OPEN LETTER TO HON. JOHN OLIVER

Provincial Party of British Columbia

Hon. John Oliver,
Premier of British Columbia,
Victoria, B.C.

Vancouver, B.C., August 24, 1923.

Dear Sir:

Again I am directed to call your attention to our "Searchlight." This time it is No. 3; copy herewith. The financial facts which it discloses to the electors may interest you, but what we particularly wish to call to your notice is the charge against the Hon. Mr. John Hart, your Minister of Finance, of doing the business of the province with his own firm of Gillespie, Hart & Todd Ltd.

In the election campaign of 1916 and subsequently you most severely denounced Mr. W. J. Bowser for his firm doing business with the Government. You referred particularly to the Dominion Trust fiasco and also the fact that Bowser, Reid & Wallbridge had received $250,000 fees and disbursements from the P.G.E. Railway, while Mr. Bowser was either Attorney General or Premier of the province. Your attitude at that time received the unqualified endorsement of the people. Your statement in the House on November 3, 1921, as follows:

"A more immoral condition of affairs could not be imagined than that of an Attorney General or Premier of the province sitting on the one hand as a member of the Government and sitting on the other as a member of a legal firm receiving thousands and thousands of dollars in this way."

Now then, Mr. Premier, please read the evidence set forth in the enclosed "Searchlight." This clearly shows that Mr. Hart has committed the same offence as Mr. Bowser. There is an old saying, "What is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander." If it was immoral for Mr. Bowser as Attorney General or Premier in 1916 (you said it was and the voters agreed with you), is it not immoral for Mr. John Hart, as Minister of Finance in 1920, before and since.

The Constitution Act contains the following:

Section 29. No person whosoever holding or enjoying, undertaking or executing, directly or indirectly, alone or with any other, by himself or by the interposition of any trustee or third party, any contract or agreement with His Majesty, or with any public officer or department, with respect to the public service of the province, or under which any public money of the province is to be paid for any service or work, shall be eligible as a member of the Legislative Assembly, nor shall he sit or vote in the same. R.S. 1897, c. 47, s. 29.

Had Mr. Hart been doing business as an individual or as a member of an unincorporated partnership, this section would apply to his case. Technically, however, he has been more careful than Mr. Bowser, as he has sheltered himself behind a further section of this Act which relieves from responsibility in such cases shareholders of limited liability companies—but you know and the people know that Mr. Hart is a principal in what is really a firm in which the records today show he holds a one-third interest.

Nor is this all. At the time when the business dealings referred to took place, Mr. Hart was a director of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway and still is. In referring to the well known contract between the Pacific Great Eastern Railway and Mr. P. Welch, your Legislative Committee has the following to say:

"This contract was in direct contravention of Sections 110 and 118 of the Railway Act forbidding directors entering into a contract with their company, or to hold office if such a contract be made."

Are these principles to apply only to Mr. Welch, and not to Mr. Hart?

The situation with regard to your Finance Minister was brought out on the floor of the House on March 5, 1919; on February 18, 1920, and on November 22, 1922. Neither you nor Mr. Hart had any comment to make.

What thousands of electors in B.C. want to know, Mr. Oliver, is, **Do you still maintain the high moral principles of government which you so strongly advocated in 1916?**

If so, **Why have you not asked the Hon. Mr. John Hart for his resignation long ago?**

Yours respectfully,
H. F. McDONALD,
Secretary.

P.S.—The public would appreciate an answer from you giving your explanation of "The Great Betrayal" which we wrote you about on July 20.

To the Taxpayers

Everyone who is dissatisfied with his taxes should get a copy of "Searchlight No. 3" and learn the truth. All those interested in maintaining British principles of government in B.C. should read this "Searchlight." A postcard will bring it to you.

The Admiral of the Mosquito Fleet reports that the halibut arrivals during the week have been slightly less than for the corresponding period of last week but not sufficient to warrant any "shake up" in admiralty circles. The old man is particularly pleased with the record of landings set up for the month of August when 3,306,400 pounds of the best fish in the world was brought into port, which is 245,600 pounds more than was landed in July. The weather clerk has been treating the country generally, not forgetting the high spots, with a good deluge of rain and wind which has somewhat affected the deep sea fishing. Incoming skippers report that very rough weather has been met with on the deep sea fishing grounds which has interfered greatly with constant fishing, and has necessitated several of the smaller boats putting in nearby sheltered spots for anchorage. Prices offered during the week at the Fish Exchange for both first and second class catches have remained steady. On Monday, American halibut sold rather higher than for some time previously, the price of 15.2c for first class and 11c for second class prevailing while Canadian halibut obtained 13.11c for first class and 11.5c for second class catches.

Harry Moore, cook on the Canadian Fish & Cold Storage Co.'s trawler James Carruthers, Capt. Bill Parsons, who was admitted to the General Hospital on Wednesday last is reported to be doing fine. The high boot squad wish him a speedy recovery.

Joining Handloggers

Walter Shaw is busy putting his power boat Aileen in good order on the N. M. McLean ways preparatory to entering the handlogging game. The hull has been recaulked and copper painted. Walter has not yet decided just what portion of the country he will introduce his axe and saw.

A flotilla of native salmon boats arrived in port early in the week from the Naas district, having concluded their fishing labors for the season. After doing considerable shopping and taking on supplies they left for their various home destinations, stating that they would return for exhibition week. Several of the boats were put through a general overhaul while in port.

Trappers Preparing

With the cannery season practically at an end the owners of boats who have engaged in that industry are already turning their attention to preparations for the coming trapping season which opens on December 1. With this end in view several of the smaller boats are being overhauled and packed with provisions to cover the winter's work. Several parties will be leaving port shortly for Gardner Canal, Naas, Dundas Island, and other fur bearing districts up and down the coast.

A young man was once looking for fun, said "I'll try out the little old gun. He put in a bullet, was to quick to pull it, and now his day's work is all done.

Swanson's Radio

A radio outfit has recently been installed by Capt. A. Swanson at the Prince Rupert Boathouse at a cost of $110. The outfit is the manufacture of the Canadian Independent Telephone Co. and is giving excellent results. Harry Gilbert, skipper of the "23," is chief of the radio station and reports that on Wednesday night he heard Vancouver, Seattle and Calgary quite plainly, in fact the music might have been in the next room.

Paddy Raymond Returning

Paddy Raymond, vice-admiral of the Mosquito fleet and now in command of the Dundas trolling fleet, will be returning to port in the near future. Preparations are being made by the residents of the Irish colony at Lookout Point to give Paddy a royal reception befitting his high nautical office. Clean curtains are being put up in the basement windows of Paddy's palatial residence and the milk is being strained. Paddy reports by runner that the season's operations have been very remunerative and there will doubtless be a great time in the colony on the day the boss returns.

The coastal cruiser Mary R., skippered by Billy Reid, is on the Yacht Club ways for hull overhaul and general repairs.

Lucky Escapes

On Wednesday, the four year old son of Pete Bruno, owner of the Cow Bay barber shop, fell over the roadway adjacent to Ray Love's electrical factory to the rocks below, a distance of some 8 feet. Beyond a slight scalp wound the little chap escaped without serious injury. While running along the edge of the roadway it appears that Bruno, junior, stubbed his toe on a protruding rock which caused him to fall over the side.

The Canadian halibut schooner Nuba has been overhauled on the Ward Ways during the week.

Steve Indisposed

Steve Carter, ice cooler for the Booth Fisheries, has been laid up during the week with a touch of the shivers. However, he has now recovered sufficiently to enable him to join the gang again. The ice around the fish house turned pale during Steve's absence but it is expected to regain its normal color now that the ice man is back.

The coastal cruiser Vaquero, owned by Colonel Stuart, now absent in the Yukon, is to be transferred from Cow Bay to Lookout Point where it will be anchored for the winter in care of Paddy Raymond.

Deer Plentiful

Deer are reported to have been seen in great numbers on both Kaien and Digby Islands during the past week, and also in the vicinity of Tucks Inlet. Capt. Geo. Newcombe saw three deer swimming across the inlet from Digby to Kaien Island, at the mouth of the harbor, during the week. The deer hunting season opens on September 15, but local sportsmen will have to remember that Kaien Island is a perpetual game reserve.

Fish Business

During the week 557,500 of pounds of halibut has been marketed on the Fish Exchange. The highest price paid for American first class catches was 15.2c and for second 11.3c. The Canadians obtained the highest for first class landings at 13.6c and for second class at 11.5c. The lowest price for American first class fish was 11.3c and for second 9c. The Canadian obtained their lowest for first class fish at 12c and for second at 10c. The arrivals were: Mildred H., Andrew Kelly, Tatoosh, Hazel H., Bravo, James Carruthers, Tillie S., Verna, Agnes B., Thelma, Point May, Rose Point, Mayfolwer Mab, Ingred H., Pioneer, Star, Unimak, Success, Venus, Azores, Cape Spear, Westerner, Margalice, Eastern Point, Sentinel, Senator, Dolphin, Selma, Ruth, Rolfe, Tahoma, Bringgold, Hippo, Kouyosu and Atli.

Preparing for Natives

The Admiralty department is already making preparations for the necessary mooring of native boats during the forthcoming exhibition period. It is anticipated that there will be a larger influx of natives to the fair this year than ever before on account of the remunerative fishing season. In the event that the Cow Bay base cannot take care of all the visiting boats, mooring places will be arranged along other portions of the waterfront. At this particular season of the year the waterfront should present a very interesting spectacle to the tourists many of whom come from parts of the continent where natives are unknown.

Harry Gilbert, of the Prince Rupert Boathouse, has recovered from a severe attack of influenza

"Red" Lantz Leaves

It is reported that "Red" Lantz owner of the halibut schooner Annie which he recently purchased from J. Field, has left the city on a little joy ride to Australia. Skipper Lantz was well known in waterfront circles and his departure will be regretted by a wide circle of friends.

The tug Azurite, Capt. Gerrard, arrived in port from Anyox yesterday, with a scow load of benzol for the P.R. Boathouse. The tug will pick up a scow load of empty oil drums on her return trip.

Come Inside

An ardent fisherman was one day fishing on the banks of a stream which ran near the walls of a lunatic asylum. One of the inmates chanced to look over the wall and seeing the piscatorial artist the following conversation took place: Inmate. "What yer doin'?" Fisherman. "Fishing." Inmate. "How long have you been here?" Fisherman. "About five hours." Inmate. "Caught anything?" Fisherman. Not yet." Inmate. "Guess you'd better come inside."

Who was the guy on the waterfront that said he and his brother united would challenge to fight any one man in the city?

"Wylo" Nifty Craft

Frank Dibb is the latest member of the community to join the nauticals and thus be entitled to the prefix "skipper." Yes sir, skipper Dibb has purchased one of the finest pleasure launches in its class in the harbor from Geo. Fraser of the Digby Marine station. The launch "Wylo" was formerly owned by Capt. Saunders, and is the last word in fixings and gadgits. The boat measures 22 feet long 6 foot beam and is fitted with a 5-6 horse power Ferro engine which gives a speed of some eight knots per hour. The interior is all fitted with brass, and reminds one of a circus horse on parade. The engine has a double control arrangement both fore and aft composed entirely of brass rods and handles, while two steering wheels, fore and aft, are also made of solid brass. A bucket of brass polish goes with the boat so that there is no excuse for Frank getting any more sleep. The craft is covered with a canopy top while the front of the boat is glassed in for observation purposes. All that is needed now is a few fine days so that the new skipper can give the million dollar boat a good try out. It is said the engine is so eager to start that one has only to drop a small monkey wrench on the floor of the boat and the flywheel turns over itself.

R. G. Cunningham and Mr. and Mrs. H. Cunningham arrived in the city last night from Port Essington.

PRINCE RUPERT TIDES

Saturday, September 1			
High	4:48 a.m.	16.7	ft.
	17:00 p.m.	18.0	"
Low	10:47 a.m.	7.0	"
	23:34 p.m.	6.9	"
Sunday, September 2			
High	5.39 a.m.	15.6	ft.
	17:48 p.m.	17.2	"
Low	11:28 a.m.	8.1	"
Monday, September 3			
High	6:46 a.m.	14.7	ft.
	18:46 p.m.	16.7	"
Low	0:33 a.m.	7.4	"
	12:21 p.m.	9.2	"
Tuesday, September 4			
High	8.08 a.m.	14.4	ft.
	19:56 p.m.	16.5	"
Low	1:39 a.m.	7.6	"
	13:29 p.m.	9.8	"

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.

Highway Bridge Over Skeena River Terrace, B.C., Prince Rupert District.

The time for receiving tenders for the construction of the above mentioned bridge has been extended to 12 noon, standard time on Thursday, September 6, 1923.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
Prince Rupert, B.C.

NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an application will be made by the City of Prince Rupert to the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, at its next session, for an Act to be entitled "Prince Rupert Local Improvement Validation Act 1923," authorizing inter alia the reduction of the rate of interest payable on the debentures to be issued under Local Improvement Bylaw No. 403, from seven per cent. (7%) to Six per cent.

Dated at the City of Prince Rupert, this 25th day of August, 1923.

E. F. JONES,
Solicitor for the applicants, the Municipality of the City of Prince Rupert.

MINERAL ACT.

CERTIFICATE OF IMPROVEMENTS. NOTICE.

Haig No. 1, Haig No. 2, Haig No. 3, Haig No. 4, and Haig No. 5 Mineral Claims, situated in the Bella Coola Mining Division of Coast District. Where located: Near Inlet on Wigwam Bay, about 50 miles North of Port Hardy.

Take Notice that I, Thomas Mathews, Free Miner's Certificate No. 72563 C, intend sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of Improvements for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claims.

And further take notice that action under section 85 must be commenced before the issuance of said Certificate of Improvements.

Dated this 25th day of July, A.D. 1923.

Agent—D. MENZIES,
Free Miner's Certificate No. 73089 C.

TIMBER SALE X 4725.

Sealed Tenders will be received by the Minister of Lands, at Victoria, not later than noon on the 24th day of August, 1923, for the purchase of Licence X 4725, to cut 3,900,000 feet of Hemlock, Spruce, Fir and Balsam, on part of Lot 786, North shore of Alice Arm, Cassiar Land District.

Two (2) years will be allowed for removal of timber.

Further particulars of the Chief Forester, Victoria, B.C., or District Forester, Prince Rupert, B.C.

TIMBER SALE X 5417.

Sealed Tenders will be received by the District Forester, not later than noon on the 10th day of September, 1923, for the purchase of Licence X 5417, near North Moses Inlet, West Shore, C.R. 2, to cut 290,000 feet of Cedar, Spruce, Hemlock, Balsam Sawlogs.

Two (2) years will be allowed for removal of timber.

Further particulars of the Chief Forester, Victoria, or the District Forester, Prince Rupert, B.C.

TIMBER SALE X 5287.

Sealed Tenders will be received by the Minister of Lands, at Victoria, not later than noon on the 14th day of September, 1923, for the purchase of Licence X 5287, to cut 42,100 Jackpine and Spruce Ties on Lots 3364 and 3374, Range 5, Coast District.

Three (3) years will be allowed for removal of timber.

Further particulars of the Chief Forester, Victoria, B.C., or District Forester, Prince Rupert, B.C.

TIMBER SALE X 5419.

Sealed Tenders will be received by the District Forester not later than noon on the 10th day of September, 1923, for the purchase of Licence X 5419, near Moses Inlet, Range 2, Coast District, to cut 190,000 feet of Cedar, Spruce, Hemlock and Balsam Sawlogs.

One (1) year will be allowed for removal of timber.

Further particulars of the Chief Forester, Victoria, or the District Forester, Prince Rupert, B.C.

TIMBER SALE X 5365.

Sealed Tenders will be received by the Minister of Lands at Victoria, not later than noon on the 7th day of September, 1923, for the purchase of Licence X 5365, to cut 62,000 Jackpine and Spruce Ties, on an area situated in the vicinity of Decker Lake and approximately 4½ miles north and east from Decker Lake Station, C.N.R., Range 5, Coast Land District.

Three (3) years will be allowed for removal of timber.

Further particulars of the Chief Forester, Victoria, B.C., or District Forester, Prince Rupert, B.C.

TIMBER SALE X 5385.

Sealed Tenders will be received by the Minister of Lands at Victoria, not later than noon on the 7th day of September, 1923, for the purchase of Licence X 5385, to cut 286,000 lineal feet of Cedar Poles Piling, on an area adjoining Lot 2423, Cassiar Land District.

One (1) year will be allowed for removal of timber.

Further particulars of the Chief Forester, Victoria, B.C., or District Forester, Prince Rupert, B.C.

TIMBER SALE X 5343.

Sealed Tenders will be received by the Minister of Lands, at Victoria, not later than noon on the 14th day of September, 1923, for the purchase of Licence X 5343, to cut 1,460,000 feet of Spruce, Balsam, Hemlock and Cedar on an area situated on the west shore of Canoona Lake, Prince Royal Island, Range 4, Coast District.

Two (2) years will be allowed for removal of timber.

Further particulars of the Chief Forester, Victoria, B.C., or District Forester, Prince Rupert, B.C.

TIMBER SALE X 5260.

Sealed Tenders will be received by the Minister of Lands at Victoria, not later than noon on the 30th day of August, 1923, for the purchase of Licence X 5260, to cut 8,700 Jackpine Ties, on an area situated approximately 3½ miles south of Decker Lake, Canadian National Railway, Range 5, Coast Land District.

One (1) year will be allowed for removal of timber.

Further particulars of the Chief Forester, Victoria, B.C., or District Forester, Prince Rupert, B.C.

TIMBER SALE X 5346.

Sealed Tenders will be received by the Minister of Lands at Victoria, not later than noon on the 30th day of August, 1923, for the purchase of Licence X 5346, to cut 8,700 Jackpine Ties, on the N.W. ¼ of Lot 6703 and area adjoining, Range 5, Coast Land District.

Two (2) years will be allowed for removal of timber.

Further particulars of the Chief Forester, Victoria, B.C., or District Forester, Prince Rupert, B.C.

MINERAL ACT.

CERTIFICATE OF IMPROVEMENTS. NOTICE.

Silver Bell Fraction Mineral claim, situate in the Naas River Mining Division of Cassiar District. Where located: On Kitzault River adjoining the Dolly Varden Group of Mineral Claims.

Take Notice that Lewis W. Patmore, F.M.C. No. 66813, as agent for William MacLean, F.M.C. No. 47457C; Robert F. McGinnis, F.M.C. No. 47483C; Alfred Wright, F.M.C. No. 66795; and Alfred E. Wright, Free Miner's Certificate No. 66793, intend sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate Of Improvements for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim. And Further Take Notice that action under Section 85 must be commenced before the issuance of such Certificate of Improvements.

Dated this 10th day of August, A.D. 1923.

LEWIS W. PATMORE.

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