

# Prince Rupert Daily News

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## Red Cross Night

THIS is Red Cross night in Prince Rupert. Porch lights are expected to be left on at every dwelling place. Householders are being asked to have their subscriptions ready and they are asked to make them as generous as possible.

The good work of the Red Cross is too well known to need detailed expounding. The worthiness of its appeal is amply established.

Prince Rupert people are noted for the generosity of their response to good causes—their compassionate understanding and spontaneity of their appreciation.

Prince Rupert can be counted upon to hold up its end once again.

Short of war time, there was never an occasion when the Red Cross organization seemed more important.

## Spring Planning

THE TAG END of winter is always dull and uninteresting and much too long. We're anxious to see the sun for more than half a day at a time, and to proclaim the first bud on the bough, the first green shoot in the garden, the first robin on the wing. Such bright symbols herald the approach of spring.

One of the best remedies to banish the mood of depression which usually accompanies this period of waiting is to plan. An intriguing pastime, and a profitable one, is to work out a painting plan and a color scheme for the exterior of the house.

Many people plan a summer vacation, lingering long over the gaily colored travel folders, maps and hotel and tourist information. It's always a busy season for the gardener too. He's consulting seed catalogues, reading up the latest information on weed killers, sprays and fertilizers, and planning flowerbeds.

But in this drab season color will act as the best stimulant and all you need in the initial planning stage is a few color cards and a free imagination.

## Inflation

IF CANADIANS insist on scrambling for the available supply of goods and services they may well "bid prices up to fantastic levels with all the attendant hardships and injustices."

This warning is contained in a special report on inflation issued by the executive council of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce. Various methods of combatting the menace are listed.

Inflation constitutes one of the greatest fears of Canadians, apart from war itself, and facts brought to light in the study should serve to give Canadians a more intelligent understanding of the problem and to drive home the importance of our individual roles in resisting powerful inflationary pressures.

The report urges Canadians to realize that in spite of buoyant incomes there are going to be relatively fewer peacetime things to purchase. Since this constitutes the root cause of rising prices, the problem can be solved only by "preventing excessive purchasing power from being spent." Direct controls do not provide the answer, because they do not strike at the root cause of inflation but only at its symptoms. At the same time, some controls might be necessary to allocate scarce materials to the most essential uses.



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## As I See It



by  
Elmore  
Philpott

## FARIDABAD SHOWS INDIA

NEW DELHI, India.—In London, the secretary of the 40 MP's who are on the all-party committee organizing for world government said to me:

"When you get to India, be sure and see Mrs. Chattapadhyay—she's a key person."

Dr. Anup Singh, recently returned to India from his UN job in Korea, introduced us. I already knew that Mrs. (Kamala Devi) Chattapadhyay was one of the main figures in the Socialist Party in India. But I did not know about her pet project—Faridabad.

FARIDABAD IS A Brand new settlement about 25 miles south of Delhi. Into this sandy waste land, for all the world like the dry belt prairies in Canada, came some 32,000 refugees from the extreme Northwest Frontier, now part of Pakistan.

The difference between these refugees and the other millions that were uprooted is that these were exmerchants. They were not farmers nor city craftsmen—all business men and their families.

The government gave them army tents and emergency rations. But then Kamala Devi Chattapadhyay and her socially-minded colleagues got busy. The new government of India voted funds for construction projects—but all on a strict self-sustaining basis. The government would help the people to help themselves.

But how could the people help themselves?

The answer, as given at Faridabad, was "co-operative."

IF THE PROOF OF THE pudding is in the eating, Faridabad looks like the proof that co-operative can supply the answer to much of India's social problem.

The organizers of Faridabad started off on the principle that the people should be helped to get themselves out of tents and into houses.

But there were no houses. To have houses, you have to have brick, or some other good material. There were no bricks.

So the first move was to start making brick. Now there are 14 brick kilns working full speed ahead. No less than 3000 of the required number of 5000 homes have already been built—all by people who had never done a tap of such manual work in their lives. The whole township is laid out on a good plan. There are few trees as yet—but the community has its own nursery to grow them. But the little houses stand neat and inviting looking. They are four-room affairs, brick base, but plastered over on the outside. One of the four rooms is a bathroom.

Total cost of the homes is just over 1800 rupees—roughly \$400. The people who help build them get wages for doing so. The homes are bought on a 30-year plan—which means that the monthly charge is about 11 rupees (say \$2.55) per month.

It must be remembered that wages are also low—the people get about two rupees per day—not per hour; that is less than 50 cents. That means that two

## Mass Protest At Premiums

Hospital Insurance Hike And Failure to Change I.C.A. Arouses Fish Workers

Shoreworkers' local of the United Fishermen's and Allied Workers' Union, at a meeting Thursday night, endorsed the action of the executive in sending a protest to Victoria at the failure of the Legislature to reopen the Industrial Conciliation Act.

The fishermen's local of the same Union earlier in the week having taken similar action, the shoreworkers' union also protested against the increase in hospital insurance premiums and proposed that there should be a mass provincial protest. This will be advocated by delegates to the annual convention of the U.F. and A.W.A. which is about to be held in Vancouver.

Delegates to the Vancouver convention—R. L. Gardiner and J. Cazes, who left for the south on Saturday's plane—received their final instructions.

Last year Canadian labor received a record-breaking \$8,000,000,000.



MADAME SPEAKER—Although the British Columbia Legislature has been presided over by a woman—Mrs. Nancy Hodges—since January, 1950, no woman ever occupied the speaker's chair in the Ontario Legislature until last Thursday. Miss Agnes MacPhail, first woman member of the House of Commons, now CCF member of the provincial legislature for York East, became acting speaker at the invitation of Speaker Rev. M. C. Davies. (CP PHOTO)

or more members of each family must work.

THE FARIDABAD settlers are, frankly, not good farmers. So the main emphasis is to find them suitable industrial employment.

The Bata shoe people are building a big factory on the outskirts, and have contracted to employ 50 percent of their employees from Faridabad.

They have also contracted to take all sorts of secondary materials from small co-operatives.

There are 24 separate co-operatives working—even the tiny donkeys which carry stone on their backs are organized into a co-op.

The guiding genius in all this is a slim, young man from Bombay—S. C. Kheirsagar, who wears a white shirt and what

looks like a white skirt. For quiet efficiency this fellow is really tops.

Yes, it was quite a task when he got there, he says. The trouble was to get people to work with their hands when they had never worked with their hands before.

ANYWAY, THERE STANDS Faridabad. It has been done. All the people, without exception, are off the government doles. The schools teach 100 percent of the children. There are clubs and cultural activities. New small industrial co-ops are opening all the time (latest, button factory). A small power plant is operating, and a bigger one is being built. All this will cost the taxpayers of India nothing—except an original loan of credit.

## ray..

## Reflects and Reminisces

Prince Rupert's economic rebirth is getting Vancouver down. She learns of northern progress but not without annoyance. Yet, there can be noted an attitude of admission, something akin to the acknowledgement of a natural law even though not entirely welcome.

Comes word of a consuming interest which is natural enough. Every forward step in the affairs of the Cellulose Corporation, and Aluminum is followed with avid eagerness. But this time, Vancouver is not the core—not the heart—of what is destined to reach immense proportions. She may be near but not in.

There was once a time when light railery from the south rewarded Prince Rupert's earnest industrial efforts. Usually, a bit of banter provided equal amusement. There were occasions when the seeming drudgery seen in years of uphill battle led to a feeling of impatience. To be called by a proud city a few hundred miles distant "that Siwash village" could carry a sting.

Ah well! Other times, other practices. Vancouver realizes the time for trying to assume overlordship from the Fraser to the Peace Rivers has gone. Big business is beholding opportunities and assets in parts of British Columbia other than what must be found a few hours from Hastings Street.

The coast—all of it and more—comes into its own. Multitudes would be glad to dwell here. This land and her people are envied. As for the Doukhobors? British Columbia is sufficiently spacious to find room, even for them.

And so there is peace and goodwill as Vancouver's fresh snow accumulates, her March rainfalls gurgle and salty gas whistles. More harmony is hailed, as Prince Rupert's water pipes are thawed, her blue skies beam brightly and Shawatians think of applying for old age pension.

There will come a time when the question of parking will be-

come more of a problem even than it is today. Even now, with population of Prince Rupert comparatively small, finding space for the multiplying cars is gradually getting more vexatious. With the coming of Skeena of big business, more measures will have to be taken, or twenty thousand small, worn-out buildings will be replaced by modern blocks. This will lead to a larger number of offices, stores and drive, instead of using a bus. Today, in each area there is a parking lot. This serves the streets. This serves the town on Kalen Island.



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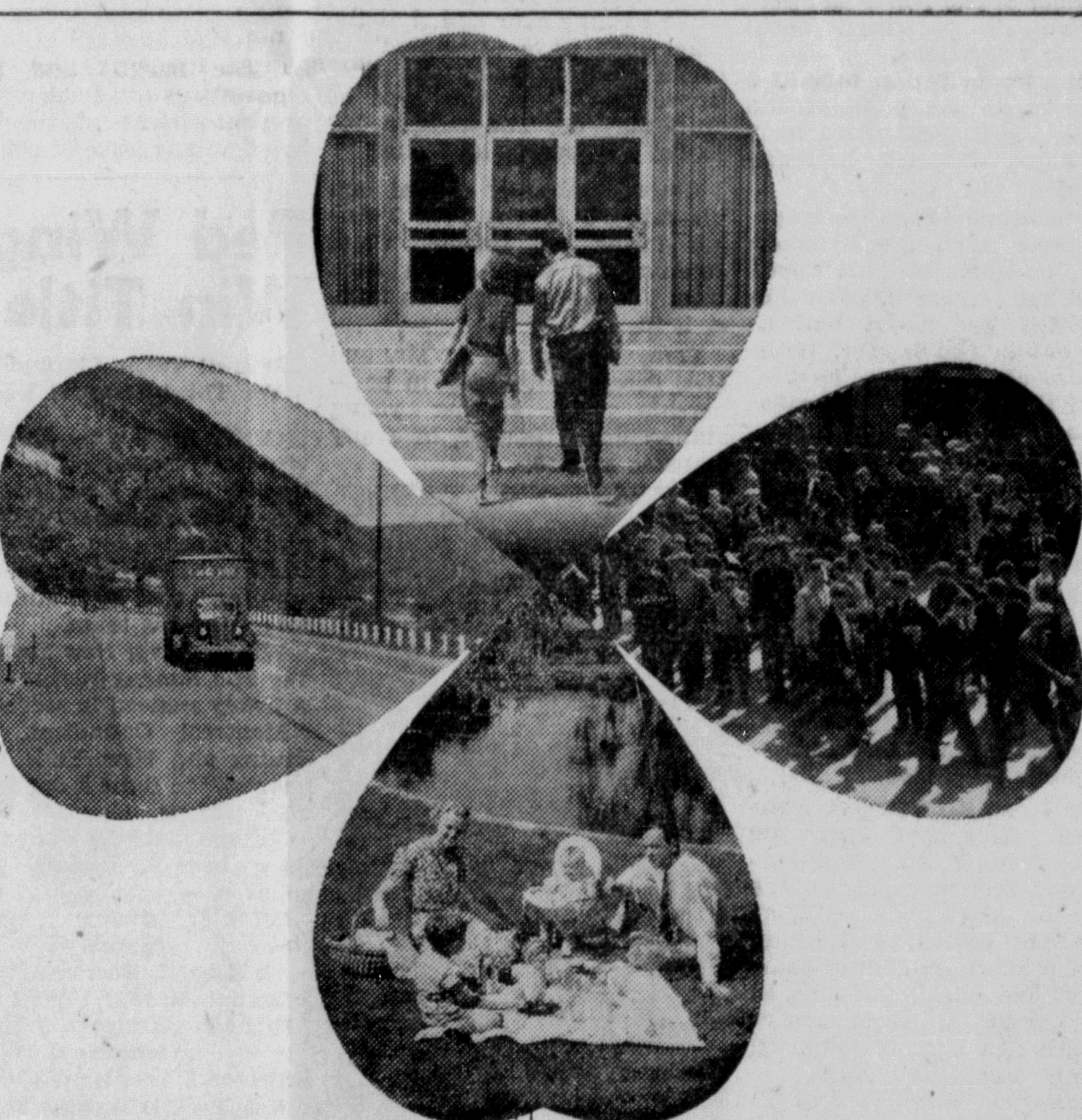
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