

**THE DAILY NEWS**  
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 G. A. HUNTER, MANAGING EDITOR

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**EDITORIAL**

DAILY EDITION Friday, April 9, 1943

**In North Africa . . .**

The battle picture in Tunisia looks better every day for our side. Indeed, it is surprisingly good, particularly the last few days. We and our American and French Allies continue to keep moving forward, narrowing the area in which the Nazis and their Italian stooges are becoming bottled up and improving our own position all the while.

It is reasonable to expect a hard fight somewhere before the enemy are finally driven out of North Africa, as it appears certain they will be soon. However, we had expected and predicted harder fights than we have had before we came this far in North Africa.

Possibly some of the other undertakings which we have come to look upon with such trepidation but which we know we must carry out before we win may come easier than we have been anticipating. Of course it is no time to indulge in wishful thinking. So far we have come along very well preparing for the worst instead of hoping too much for the best.

**Acknowledging Good Service . . .**

Now that he has retired as a member of the board of directors of the Prince Rupert General Hospital to which he has given active and valuable service for many years, it is appropriate to say a few words of acknowledgement in appreciation of our good friend, Frank Dibb. As far as his work for the hospital is concerned, and he has expended a great deal of energy in effectively forwarding the interests of the institution in many ways, the fine new hospital building, which was erected a few years ago, was the outstanding accomplishment with which he had much to do. Had the building not been erected when it was, one can imagine what the situation would be today as far as hospital facilities are concerned. Mr. Dibb's decision to withdraw from the board will mark a distinct loss thereto and it is to be hoped that his business interests and health will permit of his resuming activity thereon in the not too far distant future.

**LETTERBOX**

**APPEAL FOR "STRANDED"**

Editor, Daily News:  
 There is a matter of grave importance I feel urged to bring to your attention. It has been discovered during my short stay here in this town and brought to my attention by numerous other people. That is the need of official improvements for the good of all concerned—particularly as regards to social problems of respectable sincere earnest working civilian citizens from other parts of the Dominion and this province who, from one circumstance and another over which they have no control, become stranded—some with others without funds and afflicted with ill health and unable to get medical attentions as well as hospital space, living accommodations, and assurance of steady employment and the right vocation to meet their abilities, to meet up with their expenses and transportation searches for other employment—if such searches be enforced upon them; also climatic disabilities, and inconvenience of railway time. In some cases they are even afflicted with all these difficulties together in one.

What therefore can and are such people to do, I ask? Must they be left to perish and die without care from influenza, pneumonia, and pleurisy, having no place to lay their heads and rest in safety from the elements as well as thieves and annoyance from drunkards or are they to be salvaged from the wreck of their illnesses and brought back to good health and usefulness again and so continue to become worthwhile citizens that will in turn be looked upon to do the same for you should you yourselves meet with similar affliction and misfortune?

If you people of Prince Rupert fail to help other deserving men and women citizens so stranded from other cities who came out to do their bit in the war effort, then how can you expect them to help you when you need help? The problem works both ways. Are we all exploitative bleeders and takers who can not find a spot in our souls and hearts to be givers and so live the life we really believe in and claim to be fighting, working and receiving value for? No citizen can prosper for long who takes all and allows nothing for seed, food, health, for the up-keep of their country, their land, and their national citizenry one to another.

Come let's reason sanely together without sensitive jealousy, evasive buck-passing and the in-

feriority complexities of thin skinned sarcasm upon this matter men and women! in earnest responsible official conference. Let us show the world we are worthwhile people and are capable of taking the lead and setting the better example one to another. This thing of firing people and railroading them with framed dishonor—on flimsy pretexis in prejudice because decent conscientious men and women dare to progressively complain, showing the need for improvement and dare to stand up for that which is right won't make responsibilities any better but worse and will not get you very far.

All things—misdeeds and misjudgments—have their ending, and will have to be answered and accounted for some day sooner or later for it is law of science that it shall be so! The question now is, who's side are we on the common enemy or the Canadian people in general? Too, it's all very well for some sections taking a stand for prohibition but, if we haven't anything progressive to provide to take the place of liquor in the way of rescue stations or hostels for unfortunates, and adequate district nursing, medical and hospital service. Also reading and writing rooms, and recreation halls and comfort stations and lockers

for the safe keeping of their belongings, caretakers and instructors, then of what good and use are we as citizens? We are thus no better than the drunkard and show ourselves to be neglectful and saboteurs of the first order working against our country's interest and well being. As ye sow so shall ye reap!

If the fighting military can jealously look after their members surely the same can be done for the working citizenry.

How about it folks! what do you say? Let's all get together and do something progressive, definite and immediately about this tragic matter of moment that I speak of and that Alderman Black gave voice to in the last issues of your local papers. The way matters are now, it obviously is necessary to get suicidally drunk—not only for the sake of finding accommodation in jail, safe from the elements but also to shut one's eyes to the blues and the impossibility of officialdom, and appalling disrespect and don't care inefficiency of those that should be responsible and who are not. Elaborate buildings are not necessary to meet this very pressing need so long as they are habitable and those who cannot afford to pay or have not sufficient funds to meet their other needs should not

be charged. But those who can should.

We are all guilty of this oversight and neglect, there is no denying this fact. Some are not worth helping I am ready to admit but there are a lot that are deserving and when people are sick it is not for us to question the reason why's and wherefor's or to say it serves them right! No one is perfect. They are in need of help! Especially when they ask for it and appeal for it. Not merciless, cowardly, unprincipled condemnation.

Yours truly,  
 HAROLD H. THORNTON

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