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PRINCE RUPERT, B.C.

THE DAILY NEWS.

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Immigration

It looks as if a determined effort would be made soon in the matter of settling up some of the vacant lands in British Columbia. For years Brigadier General Hornby has been working on a scheme for settling people from Great Britain on farms in Canada and his persistent efforts have led to the plan being very generally endorsed. The British Columbia government has been studying the scheme along with others and it seems quite likely that something will be done in the near future.

The great feature of the Hornby plan is that it provides for looking after those settlers who do not prove a success and if necessary returning them to their former homes. Another important feature is that it provides for continuous action rather than spasmodic efforts so that once the plan gets going it should work more or less automatically in the future and bring a slow stream of new settlers to the country year after year.

The Hornby plan has been endorsed by the Chamber of Commerce of Prince Rupert and by the Associated Boards of Trade of Central British Columbia as well as by individual boards of trade and other organizations in the area extending from Prince Rupert to McFride. It has also been tentatively adopted in other parts of the country and it has very strong backing in England. There seems to be a strong probability that action may be taken on it in the near future if Prime Minister Mackenzie King can be induced to make the first move.

Vacant Areas a Danger

It is very doubtful if Canada has a moral right to keep large areas of land vacant when there are people of many nations needing land on which to live. For a country almost without defences to attempt to keep vacant lands to themselves or to decide who shall use them is a condition that cannot last. Canada must either use her vacant lands or hand them over to someone who will. The dog in the manger policy cannot be allowed to continue long. As it is now, we have the right to say who shall occupy the vacant lands. While there is still time we must act. Every Canadian government, provincial or federal, should be made to realize the situation and take action. The Premier of British Columbia has always been favorable to a policy of land settlement as long as it does not keep those now resident in the province out of a job. General Hornby shows that his plan will create employment rather than interfere with it and the time now seems opportune for a forward movement that will be a real factor in land settlement.

PEACE AT SMITHERS

SMITHERS, Dec. 21.—The battle of Main Street in Smithers, which has been raging for a week, was terminated temporarily on Thursday evening when an armistice was arranged at a largely attended meeting of the retail merchants of the town and at which the Commissioners of the village were also present.

The battle started when the merchants insisted on the enforcement of the Shops Regulation Act which was being violated by several stores. Continued infractions brought legal proceedings and re-reminders which produced feelings that were not in accord with "Peace on earth, good will toward men" spirit that is supposed to prevail at this season of the year even in Smithers.

The result of the meeting was that they agreed to allow every store to remain open "ad lib" until the middle of January when some alterations may be asked for in the by-law governing the closing of shops.

It is now hoped that Santa Claus might pay his scheduled visit to Smithers without fear of being pinched for peddling without a licence.

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Christian Youth Society Meets

Mrs. Mandy Gives Recital—Food-stuffs For Hampers

The Christian Youth Society held its regular meeting last night in the social parlors of First United Church. The meeting was brief and chiefly of a business nature.

In keeping with the Christmas spirit, Mrs. J. T. Mandy gave a particularly fine rendition of a one-act Christmas play, with four characters.

A considerable amount of food-stuff was brought by members for the Christmas hampers.

Sponsored by the Society a delightful Christmas broadcast was presented yesterday afternoon. Those taking part in this program were members of this organization, the Capitollians and the Philharmonic Society. The musical score was under the direction of Dr. H. N. Brocklesby, with Dr. W. A. Riddell at the organ.

The first half of the program consisted of the following Christmas carols rendered by the choir: "Silent Night, Holy Night," "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing," "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks," "O Come All Ye Faithful" and "We Three Kings of Orient Are," with solo parts by N. R. Redman, Dr. R. G. Large and J. A. Teng.

The carols were interspersed by the reading of the Christmas story by Tom Johnstone. A Christmas poem, read by Miss Winnie Cameron, with Tom Johnstone and Wilfrid Hicks playing "Silent Night" as a clarinet duet, brought this part of the program to a close.

The second half, presented by the Capitollians, was in the following order: "The Overture to William Tell," The Orchestra.

"Minuet from a Sonata by Mozart," violin and piano duet, A. C. Cameron and H. N. Brocklesby.

"The Clock," The Orchestra.

"Ave Maria Stella" (Greig), A. C. Cameron (violin), Mr. Walker (cello) and H. N. Brocklesby (piano).

"Indian Love Call" (Rose Marie), The Orchestra, vocal refrain by Miss Betty Woods.

Wood-wind trio consisting of T. Johnstone, W. Hicks (clarinets) and Guido Bussanich (saxophone) in two numbers (a) "Largo" from "The New World Symphony" (Dvorak), (b) "Nobody Knows the Troubles I've Seen," Negro Spiritual.

"The Cossacks' Revels," The Orchestra.

Joseph Naylor jr. returned home on the Catala last evening from his studies in Vancouver to spend the Christmas and New Year holidays here.

"DEMERS"

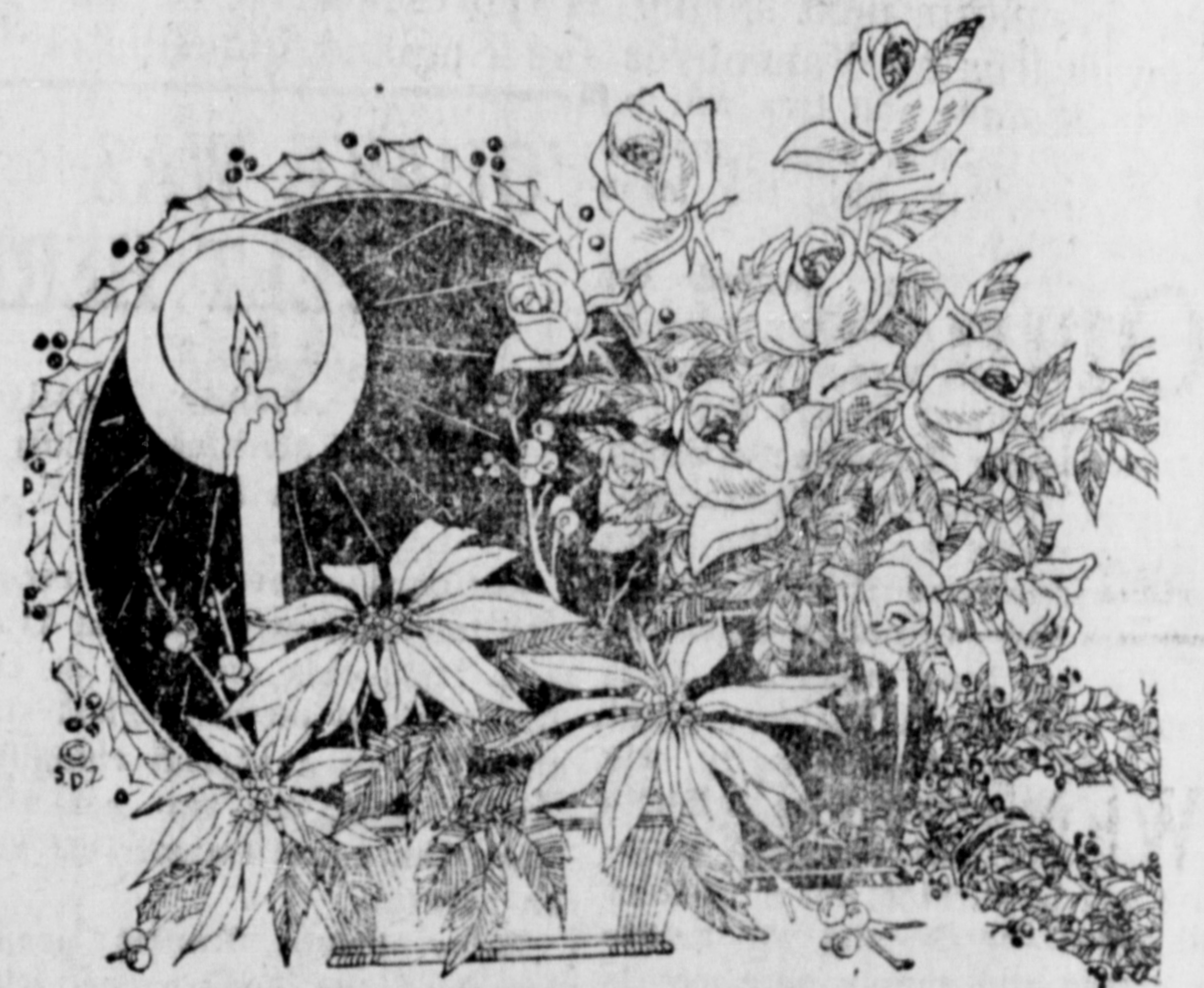
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WINTER EXCURSION FARES
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Tickets on sale Nov. 1st, 1936 to Feb. 28th, 1937.
Final return limit March 31st, 1937

For Information and Reservations
W. L. COATES, Gen. Agent, Prince Rupert, B.C.

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