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Farmers Should Organize

It is mystifying that farmers of the Bulkley Valley apparently have paid little attention to a questionnaire circulated by the Smithers and District Chamber of Commerce to get views on promoting sale of their produce.

With markets in this area expanding all the time, northern farmers have an excellent chance to increase their business and capture the trade which now goes to the Fraser Valley. So far they have allowed the lack of organized grading and marketing facilities to prevent them from gaining a competitive position. Rather than take a chance on uncertain quality or delivery, retailers continue to buy mainly from the south despite the shipping disadvantages which this involves.

The Smithers Chamber acted in the belief that, with all the necessary information at hand, the local farmers might then organize in their own interests to meet the demands of both present and potential markets. It was a creditable effort and it is gratifying to know that a fresh attempt to gain this information will be made through a revised questionnaire.

There is every reason to believe that, if Bulkley Valley farmers put their operations on a business-like basis, they will find local markets ready and waiting. Buying from farms in the south is not a habit. It is a necessity and, if local farmers fail to understand they are in a business where reliable service is essential, it will remain that way.

Ray REFLECTS and REMINISCES

Prime Minister St. Laurent has been around the world, and could not have missed the tour, he says, for anything. He returns home, better informed than ever before, and Canada and Canadians will have lots to listen to.

ONLY ONCE

You are young only once. After that you've got to be smart to hink up the line of excuses for the foolish things you will be destined to do.

A pat on the back, it is said frequently develops character — administered when young enough and low enough.

PADRE'S PROGRESS

Rev. William David Grant Hollingworth has become Oakalla's first full-time padre and his work is strenuous enough to keep him on the go every day and four nights a week. His services are becoming more widely recognized. The Vancouver Sun prints his photograph (double column) with a sketch of his career, in detail. Mr. Hollingworth was pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Prince Rupert for quite a few years, but there is not the slightest mention of this.

The difference between working for money and marrying for it is that the working for it enslaves a person only some forty hours a week.

LIKED NO WHERE!

The following newspaper line appeared in an Australian publication recently: "Queen Attends Aussie Church." In another part of the globe, Newfoundland, they print "Newfie" for short. Nor do they like it any better on that side of the world.

Most of us know how to say nothing—but few of us know when.

LOVE THE WATER

Ever since the handsome Empresses sailed the western ocean, the travel world took the service as a matter of course. Came a couple of wars, and Pacific deep sea shipping was hard hit. But it's a happy fact to know that B.C. and Australia are being linked again by sailors. Air is all very well. So is a good ship.

Planes continue to improve. The same is true of cars, high-

ways and many another necessity. Yet, within the past few weeks, more crashes and corpses have meant grievous disaster and loss. We welcome greater speed and security both at home and abroad. And so it goes from year's end to year's end.

EAST AND WEST

Minister of Transport Hon. M. Chevrier says the Hudson Bay Railway route is "coming into its own" or that in other words Port Churchill is about to become the country's third grain exporting port. He could have mentioned how major wheat shipments will soon be using Pacific Coast harbors.

From Hansard—Mr. Noseworthy—"Is there a possibility that we may get ourselves into the position where for the sake of some United States support, we shall find that waterway when finished under complete, or fairly complete control of the United States. Are we taking safeguards? Safeguards to see that the project brings employment to Canadians, as well as to citizens of the United States."

150-Mile House Store Robbed

WILLIAMS LAKE, B.C. (CP) — RCMP officers have set up road blocks and are still combing this Cariboo area for a hooded gunman who robbed the 150-Mile House general store of \$600.

The proprietor, C. J. Zirnheit, surprised the man as he was attempting to gain entrance into the building through a window shortly before midnight Friday.

The gunman threatened Zirnheit with his pistol and forced him to admit him into the store. Zirnheit was forced to open the safe and put the money in a canvas sack.

Magic Trio

SACKVILLE, N.B. (CP) — Not one magician, but a whole trio, performed at Mount Allison University's annual Trueman House party. Dr. D. W. MacLaughlin, dean of men, teamed up with Ken Bagnell of Glace Bay and Wilson White of New Glasgow.

As I See It



by
Elmore
Philbott

Radio Sore Spots

AN Ottawa radio station recently ran a prize program in which contestants had to track down clues which concerned the life of the Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe.

The program was in bad taste to begin with, for some of the "clues" dealt with such items as the eye-glasses and dentures of the acting prime minister.

The capital city of Canada witnessed a striking demonstration of what should NOT (repeat NOT) be done on such programs. Contestants telephoned Mr. and Mrs. Howe at all hours of the day and night for information, and even for assistance in trying to win the prize money. Some of the cheekier prize-seekers (I dodge the question of the sex) even sent messages into the House of Commons, calling the government leader to the telephone in the lobby.

This is just one of the reasons why the responsible authorities are bound to take a good long second look at the conduct of the so-called giveaway programs.

IT SEEMS to me that the commercial radio stations across Canada could save themselves and the country a good deal of argument by deciding among themselves to eliminate the kind of contests which constitute a public nuisance, by undue intrusion into the private life of the central figures named in the contests.

But it seems to me that the Board of Governors of the CBC is not the proper body to conduct a public hearing into the give-away programs run by the commercial stations. That body serves a dual capacity. It tries to act as the board of directors of the public radio and TV system. It tries also to serve as the general governing and regulating body of all radio in Canada. The two duties inevitably conflict. Nobody knows at what point the Board of Governors ceases to act as the champion of the CBC, and begins to act as the umpire and ruler over the claims of their own competitors, the private radio stations.

As early as 1943 I wrote as strongly as I could in this column for a radio regulatory board completely distinct from the board of governors of the CBC. I argued then that the sole job of the CBC directors should be to run the CBC, and that those directors should have no say whatsoever as to the operations of the private stations, competing with the CBC.

CANADA has always half-followed the example of Britain in radio matters. Britain has just legalized two competing TV systems. The BBC TV will carry on as in the past. But there will be a chain of commercial TV stations, on which advertising is permitted, under strict laws, made by parliament.

But the main point is that the new private TV system in Britain will be governed by an entirely new national board — completely separate and distinct from the BBC.

The example is a good one. How can the CBC board of governors conduct an inquiry, for instance, into the propriety of give-away programs on private stations without laying itself open to the suspicion that the CBC may merely covet more listeners for its own soap-opera programs, which run for several hours a day?

Costly Snow

MONTREAL (CP) — The original civic snow removal budget of \$3,700,000 was expended by Feb. 20, and an additional \$200,000 has been approved. The executive committee was told the entire winter cost might reach \$4,200,000.



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LETTERBOX

ADDING SOME BALANCE

Editor,
The Daily News.
Dear Sir:

You seem to devote a great number of editorials to castigating Senator McCarthy. These, together with all the critical columns elsewhere in your otherwise admirable paper, add up to a pretty one-sided picture. May I be allowed the courtesy of your columns to try to add some balance to the scales and perhaps disabuse a few readers of the prevalent misconception you aggravate. I have yet to read of one person who was hurt by the Senator and who didn't have it coming to him.

In Saturday's editorial you call McCarthy an "obvious mischief-maker who is working by instinct rather than on principle." Since some instincts are admirable and some principles are contemptible your accusation becomes quite a non-sequitur, although we can assume you meant it to discredit him. But if you're going to use an anonymous editorial to call a United States Senator a mischief-maker in a court of law—they may have counsel coach them on every question they answer.

However, the way I read of his dispute with the Army, McCarthy was working on the principle that Communies in Government or the Services must be exposed and if some stupid, arrogant or witless man in a position of authority appears before an investigating body of the supreme authority of the nation, and is found to be one of those who promoted and honorably discharged an officer who to their knowledge took some part in a conspiracy to overthrow violently that Government and Constitution he was sworn to defend, then that man, be he a General or a private, must be made to account for his action, and if he tries to avoid this by playing coy with the Committee and giving evasive answers he, obviously, is not fit to wear the uniform.

On the other hand, it was the Army authorities who acted by instinct—the instinct to cover up their own negligence—or worse. The Secretary of the Army himself admitted that the Army was wrong about the way it was handling Communist traitors in its midst—that was an understatement! So why condemn McCarthy for exposing this situation? That is the best way to ensure that the situation will be remedied, and that's what those Committees are set up for.

Read the transcript of the hearing and you'll be surprised at how restrained the Senator actually was under the circumstances. There is an American weekly magazine available at most of our newsstands which nearly every week prints the full question and answer text of these Congressional hearings. I recommend that you read it and get some of the facts before joining in the chorus of that international throng of bleeding hearts who do so much to confuse the public and heap abuse on an American patriot or anyone who effectively opposes Communism or Socialism.

Who are those anti-anti-Communists who today smear McCarthy? They are the same Yahoos who exorcised Congressman Martin Dies and every other honest Red hunter since; the same Parlor Pink who make a great show of condemning Communism in the abstract or general terms, but when it comes to doing something about it in the only effective way, then they bleat "Oh, let's not be beastly to the Bolsheviks!" the same left-wingers who continued to defend Alger Hiss and vehemently sling mud on the man who, exposed him, long after he had been proven guilty on evidence which should not have left a six-year old in doubt of his guilt; the same bleeding hearts who raised such a mighty international clamor for clemency for the Rosenbergs—spies in the service of a country which secretly condemns and executes its victims.

And what are their arguments against McCarthy? Well, they say he is not really concerned about Communists, he is just an opportunist and publicity hound.

LATEST REPORT

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Report From

PARLIAMENT

By E. T. APPLEWHITE, MP Skeena

This is the time of year British Columbians exposed to the bracing and healthy, if somewhat frigid, climate of Ottawa turn longing eyes to the milder areas of the Pacific Coast. March certainly came in like a lion with high winds, low temperatures and fresh snow. Perhaps we from B.C. are just soft—but I could do with a little coastal weather right now.

The shooting fracas in the American Congress naturally aroused a great interest here. Members can now be seen entering the Chamber and carefully scrutinizing the galleries, wondering from which direction the barrage is most likely to come; however, I think Canada is still a pretty level-headed country, and usually we take a less direct form of protest than the gun.

I have never mentioned in these columns the increase in parliamentary indemnities. I have had a total of three letters on the subject, one only of which was in the nature of a protest. You may not agree with me but I, for one, can accept the increase without any feeling of guilt.

I should like, a little late in the day, to add my congratulations to those of all the other citizens of Prince Rupert, to Bob Moore, for the 1953 Good Citizen Award. That was certainly a wise and well justified choice. And with Bob, we all know that he will not rest on his laurels just because he has received an award he never contemplated; he will continue to serve the community as he has done so well in the past. The only difference is that now he will realize that his services and his qualities have not gone unappreciated.

Reverting to a subject which is not too pleasant, namely, the Prince Rupert Dry Dock and Shipyards, I cannot over-emphasize now the desirability—the absolute necessity—of interesting those who are capable of operating it. You see it is now squarely up to us to prove that this plant is the sound, economic undertaking we have always claimed it could be. In honesty, I must report with regret that I have not been successful in getting from the Aluminum Company the favourable commitments I had hoped might be forthcoming there. However, letters and personal calls are indicating some interest in this project. I am writing to certain organizations suggesting the compilation of certain factual data which I am sure will be helpful.

I hope the people in our part of B.C. will take a long and careful look at any proposal for a "Corridor" through Alaska. If we have—as we have—a great power potentialities in Northern B. C., we must be sure that they are developed in the way which will bring to our people the greatest benefit from that development—and that, without wrecking the developments we already have. Look out for a high-powered, inspired campaign of misleading publicity on this subject.

The basic problem of President Eisenhower's career, it seems to me, has lately taken on a look of increasing urgency, namely,



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The Fox without a Tail

A FOX once fell into a trap, and after a struggle managed to get free, but with the loss of his brush. He was then so much ashamed of his appearance that he thought life was not worth living unless he could persuade the other Foxes to part with their tails also, and thus divert attention from his own loss. So he called a meeting of all the Foxes, and advised them to cut off their tails: "They're ugly things anyhow," he said, "and besides they're heavy, and it's tiresome to be always carrying them about with you." But one of the other Foxes said, "My friend, if you hadn't lost your own tail, you wouldn't be so keen on getting us to cut off ours."

MORAL: When an acquaintance says to you "Why bother with a savings account?" he may be acting like the fox without a tail. Any man who knows anything of the chances—and mischances—of life, makes a savings account the first step in his investment program. That's why level-headed Canadians from coast to coast maintain savings accounts with The Canadian Bank of Commerce. Why not join the procession?



Illustration by Arthur Rackham, from the Heinemann Edition of Aesop's Fables.

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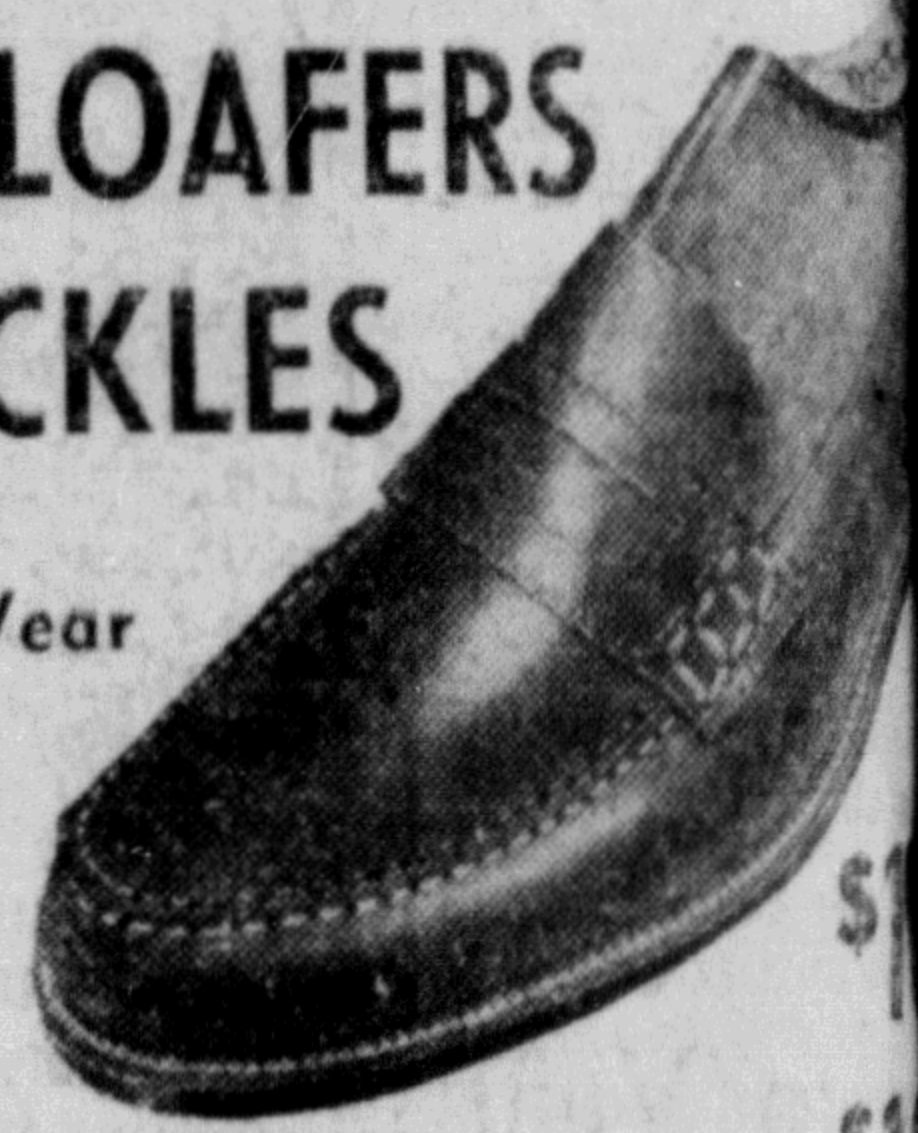
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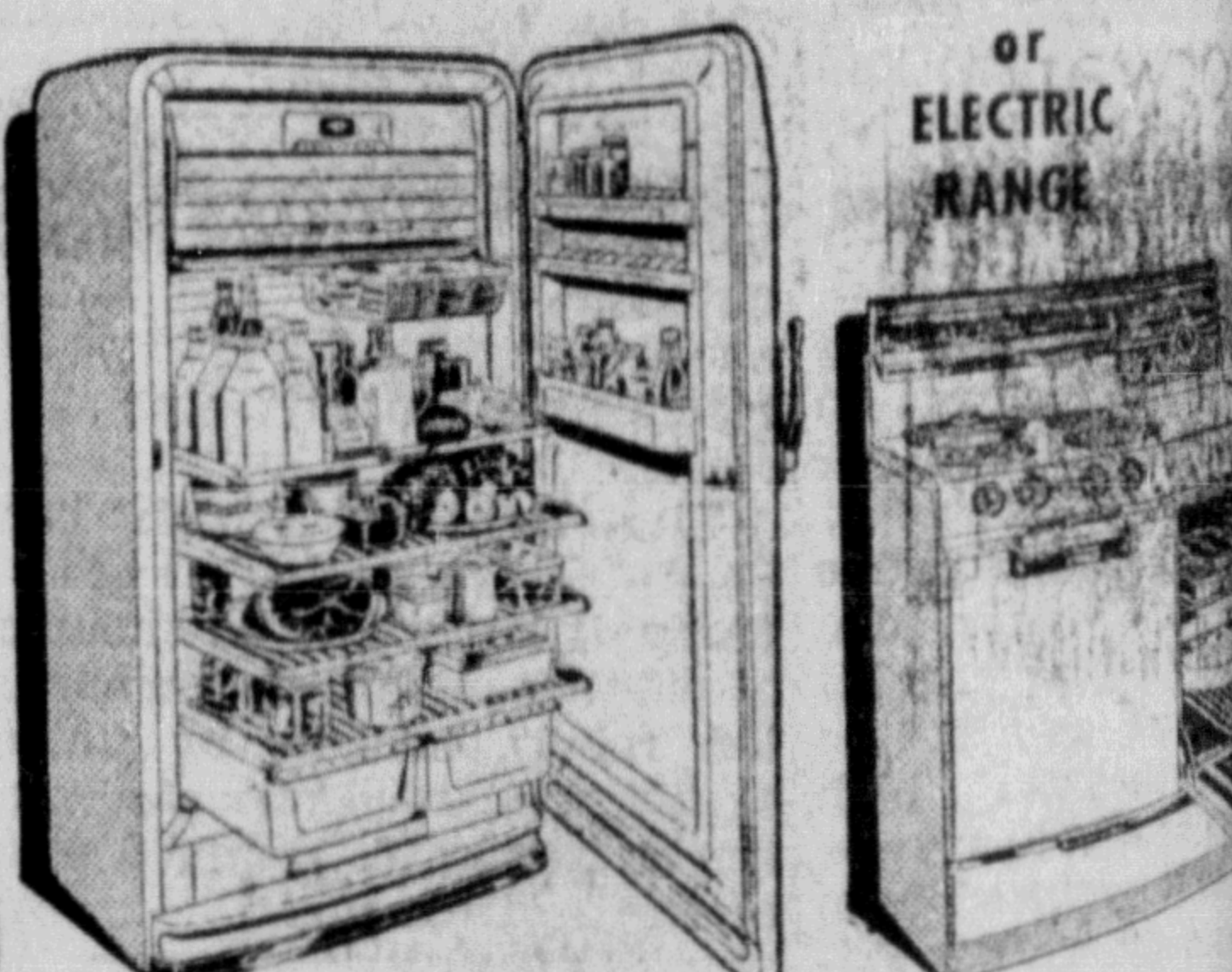
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