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Downtown layout partly to blame for riot

I was a tragic and saddening thing that Prince Rupert's big centennial day, organized so well and carried out with so much enjoyment for all, had to end in violence and disgrace.

The contrast between the earlier events of the day—the parade with its original floats, the exciting races down at the harbor, the proud opening of our new museum, the climax of the fireworks display—and the mob upfoar that exploded that night is almost to sickening to contemplate.

Yet it happened and Prince Rupert in its shame, must face it.

Why did it happen? Some will try accuse the police of provoking grouble. Whenever a scapegoat has to be found, it is often easiest to point to those charged with maintaining law and order.

In this case, however, it will be hard to back up the accusation. There is reason to believe that the police anticipated trouble on such a crowded day for Prince Rupert and resolved to handle trouble with all the diplomacy that their firm duty allowed.

Until matters got out of hand, this resolve was well executed. Anyone passing through the trouble-centre earlier in the day could have observed at least one or two potentially dangerous gatherings that were dispersed without incident. All signs indicate that the police used tact until it was no longer heeded and rougher measures had to be applied.

Another answer might be that the festive spirit of the day simply kindled a mass urge to start something, no matter what. Undoubtedly it did. It was obvious that many of those on the scene were there for what they considered a good time. There was no dominant evidence of anger or hostility. Some of those observed throwing rocks were openly enjoying themselves with an idiotic enthusiasm—and some of them, incidentally, were normally well-behaved youngsters who were imaccountably transformed that night from Jekyll to Hyde.

In this respect the Centennial Riot, as it may be called, was markedly different from the outbreak five years ago. Then there was a distinct air of menace in the crowd. Something hitter and ugly was apparent, which a few trouble - makers managed to soment into violence.

If the fracas was due mainly to a inoronic sense of fun—though assuredly there must have been something else to help spark the outbreak—the fluestion that arises is why cannot Prince Rupert enjoy itself without also making a spectacle of itself?

The answer to that has many parts,

but let's not overlook the most obvious one just because it stares us in the face. When a big crowd comes into Prince Rupert for a lively weekend, it looks for most of its amusement within about two city blocks. The racial origin of that crowd makes no difference. White or Native, it would be the same —and it is pertinent to point out here that the complexion of those who seemed to be getting the most kick out of things Saturday night was predominantly white.

Moreover those two blocks or so are directly adjacent to that part of town where local residents are apt to spend their time during an evening

For trouble, the set-up is perfect. When excitement breaks out in the congested area, those farther along the street with nothing better to do are right on the spot to see what is going on. Soon there is a double-headed mass gathering, with the funny boys dashing between camps to keep things perking.

Aggravating the trouble further is the lack of accommodation for outsiders. Many of those in Saturday's affair looked as if they were prepared to stay on the streets all night because there was nowhere else to go. That being the case, they may have thought, why not have some fun out of it?

Unfortunately this analysis of Prince Rupert's dilemma does not suggest any quick remedy. The layout of the downtown area will remain as is, at least for a considerable time, and the crowds will continue to come.

However, certain measures are possible. ronce headquarters should not be right at the spot where these disturbances are at their worst. It is inviting trouble to have to drag prisoners through the middle of the crowd. With a less conspicuous base of operations, the police could work far more effectively.

The city hall and police headquarters should be separate. Both represent discipline and administration and together form an obvious target for mischief-makers.

But the complete preventive measure lies somewhere deep in public education and determination. Right now there must be hundreds throughout the province who, having heard the news of our trouble, are saying, "What a place Prince Rupert must be!" If we could resolve that through the years we were going to get them to insert the adjective "great" or "progressive" or something of the sort in there, we would be on the way to correcting ourselves as well as our critics.

INTERPRETING THE NEWS

U.S. wants UN guarantee on Mideast BY GEORGE KITCHEN

An outline of what the United States hopes to achieve at a Middle East Summit conference Is beginning to emerge from the pre-conference manoeuvering and bargaining going on between Washington and Moscow.

What the U.S. will be looking for is some. sort of United Nations guarantee, either through neutralization of the states concerned or a far more extensive observer curps, that would counter the threat of indirect aggression.

This, of course will be the American counter-move to the Soviet charge that the United States, through the landing of its marines in Lebanon, has been guilty of direct aggression.

MANKING IT STICK

From the outset, Washington has dragged His foot on the question of whother or not to attend a summit conference because of a four that Russia would use it as a propaganda vehicle to brand the United States infore the moutral world as an aggressor.

That four adill exists but Prasident Wisen-Hower and State Secretary Dulles now emparantly fool they have a sufficiently decumented anno to hurl back at Khrunchov the counterchurgo that Russia has been guilty of indirect

Canadian Press Staff Writer aggression—and perhaps make it stick.

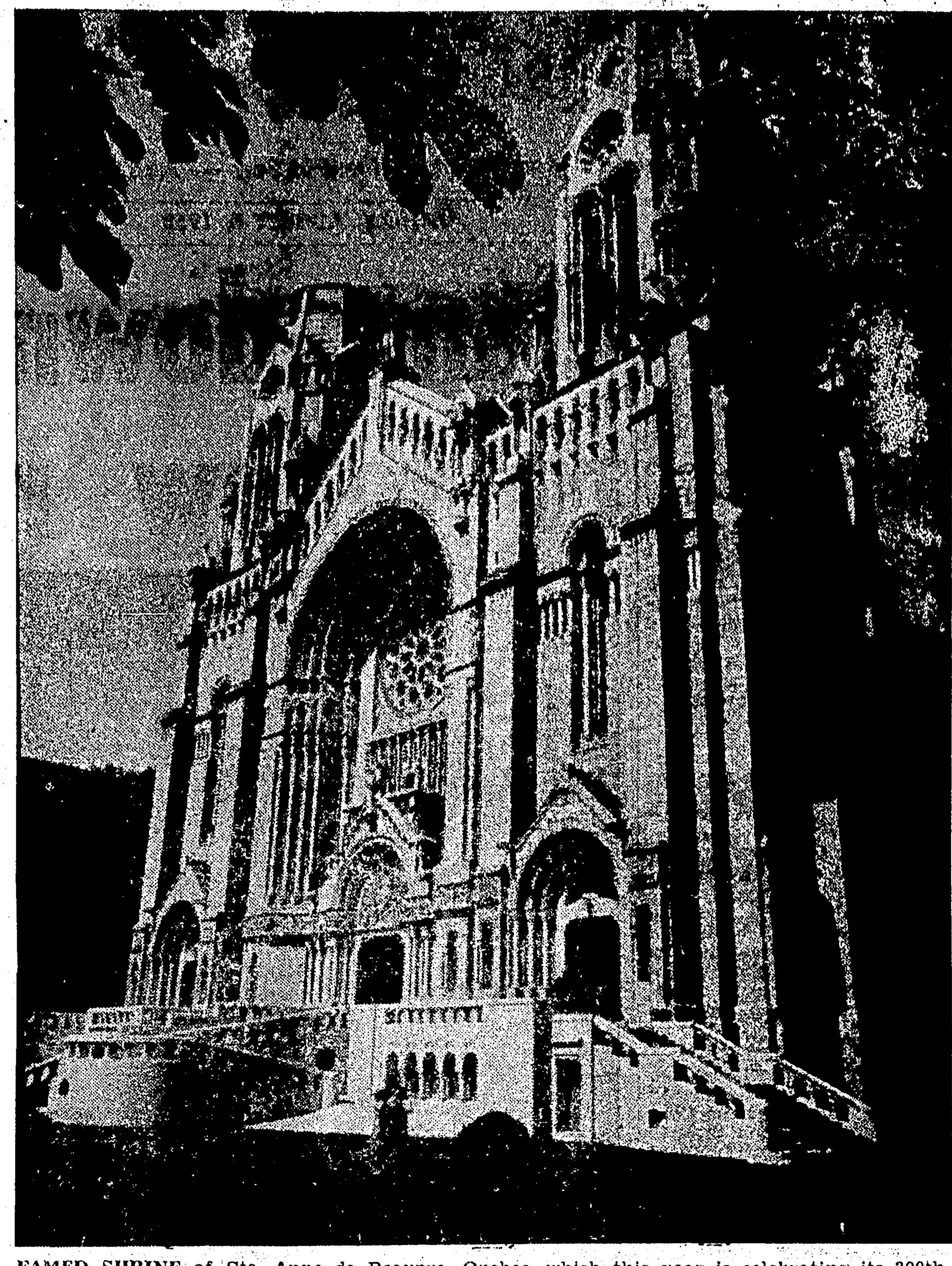
Elsenhower put his finger on the nub of the American case Friday when, in his latest communication to Khruschev, he wrote:

"The problem of the Middle East is not one of a threat of aggression by the United States but rather the threat, by others, of further indirect aggression against independont states."

multer Plan Elsenhower did not spell out what nation or nations he meant in using the words "by others" but the point will not be missed in

Dulles developed the American case in more detail at his press conference Thursday. He indicated the U.S. feels the question of provonling indirect aggression must be settled butare the issue of a general settlement of Middle East problems can be taken up.

Among possible solutions to the problem, he mentioned formation of a standing UN group Wat could go to "any place that felt ithelf endangered by indirect aggregaten" and the establishment of a UN agency to monitor Middle Bast radio breadcasts and report on those fomonting civil strife from outside the country involved.



FAMED SHRINE of Ste. Anne de Beaupre, Quebec, which this year is celebrating its 300th anniversary, is shown sparkling in sunshine.

Al Aboard By G.E. Morlimore

Recently I saw in a twoyear-old copy of the magazine. Paris Match an advertisement for a brand of beer that is said to contain "mineral elements" like phosphorus, calcium, potassium, etc., which build up; the flesh and bone of your; (growing) children ..."

What a hideous clamor would arise if any such advertisement were printed in a British Columbia newspaper or magazine. The liquor control board would take a sour view of any brewer who touted his product as a tonic for children. Our narrow Canadian puritanism deprive s children of a drink which is seething with vitamins, proteins and minerals.

For years we have been told that because Frenchmen are raised on alcohol, and learn at the age of three to hold their cognac like gentlemen, they form temperate habits. They regard booze as a be-

loved but quick-tempered old nanny whose only foible is a tendency to belt people in the kidneys with her dear old fists; if they don't behave. Anyway,

that is the idea that has been spread around.

But the cherished image of moderate-drinking Frenchmen went out the window with the announcement a couple of years ago that France has one of the highest rates of alcoholism in the world.

There is no proof of any connection between alcoholism and the practise of supplying wine to children. It is possible that the rate of alcoholism would be even higher if French infants were teetotal.

Interdiction might even drive the kiddies into the arms of

On the other hand, there may be a link between juvenile wine-bibbing and the percentage of goof-hounds in the adult population. Maybe drinking beer does

build up the flesh and bones of children--but turns them into lushes at the same time. "Drink all your nice ale, Johnny, so that you will grow up to be a big, strong, healthy, skidroad bum."

A task for man

To be honest, to be kind—to earn a little and to spend alittle less, to make upon the whole a family happier for his presence, to renounce when that shall be necessary and not be embittered, to keep a few friends but these without capitulation -above all, on the same grim condition to keep friends with himself-here is a task for all that a man has of fortitude and



FLORAL MADDONA.---Making a Inst-minute check of his handiwork, an artist examines a portion of the manimoth floral curpet that's laid in the streets of Genzano, Italy, in a trad-Hond coromony each year. More than eight tons of flowers are used in fashioning the lovely mosale that winds for half a mile through the city's streets. This portion of the "petalpavement" depicts the Madonna and Child.

The greatest and noblest in pleasure which men can have in this world is to discover new truths; and the next is to shake off old prejudices. . - Frederick the Great.

NOBLEST.

Revolutionary step

From The Edmonton Journal Government to the industrial- anese did not do their own inists of the nation to cease the venting and designing. piracy of foreign designs is

truly a revoluntionary step. For many years the Japanese have been the world's most. persistent— and cleverest imitators of foreign products; so clever, in fact, that many

The appeal of the Japanese have wondered why the Jap-

In many lines, cameras for example, the Japanese have produced almost exact dupling cates of other nations, products and sold them far cheaper. Now the Japanese have started to do their own cam-

era designing.



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