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Discerning Voters

ONE of the remarkable developments of the election occurred out here in B.C. where a party counted out as dead, or nearly so, proved that it is still very much alive. While there was no reason why, on the basis of their record, the Liberals should not make a good federal showing, there was clearly some uneasiness in the party about its chances.

In view of their experience in the last two provincial elections, this anxiety was natural enough, but it failed to take into account that the voter is after all a discerning individual. Under the Liberal government at Ottawa, Canada has had capable direction of its affairs, and B.C. has benefited along with the rest.

Another noteworthy development was the strong finish of the CCF, with the corresponding failure of Social Credit to meet its expectations. While the Socialists continue to run second, federally and provincially, it cannot be denied that their advocacy of state ownership has a substantial following in B.C.

Meanwhile the Socreds remain the unpredictable factor they have always been. It will require considerable time yet before one can say with certainty whether or not they are here to stay as a major force. What they make of their government at Victoria will go a long way towards establishing this.

In Skeena the convincing victory of Ted Applewhaite was not only just reward for services already given but also an expression of confidence that more are to come. Mr. Applewhaite is a politician who can cut across party lines because he has an earnest and obvious wish simply to do his best for the constituency to which he is so attached. Those who heard his campaign talks could appreciate that here was a man who knew where he was going, provided the electorate gave him the chance. He had the answers and understood the needs.

Now he has the chance and will surely add to the excellent record already behind him. In this immediate part of the constituency we will watch with particular attention his work on construction of an airport, rehabilitation of the drydock and development of fishermen's facilities at Cow Bay.

Mr. Applewhaite's remarks about a clean contest were a tribute to the opponents who so ably presented the views of their respective parties. While congratulating the winner, we extend thanks to the other candidates for ensuring that the constituents of this riding had full opportunity to make their democratic choice.

Ray REFLECTS and REMINISCES

Think back a while. Suppose that in the early summer of 1952 you had been told more or less briefly on public affairs in B.C. and in Canada. This is August 11 and you've escaped it all. Life was becoming one election after another.

SAME OLD CUSTOMS

Politicians who persisted in plastering up poles and fences with illegal posters can now sit down, and at their leisure think it all over. All they committed was just another example of incompetence and waste. They had their enthusiasm and had to exercise it.

The fastest drivers are, as a general rule, never going any place in particular.

MIGHT HAVE BEEN THOUGHT

There is something possibly significant in the recent announcement of French physicians who give warning of an increase of alcoholism. Nevertheless, to perceive two prime ministers at the same time is not necessarily a symptom.

I know as long as I live I shall write, comments Dorothy Thomson. When effort ceases—one is dead. Nearly everyone

wants to have some place in the world of work and usefulness. I am not complaining of age. I am looking forward to it. The luxury of late effort is that they are performed without desire for praise, or blame, or fear, the ambition for applause or recognition. It all helps bring a new, refreshing freedom.

It was hardly thought the loss of the Titanic would score the tremendous hit it is now doing, 41 years after. Somehow, this member remains a ghastly green. Hundreds still survive a sinking that spreads the raw terror of an April midnight so long ago. The realism is there, be it on the screen or on the ocean.

It seems that Samson never amounted to a continental damn, once Delilah gave him that well-known haircut. It was a whole of a cut, all right. We won't deny it for a moment. And now, British medical men are out with the declaration that bald men are more virile and tough than anyone with plenty of hair. Somehow, that should be jolly well questioned. We can't just forget or belittle Samson.

I sincerely wish to thank all those who worked so hard and supported me at yesterday's election.

Harry G. Archibald
CCF Candidate.



WILLIAM LAMBIE



PHIL LINZEY

Appointment of Bill Lambie as chairman and Phil Linzey as treasurer of the 1953 Red Shield campaign in Prince Rupert has been made by Air Marshall W. A. (Billy) Bishop, VC, chairman of the National Advisory Board of the Salvation Army. Mr. Lambie will announce the complete list of names of the Prince Rupert committee at a later date. The Red Shield campaign for the Prince Rupert area will get under way September 8 with a quota of \$3,500 as an objective.

VICTORIA REPORT

by J. K. Nesbitt

VICTORIA — There won't be much in fireworks at legislative opening Sept. 15. It will be all business.

Nobody will have the balance of power. Last session the Liberals had it, and so they were important. This session the Liberals won't be able to move so much as a comma. How they vote won't matter in the least.

That's one of the many frustrations facing new Liberal leader Arthur Laing. He'll be down at the bottom of the House with three other Liberals. What they do or say won't change a thing. It will be extremely interesting to see who they line up with—Social Crediters or CCFers—but, other than that, the Liberal group will be ignored. If Mr. Laing was Leader of the Opposition, with only three supporters, he'd have some hope. But now he's only the leader of a rump group in the House. It's an awful position for a smart young man to find himself in, especially since he gave up a House of Commons seat, only to get into a position of complete political impotence.

No, very little excitement this coming session! True, Social Crediters will crow some at their great victory at the polls last June. Victorious politicians always crow.

Social Crediters will crow—and who can blame them—because they cut the CCF in the House from 18 to 14 members, the Liberals from six to four, the Conservatives from four to one. Not a bad showing! No wonder the Social Crediters will crow. Who wouldn't? And yet there are those who insist Social Credit didn't sweep B.C. last June.

However, Social Credit tauntings will quickly dissolve, since CCFers, Liberals and Conservatives, in view of their S.C.-inflicted humiliations, will be in no mood to keep them going. And who can blame them for that? They want last June forgotten.

Besides, the first session after an election's always quiet. Voting day's a long way off, so there is not much point to making political speeches in the House, as becomes the fashion the last session before an election.

The session will last about a month—no more! Premier Bennett says it will be a regular session, not what's sometimes called a special session. Because it's a regular session, M.L.A.'s will get their full \$3,000 sessional indemnity. This is a break for 31 members who sat in the last House, and were re-elected. They will get \$6,000 this year.

There will be a Speech from the Throne, but no budget address. The budget was delivered last February. The money needed to run the province to the end of next March will be voted in supply bills—not very spectacular!

All the business left undone when the government collapsed on the floor of the House last March will be completed. The government won't have to be beholden to anybody this time; it can laughably march in with legislation, having thoroughly caucused it behind closed doors, and the legislation will pass. Oh yes, the oppositionists will shout and howl a bit, but it won't do any good. The government will have a majority of eight members—not much, but still a steam roller, with all the good S.C.'ers sewed up in caucus.

The legislation includes the new Liquor Act, allowing cocktail lounges, not too many, and with bright lights; none of this dimness that is said to create clamorous sin in the U.S. Sales tax will be lifted from meals \$1 and under; car licence fees will be reduced 10 per cent. There will be new taxes on logging and mining profits. The Rolston Formula will be implemented—that highly complicated scheme for education costs, which few understand, and which caused the government's collapse, because the Liberals wouldn't go for it. The government may judge the public wants the Rolston Formula; if the public did not, the Liberals would have been elected.

Here's an astonishing fact—outside the Premier, there will not be one member in the House this session with any brotherly link with the Coalition, and the Premier's brotherly link went sour.

Seldom have the voters done such a ruthlessly complete, thoroughly heartless job of pitching out the old, putting in the new.

General De Gaulle Keeps Posted On Political Scene

BY HAROLD KING

PARIS (Reuters)—Every Wednesday a tall, military figure steps from a small car and enters offices in the rue Solferino. Gen. Charles de Gaulle has come to town to keep his finger on the pulse of French politics.

De Gaulle, 62, stepped out of the political arena this spring when he severed the official connection between his movement and members of the Chamber of Deputies elected as his supporters. But he still holds a potent influence.

The wartime resistance leader keeps a Wednesday-to-Friday schedule in Paris, spending the rest of the time in seclusion in his modest home at the village of Colombey les Deux Eglises, a three-hour drive from here.

Mme. de Gaulle always accompanies the general to Paris. They stay at a small hotel near the Arc de Triomphe. Each Friday they return to the village by car, with de Gaulle sitting silently beside his chauffeur and his wife in the back seat.

Almost the only time the village sees de Gaulle is Sunday, when he attends mass. Madame is seen regularly as she goes about her shopping.

A 10-acre park surrounds the house which they bought many years ago for an ailing daughter, Ann, now dead.

De Gaulle passes the time reading, walking in the park and fitfully writing his memoirs. They are unlikely to be published before his death. Intimates say he has been severely critical of some of his contemporaries.

What Other Papers Say...

Charlottetown Guardian (Ind. Cons): While the voting may be interpreted as a mark of confidence in the way in which the St. Laurent government conducted the nation's business, it does not necessarily mean that the majority of the people were completely satisfied with its record. In a large degree it may mean only that it was preferable to any likely alternative.

Moncton Times (Ind.): After all the arguments, distortions and passions that Canadians have heard... the electors have revealed that they give solid thought to the real problems confronting them, the kind of government they consider best for their country in the years immediately ahead, and registered their verdict at the polls in terms significantly clear and unchallengeable.

The Halifax Chronicle-Herald (Ind.): spoke of the indication of an overwhelming majority and added: "It is often roundly asserted that a large and commanding majority is not good for any and may even be detrimental to the cause of truly responsible government. While the extremity of this dictum may leave it open to considerable doubt, there is certainly this truth in it, that a strong and alive opposition with its worrying tactic is the basis of sound democratic administration. It may be, as is often charged,

Converts Among Freed U.S. PoWs

FREEDOM VILLAGE (AP)—Americans freed from Red prison stockades said today Red-infiltrated United States prisoners are among those returning, including 30 "progressives" en route home to preach communism in the U.S.

Cpl. Leslie E. Scales, 22, of Folsomville, Ind., said the 30 members of his 306-man company at Camp 5 in Pyoktong on the Yalu river.

Most of them in the company were anti-Red, he said in an interview at Inchon, but he knew the 30 personally.

Other repatriated prisoners told of Americans who collaborated with the Reds, but only Scales told of repatriates returning to work for communism in the U.S.

Scales said he did not know if the "progressives" planned to join the Communist party in the U.S., but said he heard them talk of a reunion at the home of a friend in San Francisco to discuss their next moves.

Scales said he also knew of several British PoWs returning who had collaborated with the Reds. One, he said, had told him he was a card-carrying Communist.

"I think something should be done to them. A lot of guys have suffered on account of them. They seem happy now. Nothing has been said to them and nothing has been done to them."

Cpl. Harold Wilson, 32, of Mobile, Ala., said one prisoner, considered the "No. 1 progressive" in Camp 5, had said he would "kill his own mother and father if they interfered with him being a Communist and would never even spit on an American dollar again."

Three other Americans who returned Monday said the Reds have returned "No. 1 progressives" from Camp 5.

Shipping Boom
PORT STANLEY, Ont. (P)—This Lake Erie port is suddenly emerging as a shipping centre. Records late in July showed 70 clearances since the opening of the navigation season, a figure far in advance of last year. Most visiting ships are coal and oil carriers.

wasteful of effort and time, but it inculcates a healthy regard for the opinions and the rights of others and for the ultimate responsibility of a government, to the people."

The Montreal Gazette (Ind. Cons) said the Liberal government will face the work of the next four or five years with little opposition because it has found little opposition in the country itself.

It added: "Above all else, of course, the Liberal party has had the immense advantage of having Mr. St. Laurent as its leader. The evident wish of the late W. L. Mackenzie King that Mr. St. Laurent should inherit his political mantle was the last of his masterly adjustments."

The Gazette said Mr. St. Laurent has become a skilful campaigner and "through the first weeks of the campaign he toured the nation saying little that was controversial... So sweeping a victory as Mr. St. Laurent has gained brings with it exceptional obligations. The comparative weakness of the power of the opposition in parliament makes all the heavier the personal responsibility of the prime minister for careful and restrained administration."

Ottawa Citizen (Ind Lib): There is a danger of recurrent landslides. The House of Commons is left with a small and frequently ineffective opposition, and the dominant party has little to keep it in check but its own sense of responsibility. In such a case, criticism from within its own ranks... may help in some measure to compensate for the lack of a numerically strong opposition. It is in the public interest that this should be so.

Toronto Globe and Mail (Ind.): The Progressive Conservatives presented a constructive program attuned to the times and what appeared to be the weaknesses of the St. Laurent government. Supporting that program, we felt, and still feel, it important that no more time and opportunities to promote the balanced development of the country should be wasted. Nonetheless, it has been turned down by a seemingly satisfied electorate. It is commonly said that governments cannot be changed in good times. Is that the only reason for the Liberals' sweeping victory? We think there is another, the extraordinary vote-getting powers of Prime Minister St. Laurent. Few men in Canadian history have shown his ability to obtain support at the polls.

Winnipeg Free Press (Ind Lib): The re-election of the Liberal party with almost as many members as in the last parliament and the crushing defeat of the Conservative party demonstrates that the people not only understand and appreciate the good government this country has had in the past four years but are not to be misled by wild, irresponsible and contradictory promises...

The first public reaction, undoubtedly, will be one of satisfaction that the country has been assured of stable government and a continuation of the sound general policies of the past four years.

Regina Leader-Post (Ind Lib): The re-election of the St. Laurent government... assures the nation a strong administration and a truly national one during the ensuing parliamentary term. Canada in these critical times has thus avoided government instability which unhappily plagues some of the other free nations.

Moose Jaw Times-Herald (Ind.): There are certain features of the election which are of particular interest. The first... is that the government gained strength in the Maritimes. The second was the return of every cabinet minister, while the third was that in B.C. where the Social Credit party recently won control of the government, the electors must have figured that the St. Laur-

ent government would be returned, and kept themselves in good standing with Ottawa.

Saskatchewan and Alberta remain the recalcitrant provinces, preferring major representation at Ottawa in the ranks of the splinter party opposition to giving support to a government popular with the electors in all other provinces.

Lethbridge Herald (Ind Lib): "Prime Minister St. Laurent is able to say today that elections can be won on performance without glittering promises. Opposition leader George Drew now knows that brave promises, even of cutting taxes half a billion dollars, have no appeal to Canadians who would rather see their country developing her resources and paying her way. And Alberta remains, federally, in the political wilderness."

Trail Daily Times (Ind.): Perhaps the real story of this election can be found in the very lack of major issues. Electors were faced with a choice of Liberal or the unknown and the fact that the unknown wore so many faces made it even less acceptable...

Vancouver News-Herald (Ind.): For the rest of Canada as well as British Columbia, the failure of the Social Credit upsurge in the

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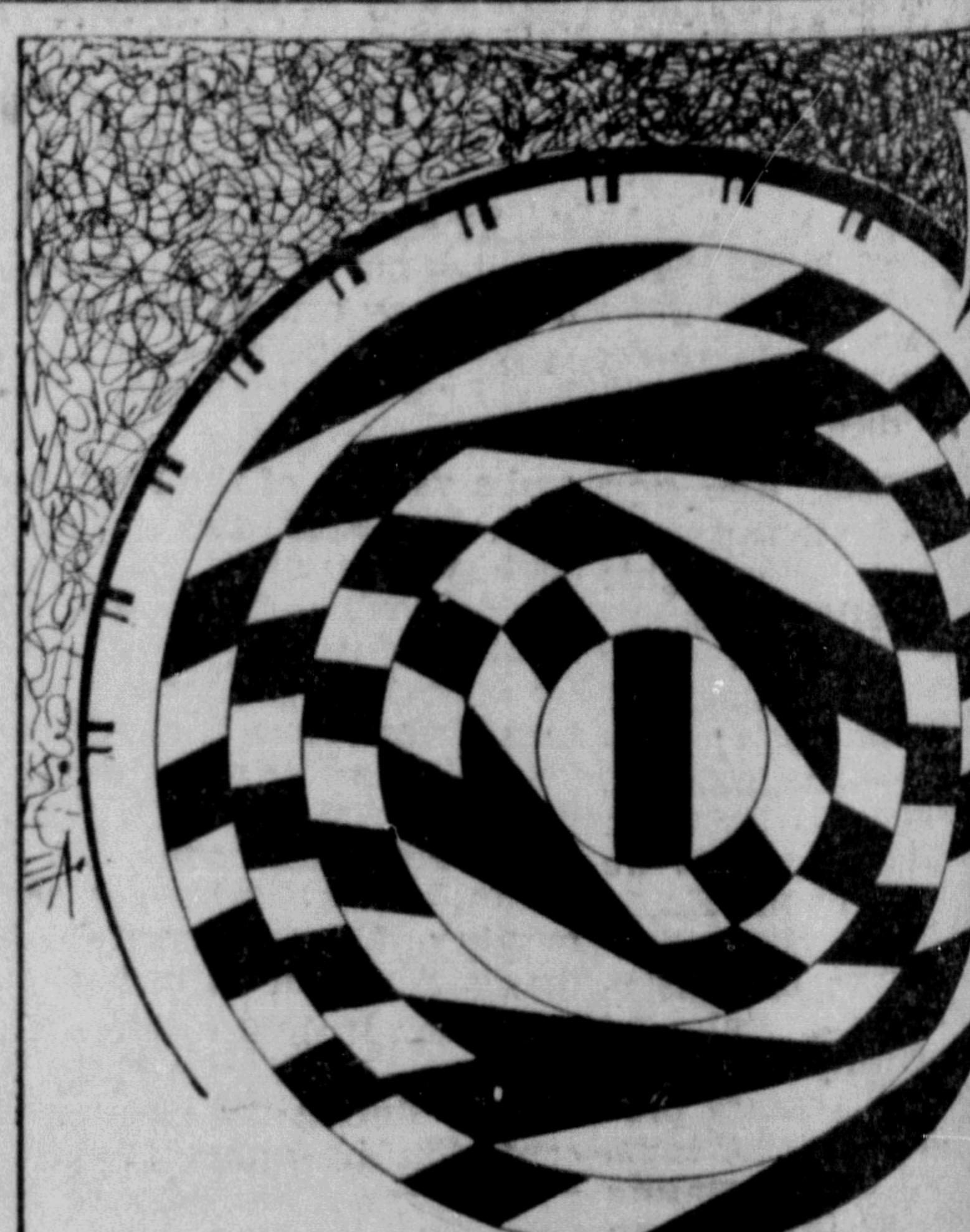
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To The Electors of Skeena:

I wish to express my very sincere thanks and appreciation for the vote of confidence you have given me.

To those who worked so hard for me re-election I can never express my gratitude. To those who supported me at the polls I can only say I hope to justify your faith. To all of Skeena I can only promise I will do my best.

Ted Applewhaite



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