

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

Support The Music Festival

WITH the commencement tomorrow of the sixth annual Prince Rupert district music and drama festival, there lies ahead four days which, to participants and spectators alike, will be stimulating, educational and entertaining.

As this occasion becomes yearly more popular, it is evident that the arts are occupying an increasingly important place in our community life. The trend is an encouraging one. A populace which is entirely pre-occupied with the business of making a living, and which relies wholly on commercial entertainment for its recreation, has little to commend it. It would, in fact, be intolerably dull.

What the Festival means to us is well expressed in the foreword of its program, which says:

"We must not think of our Festivals as competitions for a few people, but rather as a means of bringing to all our people the knowledge and understanding of music and the dramatic arts."

"Nevertheless, the spirit of competition is a natural element in many such human affairs and cannot be avoided. This love of competition is particularly keen in young folk and may be utilized as a stimulus to promote earnest work; it should be encouraged in a manner to develop the best elements in character. Thus our Festivals are also an excellent means of teaching good sportsmanship."

We look forward to the most successful Festival yet, and all those who have made it possible merit

Mental Ill-Health Increasing

TODAY is the beginning of Mental Health Week in Canada, a period in which the country is asked to give special thought to a problem that becomes steadily more grave as the pressures, pace and tensions of life increase.

Its significance may be gauged from the fact that, of all hospitalized patients in Canada, those confined for mental ill-health comprise 46 per cent. At the same time only three per cent of all registered nurses are engaged in attending those so afflicted.

The only conclusion to be drawn is that the problem is outpacing the means of coping with it. Although mental derangement is probably as long as the history of humanity itself, its incidence has reached an unprecedented height and seems certain to go still higher as our existence grows more competitive, impersonal and crowded.

While the mystery of the mind has been explored as never before, and from this new cures developed, it is evident that the only effective method of controlling mental disease lies in prevention. Perhaps the day will come when protective measures against disorders of the mind can be undertaken as systematically as they are now against those of the body.

In the meantime it will help if everyone becomes cognizant of this spreading danger, and for those young men and women contemplating a career in medicine or nursing there is surely no more intriguing or worthwhile opportunity than treatment of the mentally ill.

Ray REFLECTS and REMINISCES

The reception to Crown Prince Akihito of Japan is due in Newcastle, England, May 12, but there may be a riot instead. More than a thousand former Japanese—held prisoners of war—are being heard from, and they may take part in the welcome.

Dawson has officially faded away. Whitehorse is the new capital of the Yukon. R. H. Winters, Federal Minister of Resources has so advised parliament. Once twenty-five thousand toiled and moiled where today a few hundred cannot say it isn't so.

WHEN MORTE WAS HERE

Jack Scott sojourned in Lorneo Marques (Portuguese East Africa) and wrote long stories about hunting elephants and the cost of their ivory. Jack could have had a chat with Morte Craig when the latter was in business near Third Avenue and Fulton Street here. No need to have taken the trouble to go all the way to the Dark Continent.

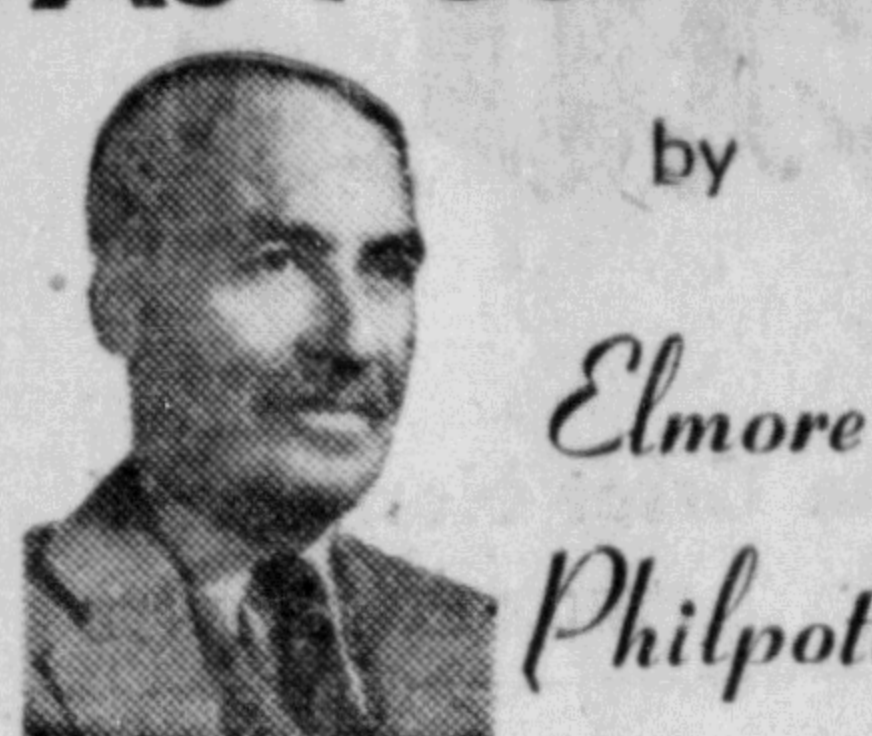
American fishermen have caught more than three million pounds of crabs in B.C. Hecate Strait fishing grounds in the

past three years, according to J. W. McNaught, parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Fisheries, Hon. Mr. Sinclair. We learned to like crab salad long ago. Great, this prosperity stuff.

Chief Mathias Joe of Vancouver, with gift of totem pole and basket, awaits permission of the Navy of Canada to journey to London aboard HMCS Ontario. He would help honor the coronation with gifts to the Queen. The history of British Royalty is full of examples of how well this has been received and recognized, in the relationship between the throne, and the world over. It is one of the reasons of long harmony.

Today, with the world flocking to share in it, Queen Elizabeth I used to have a saying it is worth remembering. The queen of 400 years ago said: "In pompous ceremonies a secret of government doth much consist." In other words, a dictum which the modern world should not neglect. In other words, we like state and show and pomp, and if we're going to be bossed, let's show it.

As I See It



by
Elmore
Philpott

Little King No Worm

YOU COULD explain world events now going on before our very eyes by going back to that fountain of wisdom, the Bible.

Daniel the prophet wrote of the fall of the great Babylonian empire of his day with a vividness rarely equalled in all history. He pictured the drunken king at a big banquet and an invisible man's visible hand writing on the wall:

"Babylon's number is up—you, king, are personally all through—your rivals are coming in to throw you out."

One of France's puppet colonial kings has just made a brave warning which may be as ominous as Daniel's graphic word picture. That puppet king surely is no worm.

SPEAKING IN New York on April 18 the King of Cambodia told The New York Times:

"If we have an invasion of the sort that Laos has suffered I am not at all certain that I can call for a general mobilization as did Laos. If there is a menace the people will say the French are encircled and their end has come. There has been growing support among the thinking masses of the people of Cambodia that the Communist-led Vietnam is fighting for the independence of the country."

"They do not want to die for the French and help them stay here." So spoke the king—not for defeatism but to demand for his country "the same independence as India and Pakistan have within the British Commonwealth. He is France's frank friend."

A WISE MAN asked me not long ago "why do you always talk of a possible world war three as in the future—it is now?"

He went on to show that the big struggle that is going on at the commercial level, and for race and color equality and colonial freedom is in fact a world war. That bigger war will go on regardless of whether or not there is cease-fire in Korea. I think that interpretation is sound. World war three, now on, will be decided by what happens in the yellow, brown and black skinned parts of this earth.

FFOR YEARS back Nehru and other southern leaders have been warning us that Asia and Africa will not stand with the west against Soviet expansion unless the western powers "came clean" on colonial freedom.

India, Pakistan, Ceylon and Burma got real freedom, thanks to the enlightened policy of the British government. So did the Gold Coast in Africa (much to Malan's chagrin). The Netherlands was slower to see the point—and it was only the intervention of the U.S.A. that finally turned the balance to the side of freedom for Indonesia.

It is noteworthy that only these countries which won real freedom from former imperialist rule stand as bulwarks and free fortresses against the sweep of world Communism.

It is far from certain that India will be able to stand indefinitely against Communism. India, too, may fall—though my studied conclusion is that she will not—but rather survive as the great southern anchor of world freedom.

THE POINT IS—the new Red imperialism is not taking over more and more chunks of the world because of its own essential strength—but because of our own failures, weaknesses, injustices, and plain sloth. Water never yet ran uphill.

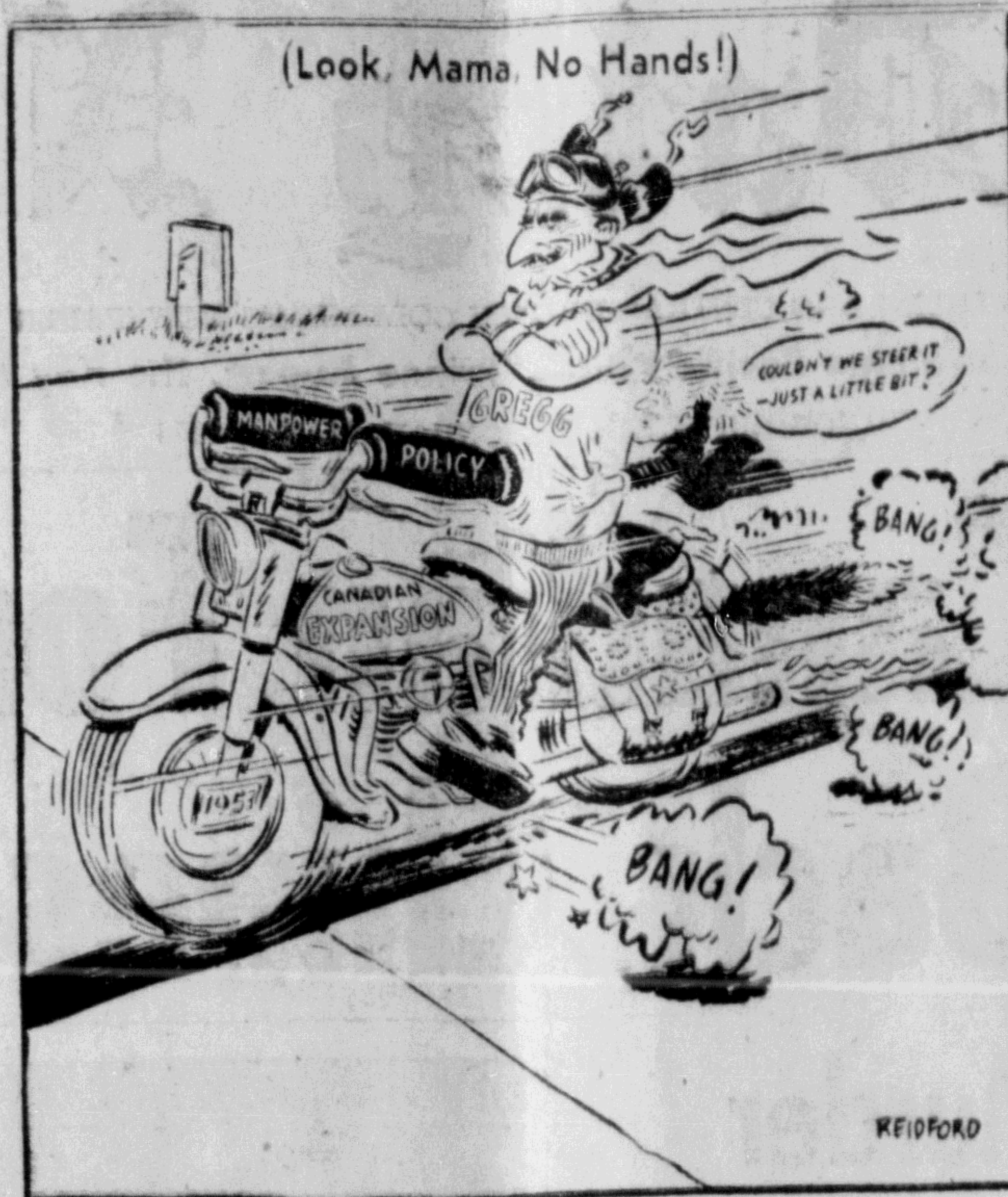
How long would Malan be able to maintain his malignant race dictatorship if the Communists were as close to South Africa as they are to Cambodia?

CNIB May Get Larger Grant

PRINCE GEORGE—Two members of the city council agreed that past donations made by the city to the Canadian National Institute for the Blind have been too small.

First to remark on last year's \$25 grant was Mayor Dezell. Alderman Carrie Jane Gray concurred with the mayor when an application for assistance this year was read out.

Council will await the return of finance committee chairman Alderman William Ferry before deciding what grant to make.



LOOK, MAMA, NO HANDS!—By James Reidford in the Toronto Globe and Mail.

POLITICAL ROUNDUP

...by J. K. Nesbitt

(This is the first in a series of articles concerning the leaders of the major political parties contesting the June 9 provincial election.—Editor)

VICTORIA — The new B.C. Liberal leader, Arthur Laing, 48, was once purged from the B.C. Liberal Association presidency by former Premier Bryan Johnson.

That was in 1949. Boss Johnson was firmly in the saddle as Liberal chief, Premier and boss of the Coalition Government.

Johnson was pledged to Coalition with the Conservatives. Laing hated Coalition, saw in it Liberal death throes. Johnson and Laing didn't get along. How right Laing was! Coalition eventually dropped the Liberals to the bottom of the well.

Now Laing, who might well say "I told you so," is in the difficult job of dragging them up again. There are those who said he has been led to the slaughter. Certainly, he's gambling his whole political career.

Not since T. D. Pattullo was ousted from Liberal leadership in 1941, because he wouldn't coalesce with the Tories, has there been a B.C. Liberal leader with no strings attached to any other party. Laing is the supreme boss of Liberalism.

John Hart and Bryan Johnson, while Liberal chieftains, were in the same political bed with the Conservatives. Hart and Johnson had to compromise all down the line—this constant compromise ending in the Liberal debacle of last June.

Those of us who covered the Liberal convention in 1941, when Pattullo's head was chopped off, John Hart named to his place, and Coalition endorsed, well remember how reporter Peter Stursberg burst into the press room with this remark: "The Liberal Party has just committed suicide."

It took more than 10 years for that suicide to be accomplished, almost. There's yet some life in the body. Now it's up to Art Laing to bring the Liberal body politic back from the brink of the grave, while there's still a bit of warmth. It will take all he has—which is plenty—in the way of drive, initiative, fight, platform personality.

Laing was elected president of B.C. Liberal Association Dec. 10, 1947. That was the day Bryan Johnson beat Gordon Wismer by eight votes for Liberal leadership. But it was much more he won that day than Liberal leadership—he won the province's premiership. John Hart was retiring.

Mr. Pattullo, even then, saw in Art Laing what he considered the Liberals' only hope. So it was Pattullo who proposed Laing for the presidency. Laing, accepting said: "I don't favor coalition—I shall persist in talking Liberalism unqualified."

A chill must have shaken Johnson that day. He knew Laing as a foe of Coalition. As early as March of 1946 Laing had been knifing Coalition. He called it "the second worst government we have ever had—a dishonest compromise with expediency." The worst government, in Laing's opinion, was that of the Tolmie Conservatives.

Bold words, those were, and they crackled in the face of the Liberal old-guard, which would rather coalesce with the Tories than chance CCF Socialism.

It was awkward for Johnson: here his chief adviser in the party was against Coalition and he, the leader, was for it. Naturally enough, from then on, Johnson and Laing had little to do with each other, an impossible situation for both. When they did meet there was coldness, if not friction.

As the 1949 Liberal convention drew near, Johnson decided he must have another president. It was the only way, if he was

to be party boss, and he had to be that, or he'd be finished.

Laing met the convention as president. He knew Johnson was out to purge him. However, loyalty being one of his chief characteristics, he would get out, if that was the way his chief wanted it. It was the only way. Laing announced his resignation.

Hotel Vancouver's vast ballroom went into an uproar. Laing had more supporters than Johnson supposed, so many Laing himself was almost overcome. The boom for Laing that April day of 1949 was terrific. Laing could hardly believe it.

He must have been tempted to change his mind, to get even with Johnson, but he didn't. Resign he would. Delegates went wild. They implored Laing to stay. They wanted to know why Johnson wanted him out. Johnson sat silent through the storm. He hadn't said he wanted Laing purged, but everybody knew.

Dozens of men and women rushed to the microphones, and howled for Laing to stay. Laing said he would not. Johnson still would not speak. "Don't let us down, Art," screamed some, and more than one woman was in tears as she begged Laing not to give up.

But Laing went. Donald McDonald of Trail, reported to be Johnson's choice, ran for the presidency.

But, at the last moment, Harry Perry ran, too, and won. It was victory in reverse for Laing. Johnson wasn't much better off. He didn't get along with Perry either. The Liberal party took another suicide shot of poison that day.

"I'm not sore at anyone," said Laing, when it was all over, and Johnson gripped his hand and said: "When Art runs for office I'm behind him." Such is politics!

Day after Laing's ousting, a reporter wrote: "If Coalition can ever be broken, and the Liberal Party, alone and single-handed comes, back strong and dominant, it is Arthur Laing, who may well be its leader."

Laing, a few months later, was nominated for the House of Commons in Vancouver South. Old "Duff" Pattullo bobbed up again to support the young man he felt was the only one who could pull his beloved Liberal Party out of the mire, if it wasn't too late.

"You're going to hear more about Art Laing," prophesied Mr. Pattullo.

In the Commons, Laing has been overshadowed by the gymnastics of George Cruickshank of Fraser Valley; the statesmanship of Robert W. Mayhew of Victoria; the flamboyancy of Jimmy Sinclair of Coast-Capilano; the backpipe-playing of Senator Tom Reid.

Laing's not the spectacular type, but when he fights on the platform he's good. He puts his whole heart and soul into what he says. There's no doubting his sincerity.

Now, Art Laing faces the greatest challenge of his life, a do-or-die political battle. Can he pull the Liberals up, and become B.C.'s next Premier? It seems an almost impossible task, but if anyone can do it Laing can. He's the only hope of the Liberal Party in B.C., in this, that party's darkest hour.

OTTAWA DIARY

By Norman M. MacLeod

The most important news to come out of these last days of the Parliamentary session is the intelligence circulated via the Liberal party grape-vine of Rt. Hon. St. Laurent's proposed time-schedule in the event of being re-elected as Prime Minister.

Liberal sources which secured their information first-hand have broadcast to the government MP's that the Prime Minister's election leadership is NOT to be just a hit and run performance. If he is returned to office Rt. Hon. Mr. St. Laurent will carry on for at least three years—and maybe longer.

Circulation of this news is mainly responsible for the heightened state of morale in which the Liberal MP's are ending the session. The rank-and-file of the government supporters feel that so long as Rt. Hon. Mr. St. Laurent remains with them, their fortunes are reasonably secure. Any news which postpones his retirement raises their spirits in consequence.

Up until this latest intimation, the Prime Minister's only com-

mitment was to lead the Liberal party through the impending general election. Even in high party circles it has been assumed that his services would terminate shortly thereafter. There had even been fairly general speculation on the likelihood of a leadership convention in the autumn of 1954.

The speculation now has died down completely. It ceased with the news that Mr. St. Laurent had raised the subject informally but frankly with some of his cabinet ministers. He had indicated his belief in the propriety of his securing the support of the voters at the polls—and then deserting them once he had won their ballots for Liberalism. Because of the views he held, Mr. St. Laurent said definitely that there would be no leadership convention for at least three years after the election, if the present government should be returned. His remarks invited the further interpretation that it was by no means certain that a convention would be held even then. The Prime Minister is said to have speculated, albeit lightly, upon the possibility that it might be his destiny to die in office.

The assumption amongst the Liberal MP's is that the Prime Minister will make his intention known to the public officially some time in the course of the election campaign. They believe

that the response will be deafening. One of the main Liberal policies has been that the effective election leadership would be largely offset by the propaganda that he would retire from office as soon as the votes were counted. The PM's decision to stay at least until 1957 is believed to eliminate this danger.

MILESTONES

From the Files of The Daily News

40 Years Ago Today

The Grand Trunk Pacific has announced it will be putting on a daily steamer service between Vancouver, Victoria, Seattle and Prince Rupert and will probably establish a fleet of swift and powerful trans-Pacific liners between Rupert and the Orient.

The Prince Rupert Rowing and Yachting Club held its first annual dance at the Kalen Island Club.

30 Years Ago Today

It was reported 150,000,000 feet of timber will be logged on this coast this year giving employment to 1500 men.

T. J. Shenton, Inspector of Mines, left today for Anyox.

20 Years Ago Today

Mr. Justice Denis Murphy will be the presiding judge at the spring session of the Supreme Court Assizes and will be the guest speaker at the Rotary luncheon.

Andrew Hardy has returned to the city from Esquimalt where he has been taking courses in naval training as a member of the RCNVR.

10 Years Ago Today

Manager D. Borland of the Capitol theatre has announced there will be free Sunday shows for all members of the armed forces stationed here.

F. N. Good, city engineer for the past 13 years, has tendered his resignation to City Council.

The Privy Council in Britain descends from a council instituted by King Alfred in 895 AD.



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See the Boys' Health Jacket by Page

THE SPORTS SHOP



How these helping hands do get around

(Can you guess whose they are?)

Someone you know may have helped set a new shopping centre like this in your community. That someone might be anyone who owns life insurance—probably you. For part of every premium paid by policyholders is invested in ways that result in new homes, highways, apartments, power plants and similar developments.

The policyholder plays a part in creating jobs too. This is a by-product of other investments of his life insurance dollars which he develops many different business enterprises. Result: jobs for thousands of workers—including, perhaps, himself.

Again, in this medical research laboratory you'll find the life insurance policyholder helping hands at work. You and your family may live longer, healthier lives because of this money aids science's study of heart diseases, processes of aging and health.

Even the financial security which the life insurance owner provides for his family is also service to his fellow citizens. For, if anything happens to him, his family is less likely to be a financial burden to others.

In all these ways, the people who own life insurance—probably including you—are helping to make Canada a better land to live in!

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