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A Tough, Dedicated Life

AN AMERICAN writing for an English magazine has portrayed the stern but dramatic and useful life of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in a way that should be brought before more Canadians.

In the "English-Speaking World" published in London, Oregon Senator Richard Neuberger takes part the tourist's, and frequently our own, conception of the Mountie as a colorfully uniformed individual whose main function is to parade smartly about with back erect and jaw set. He pictures instead a man of sound scientific training who belongs to a force of less than 5,000 which polices one of the largest countries on earth.

"Once a Mountie had to be able to cure spavins in a horse and to break a dozen snarling sled dogs off the harness," Mr. Neuberger remarks. "Now it is more important that he be trained to repair a two-ton truck, to operate a short-wave radio and, surprisingly enough, to type at least 30 words a minute."

Among the often overlooked facts the writer brings out is that the RCMP uses more than 1,200 motor vehicles, has a marine division with 86 boats and operates an active aviation section. He points to the elaborate crime laboratories maintained in Regina and at Rockcliffe Park near Ottawa. He refers to their duties calling for enforcement of federal laws which include such national matters as immigration, narcotics, counterfeiting and spying against the Crown.

As an example of their scientific methods of detection, the case is mentioned of the municipal treasurer accused of burning down his office to conceal defalcation of public currency. By painstakingly sifting through a mass of ashes in the gutted establishment, processing the pieces through microscope and spectograph, the police re-created every bill of substantial denomination. The treasurer was acquitted.

A reminder of the Mounties' stern existence is that no member of the force may take a wife during the first five years of service. This promotes speed of movement to remote areas. Yet the wives of the force play their part with courage and devotion. One barricaded a cottage against a half-ton bear to save her four small children. Another guarded a robber with a .45 revolver while her corporal husband went in pursuit of the man's confederate.

With the Mounties "upholding the right" in Prince Rupert, to quote their slogan, it is worthwhile to reflect on the demanding nature of their task. Theirs is a tough and dedicated life which few of us could emulate. They are men to admire and, above all, respect.

OTTAWA DIARY

By Norman M. MacLeod

The enigma that is Quebec in the present Federal campaign was at least partially explained by a key figure in the Duplessis organization who spent the week-end on Parliament Hill.

This veteran politician—who has to remain nameless for obvious reasons—undertook to elucidate for a group of anxious PC workers the help which the Drew forces might count on from the Union Nationale workers in French-speaking Canada. The basis of his exposition was the evident necessity of the PC's winning at least a handful of seats if they are to come within sight of national victory on August 7th next.

Fundamentally, said this Duplessisite, the Union Nationale movement in Quebec is divided, like Caesar's Gaul, into three parts. There were the old-line Quebec Conservatives, the malcontent Quebec Liberals whom the old Taschereau machine alienated, and the more recent Quebec Nationalists, who were not to be confused in any sense with the old-time Henri Bourassa Nationalists.

Premier Duplessis, according to his key supporter, will take no part in the campaign that might endanger the unity of these three factions within his own party. But that wouldn't prevent the Drew candidates from receiving active and strong Union Nationale support in ridings where the old-line Conservatives supplied the backbone of the movement.

That would mean that the Union Nationale support which

the PC candidates in Quebec will receive will lie in pockets around the province. Specific areas would include the lower St. Lawrence and Magdalen Island regions, the Eastern townships, and such scattered rural points as Argenteuil, Beloeil, and similar counties.

In terms of possible PC Quebec seats, Union Nationale sources estimate 12 as the maximum. They also figure, however, that there is at least a fair possibility of the Drew forces losing Three Rivers and Rouville, two of the constituencies which they held in the parliament just dissolved. The net gain which the Duplessisites consider feasible for the PC's is, therefore, 10 seats in the province.

This figure is known to be very substantially below the hopes and the expectations of Leader Drew. His anticipations are said to level off in the neighborhood of at least 30 seats. Drew's optimism was confirmed significantly by his Quebec meeting, which is agreed by all observers to have been in the nature of a triumph.

But what the PC Leader is trying to foresee is an over-all majority. That would require the 30 Quebec seats upon which he is said to be counting. But 10 Quebec seats might still draw him even with Mr. St. Laurent, if the PC sweep in Ontario materializes.

The great Barrier Reef parallels the east coast of Australia for 1,200 miles.

As I See It



by
Elmore
Philpott

British Health Plan

IN ANY national health plan adopted in Canada, regardless of who wins this election, Britain's experience is bound to be useful.

Some features might apply here—some certainly would not suit us.

Here are some facts which show how it is working out:

The number of persons on doctors' lists is exactly the same as in 1949, namely 42,200,000.

Number of doctors working in the service is 18,190. Doctors are also free to carry on their private practice. Doctors get a flat quarterly allowance for persons registered with them under NHS. People are free to transfer their cards from one doctor to another at any time. However, few do so, any more than they switch the regular doctors here.

THERE ARE 15,408 chemists working for the scheme. The number of prescriptions rose from 202,000,000 in 1949 to 216,773,000 now.

Here is a breakdown of the kind of medicines, etc., which the patients actually receive:

Proprietary preparations, 26%
Mixtures, 24%
Tablets, pills, 20%
The remaining prescriptions were for lotions, liniments, bandages, special corsets, etc.

BEFORE the Conservatives came back into power the whole world heard those stories about the Lascar sailors who got free false teeth in Britain and sold them in the Middle East. (How did the buyers make them fit?)

We heard of French seamen coming over to Britain and getting free glass eyes, and even a few foreigners coming in for free wigs.

Most of these tales were just electioneering bunco. Here are the facts. There are 961 eye specialists working for the British health service. The number of registered opticians has risen from 6,377 in 1949 to 7,060 today.

Number of pairs of glasses supplied in 1952 was 3,352,287. Number of dentists is 9,485. The figures show how the changes made by the Conservatives have worked out. Number of dental patients treated rose from 7,800,000 in 1949 to 9,000,000 last year. But after the new government made the patients pay directly a good part of the cost of false teeth there was a sharp decline, thus:

1950 5,000,000
1952 2,500,000

THERE ARE 468,255 hospital beds available to the British national health service, ready for instant use. There are 39,113 extra beds in reserve. The average number of beds occupied rose from 397,570 in 1949 to 416,116 last year.

Number of specialists and consultants retained is:
Whole time 2,676
Part time 16,269

THE BRITISH scheme does everything possible to keep people from having to go to hospital. The service employs 3,863 full time home nurses, as well as 5,021 on part time.

These made 21,081,761 visits last year. In addition there were 11,506,658 visits made by Health Visitors.

The best part of the scheme is that all mothers get excellent care before, during and after the births of their children. So do the children.



FLORIAN ZABACH, famed violinist, noted for his recordings of "The Hot Canary" and "The Red Canary," does some original research in New York's Central Park Birdhouse. He likes the feathered denizens as an audience in an effort to gain some response from the birds that could be incorporated into future musical arrangements.

Rhee So Patriotic Officers Unable To Know What He Might Do Next

By ROBERT EUNSON

TOKYO (AP)—Two weeks ago it was an even money bet around U.S. Far East command headquarters that President Syngman Rhee would stay by the United Nations command when the chips were down, no matter how many threats he made to the contrary.

"Rhee might drive the buggy to the edge, but he will never ship the horses over the cliff," was a common saying.

Then, with an armistice all but completed, Rhee issued an order releasing 27,000 North Korean prisoners whom the Communists were supposed to get to talk to, under the terms of the armistice.

Now, the buggy hasn't gone clear over the cliff, but it is hanging by the last rear wheel. And you can't get anyone to bet that Rhee won't push it over the rest of the way and jump after it, if he doesn't get what he wants.

What he wants is a guarantee that the United States will help him unify Korea by force, if it isn't done any other way. The U.S. and the UN feel that North and South Korea should be unified by election.

"He is so fanatic about unifying Korea before he dies that Rhee is ready to pull down everything that we have built if a general officer at Far East command headquarters said."

"Rhee is so violently patriotic we don't know what he might do from one day to the next."

There are a few wishful thinkers who will venture that any opposition by Rhee's troops to an armistice would be "passive."

That is, he might not order his troops to pull back from the front when and if the UN forces do, but neither would he give

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Ray Reflects and Reminisces

Premier Bennett, back from Ontario, announces revision and possible scrapping of the alternative voting system. Another prospective likelihood of the premier not losing.

Mary had a little cash. She kept it in her hose. And everywhere that Mary went Her friends all said, "It shows."

So Mary took it to the bank. And there she wisely hid it. Which brought her far more interest. Or did it?

A New York housewife says she reduced 25 pounds in a single month on a diet of steak three times daily. But she was worth it.

NOT A SINGLE ONE

The Soviet cruiser Sverdlov anchored off Spithead in 12 minutes on the morning of the Queen's naval review. According to British estimates the time should have been not less than one hour and 20 minutes. Well, as far as anyone knows no denial has been heard from Moscow or London.

A journey to Mars is planned by a German scientist. His plans include a stopover at a space-platform established a thousand miles distant from the earth. Most of us, however, will wait until we have a few relations along the way, good for a free bed and breakfast.

THOSE OLD BANKS

During the fiscal year ending March 31, Canadian banks in-

creased some 66 millions to \$5,066,538,000 in savings deposits. This being the case, why is it that few families claim to be able to live within their budget because of high prices? Families have a worried look, too!

Perhaps never before, says an old friend of Irving P. Kaufman, who sentenced the Rosenbergs, has a judge in an American court been subjected to such organized mass pressure. Judge Kaufman's life and the lives of his wife and children were threatened. He received so

large a volume of vituperative mail that he had to stop reading it. He was called on the telephone day and night and he stopped answering calls from personal friends.



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Who moves out?

If you should die before your home is free and clear of debt who would move out—your family or the mortgage? Certainly your family deserves the protection of a home of their own if you are not here to care for them. At an amazingly small cost you can purchase Mortgage Insurance and guarantee that your family will inherit a HOME instead of a Mortgage. Ask about this plan today.

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