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The Soviet Challenge

In predicting a tremendous development in the Canadian North within the next few years, in which Maritime exporters should share profitably, APEC President Frank MacKinnon was not indulging in any flight of fancy.

Some time ago Canada produced a hydrographic chart of the Arctic Ocean from Russian sources. Apparently the Soviets had hydrographically charted and scientifically investigated two million square miles of ice-covered ocean, and plotted minor details to within 30 miles of Canada's Arctic islands.

And this is not all. The greater Soviet North, including Siberia and the Far East, supports three and a half million people. It is twice the size of the Canadian Arctic and Alaska combined, which between them have less than 250,000 people.

With their sea route established, linked by a chain of ports, weather and coastal stations, the Soviets now are planning construction of great power, mining and wood pulp projects around the whole Arctic Circle.

The California Plan

An interesting experiment in promoting safe driving, which may be extended to other states after a tryout in California, is being started on May 1 by 200 companies that write 70 percent of California's auto insurance.

Heretofore some insurance companies have awarded bonuses, reduced rates, etc., to accident free drivers, but the California plan embodies a new concept of relating moving traffic convictions to insurance costs.

The plan puts the emphasis where it belongs—upon rewarding law abiding drivers and penalizing those who break the traffic laws and are involved in accidents.

plan is extended to other states. It does seem to run counter to the purpose of the plan to penalize innocent parties under any circumstances.

Unsatisfactory System

Canadians have always found elections in the United States confusing. This applies particularly to the indirect method of electing the President and Vice President.

In 1950 the Senate approved a constitutional amendment that would have abolished the office of presidential elector and the unit rule for counting electoral votes.

Well, our readers will probably find it still confusing. It makes more sense than the present system under which the most popular candidate might win a sizable majority of the votes and still lose the election.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Adlai E. Stevenson, United States Democratic leader, will receive a honorary degree of Doctor of Literature at McGill University on May 29.

"Love the soil. The work is hard and sometimes the return is little. But you will find in the good earth and fields a sure refuge from dangerous materialism."

The State of North Dakota goes in for agricultural vocational training in a big way. At the present time 2500 farm boys are enrolled for instruction in 59 schools.

U.S. Secretary of State Herter does not think that "a deliberate attack on United States' aircraft supplying Berlin, or other 'minor incidents', should be considered justification for nuclear retaliation against the Soviet Union."

Liberal Leader Hicks of Nova Scotia is worried lest the Federal Government, in limiting special grants to Newfoundland, provided under the 1949 Confederation agreement, to 1962, has set a precedent that might lead to the discontinuance of the annual \$25 million special Atlantic Provinces adjustment grants.



THE ABOMINABLE SNOWMAN

OTTAWA REPORT

Sympathy For M.P.'s

By Patrick Nicholson

A large mail from readers suggests considerable sympathy for some aspects of the way of life of our parliamentarians, as recently described in this column.

It appears to be widely recognized that the most outstanding of our M.P.s represent us in Parliament at the price of a considerable financial sacrifice by themselves.

This column explained that the unavoidable extra cost incurred by an M.P. having to attend parliamentary sessions in Ottawa ranges from about \$2,500 to \$4,500 a year in most cases.

Troubles Of A Candidate

By Hon. George Nowlan, Minister of National Revenue

(Excerpts from a speech delivered to the Canadian Public Relations Society, Toronto)

TODAY a man running for public office does just that—he runs. He still does all that he used to do. In many cases, of course, the meetings are smaller, the canvassing much more intensive, and yet he must do more of all those things.

His day begins with telephone calls. After he has managed to disengage himself from the phone he rushes down to his office to be greeted by delegations, by mail, by more telephone calls, and then again more telephone calls.

He approves with some doubt his advertisements, his daily press releases, his election posters, his blotters, his call cards, his letters to his constituency, and a radio speech which he has to record immediately, and which he reads for the first time en route to the local broadcasting station where it will be recorded.

PUBLIC FORUM

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COSTLY RESISTANCE

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The most unfortunate thing about the resistance of this group to modern production has been that they have delayed the development of Canadian industry and Canadian products without stopping most people from buying modern goods and using modern services.

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Cirrhosis Has Many Victims

By Herman N. Buesness, M. D. CIRRHOSIS of the liver is one of the ten leading causes of death in the United States today.

Back in 1956—the last year for which I have statistics—cirrhosis claimed 18,000 lives. Two-thirds of the victims were men. HIGHEST IN EAST

We have known for a long time that alcoholism is a contributing factor to cirrhosis of the liver. More than one-fourth of all deaths from this disease are reported to be associated with alcoholism.

Since we have an estimated 5,015,000 alcoholics in this country, the situation might be viewed with alarm. However, we don't know the exact relationship between alcoholism and cirrhosis.

One doctor recently wrote in a medical publication: "There is no evidence to support the belief that beverage alcohol, per se, has an etiological effect on hepatic cirrhosis."

The cirrhosis, he says, is the result, not of beverage alcohol, but of poor nutritional intake.

In this respect, he says, "The person who drinks 20 bottles of sweet, carbonated beverages a day is as likely to develop cirrhosis as the person who drinks a pint of whisky every day."

Generally, a person who drinks without any restraint has a diet that is deficient in protein and certain vitamins.

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The arm-shaped Cape seems to beckon visitors, but it was long so thinly settled that a house with a shed was jokingly regarded as a village. In recent years, the automobile and modern highway have put Cape Cod within a day's drive of one-fourth of the Nation's mushrooming population.

The Park Service feels an "irreplaceable treasure" may be lost to posterity. It suggests that the Government set up a seashore preserve that would run from Provincetown on the Cape's "fingertip" to the end of Nauset Beach, the Cape's "elbow."

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NOTES BY THE WAY

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