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## Survey Needed

IN AN informative paper on the history and potentials of northwestern B.C., presented at the natural resources conference in Victoria, Dr. William Hick of the Stewart Plan of Trade pointed out strikingly how little is known of the great, easily exploitable part of the province. Describing his task of presenting a full picture at an "impossible deadline," he said:

"Unlike more settled areas in southern B.C., where every acre of arable land is known and catalogued, where forests have long been inventoried, where evaluation of mineral resources has been made as easy as it ever can be by complete geological surveys, where volumes have been written on water-power potentials, and where fish and game have been subjected to the scrutiny of the census taker, our northwest with few exceptions has never been subjected to a natural resource stock-taking by either government or industry."

"Northwestern B.C. has been an area more forgotten even than the Yukon in whose history, resources and problems it finds many close parallels. The wartime precision of access routes into and through the Yukon has stimulated major interest in the utilization of the great wealth of that area. But it is only now that we hear of real plans destined to make available to the people of B.C. the great mineral and hydro-electric resources which many men, often criticized as dreamers, have long known existed in this vast area."

Dr. Hick did much to fill the gap in his listeners' knowledge. After relating how it was not a natural resource but an abortive effort to build an intercontinental telegraph line through the country in 1858 that first attracted world attention to northwestern B.C., he went on to give a comprehensive picture of the region's wealth in water, minerals, forests and, to a lesser extent, arable land. He concluded by saying:

"Here in northwestern B.C. we have a great virgin area ripe for intelligent development. Here many mistakes which have proven so costly in other areas can be averted and an orderly pattern of development drawn. I have said that utilization of natural wealth must be preceded by evaluation, planning and provision for access. Evaluate we must, for without this how can we plan intelligently? In Northwest B.C. surveys have been woefully neglected, and this neglect is not peculiar to any single resource. Without at least a preliminary stock-taking, it will be impossible to set a pattern of development for this part of the province."

Dr. Hick has performed a valuable service in bringing the need of such a study to general attention. While industry will continue to find its way to the region without this information--both Cassiar Asbestos and Granduc deposits were discovered in areas not geologically surveyed--the process will be slower and more difficult than it should be.

## Young Smokers

IN A WAY, it is sad that youngsters 17 and under are making use of cigarettes. But there is nothing much anyone can do about it. A parent can forbid it, but he cannot trail the youngster all day long. Common sense is the only answer and if that fails, then the young lad might as well be allowed to smoke. If he does not do it in the open, he will do it secretly.

But to call smoking juvenile delinquency is ridiculous.

--Woodstock Sentinel-Review.

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## As I See It

By  
Elmore  
Philpot

### So Sorry Girls

A GOOD many ladies, and one lone man, have put me straight on the mystery of those "missing" pockets in men's coats.

Here are bits from two letters which tell the story. Mrs. A. D. Watson of Revelstoke writes: "I believe 'Sherlock' Watson has the answer. Take a sharp razor blade and carefully cut through the row of double stitches (not the material) and I'm sure you'll find the missing pocket." I did just that for a friend a year ago when everyone else, including his mother-in-law, was convinced he did not know how to buy a suit."

Mrs. J. P. McKay of Castlegar suggests the same razor blade treatment and adds: "I've done it when I decided to put pockets in a jacket that gave every appearance of being minus pockets and was surprised to find they were there all the time."

YES. I apologize ladies, my "missing" pockets were also there all the time!

I tried the razor blade first on my Canadian-made suit, and sure enough there were those pockets, the lack of which I had been bemoaning a whole year.

Then, finally, we fearfully repeated the same treatment on my Los Angeles orion summer suit, which I have had since 1952. Imagine my mixed emotions when we saw that it too had two perfectly good pockets, hidden down there all these years.

Now what I want to know is—why do the clothing manufacturers do this to us?

If they are going to sell us suits with the pockets stitched up, why don't they put a little card on the suit saying that the pockets are really there, and all you have to do is to slit them open?

At first, when all the politely laughing ladies began to phone and write me about my mistake, my face was really red at my self-published lack of knowledge. But then when I began to get letters from other men warmly agreeing with me on the missing pocket mystery I felt better. Those letters showed I was far from being the only man who was far from knowing.

\* \* \*

ONE young reader says he went out and bought a Liberty magazine to find out details of the Canadian flag contest, but there was nothing in the October issue.

The details were announced in the earlier issues. But anyone may still submit a design to long as it is mailed in to Liberty magazine, Toronto, before October 15.

Ad you do is draw your design on a sheet of paper or cardboard, size about 10 by seven inches. Color in your sketch with crayons or paints. Write your name and address on the back of your entry.

The sponsors of the contest say their in mind that simplicity is essential, as a flag has to be recognizable even when it is bunched in folds."

Address your entry to Canadian Flag Contest, Liberty magazine, 73 Richmond St. W., Toronto.

There is \$1,000 in prize. First prize in the contest is 21-inch, 10-tube Marconi TV set.

There are no entry fees.

DROWNED IN LAKE  
SICAMOUS, B.C.—Frank Verker, 60-year-old retired CPR engineer, was accidentally drowned Monday night in Shuswap lake near here. Mr. Verker fell from a barrel while transshipping timber at Canoe point.

The conference has brought me back to Parliament Hill after the post-season doldrums. The corridors of the House of Commons are filled again with hurried officials and hurried stenographers. The delegates found the stenographers pool that efficient room full of short hand

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SIGN TO CHANGE — Two Finnish soldiers greet the news of the return of the Porkkala naval base to Finland as they point to a area that probably will have less meaning in the future. Soviet-Finnish negotiations concluded in Moscow brought about the end of their mutual defense alliance for a period of 20 years. The base being given up by the Russians is only 12 miles from Helsinki.

## OTTAWA DIARY BY NORMAN M. McCLEOD

The Hon. Louis St. Laurent and experts who serve the members of his team of cabinet ministers during sessions of Parliament—top drawer economic advisers find themselves badly ready with pencils poised.

The Commons' machinery for cuthberted by the opposition getting everything on the record also was oiled up and put back to work. The Hansard staff was on hand and immediately began taking down the proceedings. Each day's session being mimeographed and limited numbers are distributed to the delegations. But, unlike the Commons Hansard, the public will have to wait until the windup of the sessions to get a look at what is going on this week in the green and oaken House of Commons chamber.

The combined other provincial delegations from the Liberal-run provinces of Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Manitoba total 32—one less than Ontario.

In section, the relatively junior Conservative government of Premier Hugh John Flemming of New Brunswick is in second place, along the ten provincial delegations. Flemming brought a team of 23—exactly the size of the federal panel surrounding the Prime Minister.

Thus the two conservative governments have a total of 58 negotiators in the closed-door bargaining for a new set of federal-provincial fiscal rules now underway. The third biggest provincial delegation, on the other hand, comes from Saskatchewan, the country's single Socialist province. The Hon. T. C. Dougall's team numbers 15.

The delegation around which the most critical negotiations of the conference will pivot, that of the Hon. Maurice Duplessis of Quebec, has been held to a modest total of 13. It includes nine from the Union Nationale cabinet and four advisers.

Perhaps the supreme demonstration of self-confidence displayed by the assembled provincial leaders was that of the Hon. Joe Smallwood from the tiny province of Newfoundland. The Hon. Joey brought with him three members of his cabinet and one adviser.

On Parliament Hill speculation about the meaning of the numbered lineup is rife. Most agree there is little meaning in the numbers. And among other observations one can frequently hear the guess that the results of the week's bargaining will show that Joey's confidence is not misplaced.

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## Ray REFLECTS and REMINISCES

SEEING CANADA

No fewer than seven provinces represented—British Columbia, Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick in cars parked in front of the Admiral Beatty Hotel in St. John. There were also various visitors from the United States. A satisfying sort of way to learn about one's own country.

### NO FLATS

WYE, England. 9.—Star performer at a concert in this Kent town was C. Sharpe—pianist.

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### YOURS TRULY

Excess baggage is the description applied sometimes to property being moved from point to point. There are also times when one writes "yours truly" or again when "please remit" manages to serve.

The Durham Street philosopher says that glasses can change ones personality—if they are emptied too fast and too frequently.

"Progress steady, without any complications." That in substance, is what the doctor said at noon Wednesday this week. He would not be bored, avoid fretting and like enough do a bit of work. Summed up that's how the president has been faring.

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