

Monday, December 10, 1956

An independent daily newspaper devoted to the upbuilding of Prince Rupert and Northern and Central British Columbia.
Member of Canadian Press—Audit Bureau of Circulations
Canadian Daily Newspaper Association
Published by The Prince Rupert Daily News Limited
J. F. MAGOP, President
Subscription Rates—\$3.50
By mail—per month \$1.00; per year \$10.00
By carrier—per month, \$1.25; per year, \$12.00
Authorized as second class mail by the Post Office Department, Ottawa

Vote Yes for Commission

OF THE three referendums to be voted on next Thursday, by far the most difficult to answer is that on the power question. After four years of vain negotiation with the B.C. Power Commission, voters again are being asked if they wish the publicly owned body to serve as power supplier for the city.

On the face of it, there would seem to be little point in repeating the question. The commission has shown a marked lack of enthusiasm for taking over the job and also has been unable to obtain all the Northern B.C. Power Company's shares as required by the terms of agreement.

Meanwhile the company has spent \$1 million on the installation of new equipment and has announced its proposal—though not in writing to the city council—to increase its capacity by building up the Falls River site at a cost of \$3 million.

If these facts alone are considered, the only way to answer the referendum is in the negative, indicating that the public is not interested in making any more overtures to the commission. Such action would be further justified by the fact that T. B. Black, NBCPC general manager, has been by far the most persuasive and informative spokesman on either side of the issue. Power, of course, is his business and he has put this advantage to good use. In the recent debate with Mayor Hills at the Civic Affairs Association meeting, there was no question that he made the more effective presentation of the two.

However, the problem is not quite so simple as all that. The big question to be answered is which organization can offer the surer guarantee of meeting not only the present demands of Prince Rupert for power, but also the increasingly heavy demands that are certain to arise in the future?

It appears that the private company already is financially strained to meet its obligations. To raise the \$3 million for its proposed development it will have to go to the public, for the parent corporation evidently is no longer interested in putting its own money into Prince Rupert. At a time when credit restrictions are in effect and many other businesses are seeking loans from the public, since little or no help is available from the banks, this could prove a difficult undertaking. The returns to investors will have to be made extremely attractive if the effort is to be successful. These represent costs that will have to be borne by the people of this city.

On the other hand, the power commission is in a solid position to go ahead with whatever the city will require. Although the point has been debated, there is no doubt that it can raise money more cheaply than the private company and, because the commission has a system of pooling production costs throughout the province, Prince Rupert will bear only a fraction of the load in financing new power developments for this area.

A point against the commission that has been brought out is its seeming reluctance to do business here. But this is understandable, for as agent of the people, the commission is not in position to dictate what shall be done unless it can advance strong reasons of economy for its action. No such reasons would appear to bar its entry here. If Prince Rupert states emphatically that it wants to have the commission, then have it we shall. The matter of purchasing all company shares can be settled by arbitration, if necessary.

A problem frequently mentioned in this question is that of choosing between private and public enterprise. As a product of private enterprise, this newspaper would not relish the idea of being expropriated any more than the NBCPC does, and other firms in town naturally would feel likewise. The power company is an organization trying to make a livelihood just as we all are, and the members of its staff are liked and respected as industrious members of this community.

But a public utility occupies a category of its own since it can never be exposed to competition. We can obtain our power from only one source. That is not a criticism of the company. Its position is a nice one to be in. But in this case it does take the steam out of the argument between private and public enterprise.

To repeat, the choice that the citizens of Prince Rupert are being asked to make is a difficult one. But after a careful look at the whole problem, we are convinced that the answer to the referendum should be a decided "yes." It cannot be a timid one, for that will put us back in the position of five years ago. If the vote is a strong affirmative, the commission must act. It is our servant not our master, and if we want it to serve us, so it shall.

As I See It

By
Elmore
Philpott

Conservatives Meet

THE outcome of the Conservative convention is of great interest to the entire country. All believers in the two-party system of government will wish well to the fine old party of Macdonald, Borden, Meighen and George Drew.

It is a matter of keen personal regret to me that my own long-time personal friend, George Drew, has been forced by ill health to lay down the leader's mantle at the very prime of life.

But I find it an encouraging thing for the whole country that the Conservatives have so many really able and good men from which to choose their new chief.

THERE are three men in particular, whose names are most frequently mentioned by my Conservative friends, as being the most likely for selection.

They are, of course, John Diefenbaker, Davie Fulton, and Donald Fleming.

Any one of these three men would, in my opinion, make good and competent leaders worthy of the great post. They are of widely different temperaments and talents. But all are public servants of real integrity and outstanding capacity.

In my opinion, John Diefenbaker would win more votes than any other possible leader, in one election at least. But also in my opinion, Davie Fulton and Donald Fleming both possess qualities and capacities which in the longer run, might be of more permanent value for a party of the right wing in Canada.

I am certainly not saying this in disparagement of Mr. Diefenbaker whom I respect and admire as a public man and like personally, but simply to express my own basic theory of politics. That is, that the Conservative party does better, over a longer period of time, under a leader who is conservative in all his instincts than it does under one whose natural instincts trend is progressive for liberal.

SELECTION of either Mr. Diefenbaker or Mr. Fulton as the new leader would make it harder for the Social Credit party to score gains in western Canada in the next federal election. Social Credit hopes are based on putting the Conservatives out of the picture, right across Canada.

Mr. Fleming, however, might do better than any other Conservative in the province of Quebec, as he is one of the very few English speaking members of any political party who also speaks really good French.

There is no harder worker in the whole parliament of Canada than Donald Fleming. I have sat with him for several years on the banking committee. There is no member with a more faultless record of attendance, and unlike some others in all parties

Mr. Fleming always makes a definite contribution to the discussion.

That is, he is always prepared in advance for what is coming up, either in committee or on the floor of the House.

Donald Fleming seems to me to lack one real asset in any potential leader—that is a sharp sense of humor—above all the ability to laugh at himself, when the joke is on himself, as it often must be in politics. But if he is really serious, it is because he is really an earnest man.

Davie Fulton's greatest asset is that he is by temperament, training and talent, a professional politician, in the best sense of those words.

Politics is not a game or a stunt, but a highly skilled vocation, and Mr. Fulton is one of the most skillful proponents of that profession, not only in Canada, but in any part of the democratic world. I know, because I have watched a good many of them in action, over a good many years, in a good many countries. He has both character and brains, and he is a true Tory to his fingertips—Tory in the best sense of the word, which among my own ancestors was certainly no term of disparagement.

He is both character and brains, and he is a true Tory to his fingertips—Tory in the best sense of the word, which among my own ancestors was certainly no term of disparagement.

LINDSAY'S
Cartage & Storage
Established 1910
HOUSEHOLD GOODS
MOVING — PACKING
CRATING — STORAGE
Lift Van Service
Agents: Allied Van Lines Ltd.
Phone Wharf 4381 Office 5010

TRY DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

OTTAWA DIARY

By JAMES
R. NELSON

The Canadian Club of Ottawa is a special club of its own kind. Its membership is heavily landed with top-flight Ottawa administrators, and its guest speakers are prominent men from all parts of the world. As far as point, all the head-

table guests but two were government employees, (if not in

Canada, of some other government) and the Club had the biggest luncheon crowd of the year last week when V. K. Krishna Menon was the guest.

It wasn't just Menon's "big name" that drew the crowd. It

was his role in international affairs. The vast majority of those attending the luncheon went from a curiosity impulse. They wanted to see this man in action, and hear what he had to say. There was a good deal more than idle curiosity too.

They wondered what there was about India's ambassador-at-large and chief United Nations

delegate that won him such popularity in some parts of the world, and such a cool reception in others, principally London and Washington.

Well, most of the audience went away from that luncheon completely charmed with the man, and there was no charm induced by the meal, which reached the height—or depth—of mediocrity for such a hole-

fare. Menon was introduced with the statement that he would describe India's attitude to world affairs. Menon wined at the suggestion and said that what India thought about world affairs wasn't fit to be described in polite company, and if he did so, others might say what they thought about India.

The burden of the Indian spokesman's speech was his government's desire for conciliation in all things. The world shouldn't be divided into color

ed blocks, he said. No group of nations was always right, and

(CP Photo).

PRIME MINISTER Solomon Bandaranaike of Ceylon arrives in Ottawa for talks with Prime Minister St. Laurent and External Affairs Minister Pearson.

(CP Photo).

another group always wrong. His government, he said, always tried to look at all sides of all questions, make its decisions on the particular case before it, and then try to solve the problem by conciliation.

External affairs minister Les-

ter B. Pearson, who seemed to squirm through parts of Menon's speech, summed up his reaction to this proposal in one word. Whether or not Canada should take such an initiative he said, was "arguable."

Boxed Assortments
of fine

CHRISTMAS
CARDS
Consult

Dibb Printing
Co.
Dial 5227

WIN A PRIZE!

Decorate
your home
for Christmas

WATCH FOR DETAILS — BE PREPARED

GET YOUR CHRISTMAS
LIGHT-UP SUPPLIES

AT

Gordon & Anderson Ltd.

CO-SPONSORS OF THE JAYCEE CHRISTMAS

LIGHT UP CONTEST

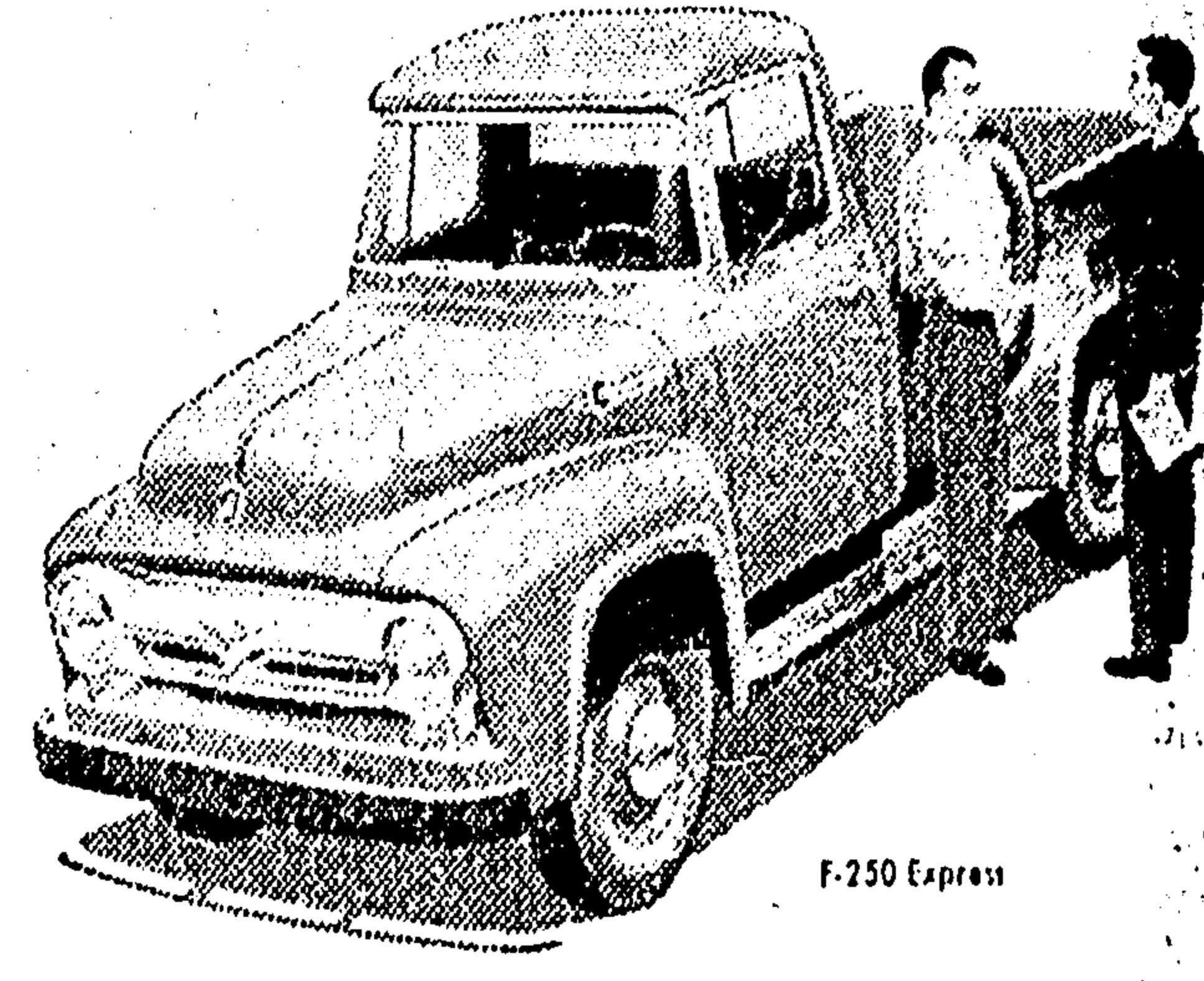
The price tag tells only part of the story...

FORD TRUCKS
V-8 or SIX
cost less 3 ways!

1 when you BUY

you pay less!

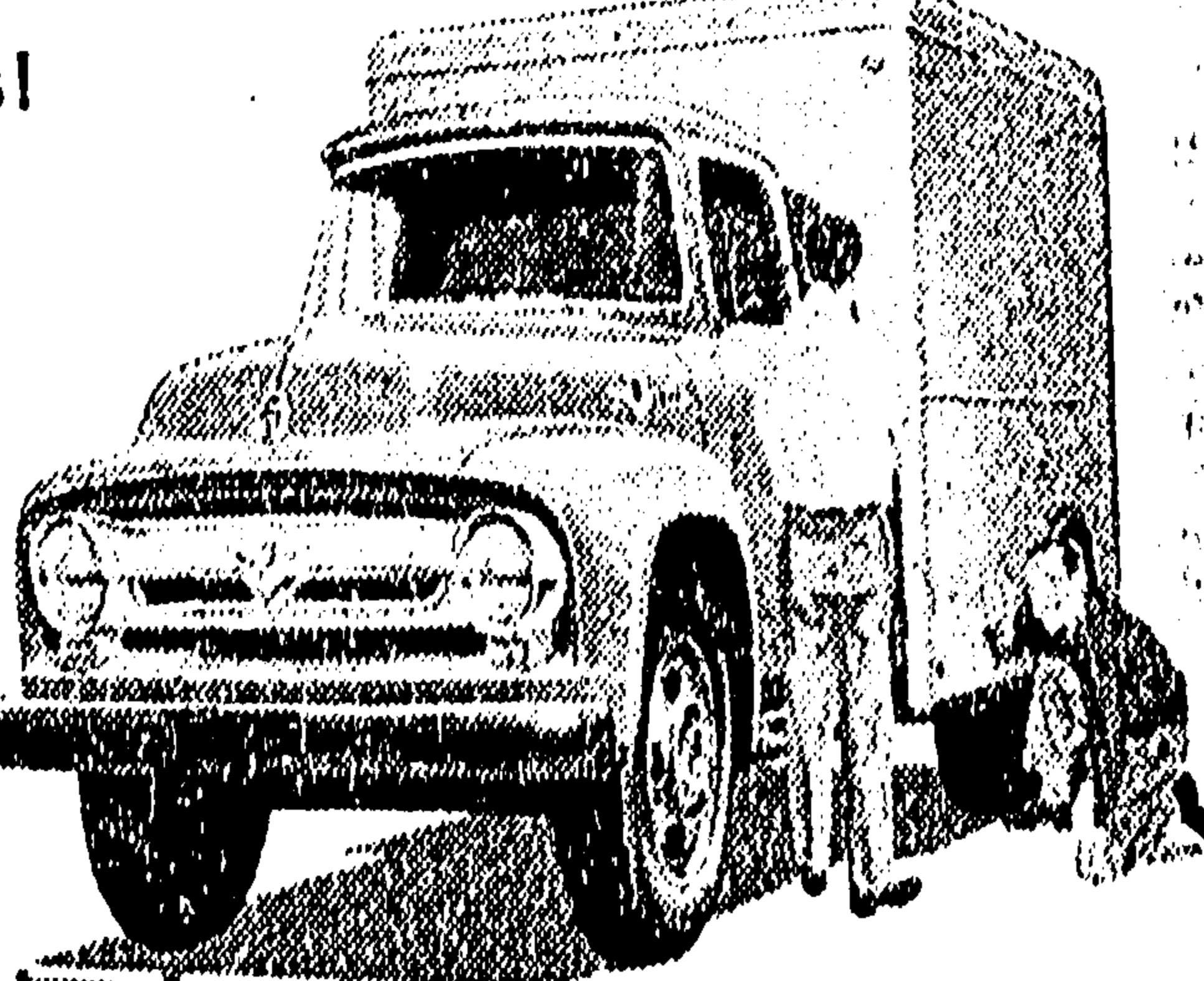
Ford Truck prices are scaled right down with the lowest and many Ford Truck models are priced below all competitive makes! You get more truck value for your dollar when you go Ford... and your Ford-Monarch dealer is ready right this minute to make you a special deal on exactly the right Ford Truck with exactly the right equipment to do your job better, faster and more economically than any other! Drop in and "talk truck" soon!



2 while you DRIVE

you spend less!

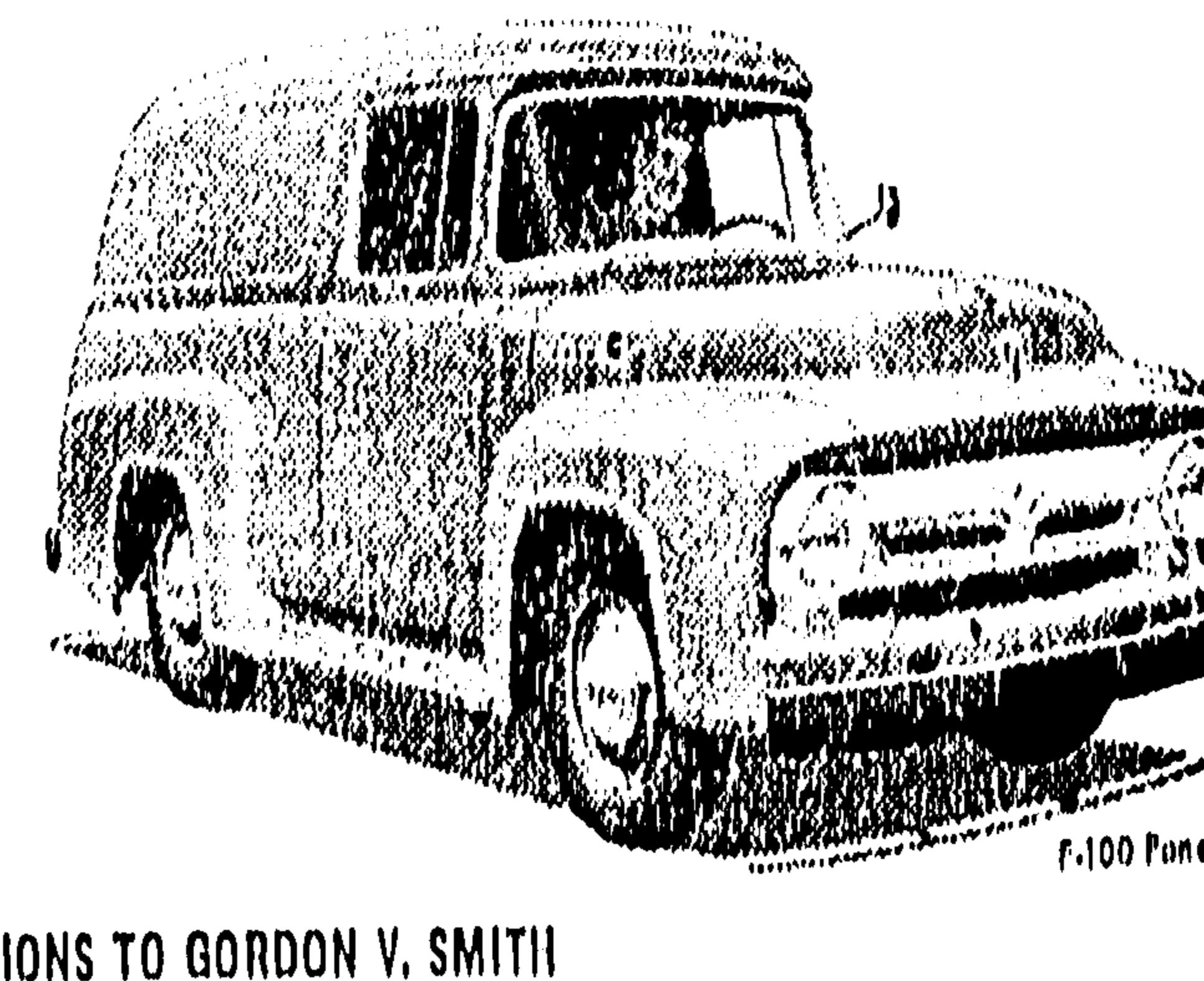
Ford Trucks offer you the outstanding choice of hard-working, gas-saving, short-stroke engines—V-8 or Six! Ford's truck-built V-8's and the famous, road-proven Mileage Maker Six (Canada's most advanced, most efficient Six) all give you more usable power per dollar... finer, livelier, more dependable performance... and more miles from every gallon of gas. They go farther, stand up longer, pay off in profits!



3 when you TRADE

you get more!

Because Ford Trucks are known as the economy clump, there's always a big demand for used Fords. That means you may expect to get a fair deal when you trade your Ford Truck in on a new one! Before you invest in any new truck, see the buying your Ford-Monarch dealer can show you now!



TOPS
in modern
oil heat!

Clean, carefree, auto-
matic heat! We have a personal interest in your com-
fort—we take over your heating problem and fill your tanks automatically. Standard Furnace Oil with Thermolite "tunes up" your burner while it heats; Standard Stove Oil lights fast, heats fast, is the ideal fuel for circulating heaters. Both of these fine fuels are 100% distilled for money-saving, complete burning! Call us today for modern housewarmer service!

STANDARD
HEATING OILS

call your
Housewarmer

Wm. BOND

Prince Rupert, B.C. AGENT Telephone 3310

CONGRATULATIONS TO GORDON V. SMITH

NATIONAL TRUCK ROADEO WINNER!
Driving a Ford P-700 "Big Job", Gordon Victor Smith of the Department of National Defence (Navy), Victoria, B.C., won the winner of the Single-Axle Tractor Division at the National Truck Roadeo. Skilled driving plus Ford's famous maneuverability make a winning combination.

SEE YOUR FORD-MONARCH DEALER

BOB PARKER LTD.
PRINCE RUPERT TERRACE KITIMAT
OFFICE DIAL 2222 PARTS DIAL 2221 SERVICE STATION DIAL 2340