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R. C. Telford—Chief Forester.
Harold Lynum—Superintendent, Terrace Division.
R. O. Evans—Production Superintendent.
D. D. Carr-Harris—Supervisor of Engineers.
A. E. Mosher—Superintendent, Columbia Camp (Knutzemaaten).
Capt. B. R. Wilson—Marine Superintendent.
T. A. V. Tremblay—Superintendent, Skeena Division.
Gordon Morrison—Chief Engineer in the Steam Plant.
Gunnar Selvig—Wood Room Superintendent.
Mervin Martin—Technical Director.
C. S. Foreman—Purchasing Agent.

As I See It



by
Elmore
Philpott

GRETNA DEBUNKED

GRETNA GREEN, SCOTLAND.—My curiosity about Gretna Green was whetted when we were on the way north into the Scottish loch country. So I decided to take a little time out, on the way south, to look into the matter further. Here is what I found: Nobody in Gretna Green laments the closing down of the "irregular" marriage business, which persisted for centuries. In fact, the myths and legends about the old-time marriage centre are, as a tourist attraction, worth so much, or more, to the people of Gretna Green than was the old set-up.

WE HAVE ALL HEARD OF the Scotsman who got rich by making up jokes and songs, poking fun at the Scots themselves. Well, here is one better:

Not ten yards away from the famous "Blacksmith Shop," complete with anvil and all trimmings, where the runaway lovers were supposed to have had the bonds of matrimony forged with such speed, I bought a most erudite book called **IRREGULAR BORDER MARRIAGES**, published by Robert Dunwiddie & Co. of Dumfries. It represents 165 pages about Gretna Green which debunks many of the most widely-held ideas about the place.

But the chief fallacy which it exposes is that there ever was a blacksmith who performed the marriage ceremonies.

Considering the fact that the huge signs declare that such and such is the site of the original marrying blacksmith's shop; and also that a rollicking, red-faced Scotsman, in full kilt, was officiating at a mock marriage on the very anvil where so many were supposed to have been wed; and considering the fact that the company which operates the blacksmith shop also runs the book shop which debunks the blacksmith myth—the whole thing surely takes the haggis.

ACCORDING TO THE AUTHOR of this book, a very learned gentleman named Claverhouse, the whole idea behind the runaway marriages at Gretna (originally called Graitney) was a hoax anyway.

Under Scottish law, a man and woman could carry with complete legality with no more formality than to make a public declaration that they were wed.

The wedding was binding, and fully lawful, even if there were no witnesses—provided, if challenged, the principals could prove they had made the declaration.

APPARENTLY THE MYTH about the marrying blacksmith, or blacksmiths, just north of the Scottish border came from a musical play in London (not Scotland) in 1783. It was called "Gretna Green," was written by a Mr. Stuart and was a smash hit in the Haymarket Theatre. A newspaper report on the play states:

"The piece opens with a view of the farrier's shop, who is not only doctor of horses, doctor of physics, doctor of divinity, etc., but also the hymeneal god himself."

But in famous court cases, involving spurious self-styled "priests" who did most of the Gretna Green marrying, London big-shot lawyers persisted in referring to the marryers as "Mr. Blacksmith." The myth grew stronger and stronger. Finally, no professional marryer in Gretna could hope for much marrying business unless he displayed a sign showing a blacksmith forging the matrimonial bonds.

OVER THE CENTURIES there were thousands of runa-

Equalizing Logging Pay

Majority Report of Conciliation Board So Recommends

Majority report of a conciliation board between Columbia Cellulose Co. Ltd. and International Woodworkers of America, released on Saturday, recommended that loggers of Columbia Cellulose Co. employed in the Terrace district should be given the same pay and working conditions as provided in the coast contract. Paul B. Paine, Vancouver lawyer and chairman of the conciliation board, and Joseph Morris, Union representative, made the majority finding with James A. Macdonald, Vancouver barrister and company representative, dissenting. Union members were voting over the week-end on the conciliation board report which it was anticipated they would accept. The recommendation covers all employees of the company in logging, booming, making up of rafts and driving the rivers within a radius of three hundred miles of Prince Rupert. Company representatives claimed that operations east of the Cascades should be covered by the northern interior contract which has a lower scale. While Mr. Paine and Mr. Morris subscribed to the majority recommendation, Mr. Macdonald, in a minority report, recommended adoption of the conditions of the interior contract which became effective September 1, 1950, between the Northern Interior Lumbermen's Association and the loggers.

way marriages at Scottish border points; and as advertising pays, as well as a good business location, Gretna won out over all competitors. Many well-known names are on the list of those married there. They include even a Lord Chancellor of Scotland.

But the name that meant most to me was that of John Peel. He married "Bonnie Mary White" at Gretna in 1797. So from now on in any part of the world where I hear the BBC theme song come on, "Do Ye Ken John Peel, With His Coat of Red?" I guess I'll think of Gretna.

One can drive from the Columbia Cellulose mill at Prince Rupert to any point in North America. Most other B.C. pulp mills are inaccessible by highway with the outside world.

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ray..
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Out yonder at Watson Isle A plant, built in A-1 style Will open, you bet, Be it sunny or wet In a very, a very short while.

A lot of us may have come to Prince Rupert about forty years too soon but from this day forward, all healthy survivors will endeavor to forget it and look ahead instead of lingering in the past.

One of the missing diplomats, when posted in Washington, is said to have had a habit of driving his car like the devil. He did not appear to think eighty miles extra fast, but police officers did. When cautioned, he said he was protected by diplomatic immunity. A swift young man to have in his private keeping some of the great nations' top secrets.

Would Broadcast Popular Programs

Prince Rupert Chamber of Commerce is taking up further with E. T. Applewhaite, M.P., the possibility of having certain popular network programs of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation emitted from station CFPB here. The Chamber feels that agreement of the sponsors to pay line charges should not be entirely the governing factor but that the matter of public service should be taken into consideration.

PRINCE RUPERT TAXATION

Taxation at 65 mills is levied on 100% of land values and 50% of improvement values. The assessment roll 63.76% of the total assessment is represented by business and industrial owners. The principal industrial taxpayers are as follows:

- Canadian National Railway
- Prince Rupert Fishermen's Co-operative Association
- Canadian Fish and Cold Storage Co. Ltd.
- Northern British Columbia Power Co. Ltd.
- Atlin Fisheries Limited.

AFRICAN OUTPOST

Prince Edward Islands in the Antarctic were annexed by the Union of South Africa in 1947.

Railwayman is Heart Victim

A well known 61-year-old railway secretary died suddenly at 3 p.m. Sunday in the Killas-Christopher building. He was Harry Keith Small, private secretary to C. A. Berner superintendent of the Canadian National Railways, Prince Rupert. Mr. Small expired while visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Speers. He had been taking a Sunday afternoon walk and had mentioned feeling tired.

Firemen Mel Whattam and Jack Furness arrived within seconds of being called with inhalator equipment and attempted to revive the man. Attending physician thought death came through a coronary attack.

Mr. Small's only known survivor is a sister at Kelowna. He had been in Prince Rupert for eight years and with the CNR for 20 years. He was born in Nanaimo. Funeral arrangements will be announced.

Prince Rupert's industries include pulp, timber, fisheries, mining, railway shops and yards, dry dock, shipbuilding yards, grain shipping, abattoir, wholesale and retail trades. The pulp and fishing industries provide employment for some 4000 persons.

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