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Promise Unkept

IN A radio broadcast this week, Bruce Brown MLA brought-up a point about B.C.'s highway program that punched home. To anote him:

"Of the funds appropriated for highways by the secone when the well-liked, but 58-cent-per-pound rate. Thatch. heavy snow and rain was report-Legislature for the fiscal year 1952-53 only a nortion was spent. The same situation prevailed for the years 1953-54 and 1554-55. In each of these years the unspent balance was returned to the general revenue fund of the province. It is essential to keep in mind that it is not only the amount budgeted for our highways but the amount properly and wisely expended for that purpose that is of consequence."

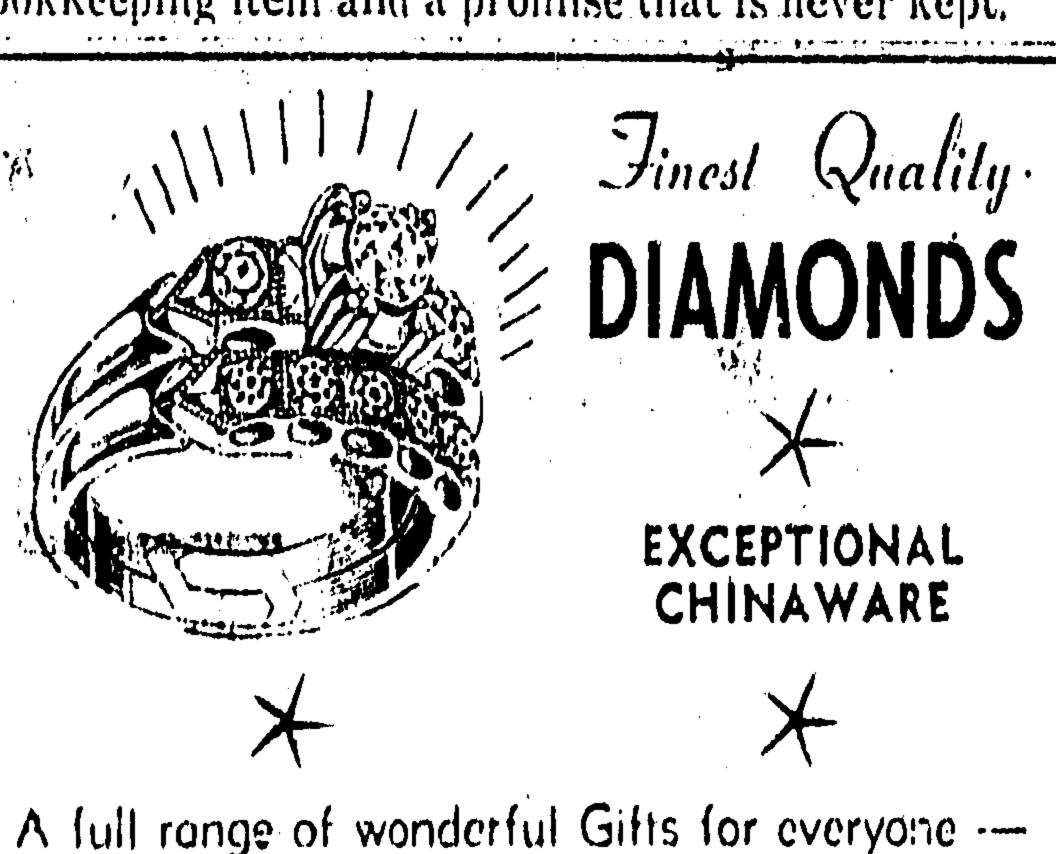
It does indeed seem to be true that, at least where highways are concerned, the government is operating on the principle that words are cheaper than labor. Although appropriations announced for work on our roads have been of record size, the months and years continue to pass with little improvement that the humble motorist is able to ob-

In the case of our own Highway 16, the difference between promises and action is particularly noticeable. If Highway Minister Gagliardi's claim is true that his government has spent more on this highway in the last three years than was spent between 1934 and 1952, then we can only conclude that previous governments never put a dime into it. At any rate, the road has shown no marked change in recent years and the only big spender is the motorist himself who is continually paying for damages.

It was natural that, as a Liberal, Mr. Brown should be curious to know what happened to the \$2,000,000 that the Liberal government set aside by statute in 1952 for expenditure wholly on construction, reconstruction of the northern trans-provincial highway. But he is not alone. Anyone who has, every dollar in his own business. IT MAY seem like a far jump fought the battle of Highway 16 is curious about. that, too.

This year the promise has been made not only that large sums will be spent to improve the present road but that it will be extended to close the gap east of Prince George. While it may be difficult to tell and even the genewal of "he today?" just how much effort is being made to improve an established highway, this proposed extension is one point on which we cannot be deceived.

The road to McBride, so necessary to the development of Highway 16, cannot be handled as a bookkeeping item and a promise that is never kept.



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Thatcher Resigns

THE Canadian House of Commons does not produce south of the oll-rich town of many tense moments, nor go in for many emo- prayton valley.

tional or dramatic scenes. cheeked and rather rotund hardware man from Moose Jaw had been sitting with his head in his farmers. thends. Before he had finished, one of his CCF colleagues was BUT while Thatcher's break with t holding his head in his hands-- | the CCF party was not surand the whole House was sharing prising, it was upsetting to the the CCF benches.

IN ONE sense Thatcher's break with the CCF was in the same! has the fast move of the legen-inractice. dary office boy who-seeing the boss approaching, with a furiou look in eye, calls out:

"You can't fire me. I quit." Ross Thatcher's views were miles out of line with the view of the CCF party. The wonder was, not that he felt finally forced to make the clean break. but how he had ever got into! the CCF in the first place, or stayed there so long.

But where the real rub came, as a strict business transaction—I free world. just as he would the spending of,

As See It.

LANDHIVONA.

But there was one dramatle price supports for butter at the ways Ltd. of Edmonton said a hard-to-classify, Ross Thatches er argued that price supports ed shortly after the helicopter h read his resignation from the fixed at too high a level prevent. left for the 1½-hour trip to Ed-CCF. The youngish, rich red- ed the total sale of the product, monton. resulted in unsold surpluses, and the end did harm to the

some of the pain so evident on whole House, for another reason. Under our system of govern-

ment, there is an ever-present contradiction between the theory of the constitution and its actual

In theory, there is no recognition of political parties. In prac-Hec. Canada and all other countries which operate under the British system are governed under party discipline. If a person! Joins a political party, he is in honor-bound to keep in line with Its general direction—or else get

But history plainly shows that I the "rebel" of today is often the and remains, for the CCF in the party saviour of tomorrow. To a case of Ross Thatcher, was that elte just one example-Churchill } everybody in the CCF and out-opposed his own party on half side it, knew that the hard-ia dozen historic occasions, even headed hardware merchant from latter his return to the Conserva-Moose Jaw was absolutely sincere tives from the Liberals. His deand anything but hard-hearted, mund for the end of "appeasefor tight-fisted. He simply re- ment" finally won out, saved not gerded the spending of every only his own party, and nation, dollar of the taxpayers' money but in a sense saved the whole

But that hard-headed devo- from Churchill in 1935 to tion led Thatcher to oppose— Thatcher in 1955. But I think not only the \$40 at age 70 with-, what the House of Commons was. out the means test-but the really asking itself, as Thatcher; building of the new CNR hotel walked out, was "can the man of 1 Montreal, the new headquart- independent mind operate effect ers for the National Film Board, tively under our party system of

and REMINISCES

chief assets. And Tony will need Moscow correspondents turned a double helping of both—with up at a hearty cocktail party. E jam on it—Windsor Star.

ber about the speed of light is exaggerated. the fact that it gets here too soon in the morning.

There's no place like home, For Hospital we're told, except during the housesteaning season.

as a dollar" it used to be at least But it's becoming harder and A simhar health grant of harder to support the govern-1\$15,000 will enable the child i and it. In the style to which it has guidance centre and day hospital become accustonied. The Front Burnaby, B.C., to add an out-

Patience and cool judgment Mr. Malenkov missing for two re seen as Sir Anthony Eden's weeks from the sight of the He will be enlightened as well? as relieved to know that the The only thing we can remem- reports of his execution were

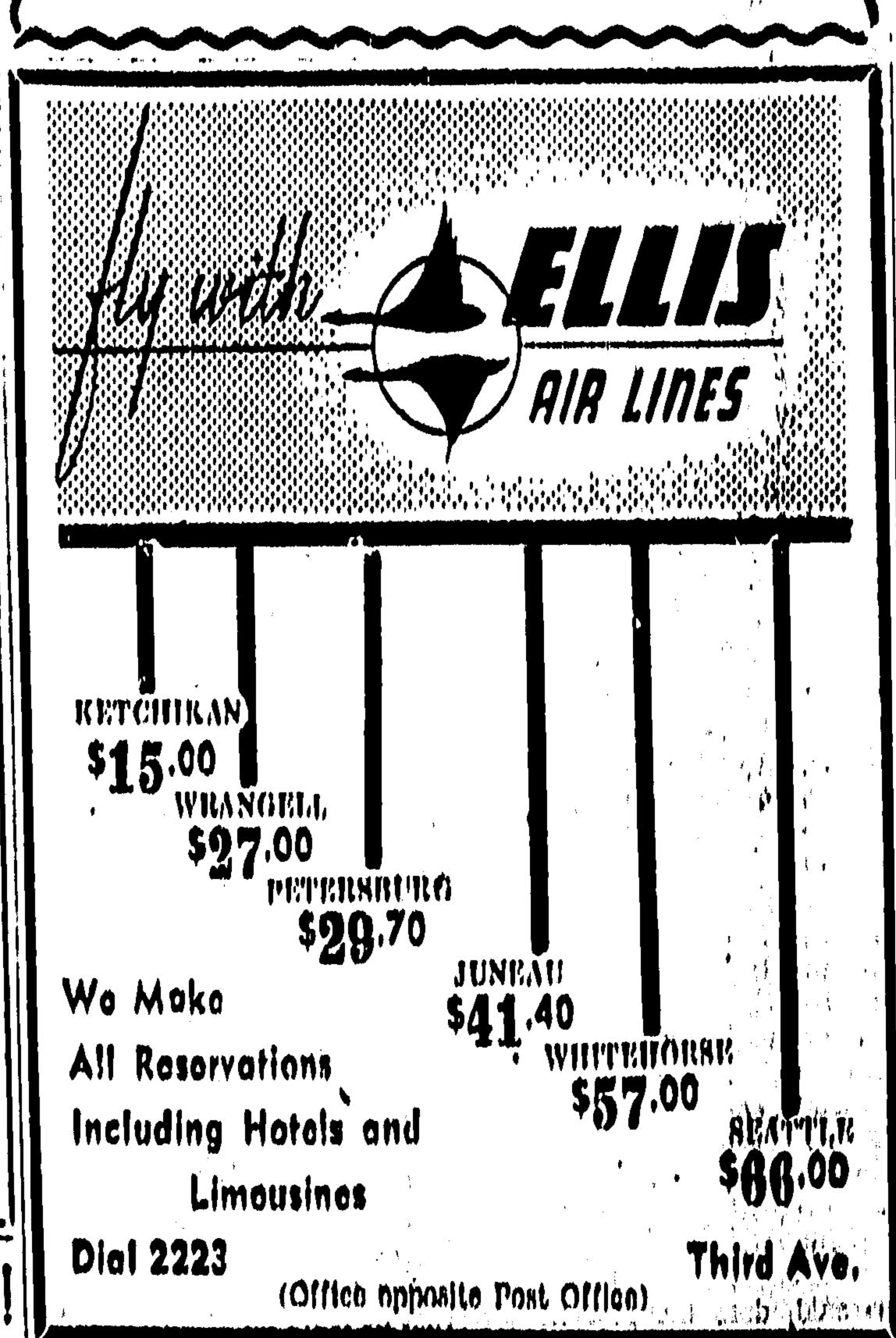
It matters more what's in a \$40,473 Grant woman's face than what's on it.

OTTAWA () --- The federal health department announced Spring has sprung, or has it? yesterday a grunt of \$40,473 has been made to the Bulkley Valley District Hospital, Smithers, B.C., for a 36-bed extension and an Robinson) out-patient department,

patient departmentage

MEN 5-PIN BOWLERS

Friday, 7:00 n.m. — Valhalla Hall



Helicopter With Three Aboard Missing Southwest of Edmonton

missing in bush country about equipped with radio. 100 miles southwest of Edmon- Those abourd the 'copter were

The three-place Bell machine of Casper, Wyo., who arrived in was last seen late Tuesday when Edmonton earlier this month. it took off for Edmonton from James H. Goalder of Edmonton an oil well drilling site 35 miles and his nine-year-old son, Terry.

An official of Associated Air-

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ton, it was learned early today, identified as pilot Roland Maier

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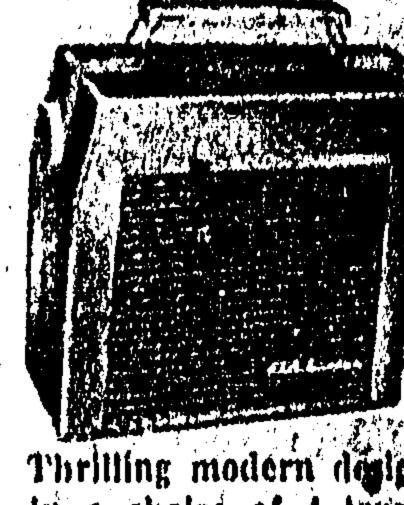
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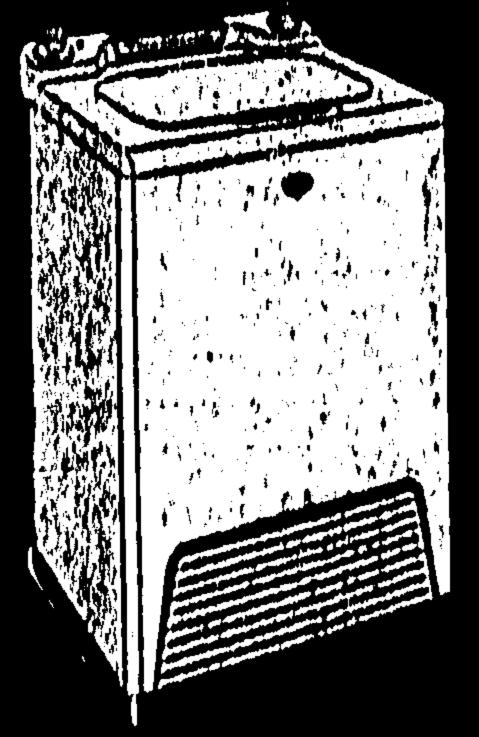
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