

Questionable Benefit

A request has been made by the B.C. branch of the Retail Merchants Association of Canada that the provincial government set up a department of retail trade. It is reported that briefs making the same request will be presented to the nine other provincial governments and to the federal government. Reason for the suggestion seems to be the association's belief that retailers are affected by much legislation and that their industry is an important section of the whole Canadian economy.

There is no doubt that retailing is a big business in Canada. It is estimated that last year Canadians spent \$12.8 billion in retail establishments. In the country there are about 140,000 retail stores, employing about 500,000 people.

The stores doing the largest volume last year were those classified by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics as grocery and combination, with sales totalling about \$2.5 billion. The sale of motor vehicles came a close second, while department stores ranked third with a volume of sales just over \$1 billion.

Retailing is big business but it is diverse. For example, there seems to be little similarity between the restaurant classification, or between jewellery and building materials. On that point alone the usefulness of a government department might be questioned. Another more important point is that if governments appointed ministers of retailing, retailers would find themselves subject to far more regulations than at present. It is questionable that either retailers or consumers would benefit.

It seems likely that all would be best served if retailers were subject to fewer regulations and allowed to compete for public favor in whatever way they see fit.

Lovely Words

A college English class voted "mayday" the loveliest word in the English language. Still, something can be said also for "payday."

Stratford Beacon-Herald:



HARVESTING TOBACCO calls for swift work and deft fingers and those who have mastered the skill return year after year to gather in Western Ontario's valuable crop. Separating and tying this year's leaves on a farm near London, Ont., are, left to right: Jonnie Prange, Dorothy Sutherland and Marion Janney. (CP Photo).

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Elmore Philpott On Holidays

By Norman M. MacLeod

The different political parties are figuring out their gains and their losses in the second longest Parliamentary sessions in the history of Confederation.

Both the PCs and the Liberals consider that they are sharing one important dividend from marathon talkfest in common. They are optimistically of the opinion that a shift in public sentiment back to the two-party system is well underway.

Neither of the old-time parties can quite explain the origin of the movement. But both of them sense the trend. The Liberals are disposed to attribute it to the Winnipeg declaration of the CCF which diluted that movement's socialism and gave it a new slant towards capitalism. The PCs believe that the public at long last is realizing that a change in government in Canada is likely to come about only if the divided opposition forces can unite.

Not unnaturally, the two old-time parties are in sharp disagreement over the issue as to which is scheduled to benefit more from the present two-party trend. The Liberals believe that the CCF, as a result of its newly-made truce with the capitalist system, has forfeited much of its socialist dynamic. They argue that the doctrinaire socialists in the party aren't going to be satisfied with the new swing to the right, and that they will recognize Liberalism as the closest thing to a real socialist movement in the political field.

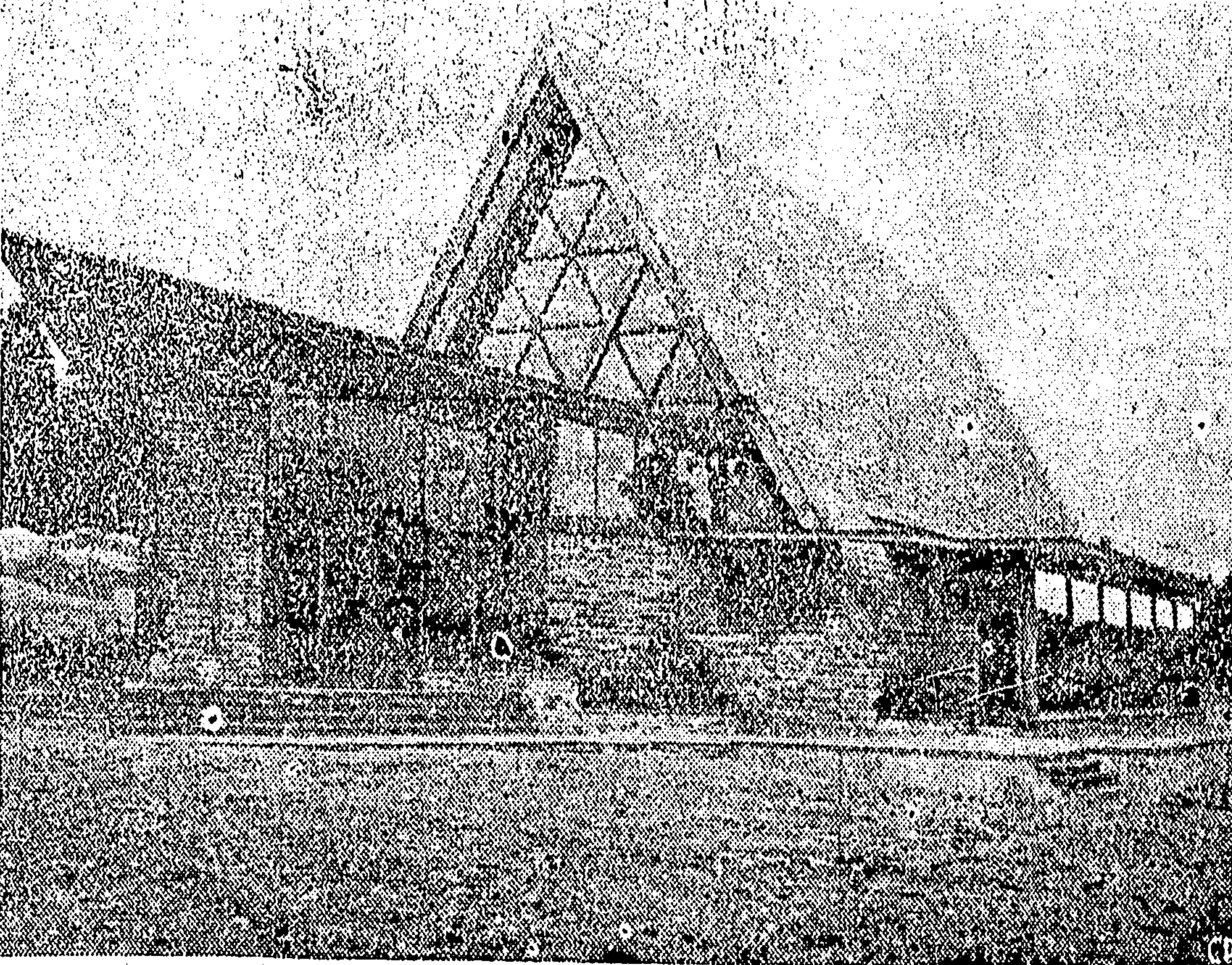
The PCs aren't convinced that any weakening of the CCF automatically means increased support for the Liberals. Their diagnosis is that the basic movement of the moment in Federal politics is widely-spread public desire for a change of government. They argue that this motive now has become stronger than the original purposes for which the so-called "splinter" parties—CCF and Social Credit—were formed originally. Consequently, they contend that any trend back to the two-party system will re-act mainly to the benefit of political Conservatism.

The test of which party is correct in its estimate of the current situation will come, of course, with the general election. At the moment nobody knows exactly when that will be. Although majority opinion doesn't expect it, it still could come this Fall. Liberal MPs are quoting odds of 40-60 that a vote will be held late this Autumn. But the best informed sources say that the PM has yet to make up his mind. That is said to be one of the purposes of his post-Sessional holiday down the St. Lawrence. Some definite announcement is expected to be made on his return.

Leader of the Russian expedition is Dr. Mikhail Somov, former commander of the Soviet Floating ice base at the North Pole. Using seven aircraft, he plans to leap a mountain range between Mirny and the South Pole, and establish two forward bases, one near the magnetic pole and one near the pole proper.

Rev. Grover C. Bullock made the charge Wednesday in a letter filed with the British consul here. Consul John Legg said he was forwarding the letter to the British embassy in Washington since the incident was not in his jurisdiction.

Bullock and his wife came here to visit relatives while touring the United States. In his letter, Bullock said he and his wife took seats in the middle of a bus at Miami for the trip to Kansas City. At Perry, Fla., he



DISPLAY INVENTOR'S WORK—This ultra-modern museum at Baddeck, N.S., houses many of the models and instruments of inventor Alexander Graham Bell. It will be opened Aug. 18 by two of his daughters, Mrs. David Fairchild and Mrs. Gilbert Grosvenor, both of Washington. The \$35,000 building is close to the grave of the famous telephone pioneer who had a home at Baddeck for 35 years. (CP Photo).

Museum Dedicated to Phone Pioneer Canadian Legacy of Bell's Genius

BADDECK, N.S. (CP)—The museum dedicated to the genius of Alexander Graham Bell which will be opened here Aug. 18 packs a rich collection of the inventor's work into a modern building of dramatic design, on the shore of the Bras d'Or lakes.

Russians Build Township At Antarctic

SYDNEY, Australia (CP)—Russian engineers have built an amazing township in the Antarctic 2,500 miles south of Perth.

They have selected the frozen coast of Queen Mary Land for their colony, which is part of the International Geophysical Year program.

First reports of the Russian base—called Mirny—reached Australia with the return of several members of the Australian Antarctic research expedition from Mawson, 800 miles southwest of Mirny.

The director of the Australian expedition, P. G. Law, said: "Mirny is a very ambitious project. They have 60 men where we have 20. In size they compare with the United States' expedition to the other side of the continent."

The Russians have put down a large base at Mirny with streets complete with electric light and power lines, several apartment blocks, rows of labor-stories and igloo-like store-houses.

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said, a man got on the bus, demanded that they move to a rear seat, then struck them both when they refused.

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testified Wednesday he shut off the main valve on top of a propane gas tank Sunday.

Another witness said he shut off the same valve when he found

heavier-than-air machine here in 1909. The pilot was J. A. D. McCurdy, later Lieutenant-governor of Nova Scotia.

Another exhibit shows Dr. Bell's hydrofoil speedboats, forerunners of those the Canadian navy now is testing at Dartmouth, N.S., research establishment.

Dr. Bell's daughters, Mrs. Gilbert Grosvenor and Mrs. David Fairchild of Washington, D.C. will be here for the opening.

PAY TRIBUTE

Mayor John B. Hynes of Boston, where the inventor made the first telephone, will speak by phone from the Massachusetts

city during the ceremony. So will Mayor Howard Winter of Brantford, Ont., where Dr. Bell lived when he conceived the basic principle of the telephone.

That carried Dr. Bell's words in, Naval and airforce jets will

make the first telephone call ever roar over the town where Canadian aviation had its birth.

Canadian warships will anchor

in the bay, where in 1919 a Bell

hydrofoil boat set a world record of 70.86 miles an hour.

Across the bay Dr. Bell's grave

stone bears the words, "Died a

Citizen of the U.S.A." But, says

Northern Affairs Minister Le-

sage, who will speak at the open-

ing, "this universal man was a

citizen of the world, for his gen-

of them, the silver dart, made his enriched the lives of all

the first Canadian flight of peoples in all lands."

Suez Canal Crisis Adds To Ship Industry Woes

By SAM DAWSON

NEW YORK (AP)—The Suez Canal dispute—still confined to a war of words and nerves—offers new problems for the fast expanding shipping industry.

A great shipbuilding boom is adding tonnage at a steady clip but still falls short of potential demand, shipping men say. The canal dispute adds new tension and uncertainty.

Even before Premier Nasser's move to nationalize the Suez, oil, metal and shipping industries were joined in a race to expand oil and ore carrying fleets to keep step with the big post-war industrial growth in Asia, America and Western Europe.

The world's largest tanker has been launched in Japan. The 84,730-ton Universe Leader, a sister ship and two slightly smaller ones will follow.

FLEETS GROWING

The American Bureau of Shipping estimates that 5,000,000 gross tons of new merchant vessels will be added to world fleets this year, to equal the peacetime record set in 1954. In all 227 ships are on order in the world's shipyards.

In the 10 post-war years the world's fleets have been increased by 4,758 new ships, totaling 33,577,000 gross tons, the bureau reports.

Nearly half of these have been tankers, emphasizing growth in the world's consumption of oil.

In the last few years there has been a marked increase in orders for still more oil tankers and bulk ore carriers.

These reflect the growing demand for oil, iron ore, bauxite, gypsum, nonferrous metals to keep pace with the plant expansion and increased production of American industries.

OTHER PROBLEMS

Shipping men say that the advent of the new giant tankers

and ore carriers may make necessary the deepening of some busy ports which the giants could not enter if fully loaded. The Suez Canal, too, is too shallow for the super oil tankers now being built.

About 60 per cent of the oil used in Western Europe uses—and its thirst for that fluid continues to grow steadily—passes through the canal.

Shipping men here say that if the Suez should be closed, or considered unsafe for shipping, the squeeze on present tonnage would be quick and painful. They estimate it would take up to 30 per cent more tanker capacity to move Middle East oil around Africa.

Should the West's dispute with Egypt spread through the Arab world and shut down much of the oil production there, the huge Eastern hemisphere fleet temporarily made idle would have to shift to the Western hemisphere. There it would try to keep Europe supplied with oil from Venezuela or North America.



Bungalows by Burro

The United Nations estimates that 150 million families in underdeveloped areas lack adequate housing.

One answer is a frameless build-it-yourself house designed by Canadians of Canadian aluminum. It needs no foundation; is non-corrosive and vermin-proof; is so lightweight that it is packed in cartons easily carried by plane, jeep or even burro.

The Colombian government has ordered 3,200 of them to help relieve the shortage of rural housing in that South American country. So it's not surprising with aluminum travelling so far and doing so much, that Alcan is again increasing its smelting capacity in both Quebec and British Columbia.

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August 18 — 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

August 20 — 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

August 21 — 8:30 a.m. - 12 Midnight

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ANOTHER BOATLOAD of grain is unloaded from a Great Lakes freighter at Montreal as the port bids for a record season in grain movement. Incoming shipments are 30 per cent above last year and outbound ocean traffic is keeping pace. (CP Photo).