

# 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.

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HEAD OFFICE  
Daily News Building, Third Ave., Prince Rupert, B. C. Telephone 98.  
SUBSCRIPTION RATES—To Canada, United States and Mexico:  
Daily, 50c per month, or \$6.00 per year (\$5.00 if paid in advance). Weekly, \$2.00 per year. All Other Countries: Daily, \$8.00 per year. Weekly, \$2.50 per year, strictly in advance.  
BRANCH OFFICES AND AGENCIES  
New York—National Newspaper Bureau, 219 East 23rd St., New York City.  
Seattle—Puget Sound News Co.  
London, England—The Clougher Syndicate, Grand Trunk Building, Trafalgar Square.

DAILY EDITION Monday, May 11, 1914

The chickens are certainly coming back to roost. The citizens of Prince Rupert against their better judgment have been supporting a profligate and incompetent government, and now they are going to pay for it "through the nose."  
Old timers will remember the fight that was put up against the Tsimpsean Power company in the early days and how William Manson tried to allay their fears by assuring them that the government would never approve of the company's plans.

This charter is now owned by the Prince Rupert Hydro-Electric company, and instead of forcing their way into the city they have been seeking a reasonable agreement. William Manson and the local Tories opposed that agreement, and now Bowser lets the company into the city over the heads of the people. The citizens are now up against expensive litigation, with doubtful results, or they must hand over the entire liberties of the city to a foreign corporation. Surely this is the proverbial last straw. If William Manson and the McBride government are not swept from power as a result of this, as far as Prince Rupert can do it, then there is no virtue left in humanity.

It is about time that the Grand Trunk Pacific railway should place itself in a position to give definite information to any one asking for it

as to the terms upon which industrial and wholesale sites can be obtained. The Grand Trunk controls nearly all the available industrial sites within the city limits and every day there are complaints that no definite information can be obtained by those who are anxious to find out under what conditions and just where these sites will be available. Why doesn't the city council take the matter up and get some action on this?

It is perfectly true that the manner in which this city has been bottled up so that it can do nothing in the way of inducing industries to establish here because it has no control either over waterfront or industrial sites is nothing short of an outrage. At the same time, the condition which exists must be faced and every possible pressure should be brought to bear to bring this important question to a head. If the people don't wake up and fight for their rights they need expect little development by way of the establishment of industries here.

Does it not seem almost unthinkable that this city should have been placed on the map with no control over waterfront, or industrial sites, or parks or recreation grounds, or water supply, or street-ends on the waterfront, or in fact any of those prerequisites to the establishment of commercial enterprises. Was ever a city so outrageously treated? And yet in spite of this the people were foolish enough to be lulled into a sense of security and at the last election voted for a sycophantic follower of the men who placed the city in the position in which it finds itself today.

This city could not prevent the iniquities practised at the expense of the city before the city was on the map, but the people who are here now, if they have any self respect, will fight every inch of the way to ameliorate as far as possible the wrongs which have been perpetrated.

The people will expect that the money voted at the last sitting of the legislature for public works in northern B. C. will be spent this year. The old dodge of putting a vote in the estimates and then doing no work, won't work any longer. The people can be coaxed along and fooled for a certain length of time, but the time finally comes when they want the goods delivered.

With a depleted treasury, there can be no doubt that the British Columbia government will try to put off various public works as long as possible, and it may be expected that at about election time they will throw on a big gang of men in order to get votes, but the people are getting tired of this kind of thing. They want a government that will do something honestly in the interests of the people and not a government whose whole course of action has been in the interests of a few financial magnates and a few men in the government.

When the public feels a sense of outrage, look out. Something drops. At the next election it will hit Dick and Bowser and our own Bill in the neck.

We never heard any cry of hard times under Laurier. What is the matter with those Tories, anyway?

### COUNTESS IS TRIED FOR MAN'S DEATH

Oneglia, Italy, May 9.—Countess Tiepolo-Oggioni, a member of a noble Venetian family, was brought to trial today for murdering the orderly of Capt. Oggioni, her husband, on November 14 last year.

The man, a private in the Bersaglieri, is said to have entered the countess's room. The mother of the slain soldier fainted in court when she saw the countess today.

### For Sale

Fishing boat 41 feet long, 12 feet 7 inches broad, 3 feet 9 inches deep, 4-cylinder Canadian Fairbanks-Morse marine engine. Price \$1,500. Apply Akerberg, Thomson & Co., Prince Rupert, or A. Bailey, Inverness Cannery. 107-33

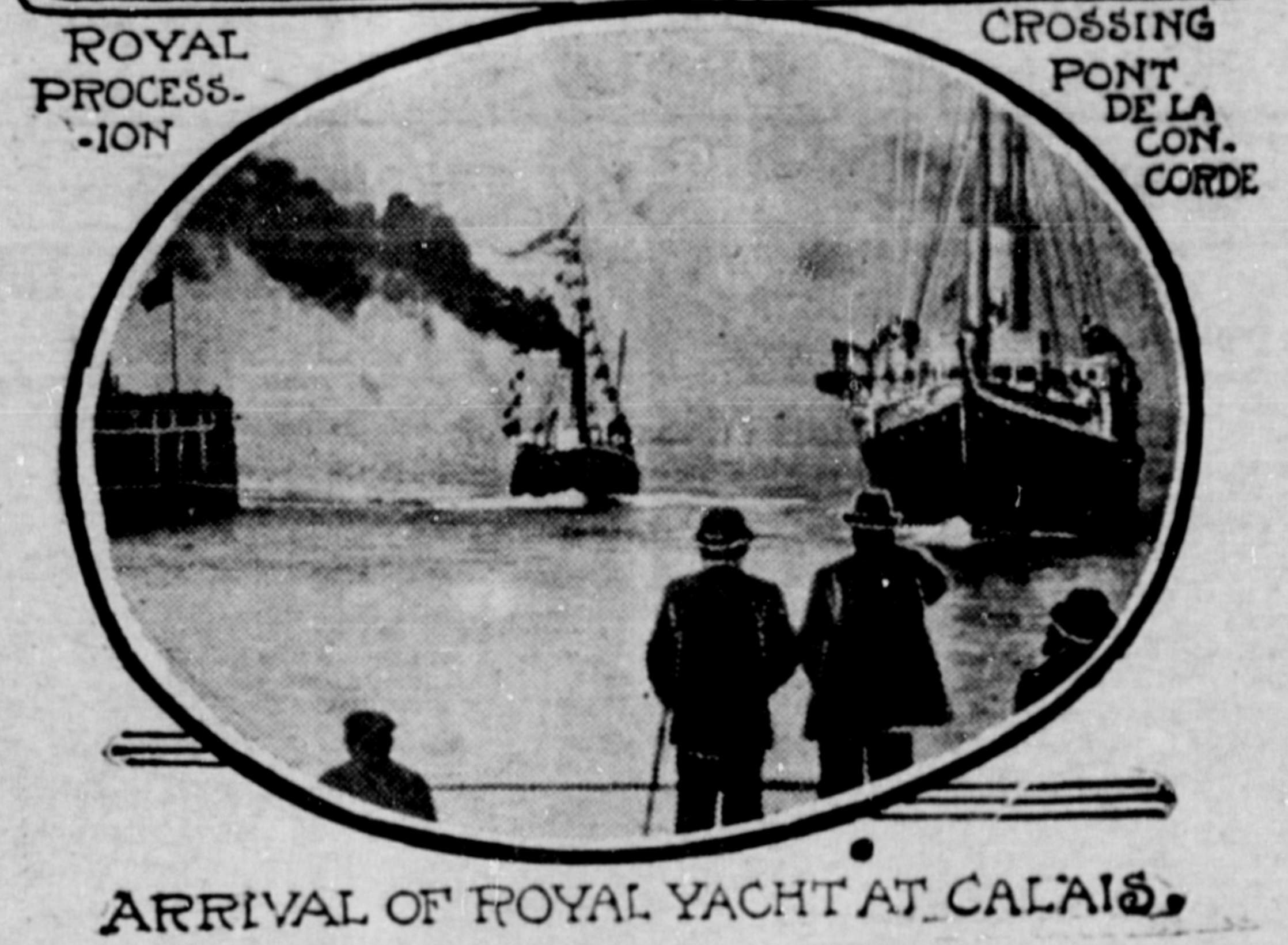
### Notice

Storage belonging to Joe Jorgenson left in the Houston Cafe will be sold by private sale after 30 days if not settled for and removed. 91-147 GEO. E. ST. CLAIR.

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## King and Queen Guests of French Republic



### INDIANS ARE CHARGED WITH 'POTLATCHING'

#### Indian Department Wants to Stamp Out Ancient Tribal Custom Among Tribes

Vancouver, May 9.—The Indian custom of holding a potlatch, in which the celebrants give to all who attend, presents of blankets, flour, sugar and other useful gifts, is responsible for an interesting trial in the assizes this week, in which Chief Ned Harris and Chief Ned Bagway are being charged with violating the Indian act, which prohibits the holding of a potlatch. The trial is the first of its kind to be held since the days of Chief Justice Begbie, twenty years ago. Among the Indians the potlatch is regarded as a respected tribal custom and on some of the graves of the northern Indians is placed a memorial setting forth as their claim to remembrance the fact that they had held so many potlatches and gave away so many thousand dollars in their lifetime.

Mr. Wm. Halliday, agent of the Indian department at Alest Bay, where Harris and Bagway held their potlatch for the Nimphish tribe on November 4 last, said that the potlatches had a pernicious and demoralizing effect upon the Indians and for that reason the Indian department had taken steps to have them suppressed.

To Mr. D. E. McTaggart, counsel for the defence, Mr. Halliday admitted that the only gifts had been those of blankets and that no pernicious effects could follow from a distribution of blankets. He further admitted that the potlatch had not been attended by any of the flesh cutting or voluntary tortures that used to attend the potlatches in the

old days, and that it was a recognized custom among the Indians to pay their debts publicly in the presence of the tribe as witnesses. The trial is continuing. Mr. A. D. Taylor, K. C., is acting as crown prosecutor. A large number of men from the Nimphish tribe are present as witnesses and spectators.

## Auction Sale of Prince George Lots

The Government of the Province of British Columbia will sell their holdings in the G. T. P. townsite of Prince George, by auction sale, at Vancouver on May 19th, 20th and 21st; at Victoria on May 26th and 27th.

Prince George for the next three years will be a centre of railroad construction, with an immense payroll and purchasers of lots at the forthcoming sale should be able to realize a good profit on their investment.

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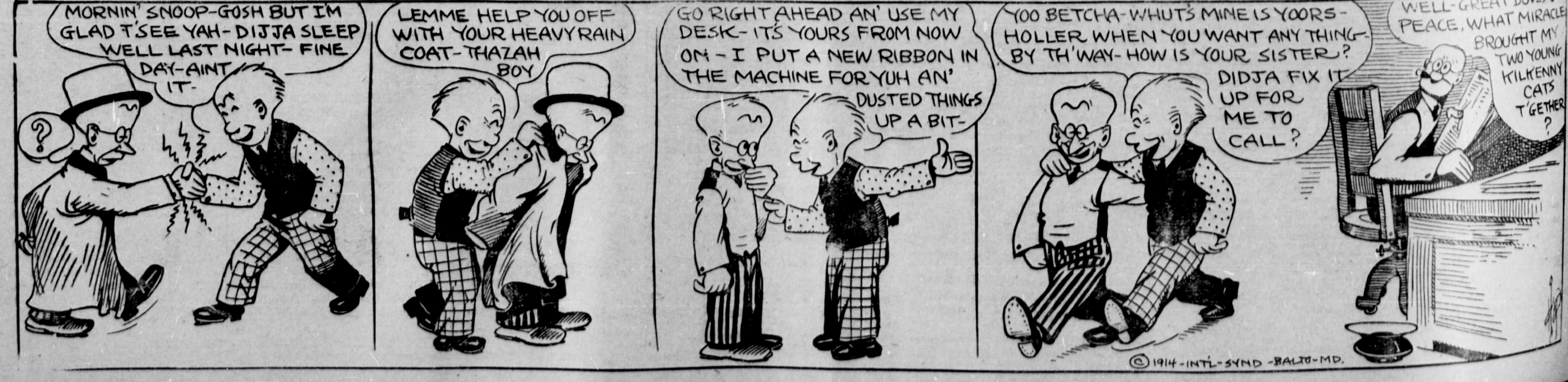
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