PRIME MINISTER LAUDS MOVEMENT

International Credit Union day marked by three city groups

Three credit unions in Prince Rupert today join those across Canada in observing International Credit Union Day. They are the 20-year old Prince Rupert Fishermen's Credit Union, the Kaien Consumers Credit Union and the Celco Credit Union.

"The success of the credit union movement in Canada is proof that its members are conscious of their obligations and those of their organizations to the communities they serve."

FIRST CREDIT UNION

The city's first credit union was the Prince Rupert Fishermen's Credit Union, organized in 1940 to provide co-operative fishermen with a co-operative bank or credit union.

With the assistance of credit union specialists from St. Francis Xavier University, N.B., the Fishermen's Credit Union was incorporated in 1940 with a membership of less than 100 and assets of $1,200. W. H. Brett was the first president, Harry Hansen vice-president and Alex Sinclair, secretary-treasurer.

For Mr. Brett, the 20th anniversary of the Fishermen's Credit Union also coincides with his election as president again.

In the past 20 years the PRFCR has passed many milestones. Assets now total $5,000,000 and membership is climbing toward 3,000. Annual business transactions are close to $40,000,000. Among the larger transactions was the financing of the $543,000 Prince Rupert Co-Op Centre. The credit union loans $2,000,000 annually to the Prince Rupert Fishermen's Co-Operative Association to finance fish sales. Credit union funds have also helped finance new fishing vessels and homes for local fishermen.

KAIEN GROUP

Second credit union organized was the Kaien Consumers Credit Union, formed in 1945 with George Rudderham as its first president.

Founded to serve all members of the community, the Kaien Consumers Credit Union operated at first from the Co-Op hardware store on Third Avenue, until 1956, when its officers were moved to the Prince Rupert Fishermen's Credit Union offices at Cow Bay. With the opening of the new Co-Op Centre, the credit union moved into central offices with other credit unions.

On November 1, the Kaien Consumers Credit Union with its assets of more than $1,250,000 and 1,700 members will amalgamate with the Celco Credit Union which has assets of $250,000 and 550 members.

Presidents of the Kaien Consumers Credit Union since its inception have been Mr. Rudderham, Charles Bellis, George Anderson, Sidney Woodside, G. R. Brett, F. W. Grimkle, H. J. Merchant, James Williams, Daniel Delaney.

Treasurers since 1945 include Mrs. Margaret Lowes, Miss Jean Lysak, Mrs. Florence Greenwood, Mrs. Mabel Rye, James Williams, Mrs. Betty Williams, and George Viereck, who has been associated with credit unions since 1945.

CELCO GROUP

Celco Credit Union was incorporated in May 22, 1951 by Columbia Cellulose Company Ltd., employees two weeks before the Watson Island pulp mill began production.

By the end of 1951 Celco Credit Union boasted a membership of 43 and assets of $504. A year later there were 173 members and assets had grown to $18,053.

Today, just before its merger with Kaien Consumers Credit Union, the Celco group has 550 members and assets of $293,098.

R. K. McBride was first president of the board of directors with Thomas Sherry as the first treasurer - manager. Other treasurer-managers and assistants since then have been Mr. and Mrs. George Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Fairfield Vanier and Mr. and Mrs. John Denning.

Today, S. J. Simpson is president of the current board, with Ronald Merrison as secretary, R. H. Simonds as vice-president, Carl Leeman, G. E. Cameron, H. I. Phipps and Reginald Ronald make up the rest of the board.

New policy for jailbirds

KINGSTON, Ont. (CP)— Prisoners in Canadian penitentiaries are to receive extra recreational, visiting and mailing privileges in what Justice Minister Fulton describes as a "great new event in the history of our country."

Mr. Fulton announced the changes Tuesday night at the week-long conference of Canadian penitentiary wardens and said the move is a "new, progressive" penal policy. The justice department acted on recommendations from the wardens.

LANDING AID

TOULON, France (AP)—A five-watt solar battery is being tested for possible use as runway guide markers on isolated African airports. Experts say the sun often generates one kilowatt of energy a square metre in Africa.

COLONEL J. G. K. STRATHY of the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada (right), presents a drum to Major-General V. Boucher second from right), who accepted it on behalf of the Royal East Kent Regiment. "The Buffs", at Canterbury, in Kent, England. The drum, which will be laid up in the Warrior's Chapel of Canterbury Cathedral, was presented to mark the fifty years' affiliation between the two regiments. Holding the drum are Corporals Ronald Elliott (left) of Windsor, Ontario, Canada, and Derek Johnson of Canterbury.

Brendan Behan off the bottle

NEW YORK (AP)—Brendan Behan is in an enthusiastic collision with the American scene.

The round, rumpled playwright from Dublin tells of it with blue-streak zeal.

"Let's go to a saloon," he begins when invited to an interview. Behan, a reformed boozer of redoubtable capacity, isn't backsliding, mind you. He just feels easier guzzling his soda water in familiar, dim-lit informality.

Having come to Gotham to participate in the first Broadway production of one of his dramas, Brendan starts with it.

"The reviews were all right," he comments of the critical response to the opening of The Hostage. "They weren't quite as good as London, but they were all civil." The majority of the press found in favor of the wildly off-beat charade.

"I love New York," resumes the voice that is laced with a light Celtic brogue. "It looks more like a city than any other city. A place where you won't get bit by a wild sheep. I was told it was hell, so I must be a devil."

Surprised cabbie picks trans-Canada passenger

MONTREAL (CP) — "It was just one of those things," said cabbie Leonidas Hebert.

"Another driver was flagged by this young man right near Peel and St. Catherine streets.

"The young man asked to go to Vancouver but first of all the driver didn't believe his ears and second his car wasn't in quite good enough shape for such a long trip.

"So he sent the client over to me. I didn't believe it either, until he produced a bundle of $100 bills."

That convinced Hebert that Tony Stoyi, a Czechoslovakian immigrant in Canada only four months, really wanted to visit a brother in Vancouver.

"He said he didn't like it here. The city was too big and confusing for him."

Stoyi didn't want to fly and preferred a chauffeured trip to one by train.

"Well," said Hebert, recounting his 6,500-mile round-trip in an interview, "I called the office and asked what the rate to Vancouver was."

Diamond Taxi Association headquarters said $1,150.

"This isn't like an ordinary trip in town," explained Hebert. "The cost of getting the taxi back to Montreal has to be covered."

Stoyi peeled off ten $100 bills but refused to pay more.

"I took it from him," said the cabbie. "In less than 45 minutes, I'd called at the house to grab some extra shirts and my camera, picked up my relief driver, and we were on our way."

EARTH'S CORE

Geophysicists believe the earth's core may be composed primarily of iron, possibly mixed with about eight per cent of nickel and some cobalt.

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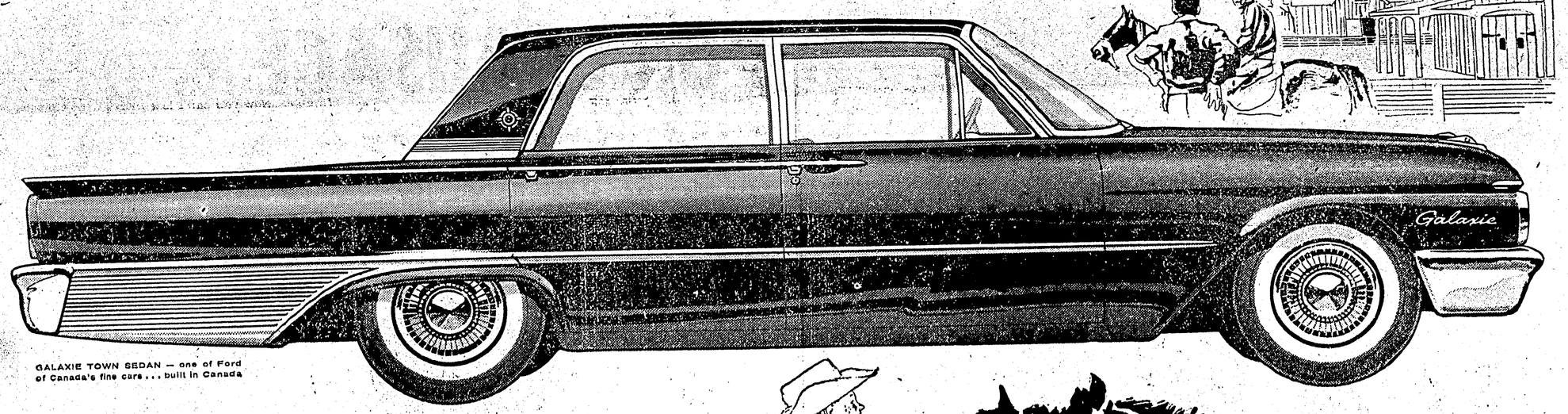

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