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**THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR**  
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**Anastasia Fraud - Concord Veteran Recalls Service In Siberia**

(Continued from Page 2)  
The temperature was 30 degrees below zero. In 12 hours they travelled eight miles with horses.  
Mr. Dempster learned later that a former British army officer in command of the Russian division was one of the men who were purged by Stalin in 1935.  
From January to July they were free to ramble, but the party ended abruptly.  
"We saw the best the Russian Army had to offer every night and after awhile they thought we were having too good a time. At Irbutsk we were told we were under arrest and we were put in a box car. Behind us were men of the International Battalion from prisons in Siberia. It took about a week to get to Moscow," mused Mr. Dempster.  
After spending the night in the railway station they were marched to the headquarters of the secret police.  
"Very few that went in there came out alive. Interrogation usually was between midnight and 2 am when human resistance is lowest. Every night a truck took off and someone was missing in the morning.

"The officers had to work, but not the other ranks - the reverse of the usual practice. When the officers refused they were put in solitary confinement for two or three days."  
From Moscow they were moved to another concentration camp. All of the prison camps were former monasteries, says Mr. Dempster, for the Bolsheviks had outlawed the church, for centuries an oppressive arm of the government of the Czars, and often, when the Czar was weak, the controlling element in Russia.  
"We were allowed to wander through the cemeteries, but there were armed guards on the walls."  
For 16 months their rations were meagre - no breakfast, a lunch of soup made from fish heads and a slice of black bread. For supper they had porridge made from barley and tea made from dried apple leaves.  
The French Red Cross sent in white bread wrapped in newspaper, and it was from one of these newspapers that the prisoners learned that there had been

an international conference and an exchange of prisoners had been arranged. The British House of Commons had demanded to know when the exchange could take place.  
In December, 1920, the foreign troops were ordered to pack up and were taken from Moscow to Leningrad. Rations were better there and they were allowed to wander around the city.  
Leningrad had been the capital of Russia under the Czars and was known as St. Petersburg. It was renamed Petrograd by the Provisional Government, and finally Leningrad by the Bolsheviks, who moved the capital to Moscow.  
One of Mr. Dempster's fondest recollections is his visit to the Winter Palace where the bedrooms had been left as they had been when they were used by the Romanoffs, and there was a banquet room large enough to seat 1,500 people. It had been made a showplace so that workers and tourists could view the opulence of the decadent and autocratic aristocracy. The palace, built by Empress Elizabeth, daughter of Czar Peter the Great, contains 1,050 rooms.

In 1782 Catherine the Great built a "retreat," "The Hermitage," next to the Palace and within 20 years had amassed almost 4,000 paintings. Her successors continued to add to the collection and in 1850 an annex was erected to house paintings and sculptures of masters from all over Europe.  
"It is the most wonderful art," declares Mr. Dempster. "It is a good thing the new government never followed through with their intention to sell it."  
The Hermitage today is one of the great tourist attractions for visitors from all over the world.  
And Mr. Dempster's interest in art has continued. The walls of the cosy bungalow he shares with his wife, who is also 80, are lined with his paintings. Some are originals, others are excellent copies of other paintings or were taken from colored photos or postcards.  
He prefers landscapes and rural scenes - a log cabin at Nighthawk near Timmins, the entrance to the Ottawa Valley, a Scottish shilling, a covered bridge in Maine, sunset on Maple Lake, a

winter scene at Bailey's Bay, the vivid waters and coral reefs of Bermuda, a winter morning on a Scottish farm at Berwick on Tweed.  
He has made a copy of a painting of St. Louis Gate in the Quebec Citadel before it was altered, the "Brig o' Belgownie, 1908", the Don Valley as it was in 1900, "Glockford in Devonshire", copied from a postcard received by his son-in-law's grandfather in 1890, and there is a copy of a Cornelius Kreighoff "Winter in Quebec."  
There is a painting of a 15th century China Tea Clipper ("My son-in-law's father was captain of a tea clipper").  
He is proud to point out that there are the same number of eggs in the basket in his copy of Kreighoff's "Laval Cottage" as there are in the original, "It is an exact copy."  
His painting of "The Last Supper", too, is an exact copy of a German painting, with goblets of copper, silver or gold, not of glass, and the unleavened bread, roast mutton and bitter herbs.  
When he is not painting, Mr. Dempster likes gardening, and in the winter he sometimes helps his wife, (she calls him "Willie") with

one of her beautiful hand made quilts.  
Their proudest achievement is a 1,400 piece Centennial quilt. Another is a "Bow Tie" design. They estimate that the materials for a quilt cost about \$39.  
But money is not the most important thing, says Mr. Dempster. One has to have an interest in life, to have a daily challenge for living.  
"People budget money for their old age, but not time. You cannot play bingo seven days a week. You have to do something constructive, something creative, something worthwhile."  
Last fall the Dempsters celebrated their 58th wedding anniversary with a quiet family dinner at the Walker House in Toronto, and in November they were among the guests of honor at the annual Remembrance Day Dinner at the Royal Canadian Legion in Richmond Hill.  
So while the aging "Anastasia" fought her final battle in West Germany for the fabulous Romanoff fortune, "Willie" Dempster paints and muses and enjoys his quiet life on a quiet street in Concord.

**Conservation 1970 Budget Near \$3½ Million Mark**

The 59-member Metro and Region Conservation Authority has approved a 1970 general conservation budget of \$3,461,845 at its annual budget meeting held at Etobicoke Municipal Building February 13. The budget was presented by Elgin Card, a member of the authority's executive and the finance sub-committee.  
It is expected that the Ontario Government will contribute nearly \$1½ million in grants towards the general budget. Per capita cost amounts

to about 50 cents, based on an estimated population of nearly 2,086,000 within the 1,000-square-mile watershed administered by the authority.  
Authority members also approved the 1970 capital works projects for the long-range flood control and water conservation program which, over the next two years, envisages an expenditure of about \$4½ million. Cost of this program is being shared by the senior levels of government and the authority. In addition, there are a number of flood control and water conservation projects under consideration for benefitting municipalities amounting to about \$3 million, provided they are approved by the respective municipalities and Queen's Park.  
Other items dealt with at the meeting included approval of appointments to the five functional advisory boards comprising conservation areas, flood control and water conservation, historical sites, information and education, and reforestation and land use, and the appointment of the various sub-committees for 1970.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS**  
In the Estate of PERCY C. HILL, Deceased.

All persons having claims against the Estate of Percy C. Hill, late of the Town of Richmond Hill, in the County of York, Merchant, who died on or about the 30th day of July, 1969, are hereby notified to send particulars of same to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of March, 1970 after which date the Estate will be distributed with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice, and the undersigned will not be liable to any person whose claim they shall not then have notice.

**Meeting Of Markham Music Teachers Mar. 2**  
The Royal Conservatory of Music of Toronto Alumni Association, Markham Chapter, are holding their March meeting on Monday at 10:30 am at the home of Mrs. Gilbert Whitmore.

Mrs. Whitmore lives on Steeles Avenue one mile east of Concession 10 (the Stouffville Road). All Conservatory alumni are welcome.

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**YORK NORTH OTTAWA REPORT**  
By BARNETT J. DANSON, MP  
Danson Fights Inflation With CASHEX Card

From the time I entered Parliament, I have identified inflation and pollution as the two major immediate problems facing us. Pollution will take major initiatives but will take some time to bring under effective control . . . and we don't have all that much time left.  
Inflation must be brought under reasonable control within the next year and I am just beginning to get cautiously hopeful that our fiscal and monetary measures are beginning to pay off. Equally important is that the government and people of Canada are now beginning to realize that all of us must do our best to tighten up and fight this scourge with every weapon available.  
You might have read in the daily press of my suggestion for one way we as individuals can have an effect. The crux of it is to bring cash back into style. (Cash, if you recall, is that green paper stuff with pictures of the Queen on it. If you're lucky, you might have a bit with pictures of ex-Prime Ministers.) Actually, a cheque for immediate payment is just as good.  
There has been a tendency in recent years to use credit cards indiscriminately. This presents two problems. Firstly, because we can delay payment, we are seduced into buying the things we want rather than the things we need. Secondly the retailer usually has to pay the credit card company anywhere from 4% to 7% of the sales price and this gets built into the price he puts on an article or service.  
When you and I go into a shop and pay cash, the retailer makes 4% to 7% more on our purchase. In effect, we are paying a penalty for our frugality. I am urging that you request a discount on such purchases and I think retailers should be happy to give you 4% or 5% for your prompt payment.  
When the retailer receives prompt payment, he can reduce his bank loan, on which he can be paying 10% yearly. Secondly, his cash position is improved so that he can buy more competitively from his wholesaler, who also can use cash and can thus buy on better terms from the manufacturer. With credit being so scarce and thus expensive, everyone can benefit.  
The effects can be pyramid. Costs can be reduced and all tend to become more com-

petitive. Ultimately, our entire economy could be on a sounder basis. It might even force us to re-think our somewhat free-wheeling and high-flying methods of operation which have tended to accelerate in recent years. We might recapture some of those old-fashioned, but sensible, virtues such as thrift. Productivity would become more competitive on the export market and against imports. Our economy would prosper soundly.  
Now I'm not saying it's as simple as all this, or that cash buying alone is the answer to our inflation problems. As long as there is a high degree of inflation in the U.S., we will continue to have a tough fight. We can, however, be a lot worse off and this is one of a combination of things we can do to fight inflation.  
The main culprit we have to fight is what the economists call "inflation psychology." This is the belief people have that inflation will continue. The experience of recent years has convinced us that no matter what an item costs now, it will be even more expensive later, so buy now. Many, but not all, are secure in the knowledge that if costs go up, so will their pay cheques. The trouble is that when most pay cheques go up, costs and prices go up again.  
The federal government is restricting its expenditures severely. They are trying to put their house (which is ours) in order by budgeting for a substantial surplus. They have convinced some major banks and retail chains to forego announced increases in interest rates. They have also been successful in getting some key industries to rescind, or delay, price increases. These restraints show that everyone is beginning to mean business but they are only temporary and cannot be maintained unless we join in the fight too.  
We all must put our houses in order. We must demand value when we shop. We should, to the extent possible, boycott products where prices are increasing. When the cost of coffee goes up by a tenth of a cent a cup and restaurants raise their price five or ten cents, switch to tea. We must demonstrate our determination to support the initiatives of others because no isolated action is going to work. It is a determined, cohesive approach on a broad front that will catch on and snowball. It is only then that inflation will be beaten.  
Make up your mind now to join "Inflation Fighters". If you write to me, I will send you a CASHEX Card to show to retailers where you shop and who accept credit cards now. If the retailers want to join, I will even supply an "Inflation Fighters' CASHEX" sign to put in their shop windows.  
Write Barney Danson, MP, House of Commons, Ottawa. Have your friends write to their MP too. I'll be glad to supply them with CASHEX cards too. Just for openers, if you didn't know, you can write to your MP without postage when Parliament is sitting. There's a savings right off the bat.

**Rambling Around**

(Continued from Page 2)  
job at "The Liberal", and then a two year stint as operator of a bookkeeping machine at York Central Hospital filled the interval before she was re-instated at the Thornhill Branch of the Bank of Nova Scotia.

**LIKES FIGURES AND PEOPLE**  
"Working in a bank is something I really enjoy," said Betty. "I think it runs in the family to be good at figures. My older brother and sister started in the bank too."  
Besides liking to work with numbers, Betty likes the variety of jobs a bank offers. She has worked on most of them.  
"This way you can't get bored," she explained. "And people are the most interesting facts in the world," she added. "In the bank you get a chance to meet so many of them."  
The bank has a lot of assets for the security conscious person. It is a comfortable, secure job with benefits. And according to Betty Mulholland, the atmosphere at her bank is very pleasant.  
"Everyone works well together," she said.

**NEEDS WORK OF THE WORLD**  
"I seem to be a person who needs both a home and family plus outside work," said Betty. "I need the children but I need to keep my mind active too."  
Betty's mother, Gladys Hill, who lives in Richmond Hill, keeps an eye on nine-year-old Rebecca and a babysitter cares for Diana, two years, while her mother works at the bank.  
In order to accomplish this, Betty gets up at 6:30, does housework, walks to Yonge from Markham Road and Bayview and catches a bus to Thornhill every morning. She arrives at the bank at 8:45.  
"Working in a bank is ideal for me . . . the hours aren't that long and I can get home in good time and have a few hours to spend with the girls."  
Betty is another woman who believes it's the quality of the time you spend with the family not the quantity.

**INTEREST IN WRITING**  
Like many aspiring writers, Betty got the urge to write in childhood. She was seven years old and began by writing verse. This is an interest she would like to keep up. In the gem that follows she shares some of her thoughts about life.

**WHAT IS LIFE?**  
By Betty Mulholland  
What is life? Is it happiness . . . heartache, poverty or wealth? Is it sunshine or rain? Is it sickness or health?

I'll tell you what life is. Life is all these things. And few are the people who do not experience all the feelings set in a human soul. If one were given a life of complete happiness, there would be no challenge. We fight for what we want and whether or not we achieve our goal depends on how hard we fight. It is much easier to give up the ship than stay with it and see it safely to shore.  
I take my hat off to those who have the backbone and spirit to take what life gives them with a smile. There are many things beyond our power. These we accept without question. But life is what you make it and the only way to take life is to keep your chin up and laugh at the world.

Who of us couldn't share a similar philosophy of courageous living. Thanks for sharing, Betty.

**In The Spotlight**

(Continued from Page 2)  
To celebrate the tenth anniversary of the founding of Atkinson College, (the adult education department of York University), the student body will be presenting Arthur Miller's powerful drama, "A View From The Bridge". Under the direction of Dr. Matthew Ahern, director of the modern drama course, the play will be presented in the Burton Auditorium of York University, and will run February 27, 28 and March 1.  
Producer of "A View From The Bridge" is Fran Gibson, a graduate of York, with set design by Margaret Glew, and lighting by the theatre department of Burton College. In the cast will be Jack Zimmerman as Eddie, Stefany Conwright (by arrangement with Actors' Equity), as Cathy, and Janese Oliver as Beatrice. Mr. Alfieri will be played by Gordon Murdoch, Marco by Howard Morton and Rudolph by Scott Lauder. The action of the play has been updated from the original, which was set in the days of the depression, but this should in no way diminish the impact of the play, since the problems and emotions in which the characters are involved are applicable regardless of the era.

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