

THE WEATHER  
Twenty-four hours ending 5 a.m.,  
Nov. 28  
MAX. TEMP. MIN. TEMP. IN. RAIN  
58.0 43.7 0.25

# THE DAILY NEWS

Formerly The Prince Rupert Optimist

NEXT MAILS  
FOR SOUTH  
Prince Rupert, Friday, 8 a.m.  
Camoustan, Sunday, 9 p.m.  
DEC 1 1911  
VICTORIA, B. C.

VOL. II, NO. 272

PRINCE RUPERT, B.C., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1911.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

## SALE OF SECT. 2 LOTS POSTPONED TILL THURSDAY

### WILL HOLD INVESTIGATION ABOUT CITY COAL SUPPLY

Engineer Arthur Alliston, Who Recently Resigned From the Light Plant, Claims That There is a Shortage of From Fifty to Eighty Tons

Engineer Alliston, who resigned his position recently at the light plant, has written the Council demanding a public investigation of an alleged coal shortage of some 50 or 80 tons, which came up recently in connection with the light plant supply. The demand will be acceded to by the Council.

The Mayor remarked last night that a good deal of time had been spent already in investigating this coal question. Alderman Douglas moved that a public investigation be held as suggested and Alderman Morrissey seconded.

In a lengthy speech Alderman Clayton stated that after exhaustive experiment and investigation only a shortage of some six or seven tons had been detected and said further that Mr. Allison had shown the calculations made by the committee of investigation based upon his own figures and had verbally admitted that he was wrong and would accordingly resign.

City Solicitor Peters suggested that the notes of proceedings at the committee's investigations taken in shorthand should be transcribed and placed before the Council.

Alderman Morrissey told of a chance interview he had in a friend's office with Mr. Allison, in which under close and skeptical engineer, Mr. Allison had made statements which he was prepared to substantiate under oath and which had a very deep bearing on the city's economy in this respect.

Alderman Newton emphasized the right of any citizen to have a public investigation of a matter such as this coal shortage, on which he had wide information, as was alleged in this case.

The motion was carried, and a public investigation will be held, date to be announced later.

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### REGISTRY OFFICE IS IN RUINS

Disastrous Fire Sweeps Out of Existence the Provincial Government's Fine Building

#### MANY BOOKS OF RECORDS ARE DESTROYED

Clerks Managed to Hurl Many Valuable Books Into the Vault Before Leaving the Doomed Building, But Others Are Destroyed—Incidents of the Fire

The fire at the Provincial Government building yesterday was the most spectacular thing in real fireworks that anyone need wish to see in Prince Rupert for a generation. The flames leaped up like giant tongues of fire, and but for the fortunate change in the direction of the wind the whole of Second avenue to the east must certainly have gone.

Today when Mr. Justice Clements reaches town to hold court he will have to look for a place in which to hold it. The court room in the Government Office is not habitable now, and will, when put in order, have to shelter the staff of the Government Agent.

#### His Second Experience.

This is the second time Government Agent J. H. McMullin has been burned out, or nearly so. His first experience was at Fernie. This time he wasn't exactly burned out, but as his goods and chattels were almost scattered to the four winds it comes to the same thing.

#### To Dynamite Residency.

When the flames caught the court house and it looked as if the residency must go, too, the proposa was made to have the residency blown up with dynamite in order to save the Bank of Commerce and Westenhaver offices, which would have sent the blaze right down Second avenue.

Lost Legal Library.

H. F. McLeod, chief clerk at the Government offices, has lost in the fire all his library of legal reference works, valued at several hundred dollars and very difficult to replace.

#### Started to Wreck Building.

The action of the townspeople was splendid in the way they rushed to help extinguish the flames. One or two of them lost their heads a little. Somebody who got into Mr. McMullin's beautiful residence started to pull down the balustrade on the main staircase. Exactly how they thought this would help to quell the fire is not clear.

#### Saved Police Records.

From amongst the smouldering embers of the Provincial Police office William Goldson of the staff rescued the drenched and charred remains of the Provincial police record book. The middle pages are still readable.

#### Water Shortage.

According to the water department the reason for the water shortage at first was that the fire department had connected the first line of hose to a dead hydrant at Third Avenue and Fifth Street. Finding the valve dry, a fireman turned a gate valve serving this dead hydrant, but in so doing sent the greater part of the stream down to Fraser Street.

When the hose was connected at Third and Sixth, and Second and Sixth hydrants, it was possible to get full pressure.

#### Saved Documents.

By the prompt and courageous work of the Land Registry office employees, who hastily packed as many as possible of the books and papers in use into the vault, only leaving their office when the fire was devouring the floor below them, a great many of the most valuable papers are believed to have been saved.

#### Vault Still Hot.

The brick and concrete vault of the Land Registry office was still warm this morning, and the steel doors are buckled and jammed. The staff examined the doors this forenoon, but were of opinion that the vault cannot be opened until tomorrow.

#### Searching the Ashes.

Ruins of a typewriter, four revolvers, hundreds of exploded cartridges, remnants of a pencil sharpening machine, two warped steel copying presses, all kinds of metal stamping machines, unrecognizable rulers, glass ink pots melted into solid lumps and all sorts of charred documents lie in the ashes.

#### Valuable Salvage.

Charred pages of the latest Land Registry record book form the most important salvage in the ruins. Chief Clerk McLeod was anxiously collecting these this morning. The book constituted the only official record, but its contents can be traced and verified.

#### Temporary Offices.

Council of war to decide upon temporary offices was held in the police court room this forenoon. The probabilities are that the Provincial police will locate in the office on Fulton street formerly occupied by the Mack Realty Co., the Provincial Assessor will go to the Stephens block on Third avenue and the Land Registry department to the Continental Trust Co.'s building, as a secure vault is essential for this department.

#### To Avoid Fireworks.

Revolvers and belts crammed with cartridges were hastily snatched up from the Provincial police office by the first men to dash in there. A rifle and some cartridges had to be left, but the explosions passed unnoticed.

#### Chief Owen on Job.

With Chief Vickers of the city police, Chief Owen of the Provincial force was one of the first to see the fire start. He dashed into his office and saved a great many documents from the Land Registry department, as well as the typewriter belonging to his own department and his office wall clock.

#### Work for Phone Men.

By the melting of the lead cable tubes containing the insulated telephone wires a whole section of the 'phone district was cut off. Phone manager E. Love was on the job as quickly as possible with a full gang of linemen restoring communication.

#### Saved His "Home."

"Thanks, Chief Vickers. You did well. You've saved my home anyway!" remarked John Munis, an old friend of the police force, who was doing penance for a D. and D. in the cell at the time of the fire. John lent a willing hand to put out the blaze.

#### Ordered Prisoners Release.

The instant the fire showed a grip on the Land Registry office, Chief Vickers ordered the prison cell doors in the court building to be thrown open, and the few delinquents detained there to be released. They worked like Trojans helping the firemen, and all got drenched.

#### Praised Asst. Chief.

Bystanders were full of praise for the cool and courageous conduct of Asst. Fire Chief Macdonald. He was in the thick of the fight all the time. Once a chimney stack collapsed at his feet, but the Asst. Chief kept on at his work without wincing.

#### Some Quiet Heroes.

Half a dozen nameless heroes set to work with buckets to extinguish the sparks that fell on the powder house close by on the reserve. There was a lot of powder and dynamite inside, but they didn't stop to think of what might have happened to them if it had gone off. Their conduct probably averted a greater disaster.

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### MUTINY ON SNIFF YACHT QUELLED BY STERN HAND

According to the Commodore's Story, the Rear-Admiral Quit in High Dudgeon Because He Was Asked to Put to Sea at Regular Intervals

Trouble has arisen over the Sniff Yacht. Pat Carey, until recently shore admiral of the incense-breathing craft, has complained to the Council that Commodore Macfarlane, sanitary inspector, has treated him in a manner unbecoming the dignity of the service. He asked that the Council supply a lantern for use in the darksome depths of the Sniff Yacht's hold and claimed consideration as an old-timer of the city.

There was more talk of referring the matter to the Health Committee, but Mr. Macfarlane, who was present, asked leave to address the Council on the matter. The Commodore's tale was that Admiral Cary had turned the poor Sniff Yacht into a hog ranch and was only in attendance on her when the hogs wanted feeding. The Sanitary Inspector went on to say that Mr. Cary had quit, and

that Thomas Reid had been appointed in his place. Mr. Reid was prepared to do what Mr. Cary would not—that is, to go to sea in the Sniff Yacht and aid in discharging her cargo in open sea. One of the duties of the Shore Admiral was to let the water out of the yacht's bilge. Mr. Macfarlane held that this duty had been neglected to the jeopardy of the yacht's crew in time of peril on the sea.

Another matter in connection with the Sniff Yacht: viz., the engaging of extra hands to help discharge her at sea, was with the letter from Mr. Cary laid on the table on the motion of Alderman Morrissey and will be discussed later.

Fresh cut flowers at Wark's Wednesday.

Specialists in fitting glasses.—Cameron's.

### SKEENA RIVER TIMBER DEAL

Twenty Thousand Acres Close to Prince Rupert Bought by A. B. Tennant, Brother-in-law of Premier Asquith.

(Special to Daily News.)

Vancouver, Nov. 28—Archibald B. Tennant, brother-in-law of Premier Asquith, has purchased 33 timber limits of approximately 20,000 acres situated on the Skeena River close to Prince Rupert. The vendors are National Timber Company.

#### Serious Assault Case

In danger of his life, with a number of jagged wounds on his head, Robert Brandt is in the General Hospital. His injuries are said to be the result of a quarrel with Valentino Stella who is in prison charged with murderously assaulting Brandt by striking him on the head with a rock. Brandt's condition is so serious that on recommendation of Dr. Kergin his deposition was taken before he went into the hospital.

#### S.S. Rupert a Day Late

A telegram was received from Vancouver this morning by Mr. A. E. McMaster stating that the Prince Rupert will be a day late in leaving that port. The boat will arrive here Thursday instead of Wednesday. Every available berth in the boat has been taken by intending investors in section two.

#### Inhumanity Punished

Vancouver, Nov. 28—Attorney-General Bowser has cancelled the liquor licence of Mr. and Mrs. Bell, of the Clinton hotel, thirty miles from Ashcroft, in consequence of their inhumanity and callous indifference on the occasion of the death several weeks ago of Mrs. Barlow, of Victoria, while in the throes of consumption. She died in a motor car outside the hostelry in intense cold after being refused admission.

Warm, clean rooms at Savoy.

#### INVESTIGATION TONIGHT.

Circumstances of Death of John Crawford Will Be Further Inquired Into.

Chief Vickers presided over an inquiry held in the Police Court room last night on the death of John Crawford. John McKinnon stated that deceased had worked on the G. T. P. at Kitselas. He had been drinking on the night he fell over the grade. The inquiry was adjourned till tonight.

The latest ideas in Ladies' handbags at Wark's.

### ALD. CLAYTON HAS GOOD IDEA

Run an "All-Mayor" Ticket at Next Municipal Election and Pick Aldermen From the Rejected Mayors in Order of Votes Poll.

"Why not select Mayor and Council out of the shoal of would-be mayors which seems to be on the way and run them all on the plan that the man polling the most votes shall be mayor and those following him shall be aldermen in order of the number of votes they poll?" The idea was expressed by Alderman Clayton, hardly serious, of course. "Candidates for the office of mayor," he said, "may surely be expected to possess the qualifications for aldermen."

#### CONVENIENCE FOR BIDDERS

Intending Purchasers of Section Two May Make Deposit.

A plan which will be found convenient by those intending to make purchases of Section 2 lots at the coming sale is provided by Mr. D. H. Hays, who has arranged to receive deposits from intending purchasers to cover the initial payment on their probable investments. Any sum in excess of that necessary to cover the payment will be refunded without delay, and accurate and smooth working of the plan is guaranteed by Mr. Hays, who will have a large force of special clerks on to deal with the sale matters.

#### THE LESSON OF THE FIRE

The lesson of the fire that swept away the Provincial Government office yesterday is that no business man or householder is safe unless insured—and insured in a good company. Only the fortunate change in the wind saved the city from much more serious loss. The fire should be a warning to every one who has neglected to insure against fire.

The safe thing to do is to call up the Mack Realty Company and get them to write you up a policy in one of their reliable companies. Do not leave it until tomorrow. Tomorrow may be too late. Do it now.

#### Don't Buy Coal

Wait! The first week in December the Westholme Lumber Company, Limited, will begin selling Ladysmith Coal for \$8.50 per ton, delivered.

5 o'clock tea cups and saucers, special this week, \$2.50 half dozen. Big range, beautiful decorations, finest English China.—Wallace's. 2t

### MORE CARS FOR GRAND TRUNK

Four Passenger and Six Box Cars Arrived by Scow Yesterday—New Rolling Stock Anticipates Opening of Line to Hazelton.

Four new passenger cars and six box cars arrived in the harbor yesterday from Vancouver on the G. T. P. special giant scow for rolling stock. The scow was towed by the tug Georgia and berthed temporarily at the G. T. P. wharf near the boat slip. The cars will be transferred to the sidings at the special wharf later. The new passenger cars are brought up in anticipation of the greatly increased traffic when the line is opened as far as Hazelton next spring.

The hall of the season at the McIntyre Hall on Thursday night, under the auspices of the St. Andrew's Society.

#### G. T. P. SHEDS ON FIRE

Spark From Government Building Carried to Waterfront.

Before the excitement over the Land Registry Office blaze had died down up at the scene of the fire, there was a hot moment or two for the boys at the G. T. P. wharf. The north corner of the largest freight warehouse on the wharf caught fire. A spark wafted all the way from the Government building had settled on the shingles and, fanned by the wind, glowed until it blazed. General Superintendent Mehan was on the spot, and in a few minutes with the help of buckets and a long ladder the blaze was quenched. A hole was burned in the roof just at the deep overhang on the gable end near the top. Fortunately the wind was blowing the fire out from the main part of the building.

#### Hays' Creek Sewer Bylaw.

The report of Peter McLachlan on the sewer bylaw vote was received and filed by the City Council last night.

See Wark's north window for seasonable gifts in solid gold and sterling silver.

#### St. Andrew's Ball.

Don't miss the St. Andrew's ball on Thursday night at the McIntyre Hall. Gray's full orchestra in attendance.

Best meal in town at Savoy.

Now is the time to get Xmas cards for friends overseas. Your every wish can be supplied at McRae Bros.

### WILL POSTPONE SECTION 2 SALE

Owing to the Late Departure of the Prince Rupert This Trip the Sale Will Not Start Until Thursday Morning.

The sale of Section 2 lots, advertised to start on Wednesday, will not start until Thursday morning. This announcement was made to the News this morning by Mr. David H. Hays.

The reason for the postponement is that the Prince Rupert, which is bringing up a large number of investors for the sale, will be twelve hours late in leaving Vancouver, and therefore will not arrive until 9 p. m. or later. The exact hour of Thursday's sale will be announced later.

#### Letters to the Editor

#### PROTECTING DRUNKEN MEN

The Bowser Act enacts that no liquor shall be sold to a man apparently under the influence of strong drink.

The City Bylaw enacts that no man under the influence of liquor shall be allowed to leave licensed premises where he has obtained drink unaccompanied.

These are the "fences" intended to keep citizens from falling off our stilted streets.

Why do our Police Commissioners not insist that these fences shall be kept up?

Why do our License Commissioners not cancel the licenses of those who are breaking these barriers down?

F. H. Du VERNET.

Prince Rupert's leading hotel—Savoy.

#### TO DISCUSS SETTLEMENT.

City Council Will Confer Today Over Contractors' Lawsuits.

At a private session of the City Council in committee of the whole today at 1 p. m. City Engineer Davis, City Solicitor Peters and the contractors suing the city will appear for investigation of the matter of the lawsuits over grading contract payments.

The result came from motions made by Aldermen Newton and Morrissey to have public reports on the subject made by the City Engineer and City Solicitor. The Mayor objected to the reports being made in public and on amendment supported by the Mayor, Aldermen Clayton, Hilditch and Kirkpatrick, it was decided to hold the session in private.

Scientific eye examination at Cameron's.

Pantorium Pioneer Cleaners, Phone 4.