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Bigger Than One Man

WITHOUT asking favors, Ted Applewhite in his radio address last night put across the important reminder that a complaint here and the same thing in Ottawa have entirely different dimensions. While a constituency may be seething over some issue, the atmosphere in the Dominion capital can remain quite cool. Perhaps this is a necessary state of affairs. If all local fights retained their full ferocity at the federal end, Ottawa would be the scene of a wild and useless melee.

But this line of reasoning brings small comfort to the MP who, however well regarded in circles that count, will find himself bloody and exhausted battling against the great inertia. In these circumstances, it will be unfortunate indeed if Mr. Applewhite is held personally responsible for the now famous drydock situation. The issue is far greater than the work of one man. It involves the tough-fisted economics of a national railway system, plus the federal view of what this whole north country is capable of producing in trade.

One can argue with considerable justice that there is lack of vision and courage in the policy evidently adopted, but it is grossly unfair to hurl one man into the murderous breach if the argument appears to be losing.

Every politician has his fair-weather friends but, regardless of the party in power, even these will concede in their hearts that their choice for Mr. Applewhite in the last election was still by far the best.

Citizenship Well Represented

It must have been difficult to choose a Good Citizen of 1953, as no doubt it will be every year. As the full list of those considered by the judging committee was read out last night, one felt how unfortunate it was that all of them could not be rewarded in a tangible way.

But the point is, of course, that we may be sure none on the list felt the same way. In fact, it is probable that if they had known their names were being studied, they would have felt uneasy that the bold light of publicity might shine in their direction. Of such material are good citizens made.

At the same time, the city—for its own selfish reasons if nothing else—cannot afford to let the years pass without bringing attention to its good citizens. It helps to establish the standards expected of those who have homes here and draw a livelihood from this comparatively small community.

So there will be warm approval that the honor this time has gone to Bob Moore. This popular school principal has, along many lines of quiet endeavor, given Prince Rupert the benefit of those qualities which have gained him such affection and esteem among his students. The city has cause to be proud that its Good Citizenship is so represented.

Ray REFLECTS and REMINISCES

The Ottawa Citizen is another of the major dailies now telling the country how economic developments in northwestern British Columbia and Yukon are being hampered. The dilemma arises from what has always seemed to Canadians a historic injustice—the Alaska boundary award of 1903. Whatever the judicial aspects of the matter, this verdict has never seemed sensible or fair. It was only a question of time before the inconvenience would become a serious barrier to Canadian economic growth and the time has come.

ALMOST HALF
Almost half the coast line that could serve British Columbia is owned by the United States. The Alaska Panhandle, 450 miles long cuts the interior off from the sea. Corridors through American territory to the heads of inlets are among the suggestions being made to overcome this difficulty.

In the land-locked north, as well as in various other parts of the continent, it is realized the boom, if not already here is on the way. For more than a generation, the expectation of industrial activity has been in the thoughts of people living here.

The Citizen, commenting with some emphasis on how at last "The Time Has Come" speaks of what is happening in expan-

sion including aluminum, pulp, mining, asbestos, paper, chemical plants, electric energy and other enterprises employing power and transportation by sea and by land.

THAT DOCK

The different groups more or less directly identified with what is transpiring today along the coast between Kitimat and Carcross and Whitehorse, are well aware of the uncertainty existing concerning the Prince Rupert Dry Dock and Shipyard future. This splendid plant has been offered for sale. Just why is a story in itself, but a child realizes that the better a seaport is equipped, the better it is in which to do business. The dry-dock may or may not be sold. Its usefulness has been demonstrated again and again. Money has been lost and money has been gained, and that's true enough of any enterprise. But this immense and rich territory of the north, endowed with so much vital natural wealth is driving ahead, no matter what will be, or is to be done elsewhere, or by whom.

Canada has long suffered, where the north coast is concerned. Russo-America British-United States policies, Lord Alverstone, Theodore Roosevelt might be cited, as well as "speaking softly and the carrying of a big stick."

As I See It



by
Elmore
Philpott

Three MP's

HERE are three pictures of doings in Parliament this past week, which stand out in my mind.

One is about a stout-hearted old Tory, another about a new young CCF, and the third about a Liberal miner.

The Tory was J. H. Ferguson, the long time MP for Simcoe North. He was asking the Minister of Defence why the RCAF NCO's badge had been changed, to drop the crown which had hitherto appeared. The Minister had patiently replied, and given the explanation which satisfied most of the House. But the doughty old Tory was not swallowing that. His face was purple with anger. Regardless of calls of "Order" from Mr. Speaker, he shouted above the din—flists shaking to emphasize his points: "You are trying to wipe out all our ties with Britain."

It did not happen to be true—but I, for one, admired my doughty Tory friend for his protest anyway.

The Conservatives among whom I grew up had as their most fundamental principle of life their loyalty to the British connection. They were the watchdogs of the sentiment expressed by old Sir John A. Macdonald in his last great speech:

"A British subject I was born, a British subject I will die."
Those are the kind of Tories I still admire, and not the wishy washy watered down variety, who have no firm ground of their own on which to stand.

THE CCF MP who made the deepest impression on me last week was Erhart Regier, for Burnaby Coquitlam.

In his case, also, I did not think he had his facts quite straight. He told of British overtures to send out orphans to Canada, and claimed that "Canada" had turned a cold shoulder to the idea.

But then he suggested that this country should make a permanent policy of bringing in orphans from all the world. What a wonderful thing that would be. The orphans need the homes and Canada needs the people.

In announcing the final payment of last year's wheat crop, Mr. Howe revealed that so far we have not sold a single bushel of the new crop—the second highest in all history. Surely, whatever else that means, it means that we need more people right here in Canada. If we had double or triple the population, we would not so desperately need overseas markets. We would have more consumers in our own country.

THE MOST practical speech of the week, for my money, was made by the Liberal MP for East Kootenay. It was about ways and means of dealing with the present unemployment situation.

As a long time trade union official himself, Mr. Byrne suggested that we should not go off the deep end too soon. The greatest immediate need was changes in the unemployment insurance act to extend the benefits beyond the present cut-off period.

If in the next few months it should become clear that we are faced with another real depression, then, said Mr. Byrne, parliament should be called into special session to take the drastic steps which would then be obviously necessary.

Goodwill Endangered

SEATTLE (P)—A lot of good will between Canadians and Americans was endangered Monday as 174 fighting men from across the border, back from action in Korea, waited a solid hour on ship at pier 91 as the U.S. Navy searched for a gangplank.

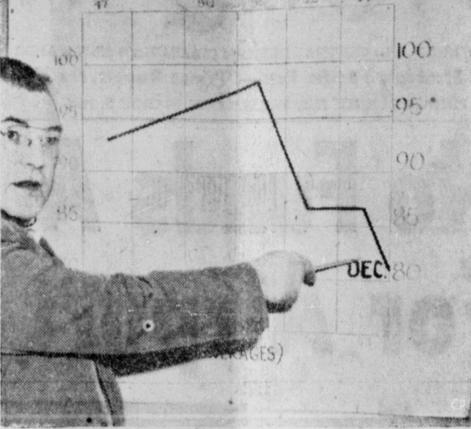
All had seen battle and were anxious to get home. All had been on the U.S. transport Marine Lynx for 20 days.

Luckily for international friendships, the Canadians seemed understanding about the mix-up.

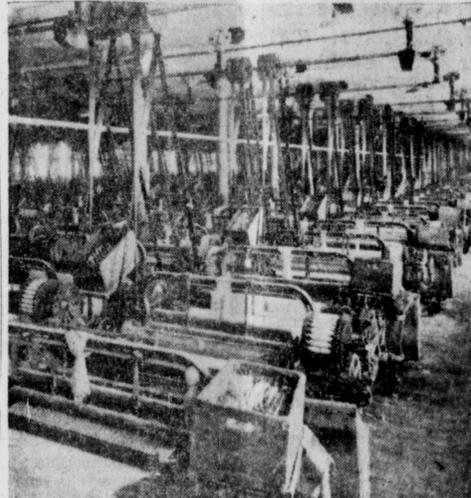
Finally, a mobile hoist chugged up to the ship's side, shifted gears, and lifted a short gangplank onto the vessel.

There are more than a million Canadian school children enrolled in the Junior Red Cross.

PRIMARY TEXTILE INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT



A SHARP DROP in employment in Canada's textile industry is illustrated by Edward C. Cluney, assistant Canadian director of the Textile Workers Union of America (CIO-CCL). The graph to which Mr. Cluney is pointing shows that the number of workers in the industry dropped from a high of nearly 98,000 in mid-1951 to about 81,000 at the end of last year.



MACHINES LIKE THESE LOOMS have been shutting down across Canada in the last six months as the textile industry runs into hard times. In the last half of 1953 a total of 17 mills out of 729 between Nova Scotia and Alberta have closed. Industry and union spokesmen blame the situation on increased imports.

INDEMNITIES FOR MLA'S TO REMAIN UNCHANGED

VICTORIA (P)—Premier Bennett said Monday there will be no increase in indemnities for members of the legislature. The premier said he had no knowledge of a petition that was circulated in the legislature last week. It did not call for any definite increase.

OTTAWA DIARY

By Norman M. MacLeod

Canadians have been told so often and for so long of the constructive, if vague, role they fulfill as intermediaries between the United Kingdom and the United States that the suggestion that they are falling down on just that job has come as a distinct shock to the Capital.

It was made diplomatically but nonetheless plainly by Thomas McKittrick, world banking, currency, and foreign trade expert, in his recent thought-provoking appearance before the special Trade Relations Committee of the Senate.

A former president of the Bank of International Settlements as well as senior vice-president of the world's largest commercial bank—the Chase National Bank of New York—McKittrick caused a mild sensation before the Senate Committee by his frank criticism of United States treasury policy. In effect, he said that currency convertibility, recognized universally as the number one pre-requisite to any large-scale expansion of international trade, is theoretically possible right at the present time, and that the only obstacle preventing it is the refusal of the United States treasury to cooperate.

From any other person this statement would not have been taken too seriously. But coming from McKittrick it commanded attention and respect. For McKittrick is the world's acknowledged authority on currency problems, and he has just returned recently from a first-hand tour of investigation into the outlook for convertibility in Western European countries. That made his opinion almost official.

Then McKittrick went on to suggest that a Canadian should sit in on all the financial talks between London and Washington, and that he should contribute an independent viewpoint whenever the two capitals failed to agree. He believed that if Canada had been on the job in the recent failure to agree on convertibility policy, the re-

Report From PARLIAMENT

By E. J. Applewhite (MP for Skeena)

There was a time when the Terrace Board of Trade held a unique position in Central B.C. in that several of its important positions were filled by women members—but I think that the Burns Lake and District Board

of Trade has made history in our part of the world, by electing a woman president. Congratulations to President Alice Turner. I have no doubt that this year the Burns Lake Board will keep its member busier than ever.

Two Canadian Soldiers Lose All in Fire

SEOUL, Korea (CP)—Two British Columbia corporals were all set to enjoy leave in Japan. They had served their hitch on Operation Watchdog in the bitter wintry cold, north of the Imjin river. Before them was a vista of luxury—hot bath, clean sheets and entertainment.

They got as far as the transit billet in this overcrowded city, parked their gear and prepared to do the town. The hotel burned down.

Cpl. A. G. Kenny of Seely Bay and Cpl. Pat Rafuse of Fernie lost their belongings. Worse still, Cpl. Kenny, leaving for Canada the next day, lost his service book containing the record of his inoculations. It was the second time Cpl. Rafuse had lost his kit in a barrack fire.

Cpl. Kenny was delayed a week or so, Cpl. Rafuse went back to the lines.

Police Stop Dice Game

VANCOUVER (P)—A floating dice game, in which police estimated \$10,000 had changed hands during the night, was raided here early Sunday by gambling detail detectives and RCMP officers.

Two men were arrested and charged with keeping a betting house and later released on \$200 bail. Fourteen others were booked as inmates and freed on \$25 bail.

The raid was conducted on a suburban Burnaby home and was the third such strike by police within the last four weeks. An expensive dice table, the second to be picked up since the raids began Feb. 2, was seized at the Burnaby residence.

Youth Found In Church After Murder

TORONTO (CP)—John Harvey Snider, a 23-year-old city waterworks department clerk, was arrested early today at St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church in downtown Toronto and charged with the murder of his 22-year-old wife.

The nude body of his wife, the former Shirley Holmes, a one-time ward of the Catholic Children's Aid Society, was found in a rear bedroom of the young couple's bungalow in suburban Swansea.

Her three-year-old daughter was also found in the house, unharmed. The mother had been strangled to death with a skipping rope, police said.

Radio Station Reporter Fined For Obstructing

EDMONTON (P)—Trevor Kerbey, a reporter on the news staff of radio station CFRN in Edmonton, was convicted in police court Thursday of obstructing a police officer and fined \$20 or 50 days.

Kerbey was arrested while covering an early-morning fire Jan. 31.

J. A. Ross, defence counsel, said the case will be appealed.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Prince Rupert General Hospital Association will be held in the Civic Centre, Common Lounge, on Friday, March 19th, 1954, at 8:00 p.m.

BUSINESS:

- To receive President's Report
- To receive Administrator's Report
- To receive Committee Reports
- To receive Auditor's Report and Financial Statement for 1953
- To elect six members to the Board of Directors
- To appoint an Auditor

Membership in this Association is open to anyone in the community on the payment of \$1.00. Application for membership may be made at the Hospital, Orme's Drugs, or from any member of the Board of Directors. The application list will close on Monday, March 15th.

D. C. STEVENSON,
Secretary

From a series of patches and from reports in our House of Commons it is clear that the trade with the Communists is now becoming a matter of substance. Communist East and West, which is a heavy blow when spurned Marshall aid, recent years been reduced by United Nations implementing the Assembly resolution of 1951 which, very properly, for termination of all trade with Communist countries. The new Russian trade will naturally provide a public discussion. From some recent comments of the border, it might be concluded that it is against decency and against a pound of butter from the Soviet Union. It is a fair hope that, as the trade is concerned, we do anything to "give aid to an enemy" but realize that no era of even of sanity can see this earth united. Nations learn to trade with the same sort of which we expect to show to each other's outstanding criteria in fact the first stage. Speaking of trade, a few evenings ago the Canadian exhibit at the Royal Netherlands Fair. The exhibit is here before being sent to Utrecht. It is a most though not large, but I am sure will arouse interest in Canada and patrons of the fair.

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