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Dangers To Outlawing Reds

ALTHOUGH the Communists are engaged in an insidious campaign to conquer the world, it is to be hoped that Canada will not try to emulate the U.S.A. in outlawing them as a political party.

Such a step offers two great dangers. The first is that it could lead to the complete destruction of the freedom of political thought. Admittedly the Communists are intent on wrecking those processes of government which make such freedom possible. And admittedly they will resort to means more drastic than mere expressions of opinion to achieve their end.

But in the final analysis they will fail unless they can persuade others to think as they do. So to outlaw them would mean that we must deny to Canadians their chance to consider such an alliance, abhorrent to most of us though it may be. It would be a narrowing of the range of political choice which might be the first step in a series of restrictions. Ultimately we might be no better than the Communists in what we allow the public to think and not to think.

The second danger is that by outlawing the Communists as a political party, Canada would create the most dangerous possible combination of an underdog working underground. A creature of this sort would be certain to have a large following of bleeding hearts and conspirators. The progress of the party would be harder than ever to follow.

As it is, one of the best ways to discredit the Communists' Labor Progressive Party in Canada, and simultaneously measure its following, is to let it take its periodic beating at the polls. This is a sure means of proving that the party which professes to be speaking for the proletariat is in reality speaking for practically nobody at all.

Time is a Problem

A municipal council has just passed a resolution urging the New Brunswick government to make standard time the only legal time in that province. In one or two other provinces that is the requirement now.

One might suppose that after nearly 40 years of mixing daylight saving and standard time in this country we might have come to some sort of agreement in this matter. For travellers, for business and for the transportation industries and others the present lack of uniformity is a horrible headache. Many a man has missed a plane because, for example, the CPR uses standard time in its timetable while its child, the CP airlines, uses "local time."

In moving about the country one is never sure whether one will arrive in the next town in time for dinner. Surely some sort of reasonable compromise could be worked out that would apply every season and everywhere in Canada.

—Financial Post.

Ray REFLECTS and REMINISCES

A newly designed type of Italian automobile is reported to be not unlike an egg, so far as its general shape is concerned. In the future, of course there will be accidents. Suppose there is a collision. It can be found scrunched. Or who can say the wreckage won't be discovered all sunnyside up.

Determined attempts to overpower authority at Kingston penitentiary took place during the week-end. It's only a few weeks back similar scenes were witnessed in the State of Washington. Reports of more riots are not infrequent. And it must be admitted, speaking of the need of Canadian reserves that a jail riot and big fire must precede voyages to Europe or Korea.

PRINCE RUPERT MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
wish to announce that

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As I See It

BY

Elmore Philpot

SINGING COWBOY

RADIUM HOT SPRINGS, B.C.—I missed my southbound bus from Banff to Radium, and so had to spend the day on the wrong side of the Great Divide. But that turned out to be all for the best, for otherwise I would have missed the midnight ride with the singing cowboy.

Come to think of it, I never did get a look at that merry fellow, for he was sitting in the back seat, with some giggling girls and besides, the lights were turned down low. But for the ninety mile ride through the Rocky Mountains he kept up a running stream of good natured banter.

* * *

TO hear him tell it, he had never been able to find a girl who would have him for a husband. Not that any of us believed the rascal, for he was obviously of the easy going type that loves them and leaves them. But he was a natural born uninhibited genius as a song leader and fun maker. He has us all singing all the old favorites, such as you will find on any song sheet anywhere in the English speaking world, for in this one respect there are no borders that keep us apart.

We sang everything from My Wild Irish Rose to Carry Me Back to Old Virginny, and from When It's Springtime in The Rockies to Home on the Range.

It was fun too to guess the age of the different groups in the various parts of the bus. Some of the young kids near the front would burst out with brand new songs, which hardly anybody, except the youngsters knew. But you could tell the pre-1914 group by the gusto with which we roared out Down By The Old Mill Stream, Tipperary, or There's A Long Long Trail A Winding, or The Trail of the Lonesome Pine.

* * *

RIGHT in front of me sat a nervous girl of about fifteen. She had been living with her grandmother on a Saskatchewan farm, and now she was on her way to visit relatives in California. But the grandmother had pumped the poor girl so full of warnings about gangsters and white slave traders that the poor thing was in mortal terror of crossing the U.S. border.

She kept asking fellow passengers about the time of crossing into the U.S.A. and she made it very clear, by every word she said, poor kid, that she expected the American gangsters to steal her money, her bus ticket—not to mention more precious possessions.

She alone of all the people on the bus did not join in the singing.

FIND RELICS

STOCKHOLM (—About 250,000 archaeological relics have been mapped in seven of Sweden's 24 provinces during a nation-wide inventory being drawn up by the office of custodian of ancient monuments.

GEORGE DAWES
AUCTIONEER
Phone Black 816 and Red 12

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OTTAWA DIARY

By Norman M. MacLeod

Visiting along the Capital's who were fortunate enough to meet him found his views on international politics and modern medicine almost equally fresh.

The basic idea which Dr. Gokay advocates as a guide for practical living and mental health alike is an acceptance of realism rather than an attempt to escape from it. He says that if you face realities and meet them with courage and resolution rather than with fear and foreboding, you will save yourself the wear-and-tear which drops you on the couch in the psychiatrist's office.

Dr. Gokay proves his point by reference to the scarcity of psychiatric patients in Turkey, despite the tension of living next-door to Russia while maintaining an alliance with the Western world. He told newspapermen that the people of Turkey, whose fatalism is no better known than are their formidable fighting qualities, just don't worry about the Russians in the way that many people in the United States and other Western countries do. He summed it up by saying cryptically: "We know the Russians, — and the Russians know us. So we don't worry." And if Turkish doctors had to depend upon psychiatric patients for their livelihood, they would soon starve."

No worry, whether individual, national, or international, should be allowed to grow into an obsession, the doctor advises. Incidentally, Doctor Gokay is critical of the couch technique used by North American psychiatrists. In his view it is an capitalist approach to an individual's ills, whereas he believes in a more scientific diagnosis and direct treatment. Electro-shock therapy and malaria injections are the real means which modern psychiatry has at its disposal to treat mental disturbances, he contends.

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The point is I want my name cleared in this regard. Several people have phoned and could not understand my part in the case as it read in the paper. If you would be kind enough to publish this letter it would clear up any misunderstanding.

GEORGE PAYNE,
Prince Rupert.

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