

Treating the Tourist

TOURISM in Canada has become, particularly in the last few years, a whopping big business, says a Canadian Chamber of Commerce letter. It ranks with such stalwarts as agriculture and mining as a source of revenue.

But, with the upsurge in the value of the Canadian dollar in relation to the American currency, following the termination of foreign exchange control, Canada's tourist industry faces a new challenge. This year, Canadians will have to step up their tourist promotion activities in order to lure our American neighbors over here; and more, important still, we will have to treat them right when they get here.

The people who stand to gain or lose most, depending on which way the tourist trade winds blow, are those who come into direct contact with our visitors—owners and operators of retail stores, restaurants, hotels, resorts, service stations and garages, entertainment places, transportation companies, novelty and souvenir dealers, and the like. They are the "contact" people in our tourist industry.

If they don't let the tourist know who they are, where they are, and what they have to offer, they cannot reasonably expect to reap any benefits. Moreover, if they happen to be among that small minority which sets to work with the avowed purpose of "rooking" the tourist by charging him abnormally high prices, then they do not deserve to stay in business at all. Such disguised swindlers are the biggest menace to a successful tourist industry. They sour the trade for everyone.

It is said there are merchants who try to take undue advantage of Canada's strengthened monetary position by charging American visitors a premium for Canadian funds, over and above the legal rate. Such shortsightedness, not to mention the lack of ethics, is inexcusable. Any Canadians who indulge in this practice are cutting their own throats, because they will not see their victims, and a great many otherwise potential customers, again. Furthermore, such a practice can seriously undermine our tourist industry as a whole. Canada, for whom tourism is an important source of American dollars, cannot afford such foolhardiness.

An essential factor in attracting and impressing American tourists, is to make our country typically Canadian, in other words, let's not imitate someone else's customs and manners. It is a serious mistake to try to turn Canada into an imitation of the United States. Visitors come here to see something different. If they wanted to see what they have at home, they would stay at home.

However, business alone can hardly be expected to solve our tourist problems, so long as it is beset by such heavy taxation.

A great many commodities which bulk so largely in holiday spending cost considerably more in Canada than in the United States because of the level of taxation here. Examples are "tobacco products, camera supplies, sporting goods, gasoline, and a great number of so-called luxury items."

Government, therefore, which so ardently seeks American dollars and so loudly champions the tourist industry as a means of bolstering our economy, might do well to give consideration to relaxing the tax burden. The fallacy of trying to encourage holiday spending in Canada while at the same time adding to the prices for the goods to be purchased is not hard to see.

Wanted—Stewardess

CANADIAN Pacific Air Lines, no doubt, knows its own business. The travelling public also knows what it wants.

There has been a good deal of complaint since the stewardess was removed from the plane run between Prince Rupert and Sandspit.

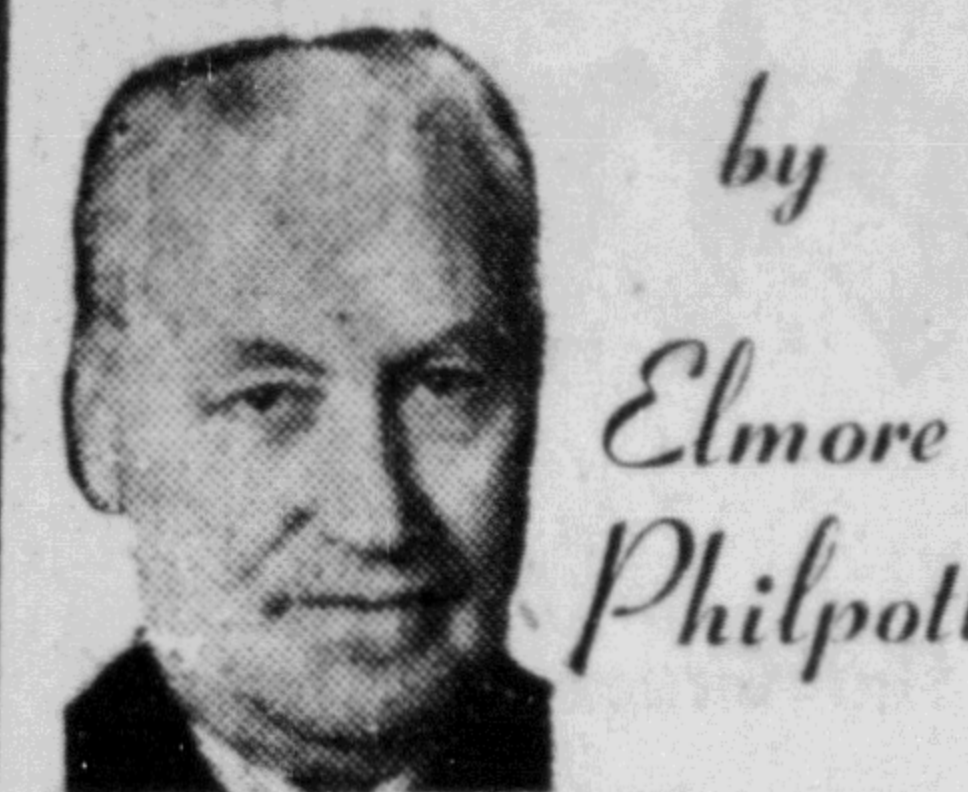
We have been hearing about discomforts, particularly during these recent days of rough flying, which might have been alleviated through the presence of the stewardess.

Maybe we have just got used to the pleasant, smiling young women accompanying us on the Sandspit hop and providing us with that welcome cup of coffee and couple of biscuits.

Anyway, everybody seems to be wishing she was back—rough days or fair—and we hope CPA will consider reinstating her.

Certainly the company cannot any longer tell us that it is for lack of patronage or traffic that this retrenchment has been made.

As I See It



Jap Crimes OK Now?

CANADIANS must have rubbed their eyes with wonder when they read the newspaper reports of the April 9 speech in parliament by J. H. Blackmore, the Social Credit MP for Lethbridge, Alta.

Not only did Mr. Blackmore play down the atrocities committed by the Japanese and Germans in the recent war, and ignore Hong Kong, but in the most perverted, one-sided, part-halt, and partly entirely false explanation of what led up to Pearl Harbor he most unfairly maligns the United States.

According to Mr. Blackmore's warped reasoning, the real war criminals were not the black-hearted war lords and murderers who ruled Japan through assassination and intimidation. No. He blames Cordell Hull, and by oblique implication, even the late President Roosevelt.

MR. BLACKMORE'S astounding speech is set forth on page 141 of Hansard, the official record of House of Commons debates:

"If you torment a bull until you get him so angry that he is almost utterly mad, do not be surprised by anything he does to you, once he starts. . . . In what sort of impossible position were the Japanese people placed. . . . If a man is sufficiently convinced that another is going to destroy him, then the first man will do everything in his power to destroy the second, before the second man acts. . . . I think we must look with a measure of indulgence, or shall I say, charity, on the atrocities committed by the Japanese as well as by the Germans in the great struggle. I am not condoning these things, merely seeking to understand and to make allowances for them."

FOR ONE agree with the Social Credit argument that U.S. insistence on "unconditional most favored nation" tariffs as now insisted upon by the U.S.A. are a bad thing. But to suggest, as Mr. Blackmore did that this device goaded Japan, like a mad bull, to go to war with the real culprit, U.S.A. is like something out of Orwell's nightmare book, called "1984."

The cause of Japan's entry into world war two was not because Roosevelt and Hull had goaded the Japanese bull to the point of fury. It was that the Japanese war lords, were already embarked on one of the most deliberate, carefully planned criminal grabbing campaigns ever seen in history. Ignoring earlier burglaries, like that grab of Korea and Formosa, they were virtually continuous aggressors ever since the end of world war one.

JAPAN grabbed the whole of Manchuria in 1931. By the middle thirties she was grabbing whole chunks of China proper. Japan's capture of the Chinese capital, Nanking, was followed in 1937 by one of the most horrible, deliberately planned mass rapes and ravages in all history. (Why did we expect better at Hong Kong?) What Japan was saying to China and us, in effect, was this:

"Submit to us, or this is the treatment YOU will get too." By 1939 Japan was annexing islands off the China coast. To claim therefore that the naked imperialists; burglars had the "right" to set up a sort of imperial preference tariff system around all this is plain nonsense.

MR. BLACKMORE says he has taught scores of "Japanese" boys and girls and that he has "the honor of representing thousands of them who live in my constituency." He has done these people, and all Canada, a very poor service by implying that they share his warped belief and it was all right for Japan to run amok before; and that under similar circumstances she would be justified in doing it again.

Night-time ITCH Of Toes And Feet Can Almost Drive You Crazy

When feet burn, sting, itch—and shoes feel as if they were cutting right into the flesh—stop at the nearest drug store and ask for a small original bottle of Moore's Emerald Oil. It's a wonderful formula—this combination of Essential Oils with Camphor, Chloroform and other antiseptics—so good that thousands of bottles are sold annually for relief from the almost unbearable itching of Athlete's Foot. Get a bottle today and prove it for yourself. Never have you found such fast and effective relief—and a good night's rest.

International Exchange of Pastors New Goodwill Move

International goodwill and intercommunity understanding along new lines was developed yesterday when Protestant ministers of Ketchikan and Prince Rupert participated in a precedent-creating exchange of pulpits.



INSPIRED — Rev. Wyburn Skidmore, Ketchikan's "First Citizen," preacher at local church during international exchange of pastors.

ray... Reflects and Reminisces

Who was it described a gentleman farmer as one who seldom raises anything but his hat?

Mr. Howe, the minister of trade, betrayed immediate and special interest when he heard of how well the grain elevator at Prince Rupert is doing after a deep silence of years and years. Mr. Howe's firm designed it in the first place, and no one likes to have a jinx hanging around indefinitely.

IT SEEMS TO WORK

Should you see someone packing an umbrella, you can put him (or her) down for a chechako, so far as the north coast is concerned. It works, nine times out of ten. When we came to what was to be Prince Rupert, about a normal lifetime ago, the first purchase made was an umbrella. It was bought even before the first halibut steak and coffee. Within a week, after one had been blown inside out, three had been lost and two were missing, the decision was reached to purchase no more. Fifteen perfectly good dollars had already been squandered. We've often wondered what the grand total would be today had we kept on collecting umbrellas. Fancy! From 1909 to 1952!

HIS WORSHIP

The mayor of Jerusalem, Shlomo Shragal, has been visiting in Montreal recently. He does not look the part. He has no turban, nor has he a beard white and lengthy. His photo was in the Daily News the other evening. His Worship is middle-aged. He wears a snappy style felt hat, eye-glasses and Uncle Sam-ish sort of chin whiskers.

A man is reported to have picked up a steak in a local establishment, a day or so ago, and walked away. And yet we are repeatedly told that a major robbery here is practically unknown.

Gordon Jolliffe, Queen Charlotte sourdough, was in town last week, looking up many old friends and recommending recreation trips to one of the best holiday regions out of doors. It's a fact that some folks have lived in Prince Rupert until they have become bald or gray-haired without ever having sighted the islands. It's always south where the floods happen.

Ottawa estimates that total federal government spending this year will be nine times that of 1939, the per capita comparison is \$49 in 1939 and about \$321 in 1952.

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TOP ECONOMIST — A. F. W. Plumtre, external affairs department's top economist, leaves for Paris in July to become the number two man on the permanent Canadian delegation to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

The 54-year-old Montreal-born head of the department's economic division will become an associate of Arnold Keeney, deputy minister, who has been appointed chief of the delegation. (CP from National Film Board)

Statehood Not Likely This Year

JUNEAU. — Alaska statehood has not much chance for favorable action during the present session of Congress, in the opinion of at least one of the five U.S. legislators who visited Juneau.

The five—Gary (D. Va.), Canfield (R. N.J.), Sleminski (D. N.J.), Passman (D. La.) and Wilson (R. Ind.)—are members of the House Appropriations Committee on an inspection tour of Coast Guard Loran stations.

With an escort of Coast Guard officers, including Rear Admiral R. T. McElligott, commander of the Western Area, they flew to Yakutat to inspect their first station.

While here they were entertained at a dinner with Coast Guard and civilian officials. Entertainment was restricted at the request of the congressmen. Representative Gary said that, because the nation's lawmakers are anxious to adjourn before the national conventions start, he sees little chance for any action on statehood this session.

BILL RECOMMITTED

A statehood measure is tied up in the Senate now. The bill was recommitted for committee study in February after reaching the floor.

Gary pointed out that the House has approved statehood for Alaska once, and he said that, if the Senate measure should pass this session, he has little doubt that it would receive swift approval in the lower body.

A statehood bill died in the Senate after safely passing the House earlier in the session, but an attempt is being made to reopen the issue in the upper house now.

Contact With We Has Little Effect On Formosan Life

(Editor's Note: Bill Boss, Canadian Press staff writer, reports on the Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalist government's efforts to bring some of the odd manners and customs of the island to the mainland.)

TAIPEH, Formosa (CP)—This is one where the Orient has held its own. There isn't a drink advertising sign on the whole island, the presence of some 800 United States Army officers and men and a number of American

There isn't a stick of chewing gum for Formosans, either, which probably is why they differ from most other Orientals in that they don't slouch along, hands in pockets, with the jaws doing most of the body's work. Soft drinks and gum are just two of a long list of "luxury" items that can't be imported because of Formosa's austerity program. They apparently weren't popular before the war and their use now isn't being encouraged.

Western brands of cigarettes and liquor are available only to foreigners at a government store. Purchase is by tickets bought beforehand at the Bank of Formosa with U.S. currency. The U.S. Army also operates a Post Exchange for its soldiers and a few privileged civilians. Locally-produced tobaccos and liquors are government monopolies.

The island is under martial law and takes its austerity program seriously. Dancing in public places is forbidden. Private parties and hold dances at home are also forbidden. Foreigners are being encouraged to buy Formosan goods. Taipeh residents are busy with the chains of flowers and the celebrations for the New Year. Friends pledge that ship annually in a large enough to take at a time, then drive the streets in a parade. Bicycle taxis playing the tunes on a flute, drum and a kind of one-stringed.

70,000 CHRISTIANS. Although Christianity is a 300-year history here, 70,000 adherents of all nations among a population of 3,000,000. Even the names of them inhabiting the mountainous areas along the coast, resist change. Local government has a kind of international (Continued on page 14)

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