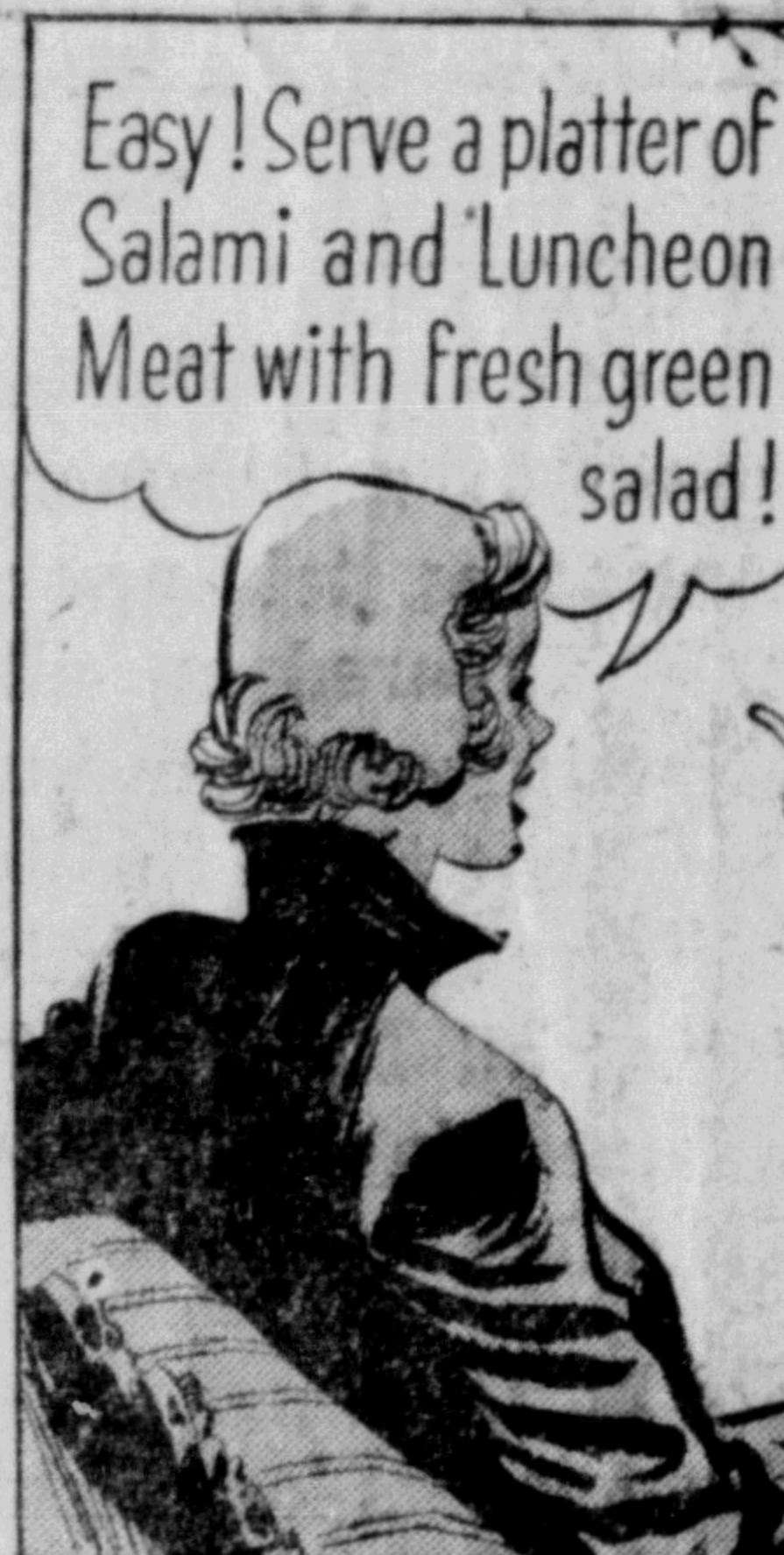
## VANDALISM

REPORTS were published earlier in the week of wilful vandalism by the breaking of the telephone cable line which connects the city with Digby Island and which carries important communications including the ship to shore radiophone service of Prince Rupert's fishing fleet and which is, therefore, a vital line. This is serious sabotage which would merit rigorous punishment could the perpetrators be apprehended and brought to book. The mental attitude of people who will resort to such destruction is difficult to understand.

Also we have reports of new incidents of vandalism in park resorts of the city which is equally despicable and stupid. The perpetrators may be difficult to catch up with but they can be assured that their sneaky and asinine activities are roundly disapproved.

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by T.R.M.\*



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