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 PRINCE RUPERT - BRITISH COLUMBIA
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New Ministers Make Good.

Since the 1921 session of the Legislature two new ministers have been appointed, Hon. W. H. Sutherland to succeed Dr. King and Hon. A. M. Manson to succeed J. D. deR. Farris. Both have made good.

Dr. Sutherland is a man of actions rather than of words. He never uses two words if one will suffice. He never speaks in order to hear himself talk. Yet he is well able to defend himself when need be. In the Legislature he attends to business and is looked on as one of the most competent of the ministers.

Mr. Manson, sometimes spoken of as the "youthful attorney general," is one of the best debaters in the House and is often on his feet. His department is a busy one and he has to be constantly on the alert. He has handled an immense amount of business during the session, has acted successfully as House leader and has also learned that there are times when it is necessary to take defeat. He has been subject to the most grilling fire, yet has emerged stronger than ever. This was his first session as a minister and he has not only made good but has made a name for himself as a leader.

Dull Business Noticeable Everywhere.


Business is dull and many people are inclined to take a gloomy view of prospects for the immediate future. This is true in Prince Rupert but not only here. Local business men, returning from trips to the East or to the South, tell of general depression and some say that the bottom has not yet been reached. A resident of Prince Rupert, who may be getting discouraged, only needs a trip to some of the larger cities to show him that general conditions are no worse here than they are anywhere else—perhaps not as bad.

There may be fewer people in Prince Rupert this winter than there were last. In fact, it is generally accepted that they are. The business men here are feeling the pinch because they have lost customers. Lack of population may be unfortunate but it also has its redeeming features especially in times of depression and unemployment. For the past two winters, unemployment has been quite a problem right in Prince Rupert but this winter the indications are that there will not be so many workless. That being the case there will be more general prosperity. It is much better for a city to have a population of 5,000, all of whom are at work, than a population of 10,000 half of whom have nothing to do. When there is more activity in Prince Rupert—and the general belief is that the time is not very far distant when there will be—those who have left the city will return and more will come with them. That is as it should be. In the meantime, business men and citizens generally will have to accept the condition of depression that prevails not only in Prince Rupert but over the country generally. Business and life is just a series of ups and downs, and it so happens that we are now having a taste of the latter.

California Seems Favorite Destination.

In the past few months several people have left Prince Rupert for the state of California which seems to many to be the Eldorado of the day. It is noticeable that many of the people of this city who have left have gone to California. Prince Rupert is not unlike other cities in that respect. In fact there seems to be a general migration from British Columbia to the southern state. Victoria people will tell that 100 people a month are leaving for California and Vancouver will say that 100 a week are leaving there.

Some of these people who have left British Columbia seem to be getting along well while others have not been so fortunate. One wonders why all these people are leaving and what they do when they get there. It is a certainty that if they keep going the way they have been doing that they will take what they consider hard times with them. Too many people invariably will spoil any gold field.

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 Immediately after roasting, coffee, if exposed to air, begins to lose its freshness.
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ATTORNEY GENERAL WAS IN LIMELIGHT

Vancouver Sun Special Correspondent Says Hon. A. M. Manson Won Admiration of Whole House

Every session of the Legislature sees the centre of human interest shifted to some extent, says the Vancouver Sun's special correspondent at Victoria. This year the focus of all eyes was the new attorney general, Hon. A. M. Manson. As an ex-speaker his knowledge of parliamentary tactics was not surprising, but in his skillful, adroit handling of the opposition, in his tireless industry, and in the constant restraint self-imposed upon his temperamental impetuosity he won the admiration of the House and the galleries.

Premier Oliver left most of the leadership on the shoulders of his younger colleague, who, as a result, carried a far heavier burden of work than either of his predecessors since the Liberals came into power.

Steel Industry
 Another minister who was famous in the limelight than usual was Hon. William Sloan, minister of mines, whose policy of encouraging the establishment of an iron and steel industry in the province was an outstanding feature of the government program.

The streak of independence which ran through almost the entire House this session also appeared to affect the minister of mines, for on several matters, such as the eight hour day bill, certain sections of the Workmen's Compensation Act, the beer matter and other issues, he was found voting alone, or almost alone, against his colleagues of the ministry.

The Opposition Side
 Of the private members, J. W. deR. Farris, K.C., was watched very closely. He showed no disposition to embarrass his successor in office.

H. G. Perry's fathering of the Municipal Act amendments, and Ian Mackenzie's fight for the university, brought them also into the limelight.

On the opposition side W. J. Bowser, K.C., received more practical debating support than at any session since he has been in opposition. The burden of attack was distributed fairly equally among the opposition leader, his two first lieutenants, J. W. Jones and R. H. Pooley and W. K. Estlin, W. A. Mackenzie and Joshua Hinchcliffe.

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The Man in the Moon SAYS—

FAMILY THE ONE WHO NECESSARILY THOSE YOU BUY FOR FATHER AT CHRISTMAS.

AN educational authority says that a child begins very soon to "recognize simple objects." This is hardly a polite way to describe the parents.

HOW to make a jam roll—inflate it carefully with the motor pump and then push it from the top of a steep hill.

THERE is one thing the small boy likes better than a piece of Xmas pudding—that is, two pieces.

MOST households did not need an alarm clock on Xmas morning. The youngsters filled the bill in a right royal manner.

THERE is one reason why we envy Santa Claus—his labors are over for another year.

A LOCAL horticulturist is endeavoring to cross an apple tree with a pine tree with idea of growing pine-apples. If the scheme works the name of the new plant is to be leopinearian, singular. There is the danger that the name will kill the tree.

AN institution which thinks more of its reputation than of your money is pretty sure to keep the one and get the other.

IT was a wise man who bought his own cigars at Xmas time and gave away the ones presented to him.

A SOLDIER is usually on the square. That's where he does most of his drill evolutions.

ONE of the most enjoyable items on the Xmas party program was—the unblushing display of the garter presents.

IT'S a poor comedian that laughs at his own comic song.

DELIGHTFUL MYSTERY STORY AT WESTHOLME

Charles Dickens' "Our Mutual Friend" is Feature at Local Theatre Tonight

That Dickens, master of adroit and quizzical humor, was a master of melodrama is not so frequently remembered, but his last great novel, "Our Mutual Friend," is an excellent example of the extraordinary story-telling ability of this famous English author.

"Our Mutual Friend" is the story of the missing heir to a great fortune left by an eccentric father. This Harmon fortune, sadly diverted to Mr. and Mrs. Roffin, who give shelter to Bella Wilfer, the girl who was to have married the heir. The Roffins are blackmailed by two delightful rogues, Silas Wegg and Mr. Venus, who discover and make use of a later will to deprive the Roffins of their affluence.

After many tense moments and exciting episodes the story unravels in a highly amusing manner. Those who see "Our Mutual Friend" at the Westholme Theatre tonight or tomorrow will have a warmer feeling toward the "movies."

In other cities where "Our Mutual Friend" has been shown, movie fans have expressed genuine approval of this double-tye film which whisks them back to the days of old England, and entertains them in a fashion that is truly delightful.

The showing of "Our Mutual Friend" in Prince Rupert will afford movie lovers an excellent opportunity to know Dickens as a drawer of characters for which he obtained world-wide fame, and also as a story teller of extraordinary ability.

Ten Years Ago in Prince Rupert

December 27, 1912
 J. R. Dornell explorer of the resources of the Peace River country, is a visitor in the city having arrived yesterday from the south. He states that there are one hundred million acres of the best land in the British Empire tributary to this port.

A farewell banquet was ten-

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