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Skagway Willing

AN EDITORIAL carried by the Anchorage Daily Times, and reprinted by the Ketchikan Daily News, says in part:

The people of Skagway have voted in favor of trading to Canada a corridor through their city in return for the right to use headwaters of the Yukon river for the generation of power.

This was their decision by almost 3 to 1 in a referendum vote made in connection with a municipal bond issue.

Although the local issues are not known here, it must have been a difficult proposition to face. Giving away a part of your own community to another nation is not an attractive proposal.

Apparently, the people are so earnest in their desire to see the Skagway area blossom out with industrial progress that they are willing to consider a trade.

Canada's desire for a corridor to the sea through the Alaska panhandle, prompted the referendum.

There has been much talk about some kind of a trade, and the Skagway people showed they are willing to sacrifice in order to gain the benefits of the huge new project. (The Aluminum Company of America proposed in 1952 the construction of a smelter in Taiya valley, next door to Skagway. The project to cost a grand total of $800 million.)

Unfortunately, there are frightening aspects to this international trade. They came to light recently when some Canadian officials proposed granting water rights on the Columbia river in return for the corridor.

This was frightening because it revealed that part of Alaska might be traded to Canada in return for a right or privilege somewhere other than in Alaska. In short, somebody might be willing to give away Alaska land to benefit some region in continental United States.

We are sure no Alaskan would approve such a deal. The assets of the Territory should be used to advance the interests of the Territory.

A careful note should be made of the fact that Skagway's willingness to grant a corridor through town is contingent upon getting those Yukon water rights, not Columbia river water rights for the benefit of the Pacific Northwest.

Missing Sections of Report By Khrushchev Sought by U.S.

WASHINGTON (AP)—American officials believe a big chunk is missing from the version of Nikita Khrushchev's attack on Stalin which the United States state department released this week.

American diplomats and agents abroad have been ordered to hunt for any missing portion—which may run between 10,000 and 15,000 words—and get it to Washington at once if they find it. The search has been assigned the highest priority.

What is missing, authorities here feel, is a long section believed to have dealt with a denunciation of Stalin's conduct of foreign affairs.

Subjects not covered in the text given out Monday by the state department include Stalin's handling of Russia's relations with Red China, the Korean war, Soviet pressures against Iran and Turkey, Western formation of the Atlantic alliance, post-war treatment of Germany, the Marshall plan for European recovery and the anti-NATO Warsaw pact.

Scriptures

Jesus . . . began to wash the disciples' feet. John 13:5.

There are no untouchables in Christian lands. In that land of unpaved roads and sandled feet servants usually performed that service. Christ was the greatest social revolutionist the world has seen. He had no guards nor body servants, no stately mansion, he did not lose face. We date all time from his birth, but we could honor him more by imitating his humility.

As I See It

BY

Elmore Philpott

Narcotic Report

THE report of the special UBC Committee on Narcotics is of national importance. It confirms most of the findings of the 1955 Senate committee which investigated the same subject.

It gives the death blow to the ill-advised proposal made by a Vancouver Community Chest committee, which recommended legalized distribution of narcotics, to registered addicts.

AT FIRST glance, there might appear to be a contradiction in the reasoning of the UBC committee. The excessive use of alcohol, they say, is perhaps more harmful to the victim than is heroin to the user of that narcotic drug. Yet, no one now suggests that the sale of alcohol should be prohibited, notwithstanding the truth of the charge that alcoholism is a menace of such intensity, to a small minority.

Why, then, does the committee stand adamant against legalized distribution of heroin? Surely it is because there is overwhelming evidence to indicate that the two problems are quite different in their public aspects.

An alcoholic can be an alcoholic without contaminating his fellow men or the whole of society. But the plain evidence seems to show that the victims of the heroin habit will abandon any and every moral principle, if that principle has to be abandoned in order to obtain the drug.

MUCH of the committee's report centres around improved methods for treating addicts. These are certainly overdue.

There is also well merited criticism of the difference in public attitudes towards the so-called "professional addicts" and those in the general category called "criminal addicts."

In this report, as in the findings of the Senate Committee, it is appalling to learn that more than one per cent of Canadian physicians are drug addicts. Whatever else this proves, it certainly indicates that ease of obtaining the supply is itself the greatest contributory factor toward addiction.

THE Senate investigation of narcotics pretty thoroughly demolished the false ideas about legalized distribution of narcotics in Britain. The actual officials in charge of narcotic control in Britain who gave evidence, were careful to point out that there is nothing in Britain remotely approaching "legalized sale."

Incurable addicts are allowed sustenance doses, under strict administration of their own doctors, if it can be shown that there is no other way for them to keep their employment and live even relatively useful lives. There is a vast difference between the British system and that attempted in certain parts of the United States in the early twenties, when legalized drug clinics were regarded by addicts as nothing more nor less than "filling stations."

THE UBC report suggests that the press has overplayed and over glamorized the whole business of narcotics. It reasons that the very publicity itself has tended to multiply the number of addicts by building up a false atmosphere of excitement about the whole business. Youngsters whose idea is "I'll try anything once," may be attracted to narcotics because of this.

Sober, unsensational, and, above all, factual information about the harmful effects of drug addiction is what the committee recommends.

ALLEN T. LAMBERT, has been appointed General Manager of The Toronto-Dominion Bank. Being 44 years of age he will be the youngest general manager of any Canadian bank. Mr. Lambert has been an Assistant General Manager since 1953.

Try Daily News Classified

OTTAWA DIARY

By NORMAN M. MacLEOD

Parliamentary observers who have been trying to read some new lessons for history into the turbulent pipelines debate are having to content themselves with some of the old and more threadbare cliches.

The marathon and unruly discussion has demonstrated conclusively that amongst the normally apathetic public there are a whole lot of people who like a good fight.

But it also has demonstrated no less conclusively that amongst the same normally apathetic public there are a whole lot of people who dislike a good fight instinctively and are only comfortable in an environment of polite behaviour.

Neither of these too discoveries are sufficiently novel to be really illuminating. They were already well known long before the pipelines debate illustrated them anew.

Nevertheless, the corridors of Parliament have been far from being the least interesting place in the Capital during the past days of democratic turbulence. The crowds which have caused the "standing room only" sign to be taken out of moth-balls for the first time since the great conscription debates of World War II have milled and eddied about. Whether or not they succeeded in getting inside to view the spectacle, they have discussed their personal re-actions in tones easy to overhear.

Thus, by using these crowds as a cross-section of the nation, it has been easy for students of Parliament to deduce that neither the dogged government forces nor the fighting opposition troops have had a monopoly on public sympathies. But it also has been evident that, the longer the controversy has progressed, the stronger the opposition's following has become. At first, when the issue was mainly the pipelines project itself, public comment was on the government's side by a definite margin. But more lately, as the pipeline issue has been succeeded by the cry of the rights of Parliament, the turning of the tide of sentiment against the government has been clearly discernible. There are still voices professing to be deeply shocked by the unruly, undignified, Commons spectacle. But they no longer are in the majority.

What the visiting crowds seemed to have realized was that Parliamentary liberties were neither won nor preserved through the centuries by polite, conventional behaviour, but that they had to be defended stoutly and with determination in order to survive. It was as though the crowds realized that the important thing was for Parliamentary rights and liberties to have defenders whenever they were endangered—and as though the PC's and the CCF-ers were being given credit for having risen to the challenge of a historic role.

LETTERBOX

RUPERT CAN BE PROUD

The Editor,
The Daily News,

"A star is born" but in this year's "Sweethearts on Parade" I think the whole cast were stars and grand troupers. This northern city has much to be proud of, in such a production.

If in future one of these "potentials" reach Broadway, a great deal of credit should go to director Buddy Taft. We are fortunate in having him. He is giving much beauty and culture to the hometown. When the Centennial arrives in 1958 the committee in charge should freely advertise our local "Follies" for they are worth seeing.

Apart from the dancers the costumes were truly "great" and I feel sure equal to those seen in larger centres anywhere, even on Broadway. Congratulations to the mothers and designers and to all those industrious folks who helped make "Sweethearts" such an outstanding event.

Here's to bigger and better productons. Prince Rupert can be known for more than its fish and its totems. We have real live "spirits of the Dance" here.

Vera A. Mair,
Prince Rupert.

OLD SPEED-UP

PAKENHAM, England (AP)— A "mass-production" Roman pottery kiln has been discovered near this Suffolk town. It could make 600 pots at a time.

NO SUCH STATION LISTED

The Editor,
The Daily News:

In my first letter of May 28, I wanted to show that "Short Hair's" statements concerning the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's programs were neither true nor courteous.

However, as other letters were published I discovered I had been unjust. I must admit my mistake and hope members of the "Short Hair club" will forgive me.

I have only one excuse and that is: I have never heard the station that the "Short Hair club" members are so familiar with, which broadcasts symphonies eight hours each day. That station, strangely enough, is not even mentioned in my weekly CBC Times.

I would appreciate it if "Short Hair club member" would tell me how to dial that station. I would be very pleased to show him when and where CFPR is broadcasting "western" music.

A. M. ORNO,
Prince Rupert.

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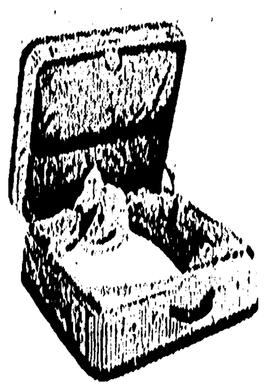

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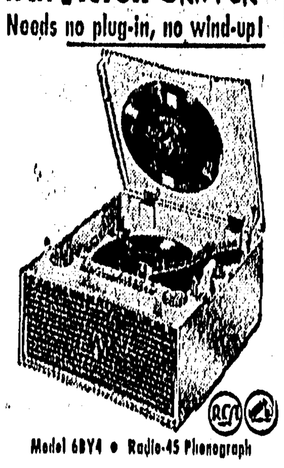

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