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Fishermen Must Make Choice

THERE is taking shape in B.C. a labor movement of highest importance to all those who make a living from produce of the sea. Prince Rupert heard about it first-hand over the weekend when representatives of the Pacific Fishermen and Allied Trades Union explained why they were forming a new organization to combat the United Fishermen and Allied Workers Union as bargaining agent for west coast fishermen.

As those who attended the meeting know, the subject which received most discussion was the extent to which Communists have infiltrated into the UFAWU. This trend of proceedings brought some criticism on the grounds that the issue at stake was not politics but which union could do the most for fishermen's welfare.

From the point of view that hard-headed fishermen have little time to concern themselves with political thrust and parry, the protest had some merit. The fishermen's first wish is to be assured of a good living so that they and their families can be confident of comfort and security. Presumably it is also their hope that the industry as a whole can be kept in a healthy state since anything less than that will mean their good life is a temporary arrangement threatened at any minute with collapse.

In this particular case, however, it is fatuous to maintain that communism has nothing to do with the subject at hand. Regardless of how one may feel about this particular social philosophy, none can claim that it has gained popular acceptance in Canada. The aversion to it will surely react unfavorably on any organization which accepts its direction from those of Communist persuasion. The UFAWU experienced this recently when it was suspended from the Trades and Labor Congress. Other effects of distrust will be working against it in many less obvious ways.

In making these observations, we are not trying to balance the new union against the old. The members alone can make that comparison.

Our point is merely that the discussion at Sunday's meeting did not appear so far off the track as some tried to picture it. The Communists were there in force and spoke with eloquence. Clearly they felt the meeting was sufficiently to the point to merit strong debate.

But there were others present of unidentified political beliefs who remained silent. The ultimate decision lies with the group such as this. While the new union at this early stage is largely an unknown quantity, the reasons for its formation are a matter of immediate attention by all fishermen.

Scripture Passage for Today

"The joy of the Lord is your strength."
—Neh. 8:10.

Ray REFLECTS and REMINISCES

Beer, wine and hard liquor available while dining in R.C. this winter, along with a lot more unemployment expected. There's nothing new about either.

The Manchester Guardian reports that the proper pronunciation of Los Angeles is "Lose-Ong-ha-Less." Cracks back the Ottawa Journal: "We take this badly from a paper in a country where Chomondley is pronounced 'Chumley'."

Teaching in Canadian schools is described as "horse and buggy in an atomic age." Yet we cannot but help think the horse and buggy saved thousands of lives. Roads had deep ruts, carriages were flimsy and bumpy and there was a whip. It took a day to drive 30 miles, but no one was ever hurt, let alone killed.

Not only are a fool and his money soon parted, but they find it hard to get together in the first place.

Press despatches tell of a chill grey fog in London. Is that news?

From North Hollywood Valley Times: "Her cooking is the best I've ever eaten," said Alexander.

PUTTING IT PLAIN!
Some weird and wonderful economies were aired before the convention of the Canadian Congress of Labor in Montreal. Few of us are much better off

than before, while a lot of people living on pensions or other fixed incomes are infinitely worse.—Financial Post.

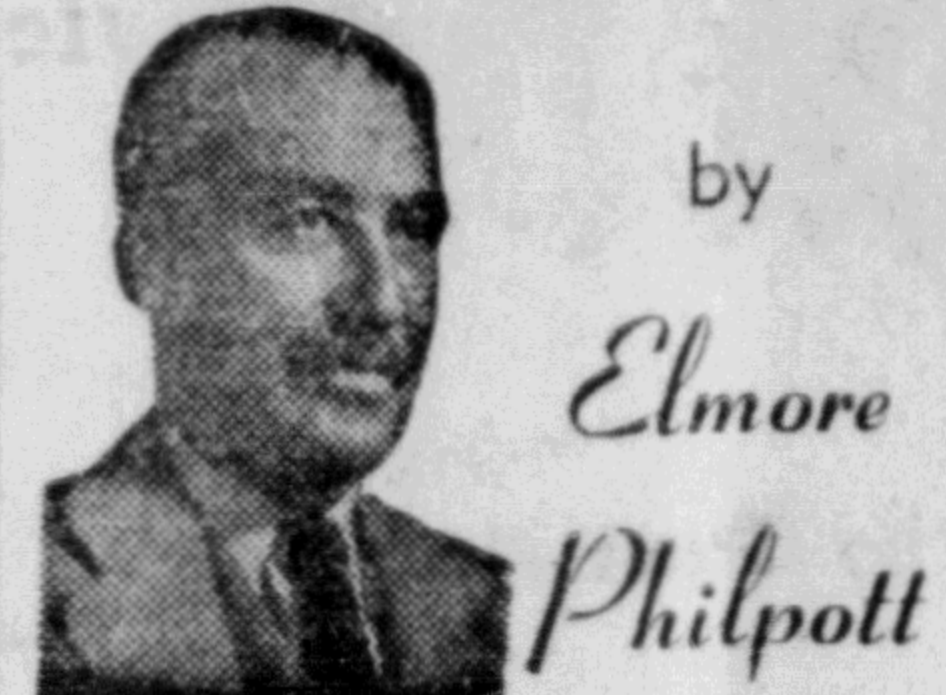
KNOWING WHAT HE WANTS

Beverly Dexter, born a Canadian and alleged Englishman, recently toured Canada. He spent a day or so in Edmonton during which he gave an address touching incidentally on sport, remarking that in his judgment, cricket was a far faster game than baseball. We'd like to know if Baxter went over to wait for the world series. Anyway Edmonton didn't agree. That much is sure.

Half of the twenty million women working in the United States are married or the dollar is able to buy more than it does today. Several millions will go looking for residences. For home looks pretty good, you bet.

The bulk of the world's supplies of nickel come from the huge ore deposits at Sudbury.

As I See It



Home of Your Own

THE announcement by the prime minister that there is to be an entirely new system of financing home-building and home-owning is the best news in many a day. It's a great step forward.

It will enable tens of thousands of people to build new homes. Also, by giving a great stimulus to house building, it provides a strong bulwark against another depression.

Best news of all is that the banks are to be allowed to provide mortgage money. The whole credit of Canada will back them in this—making sure that the banks' assets are kept liquid, and hence able to look after all the normal business of the land.

SUPPOSE Canada had not taken the Great Depression lying down as we did take it. Suppose we had fought it, as we would have fought a foreign invader of our land.

Suppose we had set the vast army of unemployed to work at socially useful things. Suppose, for instance, that Canada had cleared out whole slum areas—such as exist within half a mile of the Vancouver Sun newspaper, as they do in every great city across the country.

Instead of finding ourselves indifferently or in spots disgracefully housed as we now are, Canada could long since have become the best housed nation on earth. We have all the makings. All we lack, so far, is the "git."

A TEN PER CENT down payment on a new house is quite sufficient. Indeed, I am convinced that the time will come when any young married couple will be able to walk into a bank after their wedding and say:

"We would like a loan for a new house."

If the young man and the young woman are of good character, and in good health, there is no reason why they should not borrow the entire amount. True, there might be a tiny fraction of such young people who would turn out to be duds or frauds. But the net effect of such a plan would be to provide the most solid basis for family stability. Canada could lead the world in this.

Canada could say, through the local banker:

"Yes—Mr. and Mrs. Young Canada. We have faith in you. We will provide the money to build you a new home, or for you to buy one which is already built. You can pay back the cost of the house in your working lifetime."

WE HAVE tried out a plan exactly like the above in our own family, and it works like a charm.

The secret of a successful home finance plan is to have the total monthly charges comfortably within the husband's earning power. When the young wife works too much or her salary should go to the reduction of the principal debt.

Almost before the young couple realize what is happening they have the principal down to a figure which enables them to sell that particular house on the regular market whenever they want one bigger or better. Their equity in the first house soon builds up to the point that they never again need to worry about: Where do we get a place to live?

Charge Laid After Body Found

KIMBERLEY (C)—RCMP laid a charge of murder Sunday against Darwin Larvenere Sullivan of Kimberley following discovery of the half-buried body of a 19-year-old youth in dense woods.

Body of Edward Coelen, 19, of Kelowna, B.C., was discovered Friday night by RCMP searching for the driver of an auto that had been parked nearby since September 21.

The youth apparently died from a rifle bullet in the back. Police said Coelen left Kelowna about the middle of September, planning to drive to Calgary.

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MAYOR JACK BURNET (left) of Cobourg, Ont., measures a furrow as he practices for the 40th international plowing match to be held at Cobourg starting today. With him is Jim Oakman, also of Cobourg. Some 750 plowmen from all parts of the world will compete.

VICTORIA REPORT By J. K. Nesbitt

VICTORIA—The more MLAs they like it—that is, as long as even the oppositionists—study the new Liquor Bill, the more there has to be a liquor bill.

Oppositionists are astonished, and somewhat frustrated that they can find so little in it to oppose. Oh, here and there, of course, they'll find some flaws. No act, especially a liquor act, can please everyone. And, naturally, oppositionists will say far too much has been left to regulate and order-in-council. But how other can a government operate efficiently? It can't be completely tied up by the Legislature. If it wasn't for order-in-council, the Legislature would have to sit day in and day out, throughout the entire year.

By and large, it appears the liquor bill will quickly collapse, and the bill go through fairly quickly. We are likely to see the quite extraordinary spectacle of the entire opposition voting solidly with the government on a major piece of government legislation. That will be a tremendous victory for the Bennett Government.

It must, in all fairness, be said, the Government has not pussy-footed in the new liquor bill. It has faced facts, brought in what

the people, in a plebiscite in 1952, asked for, and what the Stevens liquor enquiry commission recommended—cocktail bars, and beer and wines in restaurants and hard liquor by the glass at cabarets. This latter should entirely outlaw the disgraceful bottle-under-the-table fashion at supper dances that goes on in B.C. under the present liquor set-up.

Generally speaking, the new liquor law should decrease drinking in this province. When it's possible to buy one or two drinks in an attractive cocktail lounge, perhaps there won't be so many bottles sold and killed at a sitting in a hotel bedroom, with subsequent loss of appetite for food and demands for another bottle. So, congratulations to the Premier and the Attorney-general Bonner for their courage in changing the liquor laws, even though they know a small, but very vocal minority will hate them for it.

Burnaby's CCF Mr. Winch was in his usual form when he made his speech. He announced that he refuses to judge his age (over 70) by the date on his birth certificate. This sentiment was heartily endorsed by other MLAs, all of whom, except Mr. Uphill, are far younger than Mr.

Winch.

Mr. Winch said the result of the last election didn't exactly please him, but he finds consolation in telling himself it was just an out-of-season frost, and that summer will surely come.

"We're having summer now," said Premier Bennett, all smiles. Mr. Bennett misunderstood, purposely, by way of kidding Mr. Winch, whom he admires and respects. Mr. Winch, you see, meant a CCF summer, not an SC summer.

Mr. Winch then said he's glad the SC Government is taking up so many CCF ideas, such as equal-pay-for-equal-work for women. "There is no other source from which you can get your inspiration," thundered Mr. Winch, and Social Crediters laughed and laughed, and the lone Conservatives and the four Liberals sat glumly in their corner, bewildered and frustrated as they saw B.C.'s new political alignment—SC and CCF—thus in full action. They no doubt wondered if the day will come again—oh, happy day—when they'll be at each others' political throats, one as the government, the other as the opposition. A lot of people think it never will come again, and this reporter is one.

Health and Welfare Minister Martin got up when Mr. Winch sat down. He had a nicely prepared speech, all about hospital insurance and health services. But he couldn't resist going after Mr. Winch a bit. He said Mr. Winch talked nonsense when he said Social Credit gets all its inspiration from the C.C.F. What utter rot, said Mr. Martin, what utter tommy rot.

"Heaven help the world, if this should be so," thundered Mr. Martin, and he can thunder as well as Mr. Winch. "As the dead hand of Socialism creeps over a free society it paralyzes all in its path."

Mr. Winch wondered aloud how anything that is dead can creep. If Mr. Martin knew, he didn't inform Mr. Winch. Mr. Martin repeated about the dead hand creeping. Mr. Winch still wanted to know, but nobody told him. Mr. Martin, having a fine time, expressed great happiness because the Conservatives had routed the Socialists in Britain. Ah, ha, now, said the C.C.F.'ers and Liberals to themselves, doesn't that show that Social Crediters are merely Conservatives in disguise. C.C.F. Mr. Turner said the Tories got in in Britain, because they ran on a Socialist ticket.

Mr. Winch, had said, when he got up, that he certainly hoped he wouldn't talk as long as the Minister of Trade and Industry, Mr. Chetwynd, who was more than an hour, Mr. Martin said he was happy to announce that Mr. Winch had captured the longest-speech trophy from Mr. Chetwynd.

And then Mr. Martin, having thus broken the legislative doldrums, said he would return legislative debate to a high plane by discussing his department of health and welfare.

Extension of the federal franchise to 18-year-olds would add about 641,600 persons to eligible voters in Canada, on the basis of 1951 census figures. If persons of 19 and 20 were added the number would be about 428,600.

Approximately 6,500,000 Canadians were entitled to vote in the last election but only about 5,230,469 cast ballots. Some 105,000 members of the armed services were eligible and 52,234 voted.

Alberta was the first provincial government to lower the voting age for provincial elections. It extended the franchise in 1944 to persons of 19 and 20, adding about 20,000 eligible voters.

Saskatchewan's CCF government lowered the voting age from 21 to 18 in 1948. On the basis of 1951 census figures, there were 39,915 persons in Saskatchewan in the 18, 19 and 20 age groups, or about 7½ per cent of the total of eligible voters.

Lowering the age in British Columbia from 21 to 19 would add about 28,000 persons to the voting list.

In the last provincial election 710,207 persons were eligible.

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By Norman M. MacLeod

Few policies have created the sharp division of political thought in this Capital that has been caused by the government's proposals to make it easier for the average individual to finance the building of a home.

On the positive side of the argument there is a general agreement amongst housing authorities that the government's plan of making the funds of the chartered banks available for mortgage money will result in a sharp increase in home building.

Politically, that's the point upon which Liberal M.P.s, who were taken just as much by surprise by the government's announcement as were the bankers and building trades interests, propose to concentrate. They're understandably jubilant that the government has come up at long last with a solution for a problem which has provided the opposition parties with some of their best ammunition ever since World War II.

But on the negative side of the policy Parliament Hill economists, who have been studying the government plan objectively rather than from the standpoint of its likely political effects, find considerable to be said. They point out that home-building at the present time is establishing new records, and that it is close to the maximum made possible by the availability of materials and labor. They contend, therefore, that any additional pressure upon material and labor supplies will drive prices sharply upwards and prove highly inflationary. And another round of inflation is the thing that Federal

LETTERBOX

SUNDAY CONCERTS

The Editor,

The Daily News:

I wonder how many of your readers are aware that something new has been added with regard to Sunday evening concerts. Hitherto it has been entertainment given by local talent. Now a professional or professional have been brought in who do not work for nothing.

This is a step in the direction of Sunday commercial entertainment which, when it comes, will tie the hands of the theatre management and they will be no longer able kindly to lend the theatre for charitable and non-profit purposes on Sunday nights. They will be in business. And so a little more of God's rest on a Sunday will be traded in for a few more dollars. How do you like it?

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NOTICE RE VOTERS' LIST

Registration of Householders and Licenseholders for the Municipal Voters' List closes at 5 P.M. OCTOBER 31st, 1953. Householders are entitled to be registered on payment of \$2.00 on or before October 31st, 1953.

Licenseholders who have previously registered and who have paid a trades license fee for the current year do not need to re-register. New licenseholders should register at the City Hall between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

All registrants must be British Subjects of the full age of 21 years, and in the case of householders must have resided in Prince Rupert continuously since January 1st, 1953.

For the added convenience of new Registrants, the office of the City Clerk will be kept open all day Saturday, October 31st, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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