

An independent daily newspaper devoted to the upbuilding of Prince Rupert and Northern and Central British Columbia.
Member of Canadian Press — Audit Bureau of Circulations
Canadian Daily Newspaper Association.
Published by The Prince Rupert Daily News, Limited.
J. F. MAGOR, President H. G. PERRY, Vice-President

Subscription Rates:
3y carrier—Per week, 25c; per month, \$1.00; per year, \$10.00.
3y mail—Per month, 75c; per year, \$8.00.
Authorized as second class mail by the Post Office Department, Ottawa

As I See It



by
Elmore
Philpott

Beria Symptom

THE death of Stalin was no doubt the most crucial event of 1953 from the point of view of power politics.

But one of its effects was to leave the west knowing even less of the inside story of Russia than was known while the Great Red Czar was alive.

We do know that a short, sharp struggle was waged for the number one job in the Soviet government. We do know that Malenkov has won out, to date.

But we do not know, for sure, whether Beria ever was caught, secretly tried, and executed, as the Malenkov regime now claims. For all we know, he may have escaped, or still be hiding in Russia.

For years Beria had been one of the top men in all Russia. He had headed the dread secret police for many years. His word literally was life or death for scores of millions of human beings.

At the very instant of Stalin's passing, the struggle for power was spotlighted on three men, Malenkov, Beria and Molotov.

Beria well remembered Trotsky's mistake at the time of Lenin's death. Some said that Stalin got the jump on Trotsky in the race for the top job by looming large at the funeral—from which Trotsky stayed away.

Beria was number two front-man pall-bearer at Stalin's funeral. But now, less than a year later, the Communist gullibles are asked to believe that Beria was a traitor all along, working for the British from 1917 on.

WHAT is happening in Russia now is a lot like George Orwell's nightmare novel "Nineteen Eighty Four."

In that fantastic and horrible book Orwell pictured history as being constantly re-written: Old newspaper files were repeatedly destroyed and new editions of the papers printed and filed. Leaders speeches etc. were again and again re-written, to make them fit the facts, or conveniences of the dictatorship.

We see that happening in Russia right today. The plain facts of history are being outrageously faked. No longer can Beria be allowed to stand out for what he was for decades—one of the strongest men in the Soviet regime. Now nothing is too bad to say about him—and his fellow top Reds are saying worse things about Beria than his enemies and victims ever did.

IN SPITE of the swift and apparently efficient ruthlessness with which the new Red Czar has disposed of his rival for the position of peak power, it seems to me the events of this year have revealed the worst weaknesses which have yet shown up in the Russian-led world Communist party. It is now so clearly morally bankrupt that that fact must be clear, to ever-increasing numbers of its own adherents.

city, which classed them as manufacturers.

I hope nobody tells those cows the judge's decision. Just let them find out they are manufacturers, and you won't be able to talk to them.

They will amble off to join the Canadian Manufacturers' Association and the Rotary Club, and perhaps run for aldermen. Next thing you know, the cows will be hiring goats to make their milk, or importing coconut milk from South America.

On the legal front, a county court judge in Ottawa has ruled that cows, not dairies, are milk manufacturers. The judgment means that dairies would pay a 30 per cent tax instead of the 60 per cent tax claimed by the



BLACKIE THE CAT finds Nikki, a white-faced, ringtailed monkey, an eager guest for dinner, as they share a saucer of milk. However, Blackie seldom accepts when Nikki offers to repay the hospitality—with a meal of bananas. The two are pets of the Henry C. Gleins of Seattle, Wash.

Ray REFLECTS and REMINISCES

Montreal's newest newspaper has jumped 163,000 circulation in less than a year, and growth remains steady. It's human nature to be interested in crime. That's why more folks want to read of wrong doing. Sin is news, and how the Montrealers are licking it up.

NO HUSH-HUSH There's a lavish use of pictures. Many are murders, some not solved yet. There are solid pages of crime stories. It's a French language tabloid, coming out weekly called Allo Police, and started going places from the beginning.

Robert Poulin, the cigar-smoking dapper-looking family man has four small sons and all are good pals and newspapermen from the start. He has studied to give people what they want. He urges public co-operation. He is a graduate in law. He discourages hush-hush in hometown journalism or squeamishness.

"I think," he said, "statistics could prove the most lurid crimes were committed in small towns where the big news is seldom published. These readers of the sensational stories are largely the refugees who have freed themselves from small-town tyranny."

STAFF OF SIX The Allo Police staff numbers six, with free lancers and contributors. The actual printing is done by a printing firm. Let there be a colorful tragedy in Montreal or Quebec province, and that tabloid immediately opens wide its column gates to words and pictures, let the blood run where it may.

"If a man drowns a cat in his backyard" says Poulin, "that's bigger news for his neighbors than the drowning of 300 coolies in the China Sea. Masterpieces in literature deal with crime and blood. Movies and TV take stories of murder and wars from the Bible. Take murder from Shakespeare and you take his best. All great authors all had the common touch."

NO SCANDAL SHEET Allo Police print crime, but it is not a scandal sheet. It is written from all facts and details. In fastening on the name for his paper Poulin wanted a title with "police" in it, yet something phonetically snappy, the idea of people telephoning police struck him.

No slums or poverty can be said to be the cause of juvenile delinquency says Poulin. Parents are at fault in not teaching and raising children properly. The demarcation between good and evil is not made plain. Psychologists of today offer explanations of child misbehavior. We think a good spanking is better.

Only imagine the difference, if we had peace on earth and good will on earth when it is remembered that about forty per cent of Canada's tax revenue is expended on defence.

There are still a few diseases and ailments the physicians haven't yet got around to blam-

You Have a Big Job, 1954

PERHAPS you do not realize it at such an early age, 1954, but you come at a time when there is the first hint of a real and lasting peace. Man has created for himself instruments so awful he is beginning to fear them more than he does his neighbor.

For the first time, his creations threaten to become his master. Through the ages he has had as his weapons an axe of stone, a spear, sword and arrow, gunpowder and TNT. These in their own time were feared but were always local in their destruction. In the last war whole cities were leveled but many more were never touched.

Now man has taken apart matter itself and has released an agency of death more dreadful than the bubonic plague. He is on the verge of creating a bomb which, in a single blast, could erase humanity. It is said that already the activations following explosion of a hydrogen bomb will remain forever in the upper reaches of our atmosphere. Several such explosions would create a lethal cloud infecting the atmosphere of the entire world.

Now work has started on the cobalt bomb which, we understand, will make anything that has gone before seem primitive. After the cobalt bomb there will be something worse.

So you see, 1954, man is exceeding himself. By his own efforts to kill, he himself will die. The realization of that, perhaps, will impress itself on his sanity. He has killed his neighbor without scruple, but has shown a nice regard for his own safety.

Therefore, 1954, those who even now are calling for war will receive cautious treatment by others who know how final such an act would be.

That means your job here, Master New Year, is to turn man from useless words of anger to thoughtful discussion of self-improvement. Thousands die daily from starvation. Millions trudge through life illiterate and mentally blind. Millions are cursed by crippling disease. Surely the resourcefulness man has shown in devising means of death can be directed towards helping these.

We have great hopes for you, 1954. We believe you will be a historic year. Do not let us down.

All Aboard By G.E. Mortimore

Here is news from the world of science, promising a richer life in 1954:

Electrically heated socks and mittens, with built-in wires leading from a portable battery, are now on the market.

Also available is an item of food that the world has long been awaiting, although not very eagerly: the pre-shrunk pork sausage.

A man in Boston has invented an amplifier that allows you to carry on a telephone conversation with no hands.

I can't tell you much about the pre-shrunk pork sausage, except that it was advertised on the radio recently by a big packing firm. I don't even know how it is made. Perhaps from pre-shrunk pigs.

The electric socks? I doubt whether they would be of much use to me. They may be all right for ordinary cold feet, but in winter my feet always feel like blocks of super-cooled ice, with pipes circulating brine through them instead of blood.

To generate enough electric warmth to raise my foot temperature by an appreciable amount, I would have to trail around a small dynamo on wheels.

However, many people may find the electric socks useful. There will be hazards, of course. When you see a man apparently stricken by St.

Vitus' Dance on the street, you will know that his electric socks have developed a short-circuit.

He will be rushed by ambulance to an electrical repair shop.

Then there is the no-hands telephone. According to an item in the Christian Science Monitor, you place the phone in a cradle, which automatically switches on an amplifier, permitting two-way conversation with the hands free for work or games. If you're that kind of telephone conversationalist.

This phone should be a great boon to housewives. They can just leave it turned on all day, like the radio, while they busy themselves with domestic chores. On a party line, this gadget could be a real menace.

"Just hold the phone, Elsie," a housewife will say to a telephone pal. "I'm going to put some clothes through the wringer. I'll only be about 15 minutes, so don't hang up. And if that ill-tempered Mrs. Smith tries to get through again, tell her to quit interrupting."

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Now Is The Time To Plan

SET A REALISTIC ADVERTISING BUDGET FOR 1954

This is the time when every person who appeals to the public for patronage should plan his advertising program for the coming year. It's smart business to know as nearly as possible where you are going in the next 12 months. If you're a retailer, allow yourself 10 per cent of your normal markup for advertising purposes. Then spend it in varying monthly amounts according to the percentage each represents in ratio to gross sales. Of course, the best and first place to spend it is in the Daily News, the low-cost medium that greets your Best Customers every single day.

Your Best CUSTOMERS Are Sure To READ THE DAILY NEWS

PRACTICAL POLYGAMISTS

FEROZEPOR, India —There is a practical reason for the popularity of polygamy in the Chandigarh area of the Punjab, Education Minister Jugat Narain told a school conference here.
"We live in an area where in places water is available only from a distance of eight or nine miles," he explained. "In one day one wife can make only a single round trip to the well. One bucket of water is not sufficient for a husband's needs. The solution therefore lies in having more wives."

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