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Welcome to Santa

EFORE making his Christmas Eve rounds, that wonderful old fellow with a beard is being seen in Brince Rupert this week bringing his merriest cheer to youngsters who presumably will be asleep when he returns later on.

There must be something about the local climate that agrees with jolly Santa because you would have th travel far to see him in finer form. His kindly way with small fry establishes an immediate friendship with even the shyest, and there is no question that he makes Christmas in Prince Rupert a brighter and happier occasion.

While Santa comes to see the children of the city. his presence also is enjoyed by parents. Up here there is not the opportunity to take youngsters to parades and some of the other exciting goings-on designed for them in larger cities to add to the thrill of Christmas. But everywhere and always the essence of the excitement and the centre of delighted attention is and St. Nicholas himself, and here in Prince Rupert lagis at his memorable best.

On these visits to town the old fellow obviously enjoys himself but there is no doubt that he is hard pressed to fill all his engagements. The fact that he does so with such an abundance of good humor and spirit is something that young and old throughout the city will appreciate.

He is truly a remarkable gentleman, and Prince Rupert owes him its warmest thanks and sincere good wishes for a Merry Christmas.

Gordon Hearings

THE Gordon Royal Commission which is charged with the responsibility of looking into the economic future of Canada for the next 25 years has been sitting in western Canada hearing briefs in recent weeks.

Some strange things were heard during the hearings. In Regina and again in Edmonton tariffs were mentioned, but not in the usual prairie manner. The words were not strong but that they were uttered at all was important. The Saskatchewan Board of Trade spokesman, Alex Aitken, said that some sort of tariff protection would have to be considered to foster the development of secondary industries in western Canada.

In Edmonton, Max MacKenzie, former deputy of Trade Minister Howe and now president of Canadian Chemical and Cellulose Co. Ltd., proposed tariff restrictions on some goods to balance restrictions met with at the United States border. This, too, was suggested to enable industry to get a foothold in western Canada.

Mr. MacKenzie's was unusual in that it was a brief from an individual company whereas most of the other briefs were from governments, cities or organizations representing various groups. It is possible that these two expressions coming from western Canada and favoring tariff, protection are merely fore-runners of what to expect as industry becomes more active here.

---Western Producer.

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Advertising in The Daily News Brings Results

By G. E. MORTIMORE

Rediscovering the Christmas tree ornaments was a yearly delight when I was a

After Dad had harvested the little tree, our came the dusty boxes full of precious baubles. Between one Christmas and another we had always forgotten what treasures lay in the of course, for the people of Britcupboard. Every box we opened meant a reunion with old Premier sav-1

green caves in them which threw back the light. There were glass stars, bells and birds; candles which elipped on; a green celluloid pig of uncertain origin and a white celluloid reindeer; silver and red streamers; a cotton wool Santa; and numberless odd trinkets from Christmas crackers and elsewhere.

Each little ornament was a key to unlock memories of past

Christmases. We felt sad when a familiar piece turned up chipped or broken. But we usually managed to mend it with string or glue. The lame ones, talless birds, stars which had lost half their glitter, found a place on the tree just the same.

When the tree was decked out, it didn't look any the the trinkers, broken or whole, speak, but he might. After all, upward pressures in the econ- zweekekekekekekekekekekekekek were tenderly put away in the he said, it's up to the Premier, omy will result in an unbalance boxes for another year.

For more than 15 years I have not had a chance to help fairs. unpack the boxes. Through these years the ornaments have been waiting patiently, no doubt. On some Christmases I was there with my wife to see the ornaments already unpacked and arrayed on the tree by my mother and father, but it wasn't the same.

The old savor of Christmas came back to us most vividly. one year when my wife and I went to dinner with our friends Erith and Joan and helped accorate their tree while their family of four slept. Erith and Joan believe that the children should see the tree blossom forth fully decked. Letting them help decorate it is a different kind of treat, reserved for when they get older.

The big fragrant balsam was placed in a stand and guyed to the wall. Several experts had to judge whether or not It was straight, and it was shifted a shade to the left, a shade to the right, until everyone approved.

Out came the boxes. They were bigger and fuller than the ones we used to have, but they brought back something like the old feeling. We all competed in picking out choice decorations and placing them where they would gleam to the . most advantage.

lodged where they fell and draped down in a decorative

We finished trimming the tree, then stood back and admired it. it was a gleaming marvel, flinging rainbow light

in all directions. - Rext day the happy brood would run in to stare at the tree, and on Christmas morning they would scramble for presents under its boughs. Children are wisely unsentimental, and Caristmas is their season. Watching them is the only way grown-up people can

renew their youth. But I would give all I own -which isn't much -- to be a child again just for a day, and see my parents looking years younger but still immeasurably older than me, and full of wisdom; to see the snow falling, through a child's eyes; unpack in the bright treasures from the dusty boxes, and lure back | P the years which have flown away like birds into the night.



VICTORIA REPORT By J. K. NESBITT

VICTORIA -- Premier Bennett away from public property. spending Christmas - New That's the government's atti- The Daily News

A considerable number of the

What government experts fear:

be paralleled by propositionately;

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single worry for government k

outlook. At the moment firms

militant in their attitude. Their

proportions could destroy the

anxiety. There is a wideshiread

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Year vacation at his Kelowan tude, and it must be admitted home, happy as a sandboy as he there's much wisdom to it. contemplates the accomplishments of his government in 4955; highly optimistic, and filled with schoolboy enthusiasm as he contemplates what he's sure his DIARY government will do in 1958. What'll it do? Why, great things by NORMAN M. McLEOD ch Columbia! That's what cur

Mr: Bennett's quite convinced There were silver balls of his Social Credit government is very thin glass, with red and responsible for all the present-ilm to the effect that performbursts with pride, as if and hie days. government caused all the project For as year 1955 draws to its; perity and booming times. The close the conviction is fairly gen-Premier says that's right — they eral that its performance has are responsible! Social Credit, approached close to the 100 per says the Premier, looking straight cent maximum. And recognition at you, with no sign of his of that fact suggests the thought tongue in his check, is the only that any exception of 1958 surcoverrment that ever had the passing its record borders on the courage to properly develop realm of the unreal and the un-

way -- that's that! As Mr. Bennett left for his government's own experts take Christmas vacation he appeared this view. In fact, the great mumuite unconcerned about the jority of the senior government Japanery 9 Vancouver-Centre by- economists would settle very election. Oh, he said, he might cheerfully for a 1956 which be in Vancouver during the short, would maintain the achievement campaign — it might happen he of 1955 without any enhancemisfits live. And when the would have to be in Vancouver - ment of them. time came to destroy the tree he often has to go there: oh, he and end the magic season, all sold he heen't one clans to very frankly is that any further

When the Premier talks that

B.C.'s great natural resources, reasonable.

isn't it - to tell the neonle in which higher wages resulting what's happening to their af- from labor shortages will fail to Well, the Premier may be eff- increased production. That would i hand about the by-election now, result in the bidding up of prices; but there's little doubt there'll and a general rise in the cost of [

be a monster SC rally in Centre living. And a rise in the cost of few days before voting, and living would throw Canadian ! that the Premier'll be right there costs out of line with the other - giving a Bennett pep talk, economies against which Cana-: stirring up his supporters to diang mus, compete. great heights, sure that Gorat

Credit will win.

There'll be no hard liqu'r economists arising out of the served at the New Year's Lay current situation is the wages of Dibb Printing There'll be punch, with some employing some 20,000 corkers; silmulant in it, but gone are the are strike-bound. Other harge iadays when nearly 1.000 mien bor groups are considering strike if made a disastrous onslaught on action. Trade unions are almost; His Honor's' vine cellar.

The crowds that have in re-confidence has been reinforced cent years descended on Gov- to maximum degree by the reternment. House have caucial cent merger of the two great some consternation. The Lieut- international labor, bodies into governor is always delighted to a united force. Whaten the palsee so many neople: it's a great term of settlement in wage discompliment to him! But pour-puter during 1955 has been in the ing drinks for so many is, a metablicathood of 10 cents now costly business, and busides, hour, the trade union target for some people drink too much at 1956 is said to be double this a free-for-all, and have to becamount. almost rolled, or carried out the: Federal experts are satisfied

Most people agree that the balance out of which current new Government House rule for progresity flows. For they reas New Year's Day is a very sen- son that, with the economy olsible one. The callers will have ready functioning at 100 per cent There were strings of color- a more pleasant time without for practical purposes. there ed lights to be tested and the time-honored struggle for could be performesponding plan looped around the branches; free liquor -- free, that is, to the in productivity to prevent the

front door when the party's that any wage climb of such

glass gadgets of all kinds to be "public, but paid for out of the wave rises from being completely hung, and tinsel leicles to be (Lieut.-governor's own pocket, inflationary. hurled at the tree so that they leven if he does get it at cost, which is a situation which all Around the Legislative Build-Europps on Parliament Will preings the Christmas season has watching closely and with some

becone dry in recent years,

Time was when there were feeling that the early months of parties gaiore in all the affect wage decisions right after the on Christmas Eve - and more New Year are likely to prove the than one pappa --- and some most critical period which 1956 times a mamma - struggled will have to face, home and plunged straightvay; Into bed, being quite unable to decorate the tree or nail stockings to the mantleplece.

Now the Buildings are closed; on Christmas Eve; if clvil ser- ! vants want to --- well, what they ! call celebrate -- let them do It [

The Editor.

Bakery I wish to state that I service received from the Northed and the co-operation extended at all times.

We should have the opportunhustle and bustle that's nace can never exceed 100 per ity of voting on this question in uoing on in British Columbia, cent that is receiving a good a some, reasonable way, not ac-This column from time to time deal of every thoughtful consi-cording to the last pichicelte has said that the Premier fair deration in Capital circles these which was entirely misleading. ROBERT MURRAY

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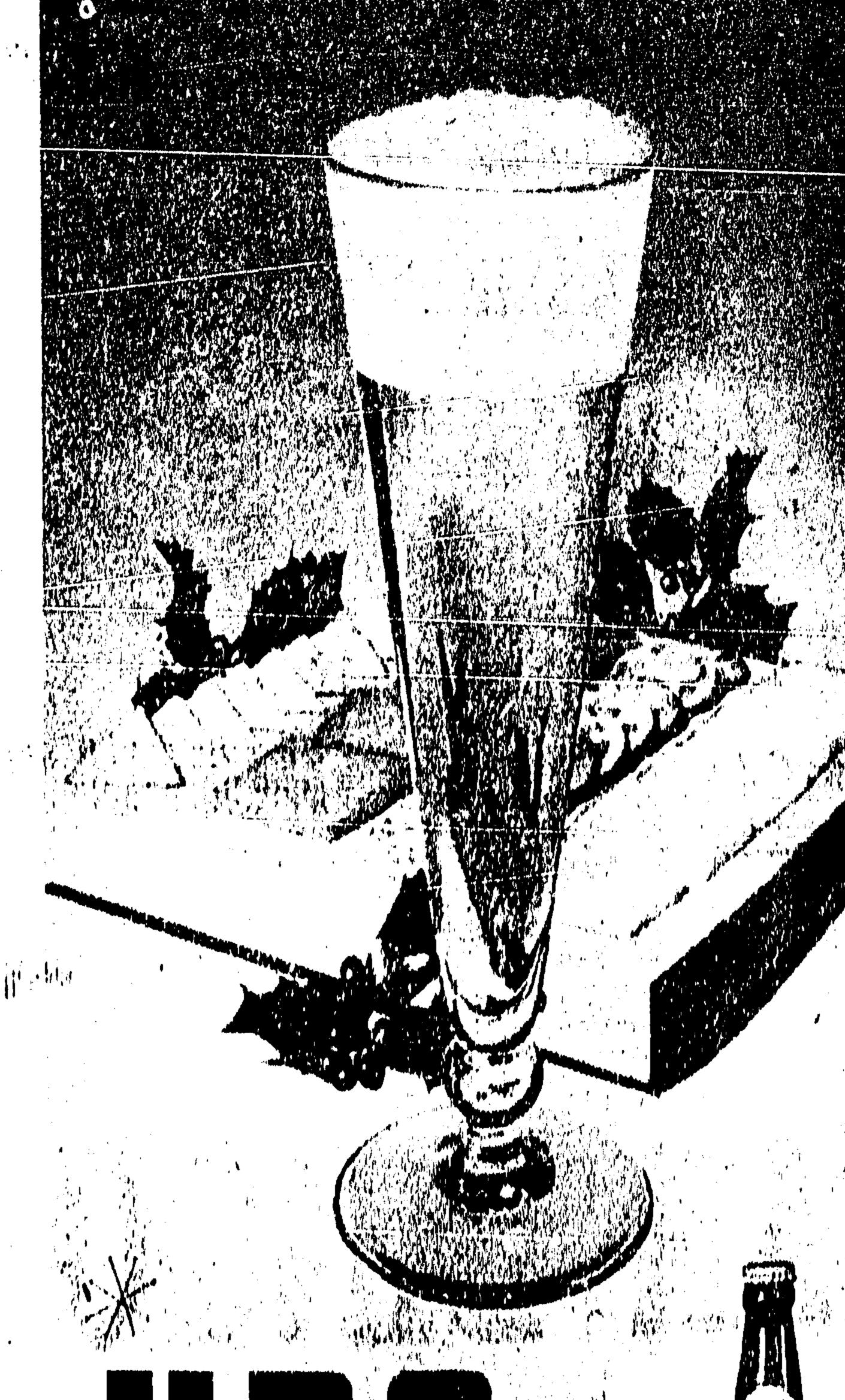
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