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G. A. SUNIER, Managing Editor. H. G. PERRY, Managing Director.
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POLITICAL INTEREST

IN THE COURSE of the next year or so federal and provincial elections will be coming around again. Certain political interests, stinging from the reverses in the last elections, were full of high resolve for a time that they would right soon even at that early date, be mending their fences and getting actively and steadily in readiness for the next campaigns. Possibly there has not been as much activity along that line as there might have been. It is not necessarily because we might sympathize with any political beliefs or the cause of candidates who may espouse them that we express the opinion that it seems desirable there should be more activity in preparation for forthcoming election campaigns. Rather it is because there would be thereby developed an active interest and healthy discussion of public matters that these remarks are made. These are important days in world affairs. Canada is playing an important part in such affairs. Skeena and Prince Rupert are becoming increasingly prominent in the Canadian scene. Our voice should be heard and our interest should be shown. One sure way of bringing that about is by a general, healthy and truly representative attention to public and national affairs through the medium of interest and discussion of political questions. Probably all that is needed is a little active and well-planned leadership. Now that the long winter nights are coming and the diversion of outside interests is waning might be a good time to get started.

54-40 AND FRIENDSHIP

RESIDENTS OF NORTHERN British Columbia and Southeastern Alaska have set an excellent and encouraging example in international friendship in their action toward close co-operation among the Boards of Trade of the two areas. Delegates from many communities in both areas, meeting at the annual convention of the Associated Boards of Trade of Central B. C. in Prince Rupert, decided virtually to eliminate the international boundary insofar as board of trade matters are concerned. They decided to act jointly on economic matters, planned to hold their 1948 convention in Juneau, and named an Alaskan as second vice-president. As Governor Ernest Gruening told the convention, it was an important venture in international relations. "We are both on the outside rim of economic activity on this continent," Gruening said, "and we must act together to improve our position." One of the concerns of both areas is the building up of an alternative channel for trade to Alaska by way of Prince Rupert. From the Alaskan viewpoint, this would reduce the territory's dependence on Seattle and help circumvent what the Alaskans consider discriminatory shipping legislation. From the Canadian viewpoint such a route would be a godsend to Prince Rupert and would help all British Columbia. The joint sessions, and the decision to cement friendly relations by economic action, are a far cry from the old "54-40 or Fight" slogan of the time of the Oregon and Alaskan boundary disputes. In those days it was a matter of manoeuvring between Canada and the United States to obtain the largest slice of the north Pacific coast. Now, a century later, the people of the northern coast have demonstrated their ability to co-operate as friends and neighbors.—Vancouver News Herald.

LESSON IN CITIZENSHIP

ON THE TRAIN we were taught a lesson in humility. A lean Canadian immigration official came into the coach as the train neared the international border. A sheaf of papers was held under his arm. He addressed us. "Nationality?" he inquired. "American," we replied. He smiled gently. "U.S.," he corrected us. After he had left our coach, I thought about the incident. We in the United States have arrogated unto ourselves the proud title of "American." We think it belongs to us exclusively. Yet what are Canadians and Mexicans and Cubans and Guatemalans, if not "Americans"? Our unilateral appropriating of the designation "Americans" is as if one country in the Old World suddenly began calling its citizens "Europeans" as distinctive from their continental neighbors. Why should we alone be "Americans"? Are not Canadians "Americans" too? They inhabit the North American continent along with us. Indeed, they inhabit more of it. Canada is considerably larger in area than the United States. Yet we call ourselves "Americans" and our neighbors "Canadians." "U.S.," the immigration official corrected us. He considered himself an "American" too. On what basis of logic is he not correct?—Dick Neuberger in "The Progressive."

SALVATION CONGRESS

Successful Meetings End Today—Led by Col. Habkirk of Chicago

Meetings of the Summer Congress of the Salvation Army in Prince Rupert and Northern British Columbia have concluded. All were of a most helpful, encouraging and enthusiastic character. It had been expected that Col. Best would have been here from Toronto but an accident to his foot prevented him from being able to travel. It so happened that Col. J. C. Habkirk of Chicago was in Vancouver at this time and arrangements were made for him to come here so the trip was made by air.

The welcome gathering Saturday evening, presided over by Brigadier J. T. Gillingham, saw a crowded citadel with delegates present from Alaska, as well as various parts of Skeena. Following the opening devotional exercises there was a round of evangelical addresses and instrumental numbers and hymns. A warm tribute to the co-operation and assistance given by the Salvation Army came from the Indian Agent F. E. Anfield who said his duties and general work here as agent had been greatly helped and facilitated by the services of the Army. Mr. Anfield made particular reference to the native girls' hostel in Prince Rupert and to what Mrs. (Adjutant) Chambers had accomplished there.

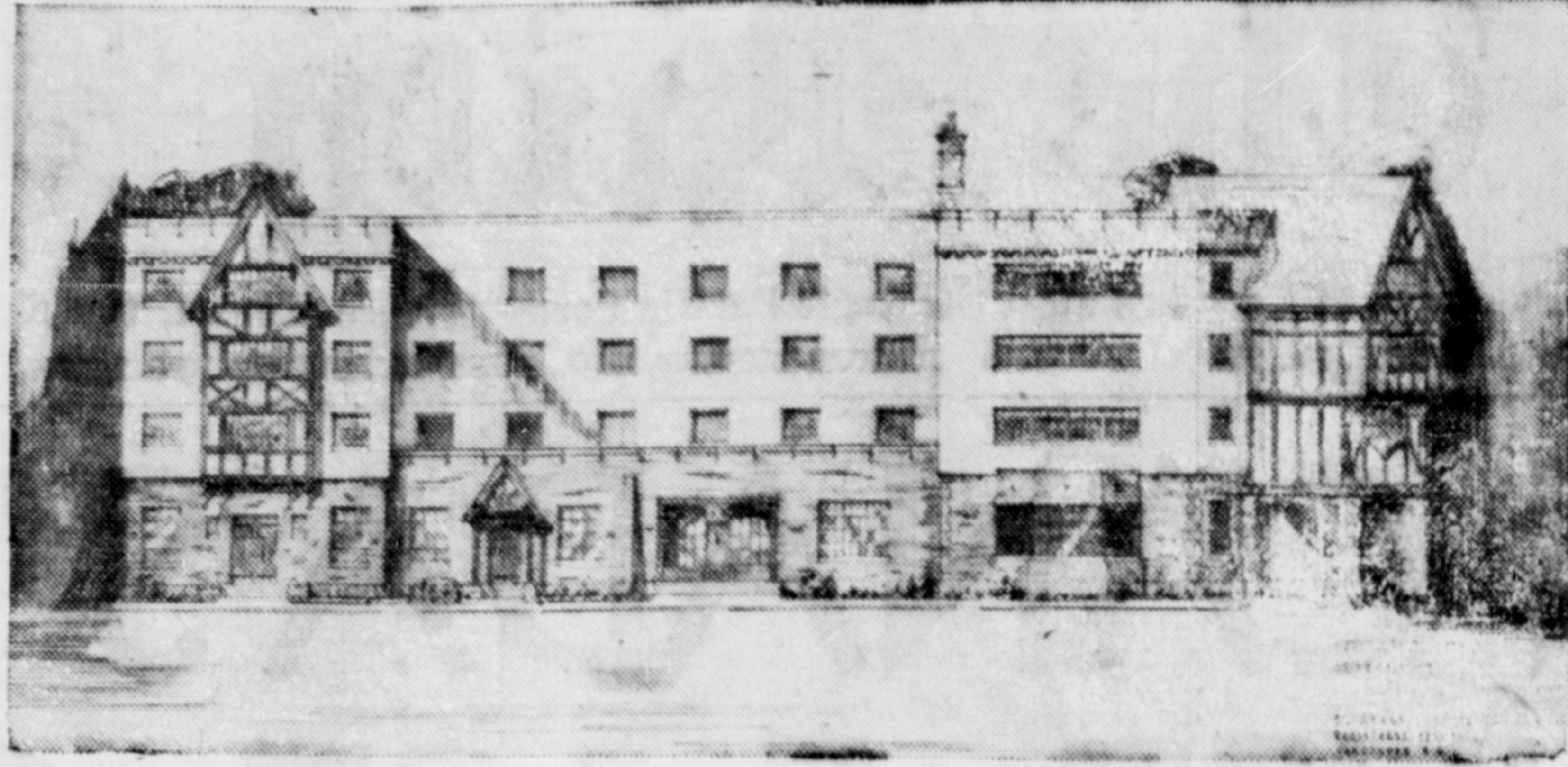
HIGHLIGHT GATHERING
Probably the highlight gathering of the whole Congress was the public meeting Sunday afternoon when generally representative citizens gathered with the visiting Salvationists—white and native—to hear Col. Habkirk deliver an inspiring address, interlarded with gospel songs for which he played the accompaniment on his banjo, on long years of service and experiences in penal institutions of the United States and Canada. Numerous incidents of touchingly poignant interest of work and experiences among "forgotten men" were related.

Prisons should be places of rehabilitation, Col. Habkirk held. Fortunately, this was the attitude of some penal institutions although not in all. Programs of education, vocation, recreation and religion in penitentiaries were recommended by Col. Habkirk.

The Sunday afternoon meeting was presided over by Mayor Nora Arnold who was introduced by Brigadier J. T. Gillingham. Opening prayer was by Rev. A. F. MacSweeney, pastor of First Presbyterian Church, with the benediction by Rev. B. S. Prockter, rector of St. Andrew's Cathedral. Mrs. F. E. Anfield, accompanied by Peter Lien, sang "The Lord is My Shepherd" and "Come Ye Disconsolate." Mrs. Dorin of Ketchikan read the Scripture and G. R. S. Blackaby made certain acknowledgements at the close of the meeting. Mrs. George Penner presided at the piano to accompany the singing.

Business sessions of the Congress were held today and Col. Habkirk leaves tonight by the Princess Adelaide for Vancouver.

Delegates to the Congress have been Field Captain and Mrs. Win. Moore, Canyon City; Envoy and Mrs. A. J. Walker, day school teachers, Canyon City; Field Captain and Mrs. Tomlinson, Cedarvale; Captain Cooper, Glen Vowell; Adjutant and Mrs. Rendell and James Green, Hazelton; E. E. Wright, Kitselas; Field Captain and Mrs. Offutt, Port Simpson; Captain and Mrs. Frank Watson, Prince George; Bandmaster Jones, Skeena Crossing; Field Captain and Mrs. A. Auckland, Metlakatla; Field Captain and Mrs. Brown, Port Essington; Mrs.



NEW ALBERNI HOTEL—Shown above is a general perspective drawing of the proposed Alberni Arms hotel to be built by the Alberni Community Hotel Company limited at Alberni, for the twin city Alberni's. The structure will have eighty rooms with private baths and provision for an additional floor as required. Ground floor will contain a lobby, coffee shop, dining room, private banquet rooms, ballroom, beer parlor and shops. Estimated cost of building and equipment approximates \$300,000. It will be completely fireproof.

(Major) Dorin, Ketchikan, Alaska; Captain and Mrs. Jarrett, Prince Rupert, Mrs. Rose Campbell, Mrs. Alice Reece, Mrs. Virginia Timmann and Mrs. Kelly Williams, Alaska.

Miss Evelyn McNab arrived in the city by air Friday afternoon from her nurses' training duties at Essondale to spend a vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles McNab.

HOTEL ARRIVALS

Mrs. A. Neilson, Sunnyside; Roger Brett, Prince Rupert; E. E. Gillenwater, Ketchikan; E. S. Hawkins, Ketchikan; R. W. Forman, Vancouver; E. Milbourne, Vancouver; C. Flewin, Port Simpson; E. Bartholomew, Ketchikan; H. Arthur, Ketchikan; H. Watson, Watson Island; M. H. Dupuis, Watson Island; G. McGregor, Butedale; Mr. and Mrs. Colburne, Prince George;

Mr. and Mrs. Ramsdell, Ketchikan; Mr. and Mrs. Leask, Metlakatla; Lt.-Col. J. Habkirk, Chicago; A. Williams, Vancouver; J. C. Evans, Vancouver; Mr. and Mrs. Briss, Port Essington; L. Gunn, Vancouver; Evelyn Moret, Vancouver; Mr. and Mrs. H. Taylor, Terrace; Miss M. Atstey, Victoria; Miss E. Spence, Victoria; Mrs. W. Ingram, Port Essington; W. York, Sunnyside; S. Thomas, Sunnyside and H. Ross, Sunnyside.

A statement about HOUSEHOLD HEATING OILS

The demand for petroleum products throughout the world is today much greater than at any time in history. In Canada, for instance, consumption of heating oils has doubled since 1945, the year of peak war requirements.

To help meet this unprecedented Canadian demand Imperial Oil has provided an unprecedented supply. However, the demand for heating oils used in range burners, space heaters, water heaters and household furnaces continues to increase at a rapid rate, while our most strenuous efforts to expand refining and storage capacity and other facilities are being hampered by lack of construction materials.

This means that the margin between the supply of and the demand for heating oils is very narrow and may approach a critical point this winter if people continue to purchase oil-burning units without first assuring themselves of an adequate supply. As a protection to the public we would advise that:

Before purchase of a range burner, space heater or any household oil-burning equipment, make certain you are assured of a continuing supply of fuel. Early this year, in order to protect our existing customers we notified our entire sales organization, including dealers and agents, that we could not take on any new heating oil customers.

Imperial Oil's replacement and construction program, delayed when materials and labor were needed for war production, is being pressed as rapidly as possible. When completed it will restore our traditional margin of supply over demand so that all requirements will be met. In the meantime every effort is being made to increase available supplies.

Any commitments we have made to supply household heating oils have been carefully considered and we can assure our customers that, barring unforeseen circumstances these commitments will all be met.

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