

CHANGES IN HALIBUT REGULATIONS

EDITORIAL
An Appeal to Premier Tolmie
To See That British Columbia's Railway Rights Are Protected

There is a persistent rumor going around to the effect that British Columbia is to get very little benefit from the proposed Peace River outlet scheme, due to the route that is to be taken. At present the Monkman Pass with an outlet at or near Hansard is reported to be the route favored. It is said, and that with considerable authority, that the Hansard route is the only one surveyed and that the railway authorities very strongly favor it as giving the possibility of most rapid returns on the investment. While, doubtless, the railways are a very important factor in the present situation, the people of the country should also have some say as to where the railway should be located. The probability is that the railways will be asking for privileges. Judging from the forecast in connection with the railway heads meeting Premier Tolmie, the Province of British Columbia will be asked for help in connection with this project. In view of that, British Columbia should have some say as to where the railway should be built.

Under the Monkman Pass scheme British Columbia would be practically ignored insofar as new construction is concerned. It would tap the rich grain country around Grande Prairie and the crops from British Columbia would have to be hauled eastward as at present, only not so far, and then southward and west. Of all the routes suggested the Hansard route is the least attractive to British Columbia as offering the least development and the poorest service.

According to all the information available, the Hansard route would open up very little new productive country, whereas the alternative routes, either that through the Pine Pass or the more northerly one through the Peace Pass would develop a wonderful country, rich in productive farm land, timber and mines. It would serve the richest part of the Peace River country and would open up a good stretch of country west of that in British Columbia. In other words, it is British Columbia's solution of the transportation problem of the Peace.

Naturally Prince Rupert people want to see the Peace railway lead to their port but they also want to see British Columbia developed. It would make little difference to the port of Prince Rupert whether the Hansard route or one of the other routes were chosen, if the latter turned southward toward Prince George. It would make a difference to us, however, as citizens of British Columbia to see that our own province is developed.

Now look at it from the point of view of the Peace River farmer. The Hansard route to Vancouver would be a much more costly route for hauling grain from the British Columbia Peace River block than would either of the other routes. That would mean that the farmers of the Peace would be handicapped by just that much. They would be the people who would suffer. The rate is always set to give a profit in hauling to the most difficult competitive port and in this case it would be set to suit Vancouver to the disadvantage of the farmer.

In saying this we have no objection to the method of setting rates which is one generally accepted by railwaymen. We have no objection to Vancouver getting a big share of the business, which that port will probably do anyway. What we object to is to the British Columbia section of the Peace River country being handicapped to suit the convenience of the railway companies or anyone else. The natural route for the British Columbia Peace is out through British Columbia territory and that is the route it should take.

We make a special appeal to Premier Tolmie on behalf of the people of the B. C. Peace River block, and on behalf of Northern and Central British Columbia to see that the first Peace outlet be one that will open up British Columbia and will not handicap her own farmers for all time to come. We believe that Dr. Tolmie can do this and we urge upon him its desirability.

VICTORIA MILL FIRE

Plant of Cameron Lumber Co. Lost With Damage of \$250,000—200 Thrown Out of Work

VICTORIA, Feb. 25.—Fire this morning swept the plant of the Cameron Lumber Co. here, causing damage estimated at \$250,000. Half an hour after the flames had been discovered, the main portion of the sawmill and sawdust bins had been destroyed.

The outbreak is believed to have originated in the friction drive on the conveyor belt operating to the hog fuel bins. Two hundred men are thrown out of employment as a result of the destruction of the mill.

MOVEMENT ENDORSED

At a meeting of the local branch of the Deep Sea Fishermen's Union last night, with about eighty members present, a unanimous vote was taken in favor of the scheme, which was approved by the Canadian Halibut Vessel Owners' Association Monday night, whereby the sum of two and a half per cent will be deducted from the gross stock of all trips in order to create a fund which will make it possible for the fishermen themselves to market their product co-operatively.

Apart from this, business at the meeting of the Fishermen's Union was largely of a routine nature.

The Daily News

NORTHERN AND CENTRAL BRITISH COLUMBIA'S NEWSPAPER
Vol. XXII, No. 47. PRINCE RUPERT, B.C., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1931 PRICE FIVE CENTS

Tomorrow's Tides

Thursday, February 26, 1931		
High	7.02 a.m.	17.9 ft.
	21.04 p.m.	15.7 ft.
Low	0.25 a.m.	10.3 ft.
	14.15 p.m.	7.3 ft.

PROVINCIAL FINANCES INQUIRY SOUGHT



Man who will have some say in regard to Railway Development in Northern B. C.

Dieudonne Coste Named Best Man Aviator in World With Amy Johnson Premier Woman

PARIS, Feb. 25.—Dieudonne Coste, Paris to New York flyer, was designated the world's premier flyer by the awards committee of the International League of Aviators last night.

Miss Amy Johnson was given highest honors among women flyers. She flew from England to Australia last summer.

Coste's only rival for the honor was Wing Commander Charles Kingsford-Smith and the Frenchman was chosen because he holds five world's records in addition to the accomplishment of his trans-Atlantic flight.

Comptroller-General To Attend Meeting of Committee on Accounts

Yesterday's Session Was Stormy One, Government finally Conceding to Liberal Leader's Demand

VICTORIA, Feb. 25.—An exhaustive inquiry into the standing of the province financially by bringing the comptroller-general before the public accounts committee tomorrow was asked for by T. D. Pattullo, Liberal leader, at a stormy session of the committee's meeting yesterday. "We will ask the comptroller-general to bring all the accounts of the treasury up to March 31, 1930, including loan bills to find out exactly where the province stands," declared Mr. Pattullo. This was agreed upon for the next meeting of the committee on Thursday.



Local man who will attend session of Trades & Labor Congress.

KILLING ON SHIP

Filipino Student Runs Amok on Steamer—One Dead and One Badly Wounded

MANILA, Feb. 25.—Wireless reports from the liner Empress of Russia today said that a passenger, Martin Correa, student from California, ran amok last night when the ship was 270 miles from Manila and shot and killed John Harrison, the ship's plumber.

Correa was also said to have seriously wounded Sam Sha, a Chinese steward. Ship's officers said that the student had apparently become unbalanced in mind.

Close Season For Fishing To Be Extended By Fifteen Days Under Newly Adopted Treaty

Wide Powers Are Given Governments—All Boats to be Licensed and Various Areas to be Set Aside For Checking Up

OTTAWA, Feb. 25.—Satisfaction at the ratification by the United States Senate of the International Halibut Treaty was expressed by Hon. E. N. Rhodes, minister of fisheries, last night. "The treaty's effect will be beneficial on the fisheries of both United States and Canada," he said. There are several provisions in the treaty to prevent depletion of the halibut fishing grounds on the Pacific coast. The closed season, which has been from the middle of November to the middle of February, is extended fifteen days so will hereafter begin November 1. Vessels are to be licensed for statistical purposes and the whole coast is to be divided into areas so that the amount of fish taken from each area can be regulated. The regulations can be made to set apart certain areas known to be the habitations of smaller halibut and prohibit fishing entirely therein.

Wide powers as to regulation under the treaty are given to the President of the United States and the Governor-General in Council. The closed season may be extended or shortened by regulation and various regulatory measures can be carried out without the necessity of revising the treaty.

Consideration of suitable regulations will shortly be taken up by the International Fisheries Commission. It is expected, after which the regulations will be referred to the United States president and the Governor-in-Council for approval.

AVIATORS ARE SAFE

Van Der Byl, Joerss and Kading Spent Two Days on Dease Lake

According to word received by the Government Telegraphs this morning, Pilots R. I. Van Der Byl and W. A. Joerss and Air Engineer Emil Kading, flying the plane of the late Capt. E. J. A. Burke to Vancouver, arrived safely at Telegraph Creek shortly before noon. They were forced down on Dease Lake on Monday with engine trouble and spent two days and nights there making repairs. All three men were safe and well, it was reported.

A message from the flyers stated that they expected to "hop off" at 1 o'clock this afternoon for Hazelton in continuation of the flight south.

Government Does Not Deny That Omineca Riding Will Disappear Under New Distribution Bill

VICTORIA, Feb. 25.—The government yesterday, without offering any contradiction, allowed the inference to be drawn that a redistribution bill was in contemplation which will eliminate the riding of Omineca for which A. M. Manson K.C., the former attorney-general, sits. A bill amending Bill of Sales Act was before the House when Mr. Manson remarked that he noticed a change of wording in regard to his district, the "electoral district of Omineca" being changed to read "the mining district of Omineca." Mr. Manson added that he drew the conclusion that his riding was slated to disappear in a redistribution bill by and by.

The House sat for two hours and the proceedings were dull. A number of bills were advanced.

It has been rumored for some time that the government intended lopping Omineca riding off the list and that it would be merged with Skeena and Fort George while a new seat is formed for the Peace River. This would mean that, despite the new seat, the representation from the north of the province would be no greater than before. Petitions have already come from Omineca riding protesting any such action.

The Weather

Prince Rupert — Part cloudy, light southeast wind; barometer, 29.73; temperature, 42.
Triple Island—Clear, light southwest wind; light swell.
Dead Tree Point—Part cloudy, calm; barometer, 29.74; temperature, 38; sea choppy.

Extensive Taxation Revisions and Increases Expected to be Announced in Budget Speech

VANCOUVER, Feb. 25.—A dispatch to the Vancouver Daily Province from Victoria says: "Taxpayers of British Columbia may expect five increases in taxation in the government's current budget which is due to be presented in the Legislature next week. They are:

- First, doubling of the amusement tax.
- Second, removal of the present exemption in the income tax for any amounts paid by the taxpayer through federal income tax.
- Third, abolition of the deduction of ten per cent now taken off the amount due from the taxpayer under provincial income tax.
- Fourth, an annual fee of \$1 for automobile drivers' licences, these licences being compulsory for every member of a family who drives a car at any time.
- Fifth, an increase in the annual tax on head offices of banks from \$3,000 to \$7,500 with proportional increases for branch banks.
- A sixth important change is expected to take away from municipalities pari-mutuel taxes which they now receive in full. The government, it is expected, will retain this tax which last year amounted to \$192,000.

By means of these changes the government hopes to secure additional revenue of about \$1,250,000. This, it is explained, is vitally needed to balance next year's budget.

Breeders of goldfish in China are able to mold these plastic creatures into almost any color or shape they desire.

INCREASE TAXATION

Interest of Legislature Now Centres on Presentation of Budget

VICTORIA, Feb. 25.—Now that the Speech from the Throne has been adopted by the Legislature, interest will centre on the presentation by Hon. J. W. Jones, minister of finance, of his first budget. Removal of a number of income tax exemptions as well as upward revision of some other forms of taxation, it is expected, will be resorted to by Mr. Jones in his efforts to balance revenue of the province with expenditure which has been steadily mounting.

FIRST FISH AT KETCHIKAN WAS LANDED BY ONAH

It was reported on the local waterfront today that the Onah, Capt. Harry Selig, had landed the first halibut catch of the season at Ketchikan yesterday, landing 15,000 pounds and receiving 15.7c for first class fish.

Late Fish Sale For While Here

Until the daily train service starts in May when it is expected trains will leave here at 1 o'clock in the afternoons as they did last year, the daily halibut auction on the local Fish Exchange will start at 9 o'clock in the mornings. After the change in train service, the sale will commence early in the morning so as to be able to get fish off on the same day's train.