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Personal and General

ALL THOSE who were at the drama festival last night must have felt a tingle of pride for their Good Citizen, Jessie Boulter. With sincerity and just the right touch of humor, Mrs. Boulter expressed her appreciation in a way that made it seem more fitting than ever that she should receive this honor. Beside her was another Good Citizen, Ray Jones, who came from Vancouver to make the presentation. It was a generous gesture on his part and added immeasurably to the success of the occasion. The whole ceremony set a pattern for the presentation which future committees in charge would do well to remember.

This is the fourth time the trophy has been awarded and the occasion brings to mind the difficulty which the judges must experience in sorting out all possible candidates. There are many good citizens in Prince Rupert who are in every way eligible to receive such recognition but who probably never will simply because the number is too large. They would be the last to feel disturbed by this but their friends may react otherwise.

It is possible in countless cases to list achievements and traits of character which add up to a convincing argument why so-and-so should receive the award. But it will be unfortunate if this circumstance is allowed to detract in any way from the recognition which is due the one who happens to be chosen.

The danger of this will be eliminated if we remember that the recipient, while receiving the award in his or her own right, is also a symbol of the kind of community spirit being shown by many others. The award is a personal one but it is also a tribute to good citizenship wherever in the city it may be. Fortunately for Prince Rupert, it is a tribute that has broad scope and real meaning.

Scriptures:

The lamp of the body is the eye, if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. Matthew 6:22

We see what we look for. If we look for good we will see it on all sides and in strange places. Charitable people put the best construction on the deeds of others.

As I See It

By
Elmore Philpott

Columbia Clash

FROM the debates in the Legislature of B.C. and the Parliament of Canada, it is clear a really vital issue is shaping up in connection with Columbia River power.

Everyone knows that on the upper Columbia River there is the biggest block of undeveloped power in the entire world—that is, on a site near normally populated districts.

Everyone also knows that the Columbia is an international river and that Canada and the U.S.A. long since set up a body, called the International Joint Commission, which is charged with dealing with such international problems. For years past the IJC has been grappling with this ticklish question: How much "the U.S.A. pay Canada for works in Canada which create huge water-power benefits in the States?"

These advantages are called "Downstream benefits." They arise from the fact that if Canada creates a huge artificial lake, say at the Big Bend of the Columbia, the extra water stored can help to turn the wheels of power over and over again, all down the Columbia River.

Up till recently, the United States had held that a fifty-fifty split is a fair price for these downstream benefits. Many years ago, the United States herself insisted on such a fifty-fifty split, when the shoe was on the other foot, near the Atlantic seaboard. But now the president of the American section of IJC appears to be stalling and quibbling. He appears to believe that the U.S.A. may somehow or other wrangle a better bargain than is involved in the straight fifty-fifty split.

HENCE in connection with Columbia River power, there are two separate and distinct arguments now in progress. The first is an international argument, which is still before the IJC. But the second is a political argument in Canada. In this latter argument, the Social Credit party stands alone on one side, and the three other parties—Liberals, Conservatives and CCF alike—are solidly on the other.

The Social Crediters, both at Victoria and Ottawa, hold that the Big Bend power should be developed by American private corporations, that the power to be developed actually on the spot should be turned over to Canada but that the Americans should get all the other downstream benefits for a payment to Canada of 20 per cent of the gross power developed on their side of the line.

The Liberal, Conservative and CCF parties in Canada hold that the Columbia River dam should be built in Canada, by Canadians for Canadians; and that the Americans should be made to pay the full fifty per cent for all the downstream benefits created by Canada for the U.S.A.

THE above analysis of Social Credit policy is not my own. It comes right from the speech of the Hon. R. E. Somers, Minister of Lands and Forests, who said in February 1956:

"Our policy in respect to the Mica development is: (1) that we expect to have the storage dam built free of cost to the people of British Columbia; (2) that we would have the control and generation of all site power for the use of British Columbia, and (3) that we would expect delivery of 20 per cent of the gross power generated on the American side by this storage, delivered east free to the province of British Columbia."

In other words, the Social Credit proposal for the development of the richest power prize in Canada is that the Americans should build the dam, but pay Canada 20 per cent less than Canada would receive under the formula for which General A. G. L. MacNaughton has fought so valiantly on the International Joint Commission.

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LIONEL SHAPIRO

gets fiction award



WILFRED WATSON

poetry winner

Lionel Shapiro Named Fiction Award Winner

TORONTO (CP)—Lionel Shapiro, Montreal-born newspaper man and novelist, today was named winner of the Governor-General's Award for fiction for 1955.

The winning book is "The Sixth of June," his third novel. Two former winners repeat in the list of five announced by R. D. Hilton Smith, chairman of the awards board.

OTHER WINNERS The medal for academic non-fiction goes to Prof. Donald Creighton of Toronto for "The Old Chieftain" the second volume of his biography of Sir John A. Macdonald. The first volume, "The Young Politician," won the same award in 1953.

Prof. N. J. Berrill of Montreal wins in the creative non-fiction category with "Man's Emerging Mind." His "Sex and the Nature of Things" was judged best in 1953.

Mr. Wood is a professional free-lance writer whose articles and short stories have appeared in many magazines. He is the author of six other published books, mostly on natural history.

JUDGING PANELS Judges for the 1955 awards were:

Fiction: Blair Fraser, Ottawa editor of Maclean's Magazine; M. E. Nichols, Vancouver; Mrs. M. St. A. Woodsdale, Toronto.

Creative non-fiction: W. Graham Allen, Dalhousie University, Halifax; Maurice P. Boone, Fredericton; Walter O'Hearn, Montréal.

Poetry: H. G. Alexander, Queen's University, Kingston, Ont.; Roy Daniels, University of British Columbia, Vancouver; Ira Dilworth, director for Ontario, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

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