

FIVE REASONS

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Keeping Our Teachers

PRINCE Rupert's loss of teachers each year is a matter of concern to all parents of school children and one that unfortunately does not seem to hold a ready answer. To judge from results of the questionnaire recently circulated among departed teachers, salaries are a factor but obviously the complete answer does not lie in that direction. To rectify the situation by tackling it on that score alone, increases would have to be so substantial that they would be out of all proportion to what is economically possible.

The distance of Prince Rupert from main centres of population was mentioned conspicuously. This is a difficulty that is encountered in almost every line of employment and there is, of course, no immediate solution for it. As this part of the country continues to grow the problem will diminish accordingly. Meanwhile there remains the question of finding other ways to retain teachers so that they will begin to see the many pleasant aspects of life up here and come to accept Prince Rupert as their home.

This leads to a point brought up by several of the teachers questioned, which is that local students be encouraged as much as possible to enter the teaching profession. One way this might be done would be to increase the number of bursaries available to graduates who intend to take up teaching as a career. The future teachers' class at the high school is a comparatively new project which should also do much to promote interest in this particular vocation.

In addition, the teachers who were questioned made the pertinent observation that married couples tend to be more permanent than single persons. For this reason, it would be well to consider marriage as a deciding factor in cases where all other qualifications are approximately equal and there is a sufficient number of applications to do some picking and choosing.

In the long run, however, the real test depends on pleasant conditions of work within the schools and the attitude of the public towards those who have the vital responsibility of educating our children. The teaching profession is as exacting as it is essential and those who enter it are not persons who are looking for an easy course through life. It is a form of dedicated service which merits respect, and just so long as this is recognized the problem of retaining teachers will be that much less.

Varying Taxes

A income tax is not the kind of tax that can tolerate many distinctions among persons of the same income group. Yet look at the numerous ways in which the United States Congress has already made such distinctions:

A single person with a salary of \$100,000 a year pays a tax of \$65,928.

A single person with an income of \$100,000 a year from oil royalties pays a tax of \$42,829.

A single person with an income of \$100,000 a year from the sale of long-term investments held more than six months pays a total of \$25,000.

A single person with an annual income of \$100,000 a year from interest on state or municipal bonds pays no tax at all.

Only the salaried person pays the tax at the rate prescribed in the tax tables—65.9 per cent.

Scriptures

Love one another as I have loved you. John 15:12.
Some great ecclesiastical scholars are hard to follow. Christ was easily understood by the simple and uneducated. All we need do is follow His example.

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As I See It

By
Elmore
Philpot

King Coal Fights
THE most important fight in the big parliamentary battle over the natural gas pipeline hardly got a line of print. Barely a word was said about it by any member of Parliament. But behind the scenes, economic giants were in a real battle.

Old King Coal was fighting with his back to the wall to hold one of his richest preserves.

In simple, clear language, a main factor in the complicated international struggle over the Trans-Canada Pipeline has been the opposition of the American coal interests. They have been selling to Canada up to \$140,000,000 worth of coal per year.

Hence, they are pulling every possible string, both in Washington and in Ottawa, to try to retain this market. Their best hope of doing so is to block the application now before the Federal Power Commission at Washington to permit the purchase of 200 million cubic feet of gas per day at Emerson, Manitoba.

CANADA'S purchases of coal from the U.S.A. have long represented a main item in our adverse balance of trade with that country. To get the true picture of the serious trade deficit, we have to consider also the amount of new gold available. But, with the above qualification, Canada's net deficit in trade with the U.S.A. ranged as follows: year 1948—\$408 million; 1947—\$819 million; 1949—\$165 million; 1949—\$289 million; 1951—\$329 million; 1952—\$478 million; 1953—\$141 million; 1954—\$439 million; 1955—\$685 million.

The only year in the above period in which Canada had a surplus on trade account, less the new gold, available, was in 1950, when the credit side of the ledger showed \$83 million dollars in Canada's favor.

THOSE who believe in economic determinism may explain Premier Frost's strong support of the present pipeline plan on the ground that Ontario desperately needs the alternative source of power.

Economic facts may also explain the apparent contradiction in the line taken by federal CCF members, in the House of Commons at Ottawa, and the publicity release of the CCF provincial government in Saskatchewan.

Saskatchewan newspapers are carrying large display advertisements giving a twelve point platform of CCF promises. Point five says that during the next term of office the CCF will "Bring natural gas to all cities and intermediate towns and villages."

It would be impossible for the CCF, or any other government in Saskatchewan, to fulfill that promise unless the pipeline from Alberta were put through. Of course, it is well known that the experience in the U.S.A. has been that pipelines are built through "drilling" for new gas wells close to the mainline route are speeded up. The Dominion government's petroleum experts predict that the most promising field for future development of gas and oil in Canada is in the Williston Basin of Saskatchewan—development of which is bound to be assisted by the trans-Canada pipeline, now to be built.

And he has taken an interest in community affairs. Apparently a dedicated teacher and an all-round good citizen of above average ability.

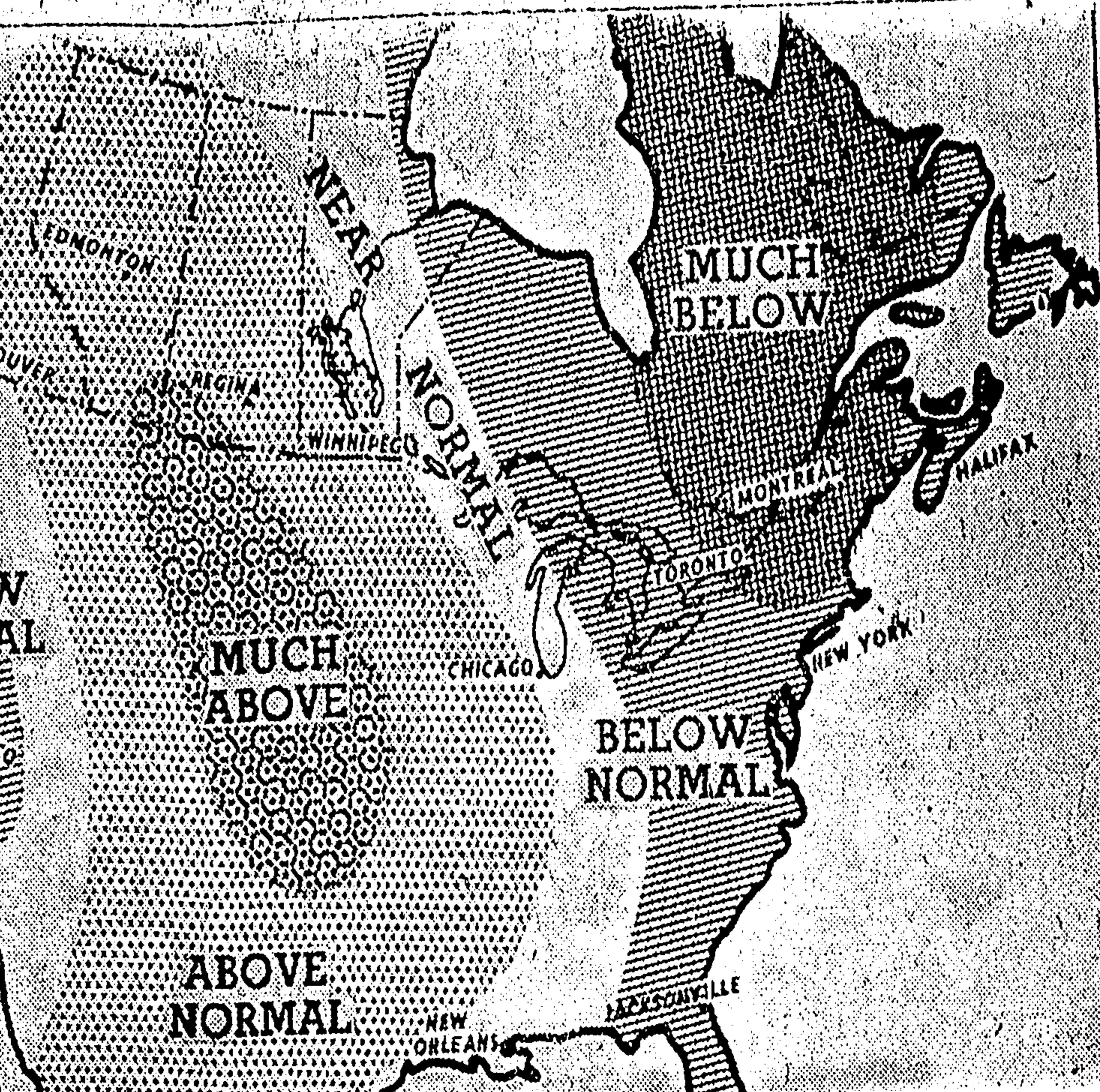
The decision to leave such a position could not be made lightly by a man with a family. Yet he is leaving, did with him, many of his staff. And it seems to be a matter of little interest.

"Will not continually, of knowledge of our children, carried by the few who have stayed be almost entirely lost this year?"

No matter how excellent the new staff it will take valuable time for them to get to know the students. Even if we are willing to write off the teachers, what of these students next year?

Any of us (parents, school board or inspector) who have contributed in any way to this situation may have done our children and Prince Rupert a great disservice.

CONCERNED PARENT



MOST OF EASTERN CANADA can expect temperatures below average normal readings for the season in the next 30 days, according to this map based on the long-range forecast of the United States weather bureau. Near-normal readings are expected in a narrow band running north west of Lake Superior, into the North West Territories and down along the Pacific Coast. Most of the Prairies can expect above-normal readings while much-above-normal temperatures are expected in small corners of Alberta and Saskatchewan. Above map courtesy Toronto Telegram. (CP Photo)

L LETTERBOX

LOSS WITHOUT COMMENT

The Editor.
The Daily News:

Is it ironic that, in Prince Rupert where it is so difficult to attract and hold teachers, even unqualified teachers, that the loss of so many high school teachers every year and even the principal and acting vice principal this year, should be accepted almost without comment?

We have geographical and climatic disadvantages for which we cannot be held responsible, but must we not accept responsibility for offering little compensation to those who do come and for being ungrateful to those who come and who stay for years and give us their best efforts which are by no means confined to a 40-hour week?

Take the case of the principal who has been here for six years. Because of the large annual turnover in staff he must have carried a larger than average administrative load. (There are schools of comparable size in B.C. where a teacher change or two or three is an event—but not an annual event.)

He has found time, nevertheless, to help many of our children when they have needed help. He has put forth efforts to maintain a reasonable level of extra-curricular activity (as a product of a school and an age when such interests were not available I'm glad to see them fostered here. Any time diverted from study was more than made up for by the intensity with which my child studied during "Pinafre".)

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Prince Rupert.

COMMANDS CPFR

The Editor.
The Daily News:

In defence of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation I wish to commend our local station for hanging on to one or two decent programs. It seems to me that since Ketchikan stations can be reached from here and if they cater to the preferences of people who call themselves "Short Hair," I must be a "Long Hair".

I prefer our announcers, our style of advertising and the comparative lack of it. I like at least some classical music, most symphonic and very little western music.

Please let's not lower our standards. Radio is the only entertainment for house-bound mothers and we should all be able to choose something to our liking somewhere on the dial. CPFR comes closest to my taste than soap operas and ho-hum.

CBC Listener,
Prince Rupert.

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All Aboard

By G. E. MORTIMORE

The hills are printed on a blue sky. Robins pull worms from the new grass. The air smells of green things.

People emerge from shops and houses to be carried away in a sweet current of life. A power which is older than the mountains and as new as a bud drives through every creature. It sends old gardeners planting seeds and young birds digging them up.

The spring magic induces a reckless young man to buy a \$3 watch for \$25 from a carnival smoothie, and present it to a girl.

It persuades tough little boys to hurry home to their mothers with bundles of daisies.

It rolls down convertible tops; brings out summer dresses, to the delight of every man under 95; sets in motion dusty golf clubs, lawn sprinklers and polishing cloths.

The spring makes grumpy folk say "Hello" to acquaintances they have been ignoring all winter.

Millions of people see the world as though for the first time.

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ELECTED SENATE

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