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Election Not Snap After All

If THE current election campaign had no issues to start with, it has something now that makes a pretty good substitute. Through the strange evolution of politics, a heated fight has been produced even though at first it seemed that candidates would be wracking their brains to find something to talk about. One reason, of course, is that the Sommers affair has grown like a festering boil. It was sensitive enough from the beginning but Mr. Sommers did it no good when he tried to have the court muzzle discussion of it.

Now the Social Crediters are charging their critics with "smear" tactics and CCF Leader Robert Strachan is unaccountably falling into the trap by comparing supporters of the government to "pigs rushing to put their snouts in the trough."

That kind of language will, if anything, work to the benefit of those he is accusing. So will his irresponsible statement that the government was to blame for the spread of golden staph infection in the hospitals. Unexpectedly adding to the heat of the moment is the charge by the renegade Social Crediter, Ernest Allstone, that the first accusations against Mr. Sommers came from within the ranks of his own party. Whether true or not, this directs suspicion at Mr. Bennett as having had previous knowledge of the dealings of which Mr. Sommers is accused.

So the debate roars on and, even though campaign quarrels are not necessarily an expression of public opinion, it is evident by now that the election by no means a foregone conclusion in favor of the government. Some of the anger is certain to be transferred to the voters. Mr. Bennett's snap election threatens to be not such a snap after all.

Socreds Curbs Not Unknown

ATTEMPTS by the Social Credit party to restrict press and radio freedom are not unknown.

Recently the party's leader, Solon Low, demanded the CBC fire the employee responsible for a drama on the trial and execution of an American labor leader.

Nearly 20 years ago the newly elected Socred government of Alberta passed a press control law which, according to the Supreme Court of Canada judgment invalidating it, sought "to control any statement relating to any policy or activity of the government of the province."

Fortunately, the prospect of the Socreds coming to power in Ottawa is at the moment extremely remote.

But the Canadian people should hesitate before granting power to a party which has made such determined efforts to gag the press and which apparently is determined to impose its own kind of thought control on the country.

—Toronto Daily Star.

Scriptures

God formed man of the dust of the earth, Genesis 2:7. The chemical elements that the human body are worth less than a dollar, yet we have more intricate mysteries than a thousand laboratories. Man was no accidental accident.

Be strong and quit yourselves like men, 1 Samuel 4:9. There is no area of life where courage is not a necessity.

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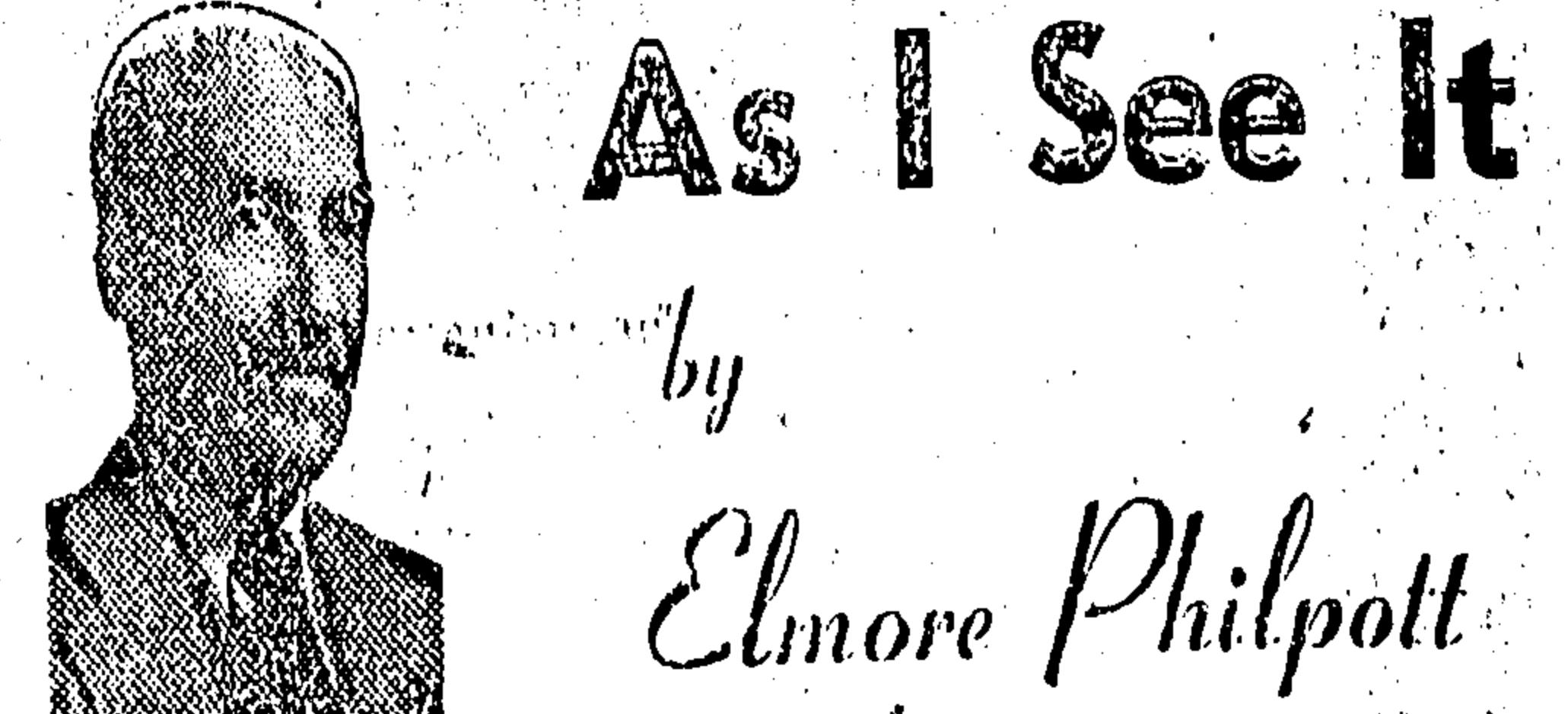
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As I See It
by
Elmore Philpott

Mica At Stake

REVELSTOKE—This lovely little city, which nestles like a gleaming gem below green mountains and white glaciers, has the greatest stake of any community in B.C. in the pending provincial election.

In the warm and comforting September sunshine it must be hard for the people here to realize the really grim possible consequences of their coming vote.

But the grim facts are there just the same. If the Social Credit government is returned to office there can be no doubt that the building of the Mica Creek dam at the Big Bend of the Columbia river will be delayed for many years—and perhaps go down the drain for ever.

But if the Social Credit government is replaced by one which will fit itself in with the overall plan worked out by General McNaughton and the other Canadians on the International Joint Commission all the B.C. people who live near the Columbia river should benefit beyond their most optimistic dreams for cheap power is literally the lifeblood of industry.

THE REASON why a Social Credit victory means a long setback for and possible permanent ruination of the Mica Creek dam plan is as follows:

It is not because the government of Canada is trying to shake a big stick at the temporary government of B.C., but rather because the Social Credit government has made it crystal clear that it is tied to its power-giveaway policies whether Liberal, Conservative or C.C.F. at Ottawa can accept.

For two years in succession Messers Bennett and Sommers have unsuccessfully tried to persuade the parliament of Canada to condone "deals" between the present government of B.C. and big private corporations in the United States.

The first instance was the infamous Kaiser dam proposal which for a fast buck to the Social Credit government, would have allowed American interests to get their foot in the door of the richest undeveloped water-power on the continent. As everybody knows, that brazen proposed sell-out was turned down flat after a hearing at Ottawa which lasted for several weeks. But, undaunted by that rebuke, the Social Credit government of B.C. bobbed up again the very next year with a much bigger and far worse proposed giveaway—this time to permit American interests to build the whole immense dam at the Big Bend of the Columbia, with payment to Canada of one-fifth the power produced.

It would be difficult to describe the folly and improvidence of that offer in temperate language, for it was a proposition which, in fact, would have handed over one of Canada's richest natural assets for a mere fraction of its true worth-like throwing the Canadian dog a bone.

Naturally, the Liberals, the Conservatives, the CCF and the independent members of parliament were even more opposed to this mammoth Social Credit giveaway plan than they were to the Kaiser dam.

DR. HIGGINS' CUR—Doctors

say a new hospital is a walk through any of these needed. A hospital operated by the Iron Ore Mining Company of Canada and a private clinic are no better than any shack that we have seen in our travels

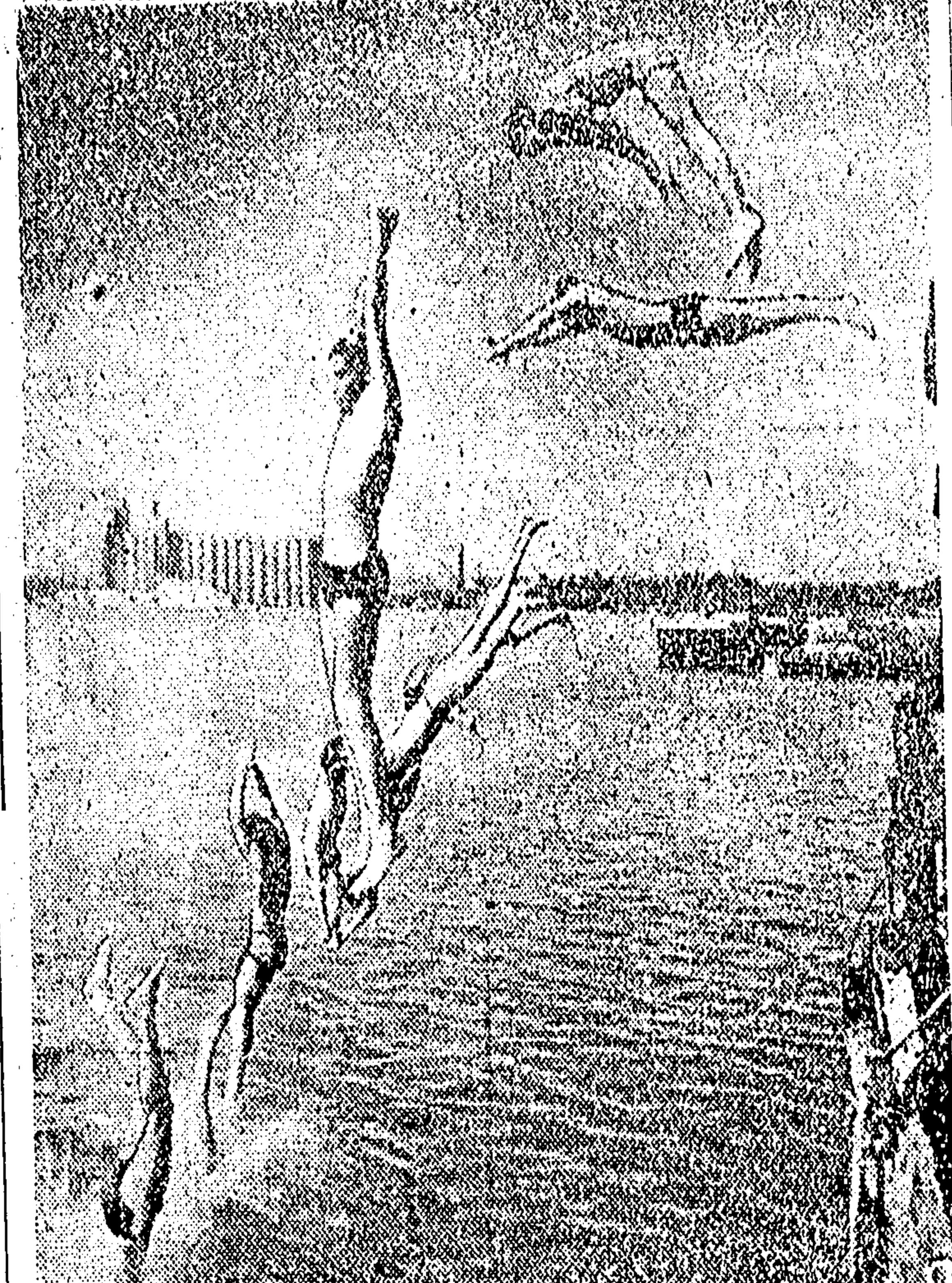
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JUST NINE MORE months to go before next year's summer vacation. Meanwhile these Sarnia, Ont., boys couldn't wait to line up for a swim before this season ends. They all tried to get in at once. Even the Sarnia Observer photographer got into the "picture," by making a composite of various ways of jumping and diving into the harbor. (CP Photo)

LETTERBOX

SAYS PRIVILEGED GROUP

The Editor,
The Daily News:

After hearing the newscast on the CBC which stated that "400 children at Sunnyside Cannery, Skeena River," would be without a teacher this fall, it makes one wonder just what statements Mr. Gordon and Mr. Stevens made to the various news agencies in Vancouver. They charge that our local school board is indiscriminate towards the Native children.

I wonder if they realize just what a privileged group they are—when we stop to think just how many of our white children have a choice of two schools? The Natives can either go up to their villages where the Indian Department has provided modern schools and teachers, or they can or could attend the Sunnyside one. With the white children living along the Skeena or the villages of Oona River, Hunt's Inlet, Olsland, or several others, it is either go to Rupert or correspondence lessons, and yet it makes one wonder how many of the Natives pay any school taxes?

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TO USE UP MONEY

Remaining Projects Set By City Parks Board

In an effort to complete as many projects as possible during the present year, the city Parks board last night made a list of needed work and will ask City Works Superintendent Carl Gustafson to attend them.

If the city cannot complete some of the projects then the board will invite private bids to get the jobs completed, it was left in the parks board coffers out of \$31,500.

Expenditures and commitments to date total approximately \$23,170.40.

Named to meet with Mr. Gustafson and discuss what projects can be accomplished this year were Commissioners Duncan McRae and Alek Bill.

Planned for this year are the following projects: Painting of both large and small pools, and painting of racing lanes on the bottom of the big pool; completion of approaches to bathhouse; drains outside the pool and clearing of drains inside the bath-house; re-surfacing of the wading pool; protection coat for the bath-house; level the old bath-house area in McClymont park for a volley-ball court; clearing overburden from behind the bath-house; replacing two bridges in McClymont park; purchase of eight collapsible tables for use by crafts classes at the pool and in McClymont park; transfer and installation of the drains from Montreal Circle to Algoma Park; erection of backstop and bleachers in new area at Algoma park; construction of pigeon holes under covered porch at McClymont park bath-house for storage of children's clothes while swimming.

Expenditures for city parks this year are as follows:

Plywood covers for new bathhouse \$150.32; benches in Totem park \$183.58; pool fence at McClymont park \$223.32; Totem and Alder parks \$220.21; Roosevelt park \$14.35; Algoma park ball grounds \$1,425.72; Kien Gravel contract at Algoma park \$13,500.74, less balance of Algoma park fund of \$8,023.03 making \$5,477.71; Westview park \$185.00; McClymont park \$1,307.86; steel slide for McClymont Story.

The 72-year-old Brabazon, world aviation pioneer and sportsman, was minister of aircraft production for a time in one of Churchill's wartime cabinets. The two are still warm friends. Writing of the stormy meetings of the Battle of the Atlantic Committee, Brabazon said "they were the most unpleasant meetings I have ever attended. The issue was grave, but the way Churchill treated everyone was almost unbearable."

Describing Churchill's manner at these meetings, Brabazon wrote:

"He usually appeared

after his early afternoon sleep in the vestiges of tempest, and having such a problem to face did not improve it."

There seems to be a widespread belief that the Port Edward school, which is presumably expected to absorb the influx of children from the Skeena slough settlements, is a beautiful half-empty building, its modern facilities enjoyed by a mere handful of children, its playground equipment and gym drowsily marking time until, at some distant date, possibly on completion of the Skeena road, the school will finally have a full complement of pupils.

Let us now look at the facts. This six-room school has, today, an enrollment of 230 pupils, all children of local, permanent residents. Four classrooms have 39 pupils each, while Grade 1 with 45 children, had to be divided, at least temporarily, into two shifts, so as to give each child its due measure of individual attention. Any further appreciable increase in attendance would necessitate changes, all of them rather expensive (adding classrooms at \$25,000 each) or inconveniently (double shifts).

Transportation will have to be arranged and additional teachers found.

There are many good reasons why the Skeena road should, and must, be built. Opportunity for children to attend school is one of them. Let us not lightly assume that this or that problem will then vanish. Every step ahead brings further problems and though they will be met, as they have in the past, it is best that we be aware of them now and be prepared in due time, to pay the cost of progress.

J. O. HIGGINS, Canol.

Preparations for a Hallowe'en bazaar and the forthcoming visit of the provincial president highlighted Wednesday night's meeting of Centennial Rebekah Lodge No. 40 in the Valhalla hall.

Mr. James Gilbert will convene the tea and bazaar to be held October 31, featuring a doll prize with doll wardrobe, home-cooking stall, novelties, fancy-work booth and novelty tree for children.

Members have resumed weekly

Tuesday night "sewing bees" to work on bazaar articles.

Special meeting will be held Monday night on the occasion of the official visit of Mrs. Alex McCabe, president of the British Columbia Rebekah assembly.

The lodge has prepared special drill work for the president's visit and will wind up the session with a pot-luck supper.

The president, arriving here Sunday, will visit Terrace and Smithers lodges Tuesday and Wednesday, September 19 and 20.

The lodge also planned to send representatives to an organizational meeting in Smithers September 10, of a northern district Rebekah Association.

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