

The Diefenbaker Years

By PETER C. NEWMAN

INSTALMENT 8: ALLISTER GROSART

(This is the eighth of a series of twelve excerpts taken from the much longer version contained in 'RENEGADE IN POWER: THE DIEFENBAKER YEARS'...)

Very few people who encountered Allister Grosart during his five-year tenure as National Director of the Progressive Conservative Party of Canada could look on him with a neutral eye.

As a serious assessment of Grosart's function, this round-robin of name-calling was unjustified. Allister Grosart did become a new and important power in Canadian politics.

Whatever tension existed between them was probably due to Diefenbaker's realization that to a considerable degree Grosart, and not he himself, had been responsible for the favourable image that had propelled him into office.

Grosart was now within the orbit of prime ministerial confidence. He advised Diefenbaker on his television, radio and newspaper appearances.

bers, grocery clerks, and pool-hall owners who, because they were in jobs where they had hundreds of people sounding off about politics, could supply him with a montage of local opinion.

Because he believed that except when a country is aroused by grave political issues, elections are won by the continuous work of political organization.

GREETINGS Canadian Federation of Agriculture

As president of the P.E.I. Federation of Agriculture, it is my pleasure to welcome the delegates of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture.

P. E. I.

FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE

Tide Appears Reversed In Wood Shingle Industry

VANCOUVER (CP) — The most significant accomplishment of the Canadian shingle industry in the last generation may well have been its survival.

The tide seems to have reversed in the last six years. The worst year in the industry was 1957, when it produced 1,650,000 square feet.

they were turned out by mills on a better footing. Chief cause for optimism is the growing popularity in quality and custom building of hand-split shingles.

PRODUCTION RISING Shake shingle production last year hit 400,000 square feet—equal to 100 square feet from a level of 150,000 in 1959.

But the \$20,000,000-a-year industry remains, as it were, boxed in. All shingles are made of cedar and cedar being a top lumber, independent mills face severe competition for their logs in the open market.

labor-incentive. Only about half the workers are hourly paid, the rest by the volume they turn out.

Shake shingles, for example, are fashioned one by one, except that a pneumatic blade makes the cut once performed by mallet and wedge.

Most of the 2,000 shingle mill workers belong to the International Woodworkers of America (I.W.O.A.).

"There's a mysterious bubble, even point we haven't been able to identify," says Ronald Gray, the promotions supervisor for the Consolidated Red Cedar Shingle Association.

the trend for such custom-built residential areas as Calgary's Hartman, and the Atlantic Eagle Ridge, and the association says the influence is spreading east.

Another prospect is better shingle sizes for sidewall, where fewer pieces are required and the product has a better competitive status.

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The shingle association, whose 38 member mills represent about 90 per cent of production in Canada, spend their promotion money according to their sales: 55 per cent in the U.S., 12 per cent in Canada and three per cent elsewhere.

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Construction Industry Asks Tax Relief

By STEWART MacFLOD OTTAWA (CP) — The Canadian Construction Association has proposed that the construction industry is considered "fair game" so far as taxes are concerned.

CHAPUT CONTINUES EAST MONTREAL (CP) — Marcel Chaput, leader of a Quebec separatist party, says he has lost 45 pounds since he gained 150 in his last failed attempt at raising fresh party funds.

GUESSES ACCURATE A more sophisticated group of "play-back guys" included a roster of 30 or so persons in 1961 friends Grosart had in each province, on whom he could call for a frankly worded assessment of local conditions.

After the disaster of the 1962 campaign, former admirers of Grosart who identified himself with the "have not" provinces. But privately, he might have assumed more to the blame himself, because he had encouraged Diefenbaker to make his party.

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