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THE DAILY NEWS
 PRINCE RUPERT - BRITISH COLUMBIA
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Stork To Fore In Budget Debate.

Fred Stork led off quite early in the budget debate at Ottawa and his speech was so well considered by the press representatives that they sent out a fairly full report of it on the wires to British Columbia. Everyone here will feel somewhat of a glow of pride to think their member has been able to hold his own so well in a house composed of so many members. They cannot all speak. Many of them never do anything but vote. Prince Rupert, however, has a voice in the House and so important a one that it is heard as far as the Pacific coast. The report that came to us last night and which is published today is not a special despatch but one sent out generally by the Canadian Press.

Rapid and Radical Reforms Dangerous.

Rapid reforms are dangerous. Changes in tariffs or in anything else cause confusion and reach out far beyond what anyone expects. Also the threat of changes tends to cause instability in business and keeps industries from expanding. At the same time a moderate amount of uncertainty keeps manufacturers from taking advantage of the tariff to raise prices inordinately.

Free trade would be the right thing if there had been no war and there was no need of raising immense sums to pay the interest on war debts and also to pay for the losses on a railroad system. Free trade with our neighbors is one of the conditions we may yet look forward to, but it will not come for some time. The farmers are interested in free trade on those things they have to buy and they make a great fuss if they find they, the producers, the tillers of the soil, have to help pay the war debt through import duties. Yet the farmers should pay their share along with the rest. We all hate to pay taxes and we all think the other people should pay more than we. It takes a courageous government to hold its own against a farmer movement such as that of the prairies. Yet the farmers must not be given everything at the expense of those who are not farming. If the revenue has to be raised, and it has, we should all stand together and each pay his share.

Shipment Of Grain By Prince Rupert.

Fred Stork spoke in the House of the possibilities of shipping grain through Prince Rupert. A short time ago a despatch from Ottawa stated that an inquiry was to be instituted as to the various western grain routes. Apparently this route is being considered and every time our member is able to tell the House of Commons about it, the more familiar will they become with the idea until eventually we shall see the golden stream flowing this way as it is today flowing through Vancouver.

Danger Of Too Much Prosperity.

Several times we have spoken of the danger of too much prosperity and have pointed out that men who can make a good living and hold their own in competition under normal conditions are easily crowded to the wall in time of rapid growth. This is illustrated very well in a story sent out by the Associated Press from Washington and emanating from the post office department there. It says:

"When an oil boom hits a one-man post office things begin to happen, as witnessed by the records which have just been made public of the tribulations of the postmaster at Smackover, Ark.

"Smackover was basking in the sun, a town of 200 last fall when oil was struck. Almost overnight the population swelled to ten thousand, and this message came to the post office department from Postmaster Fred V. McDonald, who, meantime, had grown wealthy in oil lands:

"The office is out of my control; letters arriving 5,000 to 7,000 daily; parcel post by the tons; can't open mail any longer, no place to put it; accept resignation."

"Thirteen assistants were rushed to Smackover and the salary was increased from \$600 a year to \$2,500, but Postmaster McDonald refused to stay longer on the job than was necessary to get things running smoothly."

A Clear, Beautiful Skin



There are millions of tiny openings or pores in the skin and these must be kept open and clean if the beauty of the skin is to be maintained.

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DISCUSSION OF UTILITY RATES

Bylaw Introduced by Superintendent Providing for Reductions Tabled for Week by Council

LOVE URGES REDUCTION

Little Change in Revenue Expected Except from Loss of Meter Rents

The city council at length last night discussed the report of the superintendent of utilities, Ernest Love, on proposed light and power rate reductions and finally laid the report on the table for a week for further consideration. Mr. Love was present and explained the proposed new bylaw. The time-honored debate, utility rate reductions vs. increased taxation, was indulged in, Mayor Newton and Ald. Macdonald, chairman of utilities committee, championing the cause of the utility users and Ald. Stephens, chairman of the finance committee, taking up the case for the taxpayers.

Mr. Love stated that one of the important objects to be gained by means of the new bylaw would be the ending of present discrimination as far as domestic rates were concerned. Under the present bylaw 10 1/2 c. was charged for light and 6c. for power, the duty of making the division for these charges on the meter reading coming on the clerk making out the accounts. There had been many complaints. Under the new bylaw, 8c. flat would be charged for the first 25 kilowatts, the rate graduating down as greater consumption was recorded. With the discounts, a rate comparing favorably with North Vancouver, South Vancouver and Point Grey would be reached. On the whole, he did not think that the new rate would change the revenue very much as far as residence consumption was concerned. The new business rate would, however, cause considerable reduction in revenue as would also the dropping of meter rents. He estimated that the total reduction in revenue through the new bylaw would be in the neighborhood of \$16,000. Last year, according to the auditor's report, the utilities had shown a surplus of \$7,694.58. This year, so far, the surplus was \$10,236.77. The difference in surplus between this year and last was to be explained by the fact that, last year, large sums had been spent out of revenue in new construction and reserve equipment. This year the buying of new stores had been avoided although some \$1,000 had been spent out of revenue in making connections with the dry dock and the railway. Under present conditions of the utilities, he thought that the city was perfectly safe in putting through a bylaw that would give the consumers the benefit of a cheap light and power rate that they had not had in the past.

Safe Reduction

Mayor Newton said that the reduction proposed was a safe one and would still cover with ample margin any emergency that might arise through additional construction or decrease of population. If, on the other hand, conditions continued as at present without any unforeseen emergencies, it might be possible to make still further reductions in rates this year.

Ald. Stephens, while realizing that some rectifications in the rates to avoid discrimination were necessary, said that he was not enthusiastic about heavy reductions in revenue. This year's rate had been struck taking into consideration all revenues. The reduction proposed would effect this year's financing. He did not see why revenues should be dissipated in reducing rates and felt that the city of Prince Rupert should have the benefits of profits from its utilities. There was a grave danger in taking this step of piling up more bonded debt. The water utility, he felt, should come under the same head as the electric light and they should go hand in hand, the surplus of one covering the loss of the other. If money was lost in utilities revenue, it would have to be made up in taxation. By adopting reductions in light and power rates, they would be working against the taxpayers at the advantage of utilities consumers, many of whom did not pay a cent

in taxes to the city. They should keep the tax rate as low as possible and encourage the investors without whom the city would go into the hands of receivers. Rather than see the utility rates reduced, he would prefer that they be worked out on a basis as near to last year's as possible but eliminating discrimination. He was not anxious to reduce rates in one place and pile up taxes in another.

Defends Reductions

Ald. Macdonald maintained that the small investors who made their homes here were as important to the city as the large investors who lived away and only visited the city periodically to collect their rents. All residents were helping to build up the town and they should get the benefit of reduced rates although he did not feel that the taxpayers should bear the whole burden. A happy medium was the object of the present proposed reductions.

Ald. Stephens declared that every taxpayer was helping the town. Every reduction in the rates of utilities would mean increases in taxation.

Mayor Newton felt that the purpose of municipal ownership was to cover initial expenditures and then provide as low rates as possible. It was not fair to accumulate large surpluses by means of high rates.

Ald. Stephens pointed out that the taxpayers had guaranteed the original cost of the plant and should therefore receive the benefits of surpluses from service. Reducing rates might be a good way of getting votes but it was poor business nevertheless.

Ald. Collart stated that past surpluses of the utilities had been used in paying back debts to general fund.

Water Deficit

Mr. Love pointed out that the electric light utility had last year been loaded with a deficit of \$11,000 from the operation of the waterworks department.

The bylaw was laid on the table, Mr. Love requesting that, whatever the council might do in regard to reduction of rates, the present discriminatory rates should at least be remedied.

UTILITIES REPORT

Telephones Show Surplus of \$682 and Electric Light a Deficit of \$425.85

The telephone department shows a surplus of \$682 for the month of April and the electric light department a deficit of \$425.85 according to a report submitted to the city council last night by Ernest Love, superintendent of utilities. The expenditure in the telephone department during the month was \$2,917.40 and the estimated revenue, \$3,600. In the electric light department, the cost was \$7,625.82 and the revenue, \$7,200.

Reporting on electric light operation, the superintendent showed that the revenue in April had been less than in March and there had been a deficit because \$2,668.03 had been paid out of revenue for making the dry dock connection. Cost of operation had been reduced by \$814. Lengthening days and less light used was the reason for decreased revenue. Since January 1, the department had paid over \$1,000 out of revenue for new construction.

The telephone report showed 1281 phones in use at the first of April and 1273 at the end.

The Man in the Moon SAYS:-

ENTHUSIASM is the life of the soul.

WERE it not that he is superintendent of the schools and therefore must be circumspect in his language, H. L. Campbell would exclaim in stentorian tones: "Nurses' Home or Bust." As it is about all the slang he is allowed to use is "some such expression as: 'We intend to put over this golden thing or somebody'll know the reason why.'"

THERE was a young man of somewhat sporty proclivities who sits at the head of a table in a local boardinghouse, who, when he heard of the slogan "Nurses' Home or Bust," remarked "Oh, give me a bust anytime."

NOW that wrist watches for men and short skirts for women are almost forgotten, what is a person to write about in a

column such as this?

NOW that the swimming season is here (nearly) what about getting into the swim?

THERE was a girl thought she commence a romance by falling into the undrinkable and have one of the boys save her. She fell in with a gentle scream and they fished her out with a boat-hook. Since that she stays at home when the young people go on the water.

"THE days of youth are joyous days," as the lad murmured to himself when he saw the rest of the boys go off for the trip and he had to stay at home and mind the baby for his aunt.

HOW Lord Curzon must have shrivelled when the Bolsheviks burned him in effigy at Moscow!

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Use it for every Milk need.

With the Cream left in

The Borden Co. Limited VANCOUVER

He would never think of being insistent after being treated that way.



TIMBER SALE X 4620.

Sealed Tenders will be received by the Minister of Lands, at Victoria, not later than noon on the 8th day of June, 1923, for the purchase of Licence X 4620, to cut 2,165,000 feet of spruce, Balsam, Hemlock and Cedar, on an area situated on the North shore of Long Lake, Range 2, Coast Land District.

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

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

TIMBER SALE X 5009.

Sealed Tenders will be received by the District Forester, Prince Rupert, not later than noon on the 8th day of June, 1923, for the purchase of Licence X 5009, near Smiths Inlet, to cut 115M. board feet of Cedar, Hemlock and Spruce.

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

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

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