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## Sad But True

MANY of us may find it hard to believe that our northern neighbor and former wartime ally, the U.S.S.R., is pursuing some seriously unfriendly purpose in its conduct of "the cold war." It might serve our future well if we do not follow the path of least trouble, telling ourselves that, surely, things are never as bad as they seem and that in the end everything will turn out well.

One gentleman whose opinions about Russia and about Moscow's ultimate aim should receive attention and respect is Lt.-General Walter Bedell Smith, the former United States Ambassador to Russia. As the title of his recent book, "My Three Years in Moscow," suggests, General Smith has had ample opportunity to examine the aims and activities of the world's chief communist state.

In discussing whether or not the Red leaders want to make war on us, their former allies, General Smith states that both Lenin and Stalin have long tutored their followers that the world's people would some day be divided into two camps—the believers in communism and the believers in capitalism. Stalin, says General Smith, had the choice at the end of World War II of seeking our continuing friendship or of dividing the world around these two hostile centres. Having chosen division and ultimate destruction of our capitalist society, the Kremlin now seeks every means possible short of war of destroying us; and, should circumstances require it and communist victory seem probable, Russia will be ready to attack us directly with arms.

Having reached this realistic conclusion General Smith does not suggest that we are foredoomed to servility in a world united under the communist police state. Peace, says General Smith, is possible. In the General's own words: "It is impossible to escape the conclusion that the best assurance of peace is our strength and determination to support our convictions. . . . More than military and economic strength is required. The total strength of the nation embraces such factors as education and national health, family life and opportunity, and the incentive for individual achievement. That national strength rests on the passionate devotion of our people to the free way of life."

General Smith, of course, was addressing his own countrymen. His advice applies equally to this democratic nation.

### PHYSICAL ACTIVITY NECESSARY

PEOPLE are born with a body that needs vigorous activity to keep it in condition, and they have to respect that need or content themselves with dwindling powers says Dr. Doris W. Plewes in an article—"Fitness is Their Heritage and You are Their Trustee"—in the current issue of the magazine Health.

"Properly developed and maintained vigorous activity is enjoyable and exhilarating," writes Dr. Plewes. "Most of us could be supple at 60 if we lived a physically active life. When society regards physical illiteracy as deplorably stupid and as socially unacceptable then people will devote attention to the development of physical powers."

Dr. Plewes says men and women engaged in commerce and industry may not need the muscular development and the strength of pioneers but good digestions, sound hearts and lungs and a vigorous well-developed body are necessities for an efficient and satisfactory life.

She describes bodies as being made up of 206 bones moved by 696 muscles mobilized by thousands of nerve fibres and refreshed by 100,000 miles of blood vessels. All these are energized by a complex mechanism of internal organs. Designed for action, bodies are provided with remarkable devices for regeneration and repair.

"However, because the complex mechanisms of your body are subject to wear and tear, to sabotage and to breakdown it does make a difference how you live," writes Dr. Plewes. "Improper food lowers energy supply, inadequate exercise depletes physical efficiency, harmful substances sabotage nervous reactions. Emotional disturbances burn out some parts and paralyze others."

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As  
I  
See  
It

By ELMORE PHILPOTT

IT COST US \$3.50 FOR

two balcony seats to see Thomas Mitchell in the powerful play "Death of a Salesman." That was several times more than we would have paid for the best movie. But we came away more sure than ever that the live theatre has a power and a pull—or rather grip—which the movies, radio or television can never have.

The matinee performance was marred a bit because the workmen, putting up the huge advertising signs which are already defacing our new and potentially finest Vancouver square, kept right on pounding on the walls of the theatre.

But the noise was not as distracting as one might imagine. It was a sort of unplanned off stage sound effect that fitted in with the play.

THOMAS MITCHELL IS A good actor—indeed if I were a professional theatre critic and not merely a paying customer, I would say a superb actor.

The supporting cast in this play is good too. In fact it has to be good. For if it were not good some of the scenes would flop disastrously. For instance when the schoolboy athlete son Biff makes an unexpected call on his Dad and finds a strange unclad female in Dad's hotel room.

Biff breaks down and cries. If that scene were not well acted it could result in raucous laughter, and theatrical disaster.

WHEN YOU SEE A GREAT actor like Thomas Mitchell in this powerful play you realize, not only the difference there is between the live theatre and the movies, or television. But you realize also how much the other media owe to the live theatre.

What will the movies do when the dwindling supply of live theatre actors runs out? Only a small percentage of the performers on the screen can really act. The movie producers get them by, by technical tricks. But the few real actors carry the load.

I cannot understand why, in their own self interest, the movies do not work out some scheme of keeping the live theatre in existence, if only to protect their own investment.

IN "DEATH OF A SALESMAN" the producers have borrowed many of the techniques from movies and radio. (Hold everything, you experts on Shakespeare—I know he used the double stage effect—and maybe also the fade-in and flash-back devices too.)

But I doubt that these Hollywood techniques add much to the grip of this powerful play.

What may have added to the feeble power of its grip is perhaps, the double theme. Some might see in the story, not just the tragic break up of one typical old style commercial traveller. Some might also see in it the 1950 mood of Uncle Sam.

SOME MIGHT SAY THAT this crack-up of one super-salesman, Willy, was the symbolic crack-up of the Great American Dream that you can saletalk glad-hand, or high-pressure yourself through the cartezized world of 1950 as you could say through the open-frontier world of 1900 or 1910.

Some might say that when the psychologically-sick son, Biff, finally got the gumption to bust through the whole tissue of lies, fakes and fantasies—and to start all over again earning his living with real work and real sweat—that the American national Rip Van Winkle was waking up at last.

## LETTERBOX

### REPORT CLARIFIED

Editor, Daily News: It would be appreciated if you would clarify the following items in your report of a brief sketch of fishing activities which I gave to the Rotary Club.

1. The 9,000,000 pounds landed in Seattle compared to the 17,000,000 pounds landed in Prince Rupert were HALIBUT and such fact should have been stated. Nine million pounds, if the kind of fish is not stated, is such a small amount of fish that it conveys no meaning.

2. I said nothing about Seattle boasting: I simply gave a comparison between two great fishing ports.

3. The "pictures" of herring mentioned in your report were stated by me as the picture which the record of the Echo Sounder gives.

4. An example of 100,000 sockeye on a spawning ground was taken to illustrate aspects of the sockeye life history.

No mention was made of any actual number of salmon being on any spawning ground since it is too early in the year for any such statement.

A hundred thousand sockeye is such a comparatively small number that it would not be a very bright spot in the whole scene.

In one branch of the Skeena River alone, where the Department has facilities for accurate counting, 504,027 sockeye were recorded last year.

G. S. READE, Regional Supervisor of Fisheries.

### ON BEING PASSED UP

Editor, Daily News:

I am writing you as a stranger and a new arrival to Prince Rupert. I am working on construction at Watson Island and had business to transact Saturday with a notary public in the city.

The buses were not leaving until too late in the afternoon so I attempted to hitch hike into Prince Rupert. Walking a muddy road in the rain left me time to consider what's wrong with Prince Rupert and do you know what I discovered?

About six empty and near empty cars passed me up in the rain and the mud.

Now, Mr. Editor, a town comprised of people of that type fit perfectly into the kind of a town I don't want to live in. And when I leave it will be to never return.

This is now what makes towns grow.

I wonder, Mr. Editor, if you will print this letter. If you do the next pilgrim may get a lift. If you don't print it I won't be surprised and will figure the editor is like the rest of the people around here.

BUD LAWRENCE.

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## New Store Is Started

Construction of a 25 x 94 foot reinforced concrete store building for Overwater Limited was started yesterday by Northwest Construction Ltd. on the lot next to a lane that separates it from the Killas and Christopher block on Third Avenue.

Of completely modern design throughout, the front will be recessed and will feature large plate glass windows. Floors will be reinforced concrete slabs. Lighting will be completely fluorescent. Shelving will be clear varnished wood.

Strictly self service, the customer will be confronted with the fresh fruit and vegetable racks on entering the store. Next port of call is the refrigerator section. The shelving goes right around the store. Running down the centre will be a gondola service counter.

At the exit will be the check off girl with a new "Speedy Counter," electrically controlled. She sets the control at a speed to work and the counter, a large disk, brings the purchases to her.

Construction is expected to be completed in 10 weeks.

## Good Seeding Progress Made

WINNIPEG—Reasonably good progress has been made in most sections of the western crop area during the past week, according to the weekly crop report of the department of agriculture of the Canadian National Railways.

This, however, is one of the latest seeding seasons on record. Widely scattered showers and rains occurred but total participation was light. Cool weather and fairly strong winds succeeded a brief period of higher temperatures and caused some soil drifting and a further delay in seeding at some points.

Practically no cash crops will be sown in the flooded Red River valley where signs of scattered field operations may be observed and where some farmers hope to seed up to 20 per cent of their land to feed crops. Sugar beet acreage will be reduced but probably not as much as generally expected, owing to the increasing acreage of beets being planted at points removed from the flood.

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Ottawa The Government of Canada  
By: BANK OF CANADA, Fiscal Agent.

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## IODE Tag Day For Flood Fund

In an effort to help swell the Manitoba Relief Fund, the IODE here Saturday raised \$322.54 by means of tags sold by 31 city school children in the morning and afternoon. A few IODE members were out making sales in the late afternoon. The children, for their co-operation each received a show ticket; soft drinks, donated by John McLeod at the North Star Bottling Works, and refreshments from the IODE and S. A. Cheeseman, vice-principal at Borden Street School, who watched over the young taggers.

The tag day was in charge of Regent Mrs. G. R. S. Blackaby, assisted by Mrs. J. Munthe, Mrs. H. Breen, Mrs. C. G. Withers, Mrs. D. H. Stewart, Mrs. J. M. Keays, Mrs. George Howe and Mrs. M. McQuaig.

Five students who collected the greatest amounts were William Blackaby, \$33.60; Ethel Konarski, \$24.37; Joanne Way, \$21.65; Carol Nelson, \$20.72; and Rickie Watts, \$15.18.

The other 26 students were Bill Walmough, George Howe, Frank Anfield, Yvonne Jackson, Carol Nelson, Ralph Weick, Robert Jensen, Donnie Withers, Gordon Ronson, Jim Arsenault, Joan Bennett, Louise Wood, Betty Hood, Donna Becker, Ken McKinnon, Larry Eytcheson, Bobby Augier, Alleen Ritchie, Carl Jackson, Murray Boas, Jim Hunter, Grant Forman, Joe Scott, Patsy Phillipson, Bert Tipton and Dorothy Taylor.

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FOR SOUTH QUE  
CHARLOTTE ISLAND  
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10 p.m.

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Prince Rupert Agent  
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