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

TUESDAY, JULY 7, 1959

More severe sentences welcome trend

HANDING out by the city magistrate of heavier jail terms for obstruction of police officers in the execution of their duties is a welcome trend. For too long now sentences for such offences have appeared too light to have the necessary deterrent effect. The Prince Rupert taxpayers are paying good money for law enforcement and protection. Unless those who are found guilty or who plead guilty to breaking the law are dealt with severely, they will become repeaters. Familiarity, even with court appearances and easily obtainable fines, breeds contempt for the law and the court.

There is little point for a police officer to exert the extra force and effort needed to enforce the law or meet violence if the end result is a token fine or admonishment. The same rule applies to impaired drivers, who as we have said before, are potential murderers once they get behind the wheel of a motor vehicle with their brain bemused by alcohol. Fines of $300 to $350 should make it not only uneconomical to drive when impaired but should scare the average driver from even attempting it. Only by putting some teeth into sentences can the persistent law breakers be impressed with the fact that both the police and the court mean business in keeping the people of Prince Rupert and their property safe from violence and accident.

This city with its large weekend crowds and limited facilities for visitors cannot afford to have any violence or disrespect shown for the law. Those who deliberately show disrespect for the men hired to maintain the law, who resist arrest or incite others to do likewise should be dealt with firmly so that their punishment not only serves as a lesson to them but to others.

Press rights — and duties

The editorial below is by J.C. Peters, managing editor of the Orillia Daily Packet and Times. It is the winning entry in the Thomson Newspapers competition for staff writers on the subject: A Free Press: Its Rights and Responsibilities.

Editorials are rarely written with a paint brush.

This one is the exception. Not literally, of course, but its form and substance took shape during the painting of a garden chair. It was then typed and sent to the composing room.

There is little that is unusual about this. Editorials are similarly conceived and written by a hundred editors every day.

Just one thing makes it noteworthy:

The fact that there are countries in the world where such a thing cannot happen.

For there are countries where no editor may conceive his own editorial, write it as he sees fit, and have it appear in print without eyes other than his own having scanned its sentences.

There are countries where editors are told what they may write and how it must be written. Where editorials must pass the scrutiny of government officials before appearing in a newspaper. Where transgression of these rules means imprisonment or death.

Editorials are not written with a paint brush in such countries.

Democracy's citizens see nothing unusual in an editor writing his opinion of civic matters or government actions. That is a part of "freedom of the press" as they know it.

Day after day the reader picks up a newspaper to read of all the important and unimportant things that make up life. Rarely does he question the accuracy of the news presented, taking it for granted that newspapers publish the truth.

Occasionally he may accuse the newspaper of grossly exaggerating, of erring in quotation. He may become angered when his court appearance is recorded, or his name left out of the list of head table guests. He will comment bitterly that "newspapers never get anything right" and find many to nod ready agreement. But next day he will triumphantly clinch an argument with the statement that: "I read it in the paper!"

That, too, is "freedom of the press."

There are countries in the world where a next-door neighbor can disappear overnight without a word appearing in the press to explain the incident. Where a man can be arraigned in court and sentenced to death without public explanation. Where an election can be held with candidates of only one party having their speeches recorded in the press.

There are countries where world news never appears, but where the columns of the press are filled instead with carefully-censored reports calculated to allow readers only that knowledge of affairs which the government deems fit.

This, by no stretch of the democratic imagination, can be called "freedom of the press."

But is press freedom, then, so important to a people?

Perhaps not. And yet, when Nazi might lay heavy upon conquered Europe and state-controlled newspapers printed only daily government bulletins, hundreds of men and women risked or gave their lives to print and distribute clandestine newspapers with news from the outside world. Such newspapers the German conquerors hunted down ruthlessly, reserving for their staffs their most revolting tortures.

Freedom of the press must have been important to those nameless newsmen, for men do not lightly sacrifice their lives.

For them freedom of the press was synonymous with freedom itself and was something more precious even than life.

The struggle they waged is not over, not in the lands behind the Iron Curtain, nor in the democracies of the West. It is a fight that has no final ending, for threats against freedom never end.

But so long as a man may write an editorial with a paint brush, tyranny cannot hope for victory. —The Toronto Telegram.

REPORT FROM PARLIAMENT By FRANK HOWARD

What with the CBC controversy raging all throughout Parliament Hill and across the country most other matters have been pushed aside in th enewspapers, except, of course, the present royal tour.

In the midst of the CBC and parliamentary consideration of the defence department estimates there has been anothr matter that has received considerable attention by some members, but which has received very little publicity. This has been the meetings of the Joint Senate and House of Commons Committee on Indian Affairs.

This past week we were visited by a delegation from the Native Brotherhood of B.C. Rev. Dr. Peter Kelly, legislative chairman and Robert Clifton, president, presented the best brief that has so far been presented to the committee. In fact we spent two lengthy days hearing evidence from the Native Brotherhood.

The Indian Affairs Committee will not complete its hearings this year, but will be re-established again at the next session.

I was rather astounded to read that B.C.'s Labor Minister Lyle Wicks is asking for a Royal Commission on Indian Affairs, at a time when there is a parliamentary committee studying the problem. On the off chance that our B.C. Government doesn't know about the parliamentary committee I was instrumental in getting the committee to advise each of the provincial governments of the committee's hearings in order that those provincial governments which so desired could appear before the committee.

Inasmuch as municipalities are affected by Indian Affairs I got the committee to agree to advise the Canadian Federation of Mayors and Municipalities also.

In addition to this the committee will, again at my suggestion, write to each Indian band in Canada advising them of the committee's hearings.

Naturally we cannot write to everyone or to every organization that might be interested, but we hope that the hearings will receive sufficient publicity so that any interested person, Indian band, or organization will have knowledge of the committee and will be able to take the opportunity of appearing before us.

When one is away from home for any length of time as I have been for about six months now, it is easy to lose touch with many of the day to day problems and happenings in the riding. This absence, of course, is unavoidable because the House is in session for six to seven months of each year. One of the things which I look forward to is receiving papers from home. Not only does it help to keep me up to date about things in the riding, but it is so nice to read about individuals that I know.

However, the session is drawing to a close and after that I will be able to spend the balance of the year travelling around the riding. See you soon.

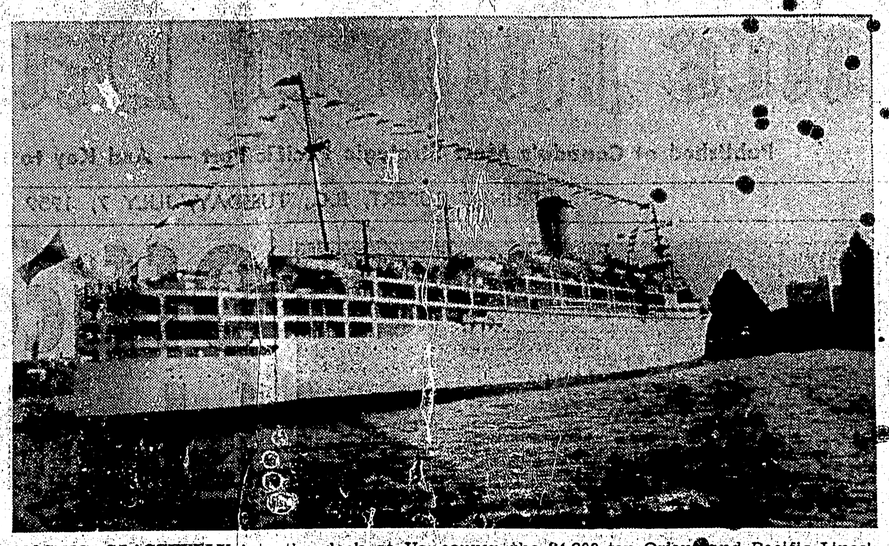
Drive defensively

Drive defensively. Assume every other motorist will make the wrong move in any emergency or traffic conflict. That way you'll automatically yield the right-of-way and give the other driver plenty of room. It's better to be safe than sorry.

A Bible Thought for Today

I will lift up mine eyes to the hills, whence cometh my help. Psalm 121:1.

When Israel was taking possession of the Promised Land their enemies thought their gods were gods of the hills. But the early psalmist said "My help cometh from the Lord that made heaven and earth. It is an amazing thing that the infinite who made and upholds the utmost stars knows us so intimately that the hairs of our head are numbered. He also guides and directs two hundred billion cells of our bodies.



NOSING GRACEFULLY into the dock at Vancouver, the 24,000-ton Orient and Pacific Lines' Chusan had pennants and flags flying in response to a New York-style harbor greeting marking the return of Orient-West Cast big-liner contact. Aboard was Eric Sanderson, former news editor of the Prince Rupert Daily News and his wife Claudia, completing a 12,000-mile cruise to Singapore by way of Manila, Hong Kong, Yokohama and Honolulu.

Hawaiians stand out for tourists for friendliness, easy-going ways

By ERIC SANDERSON

Mr. Sanderson, former news editor of the Prince Rupert Daily News, well-known Vancouver newsman, just completed a two-month 12,000-mile voyage to the Orient aboard the Orient and Pacific liners Himalaya and Chusan. (This series concerns some of the ports he visited.)

SEVENTH OF A SERIES

HONOLULU—Every city and every country has its own particular custom but the Hawaiians stand out among all nationalities for their friendliness and easy-going mannerisms.

One of the most delightful Island customs is the giving of fresh flower leis to visitors on arrival.

There seems to be no particular hurry by the native-born to go anywhere or get anything done at any specific time. The Hawaiians are happy. They sing, dance, talk and enjoy life.

When travellers arrive on the Orient and Pacific Line ships, pretty Hawaiian girls from the Honolulu Tourist Bureau board the vessels to greet each person with a garland of fresh flowers.

There's always a special lei for the captain of the ship and the "aloha" greeting is followed by songs and dances.

The aloha spirit is everywhere. Anyone in Hawaii who welcomes a friend, relation or traveller presents a lei as a token of greeting and affection.

Honolulu, in the island of Oahu, is the capital city of the Hawaiian Islands—the most isolated land group in the world. The nearest mainland to any of the 7 islands is more than 2,000 miles distant.

Origin of the custom of wearing and presenting one's friends with fragrant flower leis is not known. In the olden days feather leis were worn, but only by royalty.

The Hawaiians are lovers of flowers and music. It's a common sight to see Hawaiians strumming ukeleles as they stroll along the beaches and streets, particularly in the evenings.

They dress casually, comfortably and almost always in bright-colored attire. The aloha shirts—the brightly-flowered open neck style—are proper dress at most functions and anyone going to an Hawaiian party who can play a musical instrument should take it with him. There's always lots of music.

Over half the Hawaiian population, of 500,000, lives in Honolulu, which has become a mecca for thousands of tourists. The city is a major port of call for all O & P passenger lines serving the Pacific area.

While Americans and Canadians generally think of pineapple when they refer to Honolulu, the production of sugar is the principal industry with an annual crop of over one million tons.

The pineapple industry ranks second in importance and next comes the tourist trade which is due as much to warm, settled weather as to the beauty of the islands. The average water temperature at Waikiki beach, Honolulu's world-famous resort is about 78 degrees.

And, while thousands enjoy riding the waves, an amazing number of motels have constructed swimming pools for the enjoyment of tourists. The cost of holidaying in Honolulu varies little from any summer resort in Canada or the United States.

Just weather, please

From the Christian Science Monitor

The United States Weather Bureau which heretofore has dealt in objective (if not always correct) forecasting and eminently factual data, now is going with a singular new daily statistic called the "Discomfort Index."

This is an annoying intrusion. And a redundant one. We are already getting uncomfortable thinking about it, and today is a lovely day that probably rates zero on the D.I. The thing's wrong already.

The formula which yields the index number is clear-cut enough up to a point. It adds wet-bulb and dry-bulb temperature readings, takes two-fifths of the sum and adds 15 points to it. That's as precise as changing Fahrenheit to centigrade. All right.

But then the weatherman has to become a sort of mass psychiatrist and rule that about 10 per cent of his constituents are uncomfortable when the index reaches 70; 50 per cent of them when it reaches 75; and all of them when it reaches 80.

We repeat, it's an intrusion and it's redundant. Who wants to be told, when he's enjoying himself at the beach this summer, that it's really an unenjoyable 81. D.I. day? Or, on the other hand, what sweltering other straphanger needs to be told anything but to go home, crawl into some Bermuda shorts, and cool off his thinking?

When this cloud came on our horizon we were just getting ready to congratulate the Weather Bureau for its greatly improved batting average in forecasting. Now we'd just like to ask the barometer boys if they'd stick to telling us what we need to know and can't find out otherwise—whether it's going to rain tonight—and leave what we and only we can decide—our comfort—to us.

Success

I believe the true road to preeminent success in any line is to make yourself master of that line.—Andrew Carnegie.

Success in life depends upon persistent effort, upon the improvement of moments more than upon any other one thing. —Mary Baker Eddy.

Doukhobors as builders

From the Edmonton Journal

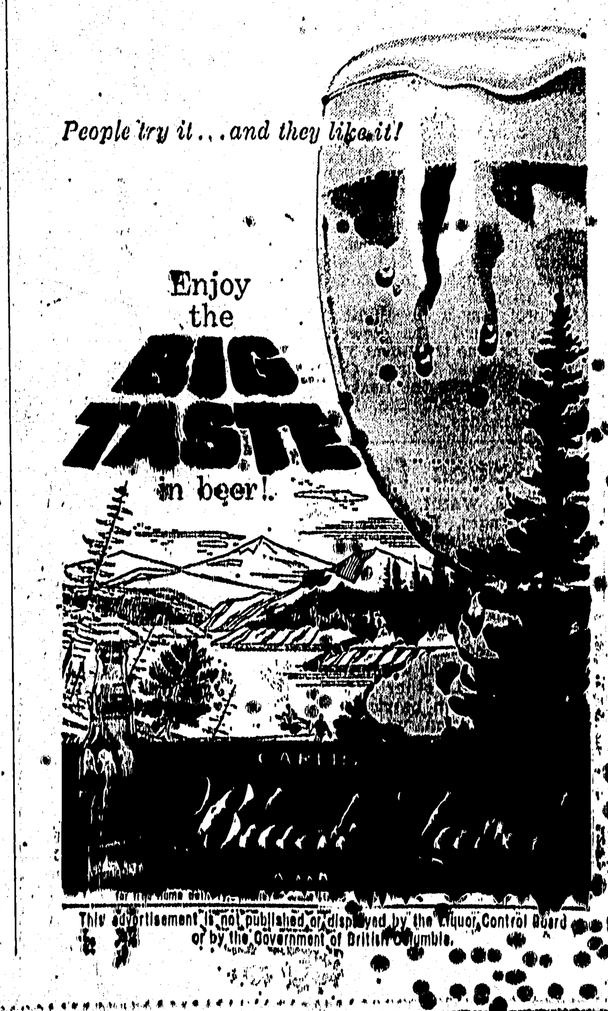
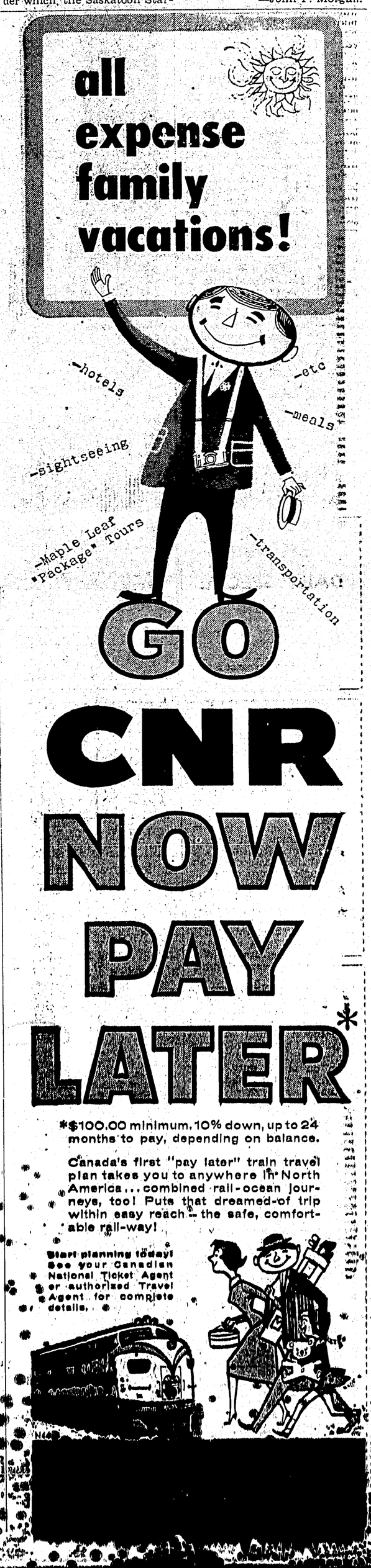
The lawless activities of the Sons of Freedom have been notorious for so many years that Canadians generally might be apt to forget that the great majority of Doukhobors are builders, not destroyers. Industrious, sensible and peace-loving Doukhobors, not associated with the radical sect, have made a substantial contribution to agriculture on the prairies.

A reminder of this fact is offered in central Saskatchewan in the dedication of the Petrofka Ferry as on historic site near the first Doukhobor settlement in the west. The site-marker is a six-ton boulder which, the Saskatoon Star-Phoenix observes, "represents in tangible form the rock-like qualities of the Doukhobor people. . ."

Many Doukhobors have entered the full stream of Canadian life and are making contributions far removed from agriculture, important as that activity is. It is fitting that Saskatchewan should recognize the achievements of the Doukhobors at a time when their good qualities might be obscured by unhappy events elsewhere.

To achieve success not by heritage but by individual effort is the greatest joy in life. —John P. Morgan.

SAVE UP TO 50% ON REGULAR
U-DRIVE RATES
Hourly, Daily, Weekly and Monthly Rates
on 1959 Austin and Morris Cars
from
$2.50 per day, 5c per mile, plus gas
RESERVE NOW
BROADWAY U-DRIVE LTD.
996 W. Broadway Phone REgent 1-1616
VANCOUVER, B.C.



This advertisement is not published or displayed by the Liquor Control Board or by the Government of British Columbia.