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 PRINCE RUPERT - BRITISH COLUMBIA
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 H. F. PULLEN, Managing Editor.

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DAILY EDITION  Wednesday, Aug. 23, 1922.

Prince Rupert's Assessment High.

A Government blue book which arrived yesterday containing the report of the provincial inspector of municipalities gives figures that will prove of interest to Prince Rupert people. It shows the total assessment of the taxable land on the Prince Rupert townsite is about eight and a half million dollars. In Nanaimo where the population is greater than here the assessed value is a little over two and a quarter million dollars. Oak Bay with three hundred less people is assessed at slightly over four millions. New Westminster with nearly three times our population is assessed at only nine and a half millions. North Vancouver with a population of five thousand, comes nearest to us for it has an assessment of rather less than six millions.

While some of the townsites are much smaller than that at Prince Rupert, there are exceptions to the rule, for Oak Bay is about 300 acres larger than Prince Rupert yet its assessment is less than half.

While a good many cities have higher tax rate than Prince Rupert, the assessment is more reasonable so that, taken on a per capita basis, the tax rate of the city is proportionately too high.

On a former occasion we showed that the general cost of running the affairs of this city was much higher than the cost of conducting the affairs of other municipalities of approximately the same size. This is something for the ratepayers to consider. If we make taxes too high in this city we are taking the surest way of retarding progress.

Danger Of Having Land On Our Hands.

If the taxes in the city go too high, the people on the outside who are holding land here, will refuse to hold any longer and immediately half the revenue of the city will be cut off. To bring about such a condition would be a calamity. We cannot afford to do it. We depend to a large extent for our income on the revenue from outside. Without it we should have to either cut our expenses in half or double our taxes.

High Taxes Defeat Their Own Ends.

As an illustration in another field altogether of how high taxes defeat the ends of the Government that levies them is seen in the cigarette tax. Speaking of it "Saturday Night" of Toronto says:

"The high cost of smoking materials, owing to the excessive excise and other taxes levied under the new tariff is having an effect on Canada's revenue that was not anticipated by the Finance Minister when he revamped the schedule at the last session of Parliament. By raising the excise tax on cigarettes the Hon. Mr. Fielding anticipated that he could increase the country's revenue by a considerable amount. The reverse has been the case, as the returns for June, the first month that the new schedule of taxes was in force, shows a drop of upward of ninety-six million cigarettes, as compared with June a year ago, which means that the Federal treasury is poorer by a quarter of a million dollars for the month than it needed to be; and incidentally the cigarette taxes fell more than a half million dollars below Mr. Fielding's too optimistic estimates in his budget speech. It may interest the reader to know where the fifteen cents goes to that he puts on the counter for a package of ten Virginia cigarettes. It is split up something like this: Excise stamp, sales tax, leaf duties, etc., 9c. This is the Government's share. Wholesaler and retailer's costs and profits, 4c. Manufacturing charges, and costs including profits, 2c. In other words the Government is getting sixty per cent. of the total retail price of a fifteen cent package of smokes. Under the circumstances is it any wonder that the country is suffering from decreased revenue from this source, not to speak of increasing the incentive to smuggle cigarettes from the United States where they are practically half the Canadian price."

Splendid Youngsters In Prince Rupert.

Prince Rupert has a splendid lot of children. In spite of some limitations in their activities owing to physical conditions, they enjoy life and are just as healthy as in any part of the world. To watch the boys and girls swimming at Salt Lake is one of the prettiest sights imaginable. They seem to be quite at home in the water and enjoy it to the full. School statistics show that the school attendance here is very high, a sure sign that the health of the pupils is good.

SETTLEMENT ON ISLANDS

Moreton Frewen Writes in London Newspaper Favoring Queen Charlottes.

POINTS TO FAILURE.

Famous Financier Sees Great Possibilities in Future Settlement There.
 Moreton Frewen, the famous financier, well known to many people of Prince Rupert has written an article for the Daily Telegraph, London, in regard to the great possibilities of settlement on the Queen Charlotte Islands. In part his article follows:
 My attention has been directed to the reply given by Colonel Amery in the House of Commons to the question asked by Colonel Wedgwood as to the suitability for settlement of those remote outposts of the Empire, the Queen Charlotte Islands.

Colonel Amery's reply was by no means of a nature to promote settlement there; indeed, quite the contrary, and as the writer was two years since the guest of the Government of Ottawa on a, to me, very memorable visit to "the Charlottes," I should like to be permitted to give my reasons for believing that in no part of the Empire is the right kind of settler so likely to "make good" as there, "next door to Asia." I can only write that the prospects of a well organized settlement there appear to me more promising today than at any other spot in our Empire which is known to me. My friend, Colonel Amery, and there is no better son of the Empire may have with the best intentions put back the hands of settlement and colonization on a clock in a corner of the world which reminded me but with many and great advantages of what is now populous and thriving Vancouver was when I first visited that site two years before the rails of the Canadian Pacific reached its harbor.

Change at Vancouver.

How magical it seems today to find what was less than forty years since an untouched virgin forest, showing no signs of man's presence, but which is now a thriving western metropolis. And it seems to me that with the westward pressure of a continent where are, not as in those days 40,000,000 but nearly 120,000,000 of the most restless and energetic people in the world, and who earn the highest rate of wages, these Charlottes cannot fail to have a phenomenally rapid development just ahead. They compare with Prince Rupert and the mainland opposite, some eighty miles away, on very much the same terms of advantage that Victoria compares with Vancouver.

True the rather excessive moisture at Vancouver has not interfered seriously with the growth of that splendid city, but no one who is free to select his home would compare the amenities of life in Vancouver with those in Victoria, with about half the rainfall, and in the days at hand, the delicious, equable climate of the Charlottes, never hot, never cold, with its rain fall of about 50 in., with other things being equal, he a great magnet to draw the home-seekers who might well be repelled by the 100 in. rainfall of Prince Rupert and the mainland. These islands were, until a few years ago, the refuge for a large herd of domestic cattle, which had become wild and wintered where they pleased; they were found at all seasons to be in fine condition and in increasing numbers. I think the story this tells of the climate of Graham Island the largest of the Charlottes, is worth a dozen guide-book monographs.

The Ocean Wealth.

But what will build up with phenomenal rapidity the settlement of these islands is the immense wealth of the ocean at their very doors. There centres



around Massett the greatest fishing quarters in the world. When I first discovered Victoria in 1884 I thought it the loveliest sleepy hollow in the Empire I used to row out into the harbor in the evening, trolling a spinning bait behind the row boat, and return generally with a score of salmon, which I gave away or sold to the local fish dealer for a half-penny a pound. So recently as 1915 there had been opened at Prince Rupert a modern cold storage plant, where unlimited supplies of salmon and halibut were sold for cash across the counter at 2d a pound. But in 1920 I returned to Prince Rupert to find the price of these fish no longer 2d, but 8d, a pound, and that 2d more will deliver these fine fish in Liverpool.

I was shown over the Canadian Fish and Cold Storage plant by T. H. Johnson. Mr. Johnson had at that time on his premises over 14,000,000 pounds of frozen fish, the quality quite admirable, but to ensure that quality the fish must be frozen as nearly as possible alive. In this is the secret of success. But I do not think that we in England can depend upon any large and permanent fish supply from these Pacific fisheries, wonderfully rich and abundant though they are. For the fish captured and frozen at Massett in Graham Island, a hundred miles west of the town of Rupert, will be intercepted on their road east to meet the rapidly growing demand of the prairie communities and of the great Eastern markets, such as Winnipeg, Toronto, Chicago, St. Paul, and even Boston—Boston the "home of the cod-fish." This demand on the part of the highest wage earners in the world will year by year take all the harvest of any settlement of fisher folk in the Charlotte Islands, and at prices higher than today. It is to the waters of the North Atlantic—to Newfoundland and not to Hecate Straits—that we must look for our permanent supplies.

Fishing Colony.

A fishing colony on the Queen Charlotte Islands, with headquarters at beautiful Massett, with branch establishments further west on Naden Harbor or fishing the wonderfully rich waters around Langara Island could not, if properly organized fail of success. And to watch these growths as I have watched the growth of Victoria during the past forty years would be of immense interest. I beg Colonel Amery therefore, on no account to throw cold water on any such project, for its financial success stands clean out of the picture. Fishing colonies on the Pacific coast got a black eye over the failure of Sir George Doughty, but he began his venture when the necessary railroad was as yet 1,500 miles from the Pacific port, and thus he had nothing to convey his Charlotte Islands wealth to any Eastern market. It was a strange mistake for a clever man to make, one hailing, as he did from Grimsby. Sir George relied, no doubt, on the market for his fish in the Pacific coast towns between Prince Rupert and Seattle, but the chance visiting steamers were not adequate for his purposes, and his whole venture was badly staged. It was this, I expect, Colonel Amery had in mind when replying as he did to Colonel Wedgwood.

Ten Years Ago in Prince Rupert

E. J. Chamberlain, president of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway and party have returned from a trip to the end of steel. Every satisfaction is expressed by them with the work of General Superintendent W. C. C. Meehan.

Dr. W. T. Kergin left this morning for the south enroute to Eastern Canada where he will take up post-graduate work. Dr. L. W. Kergin will be in charge of his brother's practice during his absence.

The Prince Rupert Longshoremen have challenged the Gallies and Roses teams to meet them at soccer.

The Man in the Moon SAYS—

LIBERTY is one of those things the politicians talk about but few of us ever attain.

LIBERTY is something no one can give you. The only way to get it is out off the shackles yourself.

INSTEAD of abolishing money in the Red countries they have increased it to such an extent that everybody can have all he wishes, but the disappointment is he can't buy anything with it.

THERE'S one thing about a motor boat, it keeps you busy tinkering with the engine and painting the hull so that you have no time to brood over your wrongs.

A MOTOR boat owner is never a real Bolshevik.

ONE thing about this town there is no need for a regulation against joy walking.

A BACHELOR is a man whom no intelligent female has tried to land, according to Bob McQuillen.

IGNORANCE is just a matter of relativity, as Einstein would say. To the educated man anything he does not know is not worth knowing. The ignorant feels browbeaten when asked, frinstance, what was the result of the Greco-Turkish war.

UNITED STATES believes in keeping out of European politics but she had another two and a quarter million dollars all ready to keep up the trouble in Ireland.

OIL keeps the Ford factory running, according to the despatches.

THERE is great excitement in Prince Rupert over the choice of a Conservative leader in Vancouver. Thousands through the streets and excited groups discuss the relative merits of the candidates. It is realized that the fate of nations depends on the outcome.

AUSTRIA is like a lot of the rest of us. Her financial condition is somewhat precarious. In other words she is close to being dead broke. No citizen can sympathize with her just as well as can a newspaperman.

TOMORROW'S head lines in this paper should read something like this: "Great Excitement at the City Hall. Crowds surge toward the polling booth in efforts to cast votes. Many trampled to death in effort to get near poll clerks and their last words were 'Give me a vote or give me death.'"

Miss Charlotte Black, hospital matron, will attend the B. C. Hospitals' Association convention at New Westminster on August 26 as delegate from Prince Rupert. The board, last night at its meeting, decided to give Miss Black an allowance to cover her expenses while attending the convention.

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS. WESTERN LINES.

TENDER FOR TIES.

Sealed tenders addressed to the undersigned and endorsed "Tender for Ties" will be received at this office until twelve o'clock noon, Saturday, 16th day of September, 1922, for 4,500,000 Railway ties to be manufactured from lumber cut between October, 1922, and May, 1923, and delivered between December 1st, 1922, and September, 30th, 1923, on Canadian National Lines West of Armstrong and Port Arthur, in accordance with its specification No. 3416 dated March 15th, 1919. 1,000,000 to be delivered on Canadian National Lines between Armstrong and Winnipeg. 500,000 to be delivered on Canadian National Lines between Port Arthur and Winnipeg, excluding lines in Minnesota. 100,000 to be delivered on Canadian National Lines in Minnesota. 500,000 to be delivered on Canadian National Lines in Northern Alberta. 200,000 to be delivered on Canadian National Lines between Red Pass Junction and Port Mann. 1,000,000 to be delivered on Canadian National Lines between Red Pass Junction and Enderby. 500,000 to be delivered on Canadian National Lines between Enderby and Terrace, B.C.

Tender forms and Specifications can be obtained at the office of the General Tie Agent, Room 211 New Union Station, Toronto, J. B. Parkin, District Tie Agent, Winnipeg, Man., or C. C. Labrie, Purchasing Agent, Vancouver, B.C. Tenders will not be considered unless made on form supplied by the Railway Company. No tender for quantities less than 5,000 ties will be considered. The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted. Arrangements will be made through the District Tie Agent—J. B. Parkin, Winnipeg, to purchase ties produced in small quantities by actual settlers from their own lands. W. H. GRANT, General Tie Agent, Canadian National Railways, Toronto. Toronto, August 9th, 1922.

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