

**THE DAILY NEWS**  
PRINCE RUPERT - BRITISH COLUMBIA

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**POLICING THE CITY**

For the first time in at least two years police affairs have now been mentioned in connection with a civic campaign. Affairs have been carried on in an orderly manner and very little criticism was heard except from an occasional law-breaker.

Now the policing of the city is again being thrown into the political cauldron and doubtless will be referred to at various times. What citizens will want to know is exactly what objection opponents of the present system have. Is the present policing too lax or too severe? Do people wish to revert to the wide open town days of a few years ago? Is it the desire of the citizens that there should be local control with all its evils?

Before Prince Rupert people are willing to make a change they will doubtless want to be shown a very good reason. Possibly it is the matter of cost that is the fault. We are told that the present system is cheaper than the old, but we are ready to be corrected.

If the policing of the city is to be made a civic issue, as it apparently is, there will have to be a good deal of comparing of the present with the past and it will be impossible wholly to avoid personalities, perhaps. At any rate, full information must be supplied if the matter is to be made an issue.

**SICKNESS INSURANCE**

The fishermen at their convention this week suggested a system of monthly payments which would give them the right to free treatment in the hospital. This is rather difficult. It is usually found that the payments are soon neglected and the people who need the relief most are the ones who fail to make the payments.

When an industry is controlled by a large company, it is customary to enforce the payment of hospital and doctor's fees on a monthly basis and it works out to the benefit of all concerned.

A state system of sickness insurance is possibly the best method of dealing with the matter, but there have been a great many social movements of this kind of late and the better plan probably is to go slowly and let those systems work out well first and then add one by one other social improvements. Unemployment and sickness insurance is becoming a live issue in some parts of Canada and doubtless will be dealt with before very long.

**FISHERMEN'S ORGANIZATION**

The salmon fishermen of the city have an organization which met this week in the city and discussed a number of very important matters pertaining to their calling. Many of these men are isolated a good deal during the fishing season and it is an excellent thing for them to get together during the off periods and discuss matters of common interest.

Objection is sometimes taken to the stand taken by the fishermen and to the methods they adopt in their unions, but it must be remembered that the livelihood of the fishermen is all-important to them. Anything which seems likely to interfere with that is opposed by them.

The method of trying to control the sale to a particular company of all the catch of union members is another matter for which they are criticized. It has been suggested that this is really an organization in restraint of trade and as such is illegal. Of that we know nothing, but we do feel there are other things to consider than just the extra few cents obtained at the moment. Take the Cold Storage Company as an example. That company has been the means of centring the fishing industry at this point. It usually steps in and buys when nobody else will buy. It caters to the needs of districts not looked after by any others. In the past the salmon fishermen have often had no other market but the Cold Storage. Anything in the nature of a boycott against such an institution is not in the interests of the fishermen, for if it went out of business they would suffer. To try to sell all the output to any one company is to destroy the competitive market and eventually result in lower prices. We have no brief for any one concern, but see danger in trying to use an organization as a club to injure any.

**MAYORALTY CAMPAIGN IS OPENED**

Newton, Prudhomme and Casey Address Meeting of Ratepayers at Seal Cove

Two mayoralty candidates—Ex-Mayor S. M. Newton and Ald. A. J. Prudhomme—addressed a meeting of the Ratepayers' Association last night in Seal Cove School. Ex-Ald. George B. Casey, aldermanic candidate, was also heard at the meeting which was presided over by Robert McKay, president of the association. For about two hours, municipal affairs were discussed, a number of suggestions being made whereby it was felt the financial position of the city might be improved. Ald. C. H. Orme, the third mayoralty candidate, having another engagement, was not able to be present but sent his regrets and expressed the hope that he would be able to meet the association at one of its later meetings.

In opening the meeting, Robert McKay urged that members be more active in the discussion of municipal affairs. Candidates for civic office, he declared, were wont to solicit votes on the promise that they would give a business administration. Too often, he regretted, these promises were forgotten immediately the candidates were elected and there was lack of business administration. He decried the policy of transacting all the city's business in committee behind closed doors and having everything out and dried at the council meetings. The result was that the public could obtain no information about the city's business. Even the annual financial report of the city was unsatisfactory. The speaker criticized the number of "miscellaneous items" in the financial report. He urged that costs of various work be segregated so it might be possible to keep a constant check on what various pieces of work were costing. Mr. McKay thought it was also unfair for the council to call for tenders and after it had received information, reject the tenders. He suggested that a separate telephone account be kept by the city so it might be known whether departments' surpluses which were regularly reported were real or merely paper surpluses.

Ex-Ald. G. B. Casey, the next speaker, acknowledged the presence of visitors from uptown at the meeting. During the last two or three years, it appeared that there were three city councils instead of one. Each committee seemed to be a power in itself and when recommendations were presented to the council, there was nothing to do but accept them. All the city business was transacted behind closed doors and the public knew nothing of it. Instead of aldermen being exclusively responsible for the affairs of one department, he believed that each should be equally responsible for all the city's business.

**His Own Record**

As for himself, Mr. Casey stated that he had had ten years' experience on the council. He had never been a mummy or afraid of his own convictions though he did not say that he may not have made mistakes too. After submitting a suggestion whereby the city might dispose of property now reverted for taxation, Mr. Casey stated that he was opposed to the present method of getting out the telephone directory, by which he declared business men were held up for advertising, and that he would seek, if elected, to have the book turned out as it had been done before.

Ex-Mayor S. M. Newton had no hesitation in endorsing the civic zeal which was displayed by the association. If there was more earnestness throughout the city and more co-operation of this kind on the part of the citizens it would rebound to the welfare of the whole community. It would be easier for the council to solve perplexing questions coming before it and there would be a better understanding all around. He stood for a policy of consulting with the ratepayers' associations.

Speaking of roadway and other requests that had been made by this association, Mr. Newton stated that, if it were possible to finance them, he would be in favor of meeting these requests. He saw no reason why next year's council should deny the much needed road on the east side of Hays Creek to the dry dock and the new fishermen's floats. Execution of work would, of course, have to be contingent on the work being approved by the inspector of municipalities and the city being in a financial position to carry it out. Unfortunately, he was informed that the city's financial position was none too rosy now. Resubmission of bylaws which had been rejected last year would help some in relieving the situation.

Ald. Prudhomme stated that he had not come to give a campaign speech but merely to get acquainted with the people at this end of town. He congratulated the association on its interest in civic affairs. He believed in a policy of municipal finance where over-expenditure would be avoided. Some program should be formulated where it would not be necessary to impose taxes of 45 or 50 mills in addition to the proceeds of the hydro-electric sale.

Ald. Prudhomme referred to the difficulty he himself had had in obtaining information as to civic

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affairs. However, if he were elected mayor, he felt that citizens would be able to go to the city hall and find out what any one piece of work was costing. He had fought for a better accounting system by means of which it would be possible to learn what was being spent and how much work was costing. This did not mean that he was in favor of having more help in the City Hall. As a matter of fact he believed that the staff could be reorganized whereby the work would cost less and there would be better results. Next year, on account of the financial position, the city would have to exercise care in the carrying out of work. However, local improvement work could not be denied if it was properly petitioned for, the property could stand the cost and the municipal inspector gave his approval. The road to the dry dock and the fishermen's floats he considered a necessity even if it had to be paid for out of general fund.

**What City Needs**

"One of the big things we need," declared Ald. Prudhomme "is a

good practical man at the head of the city—a man who can go out on a job and tell just whether or not that work is being done properly and economically." He was not in favor of contract work generally for the city. There were so many little jobs for which the city had equipment and which a contractor could not be expected to carry out as cheaply. That, of course, was providing the city had the right kind of a man at the head of the public works department.

Though he had received little co-operation from the rest of the council, Mr. Prudhomme felt that conditions regarding the public works department were much better than they had been previously and for that he felt he was justified in claiming at least a little credit. He made no suggestion of fraud or anything of the like but claimed merely that there had been poor management at times. Ex-Mayor resented any criticism that might be made of the city auditor. All members of the council were equally responsible and he would be surprised if any misexpenditures could be shown.

At the close of the meeting, a resolution was passed thanking Ald. Prudhomme and Ex-Mayor Newton for their attendance. The Prince Rupert-Peace River yell, led by T. Ross Mackay, was given before the gathering dispersed.

**Is Unable to Be Candidate**

J. E. Boddie Asks Ratepayers' Association to Relieve Him From Entering Aldermanic Field

J. E. Boddie, who was nominated recently by Rupert East Ratepayers' Association to be one of its aldermanic candidates at the next civic election, announced at last night's meeting of the association that he

**A High Average**



An Englishman, travelling in Canada for the first time, asked the porter "what is the average tip in this country?"

"De average tip in this country, Sur, am one dollar!"

In the morning the Englishman gave him a dollar.

"Thank you, Sur," said the dandy, "you am the first gentleman which has ever come up to de average."

It's a great thing to keep up the average. The average of the Marguerite has always been high—and always maintained. I know—for I've smoked Marguerites for years.

*The Colonel*

**TUCKETTS MARGUERITE**  
FOIL-WRAPPED BUT STILL 10c

had found it would be impossible for him to give the necessary time to civic work and, therefore, he asked to be relieved of candidature. The association complied with Mr. Boddie's request, expressing its regret that he had found it impossible to stand. It is likely his place on the east end ticket will be taken by Fred Wesch.



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