President

J. R. AYRES .Editor

G. P. WOODSIDE General Manager



thorized as second class mail by the Post Office Department; Ottows

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1958

Missing an opportunity

THE nine premiers of Canada invited by British Columbia to attend centennial celebrations officially in the form of a "premiers' week" are no doubt busy men, preoccupied with their own provinces and the complexities on political and economic fronts. In any event to a man they have now sent their "regrets" at being unable to pay'a visit to British Columbia for the oceasion. That result, in view of the pressures of public office, may be understandable but it also is to be regretted. Canada needs initiative in the art of getting together on a person-toperson basis, and there is no sphere in which this is more desirable than in the concept of an united people.

A century ago when British Columhia as an impoverished infant colony

on the western flank of the vast continent joined Confederation it took its courage and faith in its hands. It heard much about its "sea of mountains," its impregnable passes, the wilderness and rocky desolation. Today, British Columbia does not have to defend itself from the misconceptions of long ago. It has proved up in the physical, social, economic and other facets of national life in a manner far beyond the highest expectations of the sturdy pioneers. But still there seems to be some degree of impregnability about the Rocky Mountains, although planes cross them day and night in a matterof minutes. The effect today may be psychological and not physical, but it is certainly to be regretted. B.C.'s centenary should be all Canada's pride.— The Victoria Colonist.

Old age pensioners penalized

MHY, asks a Live Letter writer, should members of Parliament be allowed to receive their pension of \$3,000 a year no matter how long they remain out of the country, or even if they leave it permanently, while old age pensioners must remain in Canada in order to receive their pension of \$660 a year?

It's a good question.

An old age pensioner is allowed to spend six months in any calendar year outside Canada without losing the pension. Let him exceed this limit and he forfeits six months' pension and the pension for every additional month that he remains out of the country until he returns. This applies no matter how long he has resided in Canada; no matter how much he has contributed through taxes; no matter if health or family reasons require him to leave. * No such restrictions apply to the MP

who has been elected three times and paid the contribution of \$240 a year up to a maximum of \$4,000. For such MPs, the pension of \$3,000 goes on for life whether or not they chose to reside in Canada.

When Arthur Maloney (PC, Parkdale) brought up this question of the residential restriction on old age pensioners last November, Health Minister Monteith stated in the House that the Government might allow pensioners to leave Canada permanently without forfeit. He referred specifically to pensioners who had lived a large part of their working lives in Canada and who wished to leave for health or compassionate reasons.

Nothing further has been heard on this subject. Since this vitally concerns many pensioners, it is to be hoped that the Government has the matter under consideration. — The Toronto Telegram.

That fine balance

THE Defence Department reorganization bill, passed by Congress after frequently stormy hearings, represents a big step forward even though President Eisenhower did not attain all that he sought.

What is being sought now is a military establishment so modern, so powerful and so efficient that no aggressor will be foolish enough to take the steps that would lead to the holocaust of atomic war. If the provisions of the new bill are wisely used, President Eisenhower and Secretary of Defence McElroy should be able to pursue this goal with less of the waste and service bickering that have for so long distressed the citizen...

The Eisenhower reform program should do much to maintain that fine balance between executive and legislative authority which is essential if our armed forces are to devleop the efficient professionalism — without Prussianism—that is needed today. Civilian responsibility and the means of swiftly delineating it have been made quite plain. It should no longer be so difficult to fit new weapons into the service structures that have been so rigid. The armed forces and the nation should now be much better able to obtain maximum results from defence dollars.

-St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

INTERPRETING THE NEWS

Eisenhower risks war rather than lose face

By JOSEPH Macsween

President Eisenhower by his blunt warning to Red China, has risked war rather than lose face in Asia.

It's apparent that Elsonhower and Secretary of State John Foster Dulles believe compromise with the Red Chinese now would be disastrous to United States prestige in the For Wast and Southeast Asia.

If the Red Chinese were morely making a probing action in their bombardment of Quemay hind other offshore islands, they now have their wanswor.

If they seriously plan to take Quemoy and the Mataus as a proluced to action against Formona, it seems definite they will have to fight U.S. forces.

It is generally believed the forces of Chlang Kal-shek would be unable to hold the islands against a determined attack from the mainland. Some observers have said-porhaps cyntently-that Chiang's aim all along has been to entangle the Red Chinese and Amercians in conflict to open the way for his reconquent of the mainland.

Islaenhower's words pointed up another fact: The Red Chinese have been unable to excite n world crisis at the price of artillery shells and a few gunboats while making ominous

Canadian Press Staff Writer threats but committing themselves to nothing

Perhaps they hoped for easy gains, as in 1955 when Chiang's forces evacuated the Tachen Islands at the urging of the U.S. after a bombardment.

The timing of the current action can be no accident, especially in view of the strategy meeting held in Polping early in August betwoon Russia's Nikita Khruschov and Rod Chinn's Mao Tso-tung. As pressure eased in the Middle East, the Communist chiefs mapped new tensions in the Far East.

Timing appears all important in view of the Sopt, 16 opening of the United Nations General Assembly. Mae has long hungered for the UN seat held by his rival Chiang.

No one predicts that mere possession of

Quemoy or the other islands would decide the ignue of admitting Red China to the U.N. But observers believe Red China and Russia would welcome a UN debate that might dwell on the weakness of Formosa and the strength of the maininnd Chinese with their population of 600,000,000 and growing industrial power. Questions would be asked us to what will

happen when Chiang, now 71, passes from

We have long suspected that Canadians are the fat boys of the world. Now two doctors confirm the theory. So it must

be true. The doctors examined 100 top athletes taking part in a training program in Toronto and reported them carrying excess weight.

They also examined the Canadian team at the Empire Games in Cardiff, and compared them with the athletes of other countries.

The doctors brought in a tactful report which in blunt terms, meant that our boys were too plump, jowly and short in the wind. On the average, they were fatter than anybody else, be-

cause they ate too much and trained too little. If the athletes are flabby,

what can the rest of the popu-

lace be like? What encouragement is there for non-athletes to resist that second helping of mashed potatoes, when our track and field men are lining their

stomachs so lavishly? The misery gang has been telling us for years how spoiled and decadent we are.

We may actually be eating. our way toward the fate of Rome—sliding to destruction down a steep, greasy slope of southern fried chicken, pies a la mode and chocolate sundaes. Unless we can persuade those wicked financiers to put an end to the prosperity that threatens to smother us in our own lard, we will soon be too obese to fight.

We won't have enough breath to reach for the firingbuttons and press them.

"Army" money goes to cause not individual

There are folks, well-meaning people on the whole, who entertain—even in this day of social enlightenment—some queer views as to the nature of the work done by The Salvation Army, as well as its personnel. For example, one good lady who had never travelled far from the place in which she was born, thought that Army soldiers, both men and women, all lived together in places known as "barracks". A police constable, whose uniform is provided by the tax-payers, thought that the neat-dark-blue clothing of the Salvation Army officers, caps and bonnets also, was supplied from Army funds. He was surprised to learn that although the Army has its own tailoring departments, Salvationists have to pay full price for their uniforms, which usually are of the best quality obtainable. Incidentally, their practical founder and first general, William Booth, insisted from the start that, poor though many of the early Salvationists were, they should wear the best kind of cloth, as it was lasting and economical in the long run.

Then some people hold to the notion that Army musicians are well paid for their efforts, perhaps being misled by the fact that musicians' unions insist on this for their own

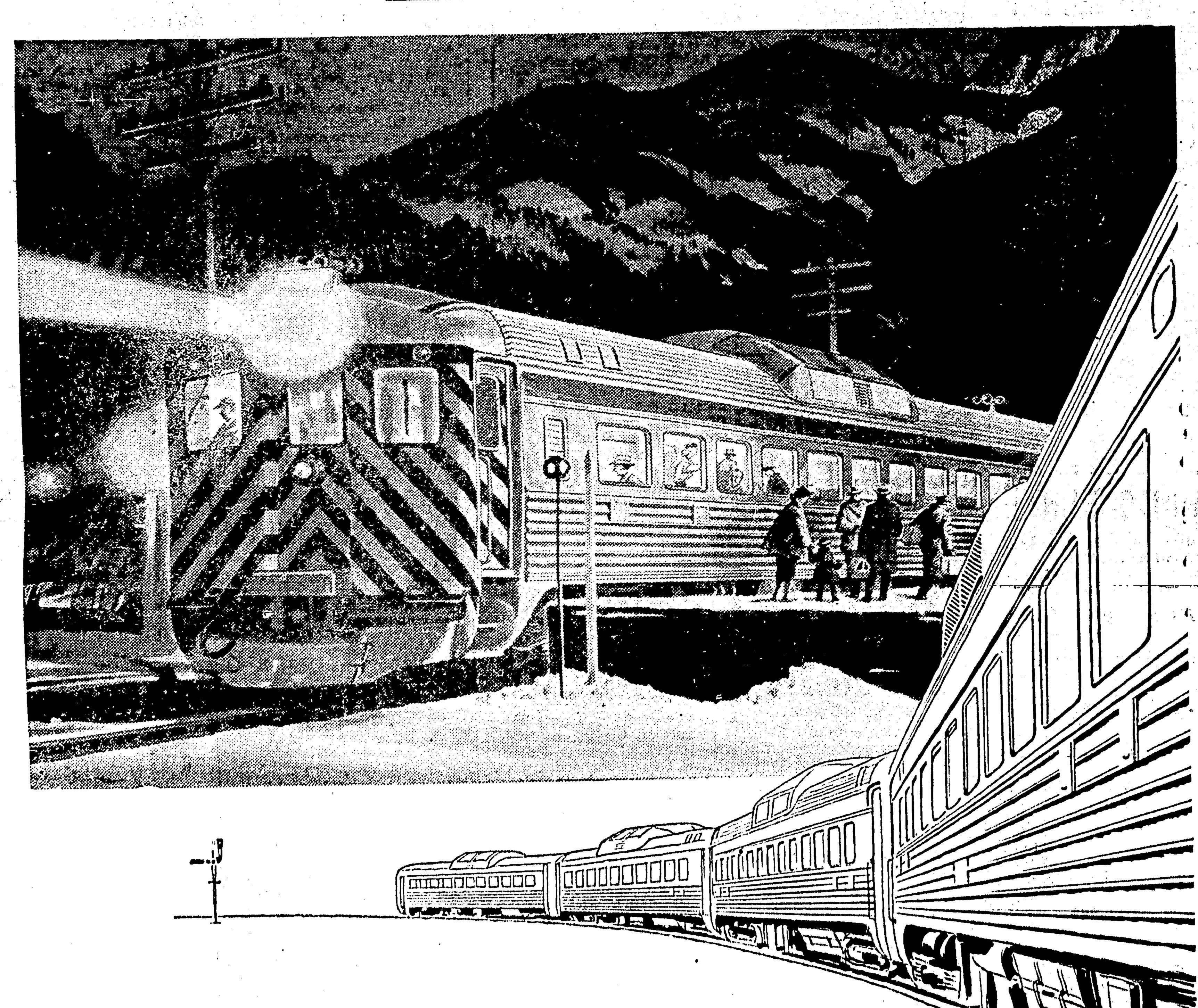
men. It may come as a surprise to many that more than a hundred thousand senior and junior bandsmen around the world give their services voluntarily, as is also the case with as many singers and other workers. Only they officers, who spend their full time in the work, are paid a bare living salary, according to the standard of the country in which they live. These men and women as leaders die, obviously not interested in money, apart from the good it may do.

So, next Monday night, September 15, when an Army representative calls at your door for ... a donation, remember it goes almost wholly to the work of the cause and not to the individual. Economically, this movement stands as one of the highset and most efficient in

In New York, the Olivetti folks have set up" one of their typewriters outside their Fifth Avenue office so the curious may test a mazin chine without the bother of stepping inside. Passers-by are invited to bang away, and one of the more invigorating messages left on paper by the hunt-'n'-peck brigade was: "Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of Trudi Gravers, PLaza 6-6348."

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