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THE DAILY NEWS
PRINCE RUPERT - BRITISH COLUMBIA

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Council Did Well In Backing Up Engineer.

The city council certainly did the right thing in backing up the city engineer in regard to choosing the men whom he employs. He is responsible to the council for the conduct of the work and if he fails he is the one who will be blamed. To let individual members of the council dictate who shall be employed is a reversion to the ward politics of the American cities. There should be no such thing as applying to the mayor or to any individual member of the city council for a job. Any person who does that should be disqualified from getting a job with the city. There should be but one way to a position and that through the engineer.

Employment Of Local People Desirable.

The position of the city council in regard to giving employment to local residents and married people is quite correct and should be carried out in a general way. It must be remembered, however, that a man who served the city faithfully when men could not be secured and who won recognition for faithful work and was given a promotion, is still worthy of recognition if the best results are to be obtained. Naturally when the engineer gets a good man he wants to keep him. He is appointed by the whole council and is expected to produce results and the only thing to do is to back him up all the time.

Questions like this are bound to arise under the present system. The Board of Works is given certain authority and it is to some extent held responsible by the citizens for the success of the construction work in the city. In this case, however, there is no question of competency. It is simply one of who is to have charge of the city work, the engineer or individual members of the city council, and we are emphatic in saying that the engineer is the man. It is to be hoped the members of the city council will stand firm on this question, because it is the very basis of all good government. If every member of the city council is to be given the right to say who shall be employed by the engineer, we might as well throw up our hands, so far as securing efficiency is concerned.

Engineer Pearson has done good work under most difficult conditions. He has carried on and produced results and the people of the city appreciate it. Possibly he has made mistakes. If he has not, he is not human. It is to be hoped that all citizens read the report of the proceedings of the city council yesterday, so that they may realize what a difficult position the engineer holds.

Everyone Realizes Difficulty Of Task.

Everyone realizes the difficulty of the task of running a business as large as that of the city. An alderman who can do that ought to be able to make a pretty good thing for himself if he devoted his time to it. If he is a good man in handling city business he ought to be efficient in his own. It must be very unpleasant to a self-respecting alderman to have men coming to him for jobs all winter, especially when he knows he is in no position to hand them out. There ought to be some better way of conducting city business than that. Either a man is suited for the position that is vacant or he is not, and the person best likely to know is the engineer. If he is not suited, the engineer or his foreman will soon find it out. Under our system he is the man who can best undertake the work. If there were a city manager, he would do it and the mayor and aldermen would not have the obnoxious task thrust on them as seems to be the case now.

BIG BUSINESS ALASKA LUMBER

Prospects Never Better and Mills Preparing to Take Care of English Spruce Demands

"Alaska shipped 2,000,000 feet of clear spruce through Seattle last year, and will far surpass that figure this season," declared B. F. Heintzleman, assistant U.S. district forester, with headquarters at Juneau, to the Post-Intelligencer in Seattle last week.

"Lumber prospects never were better. Large orders for clear spruce are coming in from England. The Ketchikan Spruce Mills are now installing a new electric sawmill of 100,000 feet daily capacity, the Juneau mill is being enlarged and improved, and extensive changes are being made in Wrangell mill and loading facilities to take care of the increased demand.

Practically all Alaska's lumber comes to Seattle for shipment, either by rail or boat. "Government foresters," says Heintzleman, "have cruised and mapped 500,000 acres of pulp timber and blocked it into units for sale. We have mapped water power sites to be used by concerns buying the pulp rights. In addition, we have leased 125 islands of from 2,500 acres down to private firms or individuals for blue fox farming which is rapidly becoming a leading industry."

TELKWA

The last few days, the weather has been decidedly like spring, but the nights are very cold and frosty.

Mrs. A. Walker left last week for the coast, where she will spend several weeks visiting her daughter.

On Friday night, a Boy Scout concert under the direction of F. B. Chattleburg, was given in the Telkwa Hall. It was a very great success and credit is due many local artists who so willingly gave their services.

Mrs. J. Green entertained the ladies of St. Stephen's Guild at the Mission House on Tuesday. Work is being prepared for the Easter tea.

The bridge over the Telkwa river is growing fast and when completed will be most useful.

The various contracts for ice have been completed, so the stores are all ready for a hot summer.

The dance in aid of the Telkwa Library which was to have been held on March 17, has been changed to Friday, March 13, so as not to conflict with a dance on that date in Smithers.

All the teachers in this part of the district attended the convention in Smithers and found it a very pleasant and interesting break in the term's work.

SMITHERS

E. E. Orchard, proprietor of the Buckley Hotel, returned to town on Sunday, after a long a pleasant holiday spent sight-seeing in the coast cities from Vancouver to Los Angeles.

Miss Helen Grant until receipt on the staff in the Public Works office left on Sunday for a visit to her parents in Hazelton.

On Monday, March 9, a son was born to Mr. and Mrs. H. Salembier of Smithers.

Mrs. A. F. Ford and young daughter, left on Tuesday's east bound train on an extended trip to be spent visiting friends and relatives on the prairies and in the eastern states.

A. Brooksbank, a member of the Dybhavn & Hanson staff at Prince Rupert, is spending a few days in town.

E. G. Belicini, of Houston was a business visitor in town early in the week.

M. G. McLeod, an official of the Forestry branch stationed at Finlay Forks, was a visitor in

town, looking up old acquaintances. Mr. McLeod has a fund of first hand information on the subject of a railway for Peace River, and his views on the most feasible route were sought by those interested in this question.

Chief Constable W. J. Service left for the west on Tuesday night's train, at Kitwanga he picked up a man charged with robbery whom he took on to Prince Rupert for trial. Mr. Service expects to go as far as Victoria before returning to Smithers.

Ten Years Ago in Prince Rupert

March 11, 1915.

Fears are expressed for the safety of Father Leroux and Father Rouvère, Roman Catholic priests, and it is believed that they may have been murdered in the Mackenzie River country. They have been missing for some time and an Indian is said to have been seen recently wearing their vestments.

Edward Brown of the Queen Charlotte Petroleum Co. intends to diamond drill on Graham Island in order to test oil possibilities. The management believes that a drill will show beyond all doubt that oil exists in the district in commercial quantities.

With the development of the halibut fisheries out of this port, it is believed that the local dry dock will be used extensively for the building of fishing vessels.

The Man in the Moon SAYS:-

IF exercise gave slender lines, some tongues would be nothing but length without breadth.

THERE once was a woman who apologized, but that was long, long ago.

THE man I should like to be is the city engineer. I like to be nagged.

EVERYONE is entitled to an opinion as long as he does not express it or whispers it softly. However there are exceptions to even this rule.

WHY be always looking for cures when there's nothing wrong?

VIRTUE is all right, but why must it always be so plain?

TWO things necessary to happiness in summer are a clear conscience and a motorboat, says Jake. And, he adds, if it's to be a choice of the two, give me the little boat.

FOR a good place to learn the art of polite conversation, give me the city council every time.

NOW I come to think of it, I



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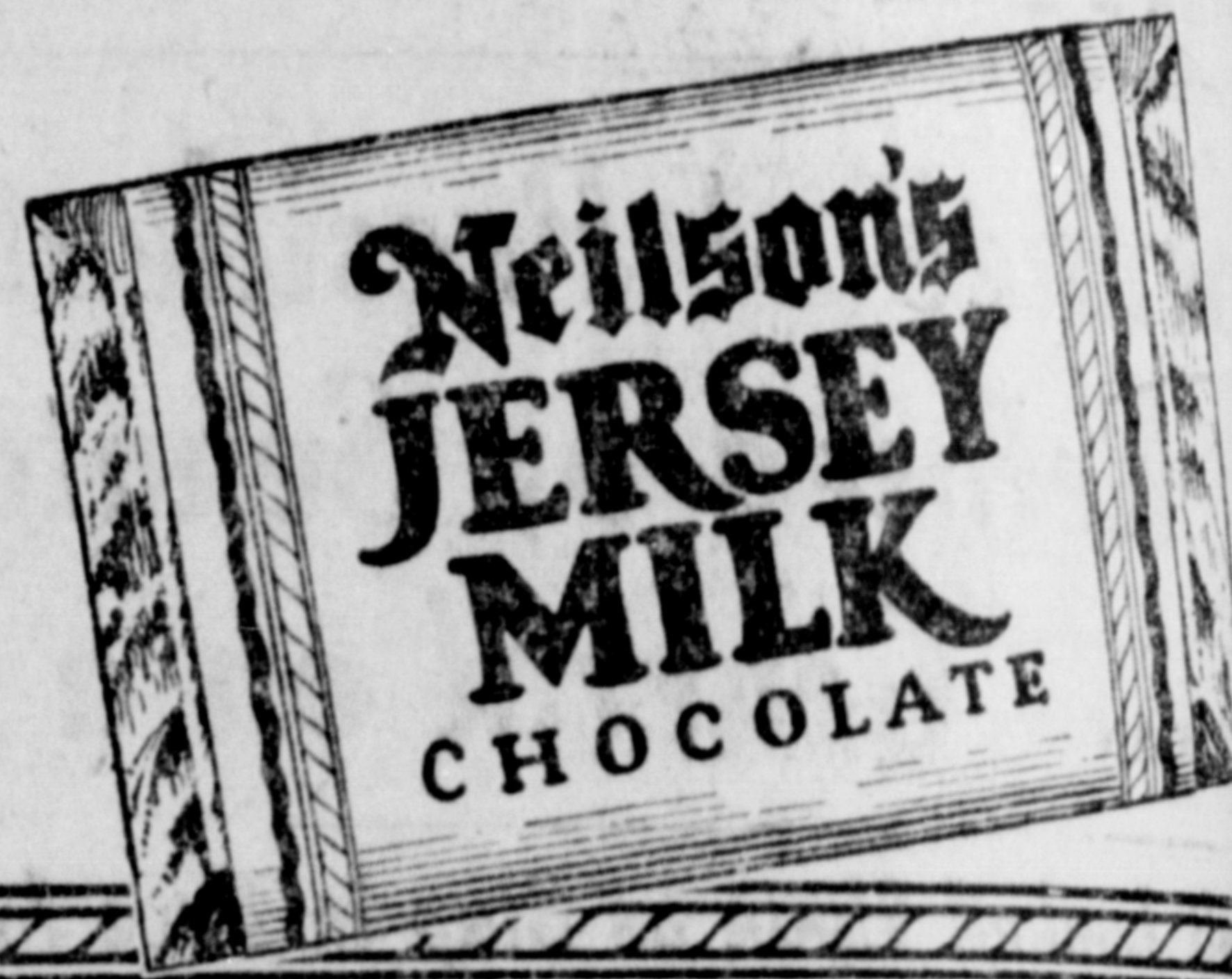
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