

Independent daily newspaper devoted to the upbuilding of Prince Rupert and Northern and Central British Columbia.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
Member of Canadian Press - Audit Bureau of Circulations
Canadian Daily Newspaper Association

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Carrier, Per Week, 20c; Per Month, 75c; Per Year, \$8.00
By Mail, Per Month, 75c; Per Year, \$8.00

Published every afternoon except Sunday by
Prince Rupert Daily News Ltd., 3rd Avenue, Prince Rupert.

Protest Justified

WHILE closing of the government agency at Stewart will further concentrate provincial administrative matters of the north country at Prince Rupert, we can sympathize with the people of Stewart in making their protest at the closing of the agency. Prince Rupert may stand to derive some small benefit from the fact that certain administrative and consultative business will henceforth have to be carried out from the local agency. At the same time, it may involve some inconvenience and loss of time and money for the people of Portland Canal district.

Closing the agency at Stewart, which has been located there since being moved from Anyox years ago, leaves Atlin constituency with only one government agency—at Atlin in the far north. This, of course, too far removed and indirect of access to prove of any use to such communities as Stewart and Anyox which may increase in importance as mining centres.

Few Bad Accidents

THIS line of the Canadian National Railways, which has had a fairly fortunate career as far as serious accidents are concerned, although there have been a few unfortunate incidents at pretty well spread out periods, might well have had a serious mishap but the eastbound passenger train Monday night was fortunate in having only two unoccupied cars struck by a rockslide. Had the engine or occupied passenger cars been hit, there might have been tragic consequences. It was an act of Providence that the damage and delay were so light.

Danger always lurks in more or less degree along the railway lines, particularly those through rugged country like this. The fact that there are so few accidents is a tribute to the vigilance and care of the men who guard and keep up the maintenance of way.

Scripture Passage for Today

"We shall not all sleep, but we shall be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye."—1 Cor. 15:51-52.

SPRY OCTOGENARIAN LAKENHEATH, Suffolk, Eng.—Eighty-four-year-old Tom Brown, who keeps himself in the fit by putting his feet round the police to deal with a new menace on his hands, has challenged any old-age pensioner to hand-walking contest.

SLING SHOT MENACE LONDON (CP)—Managers of motion picture theatres in London suburbs have called in the police to deal with a new menace on their screens by shooting iron staples at them.



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As I See It



by
Elmore Philpott

SOUTHERN LADY CITY

MADRAS, India— I FELL IN love with a beautiful lady today, and again it was at first sight. This time it was with a city—Madras.

When I landed at Delhi, I had a feeling of anti-climax. True, the place was colorful enough, and there is a vast treasure house of human interest in the bazaars, with their teeming millions.

But somehow or other it was not till I got to Madras that I felt that THIS was really the India of which I had dreamed since I was a boy.

I HAD BEEN WARNED TO BEWARE of Madras heat. A genial young newspaperman from Madras had told me in Delhi:

"In Madras, we have only three seasons: Hot, hotter and hottest."

Yet when we deplaned at about 2 p.m. there was a nice breeze blowing. They also have great rows of shade trees in this lively city and, of course, as fine a stretch of sea beach as there is anywhere on earth.

IN MY BRIEF STAY IN MADRAS I met many fine people. Cheeseman, a New Zealander who works for our Canadian Massed-Harris, and who says that what India needs most of all is training in simple mechanics.

Also J. A. Borron, an old-time British information officer, as hard-bitten a character as I have met in a long time—but unless I miss my guess, 100 percent honest even when it hurts himself and others.

Borron disputes the main thesis, advanced by visiting agricultural experts from Western countries. Suppose India adopted American plowing techniques, and turned up 12 or 13 inches of soil, instead of scratching about half that depth. With the torrential rains and later scorching winds, the top soil would simply blow away. Already erosion is a major problem in India. With more deep plowing (and falling elaborate anti-erosion measures) India would face agricultural catastrophe.

As I myself have seen Saskatchewan top soil literally blowing away in farms-full, I would be the last to scoff at this rugged, down-to-earth old-timer in India.

I MET ALSO SEVERAL OF the key people on the fine newspaper, The Hindu, of Madras, including the distinguished editor, Kasturi Srinivasan. The press of India is of a very high calibre—on the whole, better than ours in America, especially in international coverage.

The Hindu boasts that it has only once run a heading bigger than one column. That was to report the news of the murder of Gandhi.

They print in an ultra-modern plant, like our best ones at home. They run ads on Page One, English style, including movie publicity in two extra colors.

We chatted a while about the world situation, then laughingly the editor told me: "If Canada really wants to improve relations with India, let her sell us more newsprint."

Next to food, newsprint is the scarcest commodity in India.

TWO OF THE ASSISTANT EDITORS chatted about Canadian politics. One wanted to know all about the CCF in Canada, and mentioned Mr. Coldwell by name. I was surprised at their knowledge.

All the reporters are university graduates—many have MA degrees. They get about 200 rupees per month—but though the rate is 4.45 rupees to the Canadian dollar—one rupee here buys about as much as a dollar does at home.

Linotype operators get about 90 to 100 rupees per month, plus cost-of-living bonus, which brings it up to about 140 rupees. They work seven hours a day, six days a week.

BUT MY BEST NEW FRIEND, discovered in Madras, was young M. S. Venkataramani, a staff reporter on The Hindu, who had learned from a friend in Delhi of my visit. "Ramani" is a young married man in his 20's who hopes to come to America next year on one of those newspaper fellowships.

It was he who told me more about India than I had learned in my previous stay in this country. Above all, he explained to me that it was the women of India, and not the men, who



THE POOR RELATION—Arch Dale in the Winnipeg Free Press.—(CP PHOTO)

LETTERBOX

LANDLORD AND TENANT

The Editor, Daily News:

The article in Monday's paper on the postponement of the Provincial and Federal housing project which was under consideration for Prince Rupert didn't exactly make things very hilarious for those unfortunate tenants who are paying between \$75 and \$125 a month for a house of any size, description or condition. Before the postponement there seemed to be a flicker of hope for us but now even that has disappeared. It just seems that every time we get our heads above water someone pushes it back under.

My husband and I are paying \$75 a month for five rooms and bath furnished with the bare essentials and not a great deal of them. The walls are scarred with ugly black marks. Wall paper has been stained badly with the dampness. Mattresses are also stained with mishaps of the children of previous tenants. The oilcloth on the floor is cracked and worn. Our one piece of furniture in the front room never fails to bring apologies from myself whenever we have guests as the springs are badly broken and creak and groan at weight of an average person. The lighting is very poor and at the point of being dangerous as one of the switches blows blue smoke when the switch is pulled. (The landlord was shown it but did nothing.) The wind blows the clothes line down. We hear tapping on our window and find Papa landlord outside waiting to tell my husband to put it up. The cartage company uncrates the furniture, leaving the lumber on the lawn, so over again comes Papa to inform us that it may hurt the grass if it isn't picked up right away. Next, a limb of one of the lilac bushes became broken. It was made plain to us that it must not happen again. It seems at the least little thing there was one member of the family knocking at our door.

There is such a thing as getting used to it, but when they

were the backbone against the Westernization of this land. "They have never adopted a single custom from the West." He explained to me the Hindu woman's greatest ambition was to be "sumangali," that is, happily wed to a living husband.

REGROUP RAILWAYS NEW DELHI (CP)—The South India, Madras and Southern Maratha and Mysore railways will be amalgamated and known as the Southern Railway. This is the first move taken in the Central Advisory Council of Railways plan to regroup Indian lines.

AT TENANT.

AT TENANT.

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Navy League is Meeting Again

An evening with the Navy will be enjoyed tomorrow night when another meeting of the local branch of the Navy League of Canada will be held to elect an active executive with a view to reviving Prince Rupert's "Captain Cook" Sea Cadet Corps. As a prelude to the meeting there will be a showing of the naval film "In Which We serve."

STEAMER

Prince Rupert

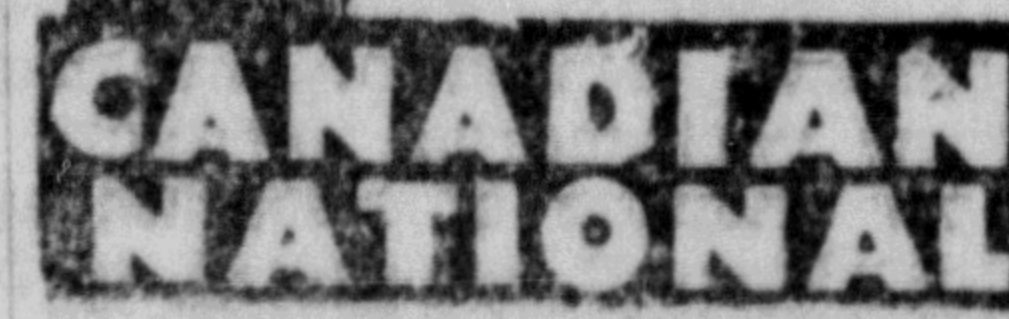
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HERE and NOW

(It is the democratic privilege of the people in this country to express their opinions and views on matters which concern their community and country. Through this column, a new feature of the Daily News, the people of Prince Rupert will be given the opportunity to exercise this right by answering a direct question.)

Question of the day:
"ARE CITY MOTORISTS GOOD DRIVERS?"

Answers:

Mrs. A. S. Hamilton, 940 Ambrose Avenue, motorist, housewife—"Yes, I think they are. The average driver shows courtesy on the road and obeys the rules."
Jim Warner, 646 Fulton Street, truck driver—"Generally they are, but there's always the fellow who doesn't use his head, and is

a hazard to other drivers to think of it, there are a few of them."
Mrs. L. Schwab, housewife, 1380 Grosvenor—"I don't think they are. They don't think about walking. And they drive on these streets."
R. W. Keays, 818 1/2 Avenue East—"The average driver in Prince Rupert is quite careful and obeys the rules. Of course, there are so many chances to make a mistake here as in a big city."
L. K. Barslow, motorist—"I was nearly killed as a pedestrian in a big city. I was nearly killed on my main street walking at an intersection. I see any cars stop for pedestrians."

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