

Monday, January 14, 1952

An independent daily newspaper devoted to the upbuilding of Prince Rupert and Northern and Central British Columbia.
Member of Canadian Press—Audit Bureau of Circulations
Canadian Daily Newspaper Association.
J. A. HUNTER, Managing Editor; H. G. PERRY, Managing Director
SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
By carrier, per week, 20c; per month, 75c; per year, \$8.00; by mail, per month, 75c; per year, \$8.00.

Those School Reports

THE new forms of school report cards, so different from the old-fashioned ones which showed a child's marks every month and compared them with the class average, have been the subject of considerable discussion in recent years. Some of the more conservative folk have been downright discontented and have found it somewhat difficult to interpret them and make up their minds just how little Tommy and little Jane are really doing.

Conscientious parents in Ontario are now facing a new problem if their children attend public schools. Now the child there is graded by one of three letters: "O" for outstanding, "S" for satisfactory and "U" for unsatisfactory. That is not so bad for the indolent parents who do not delve very deeply into the whys and wherefores if they are interested at all but the situation is complicated for those who are really interested by an explanation which accompanies the reports as to how they should be interpreted.

According to the explanatory note "this marking is based upon modern educational practice. It considers that each child is different. Therefore, your child is not compared with other children. This report shows his progress in relation to his own ability."

This jargon may mean something, but it is difficult to discover what. Under the new system, little Ontario Willie may get a consistent 20 out of 100 in arithmetic and little Jane may get a consistent 60 on the same papers. Both will deserve an S, because the consistency shows that they are working according to their ability. Tommy, in contrast, may receive a U when his mark falls to 70, because he had previously been getting 80.

Now, if "modern educational practice (if that is what the ambiguous 'it' of the explanation refers to) considers that each child is different," the only valid reason for making the statement would be that the new system would be an improved method of showing the difference. In the example cited, the new system would indicate that Willie and Jane are equal, while Tommy, who is actually brighter than either of them, gets less than no credit for his brains.

Somewhere behind the marking system is the idea that Willie and Jane will have their characters injured if they are shown as inferior to Tommy, but the effect an unjust marking has on Tommy's character is left out of the account. Perhaps it is thought that he will be bright enough to see that the system is meaningless.

The old report system, based on marks and a class average, did give a parent some distinct information about both child and teacher. The new gives him only an opinion from someone whose opinion may be questioned.

In the world outside of school, Tommy may eventually find that his ability is recognized, if he is not too embittered by non-recognition from his teachers. Willie and Jane, when they come to look for jobs, may find that a succession of S's on school reports will not be accepted in the business world as a substitute for a good education.

Business Bigger Job

"WE MUST face the fact that the influence of businessmen in the community has been slowly declining." That blunt statement comes from John S. Coleman, president of the Burroughs Adding Machine Co., in an address before the Central Canada Sales Management Conference in Toronto.

How can business and the businessmen do that? Mr. Coleman answered this way:

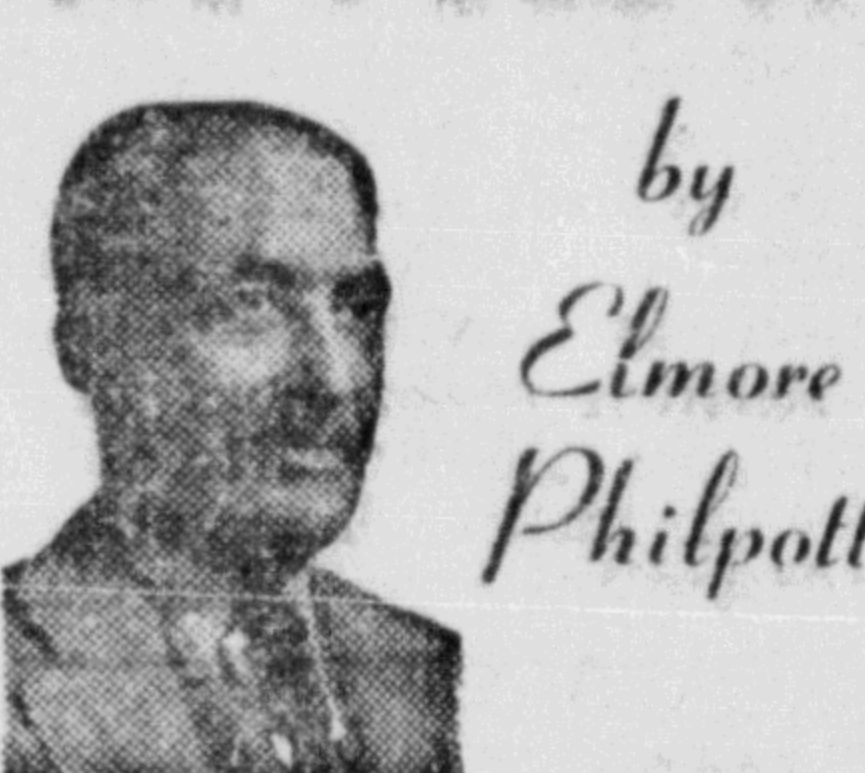
"Now I am not suggesting that business should enter the political arena to outbid those who are already promising the impossible. On the contrary, it is time for us to look at the problems of the nation—not as management or labor, farmers or professional men; but as citizens. Perhaps this is easier said than done. But God knows that our society—and I speak of government, business, labor and every segment of that society—will perish unless we recapture a capacity for disinterested action. I am not suggesting, then, a bigger and better lobby. But I am proposing that we participate to a greater extent in the formation of public policies; not just as watchdogs or critics of other proposals, but as the sponsors of practical measure to meet the problems of the day."

Mr. Coleman promised his audience that he would be frank and blunt. He was. But he also gave them something they will think about.



SEE, ALL IT TAKES IS A LITTLE CONFIDENCE—By Robert Chambers in Halifax Chronicle Herald.

As I See It



Churchill's Small Gain

THE OUTCOME of the Churchill-Truman talks is a confirmation of what I wrote here one week ago:

Britain no longer negotiates with the U.S. as an equal partner, as in the days of Roosevelt. Britain now struggles for small concessions from lesser-minded men.

The one point which Churchill has "won" in his talks with Truman is that the U.S. will not use her atom bomb bases in Britain without getting Britain's consent.

WHEN we consider this one victory we see how far the world has moved, for better and worse, in the past 15 years.

In 1937 the Liberal government of Canada resolutely rejected a request from Britain that she (Britain) be allowed to establish RAF air training bases in Canada. Our government said "nothing doing." Under both Conservative and Liberal party rule it had long been a fixed principle that Britain should never again be allowed to base her armed forces in Canada, as she did in the old colonial days. Notwithstanding the then-obvious danger of the coming Hitler war, Mr. Mackenzie King held that no country was a truly self-governing country if it permitted any other country to base armed forces within it.

WE HAVE come a long way since then, mostly for the better. It's a good thing that not only the whole British Commonwealth, but all the western democracies, and their associates like India, are more and more pooling their defences.

But it is a bad thing—and could be disastrous—that we

Quick Canadian Quiz

1. Which province is the leading mineral producer?
2. How many bushels in the 1951 wheat crop, and how many in the all-time record crop?
3. In the House of Commons how many constituencies are represented?
4. In federal, provincial and municipal taxes will a middle-income family of four this year pay \$4, \$12 or \$30 a week?
5. Canada has how many people per square mile?

ANSWERS ON PAGE FOUR

THE British Commonwealth and Empire still includes about one-fifth of all people on this earth. We are three or four times more numerous than the people of the U.S. Yet we have become little better than an aggregation of glorified colonies of the U.S. because we have developed no effective way of making our combined voice felt.

In a federation which combined the whole "free world" with one parliament to make laws for the defence of the whole area, the U.S. would not have the whole say, as she now in fact has. The question of which rifle was best for the whole Free Union would be decided by the common parliament. The British would not feel insulted because the Americans insisted on a U.S. admiral over the British home fleet. Nor would the American taxpayers complain that they had to "give away" billions of dollars worth of Marshall aid, etc.

We would be one human family, with equal rights and equal responsibilities over defence.

IT WAS the great Churchill who carried his point in 1940 to get the British and Americans "mixed up together for the common good." What we need now is to better organize the resultant mixture.

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT...

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Prince Rupert's only modern rooms with bath
Fraser Street Phone 37

Over a Million Women agree the

"INGLIS" AUTOMATIC WASHER IS THE FINEST YOU CAN BUY

- No bolting to floor
- Flexible Cycle
- Partial Loads
- Top Filling
- Agitator Action
- Seven rinses

SEE THIS AMAZING WASHER AT

RUPERT RADIO & ELECTRIC

OPPORTUNITY

For Advancement in The Canadian Army Active Force Is Now Better Than Ever

The recent raise in salary has placed the Canadian Soldier among the highest paid in the world.

CAPT. V. H. BEECHER, Recruiting Officer, will be at
Armoury, Prince Rupert 15, 16, 17, 18 January '52
Armoury, Prince George 20, 21, 22, 23 January '52

ray...

Reflects and Reminisces

A Cleveland printer's invention is believed to have made it possible to publish without type, thereby producing far more smaller newspapers. The clever fellow should now provide a substitute for newsprint.

After someone changes a Canadian for an American job, how does it suit? What's his impression? This was the interesting subject of a radio half hour the other evening. On the whole, the opposite side of the border appeared to have advantages but

not wholly so. Then, in a New York State city, a school teacher from Canada liked the change, where "the children did not fear the teachers, the teachers did not wonder what parents might be up to, and the school board did not worry about the government. She had found life much more pleasant."

HOW IT MULTIPLIES

General Eisenhower, says Life, understands war yet above all else is a man of peace. There is no such thing, he says, as a preventive war. This is for the reason that war begets conditions that beget further wars.

East to west, the length of the townsite, a series of ridges can be noted. It is, roughly, in line with the avenues, practically from Seal Cove to beyond Morse Creek at the western end of the townsite. The day is coming

when these hundreds of building sites will be less than they are now. Many people consider the hundreds coming here towns or cities without scenic charms whatever. Many are quick to note contrast. Those who have in Prince Rupert for generations take it all as a matter of which is natural enough.

OUT OF TOWN

Forty years ago, the very little of anything in today the business heart of the city. It was reckoned out of town. Prince Rupert down near the wharf on is now Fourth Avenue. Fulton and McBride Street, a few frame dwellings were possibly bestowed a duplication on the general border which was known as "Graft Hill."

The Annual Meeting of Shareholders The Royal Bank of Canada

Industrial Development and Freer Trade can be achieved Together says President

Suggests long range programme to speed process and bring prices closer to U.S. levels. Sees danger in large budget surplus.

"Reward saving, penalize spending."

Need for a free and flexible economy to meet the challenge of inflation and foster the long range development of Canada was the keynote of the annual address of James Muir, President of the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders of The Royal Bank of Canada, held at the bank's headquarters in Toronto, Jan. 13.

"By itself," said Mr. Muir, "this annual surplus is neither an effective check to inflation nor a reason for complacency and self-congratulation. The danger here is that the Government with its increased surplus and the public with its increased savings are better able than ever to increase expenditure in the future."

"I do not think we need worry much about the private individual dissipating his savings and so adding to the inflationary pressure. Nevertheless, he should receive every encouragement to add to his savings. What he has accumulated. Unfortunately, experience does not point in quite the same direction regarding the Government's surplus. This surplus, induced as it is by increased taxes, perhaps designed to check inflation, actually becomes an inflationary time bomb unless it is used to reduce the Government's debt."

Mr. Muir said that the Government's policy of the last year or so, higher interest rates to reduce inflationary pressure in two ways: first, by curbing the unwarranted expansion of credit; and second, by encouraging thrift by making saving more remunerative. "Another example of what we have in mind is the freezing of the Canadian dollar in September, 1950. The removal of import restrictions of January 1, 1951, carried the process another step forward. The success of this exchange policy is shown by the strength of the Canadian dollar in the face of a large trade and service deficit. The so-called 'hot' money that came into Canada during the summer of 1950 has been effectively cooled off. Indeed, we have seen a significant inflow of stable investment capital into Canada throughout the year. Moreover, the basic strength of the Canadian dollar has been such that the Government in December, 1951, removed all remaining exchange controls and so restored to the traditional channels of private finance complete freedom in the field of foreign exchange."

"All in all, the free economy in the western democracies has gained on balance during 1951. We have seen the urgent demand of the defence economy superimposed on an economy already strained by the effort to reconstruct a war torn world. It should be a source of comfort in these trying times that our advance towards military strength has not required a wholesale retreat into controls. Indeed, we have managed to gain in military strength and at the same time to achieve a fuller measure of flexibility in our economy. Our satisfaction should not make us complacent. But, barring the final tragedy of large-scale war, we can hope through right policy to continue our advance towards the twin goals of economic as well as political freedom."

"Economic development means (1) that Canada's population must expand at a rate possible only with large immigration; (2) that her capital investment must continue for a long period to be a large proportion of her national income; and (3) that outside capital must have confidence in a government policy of just and equal treatment. Economic development means anything but a quiet life for workers, businessmen, and government officials."

"Our second step should be an equal long-run programme to get reciprocal concessions in trade, particularly from our nearest neighbor, the United States."

"Moreover, both steps in the suggested programme would reduce the present disparity between prices of a wide variety of articles to the consumer in Canada and to the consumer in the United States. This is not only good in itself but may give some assurance at least that our trained and talented young people

HEAVIER TAXES NOT EFFECTIVE AS SPENDING CURB

The real test of tax policy to combat inflation is whether or not it penalizes spending and rewards saving. With this in mind, one must recognize that a whole multitude of the spending public are not even touched by the more drastic of the additional imposts. In contrast, a large segment of the fixed wage and salary group has been hit and hit again. That is, of course, unfortunate in itself, but the question is: "How much of the increase in taxes on this group in the last half of 1951 came out of savings?" The more that came out of savings, the less the effect on inflationary pressure.

Corporations were even harder hit in the 1951 budget. But again the real question is not "Is this fair?" but "Did the new corporate taxes, spreading and widening the 'ward saving'?" To this question, the answer is simply, "No." Human nature being what it is, heavily corporate taxes tend to increase spending by corporations because the Government is paying a correspondingly large share of the cost.

The increase in federal excise and sales taxes is unpleasant, but these taxes do hit the spender where it hurts. Unfortunately he is not the spender who is hitting him. Why? Because the taxes are levied at the manufacturing level, passed on plus mark-up at various points, and finally, and finally, the consumer pays the price. The system is, therefore, inefficient: for it takes out of the consumer's pocket much more than it yields to the Government in revenue. But, worse still, the purchaser sees the whole increase in price not as a tax, but as a rise in the cost of living and a reason for demanding higher wages for his work or a higher price for his product. A further aggravation is that provincial and municipal sales taxes, levied on the retail price, obviously become in part a tax on the consumer. The result is that the Government is paying a correspondingly large share of the cost.

Canadians to buy home-manufactured goods more readily because of the inelasticity we have been trying to avoid. Whatever one may think of protection as a means to economic development, it is true that our position next to the United States makes a high tariff both a cause for discontent and a temptation to trade protection. The alternative, competition with U.S. industries enjoying the low costs of a large mass market, might seem at first sight to be the better way. It is unfortunate that in 1951 this slap at spending had to be administered with an anaesthetic.

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"Now the dilemma I have posed is a serious one, particularly in the immediate future, but it can be resolved. Indeed the problem may appear bigger than it really is for tariff protection tends both to retard and to conceal the true efficiency of a nation's history."

"At this point I wish to make it clear that in the remarks I am about to make I take no position in the political controversy so long associated with our tariff policy. What I shall try to do is to discuss the economic problems involved. There is little doubt in my mind that Canada can achieve both industrial development and free trade. Our problem is to hasten the process. Our first step should be a long-run programme to reduce or abolish excise taxes in the manufacturing level, thereby reducing the disparity between prices to the consumer in Canada and to the consumer in the United States. The result will be a more rational price and tax structure for the developing Canadian economy."

"Our second step should be an equal long-run programme to get reciprocal concessions in trade, particularly from our nearest neighbor, the United States."

General Manager Reports Assets Over \$2.5 Billion

T. H. Atkinson, General Manager of The Royal Bank of Canada, reported today that total assets of the bank had increased to \$2,500,000,000. This, he said, was a new record for the bank, which would undoubtedly be noted throughout the financial year.

Deposits likewise had risen to a new high, said Mr. Atkinson. Total deposits had increased to \$1,425,000,000, a record for the bank. Deposits were up \$39,000,000 from the previous year, and now stood at \$1,425,000,000. The increase was due to a number of factors, including a rise in deposits on the books of the bank, which had increased over 100,000,000 in the year and now stood at 2,000,000.

Mr. Atkinson reported that the year had increased 1.5 per cent, though this had been somewhat counterbalanced by a rise in taxes. After providing for a dividend of 10 per cent, the bank transferred two million dollars to the Reserve Fund and now stood at \$1,026,153.

The bank's programme of expansion to branches, which has been steadily since the end of the war, continued during the year. The public and staff were up-to-date facilities and staff. Branches in operation at the end of 1951 were 62, were located in countries of Canada.

ROYAL BANK ROYAL SERVICE

Mr. Atkinson noted that today one of the foremost attributes of the world and its people is the Government's responsibility for the welfare of its citizens. Without world-wide banking facilities, however, Canadian banks would be seriously handicapped. The Royal Bank of Canada has a unique position to provide service because of its 62 branches in the Caribbean area, Central and South America and its direct offices in London, England, New York, Paris.

"We have, of course, close relations with corresponding banks in all countries, and from these banks we obtain information and reports on conditions and commercial activity which are of invaluable assistance to our clients. But based on over 50 years of experience abroad and wide experience in foreign lands, we are in a position to provide direct service in any business for direct trade. The Royal Bank of Canada has a long history of service to its clients, and its direct relationship with the world's leading banks is a source of strength and confidence. We are proud to be a part of the world's leading banking group, and we are committed to providing the highest quality of service to our clients."

PRAISE FOR STAFF

It is always a pleasure to hear of a group of people who are enthusiastic in their work. The success of our staff is a testament to their dedication and hard work. The Royal Bank of Canada is proud to have a staff of over 12,000 people who are committed to providing the highest quality of service to our clients. The staff's dedication and hard work are a source of strength and confidence for the bank. We are proud to be a part of the world's leading banking group, and we are committed to providing the highest quality of service to our clients."

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