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

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Wednesday, Sept. 24, 1939

#### MR. BRADY'S APPOINTMENT

Friends of J. C. Brady will be pleased to hear of his ap- ners to receive and keep these fees. pointment to a good position at Ottawa in the employ of Mr. Watt had been informed by Mr. the Federal Government. Because he was beaten politi- Gale, his predecessor, that this was cally does not mean that Prince Rupert people do not like him personally. Everyone has a soft spot for him and his his successor, Mr. Monroe, that political opponents will be just as pleased as were his pol- was entitled to keep the fees. There itical supporters that he has secured a position that will give him scope for his many accomplishments and provide him with a good living. The Daily News joins in extending its best wishes to Mr. Brady in his new work.

#### SOVIET ACTIVITIES

It is difficult to understand all the varied activities of the Bolshevist organization which seems to have its headquarters in Russia. Undoubtedly the trouble in China largely if not wholly engineered from Russia and now the here of keeping coroner's fees. final move to slump the markets of Britain and United States just at a time when those countries were suffering from financial depression seems like an effort to try to fan a communist uprising in those countries.

The devotees of the party seem to have both brains and money, two essentials in carrying out any undertaking. to the attorney-general's depart-That they will fail seems certain but the effort is well timed. The sending of fake wires in the name of a well known and reputable head of a grain firm and the selling It was to be assumed that the Deof the market short on the Chicago wheat exchange were clever plans touching weak spots in our system and they things in connection with such districts? Was it not clear to Mr. knew it. It is difficult to say what the next move may be.

#### COMPLIMENT TO CANADA

Having the Imperial Conference postpone its session for the province from coroner's fees. a day in order to accomodate Premier Bennett was a com- Mr. Manson recited several other partment or from the auditors as pliment to Canada. This country looms larger today in places in the province, beside Prince Britain than it ever did before and without representation from this country the conference opening would have fallen very flat.

#### THE WATT INQUIRY

To the people who have read the reports of the Watt in-correctly in this matter. quiry comment is unnecessary. To Prince Rupert people watt when he said that he had fees. Mr. Watt needed no commission of inquiry to free him completely overlooked including Mr. Watt needed no commission of inquiry to free him completely from the charges levelled against him. They knew him and these irergular and trivial coroner's Newfoundland's and of the strained efforts to catch the former government agent in some trap will simply add to the respect in son could hardly see how His Lordwhich he is held here and to detestation of the political ship could find that he had delibefforts which were made to discredit him.



These coming champions are all of one litter of Cairn puppies, owned by Mrs. Caney of Holford kennels, Herts, Eng., and their mamma and papa were both champions.

DISHONEST MAN.

(Continued from page one)

Mr. Manson pointed out that, prior to his appointment as government agent, and the number of offices connected therewith, Mr. Watt had not been a civil servant and was unfamiliar with the work. Unfortunately, too, at first, he had not had the co-operation of his staff. Under would not receive or take any fees the circumstances, it might have been possible that he had overlooked the specific instructions regarding coroner's fees even if such instructions had existed.

On the other hand, Mr. Watt's commission of appointment, bearing the great seal of the province and the signature of the lieutenantgovernor, surely as formal and impressive a document as the crown could possibly issue, read that it was his (Mr. Watt's) privilege "to have hold and enjoy the office of coroner together with all rights, fees and privileges" appertaining thereto. Was it to be expected that any ordinary business man would seek something in the statutes to contradict such a document as that?

Furthermore, rightly or wrongly, the established practice was for government agents acting as corothe practice and Mr. Watt himself was not the least concealment or secrecy about the practice.

Mr. Manson referred to the consistent reports of the auditors during the years while Mr. Watt was government agent, stating that his books were "in very good order." Never had any reference been made by the auditors to the matter auditors had known of the practice

been made of it?

#### Nothing Concealed

Reports of each inquest, Mr. Manson continued, had been forwarded ment but no inquiry had ever been made as to the disposal of the fees. partment of Finance had some knowledge of the ordinary run of ing inquests held in unorganized matters as these. In spite of this, Mr. McNeill, the chief auditor, had said that, as far as he knew, no revenue had ever been received by not reasonable to expect that he Rupert, where the government agent also acted as coroner.

Never had Mr. Watt received anything, contended Mr. Manson, that would put him on his guard or suggest that his commission read in-

In view of Mr. Watt's splendid record in all other matters, Mr. Manerately endeavored to conceal the Ancient Colony Notes Remarkable matter of the coroner's fees. It was difficult to reconcile such a paltry matter as this with intentional dis-

What conclusion was to be The summer of 1930 will go down drawn from the fact that the gov- on the records as the longest, finernment had never taken steps to est and warmest Newfoundland have others return moneys which has experienced in some years. they had received for coroner's fees, Pravailing southwest and westerly inquired Mr. Manson.

On the question of the law and sunny days and the result was an Mr. Watt's right or otherwise to re- abnormal stimulus to vegetation tain coroner's fees, Mr. Manson and crops. Corn grew and ripened contended that a coroner was not to a remarkable extent. Sweet corn actually a civil servant. If a coroner which usually attains only a small were not a civil servant, then the size in the Ancient Colony, grew clause in the Revenue Act provid- to a size and quality equal to the ing that a civil serv nt was not en- Quebec product. Tomatoes grew titled to receive any fees over and and ripened out of doors while the above his monthly salary did not apply to him.

Mr. Manson argued further that fees paid by a municipality to a coroner for his services were not public moneys. In Vancouver the city paid its fees direct to the coroner and the province never had anything to do with them. If this was the practice in Vancouver, why should it not be the same in Prince Rupert? If coroner's fees were not public funds in one place, he could not see how they could be called Newfoundland people. Fortunately such in another place.

Mr. Manson could not see how submitted Mr. Manson.

MANSON FINDS IT DIFFICULT TO its own overt act, had issued clear RECONCILE PALTRY WATT instructions to Mr. Watt that he CHARGES WITH ACTIONS OF was entitled to receive and keep these coroner's fees.

The real downright essence of the whole matter was: had this man acted dishonorably or dishon-

Government's Argument In submitting his argument, C. H. Locke K.C., government counsel, contended that Mr. Watt was subject to be governed by the Revenue oath by which he had sworn that he over and above his regular salary. Mr. Locke argued that the wording of Mr. Watt's commission was ineffective if not justified by the order-in-council under which he had received his appointment. The order-in-council under which Mr. Watt was appointed coroner provided that he was to receive no additional salary.

His Lordship remarked that he could not appreciate Mr. Locke's argument that Mr. Watt's commission was dependent upon an orderin-council. The commission said plainly that Mr. Watt was entitled to the fees.

Mr. Manson pointed out that Mr. Watt had had no knowledge of the order-in-council. All he had to guide him was the commission.

Mr. Locke insisted that the commission had no more force than the order-in-council which said Mr. Watt was entitled to no additional emuneration through being coroner. It was as obligatory that coroner's fees should be accounted for as the many other fees that Mr. Watt had handled. Definite instructions with regard to each form of fee could not be expected to be issued.

#### System Responsible

If Mr. Watt knew that he was not entitled to retain the money derived from coroner's fees, Mr. Locke submitted, then the syste enabled him to conceal it by simply not giving a receipt from the gencoroner's fees. Furthermore, the eral receipt book. In rendering his account to the city for coroner's service, he had not used govern-If the practice was wrong, why ment paper. During the years from 1924 to 1929, the coroner's fees had never been included in his income tax returns. Was it probable that he had forgotten all those five rears to include these fees in his

If Mr. Watt relied on his commission in the matter of being entitled to receive coroner's fees, why had he not rendered accounts to the attorney-general's department covertegory from other coroners who were not in the civil service? Was it might have inquired from the deto his rights to keep coroner's fees?

Did not the holding of an inquest nvolve the sending of returns to the attorney-general's department, inquired His Lordship. Mr. Locke replied that the department received a return as to the evidence but no mention had been made in any of It was reasonable to believe Mr. the letters to the department as to

# Unusual Summer

Crop and Vegetation Growth Best Summer in Years

ST. JOHNS, Nfld., Sept. 24: winds brought long periods of hot cucumber, marrow and squash beds were amazingly prolific.

Forest growth was marked and observers noted a lengthening up to two feet in young saplings over a period of only a few months.

Naturally enough the same kindly winds that brought the fair weather, brought down from the St. Lawrence valley a great many severe electric storms, far more than usually falls to the lot of the there storms caused little damage.

The St. John's morning newspathe Revenue Act could be considered per. the Daily News, has advocated to have anything to do with the action on the part of the departcoroner or his fees. The whole tenor ment of agriculture, to secure data of the Revenue Act had to do with and statistics on the products this the general sources of income with year and of other facts relating to which the government carried on, the unusual summer season, feeling that the information thus re-And, if it came down to that, Mr. vealed would be highly interesting Manson submitted, the crown, by and valuable.

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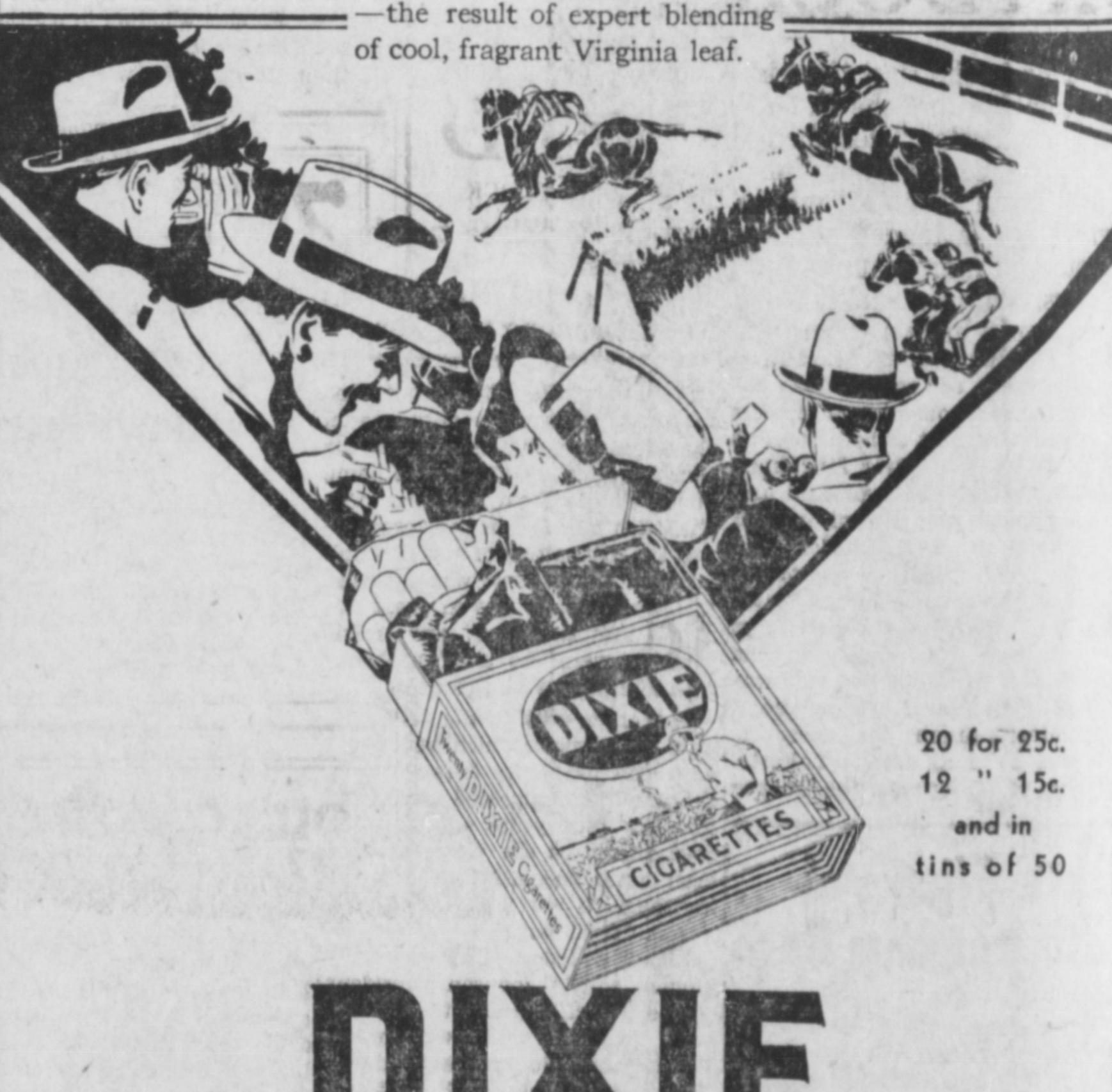
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