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## Our Fine Weather

YESTERDAY'S report by the weatherman that sunshine for Prince Rupert is on the increase brings refreshing attention to a subject that the city usually takes care to avoid. This attention was further prompted by news that the lower mainland was weathering a severe storm in contrast to the peaceful climate that this area lately has enjoyed.

In these agreeable circumstances we are encouraged to suggest that despite the damp clouds frequently seen and felt around here, there are actually few places in Canada that offer more physical comfort in and month out.

Perhaps we do not have the dry, golden days of a prairie summer or the bracing, colorful atmosphere of an eastern fall. But neither do we have the piercing sub-zero winds that howl across inland Canada for long winter weeks, nor do we have the sweltering mugginess that frequently settles over eastern provinces in the summer. We do have such inconveniences as storm-windshields and screens but, unlike any part of the country other than the west coast, life would be reasonably comfortable without them. Local motorists may complain momentarily about frost on their windows or ice on the roads, but their lot is heaven compared to that of drivers in interior provinces who must battle giant drifts and are blind without electric heating devices to open up small areas of vision on their windshields.

While it may be difficult to appreciate when everything is moist, the truth is that Prince Rupert has an equable climate which most of Canada might well envy. If there is doubt about this, ask the man who is freezing to death waiting for a Winnipeg bus, or toiling in heavy overcoat up the mountain at Montreal or perishing in the teeth of a Halifax gale. If he can forget his misery for a moment, he will explain everything.

## Diplomatic Hazards

THE trouble with a United Nations General Assembly is the cocktail parties.

That is not merely the envious remark of someone who was not invited. It comes from the current president of the assembly himself, the veteran Chilean diplomat, Jose Maza. And Mr. Maza in further comments made his stand perfectly clear.

The receptions built around a UN General Assembly, he said, come "in torrents," sometimes three or four in the same afternoon or evening. "You have to drink the same Scotch or the same Manhattan and eat the same shrimps and talk to the self-same people."

Mr. Maza's solution was fewer and if necessary longer cocktail parties, to be held on one specified day at the end of the week where you "could not only drink a Manhattan but enjoy it." Perhaps some may not agree with the remedy offered by Mr. Maza, but they will certainly sympathize with him. Much the same criticism was made some time ago by Prime Minister Eden. He deplored the amount of time diplomats were forced to spend on social gatherings where they met only each other. And Sir Anthony with years in Britain's Foreign Office and weeks in a stomach hospital should know what he is talking about.

—Financial Post.

## RAY Reflects and Reminiscences

Oh yes, neighborhood visiting should be revived. What comes over the air is not a satisfying substitute for the warm handshake and a chat.

Aself was born in zero weather on a freighter in Halifax harbor, ice-cold milkshakes coming up.

Possibly you have noticed there

*Fashion . . .*

Goes to  
Everybody's  
Feet!

*Fashion Footwear*

## As I See It

By Elmore Philpot

### France Warns Us

FRANCE has not bogged down into near hopeless political confusion because Frenchmen are less brave, logical or intelligent than are the people of other nations.

You might name 20 reasons which have combined to bring France down to her present state. But the main reason should be plain:

France has not been able to evolve a practical, stable two-party system, which is the only system which enables democracy to work well, or indeed work at all.

THE French people really believe that they are far more logical than the English-speaking nations.

But the French have never yet learned this truth which the British and Americans apply almost by instinct:

You can't have more than two parties in any true democracy, for the mechanics of democratic system are such that no other arrangement will work over a period of years.

FRANCE today has one ominous similarity with Germany just before Hitler, or Italy just before Mussolini. Whenever you get new parties springing up all over the map, with strange names and bizarre programs you may be sure that in that particular country democracy is in mortal peril. When a country gets as many political parties as there are fingers on man's hand it is only a question of time until a movement arises to sweep away the whole shebang.

That happened in Italy in 1922, in Germany in 1933 and it is happening in France right now. Nobody should underestimate the strength of this Poujade movement. It began with "down with taxes," but it has in fact become "down with parliamentary government."

CURIOSLY enough, Canada has shown a spotty tendency to follow the French pattern of many parties, rather than the British and American system of tw-way political traffic.

It is in fairness to the Social Credit and CCF, both parties have repeatedly declared that they too believe in the two-party system. The question is, who will survive?

In one of the most significant speeches made in the House of Commons in recent years, the cleverest Social Creditor, E. J. Hansell, MP, predicted a merger of the Liberals and the CCF, but total annihilation of the traditional Conservative party by the new party of the right—that is, Social Credit.

IF YOU get a whole crop of new parties, each advocating some crank, untried theory, or riding some personal split or peculiar hobby horse, you inevitably get the splinterization of democracy.

Of course you never do get new parties springing up and getting established in Canada unless the old parties were asleep at the switch when it happened, or worse still, having the natural democratic process paralyzed by a uniting of the natural rival parties in an unnatural coalition.

## FUNDS GRANTED TO STUDY MUSCULAR DISEASE CAUSE

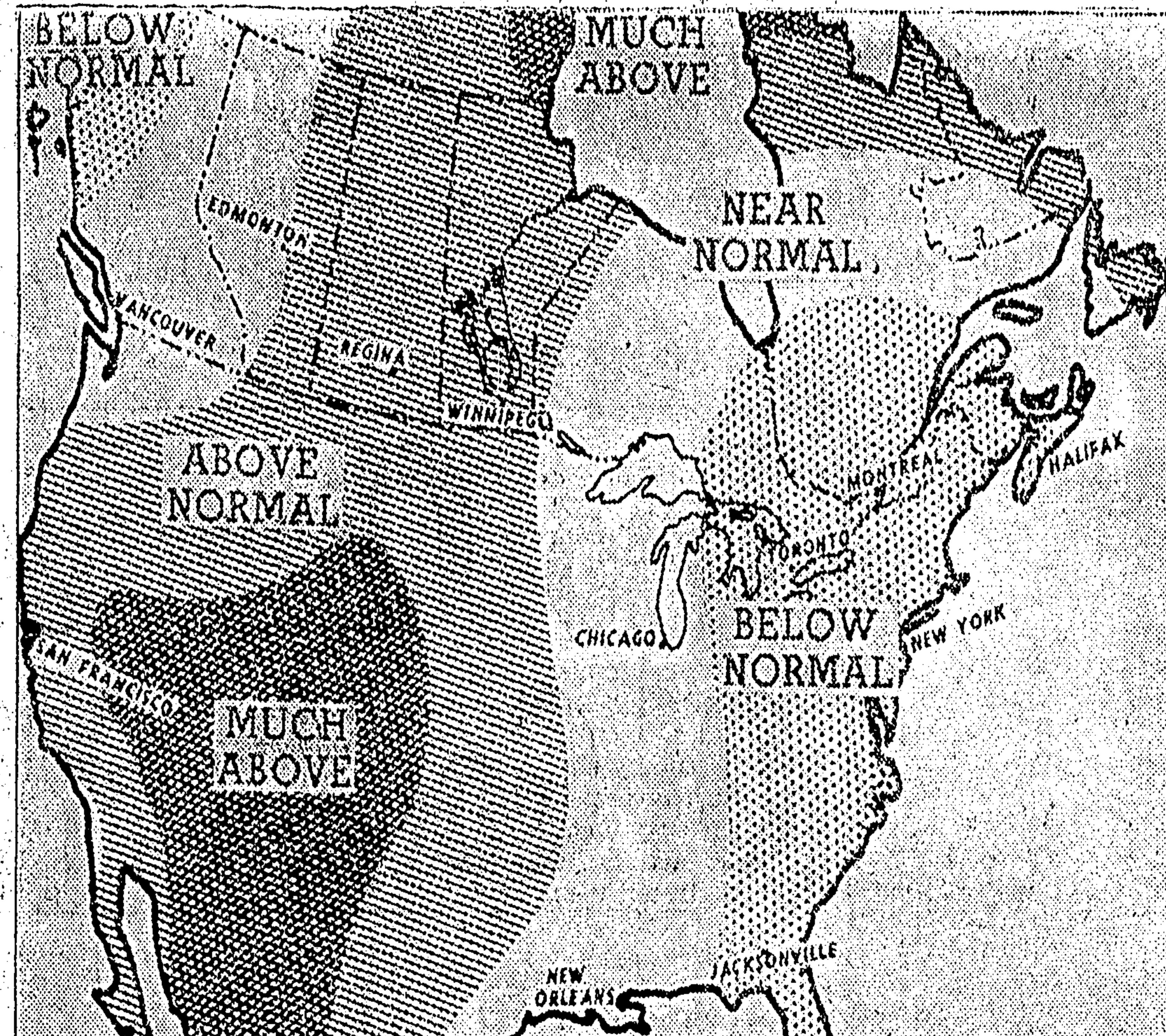
VANCOUVER — Dr. Kenneth Evelyn, Director of the Muscular Dystrophy Association of Canada for one year to undertake a research project entitled "Assay of Enzymes of Human Skeletal Muscle."

In 1955 the Muscular Dystrophy Association of Canada, through the University of B.C. Development Fund, granted \$4,000 to Dr. W. C. Gibson, Chairman of Neurological Research Department, UBC, for muscular dystrophy research.

The 1956 grant has been approved by the Medical Advisory Board and the Board of Directors of the Muscular Dystrophy Association. The first quarterly installment is being forwarded to the University Development Fund.

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TEMPERATURES IN PROSPECT for Canada during the next 30 days range from below-normal readings to much above normal, according to this weather map. The map is based on the long-range forecast issued by the United States weather bureau.

(CP Photo) (Map Courtesy Toronto Telegram)

## Ottawa Government Seeking Chairmen For Committees By Parliament Starts

By JOHN E. BIRD  
Canadian Press Staff Writer

OTTAWA — The government is scanning its Commons membership for two heavyweights capable of outmanoeuvring the best critics opposition parties can manage.

They are needed at the new session of Parliament opening Tuesday as chairmen of two of the most important committees outside the Commons chamber—external affairs and banking and commerce.

The external affairs committee reviews Canada's foreign policy each session and the banking and commerce committee gives de-

tailed study to legislation calling for expenditure of public funds.

The committees have been headed during the last two sessions by two of the Liberal party's most competent debaters. Philippe Picard, appointed Canadian ambassador to the Argentine last August, was chairman of the external affairs committee and David Croll, named to the Senate last July, headed the banking and commerce committee.

TUCKER AMONG CHOICES

Liberals being mentioned for the posts include Lusien Cardin, Richelieu—Vercheres; Walter Tucker, Rosthern; George McHraith, Ottawa West; Rene Ju-

ette, Gatineau; and Don Brown, Essex West.

Mr. Tucker last session was chairman of the commons estimates committee which studied the spending programs of the departments of finance, northern affairs, citizenship and immigration and veterans affairs. Mr. Brown was co-chairman of the joint Commons-Senate committee on capital and corporal punishment and lotteries.

The estimates committee also

will be set up again this session to study the expenditures of four more departments.

The work of committees this

session is expected to be as heavy if not heavier than last year.

The amount of work accomplished by last session's committees set a modern record.

### PARTIES FAVOR COMMITTEES

The work of committees outside the Commons chamber is placing an increasing demand on the time of members. However, greater use of committees to give detailed examination to proposed legislation or study specific proposals is welcomed by all parties.

This type of study reduces the length of time the Commons itself must spend debating the legislation.

Special committees will be established this session to study government activities in the field of research and the national capital plan for the beautification of Ottawa.

A scandal in the Vancouver

police force was voted first

born unto the world crying for among Canadian news stories;

food. Many died of hunger; hockey riots among some Montréal residents, second. Marilyn

Learned men sat by a mountain

of wheat and butter, wondering

how to sell or give it away without damaging the market.

Scientists observed that the

world was becoming warmer;

tropical fish moving north, glaci

ers on the retreat. They found

new medicines to cure disease;

charted voyages into space. En

gines created machines to do

the work of people. They laid

plans to harness the sun and

the atom, irrigate deserts and

build giant liners to carry tour

ists across the Atlantic for \$50.

Some scientists worked for

abundance. Others hatched wea

pons of mass death. Fear and

hatred split the world. Mean

while, the people increased so

fast that they threatened to out

run the food supply.

In the past, men learned a

great deal about the world and

the stars, but very little about

mind.

Only the professional worriers

talked about such dull topics as

the girl in pink pyjamas is all right with him, any year.

I've often been swim in the

water fourth place. By the way,

Bert Thomas' much tougher

swim across the Strait of Juan de Fuca was forgotten.

But for all the dangers and

stupidities of the world, it is still

an exciting place to live in. Ask

the work of people. They laid

plans to harness the sun and

the atom, irrigate deserts and

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