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Month of Decisions

HISTORY may well mark June, 1953, as the month of great joy, celebration—and decision. It is the month in which a new Queen was crowned, the beginning of the new Elizabethan era, and the time in which world statesmen will make decisions that will have a deep impact on the reign of the young Queen and the economic life of the free world.

Seen through Canadian eyes, the two major world events that likely will follow the Coronation are the conference of the Big Three powers in Bermuda and decisions of the United States—the world's major economic force—on future trade policy.

The Big Three conference—Britain, the U.S. and France—has been reported as a possible prelude to a bigger conference, a meeting of the Western powers with Russia in pursuit of that elusive shadow—peace.

A long-term peace pact with Russia—if such a thing is possible—would, of course, leave Canada and other countries free to rechannel their industrial efforts, produce more for world trade, and thus enhance the possibility of an enriched cultural life under the new Queen.

But to sell more goods abroad will require a deepening and widening of the channels of free trade. Canada and the other countries of the free world have emphasized they rely on the U.S. to provide economic leadership in this field.

A test of what course the U.S. will follow will take place within a few weeks. A committee of the U.S. Congress now is drawing up its report on the so-called Simpson bill which would ring the U.S. Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act with new import restrictions. The act itself must be renewed this month or it will expire. President Eisenhower has asked Congress for a one-year renewal.

Rhee Intends to Fight on Alone After Armistice He Tells Star

TORONTO (CP) — President Syngman Rhee of the Republic of Korea has told the Toronto Star in a cable from Pusan that his country "intends to fight on alone after an armistice."

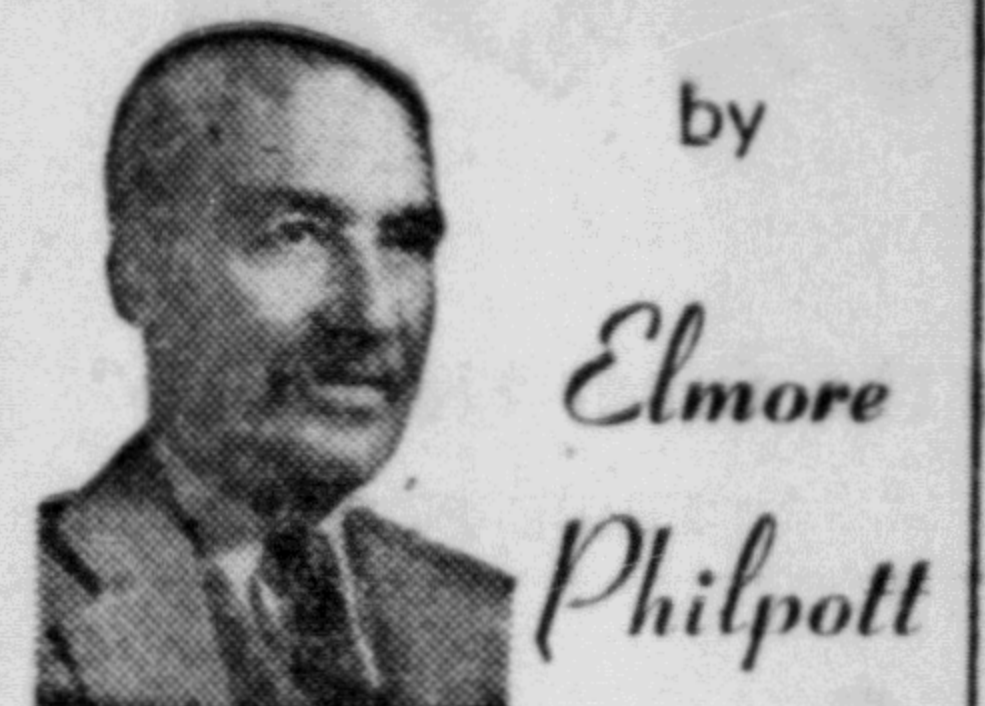
"Without unification, neither South nor North Korea can any longer survive this war of attrition. The Communists are trying to wear us out. It is proving successful even with Americans and the United Nations fighting in Korea. This is the way the Communists took China. We cannot wait if we want to survive. We must settle our own fate."

OTTAWA DIARY By NORMAN M. MacLEOD

When the MP's are away from the Capital, Albert's friendly oasis is a subtly different place. The furnishings are unaltered. The beverages are the same. Artie the much-abused waiter is his same half-downtrodden, half-familiar self.

Albert tries also to get Artie the waiter to keep abreast of current affairs. But Artie isn't the philosopher that Albert is. Hence his reactions aren't always too co-operative or satisfactory.

As I See It



That Salmon Plan

THE PEOPLE of Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent, England, are having a lively argument about B.C. salmon.

It all started when Mrs. R. Mayer, 2202 Upland Drive, Vancouver, cut out one of my columns and sent it to her sister, Mrs. Percy Sylvester.

Mrs. Sylvester in turn sent it to the Evening Sentinel, and then the fun began. For the Evening Sentinel posed the question which I had asked here:

Should B.C. salmon packers be permitted to stockpile B.C. salmon at warehouses in London? And should Canadians who wish to send gifts of salmon to friends in Britain be permitted to pay for these in Canada—thus by-passing the heavy parcel postage charges and delay in delivery?

THIS ISSUE has split the readers of the paper in Britain. It reports:

"A lively controversy has arisen from the rejection by the British government of a plan by which Canadians could send to their friends in Britain gift parcels of tinned salmon at the lowest possible cost.

"On one side are ranged in this country those people who would not benefit from the scheme and traders who regard it with some misgivings. Both support the government's attitude. On the other side are the salmon packers, Canadians who wish to send the parcels and those in Britain whose Sunday tea-time desires are being frustrated."

Mr. Allan Taylor, president of the North Staffordshire Grocery Association, objects that the scheme would mean a stock for "a favored few in salmon-starved Britain" and that "such supplies as we can afford should be bought by them (British private traders) and distributed by them on as fair a basis as possible."

The secretary of the associations adds: "This seems like an attempt by the salmon packers to use the sympathy of Canadians to overcome the currency problem. I would definitely frown on such a scheme."

The newspaper itself sums up the controversy with this comment: "Many people see good points in both lines of argument."

HERE again are the main facts. Many people in Canada regularly send gift parcels to friends and relatives in Britain. These are paid for by Canadians in Canadian dollars—hence no question arises as to whether or not individual Britons can afford to buy our salmon.

But the postal rates on these parcels are so high that the Canadian donors of the gifts feel they are getting only about half the real value for their money.

Under the ship-from-the-stockpile plan the senders of parcels would save very substantial sums of money. For whole shiploads of B.C. salmon would go forward to Britain—and the transportation cost per tin of gift salmon would be reduced to a tiny fraction of the present postal rates.

BRITISH grocers seem to fear that if this plan were permitted, families in Britain would work out private barter arrangements with friends and relatives in Canada. They claim this is already going on in food parcels from Ireland.

The long-term solution, of course, is a new trade deal with Britain whereby Canada would accept sterling for all food purchases—permitting Canadian salmon and other foods now in heavy surplus here to move without any government imposed restriction to the British market.

Cattle Men Seek Highway Patrols

VERNON (CP)—In an effort to halt the widespread theft of cattle during the hunting season, the B.C. Beef Cattle Growers' Association has proposed that patrols be set up on all highways with power to establish road blocks and to inspect all traffic.



QUEEN ELIZABETH presents a Coronation medal to Cmdr. Robert Welland of Victoria, B.C., leader of the Canadian navy Coronation contingent. The presentation was made during the ceremony of awards by the Queen to representatives of the various contingents from the Commonwealth in London for the Coronation.

VICTORIA REPORT By J. K. Nesbitt

VICTORIA—There's talk in the Legislative Buildings of hanging oil portraits of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh in the legislative chamber.

For years portraits of King George V and Queen Mary hung in the law-makers' chamber, a colorful splash in that ornate, sombre place. But, before anyone could be around to hanging the portrait of King Edward VIII, he had abdicated. Then up went paintings of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth. The one of the Queen wasn't so good, and so something in authority ordered both down. A new picture of the Queen was to be ordered. That was about 1933. It was the end of the matter. It was one of those mysteries of government; nobody knew anything, and the whole thing was forgotten. Since then the spaces for the portraits of royalty, on either side of the clock, have been blank.

When next you people from the interior, or from up-island points, come to your capital city, you may find a few square inches where you can sit down in Parliament Square. For years, each summer, two white benches have been placed on the terrace of the Legislative Buildings. Always they were crowded, and visitors had to sit on the stone curbs and the lawns. No one could understand why more benches were not put on the terrace. It was another of those strange, annoying, petty mysteries of government.

This year, however, the government has found two more white benches; that makes four. If you're lucky you might find a seat. One would think a terrace as long as that one would have 10 or 12 benches, so that visitors could rest their weary bones and aching feet.

The outlook from this terrace is splendid, indeed—sweeping green lawns, the Inner Harbor, with its ships, and crowds on the docks, distant Little Saanich Mountain, its observatory gleaming in the sunshine, the green copper roof of the Cathedral Church of Christ, a glimpse of the turrets and towers of Craigdarroch Castle, the ivy-covered Empress Hotel, with its lawns and flowers and the heavy traffic, constantly swirling about War Memorial corner, colorful and bustling, but far enough away so that the noise isn't heard.

So, next time you're in Victoria, and visit the Legislative Buildings, try and get a space on one of those four benches, and sit there for half an hour. You'll get a view of Victoria impossible from anywhere else, and one that will quite fascinate you.

Lieut-governor and Mrs. Clarence Wallace are expected back from the Coronation by the end of June. They've been having a wonderful time in the British capital. They were among more than 300 guests at a state dinner the Queen gave in Buckingham Palace.

His Honor will carry back to Victoria with him the commission signed by Queen Victoria in 1852 appointing James Douglas Governor of the Crown Colony of British Columbia. This was the commission which historians had been searching for over the years, and had just about given up hope of ever finding it. Last month it turned up in a long-locked vault in London.

Military Alliance with Britain Urged in Statement by Sen. Taft

WASHINGTON (AP)—Senator Robert A. Taft (Rep.-O.) has called for a military alliance with Britain in the Pacific to bypass the United Nations veto in that critical world area.

The Senate Republican leader issued a statement clarifying the views he expressed in a Cincinnati speech May 26 which caused President Eisenhower to say "no," that he couldn't agree with Taft that the U.S. "might as well forget the United Na-

tions so far as the Korean war is concerned" if efforts to obtain an armistice fail.

Eisenhower said the U.S. would have to "go it alone" everywhere if it operated single-handedly in Asia.

In an interview before he issued the formal statement, Taft made it clear that any early truce in Korea would likely put him back in the same foreign policy boat with Eisenhower in the Far East.

The Ohio senator said he is resigned to United Nations participation in the peace decisions which would follow a Korean cease-fire, a course Eisenhower apparently intends to pursue.

But if armistice negotiations fail, Taft indicated in the statement that he has not changed his view that the U.S. "might as well forget" the UN in dealing with the Korean situation. He denied he ever advocated "go it alone" policies and did not mention any differences of opinion with Eisenhower.

Taft said the United Nations had proved itself unable to halt aggression.

Northwest Rated Top Defence Area

SEATTLE (AP)—The Northwest is one of the most important defence areas in the nation, Charles S. Thomas, undersecretary of the navy, said here today. He told the Seattle chamber of commerce, at a luncheon aboard the aircraft carrier Yorktown that the navy has spent almost \$250,000,000 in the Seattle area since July 1.

Special Session To Be Called If Truce Signed

OTTAWA (CP)—The United Nations General Assembly will automatically be called into session by External Affairs Minister Pearson should the truce talks at Panmunjom result in an armistice, S. F. Rae, secretary to Mr. Pearson, said today.

"The position is that under a resolution of the assembly passed at the conclusion of this part of the seventh (last) session, if there is an armistice in Korea, the president is requested to recall the assembly," he said.

Mr. Pearson, president of the UN General Assembly, would thus automatically recall the deliberative body.

The Montreal Gazette has just observed its 175th anniversary. In other words, more than half the history of Canada can be found in its pages.

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Ray REFLECTS and REMINISCES

That was a keen-minded woman who won a trip to Bermuda for sending in the best answer to the question: "Why is a newspaper like a woman?" What she wrote was: "Because every man should get one of his own, and not look at his neighbors."

It will not be the fault of the government of those grass plots in front of the post office do not become exclusive, although there is just as much playground room as ever for dogs—and that goes from poodle to mastiff. There is also seating space for leisurely citizens.

LEGALLY CORRECT While we never felt certain, it now appears well established that a dog has legal rights. It appears that in Middlesborough (Eng.), a bow-wow was lying on the doorstep of his home enjoying the supreme doggy delight of gnawing a bone. A neighborhood girl tried to take away the bone. He growled and bit her. The charge read that he had been a dangerous animal at large. The magistrate held that the dog was not a large but on his own ground and it was the natural thing for a dog to defend his property. Case dismissed. Congratulations, Rover. Give us your paw.

Without Rival Reporting from London, respondent writes: "Never before has so much trash been so little cost so much." He is of course, to the landlady's loss in souvenirs. Unbelievable bad portraits of the Royal Family are said to adorn every wall even a half shilling coin jumps to ten shillings.

Certainly the government is glad to announce statistics on increasing longevity. We can pay taxes longer.—Ex.

ANNOUNCING Schedule Changes Roller Skating THURSDAY Adult Skate FRIDAY Teen Skate SATURDAY Moonlight Skate 9:30 p.m. to 12 M. CIVIC CENTRE

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