

SAYS COMPLETE P.G.E. IN YEAR

H. G. Perry of Prince George in Optimistic Tone at Smoker

H. G. Perry, M.L.A., made a rousing speech at the Liberal smoker when he dealt with the P.G.E. railway problem and gave substantial reasons why the line should be completed to that city. In the course of his remarks he gave it as his conviction that the railway will be finished to Prince George within the next twelve months. He admitted the railway had few friends in the legislature and among the private members there were not more than one or two besides Mr. Vorston and himself, but he was satisfied the premier was in favor of finishing the line and he was equally sure the new minister of railways was of the same mind.

The legislature had passed a vote of \$50,000 for a survey of the resources of the country to be served by the railway and as soon as the snow was off the ground the premier and minister of railways will visit the district and he was confident that they would give a satisfactory assurance for an early resumption of the work.

Tore Into Report

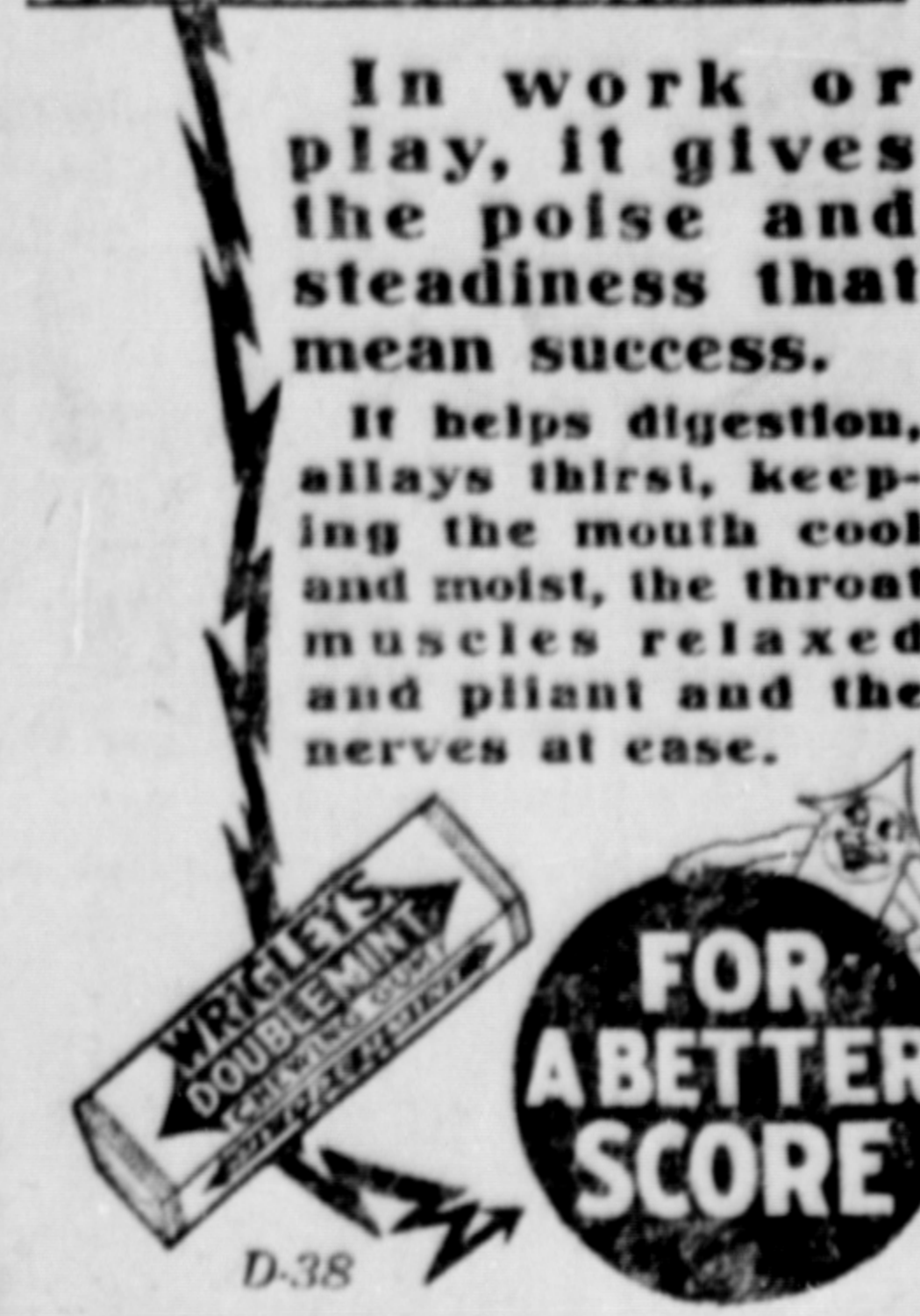
Mr. Perry tore the famous Sullivan report to pieces. He admitted it had a very damaging effect upon the fortunes of the railway quite out of proportion to that which would be accorded to it when the report was carefully examined. In the opinion of Mr. Perry the report of W. P. Hinton was entitled to greater consideration than either the report of Mr. Sullivan or that of J. S. Dennis. Mr. Hinton was much more familiar with the country through which the P.G.E. would run. From Quesnel north the information secured by Mr. Sullivan was gathered on a trip on the river from the Quesnel end, and by speeder over the seventeen-odd miles of road constructed from this point south. This was not a very intensive study upon which to base a railway policy for the great interior of the province, but it covered all the first-hand research which Mr. Sullivan gave to the question. Scant as it was however, it was more extensive than the study given to the district by Mr. Dennis. He pleaded guilty in his report to having made a trip at one time to a point twenty miles south of Prince George, on the west side of the river. This in itself could hardly qualify him to deal with the railway problem of the province, and more especially when it was remembered the railway is located on the east side of the river.

Hinton Better

The Hinton report was in favor of the completion of the railway to Prince George, and was supported by very sound reasoning. The completed line meant first economy in operation, the securing of an outlet to market for a considerable portion of the province, and the stimulation of settlement.

The Sullivan report, if it could be said to make any recommendation, said the line from Quesnel

WRIGLEYS



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to Prince George should be abandoned, and the line from Clinton to Squamish scrapped. The construction of the Ashcroft cut-off was not advocated, and as a result the people of B.C. were offered a railway running from Clinton to a point a few miles south of Quesnel for the \$40,000,000 they had invested in the P.G.E.

Forty Million Loss

If it was decided to abandon the P.G.E. in toto, said Mr. Perry, the province stands to lose the forty millions it has invested in the road, less such sum as might be secured by way of salvage, and it will have to find the sum of \$1,800,000 for interest charges, and this charge will go on forever until the province is in a position to carry the further load of providing a sinking fund to retire the railway indebtedness.

EDITOR OPTIMISTIC OVER INTERIOR OF NORTHERN COUNTRY

Much cause for optimism, for the rapid growth of this town and district during the coming season, is in evidence, says the Burns Lake Observer in an editorial article. The National Highway between Endako and Burns Lake will be completed, an allotment of \$70,000 being made for this purpose. With its completion the residents of Northern British Columbia to beyond Hazelton will have automobile access to Southern British Columbia, the United States and Eastern Canada.

Every tourist making an auto trip through this country is bound to be impressed by its agricultural and industrial potentialities. Many of them will settle here and the others cannot help but be free publicity agents.

At Francois Lake a creamery will be started this summer. This will give a great impetus to settlement there and will provide a ready market for the dairy farmers' products. Many settlers, with their caravans of effects, are moving in to various parts of the Lake District, north, south, east and west of Burns Lake with the advent of spring. Slowly but surely the agricultural possibilities are being developed, every new acre under cultivation giving evidence of the splendid fertility of the soil.

COMMUNITY LEAGUE OF ANYOX MEETS

Attempt to Make Ice Rink This Winter is Abandoned

ANYOX, Feb. 7.—At the regular weekly meeting of the Anyox Community League Council, held in Recreation Hall, Vice-President E. J. Conway occupied the chair, councillors present being Sec. Treas. C. J. Lowry, Mrs. James McKay and E. Noel.

The secretary reported the abandonment of the attempt to make an ice rink at the Flats on account of the open nature of the winter, and told of the action taken to discontinue the effort. This was endorsed by the council.

Dealing with the formal opening of the new gymnasium, reports were made on the progress of the different committees.

A letter was read from President C. J. Ferguson, asking that his resignation as a member of the council be accepted as he had decided not to return to Anyox. The council accepted Mr. Ferguson's resignation with considerable regret. As the general election for councillors will take place later in the month, no attempt will be made to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Ferguson's resignation at this time.

R. Armour forwarded a letter from a Mr. Goodman, welfare supervisor of the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, an organization with headquarters in Glasgow and having a membership, as Mr. Armour explained in a covering note, of some 12,000 employees. Mr. Goodman's letter was in appreciation of the regular receipt of several copies of the "Granby News," the little paper which the Granby Company publishes in the interests of community welfare.

Other general business had to do with the installation of two drinking fountains in the new gymnasium, and the offer of F. Brown to conduct a gymnastic class on a certain number of mornings each week if admittance could be had to the building at six a.m. The council agreed that a key should be placed at Mr. Brown's disposal for this purpose.

HAZELTON

A. Roy McDonnell is recovering nicely from a severe attack of pneumonia.

Fred Peterson has returned to Hazelton from Chu Chua where he spent several months at the Wind Pass mine. Al. Harris, formerly of Hazelton, is foreman of operations at the Wind Pass.

R. G. Sutton, district agriculturist at Prince George, and J. R. Terry, chief poultry inspector for the department of agriculture, will make a tour along the line of the railway at the end of the month. They will hold meetings at Hazelton on February 28 and at Terrace on March 1.

Horace Du Vernet, of Shandilla, is a patient at the Hazelton Hospital and Mrs. Du Vernet is visiting Mrs. H. C. Wrinch.

Mrs. John McInnes, a well-known old-timer of the district, died last week.

Frank Brown, youngest son of Robert Brown, died at the Hazelton hospital last week.

Mr. Galt arrived from Victoria last week to visit his daughter, Mrs. Arthur Leverett. He may remain in the district.

NAAS RIVER

Messrs. Studly, Phillips, Spencer and Weber have returned to the Naas after a trip to Prince Rupert on business.

John Nelson's barn has assumed large proportions and he is busy making shakes for the roof.

Pat Galvin and Scott are busy whipsawing lumber for A. F. Priestly.

Constable Newham is having a nice sociable time among his many friends.

Alfred Wynes has been busy hauling wood and making a few cross country calls among the neighbors.

Jack Sauer is camping up the

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Grease trail ready to move to his place in the Granberry valley in the spring as soon as travelling improves.

Henry Derby is soon going out to the Yukon for the summer and intends to build a boat to put on the Naas on his return in the fall.

MANITOBA'S FORESTS ARE BEING DEPLETED

Only Two Million Acres Now Producing Timber Says Inspector

WINNIPEG, Feb. 7.—Depletion of the forest areas of Manitoba through fires and other destructive agencies has been so great, that the province is actually confronted with a situation verging on a timber famine, was the opinion expressed by H. I. Stevenson, district forestry inspector at the session of the Manitoba Horticultural and Forestry association in the Y.M.C.A.

The speaker declared that prior to extensive settlement the province had been abundantly stocked with timber. Vast expanses of forest had been cleared away, the general belief being that the forests were inexhaustible. To prevent further destruction introduction of laws giving protection to remaining timber, he said was necessary. The future timber production of the province to a great degree depended upon the success of the present forest reserves.

sorted that of the total land area of the province approximately 75,000,000 acres were suitable for the production of timber. It was estimated that there remained today only 2,000,000 acres, which was producing about 50,000,000 feet annually of raw material, valued at nearly \$1,000,000.

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CANCELLATION OF RESERVE. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the reserve affecting the lands covered by expired Timber Licence No. 19810 is cancelled. G. B. NADEN, Deputy Minister of Lands, Lands Department, Victoria, B.C., 4th January, 1923.

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OVERTURNED DURING LADY NEAR HOME FRANCOIS LAKE

Friday, when a sleigh in which she was being driven was overturned, near her home on the bank of Francois Lake. J. J. Hickey received painful injuries, was severely bruised, but her leg broken just above knee, says the Burns Lake Observer. Owing to the ice on Francois Lake being in a precarious condition it was impossible for Dr. Williams, of the Francois, to attend the case and inadvisable to risk taking Hickey to the hospital. Hickey brought the victim to Burns Lake and she was taken to hospital for treatment on Saturday morning.

WANDERHOOF

Grocker, Fred C. Borden, George H. Outram, F. M. J. Goldie, C. Hartley, Deal, S. Holmes and W. F. have been re-elected directors of the Nechako Valley Co-operative Creamery association.

B. Smith has returned from business trip to Calgary.

J. J. Preston, of Young, Sask., returned east. He purchased a tract of land here and will live with his family in the district fall.

Time Dance and Social given in the Community Hall on Friday night. Almeta Mitchell and George Silver were the winners and those in charge were Edward Stuart, H. L. McInnes and E. A. Mitchell.

PRINCE GEORGE

On resolution of the city council, the salary of the mayor was increased from \$600 per annum.

W. Pitman is acting as librarian at the Prince George library.

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The Tobacco with a heart

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