

THE DAILY NEWS
 PRINCE RUPERT - BRITISH COLUMBIA
 Published Every Afternoon, except Sunday, by The News
 Printing and Publishing Company, Third Avenue.
 H. F. PULLEN, Managing Editor.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
 City Delivery, by mail or carrier, per month.....\$1.00
 By mail to all parts of the British Empire and the United States,
 in advance, per year.....\$6.00
 To all other countries, in advance, per year.....\$7.50

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 Contract Rates on Application.

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 ceding publication. All advertising received subject to approval.

DAILY EDITION  Tuesday, October 25, 1921

COLONEL PECK LAYS HIS CASE BEFORE PEOPLE OF RUPERT

(Continued from Page One).

tions for two houses costing \$35,000 which had been built at Digby Island.

Dealing with the fisheries, Colonel Peck told of the fight he had had to obtain changes in District No. 2. In 1919 there was much monopoly and tremendous abuse. The district was closed to canneries and to obtain licenses one had to use political influence. He had had something to do with the changes that had been brought about. He had gone to Ottawa at his own expense and was there with Mayor McClymont. He had spent many days consulting with the department of fisheries and finally the monopoly had been broken. Anybody could start in the cannery business and the limitation of licenses had been taken off. Provision had been made for the gradual reduction of licenses issued to Orientals who, at that time were practically crowding out the whites. Regulations had been made to re-establish the white fishermen. Not one organization that he knew of had ever recognized the work in this connection that had been done by Mr. Ballantyne, the minister, Mr. Found, the deputy minister, or himself.

Result Not Disastrous.

The result of the open fishing had not been disastrous as had been frantically predicted by the cannery interests in the south. Despite the forecasts that the business would be flooded, in the last two years there had been but one new small cannery established, less fish had been caught and the numbers of Orientals employed had been reduced.

He had brought in a motion establishing returned men in the fishing business. This had been seconded by Mr. Turgeon, member for Gloucester, N. B. and had been supported by Mr. Duff, of Lunenburg, and Dr. Chisholm, of Inverness, all good Liberals. He wanted to see a permanent class of native white fishermen in the Canadian fisheries.

Public Works.

In the public works department Colonel Peck said he had

obtained wharves for Alice Arm, Sandspit and Stewart and \$20,000 had been spent in improving navigation conditions on the Naas and Stikine Rivers. Telegraph and telephone lines had been extended and improved. Here he had been given invaluable assistance by Mr. Dowling, the local superintendent, who was one of the best officers the government had in Canada. A loop system connecting Burns Lake, Francois Lake and Houston had been provided for. The work would be carried to Smithers and Telkwa. Good telegraph and telephone systems were a great factor in aiding and promoting settlement.

The railway question was a delicate one, indeed. Fish cars had been badly needed and Hon. Dr. Reid, minister of railways, and D. B. Hanna, president of the Canadian National system, had come here over a year ago. Dr. Reid had made statements that later had been found to be not right. These statements had not been solicited by him (Col. Peck). The minister had told the Board of Trade that the fish cars would be delivered in November, then in January and then in March.

Was Deceived.

"I had been completely deceived," said Col. Peck, "and finally I found out that the cars were not ready and had, in fact, not been even ordered. I immediately got very busy and despite the fact that the News gave the credit for getting the cars to Billy Duff he had as much to do with it as this table. I was Johnny-on-the-Spot and all reasonable men must know that."

Dr. Reid had promised ocean dock, station, round house and machine shops and had drawn great pictures arousing the hopes of the people. The dock and the station were coming, alright, but as far as the round house and machine shops were concerned there was nothing doing yet. "I do not assume responsibility for these promises," said the colonel, "although all will undoubtedly come in time."

"They would have you believe that if the Liberals get in the Dominion treasury will be moved here and the money will be handed out in shovels. I am as much devoted to the railway, the port and the north country as any man and I be-

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lieve in the country. You cannot show me where if Stork gets in that real estate will advance \$1,000 a front foot. If I go back, and I am going back, I think I can accomplish as much as anybody else."

Financial Fiasco.

Col. Peck referred to the Prince Rupert Dry Dock and Engineering Co. financial fiasco. He had gone to Ottawa and had hammered away and finally the \$100,000 in wages was paid. He paid a tribute to the laboring men of the city who had behaved so reasonably under the circumstances. He told of his fight to get the creditors paid and expressed the belief that they would all come out well in the end. If they did not, a year of his work would have been wasted.

He had often been criticized for not crossing the floor and opposing the government but it would have been a poor thing to do to slap a person in the face from whom you wanted a favor. Dealing with returned soldier questions, Col. Peck stated that he was the representative for all the returned men in Canada. He could show on his files letters from thousands of veterans all over Canada. He explained his position on resigning from the Pensions' Committee on two occasions. First the member for Royal, one of those generals who never got very near the front, had made a direct slam at the rank and file by inferring their wives belonged to the servant class. He had resigned on this account but had gone back following an apology. The second time he had found it impossible to work with some of the members of the committee from both parties.

Trip with Tolmie.

In the department of agriculture he had finally been successful in getting the minister to visit the riding. If Dr. Tolmie was returned as minister of agriculture there would be an experimental farm established in the central interior.

He had obtained a division of the cumbersome district from the department of Indian Affairs.

In the department of Naval Service he had got a survey of Ripple Rock in Seymour Narrows.

Post offices and routes in the district had been increased.

Outlines Policy.

In explaining his policies, Col. Peck explained that he had been elected in 1917 as an Independent Soldier candidate supporting the war policies of the Union Government. It had been a good government in many ways and had been the most honest in the history of Canada. He had felt, however that it was time to part company and he had broken off his connection.

First he did not agree with Premier Meighen in bringing about an election at this particular time within a few months of the announcing of the census. There should have been a Redistribution Bill. The parliament that will be elected now will be sitting in 1925 and, perhaps in 1926 and the representation will be based on the 1911 census. This was an improper state of

affairs. There would likely be a population of 9,000,000 and many seats should come West. If Premier Meighen had wanted an election the right time to have had it would have been when he assumed the premiership and not three or four months before the announcing of the census and at such a bad time as this.

Free Trader.

Secondly he disagreed with the policy of high protection. He was a Free Trader but he did not think there would be much change in the tariff whatever side got in. There were enormous debts to be paid and the tariff was the basis of the nation's revenue. "I have always been a Liberal in federal politics so I cannot follow this principle. That's why I am an Independent now." He sympathized with the Farmers' tariff policies and as far as the cry of class government was concerned he could not see where government by the farmer class would be any worse than by the lawyer class as had been the case in the past.

"Mr. Manson, in his speech, said that they could not see the smoke of the enemy. He could have told them where they could get in touch with it. He tells you to look on an Independent with suspicion so you can look on me with suspicion.

Independents by Galicad.

"Independents have been elected in this country by the carloads. I propose to keep my independence with me and not lose it as some seem to do. I do not say that I will not support any group for if I think that by doing so I would be in the interests of my district I would do so. No party is going back into power after December 6 as a party. There will be three groups—Government, Liberal and Farmers', and nobody knows which is going to be the biggest. There will be a coalition government.

"As an Independent member, I will take such positions as I feel are right. People are getting fed up on party politics and the creation of the Farmers' party is but an evolution of that feeling."

Col. Peck then dealt with an editorial which had appeared recently in the Daily News. They agreed that he would be free and untrammelled. It said that he would be a "voice crying in the wilderness." Well, he had been such in the past and would continue to keep crying with that Biblical "voice in the wilderness" as his ideal.

"I wish they would drop that slush about my war record. I am not appealing on my war record but on my record as an M. P. My opponent has no war record. I appeal as a citizen and do not have to fall back on my war record.

"As far as my trip with Dr. Tolmie is concerned it was non-political and if he is returned



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you will find an experimental farm as a result.

"My good friend Mr. Pullen says I have missed my calling. If so, I am out of luck. Perhaps he has missed his calling too."

Come! Alone.

"I come before you alone as an Independent candidate. My following is not here but is all over the riding. I am going to make a manifesto and explain what I have done and tell what policies I believe in. If you believe in me, come to the committee rooms in the Frizzell Block tomorrow and get into the swing of victory. No one runs and no one can do it. I have got no money, or very little for the campaign but will depend on the contributions of the men who believe in me. There will be no party campaign fund backing me but those who give will do so believing in me and no favors will be promised. Although I have had many strong supporters in the past, and good support is a precious thing to have, I have been able to give few if any favors. I wish to fight on the lines I think right and will continue to do in the future what I have done in the past on your behalf.

"I want a good clean fight with no bitterness and no personalities. It never gets you very far, anyway. However, if I am attacked I am going to hit back. There has been a lot of innuendo thrown at me and I have been given little credit for what I have done.

"I only invite any person who believes in me and my policies to take part in the glorious victory which I intend to achieve."

FILIPINOS ARRIVE B. C.

VICTORIA, Oct. 24.—Investigation by supporters of the B. C. Asiatic Exclusion League find that a number of Filipinos have been mistaken for Japanese. Some of them are really Chinese-mestizos, or half Filipino and half Chinese, but they are words of Uncle Sam. The islanders say work is scarce in Seattle, where many of them returned after working in the Alaska canneries and whaling stations. Few have found work here and they are returning across the border before they become public charges.

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1 2

MY WHOLE LIFE

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