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Hope for Chronics in Sight

OF INTEREST to Prince Rupert and to British Columbia municipalities generally is the news that the Provincial Government will introduce a plan to provide BCHIS coverage for persons suffering from chronic ailments. Construction of a hospital to care for such patients is a matter that has been considered in the past by our hospital board but the question of meeting operating costs to run the establishment prevented the discussions from making much headway. So far chronic patients have been considered beyond the responsibility of BCHIS with the result that most of them are either public charges on the hospital or must receive whatever treatment they can at home. Just how big the problem is here cannot be immediately determined, for every chronic patient in hospital there are certainly several others being cared for by their families. In some cases they depend entirely on a single member of the family, usually their husband or wife whose death or prolonged absence from home for one reason or another would leave them helpless. This situation is one that provokes sympathy, not only for them but for those with the responsibility of caring for them. Until public help is made available, however, there is little that can be done. The problem of those already in hospital offers equal difficulties. Compassion for their case makes it hard to discharge them but meanwhile they are occupying bed space and receiving attention at full expense to the hospital which already is hard put to meet its costs and occasionally is pressed for space.

Since the government's plan will extend initially only to those communities having enough hospital space to care for chronic patients it is probable that Prince Rupert will not be in a position to benefit from it at first.

However, the program undoubtedly makes it more practical now to consider construction of a separate hospital or an addition to the present one which can handle these patients. Although the size of the problem is unknown, the need for something to be done is there beyond question. Having an illness without cure is grievous enough but when a person so afflicted is unsure whether he will receive the attention he needs, the situation becomes a tragedy.

Sloppy Language

IF NOTHING is done about them pretty soon, two solecisms which have crept into our language in recent years are going to be there to stay. One of these is almost the exclusive property of radio and television announcers. The other is committed, we are sorry to say, by some of the most eminent writers and speakers in the world.

The first is the inexcusable phrase, "At 9 a.m. tomorrow morning," or if the event referred to is in the evening, "At 10 p.m. last (or tomorrow) night." What do these announcers, and other misguided persons who use such sloppy phraseology, think a.m. and p.m. stand for? Why the redundancy?

But an even more common and erroneous phrase is one that goes like this "We must see if we can't [illegible] the [illegible] suffering [illegible]" or "The Big Four are meeting to see if they can't work out an agreement." In both sentences the word "can," of course, is meant, not "can't." This error is heard from the lips of aldermen and premiers alike.

We all know that the English language is a fluid medium, ever subject to change, and that some of our everyday expressions would be unintelligible to our grandfathers. But there will never be room in our mother tongue for solecisms like those quoted here.

—London Free Press.

Jurors Can Think

IT IS not our purpose to defend newspapers from charges of "emotion" reporting. But when judges or lawyers imply that it is virtually impossible to impress upon jurors the necessity of considering only the admissible evidence, then they are either admitting that the persuasive powers are at a low ebb or they are insulting the selective reasoning powers of a large group of citizens eligible for jury duty—and to whose sound, common and average intelligence they so frequently pay flowery tribute.

—Hamilton Spectator.

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As I See It

by Elmore Philpott

Osler's Funny Bone

IT IS NOT very often that anything on the CBC Wednesday night program appeals very much to me. Most of it is far too self-consciously "arty" for my homespun tastes. But occasionally I happen to tune in on something that really rings a bell in a big way.

A recent broadcast on the family life of the great Sir William Osler was one of the best things I ever heard on any radio in all my life.

The thing that got me about the family stories about this great Canadian father of modern medicine was his overflowing sense of fun. He had a super-developed funny bone.

The great man went through life doing all the great things that any great man must do really to be great, professionally. But he also went through life having one whale of a time with just about everybody he met. It was a rare day when the great physician did not play a practical joke on somebody. It was an even more rare day when he did not find many things to laugh about, and people to laugh with. He could laugh at himself too.

ARE CANADIANS getting too stuffy as the years go by? Compare our present crop of people in public life with the giants of a hundred years ago.

Can anybody imagine a leader of a Canadian political party of today going off with his best chum to the United States and putting on a man-and-bear act—with one of visiting Canadian statesmen actually performing in impromptu roadside shows inside the bearskin?

That is exactly what the great Sir John A. Macdonald did for relaxation about 100 years ago, about the time he was doing the great and serious job of putting through confederation in Canada.

THE GENERAL pattern of our Canadian life is too humdrum—too much the same.

One Canadian who does not follow the beaten mass-mind path is a humble but handsome section hand of the CPR.— Earl Scott Brown of China Bar, B.C.

I have never met this remarkable youngish man, except by mail. But I have had dozens of letters from "Just Brownie" as he always signs himself.

Brownie is a sort of one-man self-appointed lighthouse of world-wide goodwill. He carries on a correspondence with all sorts of people, and I doubt if anybody in Canada has more big names on his letter list.

Here are some of the people who have written Brownie letters in the past few years—Churchill, Eden, Eisenhower, James Clunie MP, author of "Labour Is My Faith," Sybil Bennett, MP, and Gordon Graydon MP (both now deceased), President Nasser of Egypt, and several potentates who live on the other side of the Iron Curtain—and a whole host of people of lesser fame.

BROWNIE is on my mailing list for several reasons. A great mass of printed material piles unto my desk every day, as I know it does to the desk of every other MP. Much of it goes straight into the waste baskets, because it would otherwise soon monopolize all the space in the office.

But often there are such nice printed booklets and expensive valuable things that it seems like a shame just to throw them away.

In our office we let them pile up, then we send them off to the CPR section hand at China Bar who lives alone with his dog.

Brownie is quite a teacher in his own right too and is the author of this little rhyme which seems to me pretty sharp truth:

When our leaders make a speech
Do they often try to reach
Deep within the heart of man
So that all may know the plan?

OTTAWA DIARY

By James R. Nelson

It's a well-advertised fact, to paraphrase Julius Caesar, that all Canadians are divided into three parts: French-, English-, and Irish-Canadians.

And when the Dean of the House of Commons, Rev. Dan. McIvor, the venerable member for Fort William, Ont., rises as he so rarely does these days, you can be sure that it's the Irish who will get the cream — the Irish, that is, whether they're really Irish or not.

First, the reverend Dan saluted the mover of the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne because he was "a fellow countryman, a young man who was born in the north of Ireland and travelled across the Atlantic and across this country as far as Edmonton, from where he was sent back here to serve Her Most Gracious Majesty and to tell her that we dearly loved her and are going to do what we can to help maintain Canada as a leading nation."

Then, Dan went on to congratulate the seconder. "While the hon. member for Gloucester (Mr. Robichaud) is not altogether an Irishman he nevertheless has the honest look of one," he said.

And while he couldn't be sure, he didn't miss the opportunity just in case there was some Irish blood in the veins of the teen-aged page boys. "I would like to welcome to this house a group of very important persons," he said, "eight new page boys."

And finally he got to "a young man, the hon. member for Quebec East (Mr. St. Laurent) whom we call the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister of Canada."

When the Prime Minister rose into the house sure sounded as the minister of Justice I understood he had a drop of Irish blood in him because his mother was Irish and I think he started out in the right way. He did not make a big splash at the beginning but later he blazed a trail that has brought credit to Canada.

"In the last few days I have been somewhat tickled to hear the way the Prime Minister has been able to answer with dignity those questions that are honest requests for information, and when he is asked questions by those who seek to put something over on him he certainly lets them have it from the shoulder.

"At those times his face becomes a little redder and although some call it righteous indignation, just say it's the Irish coming out in him.

"The speech from the throne is a splendid pre-election speech."

'Nuff said for the Irish.

Board Backs Telkwa Principal On Clothing

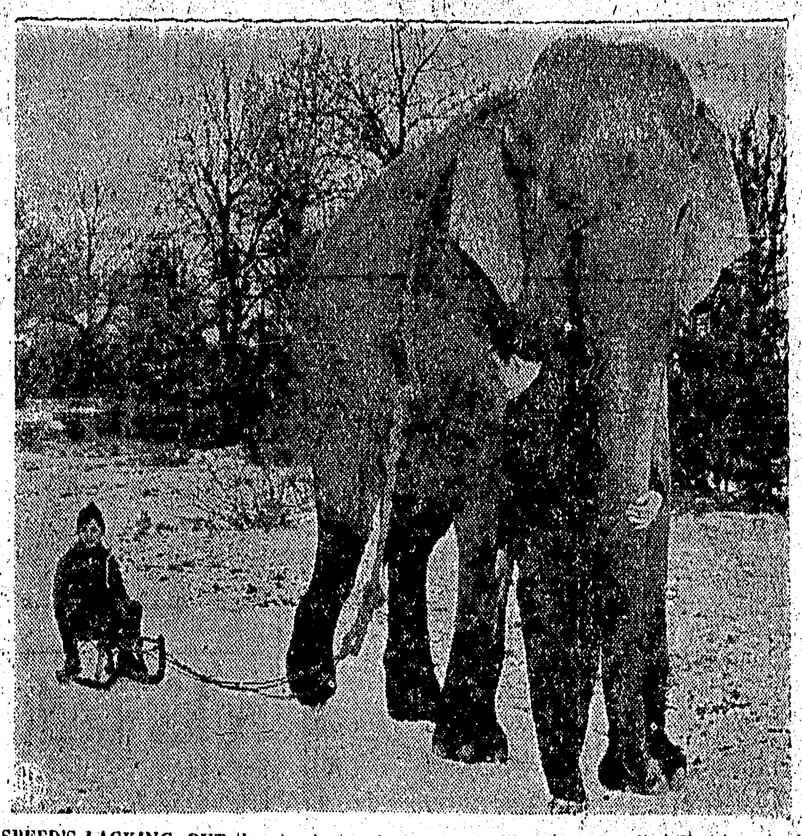
SMITHERS (C) — The school board here supports E. D. Flowers, principal of nearby Telkwa superior school, in ruling that girls in Grade 7 and above cannot wear slacks to class.

Harry Carnie, father of a 14-year-old pupil under suspension for the second time since November, has threatened court action against the ruling.

Alex Muheim, secretary of the Smithers school board, said Friday the board is not afraid of a court case.

He denied reports that the Carnie girl was locked in the library of the Telkwa school after appearing in class wearing slacks.

He said the board will not allow Mr. Carnie's daughter to return to school until it receives a written promise from him that she will conform with the school ruling. Meanwhile the girl has been studying at home.



SPEED'S LACKING, BUT there's plenty of power propelling young Walter Theisinger's sled in Hamburg, Germany. His unusual "reindeers" is Mennie, a 65-year-old elephant at the Hamburg Zoo. Since seven-year-old Walter's father is a keeper at the zoo, he gets to hitch his sled to Mennie when she takes her daily strolls.

All Aboard

By G. E. MORTIMORE

What is the answer to the riddle of the two generals?

Early in January, Associated Press reported that one of the two British generals who led the Suez campaign was being "compulsory retired" and the other had been pushed into the back room.

Not one word of confirmation or explanation has appeared since. Why?

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AP published a Daily Express story in which Gen. Sir Charles Keightley, commander-in-chief of the British-French forces in Egypt, was quoted as saying: "I have a job to do at the war office for a month and then they tell me I'm retired."

The general is 55—five years short of normal retirement age.

AP also carried a war office announcement that Lt.-Gen. Sir Hugh Stockwell, commander of ground forces in the Egyptian invasion, had been given a desk job in London—usually the closing stages of a general's active career.

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If these reports are true, what lies behind them? Are the two generals being quietly rapped on the knuckles for not running the campaign vigorously enough — or for running it too vigorously when they were told to go easy?

Or are they being made scapegoats for someone higher up?

It seems possible that if Britain and France had moved with sufficient strength and speed to command the whole length of the Suez canal instead of only half of it, they could have salvaged a lot more of their prestige when they withdrew.

They might even have prevented the canal being blocked, or made the blockage less serious.

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The suggestion has nothing to to with moral judgments on the Suez affair. Having decided upon their move, did Britain and France carry it out boldly enough? Could they have won the whole canal before UN resolutions and Russian threats lowered the boom?

It would be interesting to see a military analyst's reply to these questions

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Could it be that the generals made a botch of the campaign—by spending excessive energy on air attack or by moving too slowly on the ground—and that they have been rebuked for their failure?

SHEEP TO RUSSIA

Russia purchased 200 pedigreed sheep from the United Kingdom in 1956, first big livestock purchase in eight years.

Construction Group Queries Canada's Credit Restrictions

TORONTO (C)—Canada's credit restrictions were questioned today at the annual meeting of the Canadian Construction Association.

Addressing the opening session of the association's three-day annual meeting, Allan Turner Bone of Montreal, association president, said:

"What disturbs me most is that the credit restrictions seem to be directed principally against construction, yet to my way of thinking so much of the construction program is so vital to the growth of our country and to the welfare of its people that these projects should be the last to be subjected to them. A dollar spent on construction will always represent a dollar increase in the national wealth and there are few businesses of which that can be said."

RECORD YEAR

Mr. Bone noted that a record total of 135,000 houses and apartments were built during 1956.

"The year 1956 also saw the completion of the one-millionth dwelling constructed in Canada since the end of the Second Great War."

Mr. Bone said the task of carrying out the 1956 construction program—estimated at more than $6,000,000,000—was not easy but, barring any major upsets, there would probably be an increase of five to 10 per cent this year.

Higher volume, however, depended on further increases in the supply of materials, machinery, manpower and financing.

A REPORT THAT Senator Joseph J. Duffus of Peterborough, Ont., has not attended the last two sessions of Parliament has been referred to a Senate committee for study. This is the first step in declaring his Senate seat vacant. The 80-year-old Liberal, shown in this photo taken three years ago, has been in and out of hospitals for the last 2½ years. He now is in hospital at Peterborough where he is reported suffering from a heart ailment. (CP Photo).

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New Books At Library

New books presently available at the Prince Rupert public Library in the Civic Centre include the following, librarian Miss May Macdonald said today.

"The Deepening Stream" by Dorothy Canfield and "U-Boat Killer" by Donald Macintyre.

Library hours are Monday 2 to 8 p.m.; Tuesday 1 to 6 p.m.; Wednesday Closed all day; Thursday 2 to 8 p.m.; Friday 1 to 6 p.m.; Saturday 2 to 8

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REGULATIONS — LOAD LIMIT
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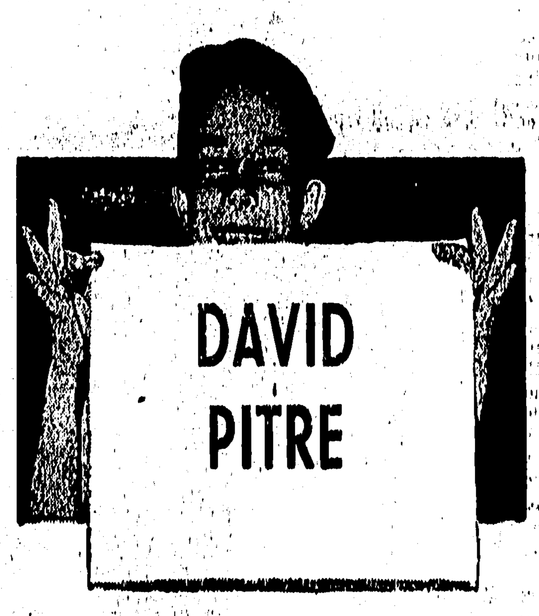
The undersigned, being a person authorized by the Minister of Highways, in writing, to exercise the powers vested in the said Minister in Part IV of the "Highway Act," hereby makes the following regulation pursuant to Section No. 62 of the "Highway Act," effective from 12:01 A.M. Wednesday, January 16, 1957, until further notice.

No person shall operate any vehicle having a maximum gross weight in excess of twelve tons (24,000 lbs.) over the Copper River Suspension Bridge, six miles east of Terrace on Highway No. 102 Terrace-Pacific, part of the Northern Trans-Provincial Highway No. 16.

Dated at Prince Rupert, British Columbia, this 15th day of January, 1957.

H. J. KELSALL,
District Engineer.
(17)

KNOW YOUR PAPER BOY



DAVID PITRE

He brings the world to your doorstep!

David was born in Transcona, Manitoba in 1946, making him 10 years of age. He came to Prince Rupert with his parents 4 years ago. A Daily News carrier for 3 months, David's delivery area is from the intersection of 1st, 2nd and 3rd Avenues to Eleventh Street, and includes Park Avenue, Second Avenue, Water Street and Beach Place.

If you need him, please telephone 2835.

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