

British Local Elections

BRITAIN is having a new round of local elections this week against the usual background of professional anxiety and public indifference.

Polling started yesterday in 62 county councils across Britain with Labor scoring heavy early wins. Analysts look closely at the results for these elections are supposed to represent a miniature of the national struggle between Conservatives and Labor.

Socialists have ruled the London Council since 1934. The issue was closest in 1949 when a near dead-heat resulted.

A clear-cut victory for Labor could be regarded as a sign of resentment against the Conservative government's recent "incentive" budget, which Labor is portraying as bearing heavily on the working classes.

Of the 61 other councils, besides London, across Britain, all but eight are Conservative-controlled. Some 1,700 councillors have been returned unopposed, most of them Conservatives, and about 6,000 candidates have been contesting the remaining seats.

Picnic Must End

THE financial position of the Canadian National Railways, which last year had the greatest revenue on record but also had record expenditures on carrying charges which wiped out the operating surplus and caused a deficit, is typical of other businesses large and small these days.

While the public calls for more service, the employees call for more wages and there is demand for more and better spending all along the line, management is faced with the problem of keeping business on an even keel and prevent it from failing altogether.

As for the railways, the operating costs mount and the railway tries, as other businesses have to, to pass it on to the consumer. Thus the giddy spiral of inflation continues and no one is any better off and the public least of all.

One encouraging factor, however, is the growing tendency for people to settle down to businesslike thinking of the economic issues of the day. That way will come a turning of the tide. We will also be better off when we start getting back to common-sense and conscientious hard work even in the smallest and most personal of our undertakings.

It may be a long way back and may require some changed thinking and seeming sacrifice after these halcyon and easy times but we must get down to facing realistic facts instead of day-dreaming and govern ourselves accordingly. The picnic must come to an end some time. It will be easier for those who have kept their heads and their senses to walk the economic road back.

Scripture Passage for Today

"O taste, and see, how gracious the Lord is."—Psalm 34:8

PIONEER CO-OPS
The co-operative movement in Canada started with organization of agricultural societies in Nova Scotia late in the 18th century.

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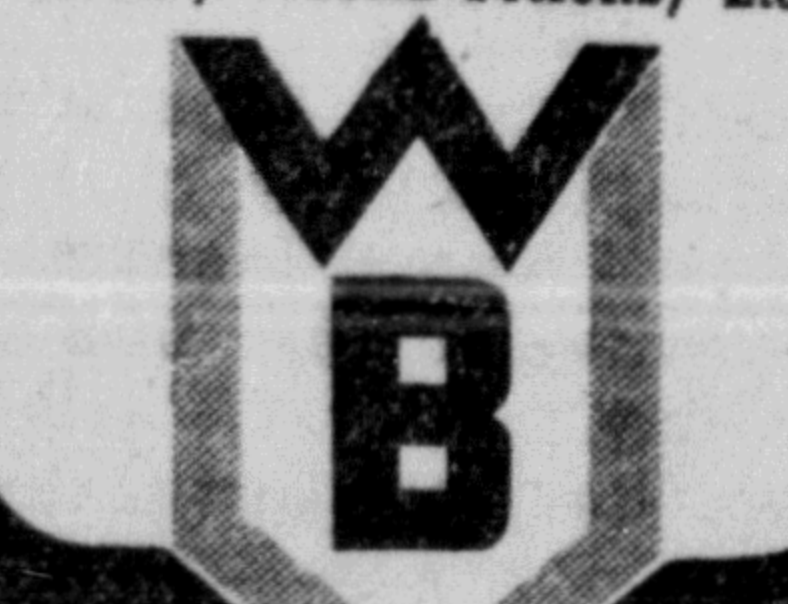
CANADIAN
NATIONAL

Quick Canadian Quiz

1. At his death George VI was in what year of his reign?
2. What two provinces have official flags?
3. What percentage of the cost of a Canadian man's woolen suit is due to the cloth?
4. In 1929 average Canadian manufacturing wage rate was 41.5 cents per hour. In 1951 it was \$1.28 per hour. Could worker buy more bread for one hour's work in 1929 or 1951?
5. What province produces the greatest dollar value in farm field crops?

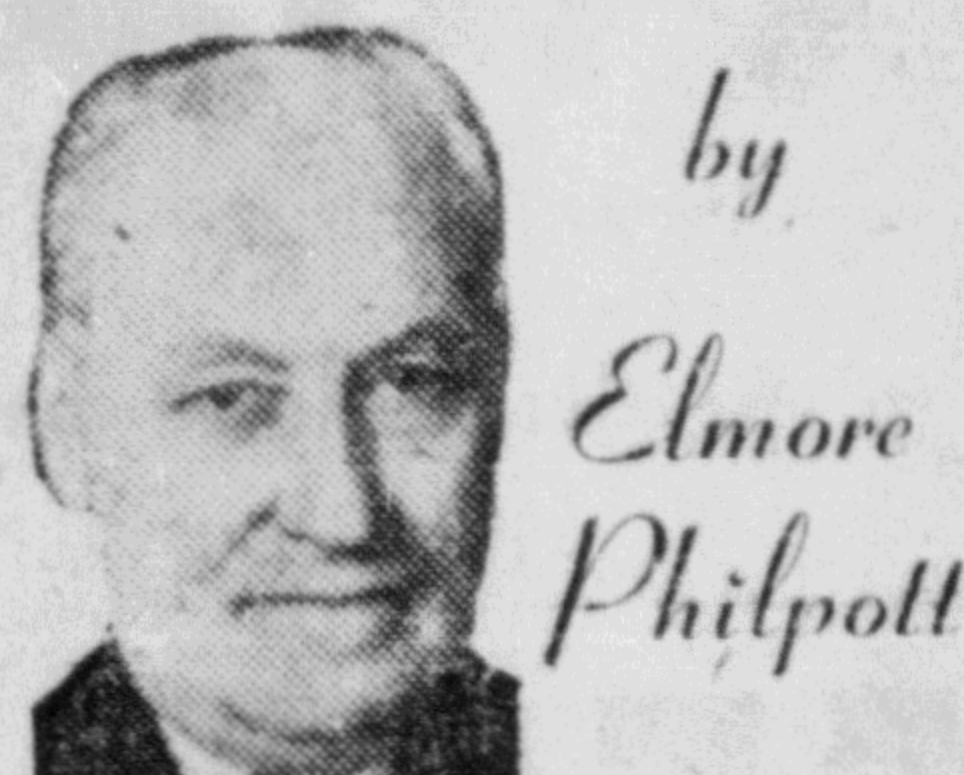
ANSWERS PAGE FOUR

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As I See It



Who Wants Cheap Meat?
CANADA is plunging headlong toward another queer crisis like that of the 1930s. But this one looks little, so far.

Even before the outbreak of hoof and mouth disease closed our normal markets for meat, we had so much unsold pork that we literally did not know what to do with it. The storehouses were literally full to overflowing. Pork was being canned to a greater extent than ever before.

Now we also have the extra accumulation of beef due to closing of U.S. markets. And now we have the sudden stoppage of cheese shipments to Britain, due to her financial crisis.

THERE is talk at Ottawa of trying to "unload" some of the surplus meat by selling it below the "floor price" guaranteed by the government.

But the lucky buyers of this bargain meat would not be ordinary Canadians, Americans or Britons. No—we would sell the stuff below cost or actually give it away, but only to faraway foreigners on one absolute condition:

That they are not now customers able to buy that meat at high prices. For if they are regular customers for our pork, or beef, or for our cedar shingle or anything else we produce, we cannot GIVE them that produce without damping down their willingness to BUY what we regularly have for sale.

HERE is the puzzle: Suppose we in Canada have an accumulated surplus of 42 million pounds of pork. We could not give that pork away to ourselves, for free, even if we wanted to.

For the packinghouse workers, trainmen, truckers, wholesalers and retailers all must be paid too.

But even if Canada, as a nation, made up her mind to give a free dividend of three pounds of meat per person, at no cost above the handling charges, we could not do that without depressing the whole market of the country.

IN THE U.S. they worked out the Brannan plan which never was passed into law by Congress because politicians, like Taft, called it a dangerous socialistic

"Healthy Surroundings Make Healthy People"



"Healthy Surroundings Make Healthy People"—the theme suggested for World Health Day in 1952—points to a goal shared by all nations. The World Health Organization (WHO), is helping man to conquer his disease breeding environment in many parts of the world. During one of WHO's anti-malaria drives in India (above) it was found that the number of plague cases fell rapidly. Investigations showed that DDT sprayed to kill mosquitoes had also killed the rat fleas and thus cut down the plague.

measure. The idea was roughly this:

The farmer was guaranteed his fair price. But when big food surpluses began to pile up the customers were bonused to buy extra food, more or less on the principle of the one cent sales made familiar by drug stores.

The housewife would buy, say, a ham or roast of beef, at the regular price. But on payment of an extra few cents she would get some other cuts of meat thrown in as a bonus to get rid of the surpluses.

TECHNOCRATS, socialists and other critics of the capitalist system claim that it cannot distribute such surpluses—except by war or by armament races. They argue that artificial scarcity is an absolute certainty under the present system.

I agree with part of their argument. But I think many of them underestimate the amazing untapped powers that are also part of the present hit-and-miss way of life.

Maybe the women could solve this problem. They could not make a worse mess of it than men have done.

Average Family Income Higher

WASHINGTON (CP)—The average United States family had an income of \$3,300 in 1950, up \$200 from 1949. Ten million families had incomes of less than \$2,000.

Relieving of Cancer Pain

BOSTON.—A way of making life painless is being studied here in the interests of cancer sufferers. Deep in the centre of the brain is a spot where scientists believe is the crossroads of pain pathways for most pains you feel.

At Massachusetts General Hospital experiments with an electric needle are being made.

They plan to push it into this point in the brain and destroy the crossroads with an electric spark.

Little George's evening was ending up in the usual manner. His mother had ordered him to bed, he had demanded to know why he had to retire so early, and she had told him: Following the usual pattern he had turned to his father.

"Pop!" he complained, "women are so unreasonable!" Papa watched Mamma out of the corner of his eye, and timidly inquired:

"Why, son?" "Well," explained the thoughtful youngster, "tonight Mom says, 'George, you are too young to stay up.' Know what she'll say in the morning, Pop? She'll say 'Get up George—you're too big to stay in bed! You can't win, Pop!'"

USEFUL TREE

The common beech tree, which forms large forests in Europe, is used for manufacture of many small wooden articles.

ray...

Reflects and Reminisces

Courtship is when a man pursues a woman until she catches him.

DIDN'T SHE THOUGH!

In Bella Coola, one hears stressed the necessity of a third outlet from British Columbia's interior. The whole economy of the province and Western Canada, it would seem, squeezes through two narrow corridors to the Pacific—Prince Rupert and Vancouver. But before narrow corridors, Prince Rupert and squeezing were ever heard of, the port of Vancouver was considered enough of an outlet for the whole west coast. Vancouver certainly thought so.

The Irish sweeps idea, suggested as a Canadian institution, always find a vigorous nodding of heads. But that's as far as it ever gets. There seems to be more pleasure in sending money out of Canada, than keeping it at home.

Sometimes a toastmaster is described as a man who eats a meal he doesn't like, tells stories he cannot remember to people who have already heard them.

PRINTERS INK—OLD AGE!

The Daily News, Thursday, printed a cut of two printers employed in the office of the Calgary Herald in 1883. They are J. D. McAr and Harry B. Wilson, although venerable, they are very much alive and kicking. The picture reminded us

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of the late Alfred Carter of Prince Rupert who lived here for many a year. He frequently spoke of the Calgary Herald and of how, in 1885, on his arrival in the Alberta city, he was given permission to stow his trunk on the premises until he could find permanent quarters.

Jack Miner, the late Canadian naturalist used always to feel it was up to man to balance nature

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Florists	5.0
Drug Stores	2.5
Grocery Stores	1.5
Jewelry	3.9
Men's Clothing	3.8
Shoe Stores	3.7
Department Stores	4.3
Hardware	1.4
Beauty Shops	5.3
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Luxury Class (gifts, etc.)	8.7
Women's Apparel	3.9
Cleaners	3.5

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