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THE DAILY NEWS
PRINCE RUPERT - BRITISH COLUMBIA

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DAILY EDITION Wednesday, June 27, 1928

THE HINCHCLIFFE ADDRESS

In a letter to the Daily News yesterday a correspondent shows a decided lack of knowledge of parliamentary affairs in connection with the speech of Reverend Canon Hinchcliffe at the Moose Hall recently.

Those who know the Canon at Victoria know that he is very small fry in politics. So much has this been in evidence that there was a strong move from members of his own party to prevent his getting the nomination and also it is pretty certain he will not be elected on July 18. He is among the doomed.

In political life the tactics of petty members of the opposition is to worry the government with resolutions and questions which they think will prove embarrassing and which they can use as political ammunition later. That is what the worthy Canon has been doing at Victoria. He is one of the snipers of the opposition.

The government has a settled policy and whenever possible men of the Hinchcliffe type try to head this off and make it appear as if they had been the movers in the matter. They rush forward resolutions which have to be voted down in order to clear the way for the real work. So it is seen that Canon Hinchcliffe quoted a number of these resolutions and told of the manner in which Hon. T. D. Pattullo voted.

Mr. Pattullo does not need our defence. He can defend himself. His record of twelve years on all questions such as those mentioned by the correspondent is plain and clear. He does not come whining to the electors telling them how he loves the working men and how he has tried to do things when all the time it is the other party that is doing it. He does not have to go back twenty years to quote cases where the workers have been befriended. People here know what the government of which he is a member has done. Some people claim the government has gone too far in protection of the workers, but Mr. Pattullo has always been ready to defend his actions and will do it again.

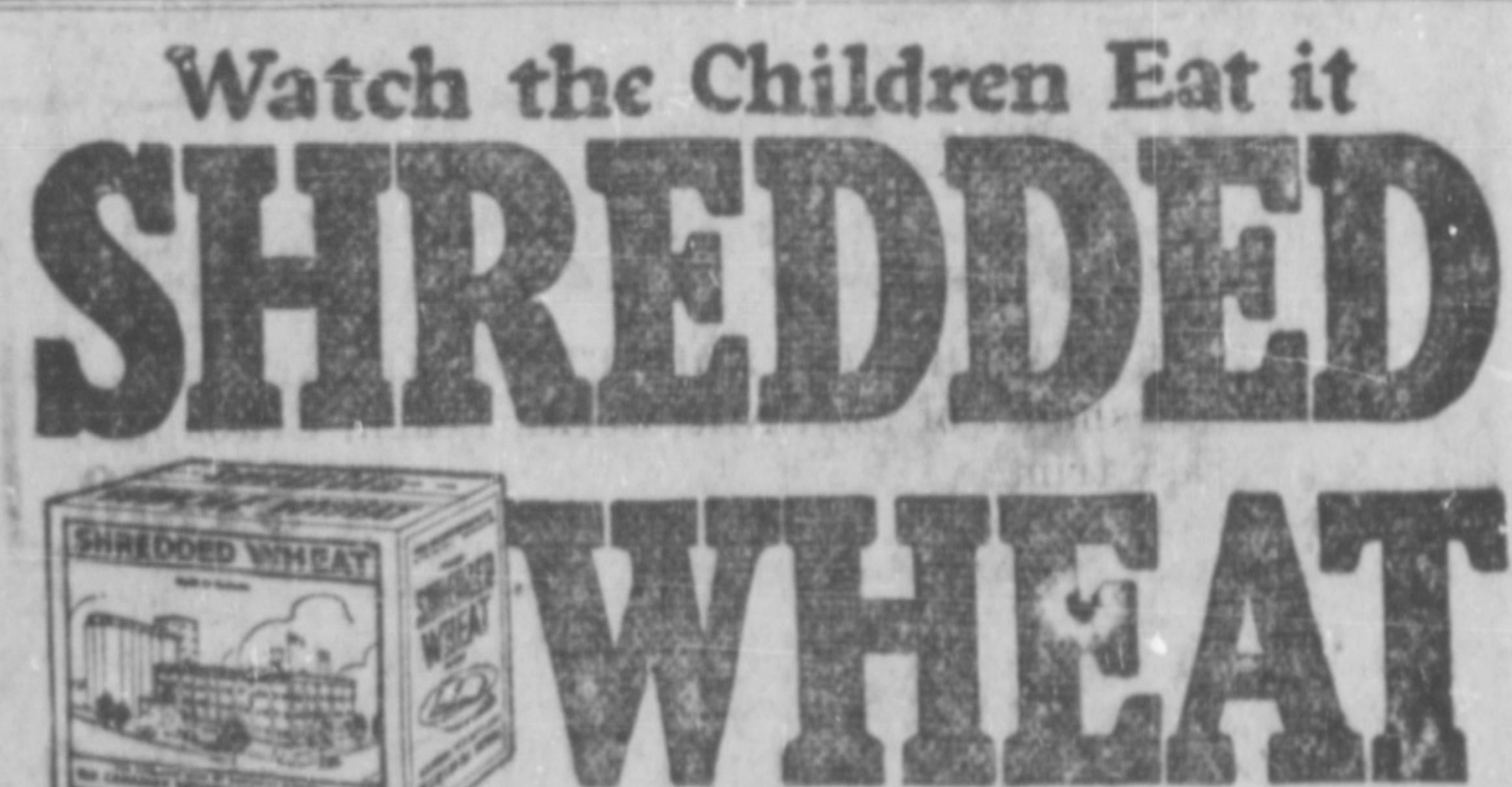
PEOPLE FREE AGENTS

In regard to the other suggestion made by our correspondent, the people here are free agents. They can vote as they wish. They have done so in the past and they will do it again. No effort is ever made to force anyone to do anything. They have the same right to vote as they like as we have to say what we like. At the same time there may be a wise course and an unwise course. We suggest that it is wise just now to have the same party in power here that is in power at Ottawa so that negotiations may be carried on in a friendly manner and neither side fear that the other is trying to make political capital. If we want to dispose of the P.G.E. and if we want the railway lands and Peace River block returned, we are most likely to get our wish by putting a Liberal government back in power. That's just plain business sense.

PROSPECT FOR SPORT

In Prince Rupert we suffer from lack of contact with our neighbors. That makes us glad to see visitors. In a couple of weeks from now we shall have the warship Durban here and the officers and crew will spend several days in the city. It will be a great opportunity to pull off some sports. Already preparations are being made with this end in view. We suggest that all enter into this with enthusiasm. While it will be election week it will also be a good time for a little diversion. The members of the ship's company will be very welcome visitors.

Watch the Children Eat it



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HARRY SMITH, MASSETT, OF UNSOUND MIND AND NOT GUILTY OF MURDER OF HIS FATHER WHOM HE KILLED

(continued from page one)

Witness testified that his brother could read quite well, his favorite form of literature being western stories. He could also write, though not very well. Witness identified specimens of his brother's handwriting presented by Milton Gonzales, defence counsel.

A. M. Johnson, K.C., crown prosecutor, tendered Provincial Police Constable Hugh McGlinchy for cross examination. Mr. Gonzales announced that he did not wish to cross-examine him.

Mr. Gonzales announced that the defence would be brief and simple. He was prepared to admit, on behalf of accused, that he had killed his father. The whole defence would be that the boy was then and now insane. The jury had already heard the evidence of the brother. He proposed to adduce further evidence showing that the boy was at no time balanced and did not understand what he was doing.

DEFENCE EVIDENCE

The evidence of Arthur D. Hallett, first witness for the defence, developed into somewhat of a sermon. Hallett said he had been acquainted with accused since he (Hallett) took up residence in Massett in August 1924. Witness and accused lived, at various times, one half a mile and two or three miles apart. He had noticed that accused was very peculiar. His attitude was very peculiar. He often displayed a vacant stare with a kind of established facial expression, flushes, etc. passing over his countenance. At other times, there was no facial expression whatever. His conversation seemed to be senseless. Many times, witness went on, he had endeavored to explain to accused the mistakes of his attitude and contemplation but to no avail. He had heard accused state that he (accused) was cut out to be a great man and would eventually reach the high altitude of Christ. Before and since the tragedy, witness said, accused had related to him his belief that he would grow wings. He said he believed he would live to be 1000 years old. Gradually, witness declared, he could notice accused becoming more and more demented. On several occasions, witness told the court, he had mentioned to accused's mother his opinion that he would have to be eventually taken into custody. It had been with reluctance that he had told the mother this. Witness identified two letters he had received through the mail from accused.

"When did you mention your opinion to accused's mother?" asked Mr. Johnson in cross-examination.

"Some two or three months before the tragedy occurred," replied Hallett. "Did it ever occur to you to inform the police of his condition?"

"No, I thought that was up to his parents."

In answer to a question by the judge, Hallett said that he was engaged in fur farming.

AN OLD NEIGHBOR

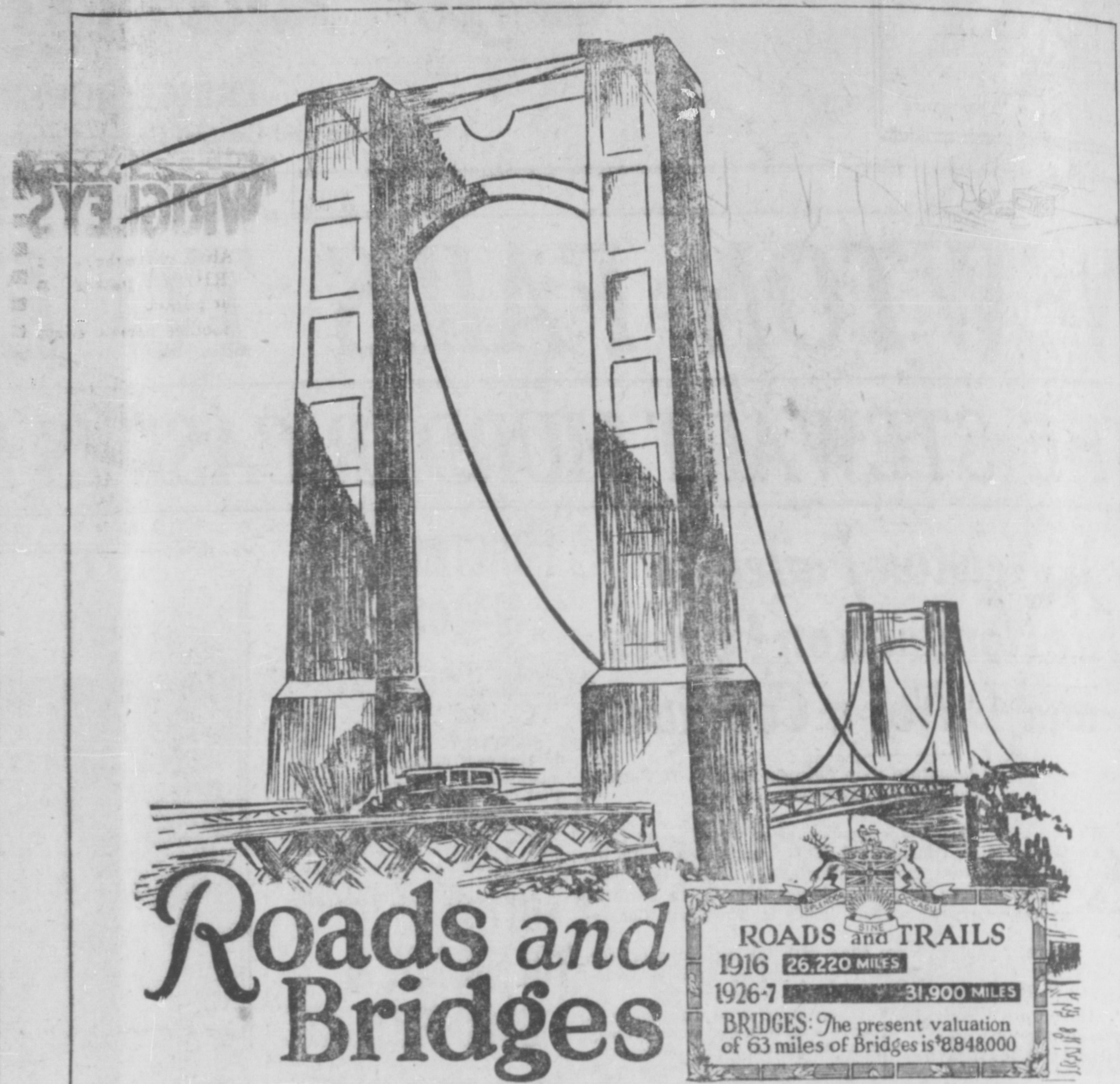
Carl J. Kermis swore that he had known accused since 1914. They were neighbors since 1918. Witness had long noticed that accused was doing and saying peculiar things such as cutting off the hen's tails, setting the dog on fire and breaking up a dozen eggs to make a cake when his mother was absent. Witness stated that he had been friendly with the family. There was no enmity between the father and the son that he knew of. In 1917 witness stated that he had had accused in his employ. He worked hard and with a will while he (witness) was standing over and watching him but, when he did not supervise him, he would do insensible things. Accused's memory was also very bad. When he went to Massett on errands, he would forget what he was sent for. Accused also lost track of the days. He had a kind of a peculiar laugh when there was nothing to laugh at. In June 1927 accused's father's cheap shack caught fire and accused persisted in trying to put the fire out and did not attempt to take the effects out when this could have easily been done. Accused's father, witness swore, had told him how idiotic his son was. Last November accused's father and witness had a difference and, since that time, witness had stayed away. Witness went on to tell how accused and himself had later worked on the road about the middle of January.

Harry was doing his work in a silly and foolish way and witness had to do much of it over for him. Accused did not appear to know what he was doing and his condition was gradually getting worse. There was a time about a year previous when, witness said, he could control accused but he could not do so later. He (witness) had always looked upon accused as feeble minded. On January 28 accused had passed him without speaking. A few minutes later he (witness) had come out crying. "How can I find my husband? What can I do?" she had asked. Witness suggested a search party which was formed. That evening he saw Harry in the home sitting in a chair, smoking a cigarette. He was very quiet and there was no conversation. Next night after that day's search, in which accused had not joined, he again saw Harry in his house. Mrs. Smith told witness that Harry had been missing all day. On being asked by his mother where he had been, he laughed in a silly way. He said that he had thrown his coat, containing the money, in the water.

Under cross-examination, witness said that he had never discussed accused's mental condition with his parents. Nor had he told the police because he believed he was harmless.

MOTHER TESTIFIES

The wan and heavily stricken little mother, probably fifty years of age or over, was next on the stand. She could



Roads and Bridges

ROADS and TRAILS
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1926-7 31,900 MILES
BRIDGES: The present valuation of 63 miles of Bridges is \$8,480,000

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Our roads system now totals 31,900 miles... an increase of over 5,000 miles during the last ten years. Of this mileage, 12,000 miles are earth roads; 4,000 gravel roads; and 1,000

macadam, bituminous, concrete and cement concrete. The 5,000 miles which were added to our roads system include: 884 miles of main trunk roads, 602 miles of lateral roads, 281 miles of industrial and mining roads, 1,133 miles of settlement and farm roads, and 2,000 miles of ordinary and mining trails.

During the years just before 1917, a large number of bridges had been constructed in the Province, nearly all of which were temporary timber structures. Since 1917, the problem of maintenance and renewal of these structures has been a serious one, involving a large expenditure, particularly between the years 1920 and 1927.

The policy has been to improve design of and workmanship on temporary bridges and to renew all the large bridges on main highways over the principal rivers with concrete and steel.


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bear up no longer under the weight of grief and, perceiving her son with his low bowed head in the dock sobbed out pitifully: "That is my boy." She gave her testimony between sobs. She had two sisters and two brothers, she said. One of the sisters had been in asylum three times and had finally taken carbolic acid and died.

Asked as to incidents of her son's peculiar behavior, she told of Sunday, January 13, when, as the church bell was ringing, a Mr. Rutan had driven past in his car. "He is going to dig my grave," Harry had said. The next day when she had given him a drink, she (mother) testified, the boy had accused her of trying to poison him. "He said," she sobbed, "I just missed death yesterday and now you are trying to poison me." The only trouble Harry had ever had with his father, Mrs. Smith declared, was over the incident with the case of powder. They were always very friendly and witness knew of no reason why the son should wish to kill his father. Harry did not commence to walk until he was two years and seven months old and he was not talking until he was over 3 1/2 years old, the mother told the court. She had never reported her boy's condition to the police, believing that he was not dangerous.

Mr. Johnson mercifully refrained from cross-examination.

The sister, Ruby E. Smith, a pretty young girl, was also broken down and crying when she entered the stand. Once, she said, when Frank had gone out shooting and could be seen from the windows of the house fixing his gun, Harry, who was reading, all of a sudden got up and said: "Oh, I think he is going to shoot me." Witness said, that's just imagination. This had seemed to calm him. The brother's condition, she said, she had discussed with her parents. It was obvious that he was getting worse.

Mrs. Smith told the court Harry's explanation on having come in soaking wet on the Sunday afternoon. He had said that Jack Martin's soul had called to him and he wanted to get to the same place where he had been drowned off a steamer to see if he could find him. Harry had come in, the girl said, with the ball of his foot badly cut. Previous witnesses had said that accused had taken off his shoes and socks and walked four miles in his bare feet over a rough shore.

ALIENIST ON STAND
Dr. J. O. MacKay, New Westminster, mental specialist for 21 years, now conducting the Hollywood Sanatorium (continued on page five)