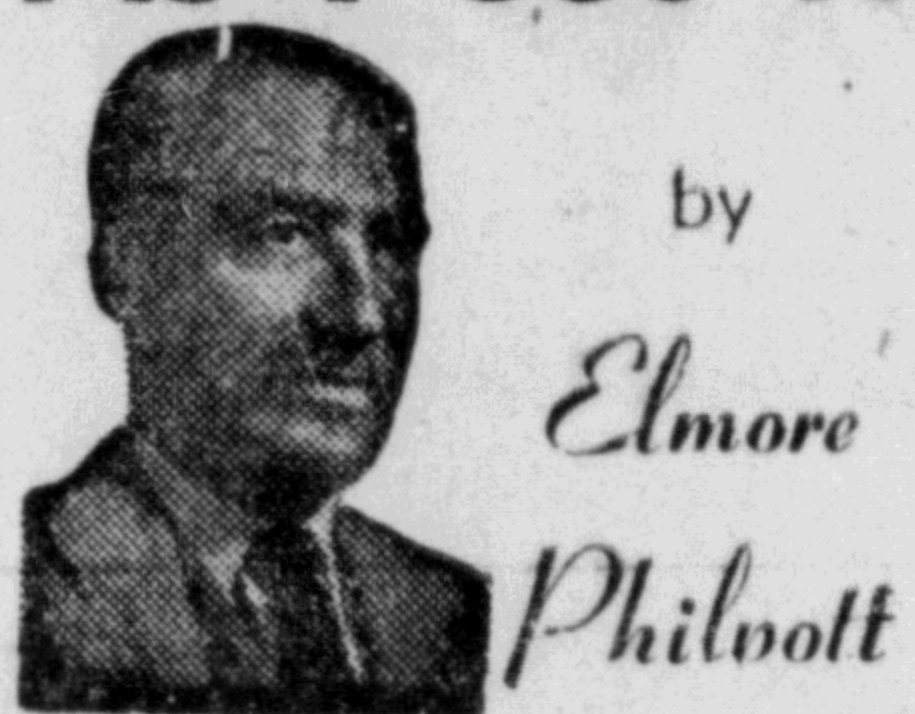


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As I See It



by
Elmore
Philbott

Rupert Brooke Lore

ONE OF THE joys of renting an apartment from a literate friend is that you get the run of a whole library of fine books—friends whom you would never had had the chance to meet otherwise.

Here in our Ottawa apartment I have been reading about Rupert Brooke, the young poet who more than any other human being personified the "Lost Generation" which died when Europe committed suicide in 1914.

WHEN YOU read the actual details of the death of this young genius you are struck by the monumental foily and pity of it all. Here was a young man who represented the very flower of English civilization. He had the appearance of a Greek god, the mind of a philosopher, and a tongue which could and did utter some poems as fine as the best psalms of David.

"Now God be thanked who matched us with His hour And caught our youth, and wakened us from sleeping." So wrote Brooke who died unheroically of some obscure fever, a few days after he had turned down a cushy and safe staff job. The man who was conscious that he was but a stone's throw from ancient Troy died absolutely unselfishly, in a bungled campaign, as ludicrous in its inefficiency as was the Crimean war about a half century earlier. But the most promising poet that Britain had produced in the 20th century died as ingloriously as a sick dog.

THE LETTERS of Rupert Brooke show clearly that the young man was special. He called himself a "William Morris type of socialist." His Fabianism was the kind which comes from the heart, and not from the head. He detested the cold-blooded, selfish approach of George Bernard Shaw and others. "They sometimes take it for granted that all Conservatives (and most ordinary Liberals) are heartless villains," the prejudices of the clever are harder to kill than those of the dull."

RUPERT BROOKE travelled through Canada in the summer of 1913. His comments are revealing. In June he wrote that "I've got the sorriest touch of American accent." In July he wrote from Ottawa:

"I do no reading, no thinking, no writing. And very often I don't see many things. The real hell of it is I get so numb that my brain and sense don't record fine or clear impressions."

In Toronto he met people at the Arts and Letters Club who knew of his poetry. One told him: "Sir, in my opinion you have Mr. Noyes skinned."

On the 3rd of August he was lying on a beach 70 miles north of Winnipeg—stark naked. He and his fishing companion had "a gun between us in case a bear appears."

In Edmonton he was interviewed by a reporter: "I just put my cigar in the corner of my mouth and said "kid, this is some town."

Later he wrote: "Vancouver is a queer place, rather different from the rest of Canada. More oriental. The country and harbor are rather beautiful, with great violet mountains all

(See PHILBOTT Page 4)

Buy Dock Here

SOME better solution might develop as time goes on, but right now Mayor Hills' proposal that the hydrodock be taken over by local interests is the soundest answer offered so far to this vexing question.

While our hopes naturally rest on the possibility of some concern outside pouring money into the property, it is well to have a course of action planned which will prevent the entire plant being sold to a demolition crew.

If Prince Rupert interests cared to make a bid for all or part of the facilities, their offer would be certain to make an impression on the federal government almost regardless of the amount involved. The whole subject of the proposed sale has received far more awkward publicity than Ottawa could have anticipated, and this opportunity to do something for the injured party would be difficult to ignore.

It is unlikely, of course, that at the outset even a modest undertaking to do repair and maintenance work could be handled without a subsidy. Officials of the Wallace shipyards estimate that three or four times the present volume of business is required to make such an operation self-dependent.

Even so, Prince Rupert's offer could not be quickly brushed aside. By showing readiness to pay their own way as far as possible, city interests would be emphasizing their faith in the future which even the most hardened government would have to reciprocate in some small measure.

With money on the line, it would be possible to negotiate instead of merely protesting. There is a big difference.

Tourist Budget

ALTHOUGH Finance Minister Abbott's latest budget will provoke the usual complaints, it does not offer critics any real meat in which to get their teeth. Nothing has happened during the past year to suggest there will be any appreciable shift between revenue and expenditure in the months to come. While there has been an increase in unemployment, there is nothing to indicate that the country's economy is undergoing any serious change.

Consequently, Mr. Abbott has not left himself too vulnerable by producing a financial plan which, for lack of a more exciting description, might be termed a tourist budget. In banishing the 15 per cent excise tax from a number of consumer goods, and reducing it to 10 per cent on a variety of others, he has paid recognition to the fact that Canada has lost its favorable balance of tourist trade. Canadians spend more in other countries than visitors do here, a situation that must be caused to some extent by higher Canadian prices.

Mr. Abbott strengthens his careful case still further by extending tax concessions to a certain class of industry to reduce exploration costs. In an age of growing need to develop Canada's natural resources, such a move can only be regarded as necessary to keep in step with the times.

If anyone is really upset by the new budget, it probably will be the financial editors. Mr. Abbott has given them very little to write about.

Scripture Passage for Today

"He was wounded for our transgressions."—Isa. 53:5.

France Seeking War Assistance

PARIS (AP)—France has requested more assistance for war in Indo-China from the United States, the French foreign ministry announced today.

Army Family

VICTORIA (CP)—Mr. and Mrs. Frank Goddard, who moved here from Edmonton, have eight sons in the armed services since their 17-year-old twins, Wilbert and Conrad, were accepted by the RCAF. They also have one daughter.

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SWEDISH-AMERICAN LINE'S new flagship, the 22,000 gross ton luxury liner Kungsholm will make her first appearance in Canada on May 2, when she will call at Halifax en route from her home port of Gothenburg, Sweden, to New York. Although in service for some five months, this will be only the second transatlantic round trip for the Kungsholm since her maiden arrival in New York last December, having spent the winter on tropical cruises to the West Indies and around South America.

Ray REFLECTS and REMINISCES

The nickel cup of coffee and the nickel shoeshine have gone, but the five-cent stamp has arrived.

THE ONLY WAY

It almost seems as if the world, realizing the truth at last, concludes war must cease. Anything else is futile. Imagine evacuation of cities like the greatest on earth? It's not a question of size or numbers.

"Dream" Cars On Display In New York

By DAVID J. WILKIE

NEW YORK (AP)—Ten leading auto manufacturers this week put their "dream" cars and 1954 models on display at New York's second automobile show of the year.

Among the "dream" models is Chrysler's newest, the gas-turbine Plymouth. Unlike the Firebird, General Motors' turbine-powered car which appeared at the earlier show, the Chrysler model is a stock-car type. God's model looked more like a four-wheeled flying machine.

The Chrysler entry in the turbine engine field undoubtedly will attract greatest interest at the current show which runs until April 11.

Along with the "dream" cars that may never reach the assembly stage, the participating companies are using the show to demonstrate many of their latest engineering advances. Newest improvements in power steering, safety glass, engines and automatic transmissions are among the engineering displays.

One of the piston-type engines being shown currently is one said to be capable of generating 353 horsepower. The industry's present top stock engine is Chrysler's 235-horsepower V-8, used in its New York De Luxe and Imperial models.

Chrysler engineers are emphasizing that the gas-turbine engine for standard passenger cars still is in the remote future.

Would it suggest, for a starter, a nervous collapse which even today, can approach that point ere long? The only way to avoid war is to preserve peace. Surely this is understandable. For there is no other way, when we look to the future.

The Blood Indians whose old home territory is just north of Lethbridge today possess a bank balance of \$663,000. A century or so ago a buffalo hunter could have named his labor scale, but no one would have been interested in his services.

Good resolutions and babies crying in church are a lot alike—both should be carried out immediately.—Moose Jaw Times-Herald.

THIS HAS WHISKERS—'TIS SAID

A scientist says the best way to determine a cow's milking possibilities is to study her face. But Farmer John says he prefers to look some other place.

Those who object to winter weather early in spring might just as well ponder that perhaps it's better to get it now than along between the 24th and the 1st.

Some of Canada's corporations are organizing, with most happy results, sources of recreation in music. This not only brings employees together, but also shares entertainment on a broader scale. We are hearing more of Gilbert and Sullivan, along with other grand old timers such as "The Bohemian Girl" and "The Daughter of the Regiment," which take a long time to weary of.

OTTAWA DIARY By NORMAN M. MacLEOD

When the delegates to the recent annual meeting of the National Progressive Conservative Association elected George Hees, M.P., to the office of president, the thought uppermost in their minds was that they were giving him a mandate to do a thorough home-cleaning job at Bracken House.

Theoretically and by intention Bracken House is the nerve centre of the Federal Conservative organization machine. But unhappily it has failed from the date of its establishment to live up to its high mission. Just how far short it has fallen from the expectations originally built upon it has been shown in the successive general election failures since 1945. The 1953 debacle was the worst of all.

The idea of a thorough house-cleaning of the Bracken House personnel isn't any sudden brain wave on the part of the rank-and-file P.C.'s. They have been in favor of it for a long time. But the trouble has been to arrange the mechanics of the badly needed purge. The key Bracken House people are the personal appointees of the Party Leader, named without any consultation of the party rank-and-file. Consequently, unless the Party Leader was prepared to recognize the wide dissatisfaction and act accordingly, it was impossible for the rank-and-file to secure any co-operation. Mr. Drew has never seen fit to recognize the unsuitability for their jobs of any of his personal appointees.

But the National President of the Progressive Conservative organization, in his status as virtual chief organizer for the party, is recognized as entitled to a voice in Bracken House administration. And that is why the malcontents at the annual meeting, in their desire to bring about a show-down in the Bracken House situation, had to

elect a President who would not be the nominee of the Party Leader and hence would have a clear mandate to act independently of him in revamping the party headquarters. George Hees, M.P., elected over Gordon Churchill, M.P., the recognized nominee of the Drew forces, was the answer to the situation.

So far nothing has happened, and some Conservative circles already are showing signs of impatience. They think that the Bracken House office-holders, none of whom were ever elected to office by popular vote of the party, cannot be given their marching papers too soon or too finally for the good of the general cause. If they would make an exception it would be Vernon Kemp, special assistant to Mr. Drew. He is generally well-liked and regarded as able. But the rest of the crew are looked upon as President Hees' problem. And the question of the moment is when is it going to deal with them in the manner implied in the support given him for the Presidency?

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THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Take notice that the Liquor Control Board of British Columbia, with the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, has designated the following area as a licensing area for the issuance of licences under the "Government Liquor Act, 1953":—

Licensing Area No. 64.

Description: Village of Stewart.

And further take notice that the Board will receive applications for licences within that area until the 25th day of May, 1954.

And further take notice that the Board will, at a meeting to be held at the Board's office, 525 Fort Street, in the City of Victoria, on the 26th day of May, 1954, commencing at the hour of ten o'clock in the forenoon, proceed to deal with the applications for licences received prior to the 25th day of May, 1954, unless in the meantime:—

- The Municipal Council of the Corporation of the Village of Stewart requests the Lieutenant-Governor in Council to submit to a vote of the electors of the polling divisions within the licensing area any or all of the questions hereinafter set out; or
- The Lieutenant-Governor receives a petition in the form prescribed by these regulations or to a like effect signed by thirty-five per centum of the electors of the polling divisions within the licensing area requesting that any or all of the questions hereinafter set out be submitted to a vote of the electors of the polling divisions within the licensing area.

The questions that shall upon request as aforesaid be submitted to a vote of the electors in the licensing area are as follows:—

- Are you in favour of the sale of beer, ale, and stout only under a public-house licence for consumption on licensed premises? (Note:—A public-house licence will be similar to the present beer-parlour licence.)
- Are you in favour of the sale of beer, ale, stout, and wine only under a dining-room licence for consumption with meals on licensed premises? (Note:—Dining-room licences will be granted to hotels, restaurants, clubs, railway-cars, steamships, and resorts.)
- Are you in favour of the sale of liquor under a dining-lounge licence for consumption with meals on licensed premises? (Note:—Dining-lounge licences will be issued principally to what are commonly known as cabarets, and to clubs.)
- Are you in favour of the sale of liquor under a lounge licence for consumption on licensed premises? (Note:—Lounge licences will be issued to cocktail-bars. They will be granted only to clubs, hotels, resorts, railway-cars, and steamships.)

LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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