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A 'Wonderful Circus'

THE CIRCUS has come and gone and many a child in Prince Rupert is still talking about the "wonderful circus" while many an adult is still grumbling. The circus was brought to Prince Rupert by the Rotary Club to raise money for the extension of the children's ward at the General Hospital. It will probably go a long way in reaching its objective.

Nobody could expect the Rotary Club to bring a top-flight circus this far from the circus haunts without the cost being exorbitant. Tickets would have had to sell for three times the cost to our citizens.

If the adults complained about the quality and quantity of the acts, the children were equally as generous in their praise. Many of them had never even seen a horse, let alone a trained bull and were thrilled at the antics of the clown, whereas in a three-ringed circus so much is going on at once they can't take it all in.

To their unjaded appetites everything was wonderful and will be something they will remember for many years. So if you adults feel it all was a bit tawdry and the price a bit too high, remember your children had the time of their lives, the hospital will benefit to a great extent, and that the Rotary Club and its hard working members deserve the thanks of all of us for their untiring efforts.

A Worthwhile Project

A new project for Prince Rupert, and a worthwhile one, is being undertaken by the Music and Drama Festival Association.

It is a Christmas Carol Festival, designed to acquaint all of us with the wealth of Christmas music, rarely, if ever heard here or elsewhere. School, church and other choral groups, both junior and senior, throughout the city, have been asked to participate.

The festival committee is to be congratulated for undertaking such a project, and it is hoped that the various local choirs and the general public, will support it.

Prince Rupert is not overly endowed with musical activities, and any addition to the musical menu of this city is indeed welcome.

But particularly welcome is this type of musical contribution, which, together with the annual Community Carol Sing, should serve to remind us of the true meaning of Christmas, too often forgotten in the general aura of alcohol and commercialism of the modern Yuletide season.

Such festivals have been received enthusiastically in Canadian cities in the east and in British Columbia, for some years now. Let's be just as enthusiastic about Prince Rupert's first Christmas Carol Festival this December.

OTTAWA DIARY By NORMAN M. MacLEOD

It isn't too often that Cabinet Ministers and government officials crowd onto the sidelines to watch with tense interest while rival intellectual forces in the nation battle for supremacy.

But the present is one of those rare occasions. A struggle is being waged between labor economists and government economists to sell rival economic doctrines to the public at large. And Parliament Hill authorities from Cabinet Ministers down are recognizing that major public consequences are certain to stem from the outcome of the contest. Hence the sharpness of their current interest.

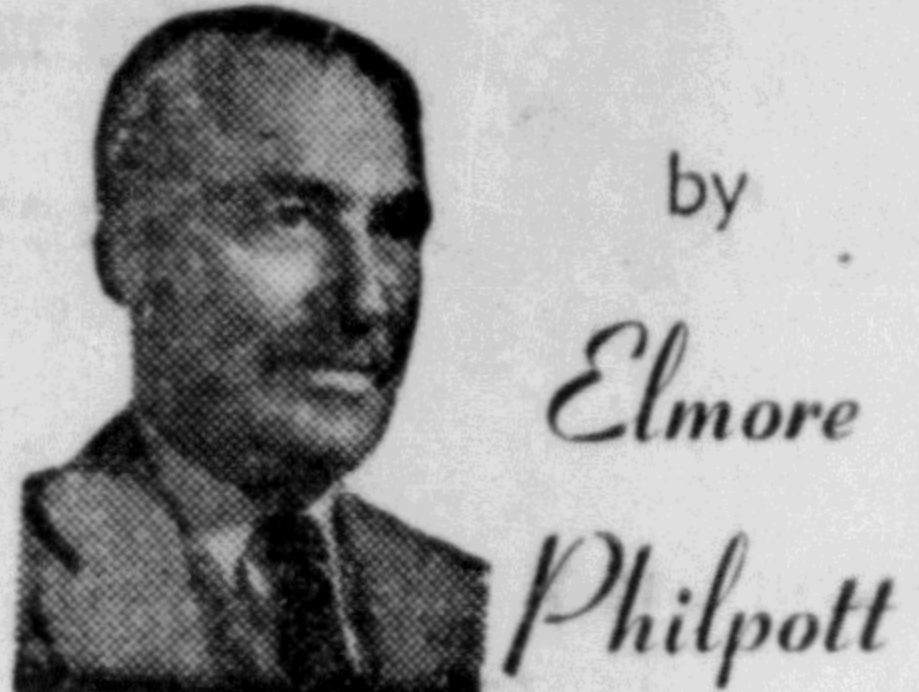
The case of the labor economists is that a surplus of goods from articles of clothing to heavy farm machinery and automobiles is piling up in the stores and warehouses across the nation. In order to move this surplus into consumption channels and prevent it from becoming the cause of a business recession, the labor economists argue that Canadian workers must launch a drive for another round of wage increases. In that way they would secure the money necessary to buy the surplus of goods allegedly accumulated as a result of wages lagging behind production.

But government economists disagree basically with the labor economists' analysis of the situation. Their view rather is that any accumulation of consumer goods under present conditions is the result of

The government economists have a further argument on their side. Recent Bureau of Statistics figures showed that public savings over the past year have increased by almost a billion dollars.

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As I See It



Meat—Cannot Eat?

SOME beef growers of B.C. have been burning up the wires to Ottawa to make sure the government does not too quickly "unload" the surplus beef held in Vancouver.

Mr. J. G. Taggart, deputy minister of agriculture, has publicly assured the beef men there is no such intention, and that they can relax. His statement allays the anxiety of farmers who feared that beef prices might be unduly and, for them, unfairly depressed just now when young beef is coming on the market.

But it all raises a big question. Are we getting ourselves like a boy with a bull by the tail—finding it hard to hang on, but maybe disastrous to let go?

MR. GARDINER gave the following figures for surpluses held on April 30, 1953:

	Pounds
Butter	19,021,663
Dried skim milk	4,379,600
Canned pork	71,168,000
Carcass beef	14,850,000
Boned beef	5,930,185

As there are about fifteen million people in Canada, we each own a pound and a quarter of butter, a quarter pound of skim milk, about four-and-a-half pounds of canned pork, one pound of good beef—the makings for juicy roasts and sizzling steaks; and an extra half-pound apiece of boned beef.

We own it, because our money paid for it—but we can't eat it, yet.

CANADA adopted floor prices for farm products in 1944. All political parties have supported them, in principle. The main criticism in the recent election was that they did not go far enough.

I favored them before they came in, and still do. In fact, I hope the time will come when the whole job of the farmers will be to produce the food of the people; and that when he finishes that job of production he will be paid, C.O.D.—cash on the line. Somebody else will have to worry over markets.

But right now we are in a jam, half-way between the old free-for-all system of devil-take-the-hindmost and the coming system of real abundance.

WE CAN'T GO ON piling up food surpluses, because the bigger the surplus the heavier the ultimate threat hangs over the regular commercial market.

But on the other hand, as B.C. beef men argue quite rightly, the Farm Prices Board cannot "unload" the surplus overnight without demoralizing the existing market—and so compelling the government to step in to buy once again under the floor price plan.

The immediate problem is to find some way of getting rid of the surpluses, without upsetting the commercial market.

One suggestion might be to issue Surplus Food Coupons with each Old Age Pension, Family Allowance cheque, and above all for WVA men and women. With the exception of the Family Allowance recipients, most of the others are just barely existing. They cannot buy beefsteaks, they cannot buy butter. Why not let them eat it for next to nothing, as we obviously cannot sell it at regular prices?

FINE GALLERY
REGINA (CP)—Official opening of the new Norman Mackenzie Art Gallery here takes place September 25. Dedicated to encouragement of art in Saskatchewan, the gallery, free to the public, is regarded as one of the most modern small galleries in Canada.

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AS THE TROOPSHIP U.S.N.S. Marine Adder gets ready to heave anchor at Fort Mason in San Francisco, the unidentified G.I. above is so anxious to step onto good American soil, that his buddies have to restrain him from taking a watery short cut. The soldier was returning after being released by Communists in Korea.

LETTERBOX

RIGHTS OF CANADIANS
The Editor,
The Daily News:
There are certain rights which Canadians claim as their birthright, to which our laws conform and by which we demand to be governed. Some of these come down to us through ancient liberties won by the British people over centuries, such rights inherent in Canadian law as those set forth in the Magna Charta, the Petition of Rights, the Habeas Corpus Act and the English Bill of Rights of 1689. Other liberties have become part of our way of life and generally recognized as fundamental to it.

To these, the natural rights of all Canadians, can be added the broad statements of principle contained in the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which was subscribed to by representatives of the Government of Canada.

Some of these have been obscured by the passage of time, others taken for granted but nowhere explicitly set forth in constitution or statute. There is not a single document to which one can refer to find one's rightful liberties enumerated.

It is timely and necessary in a world torn by conflicting ideas and forces that Canadians should affirm their rights and incorporate them in a broad statement of principle in a single document.

With the knowledge of the above, a number of residents in Prince Rupert have formed a Committee of Civil Rights for the express purpose of co-operating with others of a similar desire to draw up a document for presentation to the government and in conjunction with efforts along the same lines in other cities of the Dominion.

The very fact that the city council had to ask the police to go easier in the execution of their duties, proves that the demonstration in front of the city hall was caused by the brutal actions of the police.

Nearly two months have passed since the so-called riots, stories have been carried in the press of the Smithers miner, who lay dying in the city jail for approximately 16 hours without medical attention, and later died in the General Hospital. And I personally know of a man whose collar bone was broken in the course of his arrest, who asked to be given medical attention and was told that there was nothing wrong with him. This man still has his arm in a cast. He received medical attention only after he was bailed out.

In all this time not one member of the City Council has raised his voice despite a promise from one of the aldermen, at least, that he would bring up the case of the miner mentioned above.

The Mayor, the Indian Agent and others tried hard, through the medium of the radio and press to switch the blame from the police and city council where it rightfully belongs, onto the shoulders of the people. Happily they have not been successful as they had hoped.

If the court insists that the people now on trial are guilty, it would in our opinion be a terrible miscarriage of justice.

ANNE MINARD.

Blast furnaces for smelting iron ore were first used in Belgium about 1340.

World's Largest Airport Built In South Africa

JOHANNESBURG (CP)—The jet airliners of the future—much larger than anything yet built—now have a two-mile runway waiting for them at the recently opened Jan Smuts airport at Johannesburg, busy South African terminal for international air traffic. The runway of the \$16,800,000 airport stretches across the open veld for 10,500 feet and is the longest in the world: 500 feet longer than the main runways of New York's Idlewild airport or the London airport.

Open to the international flights of 10 airlines from Sept. 1, the new Jan Smuts airport, 14 miles from Johannesburg and covering enough space for a fair-sized town with a 10-mile perimeter, has two other subsidiary runways of 8,500 feet.

All the runways are 200 feet wide with "overshoot strips" both ends and room for extensions if necessary. Grass strips 400 feet wide border both sides of each runway.

Runways have four inches of macadam over a 16-inch deep base of rock, strong enough to take aircraft with a loaded weight of 175 to 200 tons more than the weight of anything yet flown.

Half a dozen farms had to be removed from the selected site, a forest uprooted, a mountain smoothed over and a valley partly filled.

Thirteen miles of drains, some of them six feet in diameter, have been installed to keep the airport drained in the rainy season's worst storms.

Named in honor of Jan Smuts, South Africa's wartime prime minister and elder statesman, the airport was officially opened in April, 1952.

Apprenticeships Should Be Same In All Provinces

By The Canadian Press
Standardization of apprenticeship training across Canada to remove provincial barriers to skilled tradesmen is urged by the president of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, J. D. Ferguson.

He says it is "inconceivable" that a skill acquired through long training in one province should not be equally acceptable elsewhere.

Mr. Ferguson's speech, recorded for broadcast this week over 70 Canadian stations, was the last of a series of five addresses on apprenticeship which have been sponsored by the federal labor department.

Mr. Ferguson, president of a company at Rock Island, Que., pointed to one problem—the lack of uniformity in apprenticeship training, which comes under provincial jurisdiction.

Each province has its own standards for various trades, and only in a few cases is there a reciprocal arrangement between provinces for recognition of each other's licensed skilled workers. Industry should develop the outlines of standard training courses, he said, because it is the best judge of what it wants and is in close touch with technical progress.

On-the-job training in basic trades should be co-ordinated with necessary academic training, which would be the responsibility of educational authorities.

CARLTON, England (CP)—The council of this Nottinghamshire village has paid compensation to the citizen whose groceries were taken in error by the garbage collectors.

Ray REFLECTS and REMINISCES

FOUND?
The Soviet's former police chief, Beria, who vanished from Russia, still remains that way. No one, apparently, can say just where he is although almost daily, from somewhere, come reports of him having been seen. Let's call him Moscow's "Flying Saucer."

Wiggs O'Neill, who can tell about Smithers since the start, is doing just that. He goes back to the nineties, and few indeed are those capable of describing people and events then. Wiggs is making a good and a trustworthy job of it. There was no railway, and mighty small expectation. There was no party government. There were only two towns north of Vancouver. These were Port Essington and Port Simpson, a few hundred in each. Nevertheless, they managed to elect Captain John Irving, chiefly because of what happened when called on for a speech: "Gentlemen," he said (ladies did not frequent bars then) "Tonight I'm playing the goat and buying all your whisky. Tomorrow, after I get all your votes, you can go to hell. Thank you."

One of the oldest schools in England, the Carlisle Grammar School was founded in 1182. A British committee, a four-year study returned recommending that it be closed. It will be re-opened for a while there was no money for developments unless it was discovered that a man who filled the walls home with women he had seduced. The rope did not hold in this case.

WRONG DRESS
A few snobs are still left. One was discovered in Ottawa Wednesday. A man who chanced to be wearing a western frontier dress was refused admission to the dining room of the hotel where he chanced to be staying. He wasn't sexy.

WORTH REPAIRING
The Parks Board will spend less than \$2,500 on putting Prince Rupert's unrivaled totent poles in the shape they should be. A heap of money is being spent today on necessities and needs.

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