

Tuesday, February 3, 1953

An independent daily newspaper devoted to the upbuilding of Prince Rupert and Northern and Central British Columbia.

Fresh Action Welcome

FOR BETTER or worse, there is going to be some fresh action in the Korean conflict.

Although there is always the fear that any new action may spread the conflagration, probably most of the western world will secretly or openly welcome a change.

In contemplating the possibilities, one draws assurance from the attitude of Eisenhower himself. Although a soldier for most of his adult life, he has not allowed his training to carry him to a point where he believes that man reaches his most noble achievement on the field of battle.

On the contrary, the new President is obviously a friendly man who is more concerned with his allies than with his enemies. Nowhere in his speech was his foreign policy better summarized than in the remark that a basic tenet of his administration will be to avoid "breaking faith with our friends."

In this respect, Secretary of States Dulles would be well advised to take a few tips from the master, for Mr. Dulles apparently favors using a rough hand without too much regard for traditional lines of alliance.

While his desire on this score is understandable, his tone is too belligerent. It appears that Mr. Dulles intends to dictate first and co-operate afterwards. The co-operation part is fine but history records that no one has ever dictated to Europe with any degree of success.

OTTAWA DIARY By NORMAN M. MacLEOD

During the pre-Christmas session of the Commons, Progressive Conservative leader George Drew took violent objection to the nature of some of the press reports emanating from Parliament.

The significant thing about that outburst was the enthusiasm with which the Liberal Prime Minister underwrote the idea. Rt. Hon. Mr. St. Laurent couldn't have applauded more enthusiastically if he had been receiving the news that the Korean War was over or that Marshal Stalin had called a halt to the cold war on the terms of the Western powers.

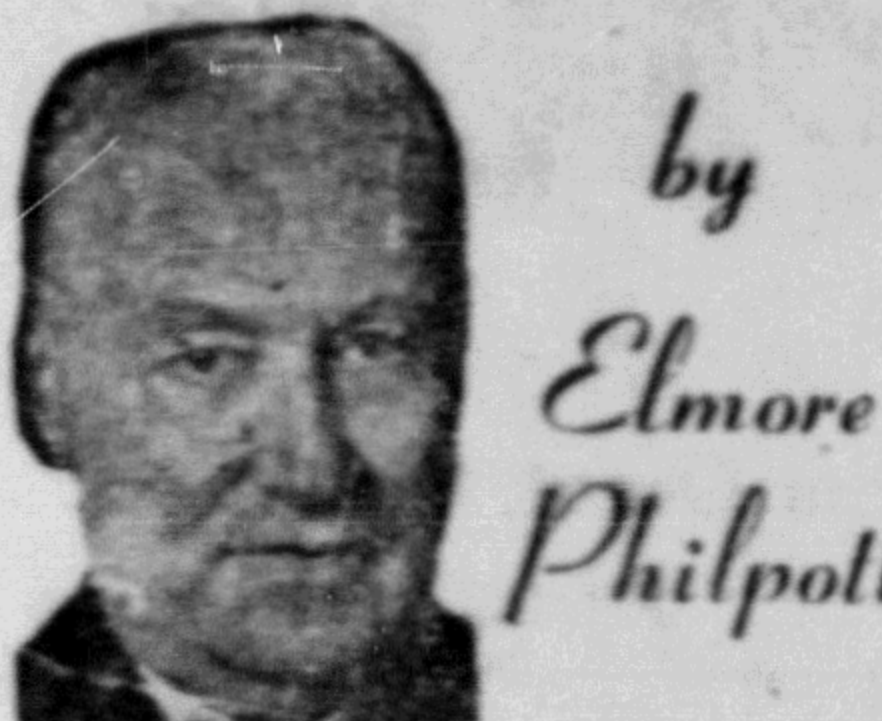
Nothing actually happened, for the reason that the Drew proposal was completely impractical. But the episode was disturbing to the peace of mind of more than the newspapermen on Parliament Hill.

Liberal-minded M.P.s—they're to be found in all party groups in the House—were a bit shocked to find the leaders on both sides of the House, whose business it is to be at daggers drawn on most issues, of one mind on a proposal that came pretty close to involving censorship of the press of Canada.

Presumably the memory of the Prime Minister's approbation encouraged the PC leader in his latest attempt to fetter the parliamentary correspondents. This time his argument is that Parliament is a court and that the parliamentary committees also are courts—and that any reporter who writes in critical vein of what goes on in their exalted precincts is guilty of contempt of court.

As a starter, the PC leader wanted action taken against a member of the press gallery who had broadcast over CBC during the week-end on the Currie report. Again nothing happened from

As I See It



Our Prime Ministers

IT WAS pure chance that two of the finest books ever written about Canadian politics should appear almost at the same time.

I have already written about Bruce Hutchison's "Incredible Canadian." No departed statesman has ever been so vividly "brought alive" as was Mackenzie King by the almost equally incredible Bruce. As a biography the book is open to criticism. Bruce does not attempt to document the most serious charge that is made in the book—namely, that Mr. King swang Mr. St. Laurent over to accepting conscription by what amounts to the greatest swindle ever pulled in Canadian politics.

But as a journalistic picture of a man, and the nation he headed, the "Incredible Canadian" is superb. Above all, the reader is left baffled by the fact that Mackenzie King acted a part all through his public life. Not only did he conceal the fact that he was for a quarter century a practicing spiritualist, he might be forgiven that, realizing what the opposition political party would have done with it on the hustings.

What is harder for the Canadian people to take is the suggestion that Mr. King deliberately befogged every public issue with such immense clouds of verbiage that the people only rarely saw clearly to the hard core of what was at stake.

BRUCE seems to me to fall down on one of his main theses given in his preface. We did not understand King, he says, because we do not understand ourselves. Mr. King proceeded as he did, because we Canucks are such a queer lot that he could not do otherwise.

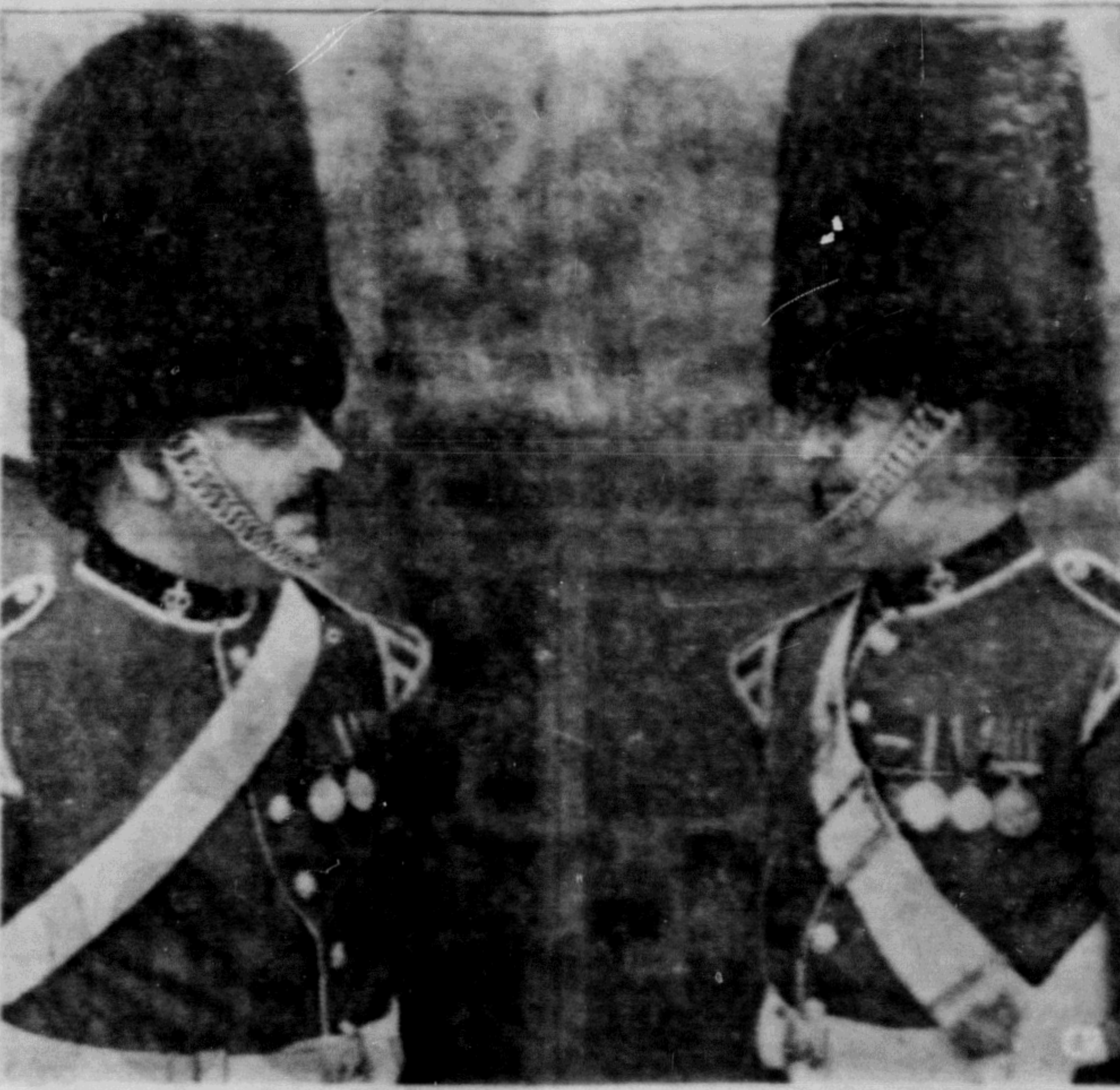
The best answer to that suggestion is that the three greatest dead Canadian Prime Ministers—and the great one still living—were each and all profoundly different. Hardly anybody admired Mr. King, except as a technician and expert statesman. But almost everybody who ever saw Laurier admired him immensely. Many literally loved him. Hardly anybody would have gone out to fight and die, for Mackenzie King. But, if he had asked them to, a good many Canadians of both races would have done so for Laurier. That would have applied to Macdonald too.

I FOUND Donald Creighton's book on John A. Macdonald all the more fascinating because of the Hutchison work on Mr. King. If ever politicians were as different as chalk and cheese they were Macdonald, Laurier and King.

The only politician of our own time that reminded me in part of Sir John A. was the late Premier Hepburn, who was also a genius in conviviality. Once, while high in the public life of Canada, Macdonald went off with a brilliant young Montreal lawyer on a two man show to U.S.A. The lawyer was dressed up in a bearskin and did tricks. The Father of Canadian Confederation was the bearmaster.

After the death of his long invalid first wife, Macdonald would sometimes drink so heavily that he would be unable to utter more than a few sentences of big dinner speeches. The whole country knew of his drunks. Yet all the while he was helping to guide the scattered colonies of British North America to the federal union which is one of the greatest feats of statesmanship in history.

The main thing that Macdonald, Laurier and King had in common was that their main problem arose from the fact that Canada is a two-race, two-religion country.



NEXT JUNE'S REGAL CEREMONIES in London will be the second Coronation attended by two bandmen of the Royal 22nd Regiment. Sgt.-Maj. Philippe Di-Marie (left) and S. Sgt. Raymond Pouliot, both of Quebec city, played in the Canadian army band during the Coronation of King George VI. They sail next week to join Canada's North Atlantic Treaty Organization formation in Germany and to participate in the Coronation ceremonies of Queen Elizabeth.

Parliament Hill

By Edward T. Applewhaite, M.P., Skeena

To me, one of the most noticeable things about the long debate on the Currie report has been the ineffectual speeches made by members of the Opposition.

When I think of the strong attacks they made on such subjects as the late Combines Investigation report; the foot-and-mouth disease and retail price maintenance, I find it hard to understand why they have been so weak and ineffectual in this case.

In 1951 the International Fisheries Commission completed its 20th year of regulation of the halibut fishery and carried forward the statistical and biological investigations which form the basis for the regulations.

During that year conferences were held with representative Canadian and United States wholesale halibut dealers, with the Conference Board composed of representatives from the fishermen's and vessel owners' organizations in the major halibut ports and with a representative of the Alaska salmon trollers.

At a meeting with the above-mentioned representatives of the halibut industry, the Commission reviewed accumulated evidence which indicated that the restriction of fishing in Area 2 to the May period was resulting in the under-utilization of some sections of the stocks and probably in the over-utilization of other sections.

Terms of the current treaty allowed only one fishing period in each regulatory area each year. It seemed likely that some rotation of opening dates might bring about a more even exploitation of the stocks; and so two underfished sections were opened experimentally on later dates.

The Committee on Defence Expenditures has started its sittings. I am on that committee and on its sub-committee on agenda. This looks like the biggest job of the Session. Not only have we the Currie Report to go into—but also details of the defence budget—some two billion dollars.

One of the most dramatic moments here was at five minutes to ten on the night of January 29, when the Prime Minister rose in his place, asked for permission to make a statement, and advised a wildly cheering House that the threatened railway strike had been settled. It is certainly fair—because it is obviously true—to say that this settlement is largely a tribute to Mr. St. Laurent's own sterling personality.

Wednesday, January 28, 1953 was one of the few days—in fact I think the only day—I have known when the House discussed fisheries all day; this was on the motion of Wes Stuart (Lib.-Charlotte, N.B.) "that, in the opinion of this house, the government should consider the ad-

The United States paid Russia \$7,200,000 for Alaska in 1867, equivalent to two cents an acre.

SOLDIER RECEIVES SWEATER DONATED BY HIS MOTHER

NORWICH, N.Y. (AP)—When Mrs. Harold Moore knitted sweaters for the Red Cross during the war she felt certain that some day one would bring a touch of home to some soldier. At Fort Dix, N.J., a young soldier walked into the quartermaster exchange recently and asked for a sleeveless sweater. He received one with a tag inscribed: "Donated by Mrs. Harold Moore, Norwich, N.Y." The soldier was Pte. Harold Moore, her son.

Ray Reflects and Reminisces

Should you want months to appear shorter and years to seem longer, begin paying for something on the instalment plan.

A POSSIBILITY

A coast dentist is reported to have entered an action for divorce because his wife would not give up her manicurist job. Al-

though there is no certainty they might have been fighting nail as well as tooth.

Farming folk from East Germany plan applying for land in western Canada, and Ottawa is said to be thinking favorably. Germans were settling there more than a century ago. They developed agriculture, homes, enterprises and fought for Canada overseas. There could be worse.

THE LETTERBOX

A CHALLENGE TO ALL

The people of British Columbia have before them at this moment an object lesson. A challenge by the fishing companies to not only the fishermen but to the people of the province as a whole.

We now learn there is a fish meal famine in B.C. and in order to supply the demand for fish meal the dealers are forced to import that commodity from Peru.

From a news broadcast we learn that a cargo of fish meal is now being discharged in Vancouver while our fishermen walk the streets in idleness and in some cases in want. Meanwhile, processing plants owned and controlled by the large fishing companies remain locked against our fishermen, a lock out imposed by a multi-million dollar combine commonly referred to as free enterprise.

Because of this appalling situation confronting not only fishermen and farmers, the whole economic life of the province is being affected. It would appear to me that this dictatorial policy of this packing and processing combine is aimed at exercising authority over not only the fishermen but the fish in the ocean.

The news item reporting the importation of fish meal from Peru was mentioned only once over the CBC in an early morning broadcast indicating a hush-hush somewhere along the line. GEORGE B. CASEY.

A magazine story unfolds its alluring description of the Okanagan Valley, 120 miles in length. Incidentally, a rattlesnake kills a schoolboy. Loathing rattlers, a clergyman manages to destroy about a thousand by 1921.—Come on to Rupert, Wet, but safer.

There are five rubber firms in Canada that will, in all likelihood, go on trial charged with conspiracy. Generally speaking, someone will risk a bit of a stretch.

It seems that when the old-fashioned woodshed went out, juvenile delinquency came in.

Let's see! What was the weather yesterday? This is February and still the earliest part. One can't be too sure of anything around the Valentine and groundhog season.

A USEFUL BIRD May I, with great respect, say I do not in the mind being called Winston Churchill.

The closest the road come to the earth is to be 224,443 miles. The now arises—what has the little chaps who by what are known as ing Souzers?

LONDON (CP)—A dumb man here failed his driving test because unable to answer the question. Later an interpreter asked—man got his license.

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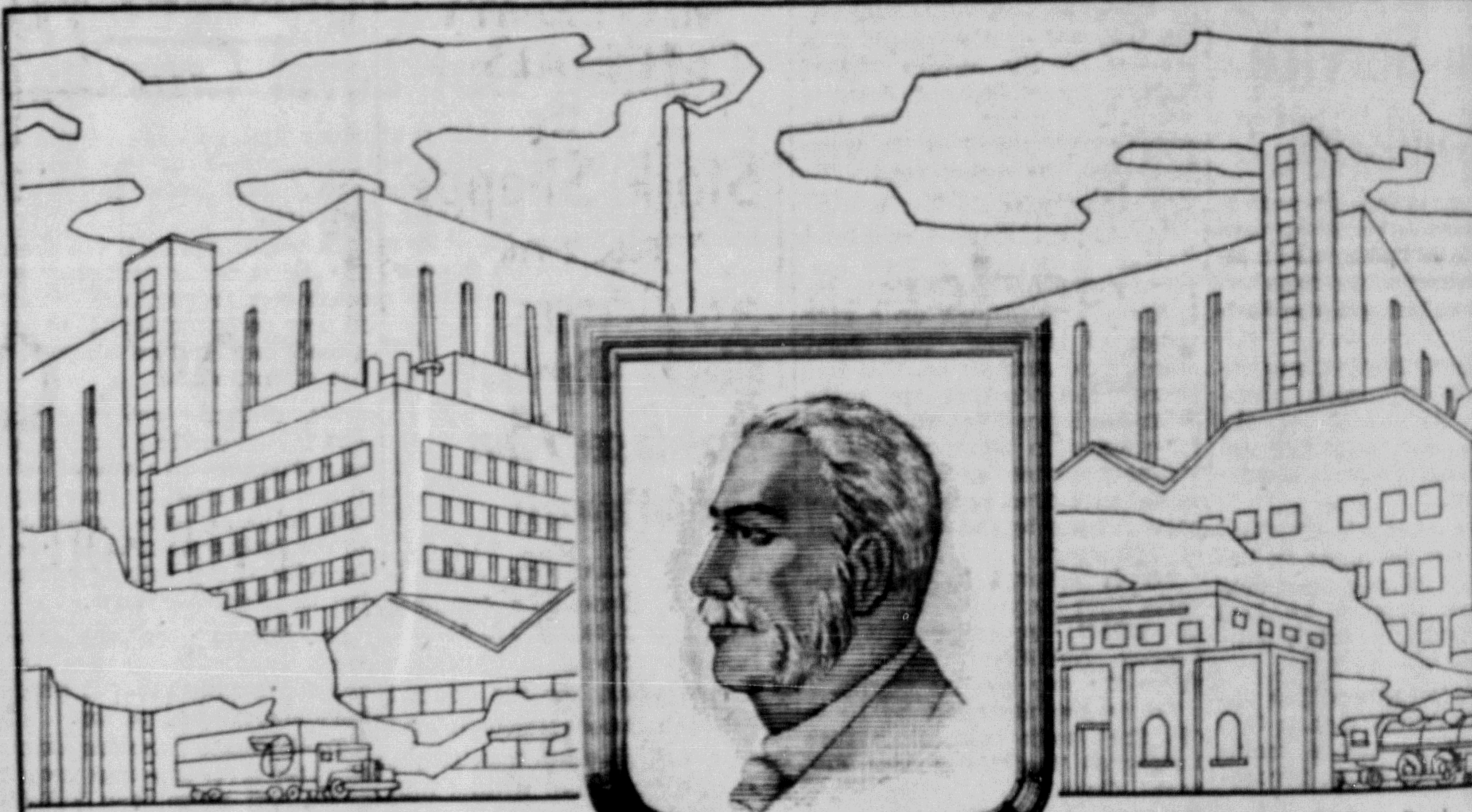
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