

An independent daily newspaper devoted to the upbuilding of Prince Rupert and Northern and Central British Columbia.

Subscription Rates: By carrier—Per week, 25c; per month, \$1.00; per year, \$10.00.

Prayer Not Outdated

PEACE on earth—Good will towards men. The singing of Christmas carols dates back to the 13th century.

With what success? Unfortunately, as education, science and transportation advance, those factors which contribute to unstable relations become more prevalent and threaten "our peace."

However, we as a democratic, religious nation pray that those in control of our national and international affairs may be given the guidance and courage to effect peaceful settlements.

"Good will towards men"—this is the spirit of our religious teachings and it is directly controlled by us as individuals.

Most people express their sentiments at this season by prayer, the handclasp or toasts and thereby break any barrier or resentment which may exist.

The principles expressed in Christmas carols as far back as the 13th century have not been outdated with the passing of time.

"Peace on earth—Good will towards men."

Ray REFLECTS and REMINISCES

Lots of folks living in Prince Rupert keep on growing older. Now, that Over Seventy dinner in United Church hall Thursday comes as an illustration.

The best bridge between despair and hope is a good night's sleep.

How did Boxing Day get its name? Don't know, unless it means we are all in the same boat.

OTTAWA DIARY

By NORMAN M. McLEOD

Any thought that the ending of the fighting in Korea would mean an immediate cut-back in Canadian defence costs, leaving room for more government spending on all kinds of civilian needs, was effectively discredited last week when the federal Statistics Bureau published an analysis for the first nine months of this year of all national income and expenditures.

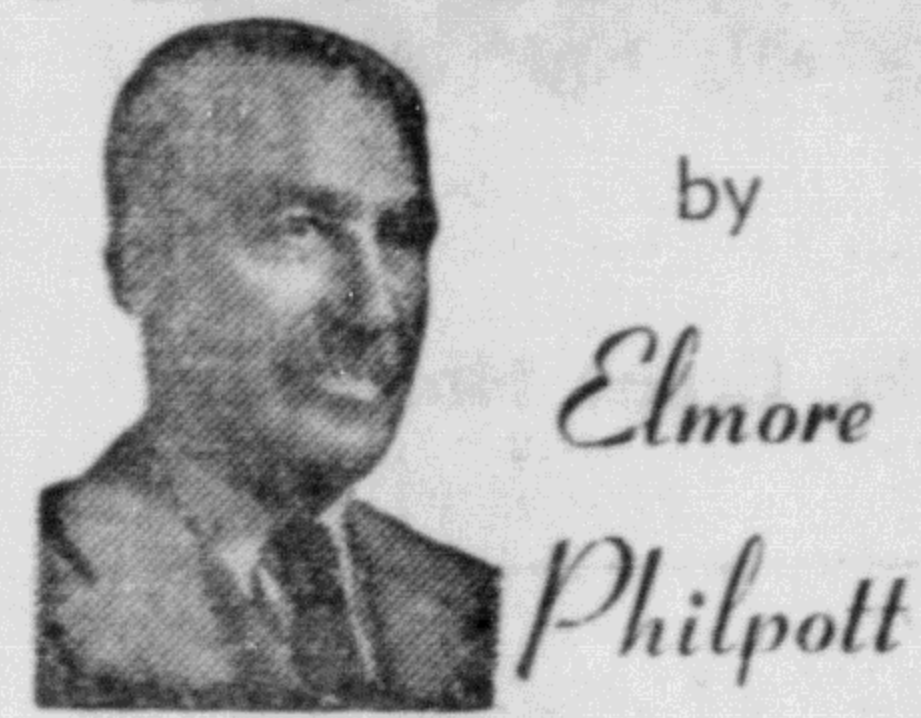
These figures include government expenditures of all kinds—federal, provincial, and municipal. It's estimated that in the last three months of last year, all these governments spent \$1,187,000,000 of taxpayers' money on all goods and services, including defence.

The rate continued to climb as the year progressed, although the first three months was the biggest dollar-value spending period. In the second quarter, for instance, federal government expenditures on defence amounted to 4.83 per cent of all expenditures on all goods and services by all levels of government.

Now in the last quarter for which figures have been published—the third quarter of the year—the percentage of total government expenditures which went into defence was 38.61. The

Continued on Page 6

As I See It



George Was Hard

IT IS a terrible thing to see a big, strong man all broken up from a blow he never expected.

George was a strong man, and a hard man too. Of course you couldn't blame him. The old man had not exactly kicked George out of the poverty-stricken home, in those terrible years of the depression.

George never talked much of those depression days nor of his life in the army. But you did not need to hear him talk to know that they had tempered him into being the hard man that he was.

George did his job well, and as the years went by, made better and better money for doing it. Around the office nobody ever tried to borrow a dollar from George, much less a five or ten spots. For everybody knew, without asking, what the answer would have been. Nor did anyone ever know George to give a single, solitary cent to any charity drive.

George picked his bride with the same open-eyed calculating calm as he showed in every aspect of life.

You could be sure she was a good strong, healthy, intelligent girl when George married her, for otherwise George, being the kind of man he was, would never have given her a second look.

They lived in a neat little white house, drove a car, and went to the movies once a week. In their summer holidays they stayed home, for George said, why should they go chasing around the country when they already had a perfectly good house to live in.

WHEN George's office was born the office joke was "Ain't nature grand" or "Who would have believed it of that old chunk of granite?"

George suddenly mellowed. He never missed an opportunity to tell something about "her."

Behind George's back, the others around the office were divided between cynicism and curiosity. "She is probably another dead-pan like her old man" one young miss said.

But they were wrong. For when George had the wife bring down the baby, expressly to show her off to the office, everybody agreed that "Bonnie" was truly as bonny a baby as anybody had ever seen.

When Bonnie was five, George's little world died. One day she was happy, well and full of fun and laughter as ever. The next day she lay stricken with paralysis.

George had never once really prayed in all his life. But now he found himself groaning out silent prayers, at almost every hour of the day and night.

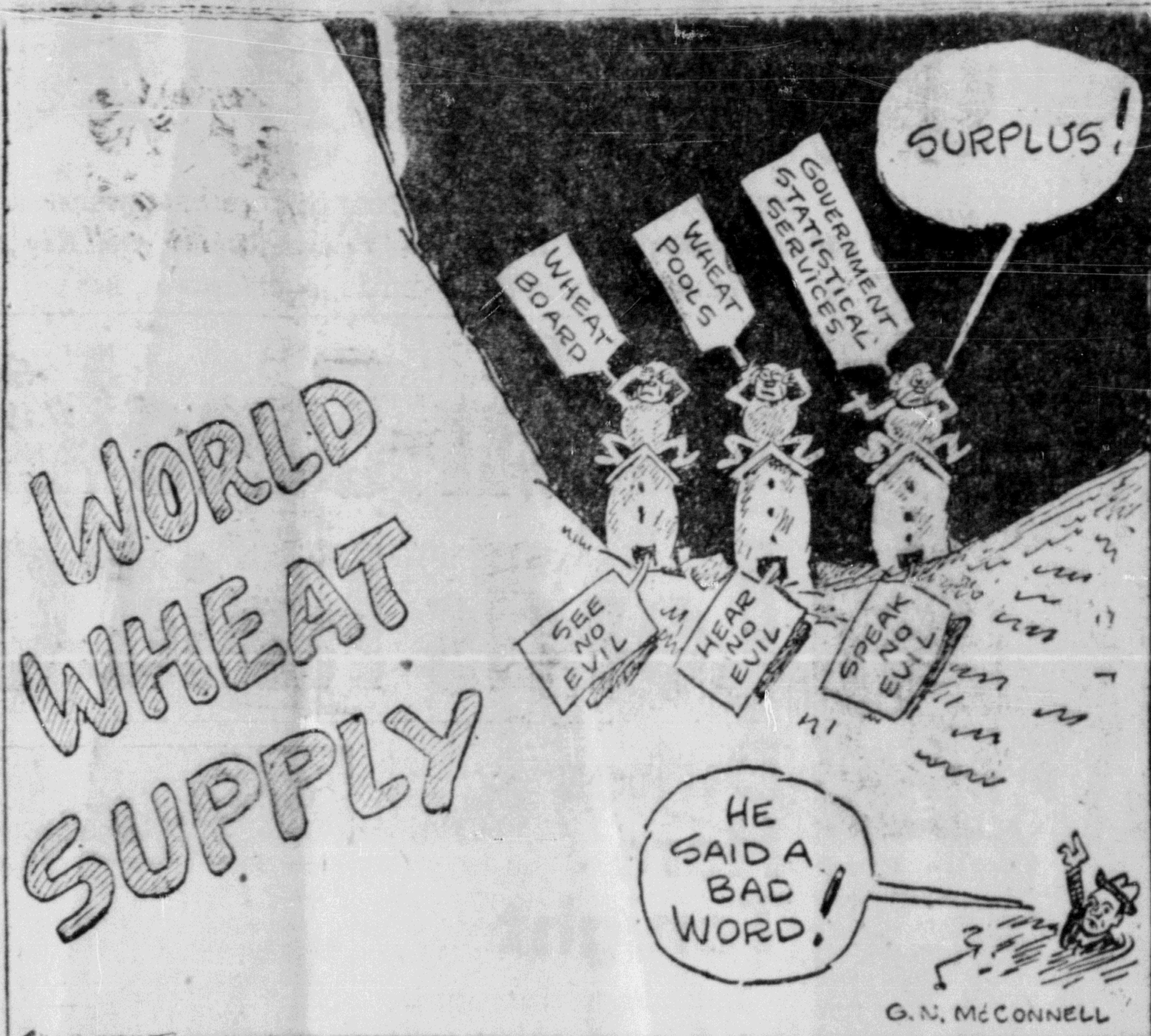
Who knows? Maybe George's prayers—plus the skill of the doctors and nurses, and physiotherapists and technicians and all the other healers at that hospital—did the trick.

Anyway Bonnie got almost better. But George changed too. For in all the months in which George went daily to the children's hospital, he had plenty of time to look around, and think.

For there he saw many children, from near and far, each suffering from some ailment needing treatment. Many came from homes which could only afford a fraction of the cost.

It gradually dawned on George that everyone of those ailing youngsters was as dear to someone as his own Bonnie was to him, but that some had no fathers who could help.

That is why George sits down each Christmas and writes a fair-sized cheque to the March of Dimes fund.



HUSH! SOMEONE MIGHT HEAR—By Arch Dale in Winnipeg Free Press.

All Aboard VICTORIA REPORT

By G. E. MORTIMORE

One of the modern educational toys is a dummy steering wheel that allows the small son to "drive" the car alongside Daddy. As well as being a toy, it is also a kind of safety device.

My own son, a year old this month, has waged a long campaign to wrest the real wheel from my hands. He nearly succeeded once or twice. Had I believed in letting a child have his way at all costs to keep his little personality clear of frustrations, the child and both parents would be lying in a heap of crumpled metal at the bottom of a cliff.

To give the child's dawning mechanical ability something to work on, I borrowed one of these dummy steering wheels and fixed it in the car. But the child was a better mechanic than I thought. He found out right away how to take the dummy steering wheel to pieces. Then he lost interest in it and reached for the real steering wheel again.

Perhaps I should keep the dummy wheel until the boy is older, or else give it away to a child who is more easily fooled by imitations.

I feel anxious about the effects of the dummy wheel on a lad who does use it.

If the boy is an apt pupil, he will soon learn to copy Daddy's actions, as well as the words that Daddy says when a car passes him on a curve.

But attitudes developed in childhood often continue into adult life. The play driver will grow up to drive a real car, and inside him he will have the subconscious feeling that he need not worry how he drives, because someone else is really at the controls.

Already many drivers act as though they thought someone else was at the wheel. With children growing up under the influence of the dummy wheel, such drivers may increase in numbers.

On the other hand, grown people might demand to have a wheel in their hands even when they were riding as passengers. Driving-school cars already have dual control. Later we may see triple-control and quadruple-control cars, and finally, a steering wheel for every passenger, so that the majority or the man with the strongest shoulder muscles would decide which way the car was going to turn.

And that brings up the true story of the Hollywood character who had a device built into his car enabling him to steer with his knees. He made the steering wheel readily detachable. When people nagged him about his driving, he simply pulled the wheel out by the roots and handed it to the offender, saying, "Here, you take the wheel."

Russ Back Ceylon Communists

COLOMBO, Ceylon (CP)—Prime Minister Sir John Kotelawala says Russia has sent money through Switzerland to Ceylon's Communist party, and "I've ordered the bank to stop payment until we find out more about it."

Kotelawala, addressing a meeting Sunday in the South Ceylon town of Kalutara, said he wasn't sure of the amount of the alleged payment, but it was either 7,000 rupees \$1,470 or £7,000, \$19,500.

Communist party secretary S. A. Wickremasinghe challenged the government to prove his party had received money from Russia or from any other country. He called the charge only a "poor attempt to prove the communist party is an imported thing."

Though he is continuing Ceylon's agreement to ship rubber to Communist China in exchange for rice, negotiated by Dudley Senanayake's government, Kotelawala has been pursuing a cold policy toward the Reds.

A week ago he announced he had rejected an overture from Peiping to send a Chinese goodwill mission to Ceylon. He said other than the trade agreement, "Ceylon has no other friendship or dealing with Communist China, nor does she want to."

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Train Crews Threatened

PRINCE GEORGE, B.C. (CP)—Alleged telephone threats halted a lumber shipment here Monday when the crew of a CNR switch engine refused to enter a siding leading to Northern Planning Mills Ltd.

The company has been operating since last week under an "iron clad" picket injunction against the striking IWA, only one of its kind granted here.

The railwaymen claimed they were threatened with violence if they removed a carload of lumber. The threats were made during anonymous telephone calls to the train crew, they said.

Two carloads of lumber have been shipped from the mill since the owners were granted their injunction.

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