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Move May Be Wise One

DISCLOSURE that the parks board finds itself unable to perform its function must be disturbing news for every family in town. It raises the alarming possibility that this is to become a city devoid of pleasant outdoor recreational facilities and thus limited still further in the variety of its attractions.

Even a most cursory glance at the condition of our parks reveals that they are in need of not merely attention but a vigorous program of improvement. If the parks board action is taken because there is indifference to this situation, then we have indeed reached a state in our thinking which is as dangerous as it is sad.

Perhaps, however, it is not the attitude that is wrong but the system. As it is now, the parks board is a more or less detached body of community-minded citizens who, within the limits of their budget, must contrive more by persuasion than authority to do what they can for the betterment of our public grounds. They have given their time generously and diligently and one may be sure that, in proposing to relinquish their task, they are convinced they can do nothing else.

Since this impasse has been reached, two choices remain. Either the board be freed from the position where it must beg and borrow to accomplish its purpose or the city take over its duties, implementing the work through the engineering department, as its members now suggest. Under the circumstances the latter course might be the wiser, provided the board be retained in an advisory capacity. Without some group to keep a conscientious eye on park requirements, there is a danger they would disappear completely from administrative plans.

As the engineering department is a big factor in the operations, however, it appears that needed action will be obtained only if the city is giving directions. While it is true this will add one more problem to the many now on the council's agenda, it is one that cannot continue to be handled in its present indefinite manner. To take a single example of the need for action, there is a Little League being formed among young baseball players here which promises to blossom into an activity of major importance. Already special bleachers are being planned for the games at Algoma Park, and formation of a Pony League for older boys is being discussed. Other games besides baseball may be eventually included.

Prince Rupert cannot afford to fail these youngsters nor the hundreds of others who look to the parks as their favorite playgrounds. If we are content to let them make out as best they can in whatever muck they find, then the whole thing can be forgotten. But we have a hunch no one is going to let this happen.

OTTAWA DIARY

By Norman M. MacLeod

Among Prime Minister St. Laurent's most fervent wishes as he tours the nation in search of votes undoubtedly is the hope that he will be more successful nationally in controlling the political situation than he is in his home bailiwick.

For down in the Quebec city and lower St. Lawrence area, where the prime minister hangs his political hat when he's home, things are far from tranquil. It's putting it mildly to say that nowhere else in the Liberal party does greater turmoil exist.

The ridings mainly involved are Matapedia-Matane, Kamouraska, Rimouski, Charlevoix, Quebec West, and Temiscouata. The individuals involved include such celebrities as the veteran Jean Francois Pouliot, the colorful Phileas Cote who once served on the French-speaking secretariat staff of the late W. L. M. King, and Joseph Herve Rousseau, who at the age of 75 was one of the authentic "characters" amongst the Quebec members in the last Parliament.

The trouble common to all the unruly ridings has been a strongly held desire to change horses in mid-stream—in other words, to nominate different candidates from the individuals who represented them in the last House. The last persons whom they took into their confidence in respect to their new plans were the late MPs who had ceased to please them. As a result, when these worthies arrived from Ottawa, they

found themselves involved in fully-fledged political insurrections.

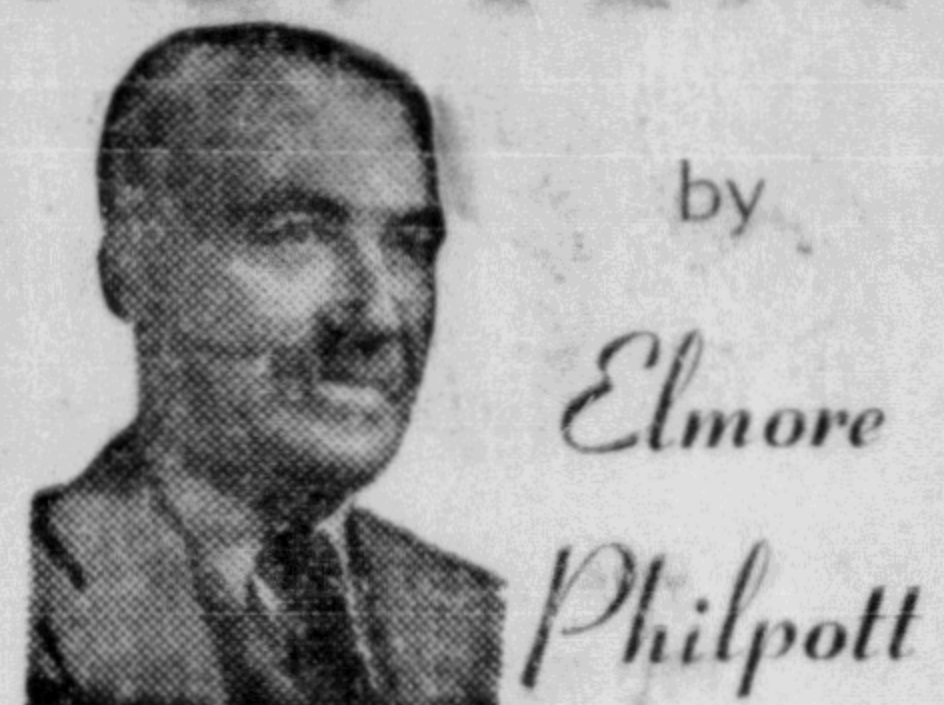
Veteran Jean Francois Pouliot is reported to have smoothed over the situation in his riding of Temiscouata, but Ottawa intervention is said to have been necessary in order to oil the troubled waters. The situation is described as still uncertain and threatening in Charles Parent's seat of Quebec West and Rugat Maltais' riding of Charlevoix. But Phileas Cote in Matapedia-Matane and venerable Joseph Rousseau of Rimouski definitely have been side-tracked in favor of new blood. Both have indicated their intention of running as Independent Liberals.

One of the factors in the lower Quebec unrest is said to be dissatisfaction over the pension which the MP's voted to themselves. Habitant voters are reported to resent the disparity between the \$40 per month which the ordinary individual receives and the \$3,000 per year provided for Parliamentarians who qualify.

In the over-all political picture the lower Quebec situation isn't too important, since the PC candidates aren't regarded as serious contenders in the ridings involved. The battle is between the official and the independent Liberal nominees.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE
"We live, if ye stand fast in the Lord."—1 Thess. 3:8.

As I See It



by
Elmore
Philpott

Kashmir Peace Near

OUT on the frontier of India and Pakistan something is happening which may mean far more for human welfare than would even cease-fire in Korea.

One of the best results of the recent Commonwealth conference was that the Prime Ministers of India sat down together to try for real peace between their two countries.

Kashmir is the main bone of contention between them. Now it looks as if Nehru and Mohammed Ali are reaching accord.

THE DISPUTED area is officially called Jammu and Kashmir. It straddles the foot of the Himalayas. The fabulous "Vale of Kashmir" is north of one range but Jammu lies south. In fact there are four distinct divisions to the disputed territory, both by religion and geography.

Azad Kashmir, now occupied by the Pakistan army, and which everyone agrees would join Pakistan in any really free vote, lies in the northwest.

Ladakh, a vast sparsely settled mountain area to the east of the Vale of Kashmir. This is Buddhist in religion—in fact owes spiritual allegiance to the Dalai Lama of Tibet. I met one out in that part of the world who believed that the people of Ladakh would vote to join Pakistan in preference to India—though I did meet some who felt that if the people of Ladakh were entirely free to decide their own destiny they might choose to join Tibet.

But that was before the Communist occupation of Tibet, which has had the effect of making the people of Ladakh overwhelmingly determined to remain a part of India, and the protective Commonwealth.

Ladakh, by the way, is the part of India where strong legend says Jesus Christ visited in his boyhood years, as student, maybe, of the Wise Men of the East. Who knows?

UNDER THE settlement now proposed, Ladakh and Jammu would become integral parts of India.

Azad Kashmir would become an integral part of Pakistan. The Vale of Kashmir, loveliest spot on earth, would become an independent state, with its status jointly guaranteed by India and Pakistan.

Should this happy and statesmanlike solution be brought to pass, Kashmir would thus become a link of friendship between the two great twin nations of the Commonwealth in Asia.

AFTER VISITING Kashmir myself and seeing Abdullah's good Kashmiri government in action, I wrote in this space on April 6, 1951:

"If Kashmir and Jammu ever do get a UN vote on the question of accession either to India or Pakistan I think it would be a sad mistake to have it on an All-or-Nothing basis, but that the four natural divisions—Jammu, Ladakh, Kashmir Valley and 'Azad Kashmir' should vote as sections."

Privately at that time I wrote to the key personalities in Canada and India who had facilitated my trip to Kashmir, urging much the same solution that now seems to be coming to pass.

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Ray REFLECTS and REMINISCES

Asked how he achieved such natural, delicate flesh tints on his nudes, the famous painter, Renoir, is said to have replied: "I just keep painting and painting until I feel like pinching—then, I know it's right."

FIVE TO SPARE
Some people, says the Weatherman editor, "will drive five miles and pay five bucks to have a phrenologist tell them what they want to know but the same folks would refuse a free intelligence test in their own home."

It is estimated that Canada picked no fewer than twenty-nine million quarts of strawberries this summer. We'll leave you to figure out all the shortcake casualties. The total must have been shocking.

Then there was the retired major who named his summer home the Nut Shell. He had hoped the people would start calling him the Colonel.

The Daily Sketch of London says Napoleon, with his look of power, resembles President Eisenhower.

Busse Sought For Pioneers

The licensing committee of Prince Rupert City Council will try to make arrangements with T.M.C. Transportation system to see if two or three trips a week can be made to pass the Pioneers' home so that Prince Rupert's senior citizens will not be entirely cut off.

The action followed a letter from the bus company advising the council that bus service on Routes 2 and 4, Eleventh Avenue and Section 2 would be discontinued due to the shortage of competent Class A drivers.

Ald. George Casey told council the senior citizens would be left stranded. He suggested that an agreement be reached with the bus firm to make two or three trips a week to the "home."

enhower. But he never beheld Bonaparte without a frown or like without a smile.

Tea drinking in Canada is almost four million pounds more annually compared with years ago. And perhaps that much extra sugar, counting the cups.

Most of us have diverting memories of the Coronation summer overseas. Possibly it's true of Sergeant Grosse of the Perth Regiment in Ontario. But it wasn't this way on the journey home. With other Canucks he was packed aboard a Greek Line ship manned by Greek officers, Italian crew and German stewards. It was one of the worst seafaring junkheaps he'd ever been on. There were 186 Canadians, a horde of immigrants, rotten meals and scanty facilities for a nine-day crossing. For four days the vessel was buffeted by an 80-mile gale.

"But it was a great experience," remarked the sergeant. He might have said more but didn't.

NORTHWARD HO!

The Toronto Star prints a page glorifying Vancouver without saying anything particularly new, unless it is Kitimat. But of course, there had to be some reference to the northern development now going on and "the misty ports such as Prince Rupert." Shucks! Misty Vancouver is what is meant, only it ought to be fog.

All sorts of cruisers and cruises are staged on the west coast and the more each you can command, the more colorful should be your experiences. Just now, somewhere between Puget Sound and Alaska there's the luxury yacht Darginn. The skipper is Capt. Fritz Steinkraus, a former captain of a German submarine. He's good natured and bull-necked. Incidentally, supplies include 2,000 bottles of whisky and 900 bottles of German beer.

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— THE LETTER BOX —

'A MOCK SUN'
The Editor,
The Daily News:
On the evening of July 9, a shiny object glinting in the sun-light and floating heavenwards was seen in the northern sky that shined object, the eyes of many Prince Rupert residents.

According to reports in The Daily News several suggestions as to its identity have been advanced but the general consensus seems to point that the object was a casting balloon from a weather ship.

A pilot who saw the thing estimated it to be about 40,000 to 50,000 feet high as it was above the cirrus clouds formation. But, a forecasting balloon I imagine would have exploded long before it reached such heights.

The object observed by the residents of this city was a mock sun, and no balloon or man-made object. If the residents had known what was to take place in space within 24 hours from the time the object appeared, they would most likely have surmised that what they were looking at was created by the Moon, jockeying into position for an eclipse, when its body would be between the sun and the earth, exactly 24 hours later.

The object that could be seen in the northern sky was a mock sun, caused by the sun's rays refraction—as the rays rushed close to the body of the moon at that moment, and due to the atmosphere in the northern sky close to this city. Of course this strange phenomenon must have been caused by a freak refraction due to the coming eclipse of the moon.

Refraction of the rays of the sun is due to the change from a straight line which a ray of light or heat assumes when passing through a smooth surface into a medium of greater density. That is what happened when this strange phenomenon took place in the northern sky on July 9.

The eclipse of the moon took place on the evening of July 8 at 9:30 p.m. and was visible at the North Pole, Greenland, Alaska, the Yukon and northern British Columbia. Unfortunately the fog was too heavy over this city to notice it.

PIERRE LECLAIRE,
1433 Eighth East.

Several Cases Still Before Privy Council

LONDON (C)—Canada's connection with the judicial committee of Britain's Privy Council is in the same situation as the song which had ended but whose melody lingered on.

Canada cut off civil judicial appeals to the Privy Council in 1949, establishing that the Supreme Court of Canada henceforth would serve as the final appeal.

The Privy Council however, still hears about eight or more Canadian appeals a year, under the decision that cases in process prior to January, 1949, could be taken to the Privy Council for appeal purposes, if necessary.

No one knows or will estimate the number of Canadian cases still to be heard. Officials of the administrative part of the council court know officially how many probably will be heard this year. They can only guess how many are to come.

So far this year, the privy council has disposed of five cases, granted leave to appeal in one case and is scheduled to try to fit two or three more appeals in, if possible.

NEED PROOF
The Editor,
The Daily News:
Mayor Harold Whalen demands an apology now that he has escaped being deposed from office with the bungled "up mess" he got himself into. I think he would be well-advised to leave sleeping dogs lie.

However, if the mayor can show me where the charges I made to the Minister of Municipalities were unfounded and that he was within his legal rights in financing the trip of Ald. Darrow Gomez to Windsor, Ontario, without authority of the city council I will have no hesitation in apologizing.

The worst feature I see in the Bracewell report is where he compliments the clerk (city clerk R. W. Long) in the engagement of Mr. Thomas, the consulting engineer. Mr. Bracewell does not realize the phoney features of that transaction. A motion was passed to contact the Professional Engineer's Association to find out what material was available and the fees.

When council convened at the following meeting the engineer was already in town and engaged at that meeting. Although I for one alderman have never seen the gentleman he simply acted as a front for Mayor Whalen, and Aldermen McLean and Krueger. He did their talking while they did the scheming, an act well performed. It paid off and the Northern B.C. Power Co. won. The city council was out-generated.

Just a word, regarding the cemetery. The public may have the impression that I am opposed to improving the grounds. Nothing could be further from the truth. I simply oppose the use of money raised by special levy for ordinary maintenance work until such time as a complete drainage system is completed. Instead of hiring a couple of gardeners I would like to see a crew of good husky ditchers employed and retained until the drainage system has been completed. The road should also be extended; the pathways constructed; some shrubbery planted and other all round improvements made. But drainage must come first.

GEORGE B. CASEY

UNQUESTIONED COVER
The Editor,
The Daily News:
Your editorial July 9, showing candidates are making a showing . . . nothing very to crusade for . . . something will come along . . . when happens watch out for women."

This reminds me of a reiterated phrase of a acquaintance of mine, "All are cowards." To a great extent this is true not only in politics but in the field of religion, every man that volunteers for a mission work you will have at least ten of the weaker brethren. However if the whether political or religious not too onerous and fairly paid the lades of necessity take a back seat; naturally isn't a job for the weaker then.

With all their peculiar say thank God for the and their unquestioned EDWARD W. CHASE, Prince George, B.C.

HEAVY TRAFFIC
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