1910 — PRINCE RUPERT DAILY NEWS — 1959

An independent newspaper devoted to the upbuilding
of Prince Rupert and Northern and Central British Columbia.
A member of The Canadian Press—Audit Bureau of Circulation
Canadian Daily Newspaper Publishers Association
Published by The Prince Rupert Daily News Limited.

JOHN F. MAGOR
President

J. R. AYRES
Editor

G. P. WOODSIDE
General Manager

Authorized as second class mail by the Post Office Department Ottawa

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1959

Ponder the true meaning of Christmas

THROUGHOUT the Christian world an air of anticipation lifts the spirits of every man, woman and child. Christmas is early with us and while in this jet-powered, nuclear age, the anticipation has been tarnished with commercialism, nevertheless behind it all is the spirit of giving.

In just such a way, 1,959 years ago, God gave His only Son to the world, that man might live. He set a pattern for His Son that 30 odd years later He would, by His death upon the cross, exemplify the sacrifice necessary in this life to achieve immortality.

By His action God gave us living proof that nothing worthwhile in this life is attained with ease. that everything that means anything to us needs conscious effort, striving and sacrifice of self. Deep down in our hearts we know this and during the hectic days we live, with problems at home, at work and in the community, we know we should take time out to ponder the miracle of the Christ Child whose birthday we observe tomorrow.

Tonight across the Christian world special masses and Holy Communion services will be celebrated so that we can begin the Christmas season refreshed in spirit and mind. All around the globe voices will be raised in song, hailing the arrival of the Saviour, who was and still is, everything to all men.

A prayer, a few thoughts of what all this stands for, a self-reminder of what the word "Christ-mas" really means, will help us take part in this joyous season with a little more kindness, a little more love, patience and tolerance that in the end will lead to a happier life and a truly wonderful Christmas.

LETTER FROM OTTAWA

Christmas wishes of Canada's prominent figures

By KEN KELLY
Canadian Press Staff Writer

OTTAWA—Christmas is a time when children usually get their nearest and dearest wish fulfilled.

Adults mostly leave this behind them but here are a few Christmas wishes for prominent figures, in some cases as a reporter thinks they might be framed:

Prime Minister Diefenbaker's wish for Opposition Leader Pearson: continuance in his present position.

Mr. Pearson's wish for Mr. Diefenbaker: Continued good health and happiness as he approaches an election and the status of a displaced person.

Justice Minister Fulton: A full book of trading stamps.

Immigration Minister Fairclough: Weldon Chan, Chinese sought on a deportation warrant, on a fast boat to China.

Finance Minister Fleming: A chance to cut taxes and spending, borrow less money and still balance the budget.

Works Minister Walker: A way to say no to patronage seekers without making an enemy.

Revenue Minister Nowlan: No repetition of 1959's run of controversies which put the CBC—and the government—on the griddle.

Health Minister Monteith: Irrefutable proof that present levels of radioactivity can cause no harm to humans.

Members of the Senate: An end to talk of abolition of the upper chamber.

Opposition members of the Commons: A major government blooper during the parliamentary session starting January 14.

External Affairs Minister Green: To get out of the shadow of Mr. Pearson's Nobel Prize-winning performance in the same post.

Trade Minister Churchill: Assurance that Canadian wheat sales abroad will exceed 300,000,000 bushels.

Postmaster-General Hamilton: An explanation for the printing mistake on the St. Lawrence Seaway stamp that won't provoke opposition criticism.

Transport Minister Hees: A smooth year for the St. Lawrence Seaway and no Welland Canal bottlenecks.

TIME AND PLACE . . . by Stan Rough

HAZELTON CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION 1872

"My first visit after breakfasting with Tom (Hankin) was to his partner, Mr. McK....., who lived in an adjoining house. These gentlemen were engaged in the fur trade, and carried on, besides a miscellaneous traffic with passing miners, of whom there were some score or more then wintering at the "forks." As might have been expected, there was, besides the dwelling houses and stores, a saloon which formed the favourite resort of the residents during their hours of leisure, when poker, euchre and "forty five" absorbed the attention of the jovial and reckless population. Owing to the want of accomodation at Hankins house I shifted my quarters to the saloon, and was located in a log house containing but one room and a closet, where the bar tender kindly provided me with a bedstead on which I hoped to pass, after a civilized fashion, a few really comfortable nights; but unfortunately for me, I reckoned without my host and had not calculated upon the disorganization consequent upon the rioting and festivities of Christmas week, then close at hand. The weather had again become settled and on the morning of Christmas Eve the thermometer stood at 22 below. This was however a much higher temperature than is usually experienced at this place. I was informed that the previous winter forty and even fifty below had been by no means exceptional. . . .

"From early morning until far into the evening the miners and everyone else at the place were busily occupied in getting up shooting matches and other games with which to usher in the time honored holiday; and at midnight of the 24th the bursting of a bomb consisting of 25 pounds of gunpowder securely tied up in many thicknesses of strong canvas announced the day which Englishmen so much delight to respect. Simultaneously a dropping fire of muskets and revolvers, accompanied by shouts and yells from the excited crowd resounding through the air and forthwith the major portion of the population of Hazelton crowded into the saloon where ample justice was done to the occasion in many a flowering bumper, the exciting effects of which were soon manifested by eager demands for music and dancing. An old accordion and tambourine, the only instruments in the place, were called into requisition while the crack dancers took the floor, among whom the chief of them all, figured Dancing Bill of British Columbia renown.

"The fun grew fast and furious: the legitimate instruments already in use and soon rendered almost unserviceable, were not sufficient to satisfy the terpsichorean tastes of the miners; and frying pans, pokers, shovels, anything in fact capable of producing sound were therefore added to the list and helped to swell the din become now almost demoniacal. To sleep through such an uproar was of course out of the question, so seizing the first opportunity I made myself scarce and sought refuge in a neighboring shanty where I managed to elude the vigilance of the noisy crowd and snatch several hours of quiet rest. These demonstrations of mirth and loyalty continued for several days. . . ."

✣ ✣ ✣

NOTE: From "Canada on the Pacific" by Charles Horetzky published in Montreal 1874.

The Packsack of Gregory Clark

The Packsack always devotes Christmas Eve to reminding us lucky ones of all those who won't be having any Christmas on account of us.

Are the hospitals all empty tonight and tomorrow? Have all the doctors, the young doctors, the old doctors, have all the nurses laid off for the holiday?

Who keeps our lights burning as we give the last touches to the Christmas tree? Who keeps the lights burning on the tree

The taps run, the stoves light, the telephone rings. Somebody must be on watch.

The police are on watch, more of them tonight and tomorrow than any day of the year. The firemen are in the fire halls, ready as ever to save us or our precious property. More trains, more aircraft, more buses are boring across the earth and sky now than in the height of the tourist season. And all the operations personnel, tens of thousands of them, in stations and terminals and airfields are laboring harder now than on Labor Day. From tip of Florida to Alaska, from Goose Bay in Labrador to the farthest tip of California, the incredible web of telephones sings now with traffic, and countless thousands of girls and men are on duty all over that vast filigree. For the security, comfort and joy of our Christmas we are in debt to an unseen unthought-of multitude for whom Christmas is just another day, and a tougher day than usual. So here's a thought for them.

Don't go any further!

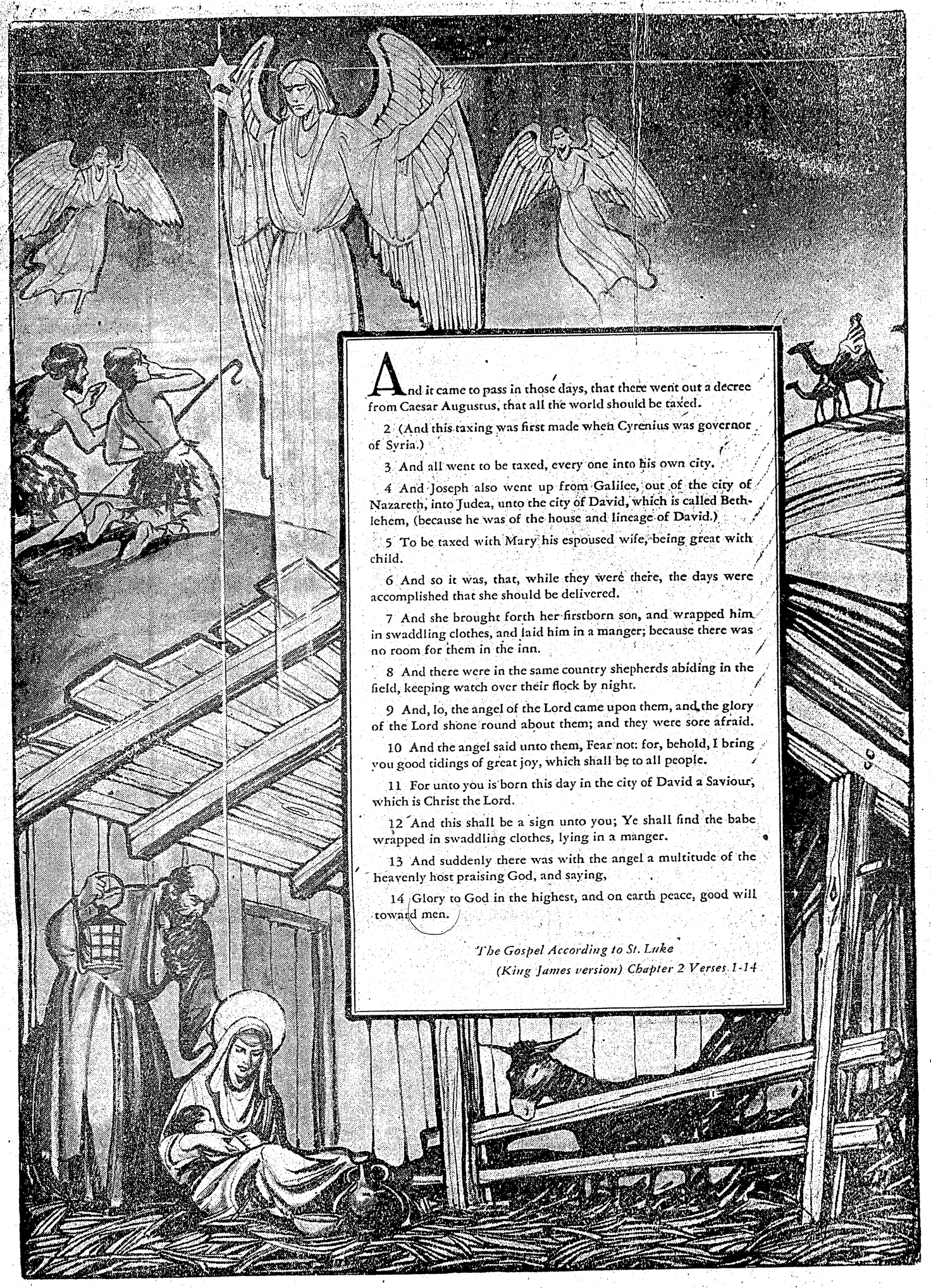
"I'm on the nominating committee of the PTA and we'd like you to run for——"

"Mother, this is going to be just a little expensive, but——"

"Honey, I want to make a suggestion about how you can increase your efficiency here in the kitchen——"

"Mom, Mervyl has twenty-six rabbits, and he started off with only two. Can I have——"

"I make it a practice never to tell other people how to raise their children, but if I were you——"



And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.

2 (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

3 And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, (because he was of the house and lineage of David.)

5 To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

6 And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

7 And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

9 And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.

10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

12 And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

The Gospel According to St. Luke
(King James version) Chapter 2 Verses 1-14

Letterbox

WASTE OF PUBLIC FUNDS

The Editor,
The Daily News:

Please will somebody take the government to task for the expenditure of public funds for Premier Bennett's "Christmas Message" to government employees?

I don't know what the direct cost of the conference long distance call to 30 centres would be, but probably not less than $500. The indirect cost must have been fabulous with some 10,000 government employees away from their jobs for from 15 minutes to, in the case of some Dept. of Highways employees, an hour or more, plus the cost of using government vehicles for "official business."

Were it not for the lack of support which Mr. Bennett already enjoys among government employees, he would have lost 10,000 votes with his inept and expensive attempt at good employee relationship.

Thank you, Mr. Bennett.

Pro Bono Publico,
Prince Rupert.

URGES WATER BOARD

The Editor,
The Daily News:

On the completion of the election results I was challenged by Alderman T. Norton Youngs.

He asked me what I was going to do about the water, owing to the bylaw being defeated.

Surely if City Council finds itself in such a dilemma, a water board could be appointed or elected. Boards of this kin are nothing new. There are school boards and parks boards.

J. W. Prusky,
Prince Rupert.

LIGHTER SIDE

Personnel Supervisor: "What previous work and experience have you had?"

Applicant: "All kinds; I was a secretary. All I had to do was look like a girl, think like a man, act like a lady and work like a dog."

✣ ✣ ✣

Overheard at the cosmetics counter: "There's no tax on this perfume—the kind of man it attracts isn't considered a luxury."

With the classics

I envy not in any moods
The captive void of noble rage,
The linnet born within the cage,
That never knew the summer woods:
I envy not the beast that takes
His license in the field of time,
Unfetter'd by the sense of crime,
To whom a conscience never wakes;
Nor, what may count itself as blest,
The heart that never plighteth troth
But stagnates in the weeds of sloth,
Nor any want-begotten rest.
—Tennyson.

Power brakes may stop a car on a dime, but it usually takes $100 to have the rear end fixed.