

# Prince Rupert Daily News

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## Let's Welcome a Fine Artist

FOR those who enjoy music, it is time now to make plans to attend a concert next week which brings to Prince Rupert a woman who is ranked as one of the 10 finest violinists in the world. Since most of the others in the list are men, her accomplishments take on that much more distinction.

Frances Magnes comes here as the third performer in the current Alaska Music Trail series. Although the artists are of exceptionally high standard, the season so far is not a financial success. One reason given for this is that it started too early with the result that many who usually attend missed buying their season tickets. Another suggested reason is that committee organization was slow in getting under way.

These are unfortunate circumstances but they need not be fatal. Two brilliant artists are still to be heard, and an active committee is now at work to ensure that they receive the attention they deserve. Tomorrow tickets will be on sale at three central downtown points as well as at the Civic Centre. They are also being sold by individual Civic Centre members.

The rest is up to those many others who like music and want to continue welcoming visitors who have so much to offer.

Frances Magnes does not know she is walking into a challenge in which the future of the Alaska Music Trail here may be at stake. She is coming merely to play her violin and to give all the great musical enjoyment of which she is capable.

So let us hope that when she makes her entrance there will be a large and responsive audience present and that she will never have cause to doubt Prince Rupert's pleasure in receiving her.

## Is It "Me"?

QUEEN ELIZABETH II, according to a report from her tour in New Zealand, heard two small girls near the royal car arguing whether the lady within was the Queen or Princess Margaret. "I leaned over," the monarch related, and said, "No, it's me."

A generation ago a number of grammatical purists would have insisted, and probably some still do, that the proper phrase would be, "It is I." However, the "me" has long been accepted usage in Britain, and the National Council of Teachers of English once acknowledged it as also an American idiom.

Like other idioms, it won't parse, but is clearly understood. How explain, for example, why a Frenchman says, "Qu'est-ce que c'est?" (literally "What is this that it is?") for "What is this?" And how satisfactory would it be to try to straighten out the syntax of the well-loved Negro spiritual, "It's Me, O Lord, Standin' in the Need o' Prayer?"

Actually, the Queen's "It's me" harks from ancient times as part of the king's English.

## OTTAWA DIARY

By Norman M. MacLeoc

Storm warnings continue to be hoisted along the foreign trade front. During the past week Brazil gave notice that it would not be renewing its adherence to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). And at about the same time Australia made it known that it will continue to play along with GATT, but only upon condition that it is allowed to file a complete new set of sharply higher tariff schedules.

These Brazilian - Australian developments follow on the heels of the movement towards higher tariffs which has been under observation in the United States for some months past. It also comes as a sequel to Canada's own action in announcing new and formidable "teeth" for our previously moderate anti-dumping legislation.

In brief, the swing of the world trade pendulum, which was towards freer world trade at the time when GATT was organized, now is on the turn. Whether or not GATT will long survive the re-action is uncertain. But it is abundantly clear already that the principle of freer world trade which it was designed to foster already has become a lost cause—at least temporarily, and probably for a long time to come. Nationalism is climbing back fast into the world trade saddle. The reason for this state of

affairs is laid by Parliament Hill's foreign trade experts mainly to the door of West Germany and Japan. Relieved since World War II of the burden of maintaining heavy armaments, these two defeated powers have been able to concentrate on civilian production—and to keep their prices at a level which other democratic nations with their high levels of taxation cannot meet.

For example, over the past five years prices in West Germany have risen only by nine percent. In the principal Democratic trading nations they have risen three times this amount. The result is that the Germans and Japanese, with their better ability to hold down prices, have been underselling other trading nations in the main markets of the world.

Inevitably the pressure of this flood of German and Japanese competition has created a demand for protective measures on the part of the nations whose domestic industries are being affected. Canada belongs in this category and has responded by new anti-dumping measures. But Canada is also an exporting country, and any spread of restrictive tariff measures automatically boomerangs against her. And that is what is worrying the Ottawa MP's as they resume the session.

## As I See It



by  
**Elmore  
Philpott**

MP's Mailbag

THE MORE I see of this House of Commons the more it reminds me of a boys' school, or a hospital, or an isolated army unit.

By that I mean that inside the main parliament building you are in what amounts to a little world of its own.

Right now there is that expectant, empty feeling for all the world like the atmosphere in a boys' school one day before the crowd whoops and troops back from the holiday.

I am already learning that it pays to be on the job early—so this time got here one day ahead.

There is a literal mountain of mail, but it is strange how it sorts itself into piles, which makes it look less formidable.

There are several hundred postcards from the members of Branch 16, Canadian Legion. These all bear my name in print on the front, and carry a printed warning to the government, thus:

"We consider the inaction of the Government in War Veterans' Allowances and Veterans' Pensions in general to be a breach of faith to those who offered their all, and would suggest that you remind the government . . ."

Of course almost every one of the hundred of veterans knows very well that I feel exactly about the WVA allowances as they do. I hope they also have the horse sense to know that long before they wrote, I had taken the matter up with the government, in the place where it should do the most good.

There is a whole flood of letters on the flag, with those against inclusion of the Union Jack clearly outnumbering those who favor its retention, as in the unofficial red ensign. However, I am too old a hand in dealing with the public to be fooled by that. I know that those who feel most strongly on any matter are those who write first—and those who are for the status quo are always slower to show where they stand than those who want change.

For instance, if I were to judge by letters alone I would make the mistake of believing that the overwhelming majority of Canadians favor legalized sweepstakes. But I know very well that if it came to a showdown, the whole weight of the churches of Canada would be thrown against any move to legalize lotteries.

OF COURSE, most of my mail as an MP concerns routine matters—like applications for immigrants, and such like.

However, some is of genuine human interest. Here for instance is a blistering, red-hot letter from a man in Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, who wants to know who gave the RCMP the right to shoot dogs on the streets of the northern city. He encloses a pungent news item from the Whitehorse Star which reports a wholesale dog-shoot, in which several prized family dogs are alleged to have been shot, along with strays which had apparently become a nuisance.

THE MOST serious letters in the pile are from Canadians who are deeply concerned over what they—the letter-writers—claim is lack of a clear-cut national policy for TV and for air transport.

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TWENTY-YEAR-OLD PETER MARTIN (centre) of Winnipeg, gained fame with his hobby of studying early Indian life. He was named one of the 12 "Personalities of the Month," by a United States magazine (The American.) The magazine said Martin "probably was North America's youngest paleface authority on early Indian life." He huddles around a tom-tom with his brothers, Rolf (left) 13, and Hans, 16.

## Territories Not As Barren As People Think Says Official

OTTAWA (CP)—Canada's bleak Arctic is governed by a tall, dark, soft-spoken public servant bent on showing that the vast Northwest Territories aren't as barren as people think.

He is R. Gordon Robertson, 38, deputy minister of northern affairs and natural resources, and commissioner of the territories whose 1,304,000 square miles cover one-third of Canada's entire area.

The territories, peopled by 6,800 Eskimos, 5,600 whites and 3,600 Indians, are rich in untapped, virtually unknown mineral deposits, basis of most of the north's growth to date. Fat inside the Arctic Circle there is vegetable gardening during the short summer.

### FUTURE PROVINCE

The north's growth is such that if development and population increase sufficiently it is "conceivable" there some day might be a province of the Mackenzie River, Mr. Robertson said in an interview. Most of the territories' 16,000 population live in the District of Mackenzie, north of British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Most of the white man's activity in the territories revolves around gold mining at Yellowknife, about 500 miles north of Edmonton on the northern shore of Great Slave Lake.

At Port Radium, some 300 miles further north on Great Bear Lake, mining operations vital to Canada's atomic energy development programs are being carried out.

The Northwest Territories council now is planning to move Aklavik, near the northwestern tip of the territories, and Coppermine, on the far north-central shore of the Mackenzie dis-

## Record Numbers Visit Canada's National Parks

OTTAWA (CP)—Record numbers of tourists visited Canada's national parks and historic sites during the seven-month tourist season last year.

The influx continues during the winter months in those parks where there are winter sports, but officials stopped their count last October when they recorded 2,915,707 visitors since last April 1—an increase of about 500,000 over a similar period of 1952.

Most visitors toured the 16 national scenic parks where the land is left as much as possible in its natural state. All but five of these parks—located in every province except Newfoundland—reported an increase in visitors in 1953.

Banff, which has grown from a 10-square-mile tract to Canada's second-largest at 2,564 square miles, headed the list as an outdoor attraction. It had more than 584,000 visitors, about 150,000 more than Riding Mountain park in Manitoba.

Banff was Canada's first national park. It was established in 1885 as a tract surrounding the mineral hot springs which still are a big attraction. From this small tract, the national parklands have grown to an area of more than 12,000 square miles in 68 years and this is expected to be added to when Newfoundland gets a national park.

The Newfoundland government is understood to be considering an offer of a tract of land in the Bonavista area on Newman Sound. It would be offered to the federal government—free of encumbrances and Parliament then would be asked to incorporate it as a national park.

The annual cost of administration, operation, maintenance and construction of the national parks is about \$6,000,000.

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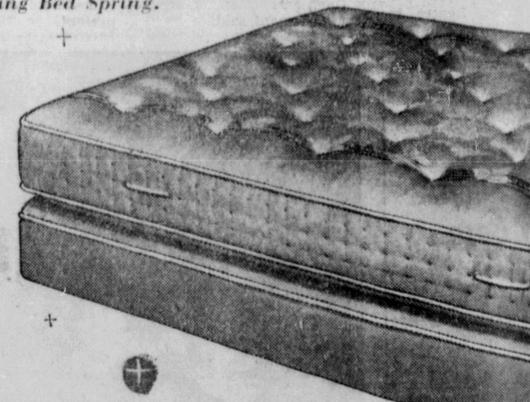
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