THE DAILY NEWS

PRINCE RUPERT - BRITISH COLUMBIA

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CHRISTMAS MAIL SERVICE

The post office authorities are to be congratulated on having given the people of Prince Rupert a good service under most difficult conditions. There were 451 sacks of mail came on Sunday and to relieve the situation somewhat Postmaster Morison arranged to open the general delivery wicket for a short time Sunday evening.

On Monday two hours was found to be insufficient to serve the crowds who thronged the building and the result was that it was nearly mid-day before the wickets closed.

Employees of the post office worked night and day and the complaints at the service have been very few. As this is a branch of the public service which gets all the protests of people whose letters go astray, often from no fault of the local office, this is an occasion when they are deserving of praise for the work they have done.

It must be remembered that the mails at Prince Rupert come seldom and when they do arrive it causes a glut in the office. On Sunday there was not only three days' mail from the East but also a big mail on the steamer Camosun from the south and this in each case included the big Christmas mail. The manner in which it was handled at a time when the employees might be expected to be celebrating the annual holiday is deserving of all praise.

WHY SEND EAST FOR GOODS?

While the Post Office authorities did good work in connection with the handling of the mail, it seems a pity that there should be such a big parcel mail coming to the city from the big wholesale houses in the East. If the money sent out had been spent here, it would have rushed local merchants off their feet and caused such prosperity as had not been known.

The only way to build up a city is to develop civic loyalty. Shop at home and see the city grow.

We know that every person has a right to spend his money where he likes. That is his privilege. In spite of that, we feel that every citizen, who is really a citizen and not a sojourner, is injuring himself when he sends his money away instead of spending it at home.

If the thousands of dollars sent to one mail order firm only were spent here, the town would be a live one, as different from what it is today as black is from white. And often the cheap stuff brought in from the outside is not any better value or even as good as could be purchased here. You can usually tell mail order goods when they are worn. It is easy to size up the mail order buyer. He is branded with the mail order brand and so is his wife and family.

The mail order habit works both ways. It makes the goods bought here dearer than they otherwise would be. If the money earned here were spent here, merchants could do business on a smaller margin of profit than they do today. Buy at home is good business not only for the merchants but for the local people and especially for those who wish to see the city prosper.

THE PREFIX "HONORABLE"

(Toronto Globe)

The use of the title "honorable" as a prefix continues to be violated somewhat widely in this country, and the newspapers are often enough the culprits. The rule regarding the matter is simple enough. The Privy Councillors of Canada are styled honorable for life; Senators of Canada, executive councillors of the province (that is Provincial Cabinet Ministers), the president of the Legislative Councils and the Speakers of the Houses of Assembly in the Provinces are to be styled "honorable," but only during office, and the title is not to be used aftaerwards. Thus the use of the prefix "honorable" by former members of Legislative Councils, as Provincial Cabinets are sometimes termed, is forbidden. Sir John Bourinot, the late Mr. Alpheus Todd, author of "Parliamentary Government in Canada," Lord Bryce and Sir Robert Borden at one time or another have all pointed out and deprecated the indiscriminate use of the term "honorable."

FOREST FIRE WARNING

Royal Canadian Air Force aircraft engaged in forest patrol work for the Forest Service, Department of the Interior, are equipped with wireless telephones. A practical system of wireless telephones has been developed and reliable voice communication can be maintained over distances of 200 miles from aircraft in flight to the base. The air station is linked with the ground telephone system of the forest service so that warning of a detected fire can be almost instantly transmitted from the aircraft to the ranger station nearest the outbreak.

A mother discovering her small daughter washing the kitten with soap and water, exclaimed:

"Oh, Betty darling, I don't think the mother pussy would like her kitty washed like that."

Betty very seriously replied: "Well, I really can't lick it, Mother."

—From "Children, The Magazine for Parents."

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TO SEARCH FOR MUMMIES AND NEW ANIMALS

Expedition Preparing to Leave Soon for Far North Including Aleutians and Kamchatka

SYDNEY, N.S., Dec. 28.—Mummies of the Mongols—older than King Tut — who are believed to have been the first inhabitants of North America are to be sought among the Aleutian Islands, off Alaska, by an expedition piloted by Captain Bob Bartlett, veteran explorer, who has arrived in Sydney from New York, to look over his schooner, Morrisey, which has been under repairs at the Sydney Foundry and Machine Company docks here for several weeks since the return of the Putman expedition from Labrador.

The Morrisey is now in first class shape, and Captain Bartlett will leave in her soon via the Panama Canal for Seattle whence the Stoll-McCracken Siberian expedition of the American Museum of Natural History will start north in her about April 1, next.

Having sampled all the thrills of exploration on the Greenland side of the Arctic, including the famous Peary discovery of the North Pole in 1909, Captain Bob is now going to tackle the perils of the unknown Siberian wilderness.

The Mongolian mummies, older than those of the Egyptians and unlike the latter, mummified by nature in caves, were reported to be in existence several years ago by the late Dr. William H. Dall of the Smithsonian Institution. None, it was said, have ever been taken from the caves, where they have been lying for thousands of years, possibly it has been thought since the post-glacial period, when the North American continent was believed to have been first visited by human beings.

EXPLORE ISLANDS

The search for the natural mummies of the post-glacial period will be only one of the objectives of the expedition. The party will explore Czar Nicholas II. Land, an island of unknown size north of Cape Chelyuska, off the coast of Asiatic Siberia, about 630 miles south of the pole. It will study the economic possibilities of Kamchatka, which is rich in timber, coal, gold, lead, zinc and other minerals and in grazing lands. But it will be concerned chiefly in hunting for the museum specimens of animals and birds of the Far South, hardly any of which are in any museum.

These animals include Siberian sheep, transitional ruminants between the ovis poli and the sheep in this country, Siberian grizzlies, the large Siberian moose, sea otters and ribbon seals which are unique in that they have a band of white across their breasts and only one of which, a poor specimen, is in this country, at the Smithsonian Institution. In addition Captain Bartlett will conduct oceanographic work, dredging and collecting plankton or fish food, in the Northern waters.

Dr. Dall's directions indicate that the mummies are in caves in the Aleutians, but it has not been disclosed on which island of the hundreds in the groups.

AFTER MUMMIES

Dr. Dall, who reported that he had seen these mummies in caves said the early settlers of the Aleutians conducted the burial of their hunters in caves instead of burying them underground. In some of these caves the atmospheric conditions were such that the bodies were dessicated and preserved in a natural state similar to petrifaction. The natives of the islands, it was said, had not molested these mummies, therefor fear of the consequences of distributing them being so great that none will live even in the districts where they are said to be dying. The tradition there, maintained by medicine men is that death will certainly come upon any one who touches one of these bodies. Mr. McCracken said Dr. Dall had reported he knew of only one attempt—by a Swedish fisherman—to remove one of the boat, announced he was going to bring mummies. He got a mummy into his it to the United States for the Panama-Pacific Exposition and sailed away. The boat, said Mr. McCracken, was never heard from again.

The exploration will last about six or seven months. The Morrisey will sail from Seattle by the inside passage to Kodiak, Alaska, and thence to Unimak Island on the western end of the Alaskan peninsula, where grizzlies and bird life are to be found. The next stop will be Kamchatka, whence the journey will be up the Siberian coast and when the weather permits, through the Behring Straits to the Arctic coast near the mouth of the Kolima River, where are to be found the Siberian moose, which the expedition seeks, and specimens of fresh water fish which are unknown to museums in this country.

The economic study of Kamchatka, it was said, would depend largely on the time available. Kamchatka belongs to Russia, but, Mr. McCracken said, the party had received unofficial but assuring advices that no objections would be made to such a study.

The children had got tired of climbing trees and picking flowers. So the Sabbath school teacher suggested that they should have an impromptu concert. One little mite sang; another gave a recitation. Then there was a pause. "Come, Willie," said one teacher to a member of her class, "you know 'How doth the little busy bee'!"

"I don't!" said Willie, examining a fiery patch on his hand, "I only know he doth it!"

SEA STORIES OF OLD SALT

Captain Ed. Sanchez Tells of Thrilling Times of Shipwreck and Filibuster

PROVIDENCE, R.I., Dec. 238.— Captain Ed. Sanchez of Block Island has come through five shipwrecks, one fire at sea and had many other hazardous adventures during his 40 years at sea. He has a rich knowledge of the seaports of the world which he started visiting when he was nine years old.

He can tell you where the world's best peanuts grow, how the Japanese put a grain of sand in the shell of an oyster and have it come out a pearl or how rubber trees are made to yield and how life is lived on the Gold Coast of Africa.

He puffed his short black pipe and between the clouds of aromatic blue smoke he told of the fire aboard the oil burner, Cybyla, out of Tampa for La Ceiba, British Honduras. The Cybyla caught fire in a gale 126 miles off the coast of Florida three days before the Armistice.

"Just after we were all over the side," he said, "the tanks exploded. There we were, drifting in an open boat in heavy seas for 33 hours. Then the steamer Gulf Oil picked us up and lugged us ashore."

Captain Ed's favorite story relates to the time that he and his father, who also followed the sea throughout his life, were held as filibusterers by the Guatemalans and threatened "with death at sunrise."

WERE ARRESTED

"We set out from Lynn, Mass., in 1898 on a trip to Central America for bird and animal specimens. Our 45-foot yawl, Theresa, was built for us and made ready for sea in 14 days. The old boat is still in the hog-pen, over yonder at the Old Harbor. We were on our way from Belize, British Honduras, to Spanish Honduras, when we stopped at Puerto Barries, Guatemala. As soon as we stepped ashore we were arrested for filibusterers, because we carried guns, for shooting specimens. There were always revolutions going on down there at that time and we also carried guns for sale. But come up to the house and I'll show you the log my father kept on that voyage."

Up at the house, overlooking the harbor, Captain Ed. got out a book that looked like a small ledger, roughly bound in sail cloth and damp with the salt of the island. He thumbed his way through to an entry made May 4, 1898. "Here we are," he said.

"By force of arms and against our will," the entry read, "the officer in charge sent for me and three of us went ashore and he at once arrested us and kept us in prison, guarded by soldiers."

Captain Ed. explained that the place was a sort of arsenal and that it was decided to shoot a way out but it finally was unnecessary.

CONSUL HELPED

The log went on, "I telegraphed for the American consul who soon came from Livingston and then they began with the court of inquiry until 3 a.m. then retired and we were discharged in care of the consul who, as I understand, went our bonds."

The log concludes, "once we were free we strolled about looking at the wild sights and queer fashions of this people. Everything is done so different to America that we felt as though we had died and come to life in a new world. We were as much a curiosity to the people as they were to us."

VANCOUVER AND PRINCE RUPERT SHIPMENTS OF GRAIN AFFECTING EAST

VANCOUVER, Dec. 28.—The flow of Canadian grain to the western outlets at Vancouver and Prince Rupert is being felt by eastern ports, according to H. R. McMillan, head of the H. R. McMillan Export Co. Ltd., who returned to the city on Monday after five weeks in the east.

Mr. McMillan stated that while in New York, Montreal, and other maritime centres of the east, he gained the impression that diversion of the western grain trade was being felt to considerable extent by the eastern export points.

Regarding the lumber situation in the east, Mr. McMillan declared he could see nothing on which to base expectations for improved conditions. The value of new building, according to permits, is keeping up, he said, but the nature of the construction is changing.

Ten Years Ago in Prince Rupert

DECEMBER 28, 1917.

Seven claims for exemption under the Military Service Act have been disallowed by Judge F. McB. Young. Next month His Honor will proceed to Anyox where 46 appeals have been filed.

There has been a shortage of bait recently in Prince Rupert. It is being suggested that it should be admitted free from Alaska where there is an adequate supply.

The Wallace Shipyards of Vancouver have had a representative in Prince Rupert looking into the advisability of taking over and operating the local dry dock.

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MAY DISESTABLISH CHURCH OF ENGLAND RESULT RECENT VOTE

TORONTO, Dec. 28.—Commenting on the action of the British House of Commons on the new prayer book, Dyce W. Saunders, K.C., chancellor of the diocese of Toronto, stated that disestablishment of the Church of England in Great Britain was likely to be the result.

Declaring that it was most unfortunate, Mr. Saunders added: "The church is not going to submit to have authority over its rites, doctrines and ceremonies placed in the hands of Jews, infidels and others not members of the church."

Mr. Saunders explained that disestablishment would mean the absolute separation of church and state. The king would be head of the church no longer, and he would not have the right to make episcopal appointments. The privy council would cease to have jurisdiction as to doctrinal or ceremonial observances in the Church, and the House of Commons would be deprived of its powers to pass upon the teaching of the Church.

Man in the Moon

THE calendar says Christmas this year fell on a Sunday but it is my private opinion that it fell on father.

THERE are all sorts of guests, the silent and noisy, the active and lazy, the aggressive and passive, the gay and the sad. In fact there are just as many kinds of guests as there are kinds of people.

SHE answered by return of post
The invitation of her host.
She caught the train she said she would,
And changed at junctions as she should.
She brought a light and smallish box
And keys belonging to the locks.
Food strange and rare she did not beg,
But ate the homely scrambled egg
When offered lukewarm tea, she drank it,
She did not crave an extra blanket,
Nor extra pillow for her head;
She seemed to like her spare-room bed.
She never came downstairs till ten,
She brought her own self-filling pen,
Nor once by look or word of blame
Exposed her host to open shame.
She left no little things behind
Excepting grateful thoughts and kind.
A guest ideal she seemed to be
But she was fond of drinking tea.

SOME people are realizing today that presents make the heart grow fonder and the lack of them has a cooling influence.

I WISH I were Bert Barry
Best sculler that there is,
But I am just a numskull
And nothing know but biz.

THINK of it, Terrace is to be incorporated with a mayor and council for an ornament.

YES, Terrace is to be a town
Like other places of renown
And soon she'll have a mayor to strut,
And be for everyone the butt.

SEEMS to me Canada will be a real nation if she ever builds herself a real navy.

ITS the Niyvee, the British niyvee
And Canada will have some ships her own
For the Niyvee, yes the niyvee
Is sign she has her infancy outgrown.

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