

A Poor Impression

ASIDE from the fact that they cause anxiety and distaste among Prince Rupert's own citizens, there is another unfortunate circumstance of these stormy city council sessions which could do with some serious thought. It is the poor impression they are making for the city on outside observers.

Newspapers and radio stations in the larger cities make a point of reporting activities in other municipalities of the province. To catch public attention, they will emphasize the more sensational aspects, and there is nothing more sensational than a first-class civic row.

In this respect, Prince Rupert has a high batting average. Possibly there are other places in B.C. where dissension is just as pronounced, but not many, as a day-by-day study of outside newspapers will prove.

It may be claimed with some justification that there are issues here which are particularly sharp and which provide strong opposite opinion. It is only right that these should be fully aired, and no one will suggest that all parties sit complacently back to give the impression that Prince Rupert is a united city.

But issues are one thing, and personalities another. If there has ever been a meeting of responsible men and women in which name-calling, insults and personal vilification have advanced their purpose, it is yet to be reported. The only effect they achieve is anger, which is surely a destructive course.

It is fatuous to say we do not care what others think of us. Prince Rupert is not so big that it can afford to repel newcomers. With attention everywhere directed towards the blossoming north, there are certain to be many sufficiently interested to consider moving to this part of the country, of which Prince Rupert is a focal point.

But the man making a reasonably comfortable living where he is will assuredly think twice before sacrificing it to enter what is apparently a madhouse. Although admittedly he must take his chance no matter how attractive the conditions, he is not likely to be encouraged by the thought that the city seems bent on destroying itself by giving vent to personal animosities and factional differences.

It is time Prince Rupert took more pride in its place in this promising realm. It is not true, as some suppose, that our fortunes died with Laurier. If others have failed to encourage us, at least we can encourage ourselves, for the opportunities have not changed. Indeed, they are greater than ever before and, as a source of inspiration, have much more to offer than bad manners in city hall.

Scripture Passage for Today

Continuing instant in prayer.—Rom. 12:12

OTTAWA DIARY By NORMAN M. MacLEOD

A veteran personality of the Federal scene who is taking on a fresh and imaginative interest these days in the eyes of the Capital's corps of more or less expert press observers is one M. J. Coldwell.

The interest isn't due to any sudden brightening of Coldwell's chances of ever becoming Prime Minister. In fact, those chances look right now as if they had about reached an all-time low. Periods of prolonged prosperity such as the one that has lasted since World War II just aren't favorable to the growth of the Socialist cause.

What has restored Coldwell to the press correspondents' spotlight is rather the interesting test to which the vagaries of ill-health recently caused him to be subjected. He is the only party leader in the Commons who has been removed from the Parliamentary scene for an extended period—approximately two months—and then returned.

THE COLDWELL PERSONALITY

Now both these questions have been answered. And in both cases the answer is definitely complimentary to the CCF Leader. Coldwell was missed during his two months' absence from the House, despite the excellent job of deputizing that was done for

him by Chief Whip Stanley Knowles. And his return definitely has contributed to the vital nature of House proceedings.

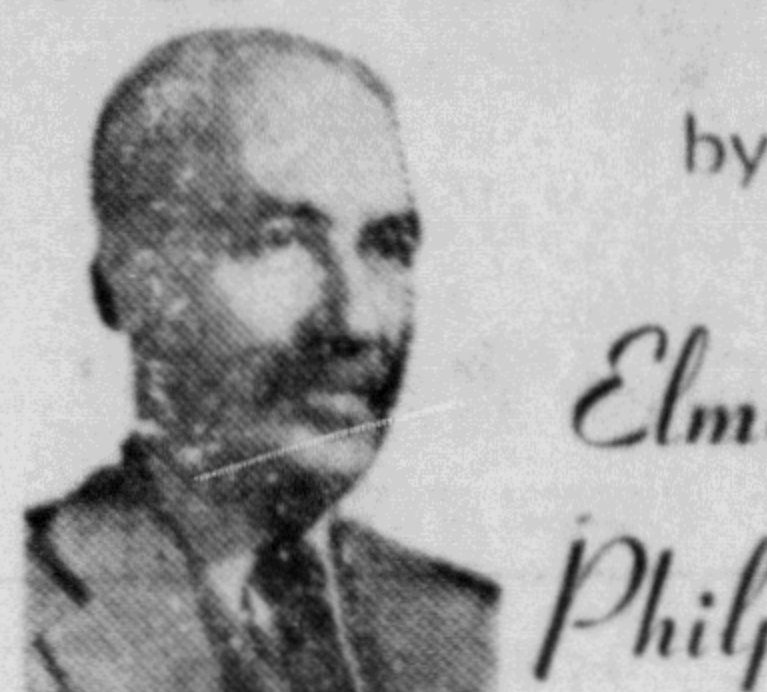
The real truth seems to be that the CCF Leader has an effective talent for sensing the issues that are realistic in Parliamentary debate. And added to this instinct he has a flair for political showmanship. The combination is powerful.

For example, the Coldwell showmanship exploited every possible political advantage to be gained from the first breaking of the Currie report, when the alterations from the original draft report were exposed. But when the CCF Leader returned to the House after his illness, the Currie report then was of only perfunctory interest to him. Instead he seized on the latest Abbott budget, which he termed a "big business budget".

Nothing could better illustrate the Coldwell instinct for political values. He sensed that the Currie report had reached the limit of its ability to saturate the public mind, which accordingly was clamoring for new material. The budget supplied it—and Coldwell set about serving it up with a characteristic socialist flavoring.

The PC's to their amazement were left with virtually a monopoly on the Currie report issue. What Coldwell realized shrewdly just hadn't occurred to them, namely, that the government never will call a general election on the Currie report; it conceivably might, even yet, on the budget.

As I See It



by
Elmore
Philpott

\$100,000 For Vets

HERE is the address of the executor of the estate of the old soldier who died and left \$100,000 to other ex-Imperials.

To be eligible for possible grants up to \$250 each you must live in Canada and have served in the British army or navy before 1915—not as an officer but in the ranks. Write to: Eric H. Gilmer, Swinerton & Co., Broughton St., Victoria, B.C.

WATCH FOR Tzinquaw, the all-Indian music and dance play coming to Georgia Auditorium, Vancouver, near the end of March. It has been a smash hit wherever played—and if you want to see an authentic native performance, this is it.

It was a sell-out in New Westminster last year.

KATHLEEN Elliott of 222 Rogers Building, Vancouver, is a bright business woman who carries on a fine work as a non-paying sideline. As a service to home-bound, handicapped people Miss Elliott sells a wonderful range of hand-made articles.

A. J. CLOTWORTHY of Salmon Arm, the retired teacher whose brief sparked the sensational controversy over B.C. schools, writes thanking me for "consideration and courtesy" in asking for a full copy of his brief before commenting.

He only had one, he explains, and this was sent to Victoria when "a telegram from Victoria about two weeks ago asked me to rush a copy."

This clears up one mystery. It is clear that the demand for ammunition to try to "get something on" the B.C. schools came from the top of the Social Credit party, and not from the grassroots.

THANKS to two more responsible Vancouver people who sent me details of the flying discs they saw on the afternoon of Sunday, February 22. Many others have done likewise, over the last few months.

Watch for a big story to break on all this, probably before the end of 1953.

A LADY wants me to boost along the campaign to have the SPCA take over the Vancouver city pound. Good idea. Why not? A trail man wants me to urge the government to stop the Flood Relief campaigns and instead give five million bushels of wheat, meats, butter, etc., "right off the shelves." Good idea, too.

Our government owns 29 million pounds of surplus butter and the U.S. government owns 80 million pounds. I also see that our surplus of dried milk powder is double what it was a year ago.

MUCH and all as I would like to see Hon. Jimmy Sinclair get a top job in the cabinet I think he should stay right where he is till he makes a solid success as Minister of Fisheries. This is just about the most important cabinet post there is, right now, for B.C. Let's really go out to sell our salmon.

NOTE to Ross Thatcher, M.P.: Ross, what are you kicking for in the new Abbott budget? It came pretty close to what you (and I) suggested. We asked for a 10 percent cut in income taxes and got 11 percent. But we did not get our suggested 2 percent cut in sales tax. I was one up on you Ross—for I did my bit to end the nuisance stamp tax.

B.C. Judge To Be Sworn In Friday

VANCOUVER (CP)—Herbert W. Davey, QC, appointed a judge of the B.C. Supreme Court, will be sworn in at the Vancouver court house Friday by acting Chief Justice A. M. Manson.

Mr. Davey, 54, was born and educated in Victoria and has spent his entire legal career there.

He is one of Vancouver Island's leading lawyers, and he reached the top of his profession without the advantage of formal law school training.

Mr. Davey was articled to a lawyer and after passing all his examinations was called to the bar in 1922.

He is well known as a corporate lawyer, and served as counsel for the Sloan Commission on forestry and has also acted as counsel for the B.C. Power Commission.

His appointment follows the recent amendment to the Judges' Act permitting B.C. to have nine instead of eight Supreme Court judges.



NOVA SCOTIA'S CHANGING CLIMATE is also changing the moose population of the province—changing the majestic big game animal into a woodland moron. Biologists trying to discover the reason for depletion of the moose population have discovered that the moose is becoming stupid and simple-minded. Examinations of dead animals have shown that parts of the brain have decayed.

VICTORIA REPORT

... by J. K. Nesbitt

VICTORIA.—The legislative rudenesses go on. As Mr. Uphill of Fernie says, it's a very peculiar session. He said the people of Fernie are horrified at all the harsh words and fear for his survival.

Certainly, rude, very personal remarks are very often bandied about the House. Old-timers insist that they have never before noticed such personal bitterness existing between MLAs.

The Liberals, of course, are still smarting under the terrific licking Social Crediters gave them last June. The CCF is a bit sore because it was nosed out of government by one seat. The Social Crediters, being a minority government, lack security—and an insecure person, of course, is bound to be a bit touchy, and pop off at the slightest provocation.

Liberal Mrs. Hodges and Social Credit Mrs. Rolston can be pretty rude, too—well, let's not call it rude; let's call it flip, or perhaps pert. Yes, that sounds better—pert. Putting it this way is something like a withdrawal in the Legislature. A member deliberately says something unparliamentary, knowing he'll have to withdraw. And so he withdraws—but he got what he wanted to say off his chest first. And, once said, it really can't be unsaid.

Mrs. Rolston gave a perfect example of this technique the other day. She went after Liberal leader Kenney. She said Mr. Kenney had said there's too much freedom in Canada. Mr. Kenney protested—he said he had said nothing of the kind. He asked Mrs. Rolston to withdraw. She shrugged her shoulders—said sure, she'd withdraw—her remark had done its work. But she kept right on the subject—and Mr. Kenney was up and down protesting, and asking withdrawals. Mr. Speaker Irwin said that Mrs. Rolston, having once withdrawn, should not keep repeating the remark. But that was all right by Mrs. Rolston. "I'm finished, anyway," she said. "These casual withdrawals..." said Mr. Kenney. They're like the small boy's "I'm sorry" when he's caught swiping jam—only to run back to the jam closet the minute his mother's back is turned—and then comes another "I'm sorry."

Mrs. Hodges and Mrs. Rolston, when they spoke in the budget debate, wouldn't permit questions and abruptly they tossed them aside. The Premier wanted to know if he could ask Mrs. Hodges a question. She said no, he couldn't, and how does he like a dose of his own medicine? Liberal W. T. Straith asked Mrs. Rolston if he might ask a question. Mrs. Rolston snubbed him with: "No thanks—nobody gives away these days." "I didn't think she would," muttered Mr. Straith.

Now, are such remarks from the ladies rude, or are they flip, or are they pert?

CCF Mr. Squires of Alberni was so annoyed at Mrs. Rolston that he called her un ladylike. At this Mrs. Rolston let out a most un ladylike cackle. Yes, said Mr. Squire, Mrs. Rolston was un ladylike in her treatment of Mr. Kenney. Mrs. Rolston wanted to know who was un ladylike—herself or Mr. Kenney? Ah—that proves the point, Mr. Speaker, said Mr. Squire, and he became more convinced than ever of Mrs. Rolston's un ladylike behaviour.

So far CCF Mrs. Jamieson hasn't been rude—or rather, pert. But she's good when it comes to biting sarcasm. She

packs a sting, and now and then she lets it go—and those she stings squirm, and hesitate to answer her.

The male MLAs are getting pretty good at snapping back at the female MLAs. Gallantry has just about disappeared in the legislative debate. Which is the way it should be. The ladies shouldn't take advantage of their sex. If they're in politics they should accept the rough-and-tumble, be able to take it as well as give it. True, a lot of the men hate scrapping with the ladies; they find it difficult to forget the lessons learned at their mothers' knees. But then, no mother ever expected ladies in the Legislature.

However, no Liberal, for instance, no matter how gallant, can politically afford to permit so formidable an opponent as Tilly Rolston to pummel him without at least trying to pummel back. No Social Crediter can permit Nancy Hodges to walk all over him without trying a few kicks himself, much as he might hate himself for doing so.

Yes, a session of personal remarks. The public galleries always enjoy such remarks, but it's this observer's opinion that the public, too, grows contemptuous, after a time, for such personal bitterness and rude remarks. It's a kind of Frankenstein.

Grateful Town

KAMSACK, Sask. (CP)—Council of this town 140 miles northeast of Regina, remembering the aid that came to Kamsack after a cyclone in 1944, voted \$500 to the relief fund for European flood sufferers.

ray... Reflects and Reminisces

An Ozark hermit died recently when he wandered out of the woods and saw an automobile for the first time... He didn't see it soon enough.—Ex.

A change, possibly profound, has taken place in Soviet Russia. Perhaps even more so, could the iron curtain be folded up.

SYSTEM AND SCHOOLS

We suppose teaching was quite simple before schools were known as an educational system.

Canada and the United States are each others best tourist customers. On each side, the totals are around three million. Of these, quite a number climb streets in Quebec, and see more halibut in Prince Rupert than anywhere else.

Oh, for the days of plenty vacant houses, so that houses to let at high prices can be houses to let alone.

GETS HIS K.O.

James J. Jeffries died last week in California where he was born. His age was 77. He is still regarded as the greatest fighter of them all. Big Jim's career shows 23 fights, eleven won by knockouts. He was the last of the old line of heavyweight titleholders—John L. Sullivan, James J. Corbett and Robert Fitzsimmons. By the time Jeff was stopped by Jack Johnson he had collected \$117,000 and managed to keep the most of it.

Most talkative children have equally talkative parents. That's what comes from a lifetime of trying to get a word in edgewise.—Lethbridge Herald.

In our younger days, dinner was usually served with a blessing. But today, its found much more convenient when a can-opener is made use of.

It would seem there is still a shortage of houses. The other day a New York woman gave birth to a baby in a telephone booth.

Women's Co-ordinating Council will supervise an informal social at the Civic Centre tomorrow afternoon. The occasion recalls the Over-Seventy dinner last Christmas which went over "with a bang." They usually do.

Little Chance of Popular Uprising In Russia Against Georgi Malenkov

By RICHARD O'REGAN

VIENNA (AP)—Stalin's death appears to have changed nothing in the Soviet satellites.

There is hardly a one-in-a-thousand chance of a popular uprising against Georgi Malenkov and the new rulers of the Kremlin. There is scarcely one chance in a hundred that a new Tito will appear among the bosses of Poland, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Romania, Hungary, Bulgaria and Albania.

But if something should happen in the Balkans it would most likely be in Albania or Bulgaria.

There might have been a chance for satellite defection had there been a period of uncertainty about Stalin's successor. But Malenkov's speedy appointment

dispelled that. Possibly the Balkan unrest was in Tito's mind when he proposed plans to visit London.

If so, Malenkov appears to have been too smart to allow any satellite leaders with ambitions for power in the national Communist parties.

He appears to have seen the possibility of defection within the satellites and sure with months of purges that there would be new Titos.

In retrospect, Czechoslovakia's Rudolph Slansky, Poland's Wladyslaw Gomulka, Rumania's Ana Pauker—all old-time communists—appear to have removed lest they rise to the control of Malenkov and the Communist party of the Union.

Further satellite purges necessary as Malenkov consolidates his supremacy.

But even if power continues to shake the two factors prevent the desertion of the satellites.

The presence of Russian troops in the long arm of Berlin's police. These are the really cement Europe to Russia.

Poland can hardly resist Soviet troops in East Germany. Nor can Czechoslovakia. Russian troops north and east and thousands of watchful Soviet "technicians" in Hungary and Romania—tens of thousands of troops.

Big Enrollment

WINNIPEG (CP)—A school enrolment of 123,000 pupils, largest since 1940, was ordered in the 1951-52 school year according to the Manitoba education department's annual report just issued. This is an increase of 5,300 over the previous year.

St. Patrick VARIETY CONCERT

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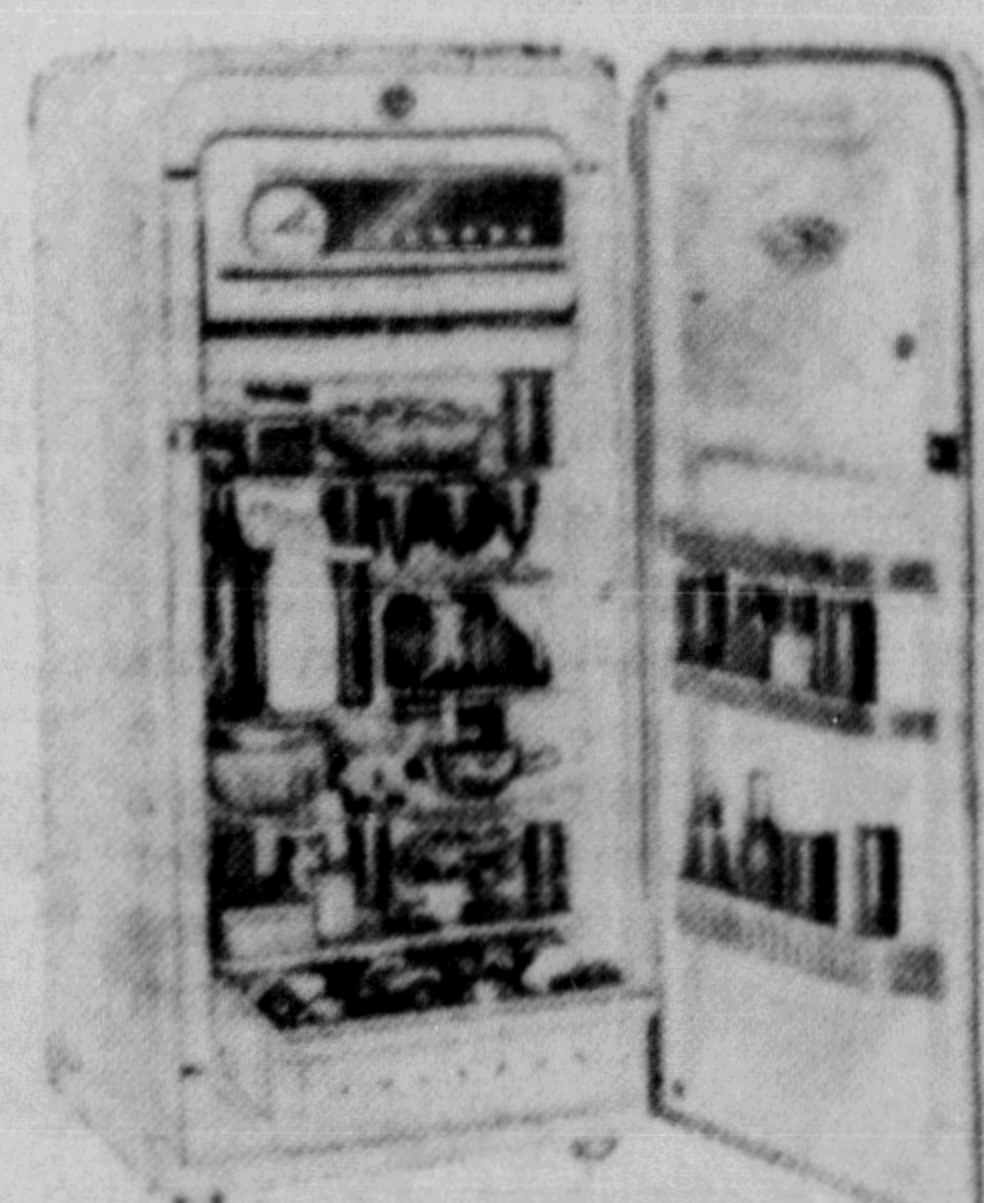
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