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Ambassador's Strange Remarks

IN SPECULATING on possible reasons behind the change in Soviet Russia's change in attitude towards the West, the Western Producer recalls an incident that happened in Saskatoon which indicates that the cold war has not been called off entirely.

"When the Soviet ambassador to Canada, Dimitri S. Chuvahin, came to address the Saskatchewan Council of Public Affairs in Saskatoon, his speech was awaited with interested anticipation," the paper remarks.

"He didn't. Indeed the tenor of his remarks was such as to indicate that he hadn't heard about it. True he gave his enthusiastic support to 'peaceful co-existence' but his concept of the meaning of that term would not meet with much favor in the West. He did make some quotations from recent utterances of Khrushchev and Zhukov but they did not affect his position which in brief was that Russia, her allies and satellites, are and have been invariably right and their opponents consistently wrong.

"All the peace lovers were Communists and the Democrats—he didn't call them that—mostly war mongers. One could not escape the conclusion that in Mr. Chuvahin's view peaceful co-existence was an excellent thing so long as it rigidly adhered to the Communist interpretation.

"The Russian ambassador's speech was of the kind that could have appropriately been made during the Stalin regime; it echoed all the familiar clichés just as if the back-slapping convivial parties and protestations of friendliness and goodwill had never occurred. One felt that either it had been prepared a long time in advance and not been revised or that the ambassador's mail from Moscow had been held up and had not reached him in time."

The paper offers the sound thought that in view of such occurrences, the best advice would be found in a variation of Cromwell's exhortation to his troops about to cross a river: "Put your trust in God but mind to keep your powder dry." The West should encourage, welcome and meet half way every friendly gesture from the other side of the Iron Curtain but at the same time should remain alert, vigilant and prepared for all eventualities.

OTTAWA DIARY

The life of a federal government Trade Commissioner assigned to promote the sales of Canadian goods in some foreign markets is certain to be one of variety and very likely to be strenuous. In addition, it may have its really adventurous moments.

Take the case of the Trade Commissioner in London, England, to whom a British importer of canned salmon complained that the Canadian product which he had just received wasn't up to standard. The importer suggested that an almost imperceptible discoloration on a minute area of the top layer of the salmon was the sure tip-off that the can harbored the bacteria of ptomaine poison. He wanted to refuse delivery of the entire shipment.

The Trade Commissioner looked dubiously at the salmon and decided to take a chance. While the importer was looking on in some terror, he calmly proceeded to eat the entire quantity of the can. Then just as calmly he ordered a second can opened and consumed its content as well. After that he told the importer: "If I'm alive and well tomorrow morning, you'll know the salmon is all right."

In some trepidation the British importer called the next morning. On receiving the Trade Commissioner's assurance that he had slept well and never felt better, he decided at once to accept the salmon which he had questioned.

The Trade and Commerce Department turns the spotlight on the work of the nation's trade commissioners in the current issue of its publication "Foreign Trade." A leading article deals in considerable detail with the work of the commissioners and with the functions which they are prepared to carry out on behalf of firms and individuals anxious to sell Canadian goods in export markets.

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As I See It

BY

Elmore Philpott

Scientists Meet LONDON—Some of the world's top scientists from both sides of the Iron Curtain have met in joint conference to discuss the problems created by the atomic bomb.

The invitations for the conference were issued last winter by a small but influential group of British MPs who are the real core of an international body known as the Parliamentary Association for World Government.

Russian acceptance came only a few days before the conference met in early August. The acceptance was all the more surprising because up till then the worldwide Communist party has been the most vitriolic and consistent opponent of the idea of world government on principles acceptable to the democratic West.

The conference was held in the London County Hall just across the river from the Houses of Parliament. It quickly resolved itself into three working commissions, one concerned with the moral responsibility of the scientist for his work, another with establishing the actual facts as to dangers and damages resulting from nuclear warfare, or excessive tests of nuclear explosives in time of peace.

The third commission was concerned with the possible techniques of control of nuclear weapons in the event of an international armament agreement. The MPs were not asked to sit in on the actual work of the commissions, so we only heard about them in the final reports to the plenary session.

I found most fascinating the argument about the moral responsibility of the scientist for the work. Some scientists took the position that the scientist had no responsibility and indeed no value is lost without satisfactory street signs.

OTHER PAPERS SAY...

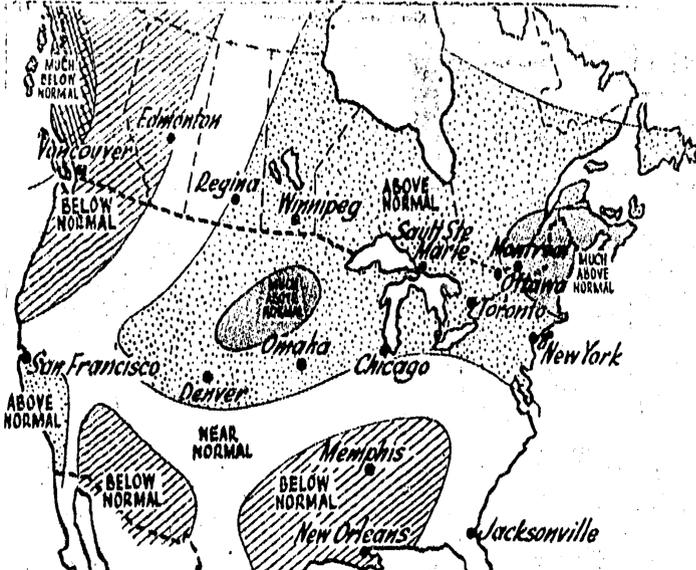
BETTER SIGNS The announcement that the city plans to install 587 new metal street numbering signs will be received with pleasure by motorists and pedestrians alike.

GOOD READING Public funds must be spent, and public library facilities expanded, to make good books as readily accessible as possible to children. Parents and teachers need to exert continuous, patient effort to divert children from comic books to something more worth while.

FRAGILE UNDER STRESS A high-level brawl is being waged over the staying power of glass apartment houses under atomic attack.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENT Mgr. Irene Lusler has been appointed rector of University of Montreal.

BACK TO SCHOOL MEMO GIRLS BOYS HADDLES, OXFORDS, RUNNERS, OVER SHOES, LOAFERS, SOX, PATENT STRAPS. LEATHER BOOTS, RUBBERS, OXFORDS, SOX, OVER SHOES, RUNNERS, SCAMPERS. FIRST TO FASHION — THEN TO SCHOOL. FASHION FOOTWEAR 606 3rd West Dial 5926



ALL OF EASTERN CANADA will have temperatures above normal in the next 30 days according to this map prepared on the basis of the United States Weather Bureau's long-range forecast.

VICTORIA REPORT

By J. K. Nesbitt

VICTORIA—One wonders what success Premier Bennett will have with Ottawa in his idea that the Federal government should cough up about \$20,000,000 for the Pacific Great Eastern Railway.

Ottawa has offered B.C. \$25,000 a mile on the first 50 miles of new construction north into the Peace River country from Prince George. Mr. Bennett, bringing a fast man on a political gamble, hasn't turned that down but he thinks the sum not nearly enough.

Our Premier suggests that Ottawa pay \$25,000 a mile for the entire length of the railway from Vancouver to the Peace River district, but deducting \$15,000 a mile for the 80-mile section from Quesnel to Prince George. That's the amount Ottawa gave to the Johnson government for the Quesnel-Prince George extension a few years ago.

Just now, no one knows how all this dickering will end; certainly, at this point Ottawa has no intention of giving Mr. Bennett \$20,000,000 for the PGE. Why should the Liberals help Mr. Bennett win an election for Social Credit? That's the way the Ottawa government figures it.

However, a few months before the next Federal election, in 1957, the \$25,000-a-mile-for-50-miles might be raised. As the election nears, the Ottawa Liberals will be in need of many good friends, and voters in this province, which is now mostly Social Credit and CCF, a harsh political fact which the Liberals don't admit exists, but which they'd do well to swallow.

Soon now the province's biggest political gurus will be sounding in mighty fury for the Sept. 12 Lillooet by-election. It will be a whirlwind campaign, which is the way Premier Bennett wants it. Most of the speech-making will be confined to the one week leading up to voting day. Before Labor Day no one will feel much like attending political meetings.

The Premier is sure Social Credit will win. At least that's the way he talks out loud, knowing such loud talk often brings dividends in votes. By such talk the Premier—being a good politician—hopes to get a Social Credit bandwagon rolling, onto which he hopes a majority of Lillooet's voters will climb as it nears the polls.

If CCF can't win, Mr. Bennett hopes the CCF does, though he doesn't say that out loud. The one Mr. Bennett doesn't want to win is Liberal Mr. Gibson, whose resignation from the House over forestry matters caused the by-election.

The Liberals, of course, in this test of public opinion they brought on themselves, have far more to lose than any other party. If Mr. Gibson should be defeated, it would be a terrific slap-in-the-face for B.C. Liberal forces, one which would cause them to politically wobble and reel.

Mr. Bennett could lose the by-election, and not lose political face, for his party—beg pardon.

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French Reserves Get Call-Ups For North Africa. PARIS (AP)—Call-ups went out today to French reservists to help bolster the French's strife-torn Moroccan territories. Premier Edgar Faure ended the call Tuesday night when an Aix-les-Bains had been concluding Moroccan leaders. Faure declined to many reservists as most of France's first-line units were once stationed in Germany. Faure hurried to Paris with revolt brewing in the week-end's bloody North Africa. The premier was taken from some of his coalition government cause he agreed to Moroccan nationalists in Aix-les-Bains.

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