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Choosing a Member

THE PEOPLE of Skeena and Prince Rupert and every constituency in Canada and British Columbia will choose the men they hope to elect as their representatives in the House of Commons and the Legislature respectively. It is well to consider the types in the field ready to offer their services. Each may deserve a place in the Parliament of the nation or the province but the man selected should be able to think and able to speak.

R. J. Deachman writes interestingly on the subject as follows:

"Many men come to Parliament without having previously given much consideration to economic and political questions. Their capacity to become useful members depends on their ability to think. If they can think clearly they can learn to speak clearly. They will soon be capable of taking a leading place among their fellow members.

"There are, of course, others, too many of them, popular in their own constituencies, extremely likable in their personal relationships but void of economic comprehension, not fitted for the job they have to do. The country would be richer if they could be left at home. Parliament is selective, good men find their mark, the others become ballast—they help to steady the ship in bad weather. That of course is important in its way.

"Members should be able to speak and speak clearly on issues which come before the House. A good speaker, capable of clear thinking, will be able to make a place for himself in Parliament. Even when he fails there is a second chance. There are many men who can think clearly but are hopelessly lacking in power of expression. There are different types of speakers. One man may speak well in the House, i.e. he can plan a speech, put it on paper and present it in the House with only brief notes to stimulate his memory. This man may fall down in a committee where the nature of the situation is very different. In committee the situation calls for the qualities of a good lawyer. It involves quite frequently the examination of witnesses. This does not imply that a man must necessarily be a lawyer. I can recall many a quite competent examination made by a farmer or business man. The business man fits into the work because he has definite knowledge of his business and therefore capacity to bring out the evidence.

"The member should possess the spirit of independence. He is not likely to oppose his own party on major issues but there are other means by which he can make his purpose clear. The caucus gives him an opportunity for free discussion. He will need to be on guard every hour of the day. Parliament is an ideal place for loafing. It's so easy to drift around the rooms visiting other members, doing little when there is much to be done. The essential element in the making of a member is a willingness to work.

"The constituency demands too much from its member but, in many cases, the correspondence involved is helpful. The member has to listen to the people back home, while facing the task which always confronts him—his duties in the House. There is with some a tendency to be too sharp in debate. Nothing is gained by this attitude. It does not pay to knock a man down even in an exchange of words. The mind of the thinking member should turn at all times to the actual facts before the House. The man who knows the facts is master of the situation if only he has the power of logical expression. Look for these qualities in choosing you M.P.—they are supremely important."

WHAT SOCIALISM MEANS

YOU CANNOT trust the battle of freedom to socialism. Socialism has no interest in liberty. Socialism is the negation of liberty. Socialism means the community in bonds. If you establish a Socialist community it means the most comprehensive, universal and persuasive tyranny that this country has ever known. It is like the sand of the desert. It gets into your food, your clothes, your machinery, the very air you breathe. They are all gritty with regulations, orders, decrees, rules. This is what Socialism means.

—David Lloyd George.

Ray Reflects and Reminisces

A Vancouver woman managed to get together \$5,000 of life's savings—and kept the cash in \$100 bills in her home. Then, putting the temporal security in a wallet, she went on a shopping errand and lost the lot. How the lady is unable to say. Much may depend on who finds it, but this is the twentieth century and it's best not to depend too much on expectation of miracles.

The interview with Irvin Conn, American tourist, in which he described how, despite misinformation and discouragement at the border, inability to buy gasoline after 6 p.m. or find available any sleeping accommodation after such a late hour as ten, is somewhat revealing. Yet he did accomplish the feat of driving through to Prince Rupert where, already, there is an excellent curfew. Studying all the circumstances it might now be just as well to instal a series of curfews along the Skeena at say twenty-mile intervals. The sounding of the sirens which have a powerful blast would mean lights out at sharp ten—and the ceasing of all conversation.

Every political meeting in the midst of a campaign is enthusiastic. If it were not it would be some other sort of occasion. It is no more possible to have a public meeting a week from polling day and not have it enthusiastic than it is to make ginger cake and forget the molasses.

It's apple blossom season in Canada just now. All the way from the fragrant orchards of British Columbia to the hundred miles of pink and white loveliness called the Annapolis Valley of Nova Scotia, a brighter touch is given life. There will be days and nights of gaiety, winsome gals will be crowned and bands play. The R.C.M.P.

Coalition bulletin

TONIGHT

8:30 o'clock

CFPR

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and the R.C.A.F. will smarten proceedings with their presence, dancers will revel and tourists throng.

Most of us have long held the notion that the Dolly Varden mining property at Alice Arm took its name from the well known trout, numerous in northern waters. It has now been shown, however, that the mine has nothing to do with fish. It was named by a Swedish prospector, who had in mind a girl in one of Dickens' novels. And right here is a situation that might be almost called a coincidence. A poem by Bret Harte pictures another prospector, also a reader of Dickens. He remembered a girl, too, this time "Little Nell," and who, from his campfire pack "a hoarded volume drew." How does the poem of the days of '49 start? Something like this, we think—"Above the pines, the moon was slowly drifting, the river sang below; the dim Sierras, far beyond uplifting their minarets of snow."

Self-governing India thinks of Shanghai and cannot feel that communism, backed by the might of Soviet Russia, will stop there. Observers are saying India would feel more secure if the hand of Great Britain had not been withdrawn quite so far. Occupation of Asia's largest city is a long forward step for communism. Over the border from China is Burma, and next door to Burma, the storied land of India. It may be assumed Moscow will be guilty of no neglect in that quarter.

LETTERBOX

NO WATER ON ROAD

Editor, Daily News:
Regarding your recent issue "Water on Road in Bulkley" there is no place near Telkwa where the water is over the road as stated in your article. A section of the abandoned road is flooded but a new road was built around this section and has been in use since last fall. The Bulkley river through this part of the valley has been holding steady with a good runoff for the last week, with very little fluctuation.

I trust you will correct the erroneous impression that some people may have regarding floods in this part of the valley. All sections of the road flooded last year have been raised above flood stage.
C. P. BUSSINGER, Telkwa

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SPEAKS UP FOR JURISTS

LONDON — Judges' salaries, under review for some time, should be increased, says Attorney-General Sir Hartley Shawcross. At a meeting he said salaries paid now "inadequately reflect judges' very high constitutional importance."

GENEROSITY PLUS

HALIFAX, England — Middle-aged Minnie Grayson paid 2s 6d. (50 cents) to guess the length of a ball of wool. She won a four-room cottage, worth \$1,000, and the money to moral welfare work.

AIR PASSENGERS

To Vancouver—W. A. Bowman, D. Schiell, C. Nicholson, J. L. Green, Miss E. Perry, J. W. Hay, S. Shirodal.

From Vancouver—F. Goldsworthy, E. Crampton, Mr. and Mrs. P. Pugsley, W. Raseler, F. E. Batt, A. Campbell, B. W. Murdoch, G. Murdoch, C. H. Elford, L. Sands, N. Parkins, B. Morrow, Mrs. M. Hill, C. Zarelli, Mrs. Strom.

LIBERALS HAVE TWENTY SEATS

ST. JOHN'S, Newfoundland — Liberals have taken their twentieth seat in Newfoundland's 28-member Legislature. Progressive Conservatives have won five and Independents one. One seat remains to be heard from following last week's election and the election in Labrador.

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"GOVERNMENT LIQUOR" (Section 27)
Notice of Application for a License
Notice is hereby given that the seventh day of June next, the signed Branch Number twenty of the Canadian Legion British Columbia Service League intends to apply to the Liquor Control Board for a License in respect of premises formerly known as Officers' quarters, a two-frame construction, approximately 106' x 36' with addition of 87' x 36' situate upon certain lands described as (1) Part of Waterfront Block 3 or of the subdivision of parts of Lots 251 and 1992, Range 5, Coast District, Map 1965, and (2) Lot 106, division of Block 3 of Waterfront Block E as shown on Map 2000, containing approximately 2,903 acres, Prince Rupert Land, British Columbia, to entitle each of the said Club to keep on the premises a reasonable quantity of liquor for personal consumption on the premises, and entitling the Club to purchase liquor from the Club to sell by the glass to members and to consume on the Club premises in accordance with the provisions of the "Government Liquor Act" and the regulations promulgated thereunder.
Dated at Prince Rupert, B.C. 10th day of May, 1949.
CANADIAN LEGION, Branch Number 20 (Philip M. Bay Secretary)

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