

THE DAILY NEWS

PRINCE RUPERT - BRITISH COLUMBIA

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RAILWAY MOVES IN THE NORTH

Among the railway moves in the northern section of the province it is noted that the survey of the Peace River pass route survey has been completed and is in the hands of the government. Sir Henry Thornton has investigated the possibility of taking over the P.G.E. by the Canadian National and it is expected an offer will be forthcoming very soon. A company is seeking a charter to penetrate the Peace River from the East and with one or more western outlets. There is a proposal afoot to connect Chicago with Alaska by a railway through the Peace River country. A joint offer has been made by the C.P.R. and C.N.R. for the Alberta government railway through the Alberta section of Peace River, but the Alberta government does not think it good enough. There is a rumor that running rights are being sought over the C.N.R. to Prince Rupert from a railway seeking entry into the Peace River country.

Out of all these proposals something should come that will benefit Prince Rupert and the district that surrounds us.

HITTING ON ALL SIX

Sir Henry uses a modern but very expressive classic when he says "we should hit on all six cylinders and do it all the time." That is true of Prince Rupert. We have been touching three or four of the cylinders occasionally causing a somewhat jerky motion. What we now need is to hit on all six. Possibly we may do it pretty soon. If we do not it should not be our own fault. We should be prepared to go the limit at any time to the end that we may have real prosperity here. Let us watch for our opportunity and when it comes set the old bus in motion and hit on all six right from the word go.

MARCEL MOTION DROPPED

The motion of Hon. Charles Marcell in regard to our relations with Mexico which might have precipitated a religious controversy has been dropped. While all people must deplore any religious persecution in any country, this matter was scarcely one in which Canada could interfere. Mexico has had many troubles during the past quarter of a century. Rebellion has followed rebellion and only recently one was quelled there and all the leaders executed.

Mexico is a country where ruthless methods are the vogue. Life seems to be of little value there. The present administration seems to be the only one that has been able to really rule the land for many a day. Injustices are done to many, but the Catholic Church has been marked as the special victim. However, reaction always follows the use of extreme measures. The country will in time settle down. Order will emerge from chaos and the Church will probably benefit from her period of persecution.

A BACKWARD COUNTRY

Many people look on the United States as a backward country. When such a leader as the late Mr. Bryan was a bold reactionary leader and when whole states openly avowed their disbelief in and ignorance of the scientific movements of the last generation it does look as if they were falling behind in the race of progress. However, we must remember that the Negro influence to the south is probably a reactionary influence just as we have in Canada somewhat similar influences in the Doukhobors and others. What is puzzling is that while some states are strictly to the front in modern civilization, other sections should be holding back and be in fact far behind the older English-speaking countries.

A VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY

(Victoria Colonist)

The successor of the late John A. Dowie, founder of Zion City, U.S.A., Wilbur Glenn Voliva, has just set out on a world tour, but not, however, in another Argo, to find some modern successor of the Golden Fleece. The successor of the "Prophet" has set out to prove that the world is flat. If he can do that he will succeed also in fostering the special tents of his flock in the city which appears to be the sole community in the world free of the sins of bobbed hair, smoking, drinking and profanity. Mr. Voliva is quite certain that he can walk to the edge of the circular plate which we have all mistakenly called the globe. Mr. Voliva is a practical man—the success of his colony at Zion City proves this—and what has there been in the course of his experience, or in the experience of most people, to disprove the commonsense conception that the world must be flat or we should be continually falling off?

The mediaeval geographers based their conception of the earth upon the same authority which Mr. Voliva invokes, and drew beautiful maps of a spherical but flat world, of which Jerusalem was the hub. It was bounded by almost limitless seas upon the east and the west, by barriers of ice to the north, and by a torrid zone of unbearable heat (such as Edgar Allen Poe has depicted in one of his masterpieces) to the south. It was not until ships passed beyond these barriers and came safely back to port that the idea of a round world could make any headway. Indeed, as a matter of common knowledge, the idea that the world was a globe was for more than a century very bitterly traversed by those who believed that the acceptance of the new idea would deal an irrecoverable blow to orthodox religion.

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BRADY SPEAKS ON ADDRESS

Expresses Hope for Improvement as Result of Proposed Action of Government

OBJECTS TO COMMISSIONS Pulled up by Forty Minute Ruling but Urged Better Transportation Facilities

The Hansard report of J. C. Brady's speech in the debate on the address had arrived and is complete as follows:

Mr. J. C. Brady (Skeena): The speech from the throne by His Excellency the Governor General at the opening of the session outlined certain legislation which the government proposes to ask parliament to adopt during the present session. I wish briefly to mention one or two matters, Mr. Speaker, that seem to me to be of outstanding importance, and then come to certain phases of the situation in Canada today which are calling for redress and advanced legislation.

First of all, I notice that the government proposes to send ministers plenipotentiary to France and Japan. That proposal has already been discussed from both sides of the House, and I believe the feeling through Canada is that in taking such a step we are advancing into dangerous ground, and we should be very careful because of the consequences that may ensue if this policy is carried out to its logical conclusion.

The government also intends to take steps this session to return to Alberta its natural resources, and to British Columbia the lands of the railway belt and the Peace River block.

The two pieces of legislation I have mentioned, which the government intends enacting this session, are but the corollary to implementing the Duncan report. Both have been advocated for many years, and not merely on this side of the House. They were advocated as far back as 1901 by Premier Dunsmuir of British Columbia, later by Premier McBride, and during the last session of parliament by the hon. member for Victoria (Mr. Tolmie). I trust that as a result of this legislation which is forecast in the speech from the throne there will be considerable development in both these provinces, a development which has been considerably retarded in the past.

PRASED THE SPEECH

The speech from the throne has been praised to a very considerable extent, and so far as any legislation that will be of benefit to the people of Canada is concerned, that praise is not confined to the members on the government side of the House. The members on this side of the House likewise accord praise to the government for any legislation that will be productive of good for the people of Canada. The government has been repeatedly congratulated upon its splendid record, and that brings me, Mr. Speaker, to the very question that confronts the people of Canada today. It is the most vital question that we can discuss in this assembly. What the people of this country are demanding today is, which of the great political parties is presenting the facts as they exist at this present stage of our development. I notice that there has been a disposition on the part of many government supporters to argue during this debate from the particular to the general, to try to take a universal application from some few isolated facts. I do not for one moment deny, Mr. Speaker, that prosperity is moving over the face of Canada. We see evidence of that on all sides, and indeed it would be a strange thing after the way Canada has been blessed by abundant crops, blessed in the courage and strength and virility of her people, if there were not at this period, sixty years after confederation, at least some evidences that we were prosperous. The Prime Minister said that we should not say anything in this House which would indicate to the outside world that things are not like a garden of Eden in Canada, or words to that effect. Sir, this government had its very origin in democratic party government, and the opposition has a bounden duty to perform. Its duty is to give honest criticism, and I shall not be prevented from doing so by the mild rebuke which was given to some members of the opposition by the Prime Minister.

We all rejoice to know that Canada is entering upon an era of prosperity, but so far as I can judge, this government has not been giving to the people of Canada that legislation and that help which a young country such as this, with its great wealth, is entitled to receive especially at this important stage in its history. It is not true, Mr. Speaker, that much of the work of this parliament last session was turned over to all kinds of commissions? We had the Duncan report from a commission that was appointed to inquire into the grievances of the maritime provinces. That commission was appointed to try and find means of alleviating the conditions that prevailed in the maritime provinces. We also had a commission appointed to investigate the administration of the customs department. For what purpose?—in order that we might prevent the flow of goods entering from foreign countries without paying customs and excise duties. We now have a commission investigating the fisheries. For what purpose?—in order that we may try to save the great industry possessed by Canada, because credible testimony causes us to fear it is in danger of being wiped out. I say that no government in a great country like this should have to spend its time, its capabilities and the money which is supposed to go into the coffers of the treasury, for the development of the country in investigations

and commissions such as these. TAKING STOCK The opening of parliament is a period of stock taking, or is considered such by the people of Canada. They want to know the stage of progress reached and the hope for future expansion. Since 1867 the questions of greatest interest to the people of Canada have been those belonging to the sphere of commerce, industrial and agricultural development and the development of our railways and our ports. These are the main things in the estimation of the people of Canada. We have passed through that eventful stage of experimentation in legislation; those experiments have now become firmly embodied in the laws of our country, and the hour has come when the statesmen who control the destinies of our Dominion should solve these problems which will fit in with the growing needs of this great nation. We have heard a great deal about immigration, but I say that in spite of what we have heard in this House, that we are making progress, no man dares deny that the greatest tragedy which could occur within any nation in the world is taking place every hour and every minute in Canada. We are losing the cream of our intellect; the youth of both sexes are leaving us, as usually as the waters pass over the face of the earth, and they are leaving us not to return. I ask you, sir, how this government is attempting to solve that vital problem, upon which the future greatness of this country depends. There has not been one month since last May that I have not written out letters of recommendation for young Canadians passing into the United States. Is it right that today we should talk about plenipotentiaries, to foreign states when the very life blood of our nation is ebbing hourly and the government has not the ability or the machinery with which to check it?

Let me present to the House a few facts. I cannot draw a great dramatic picture, but by a simple comparison the smallest child may understand the situation. British Columbia is a country larger than Italy, Germany and France combined and today it has a population of about 560,000 people. New Zealand, a little country of 102,000 square miles, has a white population of 1,500,000 people and still, sir, the history of British Columbia antedates the political history of New Zealand. Let me show it in another way. The constituency of Skeena, which I represent, has a larger area than New Zealand. It is even larger than Great Britain and Ire-

land and yet today, with its fertile valleys, its millions of acres of land, its rivers, its seas, its mighty wealth of forest and mine, there are only 40,000 people to be found therein. Is there something wrong, or is it possible that I stand here this afternoon telling this House things that are not existent? That is what is wrong with Canada. We are losing our own sons and daughters and bringing in immigrants from other countries. The object, of course, is to make them colonists, and finally citizens, but we are not even doing that. FORTY MINUTE LIMIT The forty minute limit confines one to a few salient points, but I would like to emphasize one point particularly to the government. That point is, that the great need of western Canada has not been touched upon and has not been solved as it should have been in the speech from the throne. We should have our transportation facilities increased, both by land and water; we should have federal aid for our highways, which are the very veins of traffic development. I think, sir, that we are paying too much attention to externals and not enough to internals. It is within Canada that the future success of any government must lie. It is there, sir, that we must concentrate our efforts. We must step down and come among our people and examine their wants and their needs, and then the solution will be obtainable. I appeal to this government to accept what I know to be true, that the brightest gem which could be placed in the crown of any government is waiting, once the great Peace River country west of the Rockies is opened up, and British Columbia receives more equitable treatment and a fairer share of the revenues which she has given in the past and will continue to give in the future to this Dominion of Canada.

OFFICERS OF HILL SIXTY Mrs. John Manson Re-elected Regent at Meeting Last Night—Good Work During 1927 Mrs. John Manson was re-elected regent of Hill 60 Chapter, Imperial Order, Daughters of the Empire, at the annual meeting which was held last night. Reports indicated that the chapter during 1927 had had a very successful year. Besides having spent



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considerable money in connection with the children's ward at the Prince Rupert General Hospital, which is the chapters particular care, assistance was given Municipal Chapter in paying off the greater part of the debt on the building on Fifth Avenue. The chapter decided to subscribe for magazines for the High School. The complete list of office-bearers for 1928 is as follows: Honorary Regent—Miss Blanche Macdonald (Nanaimo). Regent—Mrs. John Manson. First Vice-Regent, Miss Annie Dalby. Second Vice-Regent, Mrs. C. P. Balguy. Secretary, Mrs. Robert Davie. Treasurer, Miss Willa Dyer. Echoes secretary, Miss Annie Dalby. Educational secretary, Miss May Hartin. Standard bearer, Miss Pulmira Astori.

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