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"Gerry" McGeer Dies

"GERRY" McGEER may not go down in history as a statesman but he will long be remembered as a versatile, dynamic and stout champion of the common people's cause. His friends and admirers were numerous and sincere. He was a true Liberal in politics in the broadest sense and often in his career broke away from party lines when matters of principle or the best interests of the people were in his estimation not being served.

Those who were "Gerry's" best friends will like to remember him as the rough-and-tumble, happy, grinning Irish-Canadian who had the love of a good fight in his system and who could give blows and take them but always a good and fair fighter.

"Gerry" was no stranger to Prince Rupert. Back in the twenties when the big freight rates fight was on, he came here one time and we remember how he parried with the session of the Board of Railway Commissioners of which the late Hon. Frank Carvell was then the smooth and astute chairman. They gave a banquet for "Gerry" that night and he delivered one of his typical fighting talks.

Then we remember "Gerry" again when the Liberals of Prince Rupert called upon him in tough political battles to help them come up and save the day—and they were saved. He was a challenging platform figure and it was when, by his own deliberations, that he could get a rise out of the audience that, showman as he was, he would really get going the best.

Essentially a fighter, "Gerry" was a man of action and thrived upon opposition. It was then he really got things done—witness, for example, the great Vancouver City Hall which will be his lasting monument.

"Gerry's" years were comparatively short but his career was a full one. He went to the Senate as a comparatively young man. Had he been spared longer, he would never have grown old even in that august assemblage of normally elder statesmen.

A champion of his home town of Vancouver for which he was a stout fighter and for which he accomplished much, he was also a real British Columbian and a real Canadian. His passing is a great loss not only to his city but to the province and to the Dominion.

WAS ABLE MINISTER

TO US OUT HERE in British Columbia, the sudden passing of our own "Gerry" McGeer somewhat overshadowed the shock of the death at the youthful age of forty-five of H. F. G. Bridges, the minister of fisheries. Mr. Bridges was a comparatively new figure in the federal field but, in his brief period at the head of the fisheries department, he was achieving note as a competent minister and administrator. When he became minister of fisheries, his knowledge of the fisheries was but what an average business or professional man from a fishing community might possess but he set himself to an assiduous study and research of his department and affairs of which with remarkable celerity he soon obtained a masterly grasp. Possibly the greatest tribute to him was the admiration for his capability which he won from all with whom he came in contact. Had death not intervened, he might have gone far in the federal government field.

The fact that Mr. Bridges paid a visit to Prince Rupert just last September not long after he became minister of fisheries was but an indication of his earnest determination to speedily acquaint himself with the industry in all its phases and localities.

It was his first trip north in his official capacity. He travelled chiefly by air and he saw a good deal of the district in the somewhat limited time at his disposal. While he was in Prince Rupert he was the guest of honor at a dinner.

Mr. Bridges practised law prior to entering public life and was unmarried. He died from the effects of a heart condition.

THIS AND THAT



The George Matthew Adams Service, Inc.

"What's New?"

What City Council Did

... Adopted a motion by Alderman McKay that the city traffic bylaw be amended to prohibit parking on McBride Street between Sixth and Seventh Avenues to avoid traffic hazards near Gyro Park when fastball games are in session. The matter was referred to the police for action in the meantime.

... Accepted a motion by Alderman Casey that an agenda of specific matters to be brought before council meetings be prepared and made available to the aldermen prior to the city council meetings.

... Gave final readings to the telephone rental bylaw and the Eighth Avenue sewer bylaw which were given initial reading at the July 21 meeting.

... Adopted a report of the finance committee concerning the following sales of city-owned property: Lot 31, block 23, section 8 (Eleventh Avenue East) to William Davidson for \$75. Lots 13 and 14, block 7, section 7 (Seal Cove Circle) to J. W. Jeffery for \$200, subject to 50 per cent discount for ex-servicemen.

... Approved a licensing committee report that a trade license had been issued to Miss Margaret McLeod to practise as an optician.

... Approved a Board of Works recommendation that B. C. Stewart of Vancouver be appointed assistant city engineer at a salary of \$225 a month.

LETTERBOX

LEONARD CAMPBELL

Editor, Daily News:
For the past month we have nothing to report on the progress of Leonard Campbell who is afflicted with creeping paralysis as he has been placed in several different homes and has not been treated for his ailment. Money was collected from the people of Prince Rupert and district to have Leonard sent south for treatment. In our last report from Dr. Rimes he stated that he had not seen Leonard since July 30 and he also states that the Provincial Welfare is contemplating sending the boy back home. According to reports the Welfare claim nothing more can be done for Leonard as they have had him examined by a doctor appointed by the department.

I had the opportunity of speaking to the Welfare worker in Duncan and at that time she was more than pleased with the progress in the case and promised a full detailed report to be sent to head office in Victoria. As the matter stands a present if the Welfare send this boy home, what is to become of him? Is he to crawl around in the dirt and rain and in due time become worse than he was before going south?

So will the citizens as well as organized Labor unions and lodges of Prince Rupert get behind Mrs. Richardson and myself and see that Leonard Campbell is kept south where treatments are available?

T. SMITH.

Special Supplements Are Still Available

Limited numbers of Wednesday's special 30-page issue of The Daily News featuring industrial development are still available at the office. They will be mailed at a cost of 10c each.

Municipal Convention August 27

Second annual convention of the Central B.C. Municipal Association will be held at Prince Rupert on August 27 to consider regional policy on the long list of resolutions which will be brought up before the B.C. Municipal Association convention at Harrison Hot Springs in September.

The Central B.C. Association, which was founded two years ago so that delegates to provincial conventions can speak with regional authority rather than as representatives of single communities consists of the city or municipal councils of Prince Rupert, Terrace, Smithers, Burns Lake, Vanderhoof, Prince George and Stewart.

In preparation for the forthcoming convention, the aldermen held a ballot last night which resulted in Aldermen Black, Rudderham and Brooks-bank being named voting delegates. Mayor Arnold appointed Aldermen McKay, Ham and Nickerson to be the entertainment committee for the host council.

According to Mayor Arnold who is vice-president of the association and who attended last year's convention at Burns Lake as delegate, the session will last only one day. This year there are 86 resolutions to consider and next year's officers to elect.

Mayor Jack Nicholson of Prince George is current president of the Association, and City

Clerk H. D. Thain is secretary. At the termination of last night's city council meeting, the aldermen heard the resolutions read, and voted on their acceptance or rejection of them in preparation for the Central B.C. Municipal convention. Delegates from the seven communities at next week's convention will set the regional policy on the resolutions in for the provincial next month.

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