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THE DAILY NEWS
PRINCE RUPERT - BRITISH COLUMBIA

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H. F. PULLEN - - - Managing Editor.

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DAILY EDITION Friday, Sept. 30, 1927

POSITION OF FISHERMEN

Fishermen are urged to read the report of the Alberni meeting as reported yesterday and today in this paper. Only part of the report got through yesterday in time for publication and the remainder is here today. The paper had gone to press before the second section arrived.

Apparently there is a meeting to be held at Vancouver tomorrow and it is a pity that Prince Rupert fishermen have not been consulted to a greater extent than seems to have been done. However, if they do not agree with the steps taken they should make suggestions of their own and wire them in so that their views may be presented.

The scheme seems to be to limit the number of canneries and also the number of licenses. These licenses would be given first to resident fishermen and if any more are needed then others would be given a chance. The fishermen would be compelled to sell their catches to one of the canneries operating in the district during the sockeye run. After that they might sell anywhere they pleased.

Seine licenses would be considerably reduced, but no general scheme of licenses seems to have been evolved in connection with these. Naturally in any scheme the natives would have to be considered.

Action must be taken quickly in regard to this matter as regulations must be put into force soon in order to enable canners to secure gear and make general provision for next season's work. The business is a big one and the government recognizes that.

What we wish to impress upon fishermen now is that they act rapidly in order to protect their own interests and not wait, as a writer suggested yesterday, until it was too late.

PROUD OF HOME TOWN

A visitor to Prince Rupert went back to California and meeting a Prince Rupert man there suggests that he must be proud of his home town. Of course he was. He could not well be otherwise.

But Prince Rupert people here do not always act as if they were proud of their city. They do not always speak that way when they talk to visitors.

The inferiority complex is not a good thing for any person and it is not good for a city. The place will become largely what we think of it. If we are ashamed of it, we should not be living here and keeping quiet about it. What all men want is to see Prince Rupert grow and prosper. Let us then be proud of the city as she is and try to improve matters. Wonderful work has been done so far and greater things will be accomplished in the future.

LET US HAVE BOTH SIDES

In another place today we are publishing a letter from the city auditor in regard to the city waterworks. The chief exception we take to the letter is in not classing the waterworks as a utility. There are three utilities here, all of them necessities. They are water, power and light, telephone. Either or all of these are sometimes owned and controlled by companies under special charter.

Possibly now when the monthly reports are submitted to the city council, the report of the waterworks will be supplied along with those of the power and light and telephone. In that way only can the ratepayers here know what is actually being done in connection with their utilities. They choose a mayor and council, to look after these things and this is done through a department of utilities. If the figures are given to the public monthly, there will be no cause for anyone to think anything is wrong or that losses have been sustained if there are profits. It is holding back that causes suspicion.

A lot of people are much more interested in the outcome of the big fight or the result of the world series than in how their own business is conducted.

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Man in the Moon

FISHERMEN, Beware. The bogie man'll get you if you don't watch out.

THE man who is always seeing trouble ahead is the man who has money to invest. And there often is trouble ahead.

I PUT my cash in mining,
I put my cash in stocks;
I put my cash in bogus bonds,
And soon I was on the rocks.

JAPANESE express themselves differently from the cold matter of fact Britisher or American. They use flowery language. In Japan the prevalence of British and American motorists has led the authorities to translate the Japanese rules into English. Here are a few of them:

"At the rise of the hand policeman stop rapidly.

"When a passenger of the foot hoves in sight tootle the horn. Trumpet at him. Melodiously at first, but if he still obstacles your passage, tootle him with vigor and express by word of mouth the warning Hi! Hi!

"Beware the wandering horse. Do not explode the exhaust box at him. Go soothingly by.

"Give big space to the festive dog that shall sport in the roadway.

"Go soothingly in the grease mud as there lurks the skid demon."

In The Letter Box

PUBLISHING THE RECORDS

Editor, Daily News:

Under this caption there appeared in your issue of last Saturday, 24th inst., an editorial article in connection with the accounts of the water department of this city. I am under the impression that the greater part of this article was written under a misapprehension of the facts, and as these facts are within my knowledge I shall endeavor to make plain to you and to any other searchers for the truth, such information as will, I hope, enable you to ascertain the particulars you desire.

In the first place it is necessary to point out that in speaking of "public utilities" one must differentiate between utilities carried on for the purpose of at least making sufficient revenue to meet their expenditure, and those which must be carried on even though they cannot break even. The basic idea of municipal ownership is to supply consumers with a commodity cheaper than a public company could do, and at the lowest price commensurate with effective and efficient supply. Its main object is not to make profits, but if after charging reasonable prices it does make a profit, then it is customary for such profit to be expended on improvements and betterments, which thus tends to relieve the ratepayers. In this class are our light and telephone departments. In the other class, namely those which a municipality has got to carry on even though its expenditure is not met by its revenue, is our water department.

Water a Necessity

Now it must be borne in mind that water is more than a public utility. It is a necessity, just as much as light and air are, and therefore a municipality is justified in going to considerable expense in order to procure and maintain a pure and abundant supply of water for its inhabitnats. In our city the water system should not be classed as a public utility any more than our drainage system or our other public works. Any deficit therefore shown on the operating of our water system, so long as the expenditure is reasonable and justifiable, should not be taken exception to, nor criticised too severely. Owing to its geological conformation our city is both difficult and expensive to maintain in water and in drainage. Some cities located in more convenient situations for obtaining a water supply are enabled to get their supply without incurring very heavy expenditure and can therefore show a surplus on their operations. In making any comparison with other cities therefore, this has to be kept in mind.

Adverting to your article, you state that "recently there was published a statement that the utilities of Prince Rupert in 1926 showed a loss, yet during every month of last year this paper had been showing a profit." The true facts will be found in the printed annual statement of accounts of the city for 1926, on page 7, under "Revenue Accounts of the City's Utilities" as follows:

The net results of these for the year 1926 are as follows:

Electric Light Department surplus	$18,637.09
Telephone Department surplus	6,209.78
	$24,846.87
Deduct: Deficit on Water Department	18,167.13
Net surplus on utilities' operations	$ 6,679.74

Your article further states that "what you want is the publication of the results of the city utilities in such a form that the people of the city may know exactly how they stand in regard to it." If results can be expressed any plainer than the above extract from my annual report for 1926, I shall be glad to learn; and if the details are wanted of how these results are arrived at I would refer you to pages 16, 17 and 19 of said report. If any further elucidation of these figures is still required, my services are at the disposal of any ratepayer to assist him in getting the information he wants. I am responsible for the form in which the city's annual accounts are presented, and I was rather under the impression that this form was so plain and commonsense that everyone would understand it. I would be very glad therefore to learn where it fails to give satisfaction. The city council look to me to prepare such a statement as exhibits truly and correctly the state of affairs of the corporation, and if there is any camouflaging going on such as you suggest, I shall be glad if you will be more explicit and show me where it is believed to exist.

Water Department

With regard to the water department, an examination of its annual statements of revenue and expenditure for the past ten years to 31st December, 1926, contained in the annual audited published financial reports of the city, shows th efollowing results:

Year	Surplus	Deficit
1917	$8,068.12	
1918		$ 5,536.94
1919	1,645.76	
1920	3,111.67	
1921		1,566.17
1922		13,785.34
1923		9,537.13
1924		9,497.37
1925		6,982.17
1926		18,167.13

The city's hydro-electric system was installed in 1912 at an outlay of $550,000 which money was borrowed under Bylaw 59. The annual instalment of interest and principal payable to redeem this issue is $39,956.90. Of this amount light department up to 1921 paid $13,000 and general account paid the remainder.

Cost of System

In 1922, however, the council decided that the cost of the system be apportioned between light department and water department in the sums of $210,000 and $340,000 respectively, and that the annual redemption instalment be payable as to 21-55ths by light department and as to 34-55ths by water department. As 34-55ths of the annual instalment comes to $24,700.62 it is apparent that until the population and consumers in the city increase, there will be a deficit shown on water department's accounts owing to this heavy load. The debentures issue will be entirely paid off in 20 years from now, and at the end of that time it is anticipated that there will be sufficient residual value in the system to recoup the city for its present absorption of the deficits. On the other hand, even assuming there is no residual value in the assets at the end of 20 years, the fact that this city has and will have an abundant supply of pure water, is an asset of considerable value which cannot be reduced to dollars and cents.

GEORGE RORIE, C.A.,
City Auditor.

WE KNOW THAT ATTITUDE.

Dear daughter's attitude toward bed,
Her ma doth surely peeve;
She thinks that it's no place to go—
And it's no place to leave.

—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Announcing 'SALADA' Orange Pekoe Blend

NOW you can try "SALADA" 'Orange Pekoe'. The unrivalled position that "SALADA" holds in the confidence of the public, assures the critical tea-drinker that "SALADA" 'Orange Pekoe' will be all and more than we claim for it. Our tea experts have produced it. Impartial judges say that it is unequalled in quality or flavour by any other tea anywhere in Canada.

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