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## New British Budget

THE British budget could have been a more bitter pill. Chancellor of the Exchequer Richard Butler, in his first budget, has set out a further dose of austerity with a masterly degree of equitability.

Reduction of food subsidies by a substantial margin will relieve the government's purse with a consequent increase in prices having an effect of curtailing buying. Increase of the tax on cars and on gasoline will put more people on to bicycles, on foot or into public conveyances.

Putting two million more Britons on income tax exemption and the holding of cigarette and liquor taxes at the present level will have favorable psychological effect.

Important anti-inflationary measure is the drastic increase of the interest on bank loans from two-and-one-half per cent to four per cent but, like the new excess profits tax, could have an ill-effect on business and industrial incentive and the making of plant improvements in the interests of increased efficiency and production.

Mr. Butler, in his first budget, brought to a third phase the operation which he began when the new government came into power in October. There was, first of all, the emergency set of actions, announced early in November—import cuts, the bringing into use of the monetary tax with the first rise in the bank rate and so on.

Then, at the end of January, came the second stage—more import cuts, a wide range of government economies.

These prefatory actions, of course, have the tendency of making the new austerity budget appear less arduous. Actually many of the anti-inflationary measures that were previously begun will in fact only take effect in the new budget year.

Mr. Butler, in his budget, essays at one and the same time to deal with Britain's external payments crisis and with internal inflation. It will be interesting now to see what Hugh Gaitskill, the former Labor Chancellor of the Exchequer, and other speakers will have to say about the new budget.

## British Labor Split

A SIDELIGHT on the left-wing revolt against Britain's rearmament program, led by Aneurin Bevan, is that virtually the entire British press is hostile to the rebels.

For more than a year since the first rumblings of dissent were heard the weight of editorial opinion has been solidly against the Bevan group, whose main claim is that the arms bill is too big.

Among daily newspapers, only the communist Daily Worker has found common cause in what is known as "Bevanism."

In the weekly magazine field, the only noteworthy sanction has come from the left-wing New Statesman and Nation and from the Tribune, whose contributors are the principal supporters of Bevan in the House of Commons.

Disapproval of rearmament-without-tears, on the other hand, has been consistently expressed not only by Conservative papers but by such independent publications as the Times, the Economist, and the Observer and by the independent Liberal Manchester Guardian and the Liberal News Chronicle.

The arguments of the Bevan group were first fully advanced last spring in a Tribune pamphlet. Entitled "One Way Only," it received surprisingly harsh treatment.

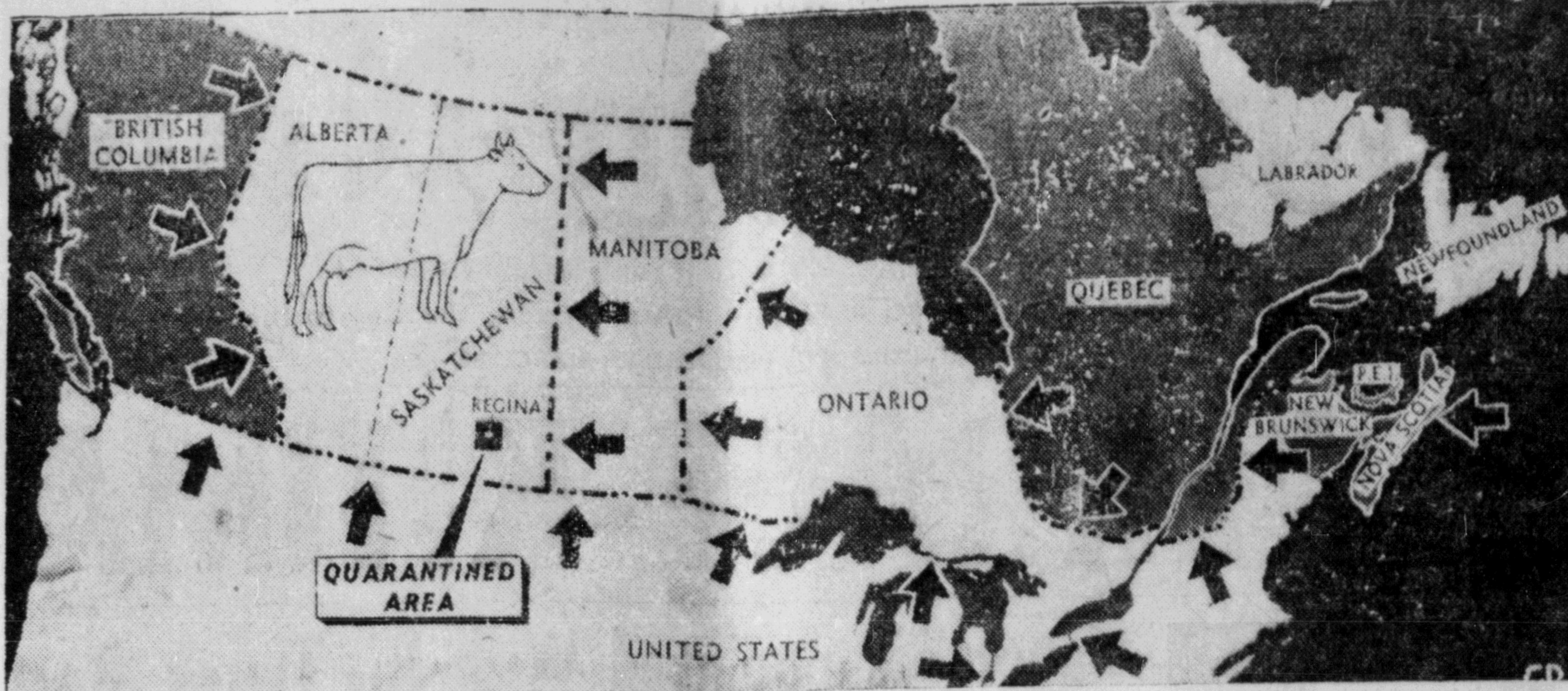
In recent weeks as the rearmament issue came increasingly to the fore, the Manchester Guardian and the Times warned leaders of the Labor party opposition against the dangers of bowing to the Bevan group—as it has often been expressed, "of allowing the tail to wag the dog."

Developments this week indicate that compromise is unlikely. Meanwhile the Weekly Observer says in a comment that crystallizes the anti-Bevan case:

"Any individual who would stake his life on a wager that there will be no war in, say the next five years, would clearly be a reckless fool. Mr. Bevan asks Britain as a nation to act like such an individual."

## Scripture Passage for Today

"Seek ye the Lord while he may be found."—Isa. 55:6.



**LIVESTOCK BARRIERS**—Cattle from Alberta and Saskatchewan normally stock butcher shops in many parts of Canada and the United States. Now many barriers have been set up to keep out western Canada animals and thus prevent the spread of foot-and-mouth disease. Since an epidemic broke out near Regina, the U.S. has banned all livestock shipments from

Canada. British Columbia has embargoed westward shipments. A series of barriers has been put up to the east—by Ontario, Quebec and Nova Scotia. Shaded areas show provinces where meat shortages may result. If meat becomes scarce, prices probably will go up. (CP PHOTO)

## As I See It



by  
Elmore  
Philpott

IWA and Korea Hurts

A FEW months ago I wrote in this column that in 1951 it was actually more dangerous to work as a logger in B.C. than as a soldier in the Canadian army in Korea.

That statement was challenged by a paper devoted to the employers' and investors' interests. It suggested I give further statistics.

I gladly comply, just now having received the final official figures. Those for woodworkers killed and injured are from the Workmen's Compensation Board. Those for Canadian Army casualties are from the UN.

	Killed	Injured
Woodworkers	93	11,272
Soldiers, etc.	127	514

It is quite true that only about 7000 soldiers, seamen and airmen are covered by the armed services casualty lists. Moreover the Canadian brigade in Korea only reached the front lines in the late spring of the year. The total number of workers covered by B.C. accident figures is around 36,000. But most of the logging camps were closed for several months last year. So were many sawmills.

Hence I think my assertion of last fall is fully substantiated. You could boil it down to this:

Suppose a mother had two sons, Tom and Dick, and suppose Tom enlisted as a soldier for service in Korea while Dick stayed at his job as a B.C. logger. Tom, the soldier, would stand a greater chance on being killed. But Dick, the logger, would stand a much greater chance of being injured.

MY POINT in making the comparison was to assist the safety campaigns in the Canadian woodworking industry. The figures plainly show that where the managements and the unions really work together to reduce accidents this can be done.

In B.C. the H. R. MacMillan operations have recently shown the entire industry what can be done in this way. The accident rate in its sawmills, per million man-hours worked, declined from 28.11 in 1950 to 22.27 in 1951. In the logging operations the decline was from 96.04 in 1950 to 76.17 in 1951.

SOME IDEA of the extent of our foot-and-mouth disease problem in Canada with those in European countries may be had from comparison of these figures:

Up till March 9 Canada had slaughtered some 100 head of livestock. Last year in Britain they had the worst outbreak of the disease that had occurred since 1938. In one month, ending December 2, 1951, they slaughtered 5,000 cattle, sheep and pigs.

Denmark in that same month reported 12,000 cases of the disease. In that country they do not use the slaughter policy but try to treat the disease by vaccination. Germany had 54,000 cases

## LETTERBOX

### BOUQUET

Editor, Daily News:  
Age has, apparently, caught up with the Fighting Irishman. A bouquet to Aid Gomez and Glassey for their effort to show some appreciation to the local boxers who kept Rupert's name in the forefront.

P. FORMAN.

### GREAT FORESTS

The total land area covered by forests in Canada is estimated at 1,290,960 square miles.

## Universal Military Training Out But U.S. Vets Want It Revived

WASHINGTON (CP)—The House of Representatives has apparently killed Universal Military Training for this year at least but some strong voices have arisen for revival of the most controversial piece of legislation before Congress this session.

The House last week shelved a bill which would have given men 18 and older six months military training and a 7½-year stretch in the reserves. The Senate has a similar bill before it which might be passed there and sent to the House for concurrence, but this is thought unlikely in an election year unless strong pressure is brought to bear.

Now the Veterans of Foreign Wars, one of the big U.S. veterans' organizations supporting the bill, has petitioned the Senate to take action on UMT at this session.

So far, the Senate has not made up its mind, but one of the strongest UMT proponents is Senator Richard P. Russell (Dem., Ga.), chairman of the armed services committee. He contends that failure to adopt UMT this year would be "little short of a national tragedy."

The principle of UMT, part of the national life of the United States' two big allies, Britain and France, was adopted by Congress last June when it passed the Universal Military Training and Service Act.

It authorized the President to put into operation the plan by which all fit 18-year-olds—about 800,000 a year—would train for six months in a National Security Training Corps and then stand by for 7½ years in a military reserve.

### HARD FIGHT

The details were hammered out by committees, and hearings last month attracted scores of witnesses, mostly with feelings high. Senators and representatives had more mail on UMT

of the disease, and also uses vaccination. Holland does likewise. But Switzerland applies the compulsory slaughter policy and killed off no less than 4000 cattle in 1951 for this reason.

CAN ANY readers tell me what is best thing to do with old magazines? Some of my friends have several years' accumulations of good publications, like Atlantic Monthly, New Statesman and Nation, as well as engineering and scientific works. They would like to send them to India or some place where they would be appreciated. But where?

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## Canada's Ship Costs Mounting

OTTAWA (CP)—The cost of Canada's naval construction program is going up sharply from the original estimates.

Cost estimates for the first three of the main units—destroyer escorts—have been revised upwards by an average of more than 12 per cent. For some smaller craft, the jump is more than 50 per cent.

The figures covering three of the larger anti-submarine vessels and 10 minesweepers were given in orders-in-council passed December 28, made public after they had been listed in the Commons by Prime Minister St. Laurent.

The orders-in-council also disclosed that the vessels are being built on a cost-plus arrangement with the shipyards. The government pays the construction cost plus five per cent.

The first three of the 14 large escort craft in the program, the orders-in-council showed, have risen in estimated cost by an average of about \$1,100,000 apiece since the government ordered them in the summer of 1949. The original \$24,000,000 total estimate for the three now has risen to \$27,350,000.

The order-in-council said the revised estimate for the vessels, the first of which will not be delivered for another year or so, is based on current production costs.

It was not indicated whether the increase was caused by the general cost rise or by the addition of new equipment to the vessels, which are expected to have the newest sub-killing facilities of any ships of their size. They are the first war-craft of that size to be designed basically in Canada.

Larger proportionate increases are shown in the cost estimates for 10 influence-type minesweepers ordered from several shipyards in 1950. The original estimate for these vessels was \$925,000 apiece. This now has been boosted to \$1,583,000.

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## Reflects and Reminisces

Prince Rupert's first libel action was away back in 1912 when Sam Newton called a lawyer a "squire." This was not by word of mouth. Newton put it in an editorial and the lawsuit followed with the least possible delay. Anyway, there was no love lost between the legal luminary and publisher. Of course, there was politics. Sam lost out.

### TORCH LIGHTS

People like to read attacks in type. The more defamatory, the keener the enjoyment. Numerous have been the cases where the newspaper charge is based on facts but this does not always mean, in the event of an action that it wins. Once, long ago in a maritime province city the owner and editor of an evening daily brought a charge against a judge who threatened a prison term unless there was an apology. The editor went to jail and, when it expired, journeyed home to be met by a torch light procession. What he had printed was the truth and everyone knew it.

All this goes to show that if you must write an editorial while brimming over with wrath, it's not a foolish notion to wait until

**LETTER SIGNING**  
On another occasion, a paper editor in Prince Rupert, a paper editor, it should have been noted that the actual signing of a letter to the editor had been done by one man in the office. There had been a lot of what critical of the editor appeared in print. Next day, came the launching of a torch light procession. Later this was called a shave was a close shave.

Had all the lawyers in Prince Rupert, forty years, really courts would have been a lot of trouble. Sometimes stories that had not in the past, intended to be. Yet, they did. Once a paper editor, he had been in the cause of his relatives face damages.

One of the pleasures of looking back at the old days is to see that didn't marry—

—Ex.

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of the

## "HIGHWAY ACT"

The undersigned being a person authorized by the Minister of Public Works in writing, to exercise the powers vested in the said Minister under the "Highway Act," and being of the opinion that the roads in the Prince Rupert and Terrace areas may require load and speed limitations in the spring break-up, do hereby advise the traveling public that where such regulation is necessary notices be posted from time to time on said roads.

Dated at Prince Rupert, B.C.  
March 11th, 1952.

L. E. SMITH,  
DIVISIONAL ENGINEER  
Prince Rupert, B.C.