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PRINCE RUPERT - BRITISH COLUMBIA

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Party Government Is Always Under Fire.

Whenever anything goes wrong, politically, it is ascribed to the evils of party government. If a candidate is beaten several times and the electors make it very clear that they do not want him, he usually attacks the party system. When a favored policy of any person is turned down, he usually blames the system. He forgets that possibly the people do not want him or his policy.

The party system has doubtless many shortcomings. No system of government has yet been devised that is approaching perfect. We all see some of the difficulties but most of the charges made against the system are charges against individuals or customs rather than parties. It is charged that needless public works are carried out because of parties, such, for instance, as the erection of the grain elevator at Prince Rupert. It is claimed that rewards such as senatorial offices are held out to those who fail, that positions in the public service are given on party lines, that racial prejudices are aroused in the East.

What Has Other Side To Offer?

It is interesting then to turn to the other side of the sheet and see what the prospects are for something different. The Ottawa Citizen discussing this says: "It might fairly be argued that the Union government had equally serious defects. The expenditure of \$70,000,000 over the government merchant marine is an example of gross incompetence, as indefensible as the Halifax terminals or the Welland Canal under party government.

"The Board of Commerce, the luxury tax, the belief that deflation would be beneficial for Canadian industry, utter inability to ward off trade depression and unemployment, furnish ample evidence that the Union government failed to deal with national problems, any more effectively than party government, after the war—although public opinion in Canada had never been raised to a higher level of patriotism, at any time in the nation's history. The people of Canada in 1919 were as ready to respond to national leadership along the lines of reconstruction as they ever have been under party government. But the union of parties did no better than could have been done under the party system.

Some Experiments In The Provinces.

In the provinces where experiments away from party governments have been tried, Ontario's experience under the Drury administration cannot be described as entirely satisfactory—although Mr. Drury is a man of character and vision. The Farmer government of Manitoba may be functioning better than the Norris administration. It would have to be very poor to be no improvement on the last Conservative government in the province, under Sir Rodmond Roblin. Alberta is probably getting better government, similarly under United Farmer administration. But it cannot be said that anything very remarkable has been achieved, although public opinion in Alberta is as advanced as it is in any province of the Dominion.

"Whether the government is operating under party system or some other system, it is in office because the electorate has voted to put it there; or it will soon go out, unless public opinion is unwilling to make the change. In dealing with national problems, it is only required of the people of Canada to say definitely what they want, to say it plainly, with sufficient emphasis, and the leadership will soon be forthcoming to carry out the will of the people. But it must be said that no such clear mandate has been given from the majority of the people. The party system has failed, but surely it is because the Canadian people have failed to say decisively what they want, whether it is to be liberal progress, conservative protectionism, or radical reconstruction along new paths away from party politics."

Early Days Of No Party In B.C.

Those people who remember the days of "no party" in British Columbia will agree that nothing could be much worse than the condition that obtained at that time. Men jumped from one side of the House to the other according as the price was paid. There was nothing to bind them. Each member got out his own little local program of reforms and there was no attempt made to evolve a general policy or to legislate for the benefit of the greatest number. Roads were built by members to the farms or homes of their friends, public money was spent for purely election purposes and, under the system, the man with the heaviest purse had the best chance of being elected. No one would wish to go back to those days. If we are to abolish the party system it must be in favor of something better and until that better system is evolved, the present will continue in modified form as occasion requires.

URGES ACTION  
DRUG TRAFFIC

Vancouver Paper Urges Strenuous Action Against Those Who Batten on Human Frailty

Citizens of Vancouver will welcome the announcement that Canada and the U.S.A. will join forces in endeavoring to stamp out the drug traffic, the smuggling of aliens and run-running, says the Vancouver Star.

So far as this city is concerned, the chief concern is with the traffic in drugs. It is one of the penalties of Vancouver's position as the gateway to the Orient that she is also the gateway to the illegal trade in narcotics, and if it were only for the sake of her own fair name, she must embrace every opportunity which offers to close that gateway.

Being Dragged Down

But it is not alone the good name of Vancouver which is affected. Throughout the Dominion, and indeed throughout the continent, thousands are being dragged down and ruined, bodily, mentally and morally, by the human wolves who are willing to batten on the frailties of humanity. Vancouver must strain every nerve to prevent herself from being used as the unwilling agent in their downfall.

And there can scarcely be a more effective means of foiling the activities of the dope runner than by co-operating with the trained forces of the republic to the south. The resources of a great nation, and of a great drug fighting organization, must have their effect when added to our own efforts to overcome the evil.

On the other hand, laxity on either side of the border must do much to frustrate the most earnest endeavors of the other side; so that the decision for co-operation, now announced by Ottawa, is one of the most important made since Canada began to be aware of the warner in which she was being used as an artery of the world's drug trade.

Ring of Traffickers

The presence in this city and province of a powerful ring of dope traffickers is an undoubted fact. It is not made up of Vancouverites. Many of its members are not even white men; but those facts do not relieve Vancouver of responsibility in the matter.

We cannot afford to allow Vancouver to become a haven of refuge for crooks of any kind or of any country, and the drug smuggler must learn that for him Vancouver spells death—not safety.

MOOSE HOLD WHIST  
DRIVE AND DANCE  
METROPOLE HALL

A very successful whist drive and dance was held last night at Metropole Hall by the Moose order, with J. Slaggaard as master of ceremonies, Mrs. Field in charge of refreshments, and Arthur's orchestra providing the music.

The committee in charge consisted of G. Royer, S. Anos, A. G. Olanasarg, H. Jackson, J. Squarochuck, and S. Haudenschild, while on the door were D. White and T. Elliott. Winners of the prizes at whist were: Ladies' 1, Mrs. Geo. Fritz. Ladies' 2, Miss J. Beggan. Men's 1, J. Mitchell. Men's 2, J. Squarochuck.

NATIVE COURTESY OF THE DOUKHOBOR PEOPLE

(Nelson News) While the people of the Kootenay, and particularly of the Nelson and Grand Forks districts, found it hard to be patient while the Doukhobors set themselves about the law of the land, that condition being now menaced, everyone admits that the Doukhobor people, who are amongst us to stay, and who some day will take on citizenship, have many fine qualities.

Those who have come in contact with the Doukhobors in their homes, or in official ways, have found a native courtesy one of their strong characteristics, and where a people are thus approachable, however much they may differ from ordinary Canadians in their views of life, a ground of contact is available.

MANSON DECLARES HE FEARS NO MAN: NOTHING TO HIDE

VICTORIA, Dec. 10.—Accusing G. F. Davie of "taking politics pure and simple" and attempting to work on the public to fan prejudice into flame, Hon. Alex. Manson issued a direct challenge to the Cowichan member when the latter declared that the noble prosecutor entered in the recent Wong abduction cases showed that there was something to hide, and dared the opposition speaker to make charges in this connection.

"I stand afraid of no one. My conduct is the conduct of a man who has nothing to hide, and I do not fear a single soul in British Columbia in regard to that conduct," declared Mr. Manson, who has objected to Mr. Davie again attempting to drag in the matter of experiment carried on at Essondale in an attempt to unravel the Janet K. Smith mystery.

"That matter has already been debated in this House and was settled by a vote taken on it. My honorable friend knows that full well, and knows the result of that vote," said Mr. Manson, referring to the fate of the Twigg resolution on the subject which was defeated by the highest majority given the government so far this session.

ANNUAL BAZAAR OF UNITED CHURCH AID BEING HELD TODAY

The bazaar season closes today with the affair of the Ladies' Aid of the United Church which was opened at 2.30 this afternoon by Rev. G. G. Haaker. The social hall of the church is daintily decorated and the many articles being offered for sale should prove particularly tempting as Christmas gifts.

Mrs. W. A. Mathieson, president of the aid, is in general charge with the following ladies at the various booths: Gandy—Mrs. G. V. Wilkinson and Mrs. G. Gicoune.

Fancy work—Mrs. G. W. Kerr, Mrs. J. McKechnie, Mrs. T. J. Shenton and Mrs. Sauterbaue. Handkerchiefs—Mrs. Margaret Kerzih and Mrs. Kirkpatrick. Plain sewing—Mrs. Hunt, Mrs. Krievsky and Mrs. Thomas. Home cooking—Mrs. C. J. Stevens and Miss Coultis. Miscellaneous and novelties—Mrs. W. B. Cornish.

Tea room—Mrs. Olof Hanson assisted by Mrs. S. P. McMordie, Mrs. Fred Gilhuly, Mrs. S. Johnson and Mrs. Max Heilbronner. The affair will close at 6 o'clock this evening.

THE MAN IN THE MOON

WHEN a gobbler escapes Thanksgiving he must not think he will live for ever, there is a Christmas coming and only those that can do something more than gobble survive it.

If anybody is contemplating making me a Christmas present, I should like to suggest that I do not need an ever-sharp pen, or a necktie, or a sweater, or a shirt or a pipe or a cape, but I saw a nice little car down at Stan Parker's (the other day that would just suit me.

Had 43 Boils And Carbuncles At One Time

Mr. Claud Melanson, Castledorf, Ont., writes:—"In regard to your remedial I have to say that B.B.B. was the only medicine I could get to relieve me of my boils and carbuncles. I had forty-three at one time, and my doctor told me to take

Burdock BLOOD BITTERS

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