

THE DAILY NEWS

THE LEADING NEWSPAPER IN NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA
Published Daily and Weekly by
THE PRINCE RUPERT PUBLISHING CO. LTD., PRINCE RUPERT, B.C.

H. F. McRAE, EDITOR AND GENERAL MANAGER

SUBSCRIPTION RATES—To Canada, United States and Mexico:
Daily, 50c per month, or \$5.00 per year, in advance. Weekly,
\$2.00 per year. All Other Countries: Daily, \$8.00 per year.
Weekly, \$2.50 per year, strictly in advance.

HEAD OFFICE

Daily News Building, Third Ave., Prince Rupert, B. C. Telephone 98.

DAILY EDITION

Saturday, Dec. 27, 1913

Ex-Mayor Newton has always been noted for his mental density. Many of the citizens will remember the tirade he made against a former council because they decided the city into two wards, he maintaining that the ward system was an evil thing that should not be countenanced. When this matter was sifted down it was found that the Municipal Clauses Act specified that the council had no other option. Even then Mr. Newton continued to abuse the council because of their action.

From that day to this the citizens will well remember that the same Mr. Newton has adopted a policy of attacking his opponents without making any attempt of getting at the facts. Honest criticism is always welcome and justifiable, but the criticism of a man who has not brains enough to grasp an issue or who refuses to receive enlightenment is despicable in the extreme.

Let us now look at his criticism of the work done in Section 2. He attacks the council first because the work was done by contract; in the second place, because the price paid was too high, and in the third place because the minimum wage clause was not inserted. On all three counts it can be shown that Mr. Newton either wilfully misrepresents the facts or is entirely ignorant of the first principles of understanding. The public is entitled to accept the more charitable of the two.

What happened in Section 2 was this: The organized property owners of that section had been persistent in their de-

mand for improvements. The council had repeatedly told them that the only chance was for them to finance the scheme themselves. When they had arranged for this the council promised to handle the legal end of it. Accordingly they went to work. They soon found a contractor who was willing to undertake the work and who would accept very easy terms of payment, extending over three years.

Having this arranged, the property owners approached the council. They asked that body to call for tenders for the work. Every cent of the cost was to be borne by the property owners of Section 2, and was guaranteed by every lot in the district. The council did as they were bid and it so happened that only one person was able to accept the offered terms. Perhaps the price paid was a good one, but then both parties to the deal were satisfied, and when both parties to any deal are satisfied what business has any outsider got to interfere?

But why was not the minimum wage clause inserted? For a very good reason, and that because the contractor in question would not agree. The property owners of Section 2 had either to do without developments or to agree to a contract untrammelled by any conditions.

How very different this looks from the case that Mr. Newton would like to make. He would place the odium for everything on the council, who had absolutely nothing to do with it. This is a fair sample of the oppositions logic, and it should not take long for the ordinary citizen to see through it.



RECRUITS FOR THE BRITISH CANADIAN SHIPS

When addressing the Canadian Club recently, Hon. P. T. McGrath of Newfoundland, said Newfoundland could provide the sailors for Canada's ships if they were needed. The above illustration, showing the rugged fishermen of Newfoundland signalling from the crags to some ship in distress off their coasts, shows the reason for Mr. McGrath's assertion.

KING BOWSER CLAIMS HE IS NOT DEPOSED

B. C. STILL HAS RIGHTS IN FISHERIES — WILL CONTINUE TO COLLECT LICENSE FEES AND RETAIN MONOPOLY

"The powers exercised in the past by the Provincial Fisheries Department have been in wise curtailed by the recent judgment of the Privy Council, pronounced by Lord Haldane, following an appeal from the Supreme Court of Canada in a reference made to that tribunal under an agreement between the Province and the Dominion."

The above statement was made by the Hon. W. J. Bowser, Commissioner of Fisheries for British Columbia, who has just received and advance proof print of the judgment.

"We have always recognized the fact that the power of regulation was vested in the Dominion under the British North America Act," said Mr. Bowser. "In the fisheries case of 1898, the Privy Council decided that, while the right to regulate was transferred to the Dominion at Confederation, the property right in the fish was retained by the province and was still vested in it. We have always differed about the exact definition of the two jurisdictions, and the present judgment removes some of the difficulties."

"Pending settlement of this case, the sole right exercised by the province, under its powers of direct taxation, has been that of raising revenue by the collection of licenses, and in the present judgment the law lords have been careful to avoid expressing an opinion or judgment which would limit our right to tax those engaged in fishing, whether in tidal or non-tidal waters. This we shall continue to do."

"This judgment, summed up, decides that the province possesses the property rights in the fish and fisheries above tidal waters, whether rivers are navigable above that point or not, provided, of course, that the beds

of the rivers are not in the railway belt and owned by the Dominion. In tidal waters there is no property right vested in either the Dominion or the province, since, under Magna Charta, this fishing was a common right of all the people. The Dominion and province may impose license fees, but exclusive privileges, the guise of regulation, cannot be given by the province."

"The judgment further decides that with the transfer of the solum, or property rights, in the lands of the railway belt to the Dominion, the fisheries passed with these. In other words, that our ownership of the fisheries above tidal waters does not include the ownership of fisheries within this belt, since we transferred our property rights to the Dominion at the time of the union."

"The question of the ownership of the fish in our great rivers and lakes in the province which lie outside the Dominion zone (lying twenty miles each side of the C. P. R.) is not disturbed, as these fish are unquestionably owned by the province."

"We shall continue to collect license fees from those engaged in fishing, and the money realized will be devoted, as in the past, to the encouragement of the fisheries. The work of the provincial fisheries department will be expanded instead of being curtailed. I may state that the value of this work is recognized both by those engaged in this industry and by the Dominion department as well. We have retained scientists to work out the life history of important food fishes, to chart our shell fish beds, and to study animal life which is inimical to fisheries. We have been enabled not only to give valuable service to the Dominion in this direction, but

to place in the hands of the canners and fishermen information of great value to them in their industry and business.

"In passing, I may say that the validity of our Canneries License Act has never been mentioned or attacked, and that under it we possess wide powers which we shall continue to exercise, with the result that no one can operate a cannery in this province unless he has received a provincial as well as a Dominion license."

NOTICE

I, the undersigned, for and on behalf of the Granby Consolidated Mining, Smelting and Power Company, Limited, have deposited with the Registrar of the Prince Rupert Land Registration District, Prince Rupert, B.C.:

(a) A description of wharf which this company proposes to construct in front of Lot No. 479, Granby Bay, B.C., said lot and the adjoining under-water lot upon which the wharf will be constructed being the property of the said company.
(b) A general plan showing the position of the property relative to the proposed wharf.
(c) A general plan showing more particularly the relation of this wharf to the shore line, with cross-section of the proposed wharf showing type of construction.

F. M. SYLVESTER, General Manager

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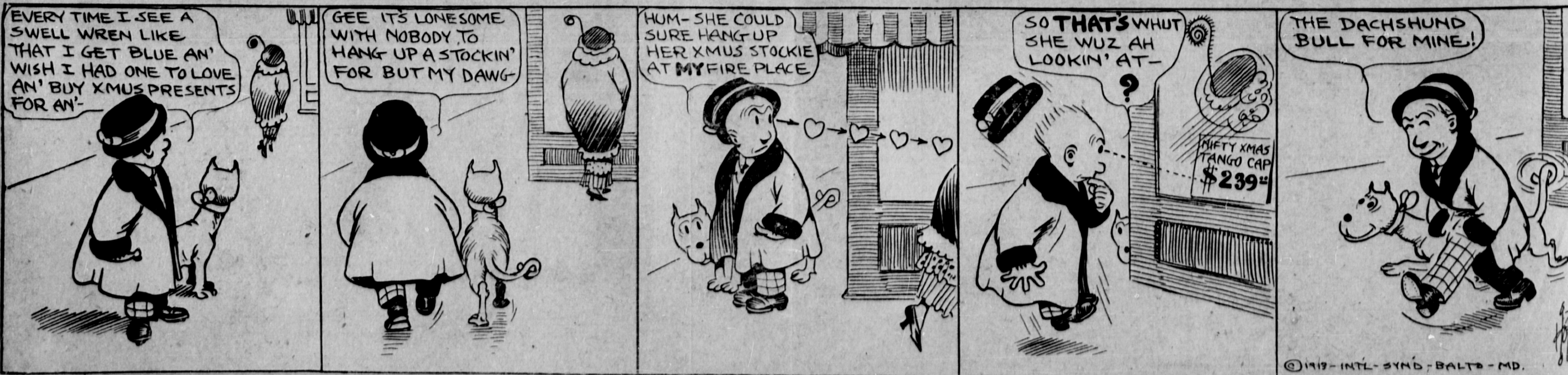
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Maybe Scoop Has A Whole Lot To Be Thankful For

Drawn for The Daily News by "Hop"



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