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FEBRUARY 4-5 & 6th.

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TERRACE BAY

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THIS WEEK AND NEXT



by Ray Argyle

The Times Are Good

By the usual reading of the calendar and the weather signs, Canada was in the depth of midwinter this week. But if it was having any effect on the economy, there was little sign of it as the country went into its 60th month of unbroken business growth.

Canada weathered several temporary recessions in the 1950s, but the last five recession-free years set a record both here and in the United States.

Spurred on by slosh-over of the Great Society in the U.S., unemployment fell from 7.8 per cent. at the beginning of 1961 to under four per cent. this month. Despite substantial pockets of poverty — which showed up more strikingly than ever in the face of the country's general prosperity — times were good for most Canadians this winter.

Department stores, after a sell-out Christmas season, were still crowded with free-spending shoppers. Nearly half the country's population was under 25, teen agers were staying longer in school than ever before, and industry and business showed

In B.C., where the per capita income was already 12 per cent. above the national average, the boom has been led by the forest industry (enough new pulp mills now under construction to double production) and power development on the Columbia and Peace rivers.

But enough problems remained to worry the nation's economists and politicians.

Ottawa saw a new session of Parliament convene under a new team of economic experts, potentially the strongest the country has ever had. The posting of Mitchell Sharp to the finance ministry, Robert Winters to trade and commerce and Jean Marchand to the new department of manpower gave hope that the Federal Government intended to come to grips with the blights on the Canadian economy.

Among these were the continued deficit the country has run up in foreign exchange by buying more than it sells abroad. The deficit doubled last year to more than a billion dol-

no let-up in plans for capital spending.

Anywhere you looked around Canada, big things were happening this week.

New Brunswick was caught up in its revolutionary plan to switch the main financial burdens of municipalities to the provincial government, while a \$200 million base metal mining project went full blast ahead.

Quebec's government-owned General Investment Corp. was hard at work to set up new industries while private capital, symbolized by the new \$60 million General Motors plant at Ste. Therese, Que., continued to pour in.

Ontario had so much expansion to talk about that it would take a good-sized book to list its new projects. Prairie farmers looked ahead to their best year in history. And the prairie economy continued to burgeon out with such industries as Saskatchewan's potash mines which already have created 24,000 new jobs. Alberta at last began to exploit its immense oil sand reserves, with \$250 million being spent at Fort McMurray, which now ranks as Canada's newest boom town.

lars. As a result, Mr. Sharp, warned, Canada's expansion rate will drop to about four per cent. after price adjustments, compared to the six per cent. real growth of 1965.

The Canadian stock market, after hitting a peak in May of 1965, was still lagging, in contrast to the continued rises of stock prices in the U.S.

Quebec's government-owned eneral Investment Corp. was ard at work to set up new in-industry even today.

And the country has also failed to train enough skilled workers to meet the demands of industry even today.

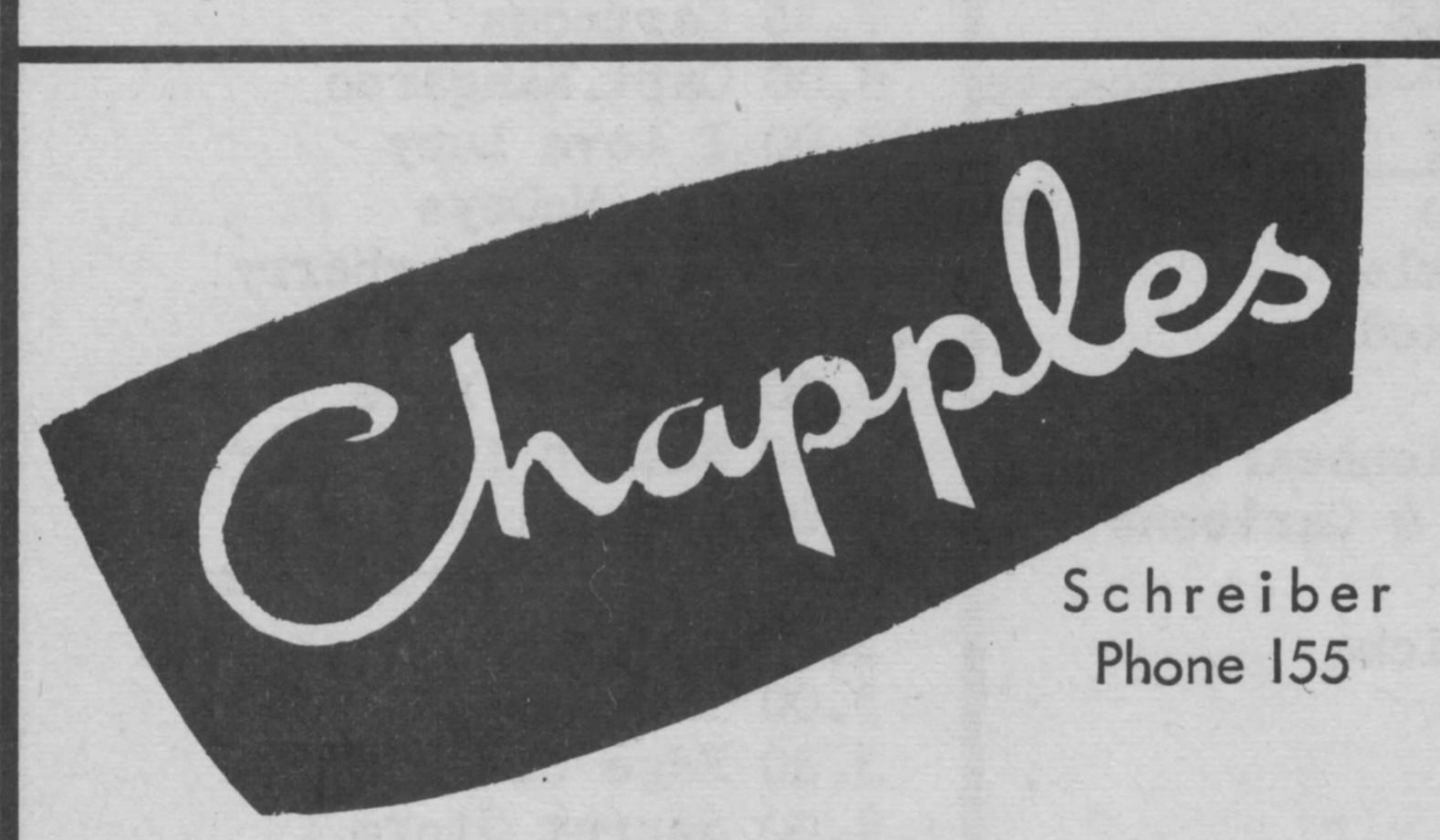
Regional differences in living standards continued as barriers to national prosperity. The Economic Council pointed out that Canada had failed to close the gap even partially in the past 40 years.

Finally, rising costs verging on creeping inflation brought price increases in a multitude of goods and services. The eternal conundrum of prosperity, the boom and bust nightmare, was there as always. After five years of steady growth, Canadians could only hope that the momentum of expansion would carry us safely through any future slowdowns.

CURLING NEWS (Continued page 4)

he filled in as sweeper for all three games.

Don't forget to sign up for the Sweetheart Bonspiel to be held February II, I2 and I3. The first 16 rinks will be accepted and the quota is almostfilled already.



Congratulations to the sponsors - Terrace Bay Teen Town - and all who are assisting in presenting this district's first Snow Festival - on February 4 - 5 and 6th.

