

An independent daily newspaper devoted to the upbuilding of Prince Rupert and Northern and Central British Columbia.
Member of Canadian Press—Audit Bureau of Circulations
Canadian Daily Newspaper Association.
B. A. HUNTER, Managing Editor; H. G. PERRY, Managing Director
SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
By carrier, per week, 20c; per month, 75c; per year, \$8.00; by mail, per month, 75c; per year, \$9.00.
Published every afternoon except Sunday by
Prince Rupert Daily News Ltd., 3rd Avenue, Prince Rupert.

The Telephone Question

EVERYBODY must agree on the need for better and more adequate telephone service in Prince Rupert. We all know that the present outfit is not only entirely inadequate for the demands but is antiquated, decrepit and falling apart. So there is a strong case justifying the obtaining of a new, larger and up-to-date telephone system in Prince Rupert.

The city council has a new proposition for telephone replacement whereby a company would install free of charge a temporary board providing 500 additional telephones on the undertaking that the city would purchase a new automatic system from the company in about three years.

It is a very interesting proposition. Yet it is very desirable that there should be some more definite idea of what the additional system would cost and what the city is letting itself in for.

Before there can be an intelligent vote on a referendum further information should be forthcoming.

It would be easy enough to accept the offer which has been made by the company but, by so doing, at least a moral obligation would be incurred to go through with the rest of the deal. The city might feel itself safeguarded by the thought that it would be able to turn down a money bylaw when it came to authorizing the cash for the payment part of the deal. But it would be hardly playing ball to accept the gift and then refuse the quid pro quo which would be at least tacitly implied. And, further, the city might well become involved from a legal standpoint.

Of course, the plebiscite would not commit the council to a line of action but there does not seem to be much point in even getting an expression of opinion on such an ephemeral proposition.

Certainly we need a telephone system but we should go about getting it in a businesslike way. And until this plebiscite can be presented in a businesslike way, the city should withhold the reference.

Were You Missed in 1951 Enumeration?

The Daily News check on the 1951 census, which is being challenged for its short count of 8,465, is revealing established city residents who were missed by the enumerators.

They are from all parts of the city. People who were missed are being asked to communicate the omission with as little delay as possible so that basis may be established for the contention that there was such a serious short count.

DAILY NEWS CENSUS CHECK

A federal census taker did NOT call at my home and I have checked with each member of my family to make sure.

There are persons in my family.

..... (signature)

..... (address)

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Saskatchewan Independent Video Urged

Rich in Uranium
GOLDFIELDS, Sask. (CP)—This one-time gold-rush centre, situated in the far north of Saskatchewan, may once again become a mining boom town. But it won't be the glitter of gold dust that attracts interest. This time uranium holds the spotlight.

Officials of the Saskatchewan Resources Department say that without undue optimism, responsible mining men are looking for Goldfields to eclipse anything that gold once made it. In fact, the rocky, forested region, on the north side of Lake Athabasca, bids fair to become an important world source of uranium—the precious radioactive material used in the development of atomic power.

A large, permanent mining layout has been established by the federal Eldorado Mining Company on its extensive property in the area. Eldorado, after spending millions of dollars on exploration and development, will be in production next year. It is also expected that soon after Eldorado begins production, many other mines, comparatively nearby, will come into production. This summer it was definitely established that there are a number of possible mines in the region.

The Charlebois-Spreckley lakes district in the north is the most recently discovered uranium area. Reported results of this area are sufficiently encouraging to stimulate capital expenditure in the near future.

BIG CONCENTRATIONS

Dr. J. B. Mawdsley, head of the University of Saskatchewan geology department, has said the Charlebois-Spreckley Yakes regions possess "phenomenal concentrations of uranium."

The area north of Lac la Ronge—which has a highway link with Prince Albert—has been the scene of a number of other radio-active finds but more work will be needed before commercial possibilities can be determined.

Out of all this has come a unique development. Plans have been drawn up for a model mining town to be appropriately named Uranium City.

The townsite, 10 miles from Goldfields, has been laid out and predictions have been made that—very soon—there will be 5,000 persons living there.

Uranium City will be in striking contrast to mining towns of the past. There will be no uncontrolled shack growth, without reference to a general town plan. Nor will there be any unsanitary near-slim district.

Instead, Uranium City will be carefully laid out with numerous modern conveniences.

RECRUITS FOR WOODS

PRINCE ALBERT, Sask. (CP)—More than 500 men in northern Saskatchewan have signed contracts to spend the winter working in the timber in northwestern Ontario.

MONTREAL (CP)—Establishment of an independent regulatory body for Canada's radio and television was favored two to one Wednesday in discussion of the Massey report.

In favor were Stuart M. Finlayson, president of the Canadian Marconi Co., and Hugh M. Crombie, president of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association.

They took part in a panel discussion on radio and television recommendations of the Massey Commission.

Their stand in the discussion was opposed by R. C. Fraser of Toronto, director of press and information services for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

ray.. Reflects and Reminisces

Old age pensioners are expected to spend at least part of each year in British Columbia. Is there any place much better, no matter what age?

Hitler's solitary retreat, high in the Bavarian Alps is about to be torn down. For many a year it has been a favorite tourist resort. It was there Der Fuehrer received the marvellous intuitions that caused him to commit suicide, and hanged a dozen of his chief lieutenants.

SOME TO SPARE?

Twenty minutes is long enough for a speech by the average Parliamentary member says the Federal member for Fraser Valley, Mr. Cruickshank's suggestion deserves support. Study hard, and keep tabs on the length of time it takes to listen to someone speaking for twenty minutes. Between the two you may be converted.

The Russians are not rationed on beef. They just don't have any.

Before the grain elevator, which will have a busy enough winter at Prince Rupert, was ever built, it was a subject of controversy. This was way back in 1925. A casual ramble through the local press file shows that to be true enough. According to what one read, the plant would be fully occupied because it was needed. We never suspected it.

SPEAKING OF COSTS

When notice of another rise in living costs is given out, most of us think of table fare, clothing and shelter. But that isn't all—not by the proverbial jugful. Narcotic addicts, and Vancouver is said to have a thousand, are among the victims. Before the last war, from \$1 to \$1.50 would buy five grains. Today the cost is close to \$5 for the same.

As I See It



by
Elmore
Philpott

Egypt's Earth Shakes

A FEW months ago I paused briefly in Ismailia, the city on the Suez Canal where violent clashes have just occurred between British patrols and Egyptian police.

It was a cleaner, neater spot than I had expected to find. The relationship between the British troops and the native peoples seemed friendly, and I particularly noticed how well schooled the soldiers appeared to be. That is, there was none of arrogance that was once a feature of such military occupations.

In my brief stay in Egypt I did not get any impression that there was hatred of Englishmen, or westerners, as people. Everybody I met was kind and friendly. But I did find a tremendous feeling of restlessness—a sort of shaking of the earth.

IT SEEMED to me that the people of all the Mohammedan part of the earth were in the mood for big changes. But they had no political tools to work with—there were no political parties which were giving the people any really honest political education, or sincere leadership.

The two world wars taught the people of the brown skinned part of the earth that they can manage some of the white man's machines just as well as can a white man.

The Arab automobile drivers in Cairo, for instance, literally rush about like mad. They seemed to me to derive an actual joy out of the feeling of speed.

About all they know politically is that the white man is better off than the brown man—and they do not think that such need be so. What has the white man got that we haven't got—they ask themselves.

One by one some answers come to more and more of them—something like this:

1. The white people actually govern their own countries. Our countries are still governed,

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directly or indirectly, by foreigners—and those foreigners are westerners, or white men.
2. Where people in the west become wealthy they use their wealth to build factories which increase the total product of their countries and so make more prosperity for everybody—but in Egypt and all the similar Islamic countries wealthy people hoard their wealth to spend it on luxurious living only for themselves.

One bulldozer would have done the whole job better and quicker. But failing a proper social plan to handle the bulldozer, and employ the men, merely to bring it in to throw the poor workers out of jobs would add to their misery.
It's an illustration of what the Middle East needs most—a modern social plan. If we don't help them get one, let's not fool ourselves—Uncle Joe will.

WHEREVER you have a symbol of foreign wealth, power, or privilege—like the Anglo-Persian Oil company in Persia or the British army of occupation on the Suez canal—you have a ready-made target against which the wily local wealthy people can divert the resentment of the masses away from themselves.

In all such lands the most important social problem is the land question. In nearly every Mohammedan country of the Middle East a few rich landlords own all the land, which is worked by poor tenants or day laborers who barely manage to stay alive.

In Egypt many of the tenant farm families live in small mud houses and their total family income is less than one dollar per week.

I SAW thousands of Egyptian day laborers cleaning out the muck from an irrigation canal. They were in human chain gangs about twenty men to a crew. The man in the middle of the canal would reach down under the muddy water and take two handfuls of the goo. He would hand the slithering goo to his mate—and the disappearing load would pass from man to man till what was left finally it reached the

Intimate of Presidents Die

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. (CP)—John Wood Bldgett, millionaire lumberman and philanthropist, died Wednesday at a palatial estate here at the age of 91. He had been the intimate of six presidents.

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P.R. Taxi Owners' Association

TAXIS—653, 123, 80, 112, 65, 537, 32, 77, 349, 70, 456, 646, 235, 75, 67, 555

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