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Austerity and Confusion

Ottawa's floundering around on its new dollar-saving austerity program is causing confusion and consternation from coast to coast...

Another example of confusion was the soggy spectacle at the White Rock customs port immediately following announcement of the new program...

Difficult to understand, too, is the limiting of the import of citrus fruits and juices from the U.S. All through the war years, American citrus fruits were subsidized by Ottawa...

Actually, the amount saved by the citrus fruits is a tiny part of Canada's dollar needs. For the first 9 months of 1947 grapefruit imports valued \$2,578,063; lemons, \$1,900,713; and oranges \$13,172,608...

To Get the Record Straight

The long-promised federal inquiry into the claims of loss by Japanese evacuated from British Columbia during the war will open in Vancouver Wednesday, Justice H. I. Bird, who will conduct the investigation...

Reports and copies of justices and "bargain sale" dispositions of Japanese-Canadians have been widely circulated. Instances of such injustices have been cited on the floor of the House of Commons...

There has been the underlying suspicion, too, that somebody high in authority has said: "Let's get the Japs out of B.C. lock, stock and barrel, while we have the chance..."

Why Mr. Winch Wants Public Inquiry Before Tram Fares Are Raised

The News-Herald's editorial, "Mr. Winch Blunders Again," declares a major error in fact when I stated that the Public Utilities Commission has certain powers and conditions relative to who had the right to appear before the public hearings on the B.C. Electric application for revision of gas rates...

\$17,651,384. This would be the total amount saved if all citrus fruit were completely barred; it amounts to about \$1.45 per capita. It is hardly worth all the fuss and confusion let alone the serious threat to health-giving diets.

In contrast, Canada's adverse balance with the U.S. in imports of iron and iron products is \$396 millions. In non-metallic minerals products, it is \$227 million. In total agricultural products it is in \$75 million.

It is in respect to these volume imports that there will have to be changes if Canada wants to save U.S. dollars—on oranges and yeast cakes.

In all, it is fortunate that the next session of the Dominion parliament was set ahead this year, to Dec. 5. It will give an early opportunity to thresh out the implications, complications and explanations of the "dollar-saving" program on the floor of the House.

By DONALD BELL, Special to The Vancouver News-Herald (Copyright, 1947)

LONDON. Secretary Marshall's statement in London that he was "not pessimistic" about the chances of the Big Four conference may have been nothing but a courteous diplomatic gesture at the beginning of serious negotiations.

Other psychological factors, too, contributed to the future of the Moscow conference. It is true that the Russians knew Mr. Marshall rather well from his attendance at the Yalta meeting.

Secretary Marshall, on the other hand, was in no position at the time of the Moscow conference to be a flexible negotiator. He had only a few weeks to prepare himself for the conference.

The State Department did not even have advance information on the details of the French and British ideas on the subject. The Russian viewpoint was almost a complete secret and had to be explored at the conference table.

"OUR WAY OF LIFE?"

PRICE INCREASES. PRICE INCREASES. PRICE INCREASES. PRICE INCREASES. PRICE INCREASES. PRICE INCREASES. PRICE INCREASES. PRICE INCREASES. PRICE INCREASES. PRICE INCREASES.



Public Welfare Aim

I am sure the paying public were interested to read the News-Herald's interpretation of the Public Utilities Act to the effect that a main aspect of taking care of the public interest is to protect the company's right to a fair and reasonable return.

The government is able to borrow money more cheaply than a company. All B.C. Electric Railway operations should be publicly owned in the interests of the public.

West Van Honored Tickets. I see where the B.C.E.R.'s will refuse to honor tickets purchased before the new high prices go into effect.

When the West Vancouver Municipal Transportation System is set up, the local bus fare will be reduced to 5 for 25 cents last spring, there was never any refusal to honor the old tickets.

If they were ever intended, were not made at the Moscow conference. The answer may lie in the fact that it is Soviet technique to postpone any concession to the last possible moment when it may calculate to produce the greatest effect.

ANOTHER LAST OPPORTUNITY

They did just that when the five peace treaties with the Axis satellites were under discussion. The Soviet diplomats who knew that the Moscow conference was not their last opportunity are now well aware that London is their last chance to reach an agreement—provided always that they really want an agreement.

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The chief accomplishment of the Moscow conference may be said to have been that the four nations put their cards on the table. In the meantime, each of the four foreign ministers had had ample time to study the problems of the Ruhr, reparations, frontiers and formation of a German government.

COMPROMISE NEED NOW CLEAR

There is still another difference between the Moscow and London conferences. The international situation has changed. Two days after the opening of the Moscow conference, President Truman advanced his sensational "doctrine" of opposing Communism anywhere in the world.

WE DON'T HOLD ALL THE TRUMPS

The Western nations, however, do not hold all the trump cards. The British and French governments are now even weaker than they were at the time of the Moscow conference. The British Labour government has suffered a serious setback on the verge of elections.

commitments as they can. A failure of the London conference would obligate them to spend much of their resources for military purposes. The Communist opposition in France and Italy would become more violent, and our troubles would increase.

It is true that the governments in France and Britain are now more dependent on American economic assistance than during the pending negotiations. The Soviet economic assistance is now more uncertain because of the Republican opposition in Congress to President Truman's anti-inflationary program.

BASIC FACTS NOW MORE EVIDENT

The 16 nations which drafted the European treaty for the Marshall Plan and their suggestions on the structure of an economic split between Eastern and Western Europe will be avoided.

ago. It would thus not even six months from both sides. If we add that the Italian government has already hinted its unwillingness to conclude a separate peace treaty, and that the British government would be difficult to induce to sign a separate peace, we may begin to realize that all parties concerned have good reason to search for a solution of the German and Austrian problems.

PEOPLE TELL ME - Al Williamson

THE LONG WAY ROUND: Regulations such as these could cause a man to starve to death in Capilano Bay. The Russian is awed at it all. His experiences with royalty and political leaders in the European continent are nothing.

He volunteered the other afternoon, to drive the brother-in-law to a favorite fishing spot on upper Capilano. At the second barrier set up by the Water Board, the attendant refused to allow Bob to pass because he didn't have a fishing license.

California Type: When Paul G. Wade received a cheque for \$250 from the Fraternal Order of Eagles in North Vancouver one night, he made a brief survey on the sign of the eagle flying toward the sun, and being purged by the beams of light.

AH, THESE MODERNS! The details are related by Peggy Jackson, blonde roving news reporter, about her little sister's appreciation of money. The youngster sauntered into a corner store near the school to buy an all-day sucker.

SITTING BIRD? One of our readers doubts that we were early enough the other morning to hear a rising and shining bird. Her little sister's appreciation of "You Can't Get A Man With A Gun" is "Doing What Comes Naturally."

hard. The two men looked at each other. "Ask me again how I've lived here," said Bob. The other said, "Forty years," said Bob.

LOOK-ALIKES: Scouts insist the Tommy Pyle, well-known eye and nose specialist, has become a double in Hollywood in the person of Dan Dalley ("Mother Winters").

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Try And-Stop Me

With a week of the outbreak of World War I, the five cables that connected the world with the outside world were severed, and so, for the next three years, until United States entered the war, all German communications and propaganda came to us via English sources.

The English prof dealt gently with the All-American captain of the football team, but there were times when he was sufficiently direct in his application and will be recognized as interested parties.



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