

Independent daily newspaper devoted to the upbuilding of Prince Rupert and all communities comprising northern and central British Columbia. (Authorized as Second Class Mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa) Published every afternoon except Sunday by Prince Rupert Daily News Ltd., 3rd Avenue, Prince Rupert, British Columbia. G. A. HUNTER, Managing Editor. H. G. PERREY, Managing Director. MEMBER OF CANADIAN PRESS — AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS CANADIAN DAILY NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

Solving Jap Problem

CANADA'S "Japanese Problem," thrust into prominence six years ago with the attack by Japan on Pearl Harbor, today appears dwindling from subject of utmost concern to a perplexity with solution in sight.

But it has not diminished unaided. Canada's handling of the "problem" has been termed by some civil liberty-minded persons as "a milestone in the democratic treatment of minorities."

Of necessity, the first chapter was grim. At the outbreak of war with Japan, more than 1,000 fishing vessels of Japanese-Canadians who fished off the British Columbia coast were immobilized as a defence measure.

The Pacific war later spurred federal government regulations permitting confiscation by R.C. M.P. of automobiles, radios, cameras, guns and explosives owned by Japanese in B.C.

In 1942 B.C.'s 22,000-odd Japanese, nearly the entire Japanese population of the Dominion, were dispersed from west coast "protected areas" to points east of the Cascade Mountains. Their property was taken by the Custodian of Enemy Property and sold.

All of the Japanese in Canada today have been cleared by the government of any suspicion of disloyalty.

In 1944, the federal government promised that Canadian citizens of Japanese origin loyal to Canada would be treated "fairly and justly."

The upshot of the promise was the appointment this fall of Mr. Justice Henry I. Bird of the British Columbia Court of Appeal to hear claims from Canada's Japanese that they had suffered "serious financial losses" through the forced sale of their property by the Custodian of Enemy Property.

The appointment of the Japanese Property Claims Commission is unique in Canadian history. Charged with hearing the greatest number of complaints ever to appear before a Canadian tribunal, the investigations may last more than three years.

GOODWILL STILL POSSIBLE

THE DAWN OF CHRISTMAS approaches as the effort of the foreign ministers to solve the problem of Germany's future weakens to the point of extinction.

The salvaging of Europe remains, if it were possible, a more acute issue than ever. Yet, this wrestling with what is a vital responsibility cannot be regarded as any the less important. The struggle cannot, must not cease. Meanwhile the sorry old universe will rejoice and be glad. For it can be done, despite the uncomfortable fact that there is not all the peace on earth we would like to have and that the existence of goodwill among men is not remarkable today for its scope and fervor.

NATIONAL PARKS

THERE IS A SIMILARITY between the national park systems in Canada and the United States.

In each country the already spacious park areas have within recent date been still further extended. The lands set aside on both sides of the border can be classed as vast, yet viewed from the standpoint of the total public domain, are small indeed. But their grandeur and beauty are of priceless service in the power of the appeal to the human spirit and in the renewal of strength flowing from some of the fairest scenes in creation itself.

President Truman not long ago dedicated the Everglades National Park in Florida, and his eloquent words apply with truth and fitness.

He said in conclusion: "Here, we may truly understand what the psalmist meant when he sang, 'He maketh me to lie down in green pastures, he leadeth me beside the still waters, he restoreth my soul.'"



SOLDIER GUARDS FOR NON-STRIKING FRENCHMEN—Non-striking workers clear up a railroad station in Paris under the watchful eye of a soldier who is on hand to see that they are not molested by railroad strikers. The French national assembly frustrated a Communist filibuster in a riotous session and approved the military action of the government's anti-strike program. Premier Robert Schuman's "public security" government was empowered to call up 80,000 more reservists to reinforce the nation's anti-sabotage guard.

Japanese Oranges

Smart sales psychology is being employed by the distributors for Japanese oranges, not seen in city grocery stores since long before this country went to war with Japan.

Labels on the first shipment read: "Sweet Mandarines. Grown in OCCUPIED Japan."

PRINCE RUPERT YEARS AGO

December 19, 1922

J. R. McKenzie and Murdoch McLeod, two linemen employed by the city light department, suffered painful injuries to their legs when a pole which they were erecting on Fulton Street got out of control and fell.

Dr. W. T. Kergin, chairman of the board of school trustees, announced that he would resign from the board owing to pressure of personal business. Dr. Kergin had another year to go as chairman.

The first concert rehearsal of the Prince Rupert Symphony Orchestra was scheduled to take place on January 7 under direction of C. P. Balagno. Forty-three musicians had indicated their willingness to join the orchestra.

The Board of Trade received a letter from W. L. Macken, president of the Associated Boards of Trade of B.C., complimenting it on its efforts to assist in obtaining settlement along the G.T.P. line.

December 18, 1912

The G.T.P. inn was damaged by an early morning fire and the loss was too great to restore the building in comparison with the cost of erecting a new structure. A lot of damage was done by water. The cause was unknown.

T. B. Shoebottom, on returning from Victoria, announced that the strike at Cumberland among the miners was almost over and that there was no danger of further disturbances.

The Daily News carried a lengthy story about a hold-up of a C.P.R. train.

HASTINGS, Eng. — Electric lights now replace candle-lighting used since 1420, in St. Clements church here.

Briefs from Britain

LONDON, — Trans-Canada Air Lines has opened a "visitors bureau" in Cockspar Street—the heart of the travel office area—where passengers may arrange hotel reservations, sight-seeing excursions, pleasure trips and theatre tickets. Mrs. Ruth Jennings of Ottawa is in charge.

BIRMINGHAM, Eng. — Recent recipient of over \$164,000 from a football pool, 46-year old Henry Le Maistre said it had come 11 years too late. Reason: his wife died in 1935.



The Gift Supreme

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LONDON, — A Sunday commemoration service was held on the cleared site in New Cross district where 170 persons were killed when a rocket landed in 1944.

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TELLS ABOUT TOWN PLANNING

City Engineer Speaker at Rotary Club Luncheon

The value of long-range town planning in the development of modern communities was stressed before the Prince Rupert Rotary Club Thursday afternoon by City Engineer Charles B. Howe who appealed for the support of club members in the application of such planning to Prince Rupert.

Authority to set up Town Planning Commissions was given municipalities by legislation passed by the provincial government, but the foresight and understanding of the citizens is required to make it successful. Mr. Howe said.

Revisions to the Town Planning Act of 1925, as recommended by the regional planning division of the B. C. government Rehabilitation Commission make the setting up of town planning commissions obligatory but so far no such commission has been established in Prince Rupert.

Mr. Howe urged the club members to get behind the town planning commission when it is organized.

Recognized program of such

commissions is to prepare an official master plan; to control the uses of buildings and land zoning; to control the subdivision of new areas; to establish a system of streets and roads for the smooth flow of traffic; to develop public transportation, parks, playgrounds and other public services. All interested organizations should be informed of the proceedings of the commission and its plans should be exhibited and discussed at public hearings before they are brought before city council. Instruments employed in the town planning program are the building and zoning bylaws, and while sometimes appear to work against individuals, their range purpose is to create a community that is beautiful and adequate for modern living. Concluded.

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