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May Dispute End Soon

ALL OF Prince Rupert is watching with alarm and anxiety the situation at the Columbia Cellulose mill on Watson Island in which a dispute between management and employees has led abruptly to a complete cessation of work.

Apart from the serious effect this is likely to have on the earnings of both the mill and the workers, the situation is deeply disturbing in that action was taken before the process laid down for such grievances had been implemented.

In this age of progressive labor legislation, a development of this sort takes on grave implications in view of the safeguards that have been established to protect both management and employees against just such emergencies. To ignore these safeguards is to threaten the whole outlook of good labor relations which are so vital to both parties concerned.

While most of Prince Rupert will be either directly or indirectly concerned in the stoppage of work at one of the city's major industries, there should be no question of the public taking open sides in this issue. To do so will only aggravate a situation which already is serious enough. In any case, the full importance of the factors in dispute is known only to the parties involved.

The only word we can express is one of sincere hope that the dispute will be ended at the soonest possible moment in the friendliest possible manner. The mill has become a vital part of our local economy, and those who work there are an integral part of our community. Our future is bound up with theirs and we are behind every effort to make it a pleasant one.

Father Image

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER'S recent illnesses and the detailed press reports accompanying them have produced a curious epidemic of heart and alimentary disorders across the continent. According to Dr. W. V. Johnston, executive director of the U.S. College of General Practice, few of the cases turn out to be serious. Patients are assured after examination that they are suffering from nothing worse than a slight case of self-identification with the Father-image. As a rule they go away giving a pretty fair imitation of the President's remarkable power of quick recuperation.

Meanwhile there seems to be an obsession that no one can possibly take President Eisenhower's place in the political scene. "We've got to have him, no matter what happens," one Republican told a Canadian tourist the other day, and added grimly, "alive or stuffed."

Saturday Night.

Raises Doubts

A VICTORIA report quotes British Columbia's Premier Bennett as saying the province's debt will be paid off by 1962, a mere matter of six years. If this isn't another example of Social Credit mumbo-jumbo, it may be quite a remarkable achievement.

The latest figures on hand, for the fiscal year 1952-53, gave British Columbia a per capita debt of \$214.58, which works out to quite a tidy figure for the 1,250,000 population of the period. How so much can vanish so soon is not easily imagined, even if the existence of large sinking funds is assumed.

—Windsor Star.

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As I See It

by

Elmore Philpott

• Shaw's First 100

THIS is written just before the 100th anniversary of the birth of George Bernard Shaw. A good many people, including Shaw himself, believed that the great Irish playwright would yet rank in world esteem on a level with Shakespeare, I think so too.

Shaw had many faults, as well as great genius. Certainly he was not handicapped by any overwhelming sense of modesty. The very first thing I remember reading about Shaw was this bit of doggerel in a Canadian students' newspaper:

I once called Shaw in words sublime;

The greatest playwright of his time.

At once Shaw wired, "Incorrect.

'For this' read 'all.' Signed Shaw. Collect."

SHAW made himself immensely wealthy by shrewd writing, ridiculing the people who employed him—that is, the public of the English-speaking world. And he himself pointed out, shortly before he died, he had been care-free, never to say a single nice thing about the Americans. He might also have said much the same thing about the English or, for that matter, his own fellow Irishmen.

No writer of our time, and few writers of any time, have equalled Shaw's genius for showing up the foibles and follies of people. For instance, in John Bull's Other Island, he cleverly showed that all of the "Irish" qualities on which the Irish now pride themselves, were held by the visiting Englishmen, whereas the main Irish character was more like the popular caricature of the canny Scot.

FOR all of Shaw's intellectual brilliance, there is none too much human feeling in most of his work. The dialogue in most of his plays explodes like a succession of Shavian firecrackers—noisy but joyful. It is not very often that a Shaw play makes anybody feel like crying—Saint Joan, of course, being the notable exception, in spots.

Shaw, himself, regarded Pygmalion as his greatest play. That is where the professor transforms the crude cockney girl into a cultivated lady. He once took to task his German translator, asking why Pygmalion had been omitted from a collection of his plays published in Germany. The answer was that the collection included only masterpieces, like Saint Joan and Caesar and Cleopatra.

Shaw's reported reply was: "What have I done in Saint Joan, etc.? Just copied the history books. But I want you to know that in Pygmalion each word, each character, was created here, right from the start." UNREALISTIC BIDS

The competitive bidding up of prices and costs could be avoided, he added, if industries, governments and individuals took action to postpone or stretch-out construction plans.

This would ease the strain on resources this year and next and "would have the further value of ensuring the continuation of a large volume of activity into 1958 and later years," he said.

New Equipment In Park Area

Two new sets of swings and a merry-go-round teeter-totter have been installed at the big lawn end of McClymont Park, Parks Commissioner R. L. Eby announced today.

For instance, in the play where Shaw shows the British king threatening to abdicate when the

Ottawa Diary

By Norman M. MacLean

CCF sources which have been working on the new policy statement to be presented to next week's national convention in Winnipeg say that the program will mark a considerable movement to the right of the old Regina Manifesto, but will still leave the party a safely distinguishing distance to the left of the Liberals and the PCs.

The off-hand comment of interested individuals in the old-line parties is that, if such a program can be worked out, it will constitute a very remarkable piece of political footwork indeed. But they frankly don't think it can be done. They take the view that any platform thus designed would be a half-way measure which would disappoint the crusading Socialist movement without attracting compensatory support elsewhere.

Actually, the unvarnished political fact which next week's scheduled platform' gymnastics at Winnipeg are intended—perhaps unconsciously—to conceal is that the CCF Party has been a failure as a Socialist movement. Instead, largely by a process of political accident arising from a regional reaction against Liberalism, it has been a modest success as an agrarian movement in Saskatchewan.

For a considerable period just a few years ago it looked as if the CCF might succeed as a Socialist movement on a national scale. It swept into power in Saskatchewan. It came within a whisker of winning in Ontario. It threatened to take over in British Columbia. In Manitoba, the Maritime Provinces, and even Quebec it showed scattered but significant signs of strength.

But then the Saskatchewan movement commenced to lose its religious fervor, if, indeed, it had ever had any that was genuine. Gradually but steadily it jettisoned its Socialist principles to become above all else an agrarian party. In a comparatively short time the attempt at a political marriage between Socialistic and agrarian aims became the demonstrated failure that many experienced observers had predicted. And as the Saskatchewan wing of the party—which dominated the Parliamentary group—became increasingly indifferent to the Socialist cause, the party lost its dynamism and declined in influence in the provinces where it had seemed to be on the march.

As Parliament Hill observers view the situation, that is the logic behind the problem which the CCF-Winnipeg convention is facing. But since the Winnipeg problem is solidly based in logic, observers here are sceptical of the possibility of dealing with it by any magic of platform formula. They don't believe the CCF can succeed much longer in their attempt to ride both the Socialist and the Agrarian horses, since fundamentally the two steeds are bent on taking different turnings.

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YOUNG SAILORS SAVED

NEW YORK (AP)—A police launch went to the aid Wednesday of two young adventurers who set out to sea in a five-foot refrigerator Jeffrey Mayer, 13, and David Kelly, 14, had progressed less than a mile in Bowery Bay when their homemade ship began shipping water. Police returned them to shore unharmed.

Civic Centre

MUSEUM BRIEFS

By JOCELYN BOLTON

In Prince Rupert we are not tourist minded, with very few exceptions. There is one store in our city, which has "Welcome Visitors" flags and an attractive window, and many of our guests have been so pleased with this effort. It would be a very nice gesture if more of our stores did something to show we are glad to have these visitors.

There is a very bad situation existing, which I do believe should be rectified another year. Many of our visitors are now coming by the regular boats to Prince Rupert, arriving early in the morning, then taking the train at 8 p.m. for Jasper and Eastern points. They have a whole day to put in and many are not aware of this, also have no hotel room, or do not feel it is necessary, or cannot get a room, which is often the case. Yet there is not a place for these people to rest, refresh themselves, sit and read—no general meeting place—many also are very elderly people and they are bored and extremely tired before the day is half finished. In other cities there are hotels with large waiting rooms, stations with that accommodation, large department stores with rest rooms and lounges.

In Prince Rupert we do not have this, hence our guests go away unhappy and actually the museum is the only place they can come. The museum, however, is not for that purpose, but I still have had these people in my office and had to give them drinks of water and aspirin while other guests can hardly move around.

We are happy to welcome these guests, show them the museum and let them read in our small sitting room, provide a rest room but when it is a general waiting room, it is difficult and tiring away from the fact the place is a "museum."

I believe that the steamship companies should provide for their guests, they actually are the ones who benefit most from travellers, but when they arrive here they are just left to fend for themselves, and in spite of the fact that we are not tourist minded, we have them, we want them and therefore we should make it as nice and pleasant as possible.

Surely a lounge is not too much to provide!

Miss Joy Burkett and her father from Santa Monica and Arizona were in to see us. Miss Burkett made many sketches of our Indian designs and appears to be quite an artist. She went away armed with "Soogwills" and all the folders our bureau provides. Many others too have been to visit us, and on Friday we were open until 10:30 p.m. We are also glad to see that more of our local people are interested in paying a visit to the museum.

DULLES IN ECUADOR

QUITO, Ecuador (UPI)—U.S. State Secretary Dulles arrived Wednesday from Bogota, Colombia, for a visit before continuing to Lima, Peru, for the inauguration Saturday of Manuel Prado as Peruvian president.

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