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Disaster At Springhill

The hearts of all our people will go out in sympathy to the families of the 150 miners dead or missing in the disaster which occurred yesterday at the Cumberland Railway and Coal Company's No. 2 mine in Springhill.

This tragedy is a reminder of the hazardous nature of mining operations in our sister province, and of the hard life generally which coal miners are obliged to lead.

Reds Calling The Tune

There is a supreme irony in the Chinese Communists' resumption of the shelling of the Nationalist-held Quemoy Islands, writes Walter Briggs, the New York Herald Tribune correspondent in Formosa.

The Communists have shown that they can turn tension on and off like a water tap at times calculated to enhance their political and military advantage.

Why did the Communists resume the shelling? Perhaps it was staged as a welcome to Secretary Dulles as he reached Formosa. Or as a broad hint that a renewed cease-fire would cost him something.

The basic trouble with American policy in China, of course, is that it confuses two quite different issues: the status of the offshore islands and the status of Formosa.

Military Controversies

The memoirs of Field Marshal Lord Montgomery of Alamein make interesting reading. This, of course, is not at all surprising.

It is open to question, however, whether the distinguished soldier's criticisms of Generals Eisenhower and Auchinleck are of much value at the present time.

reopen old controversies that are much better closed.

For example, Lord Montgomery says that if his "plan" instead of Eisenhower's, with respect to the invasion of Europe, had been adopted, the war would have been won in the summer of 1944.

As for General Auchinleck's alleged "failure" to go on the offensive against the Germans in North Africa, that, too, may have contributed to the final victory won by Lord Montgomery and his troops.

If Lord Montgomery is trying to prove that on the whole he was superior in military strategy to either General Eisenhower or General Auchinleck, few will be inclined to dispute his claim.

EDITORIAL NOTES

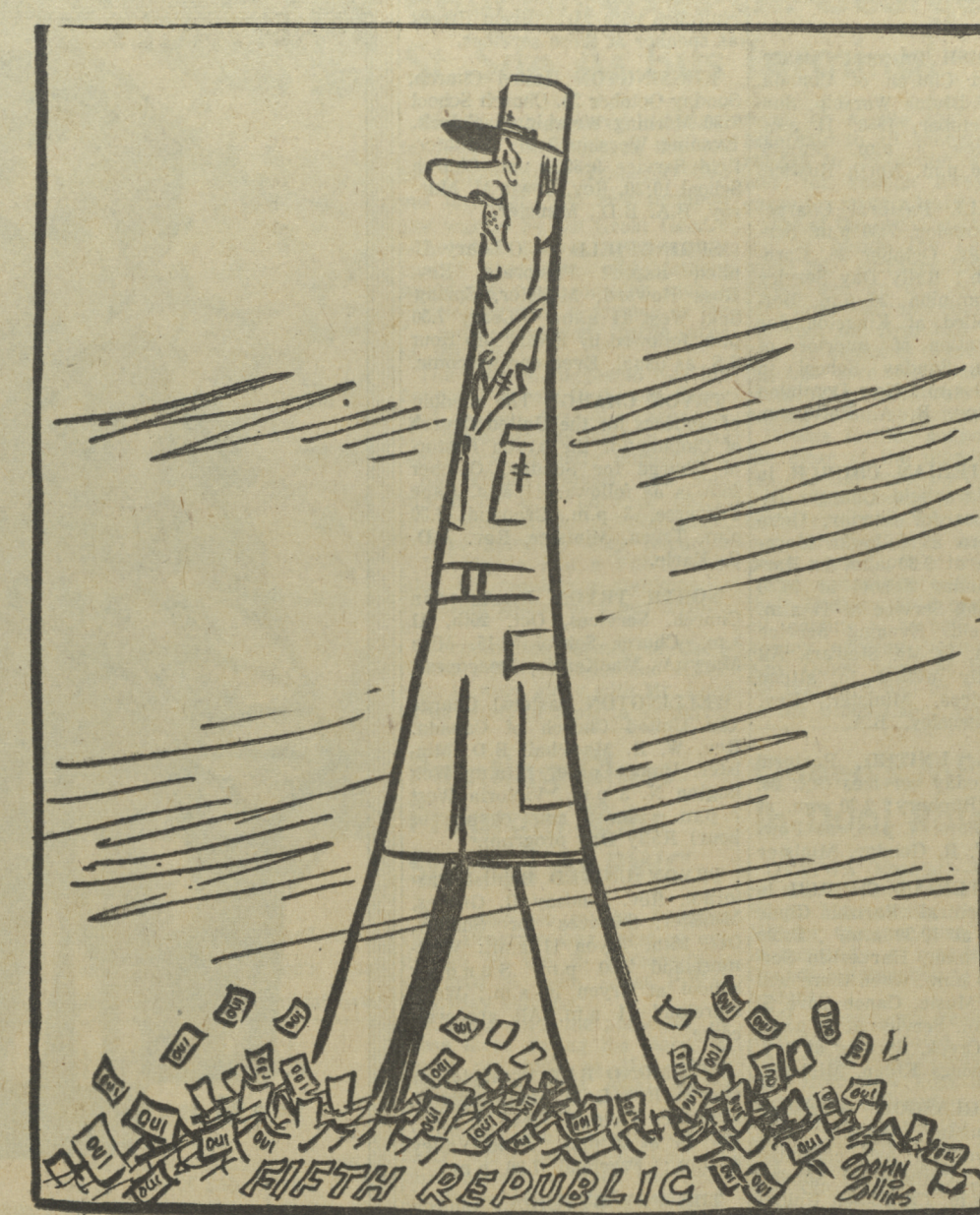
The selection of Mr. Louis St. Laurent to receive the human relations award bestowed annually by the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews will be widely acclaimed.

A co-operative store in Saskatoon has been making hula hoops out of plastic water hose and selling them for 59 cents—considerably less than the price of regular hoops.

In a resolution co-sponsored by 32 member states, and which passed with a majority of 68 to 4, the United Nations General Assembly has expressed "regret and concern" that South Africa has failed to modify her racial policies.

Canadian veterans of two world wars have fond memories of Piccadilly Circus, London's lively entertainment centre. They will be relieved to learn that, with a rare display of unanimity, the London County Council has emphatically rejected a move to "clean the place up."

Why can our country raise billions, without batting an eye, to prepare for a war that is "unthinkable" and airplanes and other armaments that will be obsolete almost as soon as they are built, and nothing for health insurance? It can be done.



THE QUIFEL TOWER

OTTAWA REPORT

The Klondike Gold Rush

By Patrick Nicholson

In terms of gold and gold-hunters, our Klondike gold rush was not one of history's largest bonanzas. But in terms of colourful and romantic fact, the Trail of '88 carried a stampede which has never been known before or since.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

HOSPITAL INSURANCE PLAN

Sir.—Somebody's face should be red with shame regarding Prince Edward Island's part in the Hospital Insurance plan. At a time when our neighbour, Nova Scotia becomes the seventh Province to put the plan into operation, without even waiting for January 1st, 1959, the Island commission, appointed to get the plan going, reports that nothing can be done for another year.

While our Island tax-payers are paying our share of the expense of the operation of the plan in the other provinces, we, for another year, can get nothing of the federal offer (one half the total cost, is it not?) to help our own sick and afflicted. Is that the sort of report the Island commission was appointed to bring in?

Unfortunately, the Commission do not postpone our sickness and need for a year; that will go on as usual. And while the Commission cannot find the money to pay the province's share, the money will still be paid by the sick and the needy, with no help from the federal offer, often from meagre savings that have been earmarked to buy necessities for their homes and families, or left by those who have nothing to pay, as unpaid debts to the doctors and hospitals. Many, no doubt, will die because they cannot afford treatments that the federal government offers to help provide. Will we be better able a year from now to put the plan into operation?

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OTTAWA REPORT

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Stewart Ltd., price \$6) describes "the life and death of the last great gold rush."

"Klondike" is the most complete account I have ever read of the greatest spectacular in our often rum-drum history. The men of the Klondike story as described here is substantial and varied enough to satisfy every appetite, whether the observer's taste is for gold or guts, for girls or grub.

ONE GLORIOUS YEAR

The golden creeks of the Klondike river system are now being worked over for the third time, writes Berton, and are still yielding about \$2,000,000 worth of gold each year. The lode of Klondike history has been similarly worked over before Berton tackled it. But just as the huge dredges of the Yukon Consolidated Gold Corporation are today digging up overlooked gold nuggets as well as even more interesting incidentals such as million-year-old mastodons and 30-year-old miners' dentures, so Berton has dredged up a fascinating collection of the overlooked and the unexpected.

The life and death of Dawson City, the metropolis of the Klondike, covered a mere twelve months. More than 50,000 ambitious gold-seekers poured onto Joe LaDue's mud-flat at the junction of the Klondike and Yukon rivers in the summer of '96, and erected there a city of tents, log cabins and green lumber saloons. They spent an estimated \$50,000,000 to participate in that gold rush; in one year they panned no more than that amount of gold nuggets; only 400 of them left with fortunes, and the following summer most of them quit Dawson to join the new gold run to Alaska.

Fledgling Nations Uneasy

By Ken Methelal Canadian Press Staff Writer

For the unaccustomed drinker, the heady wine of independence can produce some unexpected reactions.

In Burma, Pakistan and Thailand, new and inexperienced governments have made their first experiments in the workings of parliamentary democracy and found themselves ill-equipped to adapt its traditions to their problems.

Now military regimes have taken over in each of the three countries. In Burma and Pakistan, both nurtured in the British parliamentary tradition, the decision to confer power on the defence forces was taken by the supreme civil authorities. In neither case was power sought by the armed forces themselves—a significant departure from the military-inspired revolts common to many Middle East and Latin American countries.

TRUBLE ZONE FOR DRINKERS

I know you have heard alcoholism described as a disease; it becomes steadily worse unless it is cured.

GROWS WORSE

I have written many columns in the past about alcoholism and alcoholics and what to do for them. Now I would like to direct my efforts to the majority—instead of the minority—the other 65,000,000 drinkers who have not yet become soured.

HELPFUL ADVICE

A recent edition of the Catholic Digest contained some helpful advice to those occasional drinkers who are a little concerned about their drinking.

DELAY THAT DRINK

1. Set aside a certain period of time—say, at least one day a week—during which you won't take a drink, not even one.

WHAT CAUSES TROUBLE

Alcoholic beverages in themselves may not be bad things. It is the abuse, not so much the use which causes trouble.

IMPRINT OF CANADA

The stories of courage, craziness and colour are all in this book, some with the flamboyant stripped off. Together they make a best selling Book-of-the-Month choice, which is more complete and therefore more enthralling than any of the 144 books about the Klondike, which Berton lists as published previously.

OUR LEADERS DURING THE ENSURING HALF-CENTURY

Three out of five men in the Klondike pioneers' machine-gun battalion in World War I were decorated for gallantry, making that the most decorated unit in our army. And that spirit of leadership and courage is still inspiring the opening of our Northland.

STILL MYSTERIOUS

Though the rewards of travel seem directly related to food, weather, or romance, the thing that triggers it is not known. No single unfavorable factor applies to the migrations of all creatures. Yet within every migrating animal—mammal, bird, fish, or insect—is a mysterious voice that tells it when to leave, where to go, and how to get there.

MAXIMS

We cannot always oblige, but we can always speak obligingly.

GREAT COMPOSER

Jakob Mendelssohn, the German composer who died in 1847, wrote many important works before he was 20.

CARIBOU ROUTE

North America has more migrating land mammals than any other continent, among them caribou, bison, and bairns. Weather seems to be a prime factor.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Canada can boast a colorful House of Commons this session what with Mr. Green, Mr. Browne and Mr. White. And this to say nothing of Mr. Bigg and Mr. Small or MPs named after trades such as Messrs. Voulanger (baker), Carter, Fisher, five Smiths and a Taylor.—Ottawa Journal

Young Ladies of the Western world who begin to worry about matrimonial opportunities at 25 or 30 years of age may be interested to learn something of their sisters in Ethiopia. There girls marry very young—generally at the age of 11 or 12 and, if for some reason a girl stays single until the age of 14, she is looked upon with disfavor and the parents consider her a burden—one more person to feed.—Fort Williams Times Journal

Identification of the female fair of face and form with the most unlikely objects of admiration is spreading. Even heavy industry has heard the mating call. It is now possible to give a steam-roller or some shovel sex appeal simply by picturing a well-filled bathing suit at the controls.—Calgary Herald

Lest any Trigrig hunter tried to duplicate the feat of a young Brockville rod in shooting down a bald eagle, it should be pointed out here and now that the eagle is protected by Federal laws and there is a penalty of \$100 for providing for infractions. The penalty is provided in an effort to preserve this fine bird from extinction.—Brockville Recorder

OUR YESTERDAYS

(From The Guardian Files) TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (Oct. 24, 1933)

At a special meeting of the City Council last evening attended by a delegation from the L.P.U., His Worship Mayor Stewart read a telegram from Brunswick Produce Exchange, New York, to the effect that they had been informed by their agents that the charges for loading boats of potatoes and turnips in Charlottetown was 15 cents a ton, higher than other Island ports, and that unless the charges were brought in line, they would load their boats elsewhere.

In climbing over a picket fence on Monday, Billie Dowling, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Dowling, City, broke a leg. His foot caught in the fence, and he sustained the injury when he fell. The young boy was taken to the P.E.I. Hospital, where he is reported to be resting comfortably.

TEN YEARS AGO (Oct. 24, 1943)

Assurance has been received by Brig. W.W. Reid from officials of National Parks Branch, Ottawa, that they would proceed with the work of furnishing Green Gables with the view of setting it up as a museum. When completed it would depict the way an Island farm home was furnished in the days of "Anne" and also would have on display manuscripts, etc., of the late Lucy Maud Montgomery.

The Summerside All-Stars won the Maritime Intermediate Baseball Championship yesterday defeating the Woodside Combines, Nova Scotia Champs, at the R.C.A.F. baseball diamond by the score of 8-1. Joe Bernard, Summerside ace hurler, was on the mound and chalked up his 5th consecutive play-off victory against no defeats.

Puzzling Migration Secrets

National Geographic Society

WASHINGTON — The baby seal that recently migrated for days around its pool at the Coney Island Aquarium was doing what comes naturally.

Like a few other mammals of sea, air, and land, seals regularly undertake long, strenuous journeys between their fishing grounds and breeding zones.

Even in the animal kingdom, the regular commuters usually swim fast, fly well, or run a good race. Most mammals venture only short distances from their homes.

Though the rewards of travel seem directly related to food, weather, or romance, the thing that triggers it is not known.

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Whales are stout-hearted migrants, too. California gray whales summer in the Arctic Ocean and Bering Sea where cold waters offer rich pastures of plankton. They swim 5,000 to 6,000 miles each winter to breed in the sheltered lagoons and bays of Baja California.

ED'S TAXI

173 Great George St. Ed's Slogan: "To maintain the goodwill of those whom we serve — the goal for which we strive!"

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SAILING

Cast off! And on the instant comes the swift rippling of the mackerel wind, the rising sail as tall as summer cloud, the life and shudder of the peak, the proud white wing unfolding in a blue unbounded sky.

Now I am transfixed from solid earth into quicksilver spray and sparkling fly over the waters in a fair rebirth.

Beyond the surging tides, the speeding hours to what enchanted harbor shall I come when tranquil stars are opening like flowers and buoy bells are channeling my home?

Till then I ride mermaid-light, I face danger roaring in tilted and toppling space.

—Florence Ripley Martin In the New York Herald-Tribune

Advertisement for DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS. The text describes the benefits of the pills for kidney health and includes a small illustration of a person's face.

Advertisement for Emerson Eye-Fidelity TV. The text promotes the TV set as 'It's the latest!' and 'It's the greatest!' and includes an illustration of the television set.

Advertisement for MAXIMS. The text includes the maxim: 'We cannot always oblige, but we can always speak obligingly.'

Advertisement for Speedy PROPANE. The text promotes the propane gas service and includes an illustration of a propane tank.

Advertisement for SLAND PROPANE GAS LTD. The text provides contact information for the company in Charlottetown and Summerside.

Advertisement for ED'S TAXI. The text includes the slogan: 'To maintain the goodwill of those whom we serve — the goal for which we strive!' and provides the address: 173 Great George St.

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