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THE DAILY NEWS
PRINCE RUPERT - BRITISH COLUMBIA

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DAILY EDITION

Wednesday, Oct. 21, 1925.

MRS. MARY ELLEN SMITH TALKS TO RUPERT WOMEN ON FEMININE QUESTIONS

(continued from page one)

woman to the House. I appealed on a big platform, one was the minimum wage for girls and women; pensions for mothers; enforcement of law and order, such as we had not had in this province.

Let me tell you we had a very serious condition of affairs existing down in the city of Vancouver, we had a number of women who were not living as we would like to see them living, supporting houses, we did not like to see in our midst, they were bunched together and taken down to the police court and the judge on the bench sentenced these women to jail in New Westminster, and they were each given a term and they were sent up there, and what happened? By the time they got up there the Conservative party, which had power at that time, sent word that they were not to be admitted to the jail at Westminster and they were sent back again to Vancouver. When people compare the past with the present I would like to ask them if they are not satisfied that we are doing our best under adverse conditions to enforce law and order.

Minimum Wage

We got our minimum wage for girls and women, and we have now in the neighborhood of 15,000 girls and women in the province who are recipients of the minimum wage. We also got our mothers' pension bill through the House, and that pension bill to my mind was one of the most humane bits of legislation ever enacted by any government. The bill covers a larger number of dependent women than any bill either in the Dominion of Canada or throughout the United States. It is the only measure that takes care of and provides for children up to the age of 16 years, that of itself is wonderful. When Hon. Dr. MacLean introduced the measure in the House he stated that I would make the speech in connection with the matter, and when it came up for the second reading

the galleries were packed and every available seat in the House was occupied. I made my speech in which I pointed out that this was a wonderful and ancient legislation, dating back to the time of Moses, and I told them the story of the finding of Moses in the bullrushes by Pharaoh's daughter, and how when the mother of Moses was brought before Pharaoh's daughter she bade her take the child home, and she herself would see that the mother was provided with maintenance for the child. Members sent messengers to the library for copies of the Bible to prove what I said. Clergymen were there who made the statement that they wished they could make their audiences read the Bible as quickly. The bill has been in operation now for some time and we have 1,100 women today recipients of mothers' pensions. The bill takes in widowed mothers; those whose husbands are incapacitated in any way, women who have been deserted. The idea of the Mothers' Pension Act is that since she is raising her children for the state we are proud to help her. There are deserted wives in the province of British Columbia who have been helped not only by the Deserter's Maintenance Act but through our Mothers' Pension Act, and if a woman will report before her husband gets out of the province and beyond our legislation we might be able to make these husbands come back to assume their responsibilities. Unfortunately when we brought down the Act we did not make any stipulations about the length of time a woman might receive her pension. We found cases of collusion between husbands and wives, where the husband would go to the States and get work and the wife would remain in this province and draw the pension. We had to alter the legislation at a later date so that women had to be deserted a year and a half before we could be sure they really were deserted.

Many Liberal Activities

The only way the government can carry on is by imposing taxes that will cover its expenditures. Consequently we are

paying something like half a million to cover the administration of the Mothers' Pension Act, to take care of the Mentally Deficient Home in Coquitlam; a Home for Girls; the Boys' Home at Coquitlam, training them to do everything that is necessary for their own well being. They make their own shoes, thus becoming shoemakers; they make their own clothes, learn tailoring; do their own baking, become bakers. We have a chicken raising farm there, a dairy farm, making butter, do everything that is necessary for the conduct of that home and our superintendent there makes a specialty of finding out just what each boy seems to be adapted for, and he is given his opportunity; the same thing with the girls. We furthermore made special provisions only about three years ago to open a school for blind, deaf and dumb in the province, and in proportion to our population we have our quota of these unfortunate children. The work going on there in their home at Point Grey is marvellous. They are learning their trades just the same as other children, being trained at typing and various other branches of industry. When they leave that institution they will be able to earn their own livelihood, a thing never done in the province before. Who have we to thank for it? The Liberal government of British Columbia. They are the ones who are carrying on this work in such a satisfactory manner.

Liberal Measures

Mrs. Smith then went on to speak of the Dower Act and its benefits to women, the Adoption of Children Act which improved the condition of the orphaned children, the Equal Guardianship Act, all doing away with unfair discrimination against women and all Liberal measures supported by the Liberal party.

"This is the first time I have had an opportunity of coming to Prince Rupert and telling you just what we have received at the hands of the government," said Mrs. Smith. "It has been my dream all my life to see these unfair laws removed and safe and just laws put in their place, but I want to tell you good women that it took the Liberal government at Victoria to put it through and if they have listened to a woman I was simply the mouthpiece for the women of British Columbia and to the credit of the John Oliver Government they listened to what I had to say, to my claims and petitions, and they gave me the credit of at least being reasonable. But I want to pay this tribute—when you go personally to the Government on a reasonable claim and tell them just what you have been faced with and what it means to women,—I want to tell you now that when these measures were brought down on the floor of the House there was not a solitary man that dared vote against me that had any intention of going before the electorate at any time. I want to pay tribute to your northern members—to my good friends Mr. Pattullo, to Mr. Manson, and Bert Kergin. I could tell you how these men stood behind me and more than once they have come to me and said: 'Well, Mary Ellen Smith, we are behind you, don't forget.' And all this legislation has gone through in the interests of women and today it is our proud boast that in the few short years we have been enfranchised we have a record that any country might envy.

Enviably Record

"These are the things that are engaging the attention of the Mackenzie King Government. We find that one thing after another is being settled, and their history during the four short years they have been in power is an enviable one. They have reduced the cost of living to every household by 25 per cent. They have reduced taxation, reduced the cost of implements to farmers, mining and milling men.

I think we are on the verge of an era of prosperity such as Canada has never seen. Our Conservative friends talk about the number of our people who have gone to the States in the last few years. This is nothing new, they have always gone to the States. We do not hear anything about the people who have come back. They tell us that 752,000 people went to the United States, but does anybody tell you that 72,000 have returned this year? They are coming back as fast as they go. Why? Because they have a condition in the States that is far from happy. Green, who succeeded Gompers, made a statement that the condition existing in the United States was alarming. In the textile works alone there are 2,000,000 men and women unemployed. They have had three

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when they come to the age of 65 receive a pension out of the funds in which they have invested, but this is only a temporary arrangement and in the spring-time he said 'If we are returned to power there is one thing we will do. We will bring down, after a survey has been made, a big, broad, humane old age pension scheme.'

Liberal Measures

"When I got the Mothers' Pension Act through I wrote Ottawa. Mackenzie King was then the newly appointed leader of the Liberal party. Mr. Meighen had recently been made premier, through the resignation of Sir Frederick Borden. I wrote to then both and asked them what their stand was on the Old Age Pension Scheme and did they intend bringing down a measure that would make provision for our old people. I want to tell you the answer I got from Mr. Meighen: It was courteous, well thought out, and very well answered, but there was no assurance that we were going to have an Old Age Pension Scheme. Mackenzie King in his answer to me made the statement that he would, if he came to power, make the survey that Sir Wilfrid had intended to do, and would in due course of time bring down an Old Age Pension Scheme that would cover the Dominion of Canada. At this last session of the House a special committee was appointed, representing each Province, and they were to report what they had found in each Province so that Sir Wilfrid, being dead, still speak for the Old Age Pension—and that measure is being quietly investigated, and when Mackenzie King is returned to power a measure will be brought down granting relief to a number in this province, old men and old women who have served their day and generation. We shall revel in the thought that we have at last succeeded.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Between Alfred W. Clarke, Plaintiff, And Templar Robertson Kerr, Defendant. TAKE NOTICE that an action was commenced against you by the above-named Plaintiff on the 27th day of May, 1925, in respect of an agreement for sale made between you and the Plaintiff with respect to the sale and purchase of Lot sixteen (16), Block Three (3), Section 223, City of Prince Rupert, Map 923, which said agreement is dated August 19th, 1921. AND TAKE NOTICE that by an order of His Honor Judge Young, dated the 21st day of September, 1925, it was ordered that publication of this notice in a newspaper published at Prince Rupert, B.C., once a week for four weeks shall be deemed good and sufficient service of the writ of summons in this action upon you; AND it was further ordered that the time for entering an appearance by you to the writ of summons in this action be within thirty days after the last publication of this notice. If it is your intention to defend this action you will have to enter an appearance in the Registry Office of this Honorable Court at the Court House, Prince Rupert, B.C., within thirty days of the last publication, otherwise the Plaintiff may proceed as herein.

DATED this 24th day of September, 1925.

M. GONZALES, Solicitor for Plaintiff.

To: Templar Robertson Kerr, Defendant.

LAND ACT.

Notice of Intention to Apply to Purchase Land.

In the Land Recording District of Prince Rupert, and being a portion of Lot twenty-four (24), Range five (5), Coast District. TAKE NOTICE that Frizzell's Limited of Prince Rupert, B.C., merchants, intend to apply for permission to purchase the following described lands: Commencing at a post planted at the northeast corner of lot twenty-four (24), range five (5), Coast District; thence south thirty-two chains; thence north forty chains; thence north eight chains, more or less, to high water mark; thence northeast along high water mark to point of commencement, and containing eighty (80) acres, more or less. FRIZZELL'S LIMITED, Applicant. Dated August 15th, A.D., 1925.

reactions in their wages. Do you wonder that Canadians are hurrying back? It has always been that when the States were prosperous sometimes Canada was not and when Canada was prosperous sometimes the States were not. I want to remind you that when people tell you of these things they do not paint the other side of the picture—and there is always the other side.

Change Women's Minds

"I shall conclude by saying that in this campaign that is now being carried on do not allow anybody to change your mind. I have been told in the larger centres that it is the easiest thing in the world to change a woman's mind. My experience is that it is not a difficult thing to even change a man's. We women have no need to apologize for our attitude, mental or otherwise, and the best thing we can do is to inform ourselves on the big questions of the day. I am proud to see you good women of Prince Rupert interested in hearing what these laws mean to us and to see that you are interested in the enforcement of law and order. We all hope that we will be able to work out for ourselves our own salvation, industrially, socially and every other way. We have been able through the Mackenzie King Government to create surpluses instead of deficits; we have been able to reduce the cost of living; reduce taxation, and give people a brighter outlook. And we feel that we have every reason to raise our heads and square our shoulders when we say that we are voting for the Mackenzie King government.

"I sincerely hope that Prince Rupert will at least send me a wire and say 'Mrs. Smith, we have turned the trick. Fred Stork is elected (Applause). We have done as you suggested; we not only stand by Fred Stork, but we stand by the Mackenzie King Government and we have taken your advice. Fred Stork has the biggest majority in the history of this northern country (applause). I sincerely hope that will be your record on the night of the 29th."

MOOSE LADIES GAVE PARTY LAST EVENING

One Hundred and Fifty Persons Attended Enjoyable Whist Drive and Dance in Metropole Hall

A successful whist drive and dance was held last evening in the Metropole Hall by the Ladies of the Mooseheart Legion. There were sixteen tables of whist and some 150 persons attended the dance.

Prize winners at cards were: Ladies' first, Mrs. Sam Handenschild; ladies' second, Mrs. R. McCarthy; men's first, Olof Stegavik; men's second, Fred Seadlen.

After cards refreshments were served and dancing commenced, music being furnished by Hans Lindseth and his orchestra. Joe Slaggard was master of ceremonies, Mrs. Alf Christensen presided at the door and the committee in charge consisted of Mrs. C. Edwards, Mrs. P. J. Ryan and Mrs. Alex. Strachan.

LAND ACT.

Notice of Intention to Apply to Purchase Land.

In the Land Recording District of Prince Rupert, and situated at the mouth of Big Falls Creek which flows into the Estell River about 18 miles from its mouth.

TAKE NOTICE that John A. Smith of Prince Rupert, B.C., occupation lumberman, intends to apply for permission to purchase the following described lands: Commencing at a post planted at the southwest corner of Lot 635, Range four, thence 30 chains northerly; thence 30 chains westerly, more or less, to the Estell River; thence 30 chains southerly; thence 30 chains easterly, and containing 90 acres, more or less.

JOHN A. SMITH, Applicant. Per C. P. Riel, Agent. Dated August 14th, 1925.

LAND ACT.

Notice of Intention to Apply to Purchase Land.

In the Land Recording District of Prince Rupert, and situated at Big Falls Creek which flows into Estell River about 18 miles from its mouth.

TAKE NOTICE that P. Riel of Prince Rupert, B.C., occupation lumberman, intends to apply for permission to purchase the following described lands: Commencing at a post planted at the southwest corner of Lot 635, Range four, thence 20 chains southerly; thence 30 chains westerly; thence 20 chains northerly; thence 20 chains easterly to point of commencement, and containing 40 acres, more or less.

C. P. RIEL, Applicant. Dated August 14th, 1925.

MINERAL ACT.

Certificate of Improvements

Spokane Mineral Claim, situated in the Alton Mining Division of Cassiar District, on the west side of Big Horn River to the east of and adjoining the Edwin Mineral Claim. TAKE NOTICE that I, Fred Lawson, agent for Agnes S. Lawson, Fred Lawson, Certificate No. 70745C, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for Certificate of Improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim. And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issue of such Certificate of Improvements. Dated this 30th day of August, A.D. 1925.

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