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Everybody's Business

ASPERSIONS and accusations against British Columbia teachers and the provincial system of education comes at a time when the whole of Canada is preparing to concentrate a week on education of its children.

While irresponsible—even slanderous—remarks of a man whom citizens had every reason to believe was responsible can be discussed with a shrug or the common day vernacular of "crank," education cannot be dismissed from each Canadian's careful attention.

Education Week opens March 1. Its purpose is to focus the attention of all citizens on the important business of education. Our schools are what we as parents and citizens make them. The more we know about education—its achievements and its current problems—the better shall we be able to contribute toward its improvement.

Education is everybody's business. Through voting in provincial elections and in the selection of local school authorities, everyone can assume a part responsibility in this all-important business.

In addition to exercising their franchise, citizens can make their voices heard through active participation in Home and School or Parent-Teacher Associations, and as parents in direct contact with school principals and teachers.

To our school board, local trustees are elected. They are representatives of the community and because they are responsible for employing the teachers and operating the schools, they are very important people.

The teacher is perhaps the most important single factor in the success or failure of any educational system. Canada needs to have more of her best young people enter this profession. This can be aided by maintaining and in some instances improving present teacher education, salaries, working and living conditions.

In the home and school or parent-teacher organizations lie the channels for mutual appreciation of the problems of teachers and parents. In these associations lies a great potential force for influencing educational policy.

And when formal schooling is completed, the nation as a whole must take over—industry and commerce, management and labor, agriculture and government services, all have a share of responsibility in the education of Canada's youth.

All schools here will hold "open house" next week with teachers and pupils taking great pains to demonstrate to parents and friends what is being accomplished.

The public should avail itself of this opportunity to visit the schools, talk with the pupils and with the teachers, become friends with them, find out what goes on.

While education of our children should be among the uppermost considerations of our everyday lives, let Education Week be a reminder and a refresher course, for to quote Diogenes, the famed Greek educator:

"The foundation of every state is the education of its youth."

'General' Townsend, Louisiana's Last Survivor of Civil War, Dies

OLLA, La. (AP) — William Townsend, 106-year-old Confederate veteran who became reconciled with Yankees only two years ago, died Sunday night, it was disclosed Wednesday.

He was Louisiana's last survivor of the Civil War.

The "general" who actually was a private when he wore Confederate grey, was stricken suddenly.

His death leaves only four Confederates and two Union veterans still living.

Townsend is survived by his fourth wife, about half his age, whom he married in 1940; one son and two daughters by his first wife, and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. One of his daughters had 17 children.

Townsend, who gave up farming several years ago, attributed his long life to the "will of the Lord, three tablespoons of whisky a day and a pipeful of tobacco every 30 minutes."

The "general" said he only recently became reconciled with Yankees.

"I spoke to three of them at Norfolk," he admitted. The Con-

federate veterans held their last reunion in Norfolk, Va., two years ago.

Townsend was 15 years old in 1851, he told reporters:

"My daddy didn't want me to go, so I wrapped the only suit of clothes I had in a big handkerchief, put it under my bed and, about midnight, sneaked away and walked all the way to Norfolk, La., to join up."

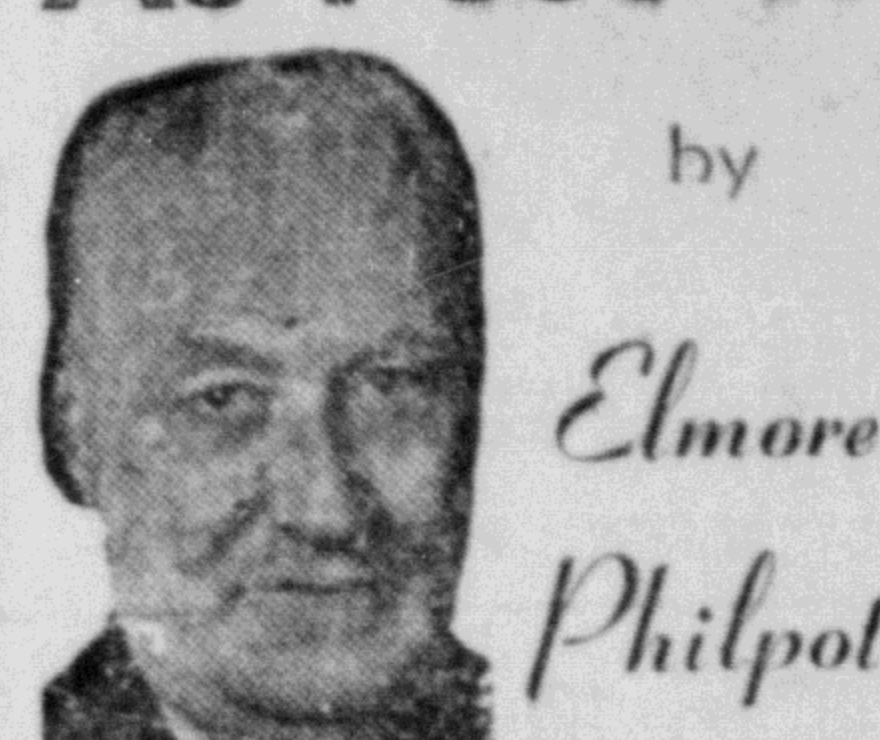
Wounded in the siege of Vicksburg, Miss., he was captured when the city surrendered July 4, 1863.

Released as a paroled war captive, he returned home for the rest of the war.

"I do not remember whether I took an oath of allegiance to the U.S. government, but I do not think I did," Townsend wrote in applying for a Confederate pension in 1932. "If I did, it was under duress and while wounded."

The Arctic island of Greenland, long a possession of Denmark, has an area of 847,000 square miles.

As I See It



by

Elmore
Philpott

Who Wants Butter?

LADY, take a good look at these three items.

1. Mr. Gardiner tells parliament on February 5 that our Liberal government owns 30 million of the 40 million pounds of butter bought last year to keep the price paid to farmers above 58 cents. Yet new butter comes on the market, even in winter, in larger quantities than can be sold in Canada.

2. Seattle newspapers on February 15 carried display ads offering good grain fed halves of beef for sale at 35 cents to 39 cents per pound—all cut and wrapped. This beef too is owned by our Canadian government and sold in U.S. as part of a complicated three-way deal.

3. A fierce fight rages in parliament because some Conservative and all Social Credit MPs oppose the Liberal government's policy which permits entry to Canada of Cuban refined sugar, which has sharply reduced the price here.

SO, MRS. Ordinary Housewife—here is your chance. How would you go about selling that 30 million pound surplus of butter?

Remember, the purpose of the government policy in paying the floor price to dairy farmers was to guarantee them a living wage, much as the city worker is guaranteed a minimum wage. But is the policy practical, and what would happen if the government arranged a one cent butter sale—that is on a certain day sold two pounds of butter for the price of one pound—with the extra cent tacked on? Would the people eat up the extra butter. Or would it mean that the ordinary type would be out of luck in the following weeks?

FOR YEARS past, I have hammered away for a new trade deal with Britain, under which we would accept sterling for everything she buys. I see no other way of holding Canadian markets and hence Canadian jobs.

The British people need all the butter, salmon, meat, we now have as surplus. They also need much of the wheat, lumber and metals we cannot sell anywhere else.

But they cannot buy as things are. For they cannot earn enough Canadian dollars on trade alone to keep things even.

UNDER the plan I propose Canadian commodities would be shipped to Britain. They would be sold at competitive world prices through the usual business channels. But the British buyers would pay sterling for them.

The Bank of Canada would hold all monies so paid in a special account. The Canadian sellers would be paid by the bank in Canadian dollars, at the regular rate of exchange. Also the British manufacturers who shipped products to Canada would be paid off, through the Bank of Canada, in pounds sterling.

In any year in which Canada had a surplus on this trading account the Bank of Canada would simply buy mortgages, property, or stock and bonds from somewhere in the sterling area. They would sell these in Canada, if desired.

Cold Cash

KINGSTON, Ont. (CP)—Thief of \$49 in cash from a local beverage room was reported to police, who found thieves had smashed the glass in a rear door. The money had been hidden in a refrigerator for safe keeping.

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ONE OF CANADA'S most noted father and son political teams is Harold Winch (left) and his father Ernest E., both members of the B.C. Legislature. Harold Winch is leader of CCF Opposition and member for Vancouver-East. His father represents Burnaby. They have attended 24 legislature sessions since their election in 1933.

OTTAWA DIARY

By NORMAN
M. MacLEOD

At a second startled glance it has dawned upon the Capital's veteran political observers that the current Abbott budget stands out almost as a museum piece amongst its predecessors.

What endows it with its truly unique quality in the eyes of these seasoned if somewhat cynical folk is the fact that you can read it from beginning to end and even between the lines without discerning anywhere the fine Italian hand of Rt. Hon. James Garfield Gardiner, better known among his farmer friends as plain "Jimmie."

To have a four-billion-dollar plus spending program drafted by Cabinet without Rt. Hon. "Jimmie" carving off a multi-million-dollar slice to be earmarked specifically for his wheat-growing and livestock-raising proteges out on the Prairies is unprecedented and could be sensational national and political news. It could mean that the dynamic Minister of Agriculture has lost his voice around the Cabinet Council table and no longer is able to make himself heard amongst his colleagues.

NON-BUDGET ITEM
Acceptable though such a de-

MILESTONES

From the Files of The Daily News

40 Years Ago Today

A letter to the editor from an interested citizen urged the people of Prince Rupert to form a booster club and appoint a top flight publicity man to tell the world of the advantages of this city thereby attracting more people and money to this part of the province.

A deliberate attempt was made sometime during the night to burn down the Northern Laundry building.

30 Years Ago Today

Two local youths, Felix Batt and Norman Kinslor, were able to contact Kansas City and other far away stations on their amateur receiving set.

The Canadian National Railways has abolished the office of district engineer here with the removal of W. S. Featherstonhaugh and A. M. Bremner to Calgary.

20 Years Ago Today

Alan Davies was elected deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Orange Order, bringing great distinction to this city.

Forty new members joined the Fishermen's Industrial Union at its special meeting today.

10 Years Ago Today

A triple funeral was held here for the three victims of recent accidents on road construction work on the lower Skeena River.

Members of the Gyro Club gathered at the home of Arnold Flaten for one of the club's periodical stag parties.

Ray REFLECTS and REMINISCES

Official announcement is here that Daylight Saving will be in effect within another few weeks, concluding in September. The finance minister has already told us about surpluses and all that. But surely a convenience, such as an oversupply of daylight surplus up north is needless.

OUT SEAL COVE WAY

There will soon be sixteen newly-constructed and occupied dwellings at Seal Cove, already tenanted. A snug little community growing up at the far end. Yet it doesn't seem so long that in order to get there, one had to hike all the way out and all the way back.

Canada has just concluded a little war of her own along the McKenzie River known as "Exercise Bulldog," under Major-General Vokes. It was close as possible to the genuine article—and that can be pretty dashed close, as many a fellow can tell you. Yet, there's no other way, if it is to be of service.

The Red Dean is being howled and cow-belled from the public lecture platform in this Dominion. Inability to listen is just too bad. And what cow ever dreamed of having such a useful instrument used for such a purpose.

Old Marshall von Runstedt, ill and impoverished died in Germany on Monday. Once Hitler started countermarching his orders, the fatherlands army in the field was formidable. It's declared Dunkirk would have been a real disaster had Runstedt been given his way. Later on when Berlin was mighty hard pressed, this noted soldier was asked what had best be done. The answer was "make peace." Idiots. Bit by bit, we are learning more about the late unpleasantness.

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FRIDAY, FEB. 27

at 8 p.m.

in the Christian
Science Building,
Second Ave. West

Home Movies

TORONTO (CP) — Residents owning 16-millimetre movie projectors can see movies in their own homes at low cost. The Toronto and district film council has introduced a plan whereby movies may be rented for as low as 25 cents a reel.

RIGHT ON TIME
Samuel de Champlain, the explorer who died more than 300 years ago is replacing the traditional scarlet-coated Mountie on the cover of the capitals tourist guide booklet. This has been largely at the insistence of the mayor, Charlotte Whitton, who declared Ottawa had other tourist attractions.

IWA Policy Committee Established

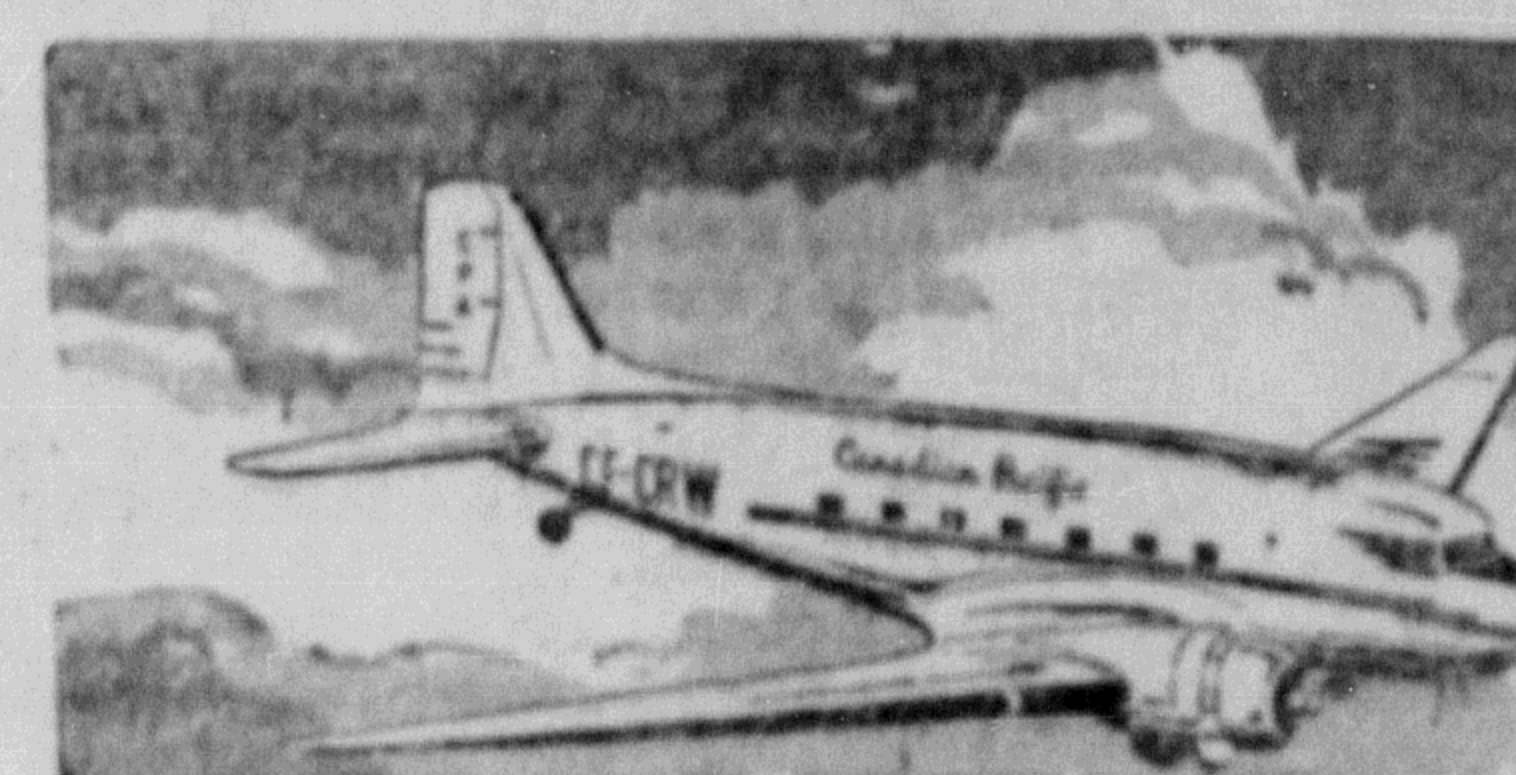
VANCOUVER — A policy committee will be set up by the International Woodworkers of America (IWA) to handle 1953-54 contract negotiations.

The committee, it was decided at the final meeting of the annual convention here during the week-end, will set a work stoppage date if a new contract is not signed by a June 15 deadline.

It was also decided there would not be a "no contract—no work" mandate this year.

The IWA will also undertake a job evaluation survey as a basis for better wage classifications in future bargaining. The survey may take two years.

FLY TO EDMONTON



Travel time to Edmonton is slashed to 12 hours. Flights Monday, Wednesday and Friday, via Prince George and Grande Prairie. (Direct limousine service Prince Rupert-Terrace). Enjoy Canadian Pacific's friendly, courteous service aloft.

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