

An independent daily newspaper devoted to the upbuilding of Prince Rupert and Northern and Central British Columbia.  
Member of Canadian Press—Audit Bureau of Circulations  
Canadian Daily Newspaper Association.  
Published by The Prince Rupert Daily News Limited.  
J. F. MAGOR, President H. G. PERRY, Vice-President  
Subscription Rates:  
By carrier—Per week, 25c; per month, \$1.00; per year, \$10.00.  
By mail—Per month, 75c; per year, \$8.00.  
Authorized as second class mail by the Post Office Department, Ottawa.

## A Challenge To Be Met

IN POLLING BOOTHS throughout the province today thousands of British Columbians are writing their future in numbers. When their ciphers are sifted through the machinery of the alternative vote, a government will be elected to assume direction of our affairs in a period which many anticipate will be a difficult one.

Although B.C. is prosperous and has been the subject of much enthusiastic outside comment, the task of the incoming government is not going to be an easy one. On the other side of the ledger are climbing costs, narrowing markets and reduced production. There is no better example of this than the case of the lumber and fishing industries.

These are problems which, influenced by world conditions, are beyond the power of a provincial government to solve. Yet this same government must deal with the effect and somehow remove its sting. If it is unsuccessful, it will lose public support, no matter how blameless. Perhaps it would be politically wise, therefore, to let the other fellow have control at this particular stage of the game.

Yet the chances of success offer a challenge that cannot be turned aside. For a prolonged period now, B.C. has suffered from lack of political stability. From that point of view the next government has everything to gain. The public is so weary of uncertainty that it is unlikely any party will court another quick election. For this reason, whichever one is in power should feel some assurance that it can act decisively without constant concern for political niceties.

But a more solid consideration is the fact that B.C. has too many things that the world needs to be deterred for any extended period of time. There is nothing very sickly about a province which is spawning a town like Kitimat, or which has untapped land like the Peace River and Chilcotin country, or which is being explored for a site at which to locate a giant metallurgical development like that proposed by the Frohisher interests.

It is true that a province is not made by the money it attracts. It gains its identity and strength from the nature of its people, just as Quebec has derived character from its habitants, Nova Scotia from its fishermen and the prairie provinces from their wheat farmers.

But more than any other province, B.C. is in the process of growing and, in being so, is developing a breed of settlers in remote places which will become as distinctive a tribe as any other. Money in large quantities to redistribute civilization is making their existence possible.

The mercenary aspect, therefore, is not just a matter of making a fast buck. The making of a people is involved and, though the pioneer today uses an expensive bulldozer instead of a handmade plough, the result is no less impressive.

## Ray REFLECTS and REMINISCES

Of course, plenty of folks will not be leaving home to see the Coronation for another few weeks. It will be easier to find a room, and expenses will be less. As for the royal procession, that's old stuff. But London will continue to remind one strongly of a coronation.

Battling Nelson isn't dead, but he might as well be. No one ever hears of him today. Once the world's almost ablest fighter, he is at 71 a shrunken, destitute little man, existing in a shabby room in Chicago. For that's the way it goes.

During the last week of May it was mentioned in the British press that coronets for peers, which are made of brass were available for 15 pounds. It is understood this failed to interest anyone in western Canada.

Make every attempt to have a restful and pleasant atmosphere when eating, says a contributor to a nutrition column. It can be done, but elections and food costs do have a way of leading to arguments.

Thirty years ago Henry Ford announced a minimum wage of \$5 a day for his employees, and since then, the general advance in industry, has been tremendous. Today Ford's pension payment to 135,000 employees by \$12.50 brings the workers in-

cluding social security to \$137. That, in days gone by was reckoned a good wage in itself. How about the cost of things today? Well, we'll call that another story.

### HAM ONLY

An Indianapolis woman is reported to have won a divorce. Her husband persisted in bringing home ham, a dish she had always disliked. Things might have been different had he sometimes thought of bacon.

Life is not complex. We are complex. Life is simple and the simple thing is the right thing. —Oscar Wilde.

## As I See It



by  
**Elmore  
Philpott**

### Ends on a Smile

PENTICTON: Here in the interior the B.C. election ended with smiles, chuckles and even a laugh here and there.

Nobody knows how this election is coming out, and few experts in these parts would do much betting.

But right now all over the interior people are quietly chuckling at the expense of Premier Bennett.

For it seems that Mr. Bennett tripped himself up in a quite important matter by forgetting a lady, which is bad, and a Doukhobor lady, which is sometimes more serious.

THE STORY goes back to Mr. Bennett's first campaign trip up into the Doukhobor country. The non-Doukhobors in those parts were pretty much wrought up just then, for somebody had been burning and dynamiting in the Sons of Freedom areas.

You can get yourself an argument as to who was doing the burning, for there are some shrewd people hereabouts who say that in this case the Sons of Freedom were not to blame—that some other groups were trying to pour oil on the always smouldering Doukhobor problem in order to get rid of the Sons.

However that may be, it has no bearing on the main story. In any event an irate deputation of anti-Doukhobors finally caught up with the premier who had been dodging them (or maybe the Doukhobors) on that trip. When they finally cornered Mr. Bennett they "persuaded" him to write his famous telegram to the national government at Ottawa demanding the imposition of the War Measures Act.

It was made very clear in Parliament that the War Measures Act could only be applied in actual wartime, but nobody blamed Mr. Bennett too much for getting the War Measures Act mixed up with the Emergency Powers Act. Everybody in Parliament recognized that Mr. Bennett was on the hot spot when he wrote that telegram. But here is where the laugh comes in, and why the folks in the interior are chuckling.

THE ANGRY CROWD was shouting at the Premier to demand that Ottawa impose a curfew against all Doukhobors. "No, no, that's going too far," the Premier protested.

But the crowd shouted all the louder for a curfew against all Doukhobors in the Kootenay country.

So the Social Credit premier gave way, and dictated the telegram as demanded by the shouting crowd.

That is where Mr. Bennett forgot the lady—and that is why the laugh is not on the lady.

ONE of Mr. Bennett's own cabinet ministers, Hon. R. E. Sommers of Rossland-Trail, is himself married to a very lovely, highly educated and universally respected Doukhobor lady.

Hence, had Ottawa yielded to Mr. Bennett's ill advised and excited ultimatum as Mr. Bennett himself had yielded to the anti-Doukhobor crowd, the RCMP would have had to post a guard outside the door of the Social Credit minister's home to keep that same cabinet minister's wife from going out after dark! Mr. Sommers would have had to lock up his wife at sundown!

BEHIND the smiles, chuckles and laughs there is a lot of head-shaking and serious thought.

People are asking themselves and asking each other: "Is that the way we want our laws made in B.C.?"



KOREA THIS YEAR is exhibiting at the Canadian International Trade Fair in Toronto for the first time. Among its products are shoes of rubber and of hemp. Sung Wan Park, director of the Korean Artisan Handicraft Association, displays them to Beverly Boon of Toronto.

## LETTERBOX

### MAKES PEOPLE THINK

The Editor,  
The Daily News:

Although I am still of Social Credit persuasion, it certainly pleased me to see your take a stand in your May 19 editorial, "Elect a Liberal Government."

This is a good healthy attitude to take and it has the effect of making a person start thinking and searching out the reasons why he is one way inclined or another.

It is also one reason why I believe the L.P.P. should not be outlawed in Canada (barring treason proved). It makes people think! I know in my short sojourn into the LPP it started me into a study of the aims of said party. The outcome was that many of the ideologies contained in the Communist manifesto appealed to my nature. And it is this like appeal that has captured many Christians.

It wasn't until later when I was converted to Christianity that in a like zealous study of the Christian faith I came to realize that communistic ideals (not dialectical materialism) have been in the main taken from Christian teachings.

The real root reason so many people are led astray into communism is because they have neither studied communism nor Christianity assiduously enough to discern that any truth the former may have has been usurped from Christianity.  
EDWARD GREEN.

### LIBERAL VOTES CCF

The Editor,  
The Daily News:

I am a Liberal—have been for over 40 years. But the way things are in this province today, I am going to vote CCF. The reason for this change is because the other governments have not been satisfactory.

Your editorials for the past

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month have been for the Liberals only. You shouldn't have had to do that. The public memory isn't that short. The people remember quite well what they're like. How can you tell what a cake tastes like until you have tried it?

Why not try CCF? If we don't like them, we can throw them out like the Social Credit. This is my opinion. I may be wrong, but who can tell? The CCF are well-liked in Saskatchewan—so why not try them here?  
ALEX MORLEY.

### FLAGS HAVE MEANING

The Editor,  
The Daily News:

Criticism can be in two categories—niggling and destructive or generous and constructive. Criticism in the latter sense is the essence of democracy.

I also witnessed the Coronation parade, and my reactions were exactly those of Mr. Hurst's. The American flag, leading the parade, struck me as strange until I paused to watch the antics of the American sailors, when I paid attention to their "drill" (?). I came to the conclusion that the leading group were just clowning, and that it was a burlesque—a pantomime act—not really true of the U.S.A. at all, and that someone with a sense of humor had arranged this to cause a laugh.

When I accepted this outlook, I was able to accept the "Stars and Stripes" out of step sailors, absence of the White Ensign.  
(Continued on Page 6)

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## OTTAWA DIARY

By Norman M. MacLeod

OTTAWA.—One of Parliament Hill's demon statisticians who has been working on the figures of the recent Nova Scotia provincial general election has come up with the disclosure that a switch of 390 votes is all that would have been necessary to instal a Conservative administration in power.

Of course, the switch would have to take place in certain strategic ridings in which the results were close. For example, there was a photo-finish in one constituency where the Liberal candidate only held his seat by five votes. In that case a switch of just three votes would have given the Conservatives another member.

With the federal contest now just around the corner, this sort of political arithmetic is entirely too close for the comfort of Parliament Hill's prospective gladiators. It points up a little too vividly the possibility of anything happening to anybody. There's a growing feeling that in the campaign now dawning there's no such thing as security for any contestant—regardless of any past glories which he may have achieved.

The classic example of this uncertainty is the apprehension which Liberal circles are feeling over the return of Hon. "Bob" Winters, minister of reconstruction and supply. His constituency of Lunenburg is predominantly Liberal in its tendencies. But from 1926 to 1935 it returned a Conservative in the person of the late Hon. W. G. Ernst. There's a fear in Liberal circles that it may be on the point of wavering again.

The grounds for the anxiety lie in the fact that in the recent provincial election the Conservatives made a gain of three seats in the area which comprises the federal constituency for which Hon. "B" Winters sits. It's a fishing area and the commercial fishermen aren't any too happy economically these days. Their discontent is a factor that's likely to carry through into the federal polling. The prevailing opinion is that if the minister of reconstruction and supply wins out in the campaign ahead, it will be due to the personal popularity which he enjoys amongst his own people.

One of the chief federal arguments of the moment centres

### Bar Gas Pumps

MONTREAL.—A meeting of parishioners rejected an oil company's offer to purchase or lease part of the St. Mark's Anglican Church grounds to erect a service station. Members said such a project would mar the beautiful frontage of the site, more than a century old.

## Happy Reunion

WINNIPEG.—For the first time since they kissed each other goodbye 40 years ago, Ukraine, father and daughter, met each other here. Mrs. John Ch... daughter, Mrs. John Ch... now living in Ottawa.



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