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Debt to Machines

THE HAUNTING spectre that has plagued the industrial worker has been the fear that the machine might ultimately edge him out of his job. This mistaken fear arose from another erroneous belief, that there is only so much work and when that work is finished, employment is finished too.

If the people of 1881 could have looked ahead from their comfortable position—a population of four and a third million and a million and a third employed—to a present of fourteen million people they might have been excused if they wondered how it would be possible to support so many with the resources at hand.

Of course it wouldn't have been possible, if there had been just so much work. But in this year 1951 we have employed all those extra people even better than Canadian employers did in 1881. For then about two out of every seven persons were employed where today, with a work force of 5,247,000, we employ almost two in every five.

There are many people living who have seen this thing happen. There are still more who can remember when there was no electrical appliance industry or motor industry or aircraft or rayon or the many other new industries, each adding its tens of thousands to human employment. But how often do we remember that without machines human hands would still be doing their poor best to satisfy all human needs, and the progress we like to speak of would never have been?

For machines, which were the spectres that troubled the workers of yesterday, have proved themselves man's best friend. They have added a thousand-fold to the production of his hands so that the luxuries of the kings and princes of another age have become the commonplace of our lives.

Help the Birds

S NOW on the ground may be fun for the children but it's a hardship for birds of all kinds—especially the little sparrows and finches who depend on food on the ground to keep them alive.

This is the chance, then, for householders to give the birds a treat and leave some food on the ground for them. Place a few crumbs or grain on a board in the snow and soon there will be a flock of anxious, chirping birds thanking you for this treat. And it may save many a life of these feathered friends who help keep summer pests under control.

Even the big black raven has a hard time in the snow as he finds food harder to get. He is husky and strong, however, and can work for his share of what is going. On the waterfront he has strong competition for the gulls who scavenge the beaches.

Farm Aid In North

OTTAWA (C)—House of Commons, in dwindling moments of the session, passed a bill that will permit crop failure payments to some farmers in northern Alberta and British Columbia.

Agriculture Minister Gardiner said there were areas in the Peace River districts of two provinces which had been excluded from payments under the Prairie Farm Assistance Act. He had given the understanding in 1950 that a change would be made in the act if experience showed that the farmers in the district suffered from hardship as a result of exclusion.

Passage of the legislation would permit payment of crop failure assistance for 1950 and 1951.

Comfort Letters From Communists

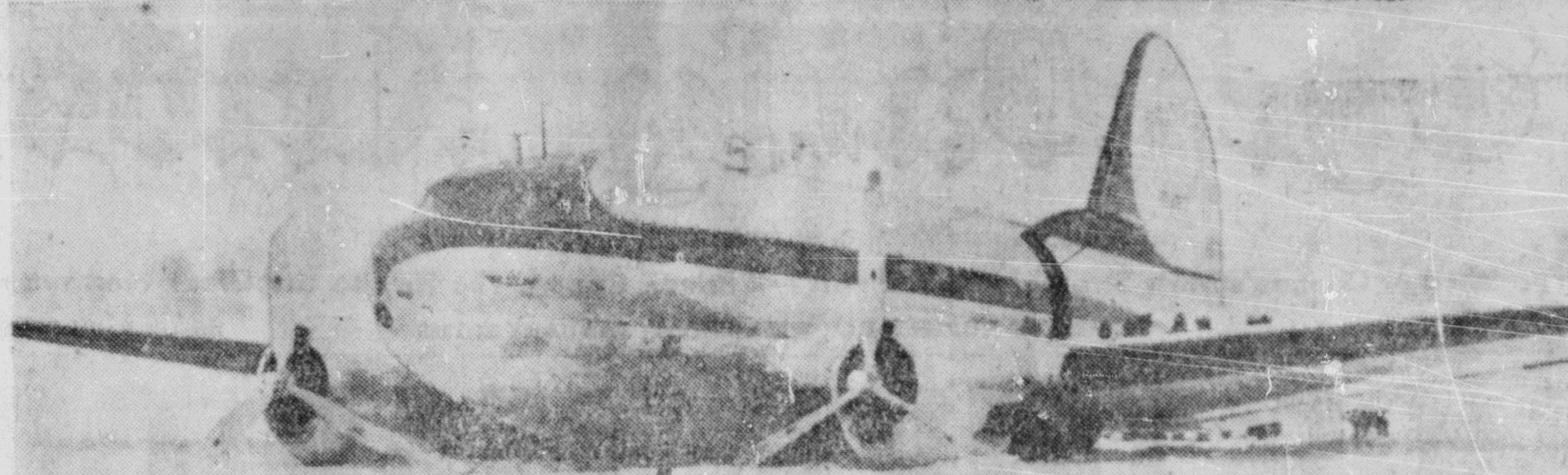
VANCOUVER.—What are described as "comfort" letters are commencing to reach Chinese residents of Vancouver. They are called a new phase of Red China's ransom demands, and are thought to be from relatives of those who had been writing earlier letters insisting on money being sent.

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MIRACULOUS ESCAPE—Over twenty passengers and crew were saved when this aircraft made a forced landing in a field near Cobou, Ontario, after engine failure. The pilot was highly

praised for his handling of the emergency. The plane was only slightly damaged.

As I See It



by
Elmore
Philpott

Stand Up Jack Canuck

IT MAY well be that 1951 will go down in history as the year when long asleep Jack Canuck stood on his own two feet.

By telling our big neighbor, the U.S.A., that we are going ahead with the St. Lawrence seaway we did much to show the world that at long last we approach national maturity.

But the seaway is only the beginning. Above all Canada should become self-sufficient for iron and steel. In the near future, the U.S.A. will be almost completely dependent on iron ore mined in Canada. Much of that iron ore should be made into steel right in Canada itself—not all taken down to Pittsburgh, and then bought back by Canada as finished steel.

IF WE had one out-and-out federation or free-trade union of all the western democracies we would not need to worry about where the steel mills were located. Trade and money and population would move naturally across borders. Industries would be located where production was cheapest.

But we have not yet got such a federation—and we are never likely to convince the USA of the need for one unless Canada and Britain and similar democracies show Uncle Sam that he needs us as much as we need him.

CANADA is not in as dangerous a position, in relation to USA, as is Britain.

In fact, we are the only country in the western bloc which has not (as yet) undermined our independence by accepting economic aid from the USA to a degree which makes it impossible to make really free national decisions.

If the whole world outside North America were to sink in the ocean tomorrow, life could go on, much as in the recent past on this continent.

But if the whole world outside Britain were to sink at least half of the British people would starve because the country simply lacks the makings of life for its present population.

Hence the danger: If some political action by the USA were to cut off what is now shipped to Britain, Britain would suffer disaster. Given time, Britain could re-organize her economy, even within the part of the world still under the several British flags. But hardships in the meantime would be severe.

CANADA is in a dangerous position in a slightly different way. In 1951 we bought from Uncle Sam vastly in excess of what Uncle Sam bought from us.

Meanwhile our dollar became stronger because American corporations made such vast investments in Canada.

But let us think a moment about what this really means: American corporations were buying up Canada, lock, stock and barrel. Our government was taking away this incurring money from us, in taxes or loans. It was using the money to buy hundreds of millions of dollars worth of U.S. made arms.

The Americans are getting the Canadian mines, forests, oil wells, waterpowers. Our government is getting U.S. Garand rifles, etc. instead of our old Lee Enfields. The Canadians will hold the new rifles, but they will also hold the bag.

ANCIENT AMERICANS

Human skeletons evacuated beneath buried forests in the Mississippi delta are believed thousands of years old.

Nechako-Kitimat Power Outstanding Development

Federal Minister Reviews Expansion Of Canada's Hydro-Electric Resources

OTTAWA (CP)—Canada developed another 881,250 horse power of new hydro-electric capacity during 1951 but her total of more than 13,000,000 is only about 24 per cent of known resources.

Resources Minister Winters, reporting yesterday on the state of the country's power developments, said another 1,700,000 horsepower is planned to become effective in 1952-53 and a similar amount is planned for 1954-55.

Power development is keeping pace with general industrial expansion, the minister said. On the whole there are adequate power production facilities to meet current demands "but little reserve capacity was available."

Construction of electrical plants was active in all provinces with Quebec leading in new hydro-electric capacity coming into operation during the year with a total of 461,700 horse power.

There also was active construction in the field of power distribution. New main transmission lines were completed or were under construction in many sections of the country. New transformer and sub-stations were built, secondary lines extended and good progress made in rural electrification, particularly in Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba.

Growing demands for power in British Columbia brought an advance in plant extensions and new facilities. The British Columbia Electric Company, Limited, and the British Columbia Power Commission, both brought new capacity into operation during the year and are undertaking work to further power available in 1952.

The minister terms "a project of outstanding importance," the Aluminum Company of Canada Nechako-Kitimat development. Present plans called for an installation of 420,000 horse power by early 1952 but tunnel and transmission-line capacity is designed for a total installation of about 1,000,000 horse power.

In the Yukon the Northwest Territories Power Commission is constructing the operation in 1952, a 3,000 horse power development on the Mayo River, with an ultimate capacity of 8,000 horse power.

In Alberta the installed capacity of water-power plants was practically doubled during 1951 with the completion by Calgary Power Limited of the Spray Lakes scheme involving three new plants with a 100,300 horse power capacity.

SASKATCHEWAN PLANTS

The Saskatchewan Power Corporation completed installation of a new steam turbo-generator of 15,000 kilowatts capacity at its Estevan plant. At its Prince Albert plant a unit of 10,000 kilowatts, purchased from the City of Edmonton, is under installation for 1952 operation and at Saskatoon a new unit of 25,000 kilowatts is on order for early delivery and operation late in 1952.

The Manitoba hydro-electric board's Pine Falls project on the lower Winnipeg River went ahead on schedule, with the expectation of bringing two units totaling 38,000 horse power into operation shortly. The plant, with a total capacity of 114,000 horse power, is to be completed in 1952.

The Winnipeg Electric Company has under installation the sixth and final unit of 37,500 horse power and operation is scheduled for 1952. This will bring the turbine capacity of the plant to 225,000 horse power.

The Manitoba Power Commission continued its rural electrification program and service was provided for an additional 5,000 farms and 19 towns and villages.

Because of a heavy increase in power demand in southern On-

tario, the large construction program of hydro-electric power commission of Ontario has been expedited. A development of 496,000 horse power at the Des Joachims Generation Station has been virtually completed. All eight units of the Otto Holden Generating Station will be completed before the end of the year with a total capacity of 272,000 horse power.

Plans now are well advanced for a second generating station at Queenston, containing seven units totalling 735,000 horse power. Four units will be in operation by the end of 1954, and the others the following year.

Steam-electric projects also are being pushed, notably the J. Clark Keith Generating Station at Windsor where four units will be installed with a total capacity of 264,000 kilowatts. Construction of the first stage is nearing completion and the first unit already has gone into operation.

Extension of the commission's rural lines continued during the year and it is estimated that by the end of 1952, the commission will be serving about 324,000 rural customers, including 122,400 farms.

In Quebec a total of 461,700 horse power was brought into operation during the year.

And development to yield about 1,500,000 horse power is under construction for completion sometime between now and 1955.

BIGGEST ADDITION

The largest single addition to plant capacity in Canada during the year was that of 223,000 horse power in four units in the Beauharnois number two power house of the Quebec Hydro-electric Commission in the St. Lawrence River.

The Commission also began construction in September of a second plant on the upper Ottawa River south of Cadillac. The initial installation for 1953 operation will be 16,000 horse power in two units with the ultimate capacity of 64,000 horse power.

The Shawinigan water and Power Company made a big addition to its generating capacity with addition of three units of 65,000 horse power each at its La Tranche plant on the St. Maurice River. The plant now has a capacity of 325,900 horse power.

The Aluminum Company of Canada has under construction two hydro-electric developments on the Peribonka River in Quebec. One at Chute-du-Diable will consist of five units with a total turbine capacity of 275,000 horse power. The second, located 13 miles downstream at Chute-a-la-Savanne, is also designed for five units of a total of 275,000 horse power. Both will begin initial operation this year.

No new hydraulic plants were brought into operation in Nova Scotia during the year, but two were under construction for operation in 1952. The Nova Scotia Power Commission made good progress on its Guich development on the Bear River, consisting of one unit of 8,600 horse power. The Nova Scotia Light and Power Company has under construction at White Rock on the Gaspereau River, a development of 4,000 horse power with completion scheduled for this year.

Important additions were made to fuel-power generating stations in Nova Scotia during the year and others are under construction.

In New Brunswick, the New Brunswick Electric Power Commission proceeded with construction of its 27,000 horse power development on the Tobique

ray.. Reflects and Reminisces

One begins to understand why the last census showed a decrease in the population of Saskatchewan and why so many from that province, if not living in Prince Rupert, are located somewhere near here. Regina registered only 48 below zero New Year's Day.

No fewer than seven hundred loggers are returning to the camps. To say they don't mind a bit is perhaps telling the truth.

TELLING THE HOUSE

It's not so long ago, had anyone said "Kitimat," in the House of Commons, Ottawa, no one would have known what was meant. Today, it's a familiar expression from Alaska to California and beyond. Said Rodney Adamson, member for Port Credit, Ontario, last month: "We have recent examples of development. For example, there is Kitimat in British Columbia, which has been the result of an amazing bit of foresight on the part of a group of industrial people who are developing that part of northern British Columbia."

Most of us think of January 1 as New Year's Day, mentioning it in a questioning sort of way. A pretty sort of query to put to anyone just now. Yet we are told that in Great Britain the date is not more than a couple of centuries old. Previous to that the observance was some other time. And the further back, the more the surprises.

The Skeena Highway was reported open for traffic early this week, about the same time the department of public works announced the closing of the Cascade-Rossland pass of the Southern trans-Provincial Highway. There are others.

SOMETHING WAS DONE!

And now, what about all these resolutions? Was one made, a year ago? Anyhow, it was then we shook hands any number of times but cannot recall with whom.

RCAF Plane's Mercy Flight

EDMONTON (C)—A Royal Canadian Air Force mercy flight to Fort St. John Sunday brought 12-year-old Ross Sommor to hospital in Edmonton.

The boy, son of Arnold Sommor, is suffering undetermined internal injuries. A Dakota aircraft, piloted by Flying Officer Jack Tins of Vancouver, took off about midnight on a 700-mile trip to Fort St. John and return.

River. It is to be in operation by the spring of 1953.

The Maritime Electric Company completed the installation of a unit of 7,500 kilowatts at Charlottetown. The company built 40 miles of line and made moderate additions to its Prince Edward Island distribution system.

The Newfoundland Light and Power Company completed its new 13,000 horse power plant on the Mobile River and also brought into operation a new unit of 3,350 horse power in its Tors Cove plant. Also under construction are two other plants, one of 7,500 horse power at Cape Broyle for 1952 and the other of 7,500 horse power on the Horse Chops River for 1953 operation.

The Anglo-Newfoundland Development Company Limited is undertaking modernization of its water-power plants on the Exploits River.

In Labrador, the Iron Ore Company preliminary construction on a development at Manihok Rapids on Ashuanipi River designed for the installation of 12,000 horse power and ultimate 24,000 horse power.

Sees No General War—Fear Of Consequences Preventative

Fear of the terrible consequences which would involve, as illustrated in the smaller conflicts that have occurred or may, will prevent the outbreak of a general war.

This is the feeling of the people of Holland, Belgium and Germany as far as could be learned by Albert Van Pykstra, who returned the latter part of last week after visiting those countries.

Mr. Van Pykstra and his son, Lawrence, left two months ago and spent the most of the time at Amsterdam where Mr. Van Pykstra's parents reside.

"Conditions in Holland are from fair to middling," he said. "I knew before I left that we would not want to remain there but we wanted to see the old folks again."

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Seattle Haircut Price Boosted

SEATTLE—The AFL Barbers' Union will vote January 10 on two proposals to increase the cost of haircuts. One proposes increasing the rate by 25 cents to \$1.50. The other is a \$2 fee. Union officials say they have not much hope for the latter.

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- ROUTE 11—Leslie Murdoch, Black 285**
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- ROUTE 16—Frank Kilborn, Green 977**
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