

Separate Schools May Become Issue

(Continued from page 2)

schools at which our children may take religious instruction. But you cannot expect us to pay for it. Eighty per cent of our people believe religious instruction should be given in church or in the home."

There the matter rests. In March, 1950, a special delegation of Catholics presented a petition to the provincial cabinet requesting tax exemption of school buildings, health and dental service, free books and bus transportation. The delegation said operation of Catholic schools, with 6,000 pupils, save the province \$1,000,000 a year in education costs.

Education Minister W. T. Straith announced soon afterward that textbooks would be provided free for separate as well as public school students.

Last April, two Catholic schools in Maillardville closed.

The Catholic school board said it did not have funds to carry on. The 490 students in the two schools were absorbed into the public school system.

Closing of the two schools hinged on bus transportation and a similar case arose last fall at Port Alberni on Vancouver Island. Roman Catholics claimed that bus transportation to and from their schools should be provided free, as for public school students. Mr. Straith said the Public Schools Act stipulates that only public school students may be carried in school buses; however, there would be no objection to buses with empty seats picking up children going to other schools.

SEVEN-POINT PROGRAM

Next step in the dispute was last fall. The B.C. Catholic Education Association submitted to the provincial education department this seven-point program to solve the difficulty:

1. Roman Catholic schools would receive the same financial aid and other benefits available to public schools.

"What we are asking is that the education department take our schools into the public system in such a way that we can retain the religious character," Association President Patrick Power said.

2. Such schools would submit to inspection by the Department of Education.

3. Catholic teachers would qualify under the law and be presented for certification by Catholic authorities.

4. Catholics would rent their schools to the department for an agreed rental. Financial aid, when new schools were necessary, would be given by the provincial government as is done for public schools.

5. Catholic schools would follow the curriculum laid down by the education department "with necessary consideration, however, for Catholic textbooks on certain subjects, e.g., history."

6. The question of Catholic representation on school boards would be "a matter of negotiation."

7. Catholic schools and non-profit educational institutions to be free of property tax, as are public schools, also free textbooks, free medical and dental care and bus transportation.

"By doing this there would be one school system in the prov-

ince and children and teachers would work together under one department in the interest of all," the association said.

MATTER FOR DISCUSSION

Mr. Straith said the proposals merited discussion but no action has yet been taken.

Nov. 18, Reginald Paxton, secretary of the Education Association, told a public meeting that B.C. Catholics now are willing to "integrate their educational system with that of the province."

The Canadian Press reported that Mr. Paxton said Catholic schools were prepared to use the same textbooks as public schools and would accept non-Catholic teachers. (Its dispatches failed to mention qualifications listed by Mr. Paxton: Catholics would want some of their own textbooks, such as history; non-Catholic teachers would be accepted only in such subjects as physical education and the trades.)

Mr. Paxton said Catholics would still insist that their children be given religious instruction in the schools but this might be after school hours.

The B.C. Teachers Federation, which is opposed to the Catholic Education Association program, objects to expenditure of public funds for the aid or support of religious or other sectarian schools. It said:

"The action of the (Federation) executive is based, not on prejudice against any particular religious creed, but on the conviction that a healthy and democratic school system cannot be maintained on other than a secular basis."

The Federation action so far has been the only organized statement of opposition.

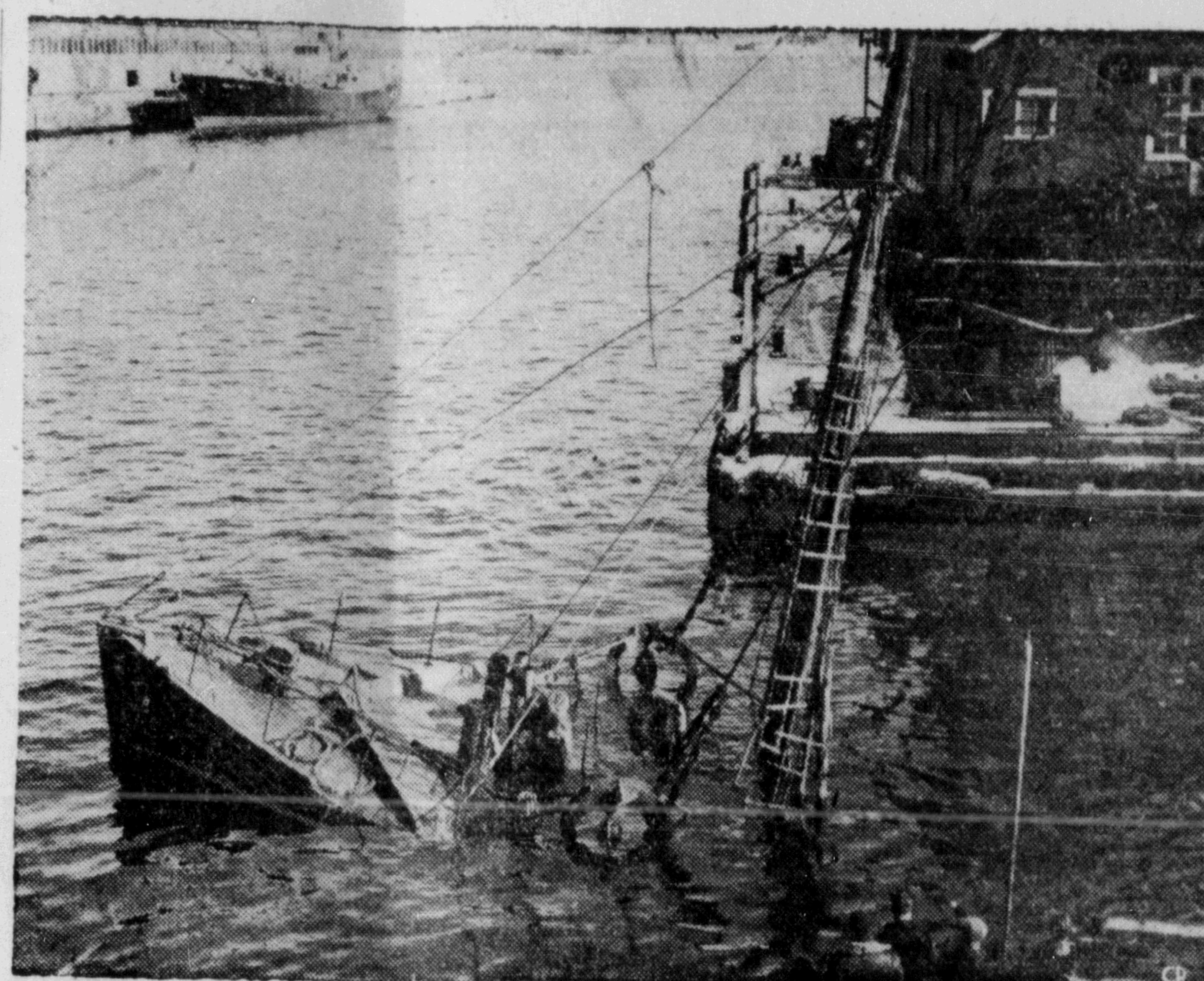
In October, the first convention of Catholic Education Association passed a resolution saying it was prepared to take political action if no present party would champion public support for Catholic schools.

One delegate suggested formation of a Roman Catholic provincial political party and said that a Catholic party would elect "at least 12 candidates" to the 48-member provincial legislature.

No announced action has yet been taken by Roman Catholics in the political field.

The butcher was weighing up a roast recently when his customer observed: "Say, you're giving me a lot of bone there, aren't you?" "Oh, no, I'm not," answered the butcher. "You're paying 99 cents a pound for it."

An estimated 18,000 buildings were destroyed in the great Chicago fire of 1871.



UP SHE COMES—The dragger Fort Louisburg was towed under water to the beach at Halifax when the ship went on fire and sank. Salvage operators almost managed to raise the dragger but it got away when a stay snapped. They decided to abandon the raising attempt when it was feared the crane, capable of hoisting 80 to 100 tons, might topple into the sea. (CP PHOTO)

Cronin Babine Is Near Production

With mill building now being roofed in and machinery installation starting this month, Cronin Babine Mines in the Smithers district anticipates production will be reached in April.

A sales contract for output has been completed with British Metals Corp. (Canada). Under the agreement, the purchasing firm has undertaken to make advances in anticipation of shipment, if needed.

C. Rutherford has been appointed general manager and C. F. Medhurst as mine manager. R. L. Clothier continues as vice-president while J. M. Taylor retires as vice-president but continues as a director.

L. C. Creery, president, says that the mine program is well in hand and that there will be ample ore to feed the mill on its completion.

Television Of Fishing

NEW YORK—A new and fast moving motion picture of sport fishing in Canada from Newfoundland to British Columbia, "Let's Go Fishing," will be given its television premiere in the United States this evening.

The picture was made and released by Canadian National Railways and is filled with action throughout. It is hailed by New York T.V. reviewers as a "cinematic guide for all types of anglers, pointing out the best places in Canada for everything from record breaking tuna to pan size trout."

Next week the CNR fishing film will be released for showing over the American Broadcasting Company's Television Network and to independent stations in the midwest and Pacific Coast states.

John Scarlett, Formerly of Stewart, Dies

The death of John P. Scarlett, serving for many years as government agent at Powell River is reported. Mr. Scarlett, who had been ill for more than a year, will be remembered by many old timers in Prince Rupert. He was for some years located at Stewart.

FAST INDUSTRY
Chemical and allied trades employed more than 700,000 persons in the United States in 1950.

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Full Use of Forest Crop

OCEAN FALLS.—Complete utilization of the forest crop is but a few years away in the opinion of Paul Cooper, president of Pacific Mills Ltd., speaking to the Pacific coast branch of the Western Division of the technical section of the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association.

Mr. Cooper said the age of integration in forest industries was a sure sign of the progress of the industry towards the maximum utilization. He suggested that technicians must be imaginative and daring to aid in this policy for the elimination of waste.

Mr. Cooper referred to plastics, alcohol and cattle feed, which could all be made from the forests of B. C. He said this was a contrast to the beginning of forestry when bullwhackers and ox teams pulled out only the choicest Douglas fir. Other developments he touched on were pulp and paper plywood, laminated structural timbers, fine papers and yarns.

"Pulp and paper is the key development in the forest industries that to date has largely influenced the rapid trend toward complete utilization," he said.

Plywood manufacture marked the second stage. By the end of the war, in 1945, B. C. had the makings of integration in the existence of three well-defined sections of the forest industry—lumber, pulp and paper, plywood.

He told the technicians: "This is a time when all engaged in supervisory work need to understand the relationship of their particular manufacturing operation to the full line of many wood processing and manufacturing units which, properly related one to the other, will very soon bring about complete utilization of the forest crop."

Integration, which Mr. Cooper described as "multiple unit operations comprising sawmills, shingle mills, plywood plants, pulp mills, hardboard plants, plus various directly related secondary operations consuming leftover wood, bark and similar material... is chiefly the direct result of the political and economic pressures of our time," he said. Mergers of companies were a direct result of these pressures.

"In the old days," said Mr. Cooper, "it was strictly lumbering. The waste of wood in sawdust alone was shameful, quite apart from the ends, trim and bark that went directly to the burners."

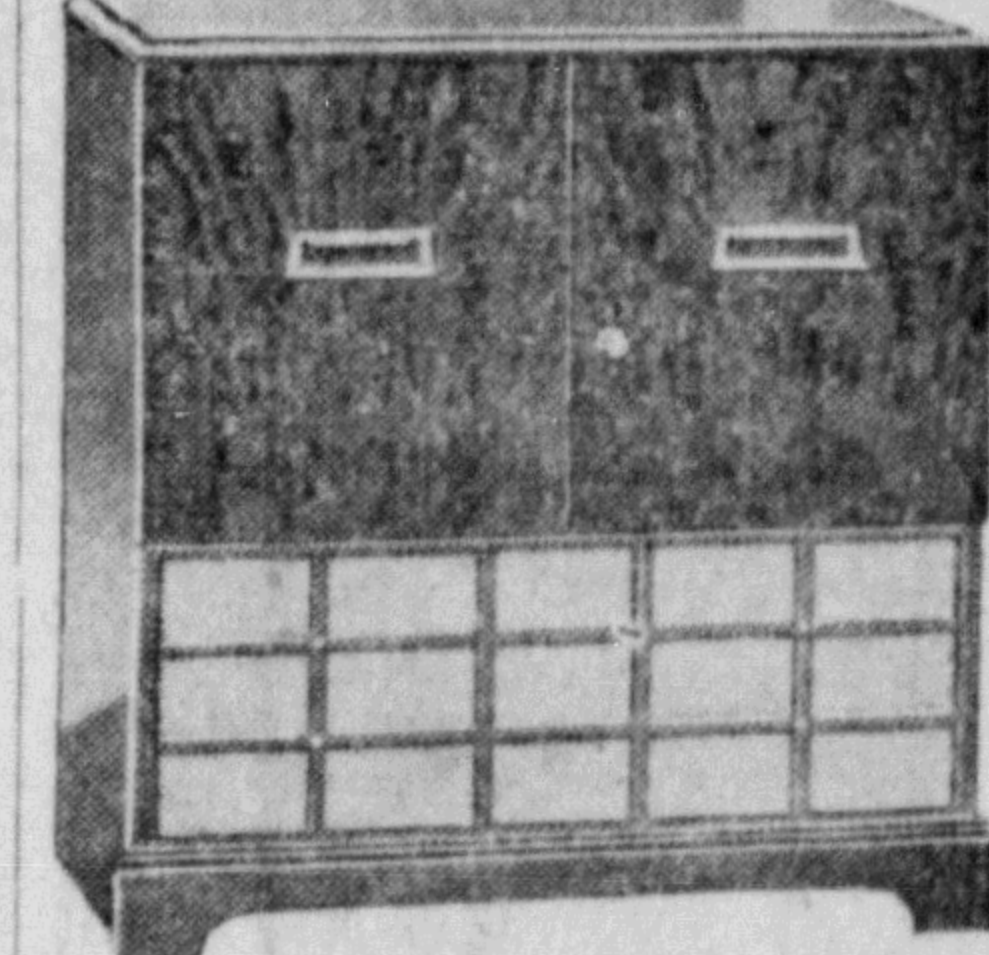
"Even the constant fires of the burners were waste. They served no purpose except to consume the clutter of debris in one mill."

"It was economically unsound to log and handle any timber lower than top grade. Only the best of the big trees were good enough. Extraction and manufacturing methods met market requirements. Generally speaking, everybody was satisfied."

"Increasing costs, highly competitive markets and wood substitutes eventually forced the employment of improved logging methods and vast changes in the mechanics of manufacture, the layout of mills and material handling methods."

"These were the first signs of what was then the far-off age of integration."

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CANADIAN NATIONAL

Arab Demagogue West's Headache

By STAN SWINTON

TRIPOLI (AP)—An Arab spellbinder named Beshir Bey Sadawi professes friendship for the West but harangues Libyans with bitter attacks on Britons, Americans and Frenchmen.

Sadawi believes his National Congress party will sweep newly independent Libya's first national election Feb. 19 and take over the government.

His opposition comes from the non-party administration of pro-western Prime Minister Mahmoud Bey Muntasser, assailed by Sadawi as "a British puppet government."

The West has a major stake in the outcome.

Mushrooming Wheelus Field, U.S. air base outside Tripoli, is the biggest American installation in Africa. From its newly lengthened runways bombers could range over Russia.

Britain has land forces based here. France has a small base in Fezzan Oasis, gateway to equatorial Africa.

Sadawi sings one tune to Western newspaper men and another to Arab audiences. The latter often have heard him

Train Schedule

For the East—
Daily except Sunday
From the East—
Daily except Monday

Foreign aid plays even greater role in Libya than foreign oil royalties. There Premier Muntasser expelled Britain in the nationalism although it is virtual bankruptcy upon Sadawi has shown signs that he wants to same thing here even reverts to a medieval hungry nomads. Like Mossadeq, he has population—more than tenths of the 1,340,000 people illiterate—with violent attacks on foreigners. The best estimate here Sadawi will make a showing in the election probably will fall just a majority. Only 48,000,000 acres total 251,000,000 acres of land in India are system irrigated.

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