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Humphrey Mitchell

HON. HUMPHREY MITCHELL, whose sudden death is a blow to the public service, was a man with a broad labor background. He held one of the heaviest and least popular portfolios in the Canadian government during the Second Great War.

As minister of labor he carried the responsibility for imposing most of the restrictive wartime legislation, and then of guiding the country's labor affairs through the hectic months that followed the end of the war.

His determined-looking British jaw led him into the complexities of mobilizing Canada's manpower for war with the same spirit that he had tackled some of the country's depression problems in the 1930s.

His wartime job had two main phases—he had to mobilize the industrial working force of the country to man the rapidly sprouting war plants and he had to find workers to produce the much-needed food. A short time after he took over the portfolio his responsibilities were extended to include the call-up for compulsory army service and that added new complications. Often under fire, he carried on resolutely and time has proven the effectiveness of his job.

Mr. Mitchell's services to the nation did not diminish with the conclusion of the war. He carried forward with his customary vigor the work of the Unemployment Insurance Commission, the National Employment Service, and the various vocational training schemes. It is an interesting fact that the Unemployment Insurance Commission fell almost entirely within Mr. Mitchell's term of office. Since 1941 the Commission has paid out \$117,486,505.31 in benefits to unemployed persons.

RECIPE FOR CIRCULATION

NEWS OF THE WORLD, a London weekly, has the biggest circulation of all newspapers or magazines in the world—8 million. What is the secret of this success? George Blake, a noted British journalist, tried to find an answer to this question. He took a copy and measured the space which in this particular issue was allotted to the different subjects. That issue had 16 pages of 7 columns, each 22 inches high. The 2,450 inches of space were filled as follows:

- Advertising—644 inches.
- Crimes and love affairs—547 inches.
- Sports—388 inches.
- Politics and economics—185 inches.
- Fiction 109 inches.
- Theatre, movies, radio—93 inches.
- Lost and found—Medical and legal advice—70 inches.
- Popular songs—67 inches.
- Society gossip—22 inches.
- Miscellaneous (crossword puzzles, etc.)—325 inches.

Of the 547 inches (24 columns!) dedicated to crimes and love affairs, the largest space — 112 inches — was reserved for matrimonial troubles (divorce and bigamy).

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE FOR TODAY

Unto the pure all things are pure; but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure. Titus 1: 15.



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As I See It

By ELMORE PHILPOTT LADY DOCTOR WRITES

REMEMBER the two Spanish boy refugees who had such a narrow escape from deportation back to Spain — where death or life imprisonment was the penalty for their "crime" of deserting from Franco's fascist navy?

They are now safe and sound in Guatemala. They have written me a nice card in Spanish which begins:

Dem Sturze Philpott. My Spanish is not good and there is nobody nearby to give me a literal translation. But I can see it says thanks to all the friends of the boys in Canada.

I heard from another friend that the two lads had a hard job finding employment when they got to their new land of refuge—but still were getting by somehow.

HERE IS ANOTHER LETTER from that little Chinese lady doctor who got stranded in Vancouver during the recent war.

She is Dr. Tsai, M.D. who figured in a dramatic court case centering around her right to practice medicine in Canada. Readers may remember that she was employed as the doctor in one of the internment camps for Canadians of Japanese descent, and then later began to practice in Vancouver. Her right to do so was questioned by the medical authorities — and the last few years of her stay in Canada were pretty unhappy.

Yet finally when she had got her visa to go to the United States, and thence back to her own Formosa, she staged a banquet to which she invited a hundred of her friends in Vancouver including the then Mayor and his good lady.

It ever there was a case of "heaping coals of fire" on the head of a party who has treated somebody meanly this was it.

Maybe the little lady Doctor will forgive me for printing part of this letter to my wife and myself:

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Philpott: "How is everybody? I am fine and keep myself busy as usual.

I am sure that all my friends are rejoicing at the news that Formosa is now protected by the American government. So we are feeling quite release and thank God that we can live a little bit peace mind.

New we are quite safe here. Many people have come back from Hong Kong since the news that the Americans are going to take the military protection of this island. Hong Kong is too crowded and more expensive than in Formosa.

Since the people here feel more security these days I might try to rent or sell my hospital. I am very tired after working so hard in this hospital.

I also have an American boy living with us. A small place like our city has not many places suitable for foreigners to live comfortably. We have 25 rooms and all facilities, washing machine, ironer, refrigerator, an ambulance car, electric range so here you would think you were in Canada or the States, except that the nurses would not understand your language.

I TAKE THE LIBERTY OF printing the little lady doctor's letter to remind us in Canada that when we talk of what should be done in Formosa we are not dealing with sticks or stones or iron or dry bones, or dust.

We are dealing with human lives — with millions of human beings who only want the right to live their own lives in peace.

HERE IS A FOND MEMORY I have of the little Formosan lady doctor.

She had been educated as a girl in a Canadian Presbyterian mission school. The first thing they were taught was that it was immodest for girls or women to wear trousers — that is, the long pants.

Long after when the little lady got to this "Christian" land she saw hundreds of females clad in slacks ten times more revealing than the chaste Chinese female garments of earlier decades.

How come, she wanted the missionaries to tell her. But I don't think she got much of an answer.

FOREST FIRES

Eighteen per cent of forest fires are attributed to lightning. Eighty-two per cent are man-made and preventable.



Ray Reflects and Reminisces

Like enough, thousands dwelling in Vancouver, have never been up north. Some, one learns, have never been even on Vancouver Island. The Sun prints a questionnaire, the idea being to find out which way folks would go, if given opportunity, and about three-fourths of the list of names say "Alaska." On the other hand, there are plenty who have never seen Stanley Park.

It's rather hard to imagine Winston Churchill a German prince, yet he could have been. He has let it be known that had he lived in Germany he could have been "Prince Winston of Mindelheim." This was disclosed in a letter to the small Bavarian town, celebrating its 900th anniversary. Churchill said the title Fuerst (Prince) von Mindelheim was in 1700 given to his ancestor, the Duke of Marlborough, when he campaigned in the fatherland. Presumably, Fuerst Winnie would have used a pipe with deep bowl, instead of boxes of high grade cigars.

It is true that the preference of shippers as to the route wheat will travel as well as the frequency of mixed cargoes have considerable to do with how much or how little a grain elevator is used. It might as well be admitted there is little immediate prospect of a change in the local situation. But there is this to think over. Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, says he hopes to visit Prince Rupert this summer. He designed the elevator which, whenever utilized, worked perfectly. H might feel disposed to ask a few questions.

Premier St. Laurent has been obliged to again cut short his vacation, something that no one, despite station in life, feels like doing. The session was long and strenuous. No one can say under what circumstances, or how soon Parliament may re-assemble. The times, if not exactly out of joint, invite emergencies. And anyone holding public office—certainly the head of a

IN EXPLORER'S FOOTSTEPS —Victor Franco, 20-year-old French student, has set out from Quebec City to follow the path of Pierre de la Verendrye, 18th-century explorer. Franco pedaled to Montreal with an itinerary that included visits to Ottawa, North Bay, Sudbury, Sault Ste. Marie, Duluth, Minn., and Winnipeg. He planned the trip after joining a France-Canada youth organization at home. (CP Photo)

Fire Damage In July Light

There was very little fire damage resulting from the five calls to the department last month.

A call from Crescent Shows at 3:15 a.m. July 2 proved to be a false alarm, a bonfire with a watchman looking after it.

Fire between studding at the Angus apartments caused by using a blow torch to remove paint proved easily put out by the department, who were called out at 9:30 a.m. July 4. Damage was slight.

There was slight damage at the home of Mrs. Storey on Sison Avenue East when the fire department was called out there at 7:30 p.m. July 15.

No damage was caused to the home of H. L. Pierce in Market Place when the oil burner flooded and resulted in a chimney fire at 8:20 a.m. July 17.

A cigarette burn in a taxi July 30 was quickly handled by the

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state—has less time for repose and quietness.

All sorts of sailors have been cruising the port and city of Halifax for the past couple of centuries, so it's nothing new to see an extra crowd in town. Just now, eight thousand tars from United States warships are extending a courtesy call, and the Halligonians and Canuck seamer unite in making them feel at home. And as for gals, surely not one will be without an escort this time.

Canada's three destroyers Cayuga, Athabaskan and Sioux, were built to engage in battle. Officers and men have been trained for that purpose. The vessels have steamed about four thousand miles to a land now in the throes of a deadly struggle, with the enemy having the edge on things, unless reinforcements come faster and in greater numbers. The destroyers are fully equipped and provided to share in action at short notice. Yet the ships are called non-combat units. They must be occupying grand stand seats.

Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Perry left Prince George at the first of the week for a two weeks' motor holiday trip to Vancouver, the Okanagan and Radium Hot Springs in the Rocky Mountains.

Dr. and Mrs. J. A. MacDonald and son and daughter returned to the city Monday night from a month's vacation trip to Vancouver, the Okanagan and Vancouver Island.

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