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Correcting a Mistake

BRITISH COLUMBIA's relation with the mining industry will need considerable repair work as a result of hostile reaction to the mining law changes resulting from Bills 87 and 91 passed at the last session of the Legislature.

The government apparently was aiming at two objectives. It wanted to "activate" mineral ground by getting away with Crown Grants (or absolute title tenures) and forcing development to proceed at pain of losing the property; and it sought to put an end to the export of iron ore from British Columbia.

In themselves, these purposes were the sort of thing voters would approve. The government probably would lose no popular votes as a result of it.

But the mining industry is not actuated by political reactions. It frankly doesn't like the new legislation and at least some of the companies that have been pouring risk capital into British Columbia are discontinuing. They explain that some attractive opportunities are being offered them elsewhere and the time seems right to do less in B.C., more in some other fields.

Part of the tact of such companies could be explained by the fact they may wish to do business in this province and with this government again.

Complaint of the mining companies is that the tenure system does not warrant huge expenditure to be made without more certainty of title. They don't like the idea of being ticked off the list of mining ground holders if some civil servant decides they aren't doing their jobs right. Particularly, they are alarmed by the newly-taken right of the Provincial government to levy a confiscatory 10 per cent on ore reserves.

The 10 per cent tax, incidentally, was designed to force changes in the iron ore industry in B.C.—perhaps to get some properties held on the basis of old titles back into government hands. Because the government reckoned it could not pass a law applying only to one metal, it made the taxation right applicable, if it desired, to all kinds of metallic mineral properties. That was what hit the gold, silver, lead, zinc, copper and other metal prospectors and developers squarely between the eyes.

B.C. had boasted of its Crown Grant system so long as the best in the world that the new law had never been dreamed of as a possibility.

The government is much concerned about the savage criticism of the weekly newspaper, the Northern Miner, bible of the mining industry in Canada, and is making conciliatory noises and accompanying them with reforms. This it should certainly do. North Central British Columbia needs mining developments. If we drive out the few remaining prospectors and syndicates, it will be a long time before they come back.

—Kitimat Northern Sentinel.

LUCKY ESCAPE

DONALD ALA, 60—Samuel Todd was carrying two pails of milk on his farm when lightning struck. The bolt killed a pig a few feet from him and knocked both pails from his hands. He was unhurt.

SECOND CHANCE

DESERONTO, Ont., 60—This phantom that smashed through the window glass at an Indian day school here was plucked up and freed by the teacher. It flew away next day, apparently none the worse.



FREEDOM FROM FEAR—Five years after a similar action nearly cost him his life behind the Iron Curtain, Dieter Meyer, 40, writes the letter "F" for "freedom," the German word for freedom, on a shipment of tools in the plant where he works at Aurora, Ill. The equipment, which also bears the inscription "Made by free men," is bound for the U.S. exhibit at the Industrial fair in Poznan, Poland, centre of last year's Polish uprising to break away from Russian domination. In 1953 Meyer painted the letter "F" on walls in Szczecin, Poland, to protest against a death sentence imposed on a friend, then fled to West Germany to escape Communist police. He came to B.C. in 1956 and now works as an engineer in the Thor Power Tool Co. plant.

As I See It

by

Elmore Philpott

• Ouch - Dr. Gallup

LIBERALS can at least console themselves with the knowledge that the licking the Tories gave them was nothing as compared with the licking inflicted on Dr. Gallup's disciples here in Canada.

Just as peppery little Harry Truman wiped the ground with Dr. Gallup and Co. in 1948 in the U.S.A., so John Diefenbaker's well-known footmarks have been planted full in the face of the polisters here in Canada.

ALL ABOARD

By G. E. MORTIMORE

Export election forecasts, reprinted by request:

Time magazine: "The likely Liberal prospect: a drop to somewhere between 143 and 150. The Tories . . . might win as many as 89, seem more likely to get between 70 and 77. The Social Crediters may well add four or five seats. Any CCF changes will be down."

Paul W. Fox in Canadian Commentator: "The betting on Parliament Hill is that . . . no party will gain or lose more than 12 seats . . . This estimate seems about right. The mood of the country does not indicate that there is any overwhelming sentiment for change."

Saturday Night magazine (forecast wisely hedged by "ifs" and "buts"): Liberals 155, Conservatives 72, CCF 17, others 21.

Public opinion poll: Liberals 48 per cent of the vote. Conservatives 34. The Liberals will win at Gallup.

That must have been the Cuban election they were talking about.

In Latin American countries, it's much easier to be a political expert than it is here. All you do is count your cartridges, add the total to the number of pesos in the treasury, and there is the result of the election, to a fraction of a voter.

In Russia, the forecasting trade is a cinch, because all the elections come out (roughly) Communists 100 per cent, others 0.

But in Canada, Great Britain and other such untidy countries, expecting is a headache business. We voters are to blame. With Time magazine to inform us of the result in advance, we need never go to the polls at all. Are we grateful for this labor-saving device? No.

Stubbornly we trudge down to the polls and mark our X's by hand. What a backward group we are.

Looking... Back

20 Years Ago

Members of the Prince Rupert Operatic Society, returning home yesterday from Ocean Falls where they gave two presentations of the musical comedy "H.M.S. Puffinsoo," reported having "highly-satisfactory and enjoyable trip. Both shows drew packed audiences and appreciation seemed to be general.

Mr. and Mrs. James McNulty left California recently for England. Mr. and Mrs. Bazett-Jones, who were visiting their son Sidney in Hollywood, were on hand to see them off at the boat. Sir, you will remember, is now with Columbia Pictures.

'30 Years Ago

LONDON, June 15.—The odds that in a game of bridge each player will receive an entire suit on the deal are 2,000 billion billions to one against. But this miracle happened recently in a game at the Cavendish Hotel, Bedford.

'40 Years Ago

Word has been received in town from George Hile, who used to be ranching in the Lakeside Valley and later took up a promotion up the line about ten miles from Prince Rupert. He left here with the 102nd and is still in the firing line. He is now in the 4th company of the 8th Battalion, C.R.T.

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PRIME MINISTER St. Laurent talks with reporters in Ottawa after returning from Quebec where he went for election day. He told reporters that he will await the results of the soldiers' vote before making any announcement as to when he will turn the reins of government over to the Progressive Conservative leader, John Diefenbaker. (CP Photo)



JOHN DIEFENBAKER and his wife take time out from celebrating the Progressive Conservative election victory to visit Mr. Dieffenbaker's 83-year-old mother in a Saskatoon hospital. The National party leader later left for Ottawa for a conference with Prime Minister St. Laurent. The PCs won 111 seats to 103 for the Liberals. (CP Photo)

BISHOP SAYS OTHERS SEEKING CLAIM TO SUNDAY CONCESSIONS

VANCOUVER 6—Right Rev. G. P. Gower attacked commercial interests for augmenting their income through Sunday sports in his bishop's charge to the synod of the Anglican Diocese of New Westminster this week.

He made no reference to any particular group but warned 300 clergy and lay delegates that others wish to claim similar concessions on Sundays.

"All we ask is that so-called Christian community should pay as much attention to the worship of God as it does to the worship of itself," he said. "Sunday should be free of money-gathering and profit-making."

Earlier in his charge, Bishop Gower said: "It should be remembered in every age when

It is a pity the great leaders of Canada remained silent, he said.

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"New Heart" Girl Seeks Active Future

VANCOUVER 6—Fay Block, 14-year-old girl with a new heart, will have to be quiet for a few weeks, but she looks forward to an active future.

Following a successful surgical operation at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., to close a hole in her heart wall, the high school student said she expected to lead a vigorous, normal life.

"Right now I want to learn how to live," she said. "My secret ambition, though, is to some day own a horse and enter riding and jumping competitions."

There will be outdoor activities next fall and winter such as hiking, skating, skiing, school games and just walking with her sister, Lee, who is 13.

The heart defect had been with Fay since birth and from age nine she has been restricted in all her activities.

She said she did not realize the seriousness of the operation until she saw the worried looks on her parents' faces as her bed was being pushed along to the operating room.

For three days there were anxious moments. Then Fay showed rapid improvement and the happy family soon motored back to Vancouver.

"My favorite courses are art and English," she said, "but I really want to become a dress designer."

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UPSETS GARSON — Nicholas Mandziuk, 54-year-old Progressive Conservative candidate, defeated Justice Minister Garson in Marquette riding in the federal election.



DOUGLAS JUNG, Progressive Conservative candidate in Vancouver Centre, is the first Canadian of Chinese extraction to be elected a member of Parliament. He defeated Defence Minister Campiney in the federal election.

ATTENTION
All Canadian Legion Members

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