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## Plenty of reasons to give thanks

□ Prairie dwellers might have suffered most in Canada because the Depression coincided with a dreadful drought and a plague of grasshoppers that seemed to eat everything, including the bark off trees. In one vignette, a woman remembers a hot, dry wind that always blew. In another, a Saskatchewan farmer recalls holding a handful of soil and watching the wind pick at it, trying to move his land somewhere else.

□ One actor recalled the memory of a young man in his 20s who was one of thousands the federal government virtually imprisoned in low-paying work camps because it didn't know what else to do with them.

□ Almost 1,500 desperate and bitter young men left B.C. in June 1935 via the CN line on the doomed On-to-Ottawa Trek to try to personally appeal to federal officials. After being fed and treated warmly in Golden and Calgary, the men were brutally suppressed in the infamous Regina Riot. Mounties acting on orders from Ottawa fired on the trekkers, whom Bennett was subsequently able to successfully label as Communists.

We shouldn't obsess about the Great Depression or the Holocaust, but we and our kids must not forget them. History helps to put our own lives into perspective.

Middle-class baby boomers particularly have witnessed an erosion of living standards in the past 20 years. There's never a good time to be poor, but we retain a middle class, albeit one that faces more challenges than in the '70s. We've got to maintain that middle class, which was virtually wiped out in the Depression.

Brenda and I saw the play heading into the Thanksgiving weekend. Sharing quality time with friends and family at a Cranbrook Hill weenie roast and a turkey dinner with some of the same folks the next day got me thinking about how much we have to be thankful for.

Ted Price says there was no thought to staging Ten Lost Years at Thanksgiving or near the October anniversary of the New York Stock Exchange crash that launched a worldwide economic depression. Sometimes things work out for the best, even when you expect it least.

Happy belated Thanksgiving.

## CITIZEN OF THE YEAR NOMINEE

### Safety top of mind for Waite

Each year the Prince George Foundation oversees the naming of this city's Citizen Of The Year. This time around the format has been changed, underscoring the foundation's desire to properly reflect the quality of person being nominated. Previous winners have included Bob Harkins, Gord Molendyk and Horst Sander. In all these cases the winners were announced at Canada Day celebrations in Fort George Park.

This year, the Canada Day celebrations were the venue for the foundation to announce the nominees for the award. All the nominees. The winner will not be announced until a gala Citizen Of The Year banquet this autumn, held to honour all those in the running and venerate the one chosen for this year.

There are eight nominees in total and the eighth nominee is Mike Waite.

Safety is the touchword for Mike Waite. He is one of the founders of the Mud River/Beaverly Volunteer Fire Department and the Central Interior Fire Chiefs' Association, as well as being a local representative for fire

protection issues at the provincial and national levels. He is dedicated to community safety and emergency support systems with his time, his personal resources, and his very life has been on the line. He considers it his responsibility, not his obligation.

Some of the comments from Mike's nomination team include:

"Mike carries out all his duties with exemplary dedication to the local community."

"I have known Mike for over nine years and remember many (almost weekly) occasion when he was called out to save a life in the middle of the night."

"Over the years Mike has helped train many new volunteer (firefighters) to ensure the level of protection in the community is at its best."

"Mike has spent over 30 years doing volunteer activity in the surrounding Prince George region."

"It was due to Mike's determination and drive that the Beaverly Fire Department was formed about 30 years ago."

The Citizen Of The Year Banquet will be held October 20 at the Coast Inn of the North. Tickets are available now at the Inn's front desk. Tables may be reserved by calling 614-7849.



Mike Waite

## FLOW FACTS

The winter release at the Skins Lake Spillway, as set by the Nechako Fisheries Conservation Program, is 1148 cubic feet per second (cfs), or 32.5 cubic meters per second (cms). This will remain the approximate release until April 2001.

On October 13, 2000, the reservoir elevation was 2790.2 feet. The reservoir level is currently about 5.0 feet below the long-term average. According to the Water Survey of Canada gauge in the river at Vanderhoof, the water flow was 1653 cfs (46.8 cms).

For more information, please call Alcan's Regional Office in Vanderhoof at 567-5105 (Prince George: 561-1189; Burns Lake: 692-4315). Skins Lake Spillway discharges are posted on Alcan's home page at <http://www.sno.net/alcan>.

Flow Facts information is provided on Alcan's 24 hour information line in Vanderhoof at 567-5812. Nechako Fisheries Conservation Program information can be accessed at <http://www.NFCP.org>



## AN INVITATION TO WORSHIP

### From the Churches of Prince George

(21st in a series of studies on Christ's disciples)

### RESTORED THROUGH A LOOK

*And the Lord turned, and looked upon Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord. (Luke 22:61)*

Peter's restoration gives hope for the backsliding child of God. His life shows just how far a believer may backslide from the Lord and yet how merciful is the Lord to restore when true repentance is manifest. His backsliding was healed by a look from the suffering Saviour. It was surely a look of grace. Christ was a prisoner in the judgment hall, yet he took time to turn and look on erring Peter.

That look had to bring conviction for sin as well as healing for the soul. It revealed to Peter his sin as well as showing him there was forgiveness. God's grace to every backslider displays these two mercies. With this look there came a remembrance of the word of God, that word that Jesus had spoken to him a few hours earlier. When Peter thought on the word, he went out and wept bitterly. It is an evil and bitter thing to forsake the Lord, and a

broken and a contrite spirit shows how keenly this truth is felt. Godly sorrow always accompanies true repentance.

What made the look so effectual was the Saviour's prayer for Peter. He told him earlier, "I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not." His faith did not fail him, and he knew deliverance from the devil's snare. If others are infrequent in prayer for themselves, let us not sin against the Lord in ceasing to pray for them. Then as we speak God's Word to them, He will use it for their restoration. If we deny our Lord, let us not use Peter's fall as an excuse for our sin, but know there is forgiveness with God, that He may be feared.

Thought for the week: You may wish again, backslider. The mercy seat is not removed, nor is the permission to approach it revoked. (C.H. Spurgeon)

Join us for our Lord's Day Services

Morning Worship 11:00 a.m. - Evening Service 6:30 p.m.

### Heritage Free Presbyterian Church

4020 Balsum Road, Prince George

Questions or comments? Call us at 962-8232



### GATEWAY CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

If you cannot attend Sunday Service, you are welcome to attend

**Saturday Night 7:00 - 8:30**

**2055 - 20th Avenue**

*Come Celebrate Jesus In Thanksgiving*

Rides are available for Sunday Service. Please call the church office 563-1003 before Sunday 9:00 a.m.

**Sunday Morning - 10:00 - 12:00**

for all ages, nursery available  
"Sowing, Growing, Going"

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