Thursday, May 6, 1954

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## For Northern Action

T IS becoming refreshingly obvious that north-1 ern B.C. is not prepared to let its Pacific outlet go by default. The right note of urgency to this effect was contained in a letter read at the Prince Rupert Chamber of Commerce this week.

Sent out by the newly organized Canadian Northwest Associated Boards of Trade, with headquarters at Fort St. John, it called upon interested hoards of trade to take unified action in influencing northern railway construction.

"This association believes that, unless we get organized now and prepare for any eventuality, we could very well be caught napping to our everlasting regret," it said. "British Columbia must some day have another deep sea shipping port besides Vancouver, and it will be farther north. The resources of the northern portion of the province are about five times those of the southern areas.

"It is not only the business of every board of trade, but of every individual citizen, to take an active interest in the immediate development of these resources. It can be done and it shall be done."

The remarkable—and commendable—part of this call to action is its quality of vigor despite the fact that it concerns a subject which has had no official encouragement for more than 40 years. It is noteworthy also that it comes from a centre deep in the area where these resources are found. When northern coastal points like Stewart, Prince Rupert and Kitimat start drawing attention to their particular advantages, there are sceptics who will question whether their argument has anything behind it other than a desire to grab Vancouver's trade.

When interior points express their preference for a northern port, however, the argument becomes more difficult to answer. Obviously they have no more wish to be sold down the Fraser than we have.

# Summerless Summer

CPRING came eventually in 1816, farmers sowed I their crops, green shoots appeared. Then, in the middle of June, snow came. Tradition has it that from the first fall of snow in June until the following summer the ground was not free of show.

There were no crops of any kind. All the grains rotted in the field. The population had to live on fish and meat. The latter was plentiful because there was no hay to keep cattle alive. Thus many were slaughtered. In Quebec hay had to be imported from Ireland. Flour-no grain grew-rose to \$17 a barrel, and potatoes cost a penny a pound. In New Hampshire the price of hay was \$180 a ton.

It is difficult to separate legend from fact, but the dominion meteorological office in Toronto confirms that 1816 was known as the "Summerless Year" because it was unusually cold and unusually wet. -Peterborough Examiner.

### OTTAWA DIARY By NORMAN

merits of the new Gardiner farm | bolster doubtful year 1954. calendar.

The Gardiner farm calendar would cease to regard the conventional year of 12 months as Gardiner farm calendar. They people, such as Porto Rico. it would substitute a year of 36 months—just three times as

That is as often, Rt. Hon. Mr. Gardiner contends, as any farner-businessman should close his books and take stock of his inancial position.

The doughty Minister of Agriulture, who enjoys a healthy espect in the House as a pocket Tercules any time political deate breaks out, made his sugestion the other day when his epartmental estimates were ut in the past prices and marets had been generally good. ) listen to.

months' basis.

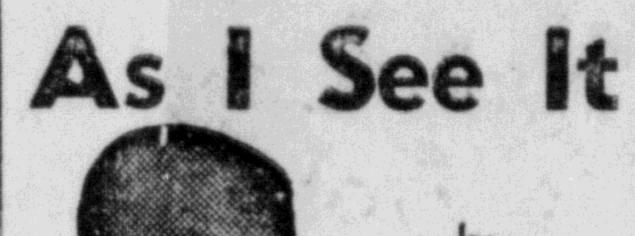
linister was intent on spread- seems to be against it.

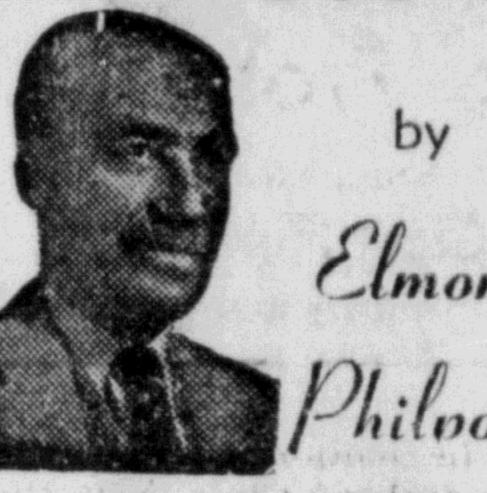
Centroversy is raging in ani- ing the government's political

especially when the government Bulgaria. requires them to pay their in-

come tax on an annual basis. In addition, they argue that the proposed Gardiner farm ties committed by British-led been commissioned at calendar would compel the farm- troops, operating against the Dockyard Esquimalt. er to learn new versatility. He Mau Maus. But the encouraging would have to school himself to feature of this is that the evi- wooden and aluminum mineliving in the past or in the fu- dence is being printed in the sweepers Comox and James Bay. ture just as realistically as he British press. alled for the first time. In the how lives in the present. Yet all A tragic mistake made by the shipyards; Comox at Victoria ast he has always used the his morelable to a supporting Mau Maus was that they tried Machinery Depot, and James Bay ccasion to give a review of the his morale by memories of a past to do, by force and violence, at Yarrows Ltd. irrent condition of agriculture. year or by hopes of a year to what could have been done a come, he is always going to have thousand times more effectively the second Canadian minesweep-

That's the real weakness of equality. This year things were differ- the new Gardiner farm calendar. it. Prices were down. Some It may help the politicians to arkets have been slipping. And gloss over some of the months e farm outlook isn't too clear. when the farmers are finding Mr. Gardiner told the farm- the going a bit rough. But it One of the hardest-hit spots in they shouldn't operate on a won't really smooth the road for the North sea floods of last year, relye-months' basis, but on a the farmers during those months. this Essex island was rewarded The concensus of independent for its speedy renover he by the Obviously the Agricultural farmer opinion in the House biggest influx of Easter visitors





Odds and Ends

TOMORROW I hope to take off on a week-end plane trip to Churchill on Hudson Bay. The date will coincide with my 58th birthday. Here is a quick clean-up of the odds and ends waiting on my desk as pegs on which to hang future columns:

Senator McCarthy hollers bloody murder when he is subjected to a small dose of the same investigation treatment which he himself has ladled out in immense quantities. Incidentally, McCarthy claimed and got unlimited rights of crossexamination when his own conduct was on trial. When he is quizzing his own victims, they get no such

FRANCO'S bully boys in Spain are raising an awful clamour for the return to Spain of Gibraltar, which they claim was stolen from them. Actually, Bri-

might consider handing back the mystery. Gibraltar.

umns of the great hoax which cosmic rays. It is on those rays helped to win the war. British that we must focus our atten-Intelligence officers created "The tion. Man Who Never Was." They aldential" papers which they wanted to get to Germany.

The Spanish Fascists dutifully handed over the "secret" papers to their German Nazi partners. believing that the Allies did not star. intend to make their main landing in Sicily.

A FAR MORE serious problem for the British than Spain's claim to Gibraltar is the status

The overwhelming majority of the people who live on that Island are Greeks, by language and culture. They wish Cyprus to be united to the Greek kingdom. The Greeks are now partners in NATO and, if the selfdetermination principle means anything, their case deserves to be considered on its merits.

READER challenges my description of the Russian Communists as "new imperialists:" He asks for evidence.

My definition of imperialism has always been rule of one country by a government of another country. By that definition, the Russian Communists are among the most formidable imperialists of modern times. Before we get real peace in

the world every country which is now occupied by the forces of a foreign power will have to be liberated. That means that the French will have to get out of Indo-China, and those spots which they hold in India. They will eventually have to get out of North Africa. It also means that the black man will win self- if he wanted to. The base of government in Kenya and all the the street lamp had rusted mated fashion among the farmer risk. His proposal made good other British colonial areas, as out and the post wobbled pre-MP's these days on the practical years 1952 and 1953 available to he has already done on the Gold cariously in high winds as Coast. I think it also means Most farmer MP's who are not that the United States will have committed to the government's to free areas taken by war, support, are opposed to the new against the will of their own

point out that every other busi- But it certainly means that the ness enterprise closes its books Russian army, and the Russian on a 12-months' basis. They commissars, will have to relax don't see why farmers should their iron grip on, and get out follow any different practice- of, Germany, Poland, Hungary,

BRITISH PAPERS are carrying

## Good Recovery

CAVEY ISLAND, England (P)since the Second World War.



DEFENCE MINISTER Claxton boards a helicopter at the Joint Air Training Centre, Rivers, Man., for a 30-mile flight to the military camp at Shilo, Man., during a tour of Western Canada defence installations. Standing at the rear is Cpl. F. L. Wedgewood of Rivers. (CP from National Defence)

OFFERS SOLUTION The Editor, The Daily News:

To begin with I will have to reach far back in metreoligical papers are printing many col- cause and that takes one to the

The instant the cosmic rays lowed a real corpse to turn up enter the atmosphere at the in Spain, complete with confi- south Pole, they create a friction pockets man is mystified by the and in turn this friction creates an electrical impulse. It is this impulse of magnitized force that in the vicinity of high moun attracts the compass needle an The Germans, were fooled into makes it point towards the north

to hand over Florida, Britain I will make an attempt to solve air. Due to pressure the pockets it. of air move out from the peaks of the mountains and ramble RIGHT NOW Canadian news- history, in order to solve the real terranean sea and in time die anything but a pin drop. out. This process goes on steadily and new vortices are formed constantly. No one seems to suspect such

> a process of nature and when a plane falls into one of those The best thing to do in flying

tains is to keep well away from the north side of mountains. What do you think?

P. LeCLAIRE. Prince Rupert.

EEW WITH INTELLIGENCE The Editor. The Daily News:

In reading the Vancouver Sun today I note an article from the Kelowna Associated Boards of Trade in which they present to the government a resolution which calls for "the completion of the Trans-Canada Highway between British Columbia and Alberta irrespective of its route."

That is a happening which is out of the ordinary. However, it demonstrates that there are a lew people in the world who have right-of-way for the old GTP between Edmonton and Jasper, nothing now remains to complete this Trans-Canada highway except to continue the road from Jasper to Prince George.

Looking at this from all angles would seem that there was no need for further discussion on the matter, even when we take into consideration the ignorance and stupidity, etc., etc., of those \$10,000 mis-representatives have at Ottawa.

W. S. GREENE, Smithers, B.C.

That electrical impulse is SOMEWHERE IS SUSPECT known as the lines of force. If I There has come a sudden and am right in assuming this fact, understandable flood of nickels

According to reports the Comet then we must presume that the in Canada and we happen to jet air liner disasters over the cosmic rays are flowing towards possess the reason. It is today a tain paid a high price to Spain Mediterranean sea will go down the north star and on their way fact that the Royal Mint in Otfor Gibraltar in quite a large- in history as mysterious acei- north they rush over the high tawa has put into circulation sized horse trade. In return for dents caused by mechanical de- mountains that line the shores 16,635 352 five-cent pieces, al-Gibraltar, Spain got Minorca and fects or sabotage. From my point of the Mediterranean. In rush- most 6,000,000 more than were of view those disasters are caus- ing over the tops of those moun- released the previous year. Un-Spain sold Florida to the U.S. ed by pockets in the atmosphere, tains they form huge vortices doubtedly," the five-cent stamp If Spain can induce Uncle Sam With your permission, Mr. Editor, that causes large pockets in the has had a lot, lot, lot to do with

around for miles over the Medi- alley is so noisy you can't hear

MUCH TOO COSTLY In Great Britain the other day

an able bodied looking young man convinced a judge he could not afford to go to work. Sued

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VICTORIA (CP)-The two new whole pages telling of atroci- est ships in Canada's navy have

SGT. D. W. DUNNING of Min-

neapolis demonstrates gra-

phically how he sticks to his

post. He couldn't leave even

Dunning was passing it. So he

had to support it until a repair

truck\_arrived.

just the money that is actually -by appealing to the conscience ing squadron. The first squadnd that had made such a re- hig bille British people, for fair play and Cmdr. James V. Steel of Ottawa, in HMCS Comox. James Bay is in command of Lt.-Cmdr. G. R. Smith of Guelph. As additional minesweepers are received from the builders and commissioned they will be added to the strength of both west and east

|For action-try Classifieds

coast squadrons

The press, mixed up in stories by a creditor he informed the this spring, prompted a noted court the best job he had been British jurist to make a few offered could pay but \$16.80 g penetrating remarks concerning week. As long as he was idle he AT the giving of access to facts and draws in unemployment benefits Justice Birkette: "There must \$5.60 a week for his five youngbe no closed doors, because pub- est children. licity is the greatest aid to truth and understanding. I think a its readers and the public to a friend who has the same ailcomment upon the news, to com- ment. ment mon public affairs, and that comment must be courageous and free and above all like until you learn to like what things, fair."

Canada's Conservatives are The Kentucky Derby, a week said to be enlisting more youth- or so ago this year, was a big ful members on the theory that affair. It usually is-which is if you find yourself unable to true enough of all "sweeps." In lick the Liberals, there is always the possibility of outliving them.

A committee is sometimes described as a group of men who keep minutes and waste hours remarks the Toronto Star.

The square frying pan is advertised as more efficient. It only remains now for nature to produce the square egg. Nature, it can be assumed is entirely capable, if given a little time.

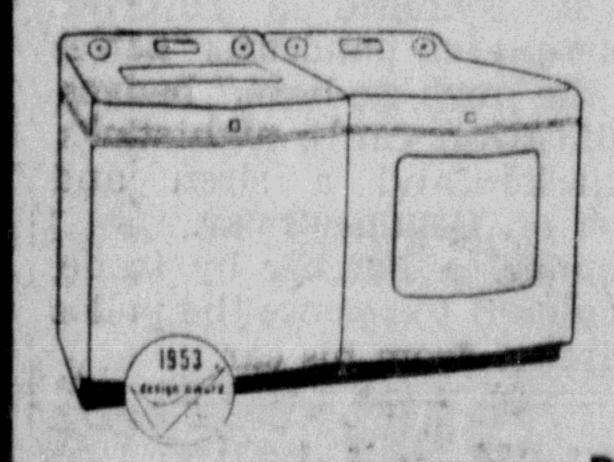
As the man said, a bowling

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freedom to comment. Said Lord \$16.66 plus a family allowance of One of the best cures for ingreat newspaper has a duty to somnia is to try and sit up with FOR YOUR OLD R

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fact, we still have horses, thousands of them, along with hostlers and the good old livery stables. Times, it is true enough, are changing, but a hostler has to have a character of his own. He must know and love horses and have no use for anybody who would neglect or abuse one.



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