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Death in the Stratosphere

RESULTS of the latest H-bomb explosion which spread its contamination far beyond the expected limits will give the world good reason to use in its discussion of another war.

Man is toying with a weapon which, even when used experimentally, casts a pall of danger over civilization. Perhaps the most alarming evidence of this was not so much the effect that the Bikini bomb had on ships within the general area but the fact that its radio-active influence was picked up in Japan, 1,600 miles away.

And the means of transmission in this instance was not the contaminated tuna fish but the upper atmosphere which carried the deadly particles far beyond their explosive source.

If 1,600 miles are within the range of a comparative toy, what will the real thing do?

Although it is disturbing to think that humanity is reaching the stage where the ruin of a great part of civilization lies within the power of a few men, there is the hope that none will be reckless enough to invite the self-destruction which war is certain to bring.

Perhaps the day will come when man will decide that there is no point in devising means to destroy the world any more quickly or completely and that he might as well turn to more constructive results.

Local Effort Needed

LAST-MINUTE transfusion job is needed by the Red Cross, financially speaking.

With approximately \$1,300 still required to meet Prince Rupert's campaign quota, a good final effort is called for to help keep the Red Cross strong.

Although the one-night drive went well, it is actually impossible for canvassers to visit everyone who might wish to make a donation to this humanitarian cause. As a result, there may be many in the city whose contributions have not yet been received.

It is well to reflect that this is not a case where your money goes off to points unknown and is never heard of again. While the Red Cross work is worldwide in scope, we in Prince Rupert are constantly feeling its local benefits through the blood and plasma supply which the Society delivers to the hospital. Less tangible but equally important is the Society's readiness to help in case of disaster.

It is not too late yet to offer a generous hand. Send your contribution to the campaign headquarters at the Northern B.C. Power office and help Prince Rupert answer this urgent appeal.

Ray REFLECTS and REMINISCES

Keeping up with the Joneses is often accomplished at the expense of the Joneses, as well.

Then there was the fellow who thought that extradition was a late evening newspaper.

Puerto Rico, according to unconfirmed stories from Washington, will not obtain independence if it fails to put the American House of Representatives off limits, during shooting season—Lethbridge Herald.

How IT WORKS
A conference has been described as a group of people who individually can do nothing, but who meet collectively to agree unanimously that nothing can be done.

A sizeable number of houses are said to have been built in Kitimat. The estimate of construction speed, given out a few weeks ago, is not mentioned today, for it might invite correction, and that sort of thing is awkward, if not embarrassing. Yet, experience teaches it's impossible.

GETTING AT THE TRUTH
Leave it to the youngsters to get at the truth of things. Take the case of the father of nine children who was showing one of four photographs taken when he and his wife were married. He explained about the wedding.

"Oh, I know what you mean today," said the tot. "That's my Mummy came to work for me."

Canada is in danger of losing one of her most valued assets—the lobster industry, and a solemn warning has been given by George Saville who represents Prince Edward Island in the Federal parliament. More than any other part of the dominion, this riding is the true home of the scarlet-coated, delectable sea-food. Between illegal fishing, growing scarcity, poor prices and more lax measures of control, the fishermen are risking a crisis.

SEEING THE FUTURE
The first shipment of iron ore from Labrador-Quebec to delivery to the waiting freighters at Seven Islands on the St. Lawrence is reported. Ungava is being electrified; as at the opposite side of the dominion, the Kitimat power and aluminum project is in sight of its goal. Like Ungava ore, Kitimat aluminum is one of the corner stones of our future national prosperity.

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As I See It



by
Elmore Philoott

Duplessis Challenge

IT SEEMS to me that Premier Duplessis of Quebec has launched a direct and deliberate challenge to the national authority which poses a very grave threat to the harmony of this nation.

It also seems to me that, by backing up Premier Duplessis in his challenge to the federal authority, George Drew has done a grave injury to the cause of national unity.

AS WE all know, both the province and the dominion have the legal power to levy income taxes if they so decide.

The system of double, or even triple, taxation was spreading rapidly before the Hitler war. Not only did the Ottawa government collect taxes on incomes, but many of the provinces did likewise. Even some of the larger cities in Canada were collecting income taxes a generation or so ago.

To escape the nuisance, and also the paralyzing effect of this multiple taxation, the King government appointed the Royal Commission headed by distinguished judges, Rowell and Sirols. That commission finally recommended a system to avoid duplicated taxes in the fields of income, corporation taxes, and succession duties.

The basis of the idea was that the dominion should make contracts with the provinces, individually, in return for the temporary cession of the sole right to collect the taxes in question, the dominion would pay to each province a lump sum—a so-called "tax rental."

At first several provinces refused to come in on the deal—but one by one they fell into line. However, Ontario never did so, even in part, until George Drew had ceased to be premier of Ontario and had become leader of the Opposition at Ottawa.

QUEBEC, under Duplessis, has been the last real hold out. Moreover, under the dictatorial rules recently promulgated by Premier Duplessis, the government of Quebec has greatly sharpened the conflict.

First Premier Duplessis forbade absolutely any educational institution in the province of Quebec to accept any money grant from the federal government—thus making it much more difficult for such institutions to operate. Then he intimated to such institutions that larger grants would in future be forthcoming from the provincial treasury. Then he levied an income tax, whereby the taxpayer will be forced to pay to the province, each year, fifteen percent of the total sum payable to the dominion in income taxes.

UP TO this point there is no real argument as to Duplessis's constitutional position. Undoubtedly the province has the right to levy the extra income tax if it so chooses.

But here is the crux of the coming showdown. The Duplessis government demands that the whole provincial income tax be deductible from the federal income tax. The Duplessis argue that if the province had entered into a tax rental contract with the dominion, the dominion would have to pay back to the Quebec treasury, as much as Quebec now proposes to collect by the duplicate tax.

In other words, Duplessis wants to keep his cake and eat it at the same time. He wants all the benefits that would have accrued to Quebec had she come in like all the others. But he does not want to concede to the central authority what all the other provinces have conceded, in order to obtain the compensation which he proposes to grab for Quebec, willy-nilly.



CONCEALING THEIR FACES, two nuns in one of the five cloisters of Ferrara, Italy, wash their clothes in a wooden tub, as they go about their quiet life of work and prayer. Never before photographed, the nuns lead an unbelievably severe existence of self-imposed hardships. The women are not allowed to speak to one another except on special occasions, and must cover their faces when speaking to, or seen by, anyone not belonging to their order. Renowned for their devotion, the nuns rise at midnight to pray in chorus.

VICTORIA REPORT

by J. K. Nesbitt

VICTORIA — The oppositionists in the Legislature keep looking for a split in Social Credit ranks.

They've quite convinced themselves such a split is coming—that it can't be far off; they certainly hope so.

Every now and then, as legislative debate proceeds, the oppositionists think they see such a split opening up. However, so far, their fond political hopes are soon dashed.

One day SC Mr. Matthew of Vancouver Centre got up and he said that his colleague, SC Mr. Martin, the Minister of Health and Welfare, who's MLA for Vancouver Burrard, had made a very fine speech and all that—but—Mr. Speaker!

Ah, said the oppositionists to themselves—that but—what does it mean? But what? Perhaps, said they to themselves, here's a split between Messrs. Martin and Matthew. Happy day!

However, Mr. Matthew was merely disagreeing with Mr. Martin because Mr. Martin had boastfully said that Vancouver Burrard is the centre of Vancouver. That's not so, Mr. Speaker, said Mr. Matthew; the centre of Vancouver is Vancouver Centre. Where else could the centre of Vancouver be but Vancouver Centre?

There's a lot of talk—and hope—in opposition ranks, too, that Mr. Chant and the Premier are rivals for Social Credit leadership in B.C. Oppositionists pin their hopes on Mr. Chant to lead a rebellion against Mr. Bennett.

But the day Mr. Chant got up to speak he was loud in his praise of the Bennett budget. A wonderful, realistic budget, said Mr. Chant. The oppositionists had to admit, even to themselves, and among each other, that they could see absolutely no sign of a break between Messrs. Chant and Bennett.

CCF Mr. Howard of Skeena noted one day that SC Mr. Tisdale of Saanich had said there is no other way but for an opposition in the legislature, now that B.C. has a SC government.

Maybe Mr. Tisdale thinks that, but Mr. Howard doesn't. Mr. Speaker. If ever the people of B.C. need an alert opposition, that time's now—now that there is a SC government. That's Mr. Howard's sentiment.

To Mr. Howard—so he said—SC backbenchers are nothing but a bunch of remote-control robots—and, considering that, a good opposition's more necessary than ever, Mr. Speaker! That's what Mr. Howard said.

SC Mrs. Lydia Arsens, who runs a restaurant in Victoria, likes to

lecture MLA's on the kind of food they should eat to remain healthy. Mrs. Arsens insists too many people these days are taking foods that she says poison them. "You are what you eat," said Mrs. Arsens, and it seemed she glared at the plump, bald ones.

And, while she was about it, Mrs. Arsens took a whack at cigarette smokers, particularly women, and mothers. Mrs. Arsens admitted she can't abide a mother with a cigarette in her mouth and a baby in her arms.

Horried, too, was Lydia, as she viewed Canada's booze bill. She came up with the startling figure that each Canadian drinks 20 bottles of hard liquor a year.

"I'm not doing my share," said Liberal Mr. Gibson of Lillooet.

Mrs. Arsens, who was once a Liberal, and then flirted with the CCF before going SC, is now a super-enthusiastic kind of Social Credit. The likes to go after the Liberal MLA's, telling them what a terrible government the Liberal government in Ottawa is—or so she thinks.

Liberal MLA's don't like hearing Mrs. Arsens talk this way, and they try to trip her up, but Mrs. Arsens isn't easily tripped up because she just won't be tripped up.

"Get a Social Credit government in Ottawa and we'll show them what we can do," says Mrs. Arsens.

Everything in Canada that's wrong, in Mrs. Arsens' opinion, could quite easily be fixed up. How? By having a SC government in Ottawa, Mr. Speaker. It's simple as that. That's Mrs. Arsens' firm political conviction. SC Mr. Bate of Point Grey has taken to sniping at opposition benches. This has annoyed Liberal Mr. Brown of Prince Rupert, who called Mr. Bate a menace, and asked Mr. Speaker to please silence him. However, Mr. Bate refuses to be silenced.

The opposition wants Mr. Williston of Fort George as the Minister of Education, Liberals and CCFers, however, if they continue to so best Mr. Williston, will do him harm, for the Premier doesn't like taking opposition suggestions.

Liberal Leader Laing's so sure Mr. Williston's the man that he said he would like to ask the minister-designate a question.

"The question isn't directed to me, so I won't answer," said Mr. Williston.

A full-grown walrus, found in both the Atlantic and Pacific, will weigh more than a ton.

OTTAWA DIARY

By Norman M. Macdonald

There's a fairly healthy suspicion around Parliament Hill circles that Premier Smallwood of Newfoundland knew what he was doing when he insisted last week that the Newfoundland salt fish industry be transferred from the jurisdiction of Federal Minister of Fisheries James Sinclair to that of Trade and Commerce Minister C. D. Howe.

From the very inception of the Federal Wheat Board the wheat-growers of Western Canada have been under the jurisdiction of the Department of Trade and Commerce, so far as their marketing arrangements are concerned. And it is a matter of well-known record that over the years they haven't done too badly. In fact, at times it has been the complaint of non-westerners that they have done far too well and that the taxpayers generally have had to share the bill.

Premier Smallwood's insistence that the Trade and Commerce Minister should assume responsibility for the island's salt fish industry is interpreted as a move to obtain for the Newfoundland fishermen the same sort of a deal as the western wheat-growers have been getting in years past.

The move could be of long-range significance. For if Mr. Howe's efforts to improve the economic lot of the Newfoundland salt fishing industry, now badly depressed, bear fruit, it may be taken for granted that the entire fishing industry will want to get on the band-wagon. Ultimately Mr. Howe could become responsible for the sale of all Canadian fish products, just as at the present time he is responsible for the sale of all Canadian grain production.

The pattern of the wheat industry was clearly in Premier Smallwood's mind when he was here last week. And it presumes

ably was in Rt. Hon. Mr. Howe's mind as well. For one of the outcomes of the talks between the Island Premier and the Minister of Trade and Commerce was an arrangement whereby the fishermen will be given an initial payment on their catch, and the balance paid to them after the fish have been marketed. This is a straight adoption of the system which prevails in the marketing of wheat.

If the Canadian fishermen became organized for marketing purposes along the same lines as the wheat-growers in the west, the movement could have obvious and important political by-products. It is because of the closeness of their marketing organization, in great part, that the wheat-growers constitute one of the most effective pressure groups in Parliament. In way of contrast, the fishermen have never been in becoming a powerful group. But that could change overnight, made the first move in about such a change.



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By Bayne Hope Sanders



MONTREAL, March 25th—Most confidingly, I'm admiring myself a bit, in front of my mirror, on my Easter togethery! Made a flannel-silk dress, so flattering because they fit me. They fit like a dream and have that promise for I've used LIGHTNING FASTENERS, find them oh-so-satisfactory! (Laughing loudly)

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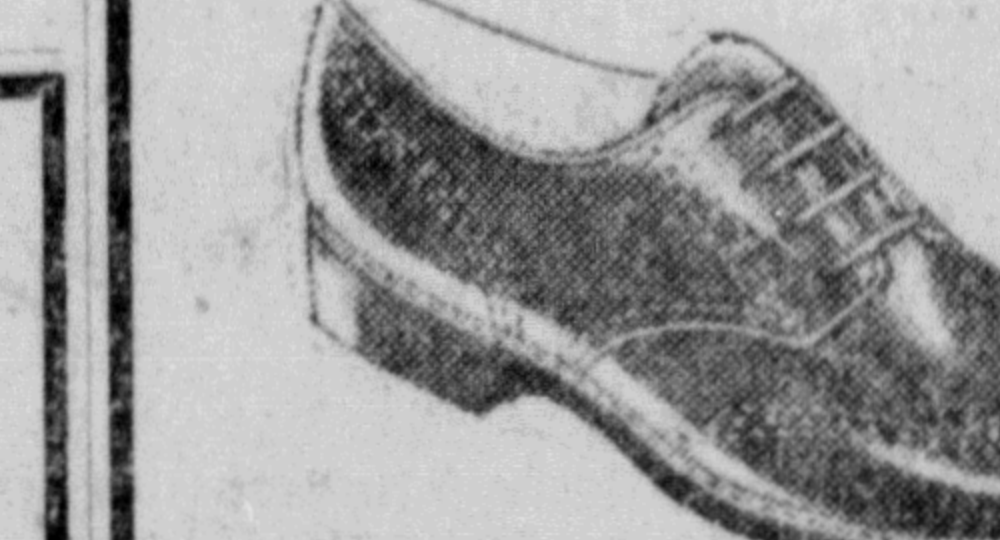
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