

THE DAILY NEWS
PRINCE RUPERT - BRITISH COLUMBIA

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Complaint Made By Rural Resident.

A rural resident makes a series of complaints and objects to the present campaign for new settlers. He says the cry of the law-makers is for more settlers. That is true to some extent but it only reflects the cry of the people generally and especially the cry of those who live in out of the way parts of the country where neighbors are few and where it would be possible to build roads and give other accommodation if settlement were thicker.

He complains that millions are to be spent on immigration. That is hardly correct. The British government is spending a good deal of money in aiding people to come to Canada and the Canadian government in the aggregate is spending a good deal, but all that money spread over the country would not build many miles of road in British Columbia. The province is not in the immigration business although the lands and other departments are co-operating with the Dominion and British governments in settling people in this country.

The difficulty in a great many parts of the interior of British Columbia is that settlement is too sparse. Give us people and it will be easy to build roads. Also with more intensive settlement will come better marketing conditions, better railway service and improvement all round. Also with close neighbors, the settlers in country districts will be less given to grumbling.

Free Grants Under Settlement Conditions.

The giving away of free land to those who will use it is no new thing. It has been the custom in Canada for the past thirty or forty years under definite homesteading conditions. British Columbia has not always been in line with other parts in this regard, but it has for some years. Our correspondent will admit, we think, that any person who clears and cultivates land in this part of the country is entitled to it without a charge.

Our friend says he does not want a handout but wants a chance to make a living. We are glad of that. It is what we are all trying to do although sometimes the going is pretty hard. Give us plenty of settlers and closer neighbors and better markets and improved roads and times will improve for everyone, even for the newspapers.

Roads Great Difficulty.

The building of roads is one of the most serious matters with which the Provincial government has to contend. It is very costly and huge sums are spent each year on this kind of work. Gradually the main highways are being linked up and the branch roads improved, but in a new country it takes a long time. Compare British Columbia with some of the newer states to the south and our roads do not suffer by comparison.

In protecting the roads against being used for heavy loads during certain seasons the public works department of the government is acting in the best interests of the whole community. It works a hardship on a few but it is necessary and demands for it have been made in many parts of the province.

With Many People Governments Always Wrong.

With many people governments are always wrong. It does not matter whether they are Tory or Liberal or Progressive, they are wrong. This is not a good habit of mind to cultivate. Those who are making the laws and trying to develop the country are doing the best they can and now and then they get turned out and another lot are put at the work, only to find that they are little better than the last. So it goes. We are never satisfied. Sometimes it is a good thing to make a change either way, but we must be reasonable in our demands and not expect that everything is to be done in our immediate neighborhood and none in any other.

We do not know exactly where our correspondent lives but roads are being built in his neighborhood as fast as anywhere and we are glad to know that every year more work is planned.

EXHIBITION ASSOCIATION CLOSES YEAR CLEAR OF DEBT AND MAKES PLANS FOR BIG EVENT THIS SEASON.

(continued from page one)

presented at the Prince Rupert Exhibition because there had not been adequate transportation. If the transportation companies were not able to meet the requirements, he suggested that the Fair Board might charter boats for the specific purpose of bringing the people and their exhibits to the city.

Dealing with the matter of Exhibition finances, Mr. Self recommended that the Board should apply to the city council for a grant of not less than \$3,000. This would relieve the necessity of pressing so hard on the citizens for subscriptions. In view of the fact that all the citizens benefited from the fair including those who rented buildings, Mr. Self felt that it was but fair that the taxpayers should contribute to a greater extent to the fair finances. It would also give the Fair Board something to go on early in the year. Mr. Self pointed out that, some years ago, when the Fair expenditures had been \$3,000 or \$4,000 per year, the civic grant had been \$2,000. In 1925 when the expenditures had been nearly ten thousand dollars, the civic grant had totalled only \$1,950.

Question of Attractions

Stating that something new in the nature of attractions at the Fair must be devised, Mr. Self expressed the view that the Board in future should not take such chances in the matter of sports as it had done in the past. Weather conditions were altogether too uncertain to warrant the board paying out large sums of money to bring outside teams to the city only to find that often when they got here the weather would not permit of games being played, thus losing the gates. At the same time, Mr. Self pointed out that, throughout the entire Fair Week, there were always a number of attractions down town in opposition to the Fair Building activities. The Fair Board should devise some means of putting on entertainments in the building nightly in order to hold the crowds. The bringing in of a troupe was one of Mr. Self's suggestions.

If entertainments were to be held at the Hall, it would be necessary to make arrangements for accommodation. With this end in view, he recommended that the centre of the hall should be left clear of exhibits which could be placed at the sides and that the present bandstand be elevated from its present ground location which took up a good deal of room right off the main doors.

Stampede Suggested

The holding of a stampede on the Acropolis Hill grounds during Fair Week was one of the outstanding of Mr. Self's suggestions. He reported that the matter had already been taken up with Jack McNeil of Telkwa who thought that arrangements could be made to bring the stock and animals from the Telkwa Barbecue the week after to the Prince Rupert Exhibition. Mr. Self thought this would be a great attraction and that something else might well be dropped in order to stage it. Mr. McNeil, he stated, was desirous of conferring further with the Fair Board on the matter.

A new road to the sports grounds was another suggestion. Mr. Self concluded by thanking the directors for their services and the public at large for assistance given. A word of thanks was also due the city and district press.

Directors Elected

The meeting then proceeded to the business of electing directors. Ald. W. J. Greer and J. H. Thompson acted as scrutineers and the following were elected: W. D. Vance, Howard Frizzell, Fred Scadden, Dan Jahour, John Williamson, R. E. Benson, John Bulger and Bert Morgan. These, in addition to the directors appointed from the city council, Ald. W. J. Greer, Ald. Jos. Greer and Ald. J. McKechnie, will comprise the 1926 Fair Board. On Monday night next the directors will meet to name their officers for the year.

George Rorie, C.A. was re-appointed auditor by the meeting. The meeting concluded with Mayor Newton making a brief address. He stated that the decision to carry on the Fair met with his entire approval. After

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the financial difficulties that had been encountered last Fall, there had been talk of discontinuing the Fair. He was glad to know that no such suggestion had been presented at this meeting. The citizens as a whole, he believed, realized the influence of the Exhibition in attracting outside attention and focusing Prince Rupert as the centre of all the General and Northern British Columbia districts. The Fair was very instrumental in keeping up that desirable connecting link between the city and the district.

Makes no Promise

The mayor stated that he could undertake to make no definite promise as regarded the suggestion that had been offered for an increased civic grant to the Fair. He would go so far as to state, however, his opinion that the city council to a man was behind the Fair and that it would be prepared in the future as it had been in the past to lend its sympathetic aid and support when required.

A suggestion was made by W. J. Kirkpatrick that the grading of Sixth Avenue might be continued right through to the Fair Building. Ben Self expressed confidence that the 1926 council would take care of the road requirements to the Exhibition Building this year. Present conditions as far as the road was concerned he thought could not possibly continue for another year. The city was obliged to take care of the matter.

In The Letter Box

WOULD LIKE TO KNOW.

Editor Daily News,
I see it is reported that the vessels of the C.G.M.M. that were to be altered from coal burners to oil burners, are going to remain coal burners. I wonder why? Was it for the good of the service. It would be interesting to know the real reason, I for one, do not believe it was for the good of the service. Its just another example of the secret and underground intrigue that Prince Rupert is "up against" and has been for years.

It is said the reason it is proposed to cancel the contracts is on account of strong representations from British Columbia. Who in B.C. objected? Let us know who and why.

J. A. SCOTT.

RATHER DISGRUNTLED

Editor Daily News,
The cry of our law makers for more settlers. Why not make the settlers already here more satisfied. Give us more roads so we can bring our produce to market. Why bring strangers from other lands when settlers

here are hardly able to exist? Why spend millions of dollars to bring them here to starve? Why not spend some of that money on the settlers already here and make them contented? No, they are going to spend our taxes on strangers for several years to clear land and build homes. If they can get money for these foreigners, why not give it to our people already here? Why discriminate against people who have lived here for many years, cleared land, built homes and raised families and labored under many hardships, also paid the Government for this land when it was in a wild state? Now the foreigner is to have free grants, also a dose of money.

We have kept quiet long enough. It is about time for us to demand our rights. Our road makers laugh at us when we ask them to better the disgraceful condition of the roads, assure us that the rancher and the logger is not to be considered, only the tourist. When we approach the fire warden they give us the run-a-bout, telling us that it is not an agricultural country, in spite of the fact that we are growing grains, clovers, grasses, apples, pears, plums, cherries and the different varieties of small fruits.

Gentlemen, it is inconceivable that they are actually putting up notices prohibiting us to use the roads except when they see fit to allow us. How are we going to make a living?

We are not asking a hand-out, we do not belong to that class, in fact there are too many of them already. All we ask is a chance to make a living and to develop this particularly fine section of British Columbia.

One of the Old Timers Along the Skeena River.

Ten Years Ago in Prince Rupert

At the Presbyterian Church yesterday afternoon, Miss Freda H. Maahs was married to P. H. Linzey, Rev. H. R. Grant officiating. Mr and Mrs. Linzey have taken up their residence in the McMordie Apartments.

In a letter published today in the Daily News, Archbishop F. H. Du Vernet, dealing with the land question, urges that instead of trying to make political capital out of past mistakes, it is the patriotic duty of the people to get together and endeavor to bring about a better order of things.

There was a big southeast gale yesterday which did much damage in the city. Part of the government wharf roof was carried away, houses were toppled over, store fronts were blown in and sidewalks were torn up.

Canadian National Railways Steamship and Train Service. S.S. PRINCE RUPERT will leave PRINCE RUPERT for VANCOUVER, VICTORIA, SEATTLE and intermediate points each FRIDAY at 9 a.m. S.S. PRINCE RUPERT for STEWART and ANYOX, WEDNESDAY, 10 p.m. S.S. PRINCE JOHN fortnightly for VANCOUVER via QUEEN CHARLOTTE ISLANDS. PASSENGER TRAINS LEAVE PRINCE RUPERT EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY at 8 p.m. for PRINCE GEORGE, EDMONTON, WINNIPEG, all points Eastern Canada, United States. AGENCY ALL OCEAN STEAMSHIP LINES. City Ticket Office, 528 Third Ave., Prince Rupert. Phone 280

Canadian Pacific Railway B. C. Coast Services Sailings from Prince Rupert. For KETCHIKAN, WRANGELL, JUNEAU, SKAGWAY February 8th, 22nd, March 8th. For VANCOUVER, VICTORIA and SEATTLE February 12th, 26th, March 12th. S.S. PRINCESS BEATRICE. For Butedale, Swanson Bay, East Bella Bella, Ocean Falls, Nanaimo, Alert Bay, Campbell River, and Vancouver every Saturday 11 a.m. Agency for all Steamship Lines. Full information from W. C. ORCHARD General Agent, Corner of 4th Street and 3rd Avenue, Prince Rupert, B.C.

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