

Unity Without Uniformity

FROM the time it was established in 1947, the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews has set aside a Brotherhood Week which the country is now observing. Although brotherhood between people of different creed, culture, ethnic origin and race is not a relationship that can be practiced one week and ignored for the rest of the year, Brotherhood Week does serve to point up the need of making a conscious effort to promote such relationship.

In a country like Canada which almost daily is receiving new citizens from abroad, there are inevitably critics who will view this influx with antagonism. They are the same disgruntled persons who will try to stir up animosity against a neighbor if he does not happen to be of a religion or color which they regard as acceptable. They will make real work of it and it is only through persevering application of the principles of Brotherhood Week that they will be defeated.

In the literature sent out by the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews, one of the most apt observations was made by none other than The Rocket, Maurice Richard, who said:

"No individual hockey player ever won a match or a series. Only a team can do that. Nor does the strength of a club depend as much upon its star players as it does upon the team spirit of its players."

"Brotherhood Week is a timely reminder that the same principle holds all through life. The strength of a nation is in the team spirit of its citizens. Canada will attain its full stature and overcome all obstacles to its program to the extent of the united effort of all Canadians of all national origins or creeds in working together for the common good."

If there is an important place in Canada for Brotherhood Week, then in Prince Rupert this is particularly so, for this city undoubtedly has more than an average percentage of new Canadians. The varied experience and talents which these citizens have brought with them are an invaluable asset that must never be allowed to diminish through lack of understanding and appreciation by others.

The motto of Brotherhood Week is "Unity without Uniformity." It is one worth taking to heart.

Freedom To Worship

THE New York State Court of Appeals has made an interesting decision regarding personal worship. It decided that a child of 12 years of age and over had a right to choose his own religion regardless of any premarital agreement or a family pact.

Many cases have been brought into courts because of matrimonial reasons, or the terms of a will; one of the parties is obliged to obey an injunction as to religious belief when they would wish to make a change. The court held that it is not right to bind a person to a certain code of living when he or she is old enough to think and act for themselves; that no person should be tied down in childhood to a form of worship governing their entire lives.

In other words the court decided in favor of freedom to worship, which is one of the cardinal freedoms.

Ray REFLECTS and REMINISCES

The trouble with those little Central American republics is that a man can't make a good start. Those who revolution without going outside stayed there.

The more you earn, the more you need, is said to be a fundamental law of economics. When a pity it does not work the other way around.

A nickel is not supposed to be as good as a dollar, but it goes to church more often.

An Indian maharajah is reported to be on his way here to study Canada. Well, he could not have come to a better place for it.

The chap who always calls a made a spade has a much more vivid description of a snowshovel.

Professor C. H. Townes of Columbia University has invented a clock that is more accurate than sun time. The new atomic clock, it seems, can only be "out of second in 300 years. That is, provided in those 300 years somebody does not neglect to wind it up.

A marriage counsellor says a wife will go through anything for her husband... and his pocket for herself.

One thing against dieting is that there isn't much sense in keeping fit if you haven't got the strength to move around.



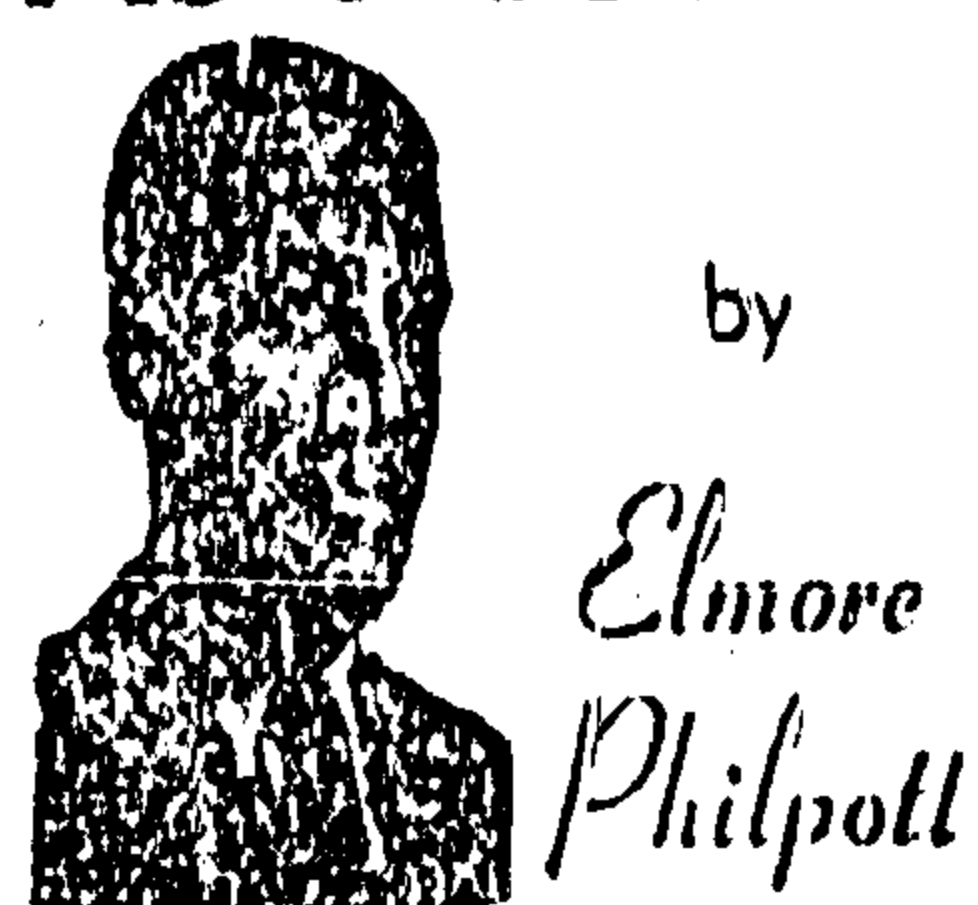
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As I See It



Equal Pay Bill

THE House of Commons has narrowly defeated a private member's bill to enforce equal pay for women who do equal work with men on comparable jobs.

This year's vote was the closest yet—107 to 123.

Eleven Liberals joined with the opposition in this bill. The government had already given a strong hint to its supporters that it will itself sponsor a bill to this end, and that the government bill will likely be brought down next year.

I HAVE been a supporter of equal pay for equal work for many years, and with other B.C. Liberals, have voted twice in the House of Commons for the bill introduced by the Conservative lady MP for West Hamilton. However, I hope that when the government brings in its own bill, it will be a better and more practical measure than the one which has just been defeated.

The Fairclough bill had a serious flaw in it. It provided machinery to compel an employer to raise the pay of any female getting lower wages than a male doing the same job. But there was no provision to compel an employer to raise a man's pay in case the male was getting less than the female for doing the same work.

Someone may be inclined to jump into the argument and ask "Whoever heard of a woman getting more than a man?" The answer to that is that the head of the Canadian Bankers' Association told our banking committee last year that on some classes of work the banks have to pay girls more than male youths for doing the same work. The reason why the males would work for lower pay was that they expected to work for their whole lifetime—whereas many girls expected to be there only a few months.

IN MY opinion the equal pay principle should have been embodied in the anti-discrimination law, which makes it unlawful for anybody to discriminate against anybody else, simply on the ground of color, race, religion.

It would have been possible to insert the words "or sex" in that law—thus making it a federal offence to pay women less than men, for doing the same work, or to pay men less than women.

THE old argument about whether a man NEEDS more income than a woman is largely out of date.

We do not run our society on the basis of how much the wage earner NEEDS to keep his family. For if we did pay everybody according to their family obligations we would not only have to pay most men more than most women for the same jobs. But we would also have to differentiate between a single, who chose to remain a bachelor, and one who was the father of a family.

Also—if that were the principle—we would have to pay more to the numerous women who are actually the bread-winners for their families. This applies not only to widows, separated married women, but also to many single women who keep their parents, or other members of their families.

THE income tax exemptions for married people—plus the family allowances—are designed to take care of the people with heavy family expense.

The principle of equal pay for equal work is right. But let's be clear that equal work should mean equal work.

If female school teachers can walk out of the school in mid-afternoon while male teachers are forced to stay behind for several hours to supervise sports or other such activities—then of course the teachers who did the extra work should get extra pay. But some females have to stay too.

Use Wort Avis—They Pay



PICTURED ABOVE are Little Theatre's Shirley Hill and Basil Prockter, who play the parts of the medical staff in tonight's Civic Centre production "The Curious Savage." Curtain time is 8:30.

Report From PARLIAMENT

By E. T. APPELWHAITE, MP Skeena

It was with real interest that I read the report of the annual meeting of the sponsoring committee for the Prince Rupert Air Cadets. May I not only congratulate Jack Lawrie and Mrs. Bruce, but also express a word of appreciation for their public spiritedness in taking on these duties.

I am waiting with interest the reports of the annual Prince Rupert bospital. Curling is very active down here and it is a source of surprise to many to learn that artificial ice is needed up in our latitude.

It would seem that every time the Federal Department of Justice uncovers an illegal combination, there is an outburst against our anti-combines legislation. The moment the Justice Department enforces the statute, catches combines and prosecutes them, the legislation becomes, according to some, a device for harrasing successful business men. James Stewart, in his address to the Canadian Bank of Commerce, said, "Bearing in mind our geographic position, the pattern of present population concentrations, and the increasing competition from abroad, it is possible that certain forms of integration for greater productive efficiency, lower costs and improved competitive position, can exist in the public interest." All those words just boil down to a suggestion that combine be permitted. Others say that a business which gave such superior service that all its competitors quit, would be liable to prosecution as a monopoly. A monopoly of that kind would not be allowed under the combines Act. Our legislation is designed to protect the public against such combinations and to ensure fair trade. Let us take care that it is not undermined.

Davis Fulton, the Conservative MP has been giving the government some pretty strong criticism. Well and good, that's the duty of the opposition. But I think some of his best-prepared material has been rather marred by too much invective and too much personal attack, thus losing quite a bit of its effectiveness. For my money Don Fleming is still by far the most effective opposition member. John Diefenbaker has not been as effective this year as in the past.

Mrs. Fairclough has returned to the attack on the Harold O. Hanks case. She recently asked Hon. J. W. Pickershill if he knew that his officials had given information to Maclean's Magazine. Pickershill did not know how he could be aware of it unless they happened to report it to him. Mrs. Fairclough was dissatisfied with official information given to her in the House because it did not agree with Maclean's; but it became obvious that the magazine writer had not badly mixed up in his facts.

OTTAWA DIARY

By NORMAN M. MacLEOD

The story behind the past week's news of the lowering of interest rates, by the Bank of Canada and the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation is the government's desire to eliminate the present premium on the Canadian dollar.

The route being taken to reach this objective obviously is a circuitous one. The theory is that if lower interest rates make it more attractive for development and business projects to borrow capital at home rather than abroad, then the inflow of investment capital from the United States will be curtailed. And with a lessened demand for the Canadian dollar from United States investors, the premium to which it has climbed in recent months will tend to disappear.

The action of the past week comes on the heels of mounting complaint against the dollar's premium by Canadian export industries. The argument is heard almost continually these days that Canada is losing large-volume business abroad almost daily from countries who would be willing to buy Canadian goods, if it were not for the premium that they have to pay for the Canadian dollar when they come to pay their bills.

The government could have dealt with this situation by returning to foreign exchange control and arbitrarily decreasing parity between the Canadian and the United States dollar. But such a step was considered definitely retrograde. Instead of a return to controlled currencies in the international field, the Canadian authorities are anxious to expedite complete convertibility between the pound sterling and the dollar. Hence the importance of leaving the Canadian dollar as free as possible. It must not become an obstacle to convertibility when the British fiscal authorities are ready to sponsor such a move.

The Canadian financial authorities change the interest rate

so rarely that the public tends to lose sight of the practice as an accepted and built-in device of Federal fiscal policy. During the war the interest rate was lowered steadily as means of lowering wartime production costs and stimulating the economy to maximum use of its resources. From a level of between four and five per cent in 1939, it was down at the war's close to a level of between two and three per cent. Subsequently, in the post-war period, it was raised again. The motive then was to hold in check the post-war inflation.

Now the government judges that any practical danger of inflation is past. Moderate unemployment is appearing once more and export markets are becoming increasingly competitive. The situation is therefore regarded as calling for a lowering of interest rates. In addition to helping export trade by getting rid of the premium on the Canadian dollar, the move should stimulate the economy generally by increasing the flow of domestic borrowings for capital purposes.

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