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Observer is Impressed

IN AN ARTICLE on B.C.'s remarkable growth to appear in the next issue of Toronto Star Weekly, it is interesting to note that much of author Harold Hilliard's attention is concentrated on this northern coastal area.

Pointing out that the province's most favorable element is cheaper waterpower, rather than oil and gas, Mr. Hilliard describes B.C. development as being sparked by the Kitimat project. He observes that this started a chain-reaction effect which now sees plans being made for the still larger Frobisher project north of here.

Another undertaking which Mr. Hilliard regards with interest is the Leduc copper mining north of Stewart. He remarks that it may be the first major copper find to be made in B.C. in 50 years.

As for Prince Rupert itself, the writer sees this port as a thriving outlet for Peace River pulp mill and farm produce, once that area is tapped by rail.

For the malcontents who look at our future on this rim of wilderness with jaundiced eye, Mr. Hilliard's article is prescribed reading. If their reaction is that it is all exaggerated, they might ask themselves if they are not also exaggerating our disappointments.

Some of our gloomy joes are inclined to think that to be accurate, you must first be a pessimist. Maybe they are right, but somehow the most agreeable inaccuracies continue to come true all the same.

Life in Russia

A REPORT by Reuters reveals that the Bolshevik Revolution may have taken a significant turn in Russia. For the first time under the Soviets, Russian women are demanding (aloud, that is) smarter clothes, cosmetics and subtle perfumes. As everything of importance in Russia is handled by the state, this is something for Comrade Malenkov to worry about.

The tip-off about unrest on the feminine front in Russia comes from letters to the editors of Moscow newspapers, which indicate that the women have something to complain about. It seems that a tailored two-piece suit in Moscow costs about 1,000 rubles, which are worth nominally \$250, but the buyer is lucky to get the sleeves the same length. One woman writes "We are tired of sack-like dresses, shrinking textiles, and clashing, glaring colors." At the stenographer level, the accent is on streamline and "culture." The culture line is defined in the negative, it is not the milkmaid or the peasant style. The shop-girl wants a big slice of glamor, but she may have doubts that the Russian Revolution can deliver it to her.

Russia Using Atomic Energy

LONDON (Reuters)—Marshal Kliment Voroshilov, president of the Soviet Union, today affirmed that Russia has harnessed atomic energy for peaceful purposes. In a speech at Leningrad, Voroshilov said Russian scientists "in a short time have succeeded in harnessing atomic energy in the service of Socialist economy," according to the official Russian news agency Tass.

Previous statements from lower-ranking Russians have emphasized that the Soviet Union is pressing for peacetime industrial use of atomic energy.

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As I See It



by
Elmore Philbott

No Urge To Shoot

WHEN some Puerto Rican Nationalists sprayed the U.S. Congressmen with bullets some Canadian newspapers tried to work up a discussion about what would happen if and when somebody tried to shoot up the Canadian House of Commons.

So far as I can find, nobody in our parliament even took the question seriously. For in spite of the fact that the centre of the government of Canada is efficiently guarded by two rings—RCMP outside and special Security Guards inside, nobody really expects that anyone in Canada will try such really rough stuff.

The whole Canadian tradition is so against the idea and possibility of violence that the question never really arises, as a practical matter. MP's don't feel important enough to be shot at.

WE HAD a striking demonstration of the difference between our two countries last fall, when President Eisenhower visited Ottawa.

For days before the President's train arrived, U.S. Secret Service men were on the job here, checking over the whole layout of Ottawa, and the parliament buildings in particular. I must say that the ones I ran across were fine and tactful representatives of their country. They did the job that had been sent up to do politely and efficiently. But I think the very fact of their presence made a good many Canadian MP's give some thought to the reasons for the differences between the two countries.

Nobody would ever want to take a shot at the Prime Minister of Canada, unless he were riding in the same car with some international figure who might conceivably be the target for somebody with an itch to shoot. Moreover, this is no imaginary danger. Apart from the fact that different American presidents have actually been assassinated, their fellow passengers have sometimes fallen victim to bullets intended for the head of the U.S.A.

In the early days of President Roosevelt's regime his car-mate, the late Mayor Cermak of Chicago, fell dead from shots meant for the great FDR.

SO FAR as I know, the late Premier Hepburn of Ontario was the only public man in Canada who felt he should employ a bodyguard. Mitch was popular with a very wide range of human beings, and probably the bodyguard was there more or less to speed the parting guest, who showed too much reluctance to get on his way.

Mackenzie King walked alone to and from his home for many years, as he liked the exercise.

A long time employee of the parliament buildings tells me that not so many years ago she walked up to the building a few steps behind our present prime minister. He passed dozens of Ottawa pedestrians, almost none of whom gave a second glance to him—for the obvious reason they did not recognize the prime minister at first glance.

Surely every Canadian should feel a deep sense of gratitude that we have never developed the tensions, hates, fears and violent feelings that make people with grievances look to violent remedies or revenge.

Your Canadian Red Cross stockpiles emergency relief supplies in France, Switzerland, Turkey and Australia for immediate disaster assistance to any nation in the world.

OTTAWA DIARY By NORMAN M. MacLEOD

To Parliament Hill circles there is something reminiscent about next week's Progressive Conservative gathering which seems to make travelling in a circle appear as the characteristic pattern of motion for the official opposition party.

It was just three years ago that the P.C.'s held a similar meeting. Then as now the prime concern was the selection of a new national president. The White House of that day was George Nowlan, Nova Scotia M.P. Rank-and-file delegates were sold the bill of goods that with Nowlan to master-mind the activities of the Bracken House organization staff, the party really would go places.

Well, Nowlan took office. Then in due course the general election came along. The party went places, all right—but not where it wanted to go. Politically, it did a wrong-way Corrigan.

Now the still further reduced fragment that remains of the once-great party is back where it was three years ago. Once again rank-and-file delegates are being told that the party's urgent need is a new national president. Nowlan, the once shining knight whose armor

row is tarnished with defeat, is to step gracefully and probably thankfully aside. Veteran Earl Rowe or magnetic tyro George Hees is to take over. And things are to be different.

But Parliament Hill's political veterans aren't too sure that things really will be radically different. Instead, they suspect strongly that they will go on just as before. In other words, Nowlan isn't regarded as the clue to the party's unhappy plight. Blaming him for the general election defeat seems to most fair-minded observers in these parts like blaming the weather man for a March blizzard.

In other words, there's a strong feeling that if all that next week's meeting does is change the national president, then things will go on for the P.C.'s just as before. That means that they will keep getting steadily worse.

A former national president, Hon. C. P. McTague is credited with having made an interesting attempt in Toronto a few days ago to function as the party's conscience on the eve of its Ottawa gathering. He told a luncheon meeting of Progress-

Ray REFLECTS and REMINISCES

Why shouldn't we get a haircut on company time, comments the Brandon Sun. After all, our hair grows at work.

Charles E. Flesch and Henry Blood are both employed in the same business office in Memphis, Tennessee. Its a bank, and that has nothing to do with beef.

A vegetarian says he make a practice of sleeping on the floor. He's been doing it for years. A good beefsteak, it is needless to say, can perform all sorts of useful services. Such, for example, giving a man enough strength to use some of it in climbing into bed.

It's so easy for the poor fellow to follow the advice, "Neither a borrower nor a lender be" as he has no money to lend and nobody will lend him any.

FINDING A FACT

Sex appeal, not shorthand, will land the best jobs. Preoccupation with pulchritude may not be noble and high-minded, but it is a fact: So says Bernice Fitz-Gibbon, advertising director Gimbel's Department Store, New York, discussing employment problems.

Alimony might be defined as giving comfort to the enemy.

Constant smokers of middle age will be wise to have chest X-rays every THREE months. Life Today.

Whenever the situation appears to warrant it, the management of the Cafe de la Paix, noted Parisian restaurant, hands out cards which read: Dear Customer. Do not be annoyed if we call to your attention that it is customary in public to show marks of esteem in a discreet manner. The Management.

SOMETHING DOING

Premier St. Laurent will be back home in time to do another round of hand shaking, and prepare for all those cheery little by-elections in the eastern provinces. Parliament may fancy there is no leisure in politics, but when a man becomes head of the state there is less time than ever to be careless with.

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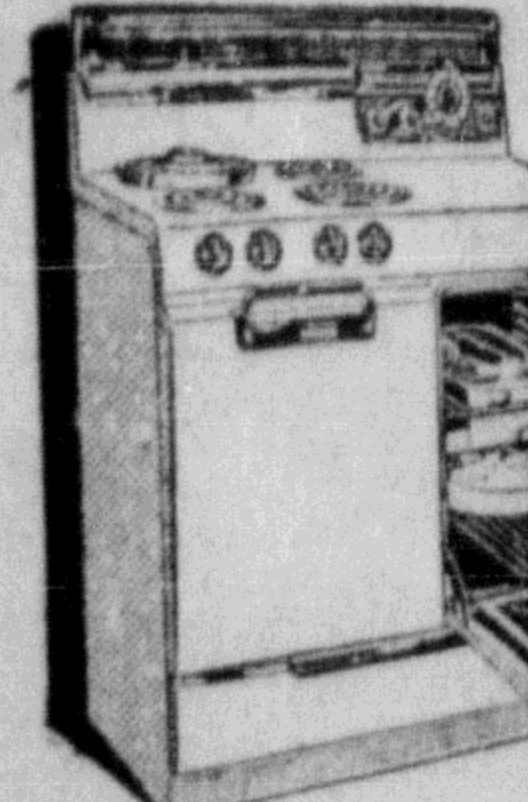
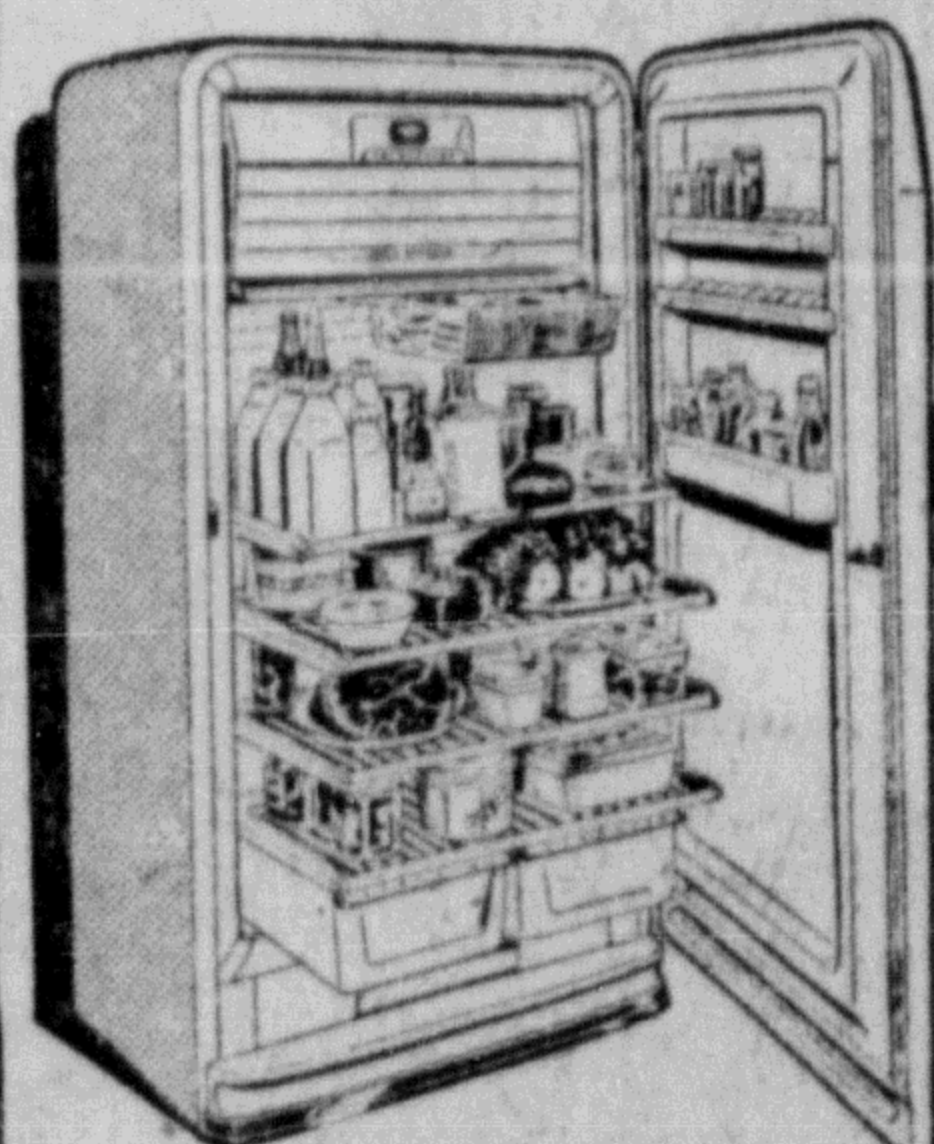
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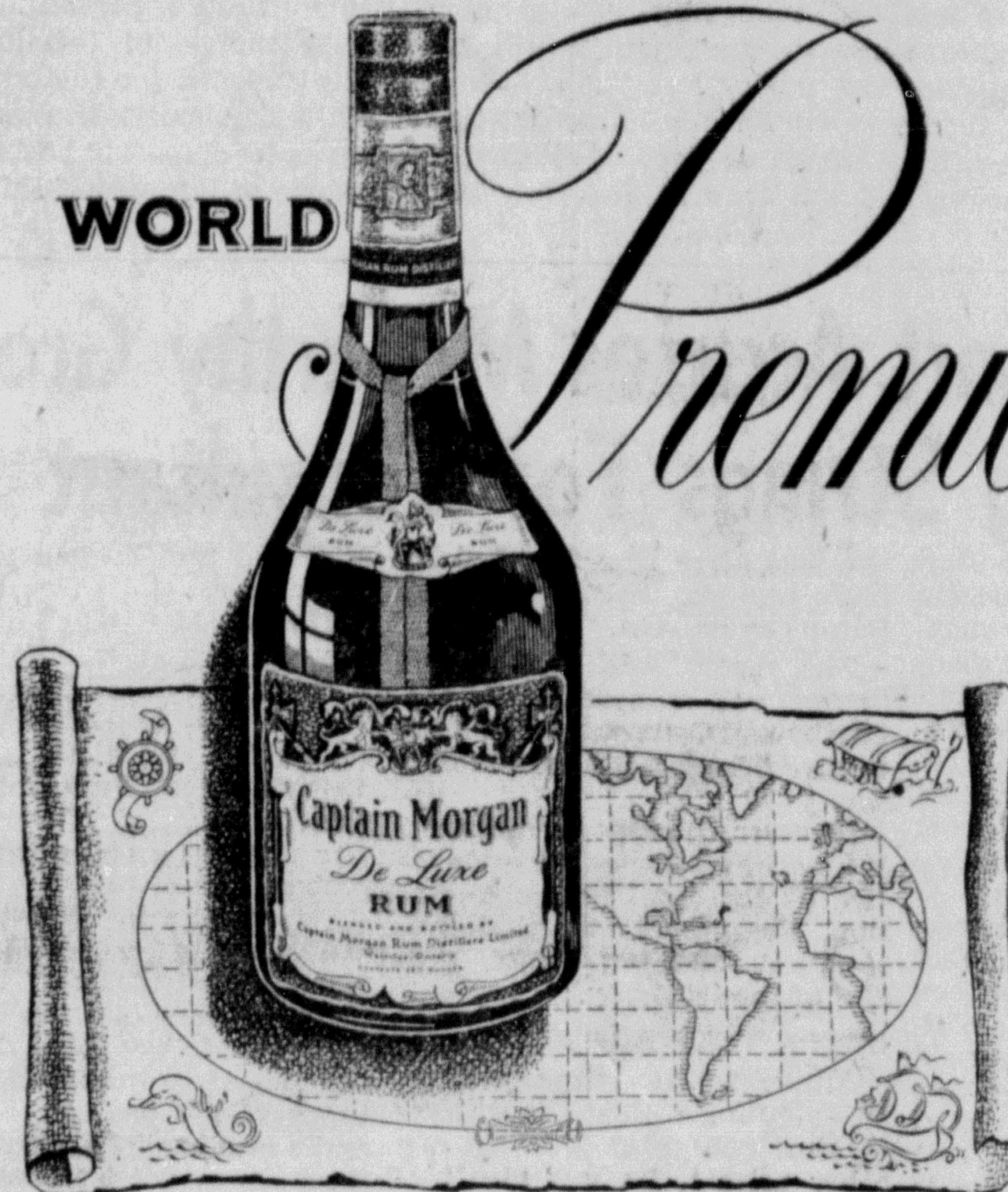
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