THE DAILY NEWS

PRINCE RUPERT, BRITISH COLUMBIA

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DAILY EDITION MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1942

EDITORIAL

C.B.C. Takes Over ...

For many years Prince Rupert radio listeners have clamored for better service. They have irked at nerve's edge and almost in despair at the consistent impossibility to receive outside programs. While we have been fully appreciative of the limited program service which the local station has found it possible to offer, there is no question that it has been for some time inadequate to meet that demand and what might be reasonably expected in the way of entertainment and news.

Now the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation has entered the field to take over station CFPR. The transfer will take place tomorrow. The first step in improving the service will be to extend the time on the air to between twelve and sixteen hours per day. Pending the establishment first of a short wave link and then a physical link with the nearest land line outlet of C.B.C. which now happens to be at Prince George, there will be a special transcription service of network programs provided by both Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and National Broadcasting Co.

The power of the local station will also be materially increased so as to reach out to district points which the limited wattage of CFPR has been unable heretofore to serve.

The entry of C.B.C. into Prince Rupert will naturally be followed by a period of transition and experiment with a view to developing the best possible service to adequately meet the requirements of this long radio-neglected district.

Advent here of C.B.C. is a matter of importance and interest and, in welcoming the event, the people will look forward with keen anticipation to provision of the service and pleasure to which they have long felt themselves entitled.

Through its medium of C.B.C. the best and most important programs of world networks will eventually be made directly available locally.

Another highly important feature is that under C.B.C. the station will be operated in the category of a public service rather than a commercial undertaking and the blare of advertising and ballyhoo whch is so annoying on privately-owned stations, necessarily putting the considerations of profit before service, will be lacking.

Prince Rupert may consider itself fortunate in the long deferred culmination which is now about to materialize to remedy our radio ills.

An Important Announcement . . .

An important and interesting announcement of new government policy whereby food prices are reduced for the people of Canada by a system of federal subsidies and tariff and tax adjustments protecting at the same time the producers and distributors is made by Hon. J. L. Ilsley, minister of finance. It is all, of course, a part of a larger plan to regulate distribution, control profits and keep the war effort running in an orderly and more effective manner.

The cost of living is always a vexed problem in times such as these. Many may not agree with the idea of regulating living costs by means of government subsidy. Granted it is only an expedient in view of a critical situaton but it is at least a line of action which will provide relief at a time when relief is required and required immediately.

The whole economic system is running along in a temporary and makeshift way under emergency conditions in order that the maximum of resources may be applied to the war effort. Many things are being done that under any normal sort of a situation would be regarded as entirely unsound. When conditions return to normal, there will be many readjustments to make. Possibly some of these readjustments will come about more readily than we might anticipate now.

John McLean left at the end of the week on his return to Vancouver after having come north last week to attend the funeral of his sister-in-law, the late Mrs. Harry Menzies. Mrs. J. E. Gibson, sister of the late Mrs. Menzies, and son, Sonny, and Miss Muriel McLean, who also came north for the funeral, will be remaining in the city for a couple of weeks longer.

C. E. Thomas of Pechtel, Price and Callahan Co. dropped thirty feet from the dock at Port Edward at 10:30 Sunday morning. He sustained slight head injuries and possibly a broken arm. He was brought into hospital on Saturday's train and taken by ambulance to the Prince Rupert General Hospital.

Letter Box

CIVIC APATHY

Editor, Daily News:

What is the matter with the people of Canada? Do they or don't they want democratic governments?

In the recent civic election in my home town of Winnipeg, only a bare thirty-three percent of the qualified voters took the trouble to go out and vote. The same holds true for most other cities in Canada. As for Prince Rupert, the people seem to be utterly indifferent as to whether they get a city council at all or not. What a fine way of showing our appreciation and gratitude to the boys who are risking their lives on the various battlefronts! Just think of it! Millions of men—yes and women and children, too—have already lost their lives in this, most tragic of all wars. Millions of men in the army, the navy, and air force are risking their lives every day of the week to defend our right to elect our own governments in a democratic way, rather than have a gang of dictators, thrust upon us. And yet only a bare thirty-three percent of the people care to trouble their comfortable little selves to make use of this right! What a bunch of slackers we have on the home front! How can we ever hope to get better governments and better conditions in this country if the people refuse to take any interest in public affairs? How can we ever be worthy of the great sacrifices the men are making on the far flung battlefronts of the world if we are too lazy or too indifferent to even make use of the democratic rights for which they are fighting? I hope the guilty ones will at least be ashamed of themselves as they should be.

There is one other thing I want to get off my chest while I'm at it. Although I have not been here long enough to vote I am nevertheless one of the few who are taking an active interest in the forthcoming civic election in Prince Rupert. I find that in our search for suitable candidates the big stumbling block we have to overcome is the property qualification. I surely hope the incoming council — if there be an incoming council—will not give the provincial government any peace until the Election Act is changed and this property qualification clause is relegated back to the dark ages where it came from and where it properly belongs. Certainly no modern, enlightened community, calling itself democratic, should tolerate this absurd and unjust restriction of civic rights—a restriction which severely hampers the efforts of the community in securing able and qualified men and women to carry on the civic administration.

The people to be elected to office should be responsible citizens of character who are interested in public and community affairs and have the necessary ability for whatever position they are elected. You find these young people among both the property and non-property owners. The fact that a man does not own property does not mean that he is in no position to own it. With the advent of large apartment houses many people prefer to rent their homes. Now take for example the absurd situation: Jim Smith may be an outstanding man in the community; a man with great ability. Everybody thinks that Jim Smith would be the right fellow for mayor or alderman but, lo and behold, you discover that he doesn't own any property but pays rent on an eight-room suite. He may pay more than $1,000 a year in rent but still he doesn't qualify to run as mayor. On the other hand there is Bill Whatsisname who may be a scoundrel and an utter no-account but because he owns a few chunks of muskeg and a one-room shack he is ipso facto qualified to run as mayor!

The truth is everyone who has a roof over his or her head—even if it's a leaky one — pays taxes whether you own the property or not. If you own the property you pay your taxes to the tax collector. If you rent a room or a suite of rooms you pay your taxes to the landlord or the landlady who in turn pays them to the tax collector. Therefore we are all qualified to be members of the Ratepayers' Association.

And another thing, I noticed quite a few of my buddies listed among the casualties yet not one of them owned any property. Suppose we had put a sign "only property owners need apply" in front of every rescuiting station how big an army, navy and air force could we have raised?—but I needn't labor the point. I have talked to many of the property owners in this city and they all agree that this property qualification should be abolished. Ability is what counts. We want to elect men and women for what they are and not for what they own.

CHAS. BIESICK.

A CIVIC PLATFORM

Editor, Daily News:

Being resident in your city for eleven months and intending to remain a citizen, I am shocked at the apathy toward civic affairs apparent on the part of large numbers of citizens. I had expected more interest to be displayed by labor as of late years labor has taken an active part in civic affairs and has elected representatives in many Canadian cities.

In reading some chronicles of the early days of Prince Rupert I notice you were fortunate in having had your affairs "controlled by one of the most enlightened, enterprising, albeit businesslike civic governments in the world." They were probably over-optimistic in more ways than one but they made a splendid start and were probably not to be blamed for some of the difficulties they got into.

I wish to recommend a small program of imorovement and change based on my observations. Any portion of this may be adopted by any candidate with my blessing and my campaign support, if wanted.

(1) Appointment of a permanent civic police force for the purpose of enforcing observation of all civic bylaws and collecting licenses, poll taxes, regulating street traffic, preventing loitering on streets, etc. Increased revenues due to their activities would make an efficient force self-sustaining.

(2) Inauguration of a civic bus line. Such franchise is too valuable to become permanently lost to the city.

(3) Extension of water and sewerage systems and connections with all buildings where people live or work.

(4) Systematic campaign for abatement of the rate nuisance. ment of the rat nuisance.

(5) Construction and operation of an artificial ice skating rink where hockey and skating might be enjoyed by all. This is a valuable civic utility giving moral uplift to youth and its revenues would reduce taxation as proven by the experience of other cities.

(6) The securing at the earliest opportunity of a suitable power development site for the re-stablishment when feasible of civic power station. The revenue from such would greatly reduce taxation on property. This is the proven experience of other cities.

(7) The regulation of all public gatherings from the standpoints of safety and sanitation of buildings, number in occupation at any time, and the collection of taxes on admissions at all public places or gatherings, including clubs. church services only exempt from tax.

NEW CITIZEN

Mr. and Mrs. John Murvold left Saturday night for New Westminster where they will take up future residence. Mr. Murvold has been a resident of Prince Rupert for thirty-two years while Mrs. Murvold has been here twenty-one years. Particularly prominent in the local Norwegian community, they have become well known and highly esteemed and their departure is much regretted by many friends. Mr. and Mrs. Ole Wick have purchased their residence on Ambrose Avenue.

A WARTIME Xmas

We suggest that Christmas Shoppers this year be patriotic and buy VICTORY BONDS OR WAR SAVING CERTIFICATES.

If you insist on buying Men's Wear, see

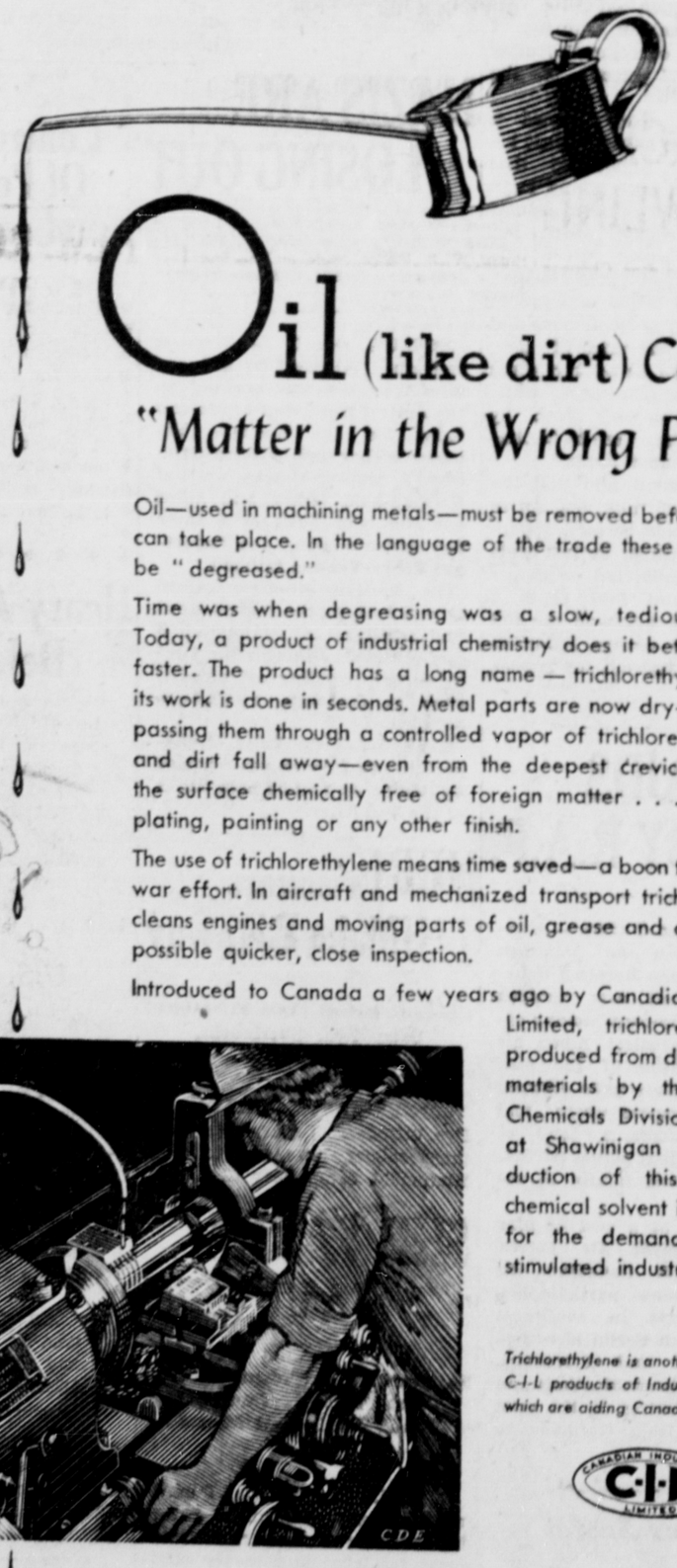
W. F. STONE

"Clothes of Distinction"

NORWAY'S MOSS FLOUR

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 7 (AP) — The Norwegian State Grain Monopoly has decided after experimenting that flour made from moss may be mixed in grain flour used for making bread and up to 30 per cent of moss flour may be used with safety.

CHEMISTRY HELPS TO WIN THE WAR



Oil (like dirt) Can be "Matter in the Wrong Place"

Oil—used in machining metals—must be removed before finishing can take place. In the language of the trade these metals must be "degreased."

Time was when degreasing was a slow, tedious process. Today, a product of industrial chemistry does it better, does it faster. The product has a long name — trichlorethylene — but its work is done in seconds. Metal parts are now dry-cleaned by passing them through a controlled vapor of trichlorethylene. Oil and dirt fall away—even from the deepest crevices—leaving the surface chemically free of foreign matter . . . ready for plating, painting or any other finish.

The use of trichlorethylene means time saved—a boon to Canada's war effort. In aircraft and mechanized transport trichlorethylene cleans engines and moving parts of oil, grease and dirt, making possible quicker, close inspection.

Introduced to Canada a few years ago by Canadian Industries Limited, trichlorethylene is produced from domestic raw materials by the Organic Chemicals Division of C-I-L at Shawinigan Falls. Production of this important chemical solvent is adequate for the demands of war-stimulated industry.

Trichlorethylene is another of the many C-I-L products of Industrial Chemistry which are aiding Canada's War Effort.

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