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Growing Industry

A COMPILATION of facts and figures just released by the western division of the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association reveals that this industry leads the post-war parade in B.C.'s expansion.

With a gross production valued at more than 160 millions in 1953, the pulp and paper industry as more than doubled in size in the past six years. It employs over 7,000 persons whose annual pay totals about \$40 millions. It is estimated that behind every employee there is \$32,000 in plant and equipment.

This is a pretty impressive position for an industry which went broke six months after it commenced operations in 1894. That was the year in which B.C.'s first pulp mill was built at Port Alberni. It was designed to process rags and waste paper, as well as to make groundwood pulp. But there was little money, and still less experience, with which to operate the mill so that it soon closed down.

In 1910 a fresh start was made with the establishment of a sulphite mill near Port Mellon, and since then the industry has never looked back.

With the Columbia-Cellulose plant on the city outskirts, Prince Rupert is a very interested party in this development. As the mill pushes its production from 200 to 300 tons of pulp a day, we have a first-hand example of what the Pulp and Paper Association is talking about.

Our part in the development becomes still more significant when we remember that this is not an industry based on the flash discovery of some resource that is quickly consumed. The uranium rush of today, for example, will produce the ghost towns of tomorrow but—with due acknowledgment to a conservation program—trees grow forever.

There is considerable comfort in this fact. Our children and those who come after will inherit a city that has grown up with them and not just something that looked like a hot prospect back in 1954.

Scripture Passage for Today

"In the house of the righteous is much treasure."
—Prov. 15:6

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As I See It



by
Elmore Philboott

Good Writers

THE FINEST tribute to the late Agnes MacPhail was as follows:

"Twenty-five years ago Canadian penitentiaries were rough. Barbarous would be a better word. Screams of outraged protest nightly filled the fetid prison air. But thick walls of steel and cement plus a yet-thicker blanket of censorship prevented the voices from being heard by many in the outside world. And the great majority of those who did hear turned away in apathy and indifference.

"Not so one woman, a great Canadian with a social conscience that caused her to champion the under-privileged and oppressed. She heard, she fought with every resource at her command. Eventually she shamed a callous federal government into adopting a more humane policy of handling the thousands of persons sent to penitentiaries every year. The fight was long and sustained but Canada's new penal program of today is evidence of its worth.

"On February 14, 1934, this woman whose life was the very embodiment of right and service and enlightened purpose passed to her reward. The man behind bars lost his greatest benefactor and gained a patron saint.

"May you rest in peace, Agnes MacPhail."

THE ABOVE beautiful bit of writing is headed "We Lose A Friend." It is printed on page 17 of "Pathfinder" for March 1954. "Pathfinder" is published monthly by the men who are confined to the federal prison at Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. It is a twin publication of "Transition" another one published by the young men in New Westminster penitentiary. I read both little mags each month with keen interest, but the boys who edit them manage to make them "come alive" and that is the secret of all good editorship, everywhere.

The features cover a very wide range. Apart from serious topics, such as those on Agnes MacPhail and capital punishment, there is a long list of features all worth-while. Here, for instance, is how the retiring "Commissioner of Sports" ends his last column:

"When you're playing the different games, have a little patience with the fellow who is not as skillful as yourself. If you help him he may develop into a better player than you, and you can take the credit for it.

"The next page gives a box score for the fourteen game hockey schedule, won by Boiler House, with 21 points, against 18 for tailors, 17 for kitchen, 8 for vocational and 4 points for farm."

THE WRITING in the magazines now being issued by the men in the various penitentiaries is of a very high order, and wide range. There is some erudite matter for instance by the prison psychiatrist who comes down to this conclusion:

"I would say from personal experience that a very small percentage of insane persons commit criminal acts... and very few criminals become insane."

But there are extremely down-to-earth features like the feature which asks for "larger light bulbs, fresher, newer and less out-of-date magazines, hot water piped into cells, four razor blades instead of two per month, with flat rates of 'allowance' at 20 cents per day, instead of a sliding scale of, 10, 15 and 20."

The magazine carries an appeal for subscriptions to "The Pathfinder" Box 160, Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. The rate is one dollar a year for 12 issues.

I believe same rates apply for Transition, New Westminster, or the "Telescope," Kingston Penitentiary, Ontario.

OTTAWA DIARY

By Norman M. MacLeod

The Prime Minister's late worth-girdling tour is being recognized by Parliament Hill veterans as entitled to a leading place amongst the more or less stray curiosities of Canadian political history.

Hard-boiled old-timers amongst Parliament's politicians—individual schooled in the less effete days of savage inter-party strife—just cannot understand the honey-sweet re-acton to the trip amongst all House of Commons groups, including the Opposition. Their comment is that never before in

ray...

Reflects and Reminisces

The nudist craze, it might be said uncovers a multitude of skins.

NOT IN PRACTICE

Ottawa's postal tangle appears to be getting worse instead of showing an improvement, and more money must be made essential, otherwise the public will be deprived of the privilege of designing how their mail is to be delivered. All-air service, first rate as it may appear in theory does not really work out in practice.

The patient and long-suffering British seaman is getting a new deal. More family life with less time away from home. It is no longer "Join The Navy and See The World" but rather "Join the Navy and Keep a Garden."

BOOZE-RIDDEN BULLIES

A blind Calgary man has been beaten up by drunken bullies who were fined \$100 or three months in jail, it's called a fleabite sentence. The sightless man whose nose was broken in the struggle pleaded in vain for mercy. That should have been the experience of the fellows who committed bodily harm in the first place.

It is again noted in a newspaper that a boy or a girl may marry in Ontario without consent of parents at age of 18 years. But can they do it without parental assistance, before or after.

ALWAYS A CHANCE

So far, it's disappointing, but the possibility is nevertheless there. Magnus Hanson and Wendell Johnson, young fellows of Juneau are salvaging at the scene of the loss of the CPR coast liner Princess Kathleen off Point Lena near Juneau in September 1952. What may be found in the wreckage of this five million dollar ship is free game for the salvage operators. The Kathleen is sixty feet down. It's a gamble.

Major Lahiff is spending his declining years in Vancouver. He used to live in Prince Rupert, and to many old friends here, conveys his best wishes. The major, who has led a stirring life, makes his dwelling place at Hycroft, once the home of General McRae.

March, 1954, now near its end, can be or may become famous and that's because of the discovery of his best wishes. The man the first time human beings are beginning to realize the nearness of FEAR. There can be a point we dare not approach.

HAVE WE ACTUALLY BEHELD IT?

Fear of cancer is one of the reasons so many people die of it.—Life Today.

Japanese fishermen, injured when atomic ash, 80 miles away fell on them in a test blast, still suffer. This is a war menace, the effect of which can be permanent.

history has a Canadian Party Leader had a major personal expenditure accepted so unenthusiastically and even so cooperatively by his political opponents.

But the reason for the mass tribute which the Prime Minister has been receiving from all parties on his return is a relatively simple and genuine one. MP's of all groups feel that the world tour, despite its superficial enticements of new scenes and of luxury travel such as only the public purse could provide, demanded real courage from a man of Mr. St. Laurent's years. And so they are generous with their admiration. That's the situation in a nut-shell.

Although a great many nice things are being said about the great work accomplished by the Prime Minister en route, the real truth is that not too many MP's are impressed with the concrete value of the trip to the taxpayers who financed it. Parliament has had too much experience with the visits of foreign dignitaries here to harbor the delusion that permanent results ever come from such transient missions. Too often the only people who really are aware of the distinguished visitor's presence are the narrow official circles who are extending him the conventional entertainment for which diplomatic protocol provides.

In other words, such occasions are at least 90 per cent complimentary. And recognition of that fact by all concerned—even if it isn't advertised to the public—prevents them from having any deep or abiding significance. In this connection the late Prime Minister Mackenzie-King's visit to Hitler just before World War II is still vividly remembered here. Regarded as important at the time, it didn't mean anything in the end.

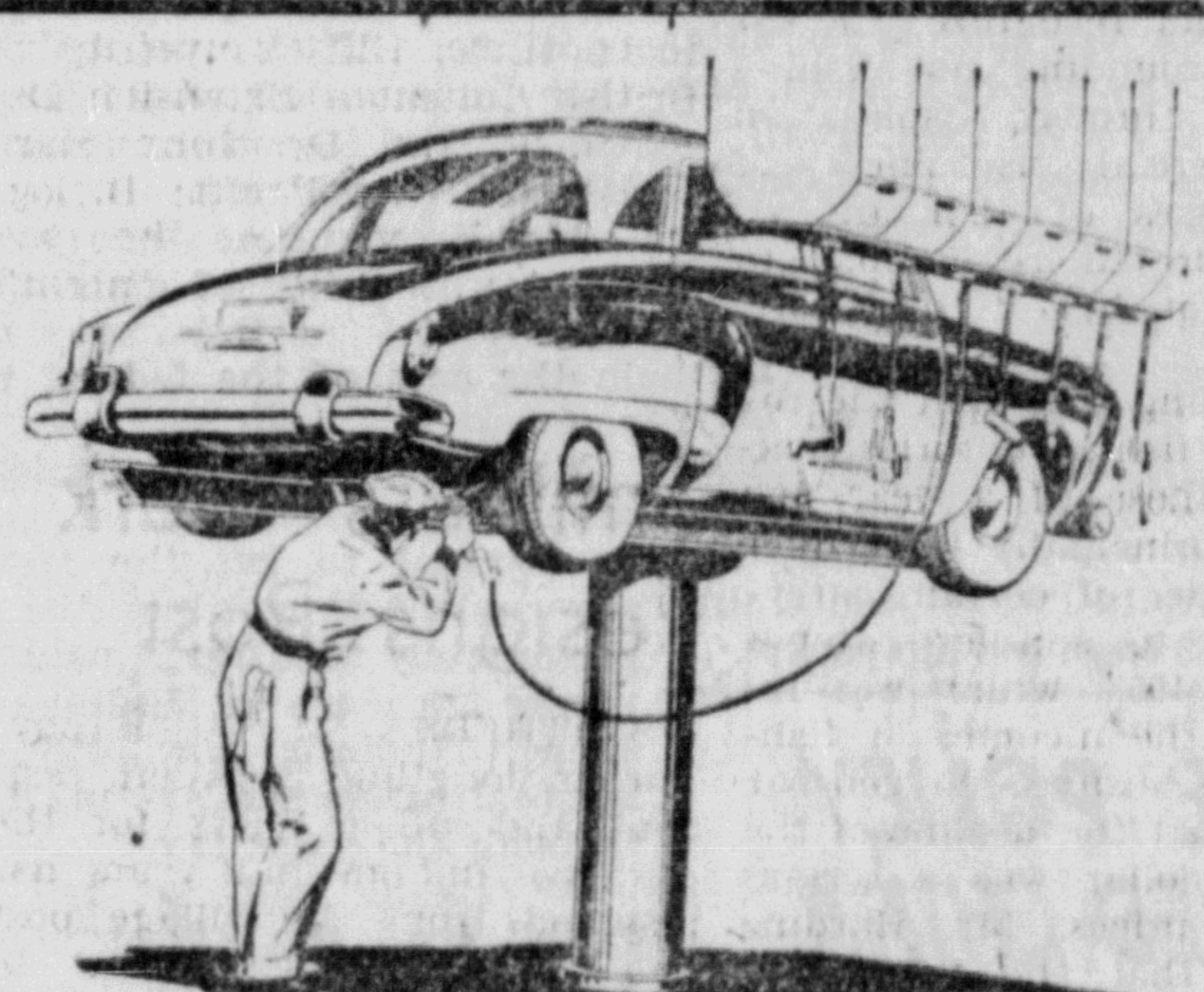
Police Search "Met" For Bomb

NEW YORK (AP)—Police made a bomb search at the Metropolitan Opera House last night during most of the opera "Fledermaus" without patrons being aware of the fact. An anonymous telephone caller had told a telephone operator: "The Metropolitan Opera House is going to be blown up."

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