

Management Engineers Suggest New BCHIS Collection Methods

VICTORIA (CP) — A team of management engineers has suggested how administration of the British Columbia hospital insurance

service can be overhauled to save the province \$1,035,000 a year.

The report of Stevenson and Kellogg, management engineers who investigated BCHIS administration at the request of the former Coalition government, was tabled in the Legislature by Health Minister Eric Martin.

Nearly all the financial saving, the report said, could be made by reducing the BCHIS staff from 665—the number employed in October 1951—to 223.

Stevenson and Kellogg also recommended that the administration be placed under a three-man board of management instead of the present single commissioner. This board would set policies and administer them through a director of administration.

Administration itself would be divided into five divisions regis-

tration and collection office services; accounting; public relations; and hospital services.

The report was finished last July after the hospital inquiry commission had filed its report. The Social Credit government has not implemented the report though it has reduced the BCHIS staff to around 500.

The report said positive direction now was lacking at the top so that delegated responsibilities were not being carried out properly. It suggested that government agents, employers and bank and trust companies be used as premium collection agencies.

\$20 Million Surplus Shown By Province

VICTORIA (CP)—British Columbia finished the 1951-52 fiscal year with a surplus of \$20,093,155. Finance Minister Einar Gunderson disclosed in tabling the public accounts in the Legislature.

Budget for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1952, estimated revenue at around \$118,000,000. Actually the then Liberal-Progressive Conservative coalition government took in \$138,700,931, plus \$5,070,609 as balance paid under the 1942-47 federal-provincial tax agreement, making total revenues of \$143,771,541.

Total expenditures during the same period were \$123,678,386, including \$18,159,407 for debt charges. This left a surplus for the fiscal year of \$20,093,155.

Money 'Sought' From Chinese In Vancouver

VANCOUVER (CP)—The Vancouver Sun says Chinese here are being asked to contribute to a new invasion attempt of China by Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek's Nationalist forces.

"Informed sources in Chinatown say an emissary from Chiang is expected here in June to whip up enthusiasm for a save China from Communism campaign," the Sun said.

"One plan suggests that all Canadian Chinese pay \$10 a month toward the save China fund."

Trans-Rockies Highway Backed By Gagarli

VICTORIA (CP)—Works Minister Philip Gagarli said Wednesday British Columbia is "most anxious" for an immediate start on a trans-Rockies highway through Yellowhead Pass—but wants the federal government to foot the bill.

A delegation from the Trans-Canada Highway Association, Yellowhead Route, met Mr. Gagarli Monday. It was led by Mayor William Hawreluk of Edmonton and included representatives from Saskatchewan, Alberta and B.C.

The association said military needs make immediate construction of such a highway imperative. The minister said the organization "recommended to me that it, the highway, should be the sole responsibility, and that immediately, of the federal government and with this our government heartily concurs."

Mr. Gagarli had earlier suggested a toll road through the Yellowhead Pass. The highway would link Edmonton and Kamloops, B.C.

Huge Turbine Built For Alcan

VANCOUVER (CP)—Believed the largest hydraulic turbine in the world, a turbine capable of generating 150,000 horsepower was built here for the Kitimat aluminum project.

The turbine will ultimately service other industries in the area. The builders say one steel section, weighing 31 tons, is the largest casting ever made in Western Canada.

AID TO NATURE
HUDSON BAY, Sask. (CP)—Despite the winter cold, dry ice was used to freeze the Red Deer river in northern Saskatchewan. Workmen used the chemical to thicken the ice beneath a bridge they were repairing when they found the fast current would not allow a firm ice footing.



BROWNING MEMORIAL—A gift of the Browning study groups of Winnipeg, a new memorial panel has been placed in the Browning chapel of St. Marylebone parish church, London. It commemorates the centenary of the marriage of Robert Browning and Elizabeth Barrett in St. Marylebone church, Sept. 12, 1846, and was designed by Harry Stammers, York artist. The memorial panel is an inset to an existing window and contains the figures of life and death on either side of the inscription.

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Canada's National Output At Record High in 1952

By FORBES RHUDE
Canadian Press Staff Writer

Canada's gross national product last year was around \$23,000,000,000.

That's a big figure. To get some idea of the wealth Canadians are creating for themselves, in comparison with less fortunate people, one might consider the following:

While 14,000,000 Canadians were producing that total, some 480,000,000 people in China were barely equalling it.

Apparently the gross national product will continue around the record 1952 figure for a while at least. The current review of the Canadian Bank of Commerce says:

"It appears to be the consensus that it would require a major economic catastrophe, probably originating abroad, to cause a significant drop in employment and national income in Canada."

"A drop of even 25 per cent in defence spending over the next two years, which is not anticipated, would result in a decline of only about two per cent in gross national production, or the equivalent of the increase arising out of having had a bumper, rather than an average, grain crop last year."

The review says, however, that there are two major uncertainties; namely, the 1953 crop and the course of prices appears to be in the balance.

"Most other factors suggest a continuation of the economic strength in evidence in the last half of the past year. Neither defence production nor resource development give any indications of regression, and with this strong buttress to an economy already fundamentally strong by reason of increasing population, purchasing power and living standards, there seems no reason why, apart from crops, over-all production should fall from last year's very satisfactory total."

ALDEBURGH, England (CP)—East Suffolk policemen will be allowed to go on duty in their shirt sleeves next summer. Braces will be replaced by belts, enabling the constables to discard their tunics "with dignity."

The prime minister confirmed that the ensign flew from the Parliament buildings by government order. It also flew from Canadian offices abroad.

Mr. Knowles suggested perhaps the government order is "wide enough" to use the flag at the Coronation.

Mr. St. Laurent did not make a direct reply. But he said the order is "wide enough" for the British government to cause the Canadian ensign to be flown "from the Dorchester Hotel in London whenever a Canadian delegation is being received."



DUEL TO THE DEATH!—Anthony Dexter as "The Brigand," left, defends himself from Ian MacDonald in the new Columbia picture in color at the Capitol Theatre. Dexter stars with Jody Lawrence, Gale Robbins and Anthony Quinn.

SCREEN ★ ★ FLASHES

By BOB ADAMS

HOLLYWOOD (AP) — Tall, rangy Chuck Connors is faced with a decision: He's either going to pursue a movie acting career or continue as first baseman for Los Angeles Angels.

Pretty soon the baseball player will have to decide on which phase of his double life he wants to pursue. Spring practice is just around the corner. Baseball fans will groan to hear that he is leaning toward a choice of the movie life.

"I'm in the twilight of my baseball career—I'll soon be 32," remarked Chuck, who played for Brooklyn Dodgers, Chicago Cubs and Montreal Royals in other years.

"At best, I'll have two or three years left in baseball. Supposing I get hurt this year, as I did a season ago. The Angels would have every right in the world to drop me from the team."

The movie outlook seems brighter. He now is playing his fifth screen role, his biggest part to date. He has the third most important role in "Sulu Sea" with Burt Lancaster and Virginia Mayo.

"It's a terrific part," enthused Chuck, a talkative lad who sounds like a ball player out of Ring Lardner, except that he's shrewder. His sense of economics is causing him to favor grease paint over the baseball diamond.

"The baseball season is 26 weeks, including spring practice," he said. "I am making as much from seven weeks on this picture as I do during a full season for the Angels."

"I love baseball, but I've got two sons who love to eat, and another one on the way."

Chuck's start in the movies is in keeping with the Hollywood legend. He was picked right off the baseball diamond. Baseball fan Billy Grady, head of MGM casting, was impressed with Connors' clownish antics and offered to test him for pictures.

Night Clubs In London To Be Busy

LONDON (CP)—London's night clubs, cabarets and restaurants are primping in hopes that the Coronation season will be the brightest since the gay days of the Edwardians.

The patron's tab will be more than it was in the boisterous pre-1914 days, or than it is right now, although the exact scale hasn't been decided yet in many places.

But the entertainment ingredients won't have changed much, despite any new-fangled wrappings, from the showman's standby of the ages. There'll be girls, wine, girls, song and girls.

Jamaican girls, "Luscious lovelies... all very artistic of course," are being imported by a club-cabaret for two shows nightly during the six-week season.

Standard props of Gypsy music, soft lights and garden dining will be featured. In fact, lighting seems a major item in the general face lifting.

Subtle illumination reaches the ultimate in the garden of a club owned by Rieo Dajou where a table for two is perched in a tree. One club is flying over plane loads of Americans who, it is hoped, will do the town by night and sleep by day in the plane.

A Canadian, at first glance, might get the impression that London's night life is pretty tame except in Mayfair and Soho. Exceptions can be found but most sections roll up the streets well before midnight.

Gastronomic entertainment alone won't suffice for many visitors, however, most club men hope, "Les girls" will be in demand.

As one of the main night club moguls summed it up for Noel Whitcomb of the Daily Mirror: "Anatomy is something we all have, but we've got to remember that it looks better on girls."

Powell River Seeks Play

VANCOUVER (CP)—The Everyman Theatre Company has received a request from the Powell River Curling and Skating Club to stage the controversial play "Tobacco Road" in the B.C. coast paper town.

A telegram asked "Irrespective of Vancouver's court decision would you consider staging Tobacco Road in Powell River to assist our fund raising campaign for a community centre?"

Producer Sydney Risk declined to comment on the offer.

ANTHONY DEXTER
The BRIGAND
A COLUMBIA PICTURE

—Also—
"Willie Hoppe Story"
Cartoon - News

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TODAY and SATURDAY Evenings 7 - 9:08
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SHORE WORKERS

Members wishing to submit resolutions to the annual convention will please have same prepared for local ratification at the February 19th general meeting.

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