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THE DAILY NEWS

PRINCE RUPERT - BRITISH COLUMBIA

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DAILY EDITION

TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1925.

More Telephones And Light Services Here.

It was announced yesterday that there are today in the city more telephones in use and more light connections made than ever before in the history of the city, not excepting the days when eight hundred men were employed on the shipbuilding operations. This speaks well for the city and indicates that it is making substantial progress. Very soon we expect to hear that the numbers have very largely increased.

Last month permits were issued for five new dwellings. This month the number should be much larger and as summer comes on the increase should be even more marked. The present progress is more substantial than that of the shipbuilding days when everybody expected there would be a quiet time following the flurry.

All Will Sympathize With Fishermen.

Everyone in the city will sympathize with the fishermen in the low prices they receive for their products, prices which not only fail to give them wages but which actually, in many cases, show a considerable loss on the trip. Under the co-operative system under which they work, every man suffers, the fishermen as well as the boat owners, when prices go down as they are today.

In a great many industries when the bottom drops out of the market and the employer of labor states that he is unable to continue to operate, he often does not get much sympathy from employees who seem to think he is just camouflaging or as they more picturesquely put it, "peddling bull." Now the men understand what it means to have the market "all shot to pieces." Sometimes the price paid for halibut is too high for the good of the industry and now it is much too low. What would be preferable would be a steady medium price which could be depended on. Unfortunately the supply is not steady as no one can control the elements or tell the fish when to take the bait.

Horrible Burning Case Reported.

The despatches today tell of a horrible case of the burning of a Negro in Georgia. Such cases as this have a demoralizing effect on the whole community and especially on those who live near the scene of the outrage. The effect on those who take part is worst of all. They are the real sufferers for they have reverted to the days when the savages danced around their suffering victims as they slowly tortured them to death.

Who live in the north cannot quite understand the feeling that exists in the Southern States where the Negro problem is always with them. Some people who live there state that it is the only possible way of dealing with the problem, but that can hardly be correct. Violence as a result of sudden outbursts is often most unjust. Nothing can justify such a scene as that briefly described in today's despatch.

Million Bushels Of Grain From Peace River.

Peace River has already shipped a million bushels of grain this year and that with inadequate railway facilities. Given a route to this coast and all that grain would come to the Pacific. More than that the amount produced would be steadily increased and the business with this port and with Vancouver would be on the ascending scale for many years. There is an immense country to be opened up and it is to be hoped that it will be given the best possible opportunity to develop.

It is very difficult for those not conversant with the country to give an opinion as to where the railway should be built. It should not only serve the people who are now there but also open up as much new country as possible.

"I was Greatly Distressed With Pains in the Back"

Mr. Alfred McNeill, Chapel Rock, Alta., writes:



"During the winter of 1920-21, I was greatly distressed with pains in my back and felt tired and depressed most of the time. Particularly during the night I was troubled with frequent urination, some nights having to rise almost every hour. I tried several different treatments without success, until finally I began using Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills, and they relieved my condition before I had finished the first box. I am feeling better this summer than I have for years, and although in my 67th year, can work all day without any undue fatigue."

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WAGE INCREASE CITY WORKMEN

Scale For Common Labor Set at
5½ Cents an Hour by
Council

AMENDMENT VOTED DOWN

The labor element of the city council was successful at last night's council meeting in effecting the most important plank of its pre-election platform when Ald. W. M. Brown's motion, calling for an increase in the minimum common labor wage paid by the city from 50c per hour to 57½c, was carried on the casting vote of Mayor Newton. Voting for Ald. Brown's motion were Ald. Brown, Ald. Larsen, its seconder, Ald. Casey and Ald. McKechnie. Voting against were Ald. Stephens, Ald. McMordie, Ald. Perry, and Ald. Smith. A compromise amendment offered by Ald. McMordie retaining 50c as the minimum wage but which would have given 57½c to the permanent labor employees of the city was voted down only Ald. McMordie, Ald. Smith, the seconder, and Ald. Perry supporting it. Ald. Stephens, through the manner in which he voted, indicated that he was the sole member of the council who stood out and out against a wage increase.

In presenting his motion, Ald. Brown expressed the opinion that 50c was not a living wage in Prince Rupert. The inclination of the cost of living was up rather than down and there was a great deal of time lost here through inclement weather. He based his motion on the finding of a conciliation board which had established 57½c as a fair rate of wages.

Ald. McMordie felt that the parties paying should be considered as well as those who were paid. He had sympathy for labor and realized that a married man and family could do little more than exist on 50c per hour. He had made an exhaustive inquiry into rates of wages that were being paid in other western cities and had found that in Prince Rupert the scale was the highest of any town in the Dominion that he had heard of. It was his desire to give the men employed by the city a slightly higher rate than they were receiving at present. At the same time, he did not wish to discourage industry by raising the minimum scale. Therefore he presented the following amendment: For permanent employees, 57½c; for all married men with families in Prince Rupert, 57½c; casual labor, 50c; after three months' continuous employ, 57½c; foremen now receiving 57½c, 62½c.

Larsen Objects

Ald. Larsen was not in favor of Ald. McMordie's amendment. The fifty cent reservation would not be fair to single old timers who were casually employed by the city. He felt that a single man was entitled to the same pay as a married man when doing the same work though he was in favor of the principle of giving the preference to married men when it came to a question of taking on labor. Speaking to the motion, he felt that if the city paid a fair wage the inclination to loaf would be removed and better results would obtain.

Ald. Casey said he had a good deal of sympathy for Ald. McMordie's amendment though he could not support it. He felt that Ald. McMordie was endeavoring to meet the situation in a reasonable way and he appreciated his sincere attempt with that end in view. However, having had thirty years experience with labor men and knowing their psychology, he had never known of a two rate scale that would work effectively. It always created discord and he did not believe that the city would benefit by adopting it. If the increase were put into effect this year, he felt certain that when the result of the corporation's work at the end of the year would be compared with the results last year under the 50c scale it would be found that the production had increased and that value would have been shown for the increase.

Ald. McMordie, in reply to Ald. Casey's remarks respecting a double scale of wages, presented a chart showing that there were such scales in the cities of Edmonton, Regina, Calgary, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat and

Saskatoon. A man from the rather large audience that was on hand to witness the debate was given permission to speak. He took the view that to raise the minimum wage scale would not have a deterrent effect on industries. The most prosperous cities were those that had the highest minimum wage scales. He pointed to the case of San Francisco where \$6.00 per day was the minimum.

Ald. Stephens

Ald. Stephens felt that Ald. McMordie's amendment, discriminating between married and single men, would lead to difficulties and work to the disadvantage of the city. The effect, he feared, would be to fill the city with single men who were not as valuable to the community as married men with families. Rather than advance single men after three months' employ, he would favor starting them off with the higher rate. As for the motion, he felt that a very high rate for unskilled labor would be dangerous to the establishment of industries. During the past two years under the 50c scale, he felt that the public works of the city had prospered as they had never done before. He was opposed to the amendment on general principles and would use his judgment in voting on the motion.

The question was then put with the result as above recorded.

At the close of a meeting, another motion was passed fixing the rate of wages for straw bosses at 62½c per hour and for the general foreman at \$7 per day. Ald. Casey was the mover and Ald. McMordie, the seconder. Ald. Larsen wanted the rate for powdermen set at 62½c also but was told that the Board of Works had authority to deal with all such cases.

MANY COMPANIES TO BE STRUCK FROM LIST UNLESS ACTION TAKEN

List Advertised in B.C. Gazette
Includes Many of Local Interest

Companies advertised in the B.C. Gazette are about to be struck from the register unless steps are taken to keep them alive include A.B.C. Fisheries Ltd., Alivazoff & Penklo Co. Ltd., Alaska Club Ltd., B.C. Coast Fisheries Ltd., B.C. Federationist Ltd., Belmont Canadian Mines Ltd., British Columbia Wood and Fibre Products Ltd., Cumshewa Gold Mines Ltd., Daly Mines Co. Ltd., F. H. Mobley & Co. Ltd., Fort George Development Co. Ltd., Graham Island Spruce and Cedar Co. Ltd., Kedra Mines Ltd., Kitsumkalum Basin Petroleum Co. Ltd., Kitwanga Lumber Co., Lakeisle Hot Springs Holding Co. Ltd., Maguire & Co. Ltd., Nechako River Estates Ltd., Pacific Sea Products Association of Canada Ltd., Pattinson, Ling & Co. Ltd., Prince George Country Club Ltd., Prince George Curling Association Ltd., Prince George Mercantile Association Ltd., Prince Rupert Packers Ltd., Prince Rupert Pulp & Paper Co. Ltd., Queen Charlotte Islands General Development Co. Ltd., Rupert Shell Fish Co. Ltd., Rupert Wine and Liquor Co. Ltd., Seal Cove Marine Ways Ltd., Taylor Engineering Co. Ltd., Texas Canadian Oil Co. Ltd., Whalen Pulp & Paper Mills Ltd., Hazelton Petroleum Gas and Coal Co. Ltd., Lakeisle Hot Springs Resort Ltd., Sinclair Fisheries Ltd., Stuart Lake Fish & Game Co. Ltd., Terrace Oils Ltd., Walker's Music Store Ltd.

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