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Sound Leadership Needed

THERE is no cause to mourn the early death of the police referendum. This was a pettifoggish question which could have stirred up enough froth to obscure the fact that the real issue in the approaching civic elections is not the competency of the police but that of the city council itself.

There is evidence of extreme dissatisfaction with the manner in which our affairs are being handled. While there is a good deal of conscientious effort to stick to the business at hand, juvenile bickerings on the council have become so common that it would almost appear they are part of the agenda. Moreover, they have reduced public respect for the council to such a level that good candidates for election may be difficult to find.

It would be decidedly unfortunate if such proved to be the case. Sound civic leadership for Prince Rupert is perhaps more imperative now than ever before. Among other things, there are pronounced cleavage lines running through the electorate which have split it into opposing factions.

This is possibly the most serious development of all. When a city as small as this is engaged in fighting an internal sociological warfare, its hopes of progress are virtually nullified. There are certain to be factions in any community, but there is no reason why they should square off at each other in blind hostility.

A council offering fair representation to all interests is part of the answer. The rest of it lies with the members themselves. Men and women of cool temper and common sense can, no matter how divergent their beliefs, achieve positive results where quarrelers always fail.

Scripture Passage for Today

"Shall not God avenge his own elect?"—St. Luke 18:7.

OTTAWA DIARY

By Norman M. MacLeod

Hon. George Drew is being credited with having made a shrewd choice in selecting Hon. Earl Rowe for the No. 2 Conservative post of deputy house leader.

Actually, the selection was almost automatic. Rowe is a real House of Commons veteran in length of service. (He first was elected away back in 1925) He is also, apart from Hon. Mr.

Truman Pays No Attention To Subpoena

NEW YORK (CP)—Former President Truman said today he will not heed a subpoena to appear Friday before the House of Representatives Un-American Activities Committee. In a letter to committee chairman Harold Velde (Rep. Ill.), which Truman read to a press conference today, he said:

"In spite of my personal willingness to co-operate with you, I am constrained by my duties to the people of the United States to decline to reply."

Shortly before Truman made public his letter here, Velde announced that Truman's appearance before the committee had been postponed indefinitely. The committee had called Truman to hear his answer to charges by Attorney-General Herbert Brownell that Truman appointed Harry Dexter White, treasury aide now dead, as American director of the International Monetary Fund, despite an FBI report that White was a Soviet spy.

Drew himself, the Conservative party's only surviving privy councillor in the House. He attained his privy councillorship when he was named to the Bennett cabinet in 1935 as minister without portfolio.

Furthermore, Rowe has had considerable practical experience in House leadership. He gained it in the Ontario Legislature when he detoured into provincial politics for a few years after 1936 in an effort to redeem Ontario from the hands of the colorful Mitchell F. Hepburn. Rowe didn't succeed in that mission, but it is generally recognized that the odds were loaded heavily against him. And it is conceded that he laid the foundations of provincial Conservative party revival upon which Hon. George Drew later capitalized.

As a replacement in his new post for the late Gordon Graydon, Rowe will be in noteworthy contrast to his predecessor. He is almost a completely different type of parliamentarian. Whereas Graydon always was conciliatory and suave in his technique, Rowe is apt to be blunt, forceful and aggressive. Graydon never made an enemy in House debate. But for that very reason his effectiveness never quite reached maximum grade. Rowe definitely won't be as popular with the government side of the chamber. But he is likely to be very much more effective.

In the light of his well-known record, parliamentary circles anticipate that his increased activity in a key post will add greatly to the interest of House proceedings. They feel also that he will contribute to the Conservative group's effectiveness in opposition. And that is something that all well-wishers of Parliament sincerely desire.

As I See It



by Elmore Philpott

Lady Senators

EVERYBODY I have met in my travels seems glad at the appointment to the Senate of Nancy Hodges.

Nancy is one of the ablest public people we have in Canada, and is respected by people of all political attachments and none.

Senator Nancy will be a very useful addition to the Senate, which already includes several other outstanding women, both Liberal and Conservative.

THERE is one other public woman that I would like to see in the Senate—and I think tens of thousands of other Canadians would too. She is Agnes MacPhail, Canada's first woman MP, who sat for 19 years as a farmer member for Grey South.

It is perhaps a very difficult, and perhaps politically impossible, thing for any leader of a political party to abandon the time-honored practice of appointing only faithful party members to the Senate. That was certainly not the intention of the Fathers of Confederation, who designed the Senate on the theory that it was always to contain all the best and most mature political brains in the country. But if the present prime minister ever decides to brave the disappointment of the party faithful in Ontario, he could make the most popular appointment ever made to the Upper Chamber—Senator Agnes.

REGARDLESS of whether or not any government of Canada ever flouts the ancient party practice and appoints Agnes as senator, it is only common decency and, in fact, common honesty to make Miss MacPhail eligible for the MP's pension.

Miss Agnes was a young school teacher when she was first elected to Parliament in 1921. That was the year of the great farmer sweep. In the fierce arguments of that day, Aggie, the fighting schoolmarm, declared on the hustings that \$2500 per year was plenty for an MP. At that time the pay of MPs was \$4000 per session.

For the lifetime of three Parliaments Agnes turned back \$1500 per session to the treasury of Canada. That is, she voluntarily lived on \$2500 per year while all the other MPs were drawing the full \$4000.

By 1930 Miss MacPhail had long since learned, the hard way, that \$4000 per year was none too much, even for MPs barely to get by on. She candidly told her constituents that if they re-elected her she would draw and retain the full \$4000. They did re-elect her for 10 more years.

But in 1940 Miss MacPhail met defeat, partly because her constituency was merged with the next door, partly because her opponent was one of the brightest young liberals now in public life—Walter Harris.

I THOUGHT that Parliament made a serious oversight when it finally passed the pensions for long service MPs. It surely should have made it retroactive to cover Miss MacPhail's 19 years of fine and faithful service to Canada. They should have given her credit for the cash gifts of \$1500 per year which she made of her own free will to the treasury of Canada.

CANADIAN UNION ESSENTIAL

The Editor, The Daily News—
The letter headed "The Real Issue" published in the News of Nov 9 over the signature of Mrs. Ken J. Warren requires some comment mainly because it did not present the real issue facing fishermen and shoreworkers in the fishing industry. Rather, like all appeals to prejudice, it very carefully avoided factual statements and presented instead a slanderous attack on the United Fishermen and Allied Workers Union, its officers and its membership.

The "real issue" facing fishing industry workers is the bread and butter question of fish prices, wages and working conditions. There is no need to comment on the benefits which have been derived by fishermen, shoreworkers, their wives and families from the work of the UFAWU. This is a fact which is well known. These benefits have been the direct result of the unity established for the first time among fish workers by the union. Attempts to disrupt the UFAWU, however ineffectual, will result only in a weakening of the efforts to maintain and advance the interests of fishermen and shoreworkers. These attempts will fall since the lesson of unity has been learned the hard way in the industry and will never be forgotten by the overwhelming majority.

No defence is necessary of the policies followed by the union over the years whether in the field of negotiations, of sought-after legislation, of conservation, or in the field of international relations such as fishery treaties with other countries and foreign trade. These policies, discussed and decided upon

by the membership, have consistently proven correct, and should Mrs. Warren or anyone else wish to debate any of these matters in public the union will gladly provide a hall. Any policy advocated by the UFAWU has one object, and only one object in view. That is, will it advance the interests of fishing industry workers and at the same time advance the interests of the Canadian people? Such policies and the effort expended to see they are implemented represent bedrock patriotism, a fact which could well be remembered by some of our most vocal and tub-thumping politicians and others who dish up the froth of patriotism without any of the substance.

A Canadian union with policies decided by Canadians is essential in the fishing industry, something which Prince Rupert fishermen realized many years ago when they broke away from the Deep Sea Fishermen's Union of Seattle, an organization which, if I remember correctly, was a part of the Sailors' Union of the Pacific, which in turn was an immediate predecessor of the SIU. The Pacific Fishermen and Allied Trades Union is the name on a charter granted by the Seafarers International Union to the Fraser River Gillnetters' Association. Contrary to Mrs. Warren's letter, the PFATU is therefore a Canadian section of the SIU, a union noted throughout the Canadian movement for its strike-breaking and scab-herding activities.

Within the United Fishermen and Allied Workers Union democracy exists to an extent found in no other Canadian trade union, all the critics to the contrary. The UFAWU since its sus-

pension by President Bengough of the TLC has received messages of support from many individual unions and will receive many more. It is respected and admired from coast to coast, a fact well known to President Bengough, although, since it is a good union it is very much hated in some quarters.

To Mrs. Warren and to any others who are in a position to participate in the work of the UFAWU I would extend a cordial invitation to do so. This can be done either through becoming a regular member or by joining the Women's Auxiliary. Find out for yourself what kind of an organization it is, and if you do find something you don't like then go to work in a proper trade union way to bring a correction. See for yourself how real union democracy, Canadian style, functions.

ALEX GORDON, Business Agent, UFAWU

— THE LETTER BOX —

Ray REFLECTS and REMINISCES

Wives suffer from just as many ulcers as husbands do. The same goes. —Post.

IN THE MAKING

Should there be a strike, affecting thousands, and which has been treated for weeks, a different feeling will settle over this district. It would be the difference between prosperity and the lack of it. And that's considerable. But yesterday came an announcement that as much as said industry would carry on. A settlement is in the making and it has the ring of authority.

Around Suoury the other day a pedestrian apologized after being knocked down by a motorist. Just another freak of nature.

Next best thing to an open mind is one closed for repairs.—Stratford Beacon-Herald.

Thirty-two Royal Canadian Mounted Police with their sleek and nimble horses will spend a while in New York soon entertaining in what is a novel program. They are skilled in a magic ride, which reveals talent and thorough training.

Elmore Philpott, on his way to Ottawa, addressed a public meeting in Regina on the problem of unexportable wheat, and the effect of the economy on the west. Elmore manages to keep himself reasonably busy. Enroute to the House opening, he makes a start when he's only half way there.

Youngsters pack imitation revolvers, and quite a few have their homes in Prince Rupert. Sometimes one hears criticism, but on the whole this juvenile gun play is harmless. Where is the real boy who does not crave fooling with a pistol or rifle. They are far less dangerous than many an object that could be mentioned. Knowing how to shoot fairly early in life can give

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