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### Sir Stafford Cripps

IR STAFFORD CRIPPS was the chill-toned I recovery boss of shaken Britain after World War II. Prime Minister Clement Attlee's Labor cabinet gave him almost dietatorial powers over labor, industry and finance in 1947 to lead the nation's uphill fight for economic survival. He had more powers than had ever been concentrated in peacetime in one man in the land that cradled parliamentary democracy.

He was "Austerity Cripps," the Spartan who urged a war-weary nation on at a stiff pace and simultaneously withheld many rewards for its labor. He kept food supplies at a bare minimum, banned many consumer goods and luxuries and taxed away 40 per cent of the national income.

The slender, bespectacled Socialist looked and acted the part of a disciple of prosperity through austerity.

In 1947, when Britain's economic crisis deepened, he was elevated to Economics Minister and assumed almost unprecedented peacetime powers for the fight for recovery. Shortly thereafter Cripps undertook the additional post of Chancellor of the Exchequer.

At the time Cripps assumed that office, Churchill called him "the greatest brain in the (Labor) administration." Churchill then was leader of the "Loyal Opposition" in the House of Com-

As economics czar, Cripps used persuasion more than compulsion in his drive for greater management efficiency and harder work in British industry. The severe recovery program was called "a challenge to British grit."

Propaganda campaigns emphasized: "We Work or Want."

"Any question of increases in wages and profits must be accompanied by a corresponding increase in production," he said.

His program of work and denial made him a symbol of the hard days that Britain had fallen upon.

Sir Stafford was one of Great Britain's greatest statesmen—and one of her most realistic.

### St. George's Day

THIS is St. George's Day and special significance lattaches this year to the celebrations as Englishmen the world over mark the feast of England's patron saint.

The passing of a beloved monarch, George VI and the accession of youthful Queen Elizabeth only a few weeks ago linked all the Commonwealth and Empire in a great demonstration of loyalty.

The great day, however, is really for the English.

The day has been marked in England since 1222, and has been observed in Canada for two centuries. There was a great St. George's Day gathering in Halifax in 1750, and another at Toronto in 1822. Since then the anniversary has been celebrated each year in many Canadian communities, large and small.

It's more than the feast day of St. George, born a Greek Christian in A.D. 270 and executed on April 23, A.D. 303, for vigorously opposing the Roman Emperor Diocletian in the latter's policy of persecuting the Christians. It's also the anniversary of the birth and death of William Shakespeare and of the British Navy's historic raid on Zeebrugge in

St. George himself stands as a symbol of courage and chivalry in many ancient lands. He rose to high military rank under Diocletian, and his association with England began when he was sent there on an imperial mission. After strenuously five years was dry-or so it was protesting Diocletian's harsh policies he resigned his commission, but was arrested and put to death.

For centuries the cry "St. George for Merrie England" was a rallying call for English armies on the field of battle, as at Crecy and Agincourt in the 14th century. It was used again by Admiral Sir Roger Keyes to signal the start of the Zeebrugge action in which nine Victoria Crosses were won.

The popularity of St. George in England has been mounting slowly over the centuries. Although his feast day was designated a national festival by the Council of Oxford in 1222, it was not until the reign of Edward II between 1307 and 1327 that he was named as patron of the kingdom.

Since then the celebration of his feast day has grown to rival the observances of the other British patron saints-Patrick of Ireland, Andrew of Scotland and David of Wales.



CANADIAN WOMEN AUTHORS-Four of Canada's women authors get together on the occasion of the visit to Toronto of Germaine Gue remont of Montreal. Mme. Guevremont, second from left, was guest-speaker at four dinne's, two luncheons, several cocktail parties and twice was interviewed on radio stations. With her, left to right, are: Maida Parlow French, novelist, Isabelle Hughes, novelist, and Amabel King, poet, all of Toronto.

# VICTORIA REPORT

resources if posterity is going to

convention in Vancouver, the

other day. Taxpayers have been

There must be something to it.

that get you?

missing.—Ex.

be us.—Calgary Herald.

Liquor Plebiscite, So What?-It's a Long Story in B.C.

VICTORIA.—Liquor, down through the years, day, she kept a promise made persons to go into the out-ofhas always caused controversy in British Columbia -as elsewhere, of course. We're not unique where liquor's concerned.

For the next few weeks, until election day, June 12-there's going to be heard lots about liquor—as the people decide which way to vote in a quite meaningless plebiscite: "Are you in favor of the sale of spirituous liquor and wine by the glass in establishments licensed for such

There's no mention of cocktail lounges-the public doesn't know whether they're voting for cocktail lounges, or not. One wonders why the government doesn't ask: "Are you in favor of cocktail lounges?"

However, let's not concern ourselves at the moment about the current controversy, but let's look a bit into history and be entertained by liquor controversie. of the past.

The first official liquor argument was heard in Victoria nearly a century ago. In 1853 the Legislative Council of the Crown Colony of Vancouver Island passed the first liquor license so what? act. Under it wholesalers paid 100 pounds a year and retailers 125 pounds. Governor James Douglas wrote to the Duke of hit Nevada yesterday. The blast Newcastle, Secretary of State for the Colonies in London: "I just another experiment. If one do not suppose that the licences twice the size and thrice as vi will put a stop to intemperance, cious. had hit instead, what but it will prove a check to a then? Where's the sense in all certain degree, or at least de- this bomb business? What's the prive the tippler of a part of the real purpose back of it all? means he so unprofitably squanders and that part will be applied to the erection of schools and other useful institutions to counteract in some measure the effects of his evil example."

These liquor licences, in 1853, raised the first money by direct taxation in British Columbia. Douglas, far - seeing man that he was could never have visualized the day when the B.C. Government would be hauling in liquor profits to the tune of more than \$18,000,000

Saloons flourished in the early days-and they served beer and hard liquor, but at least you could eat in saloons in those days and mine host took pride in the cold collations he spread—cuts of beef and ham, bologna, sausage, crisp rolls. Sometimes the me cost a nickel-mostly it was on the house.

Later there were bottle shopsprivately owned. In 1916, in the midst of the Great War, there was a move for prohibition in all, parts of North America. There was a demand for it in B.C. The government put a plebiscite to the people: 36,392 people voted prohibition and 27,000 against. The soldier vote overseas, however, was against prohibition.

British Columbia for the next Superior Auto Service said. Doctors and dentists could issue prescriptions for medicinal purposes. A lot of people in that period, it appears now, suddenly found they just could not exist without two or three drinks a day, like a diabetic needs the daily shot insulin to live. And so it was that prohibition was a great farce.

In 1921 there was another plebiscite on liquor. The people were asked if they wanted continuation of prohibition or government-controlled sale of liquor. Nearly 50,000 voted for prohibition, but more than 75,000 voted for government sale.

That was the last time the people expressed their wishes on the subject of retail distribution

But the argument has raged through all the years and the forthcoming plebiscite, and its answer, certainly won't be the end of the controversy. It's good for forever.

LONDON (CP) - During the

engagement by inspecting the be glad to be temporarily l her first birthday as Queen, if she ever came to the throne, she would inspect the Grenadiers. She carried out the promise in the castle quadrangle.

shine. And this description, be it said, is not so extravagant as Science now predicts a life expectancy of 130 years. We'd better be more careful of our natural should be remembered that Puipls in Rossland High School and the Gulf of Saint Lawrence with a minimum of delay. mixed. That is, they are not

quite certain which is which. Prince Rupert and Ketchikan This is what a teacher told a clergymen exchange pupits. With some-if not all-this should be a new and a diverting experience, hearing of certain changes in even though a Sabbath duty. For aspects of the education system. with all of us, being where one has not been before is not without its interesting side.

NEVER UNWELCOME

It is customary to refresh firelargest atomic bomb ever dropmen with hot coffee-for fightped on continental United States ing a serious blaze can be an exhausting as well as a chilling was visible 75 miles away. It was experience. Perhaps its already done but at any rate comes word from Vancouver of newspapermen being similarly recognized. For "getting" a big fire story is also dangerous and wearisome. All hail the drink. Korea of course but where will

WANTS MORE DEER It seems that Europe has al-CHARLOTTETOWN (P) - Preways been a jigsaw with a peace' mier J. Walter Jones believes Prince Edward Island could support a deer population of 10,000. Expectation of a stampede in Since the early days of the prothe Hazelton country late in vince, there were no deer on the May. It's a time of dawning island until two were imported summer, vercant landscape, two years ago. Last year another cloudless skies and warm sun- 12 were brought in.

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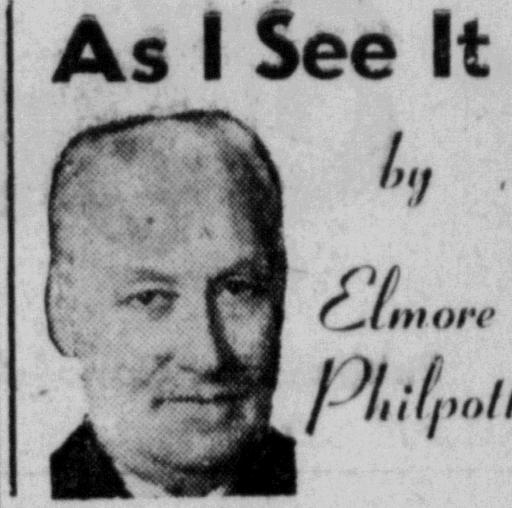
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## Queen Keeps Her Girlhood Promise

Queen's Easter stay at Windsor BOTH THE medical and the den-Castle which was extended to include her 26th birthday Mon- best to get properly qualified

you might suspect. But then, it Prince Rupert is full of folks who do not give two straws for the Skeena, and are here solely to earn as much money as possible and beat it back to Vancouver



Northern Dentists

A READER who lives me about the problem of toothache.

What do you do, she wants to know when there is only one dentist in a 250 mile stretch of country; and when that one dentist is a Swiss, with only temporary permit to practice?

The authorities assure me in this case it is just a question of the dentist himself going off to Canadian university to com piete the training everybody is required to take to be fully qualified to practice here.

But that may be an insufficiently comforting answer to the mother of a northern family, who knows what it is like when one of the family gets a tooth-

tal professions are doing their to herself 10 years ago. | the-way districts. But that is not When, as a young girl of 16, easy. Even in the case of D.P. she fulfilled her first official doctors from Europe, they may First Battalion of the Grenadier censed to locate in some district Guards, of which she had just far from the bigger cities. But been made colonel-in-chief, the as soon as formalities are comyoung Princess decided that on plete most of them transfer to

the bigger centres.

Recently the Advocate, of Red all concerned in Deer, Alberta, reported that young men and about a dozen districts lacked come doctors Medical Health Officers—there chance as thing simply were no applicants for their own way the the positions, as the salaries of learning and offered were too low to attract hospital. and hold quanfied doctors. Yet UNDER THE this is in the heart of prosper- system, a reaso

could work out some system as the following:

The provinces could offer a real protection w considerable number of scholar- now. ships to young men and women Suppose that to become doctors or dentists, called for the your near Smithers writes There are a great many young dentists to serve people who would like to qualify wherever assigned to be doctors, but whose families year before one doe simply cannot afford the very expired another de heavy cost of the many years named for the ve

The recipients of these special is now. Of cours scholarships could have their doctors and der way paid right through univer- cated, would rem sity. But they would be under But the pe contract to serve for so many such places would vears afterwards in pioneer dis- pendent entirely tricts which cannot attract and whim. There wor



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