Heading Off the "Snatch"

Once the information leaked out vesterday of the last minute attempt by the Canadian Army to make an eleventh hour "snatch" of Prince Rupert's Y.M.C.A. war services building, repeatedly pledged to the city for use as long dreamed-of civic centre, it did not take an aroused community long to unite as a single and unanimous voice in vigorous protest at the implementation of any such move. Seldom if ever had such united spontaniety been manifested here as indicated in the storm of protest that fell upon the minister of national defence telegraphic representations of every organizaztion having at heart the interests o fthe community.

Fortunately, the propsal was discovered in time to give some chance to the vigorous effort to head it off. Prince Rupert has worked too long to be thus denied by any sudden move on the part of Army authorities to get themselves in possession of a building which might be a very fine officers' club but which would have, little to recommend it in any other way such as an armory for which it is ostensibly being sought.

It was hard for the public to understand why any such move should be made at the eleventh hour to frustrate the Civic Centre project or set it back for years when there are already here war-erected structures admirably suited for military training purposes—even if the need is felt for a more adequate training centre than that already existing in the present Armory situated as it is in the middle of an Army camp containing all the building which could conceivably be ever required for peacetime Army purposes here.

Now the cat is out of the bag and the protests have gone forward in a virtual tidal wave of public indignation, it remains to be seen

whether the government will permit any such barefaced repudiation of undertaking with this community or flouting of aroused public opinion. It might have been just in the nick of time but there is reason to believe that our civic centre will yet be saved. Government intervention we are confident will head off this crass whim on the part of the military authorities.

Battle-line 1946

It is not enough that we welcome back our servicemen after their magnificent service at home and abroad. We must meet their employment problems by a canvass of every business firm if needs be. Above all we must let them know we are prepared to face the future together, not as though we are strangers or they interlopers. The prevailing popular mood should be for a sympathetic understanding rather than any "brush-off."

If Prince Rupert employment opportunities are insufficient to absorb at least those who went from here to the war then immediate action must be instituted to create new opportunities by expansionist policies on the part of business and government.

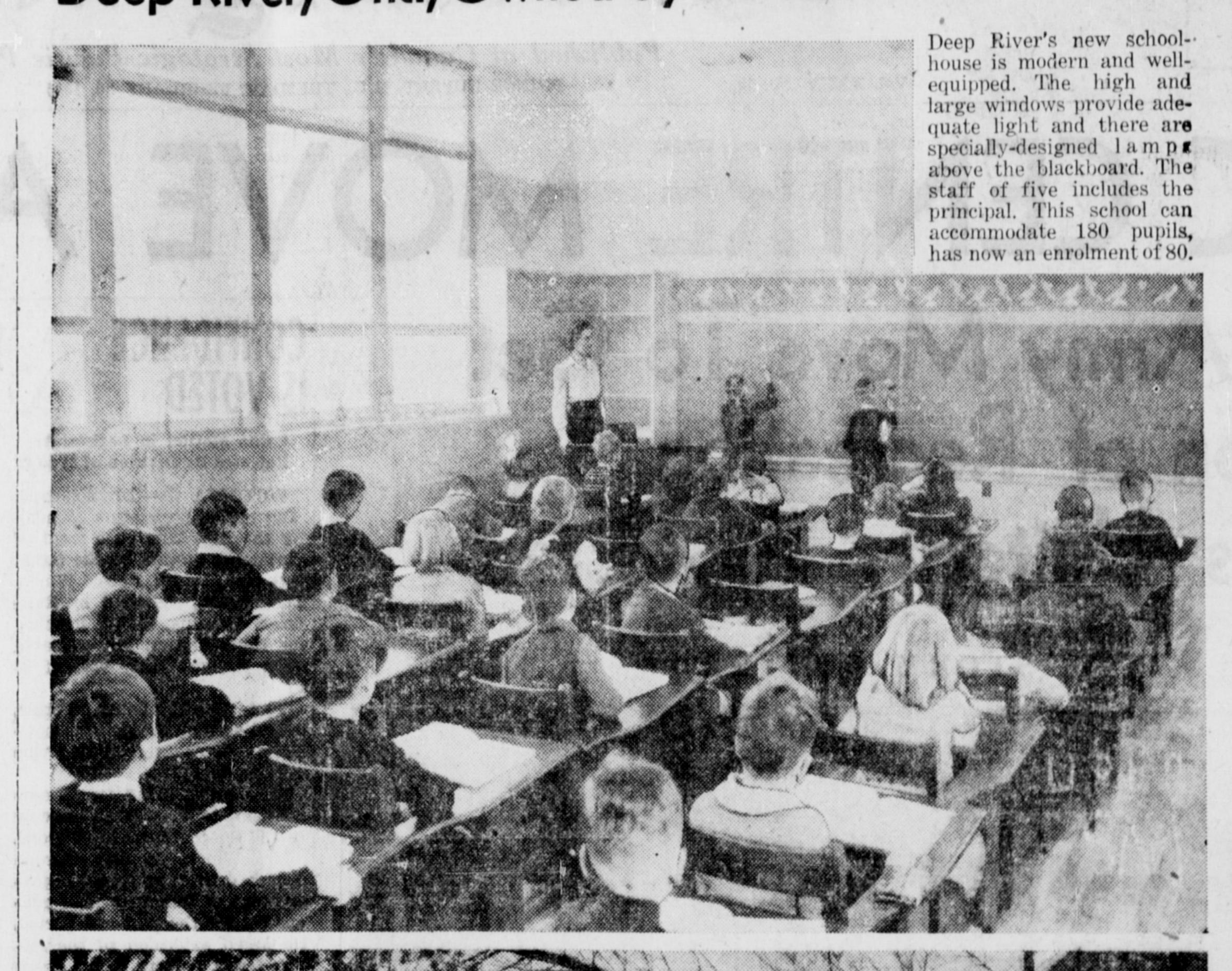
It may be safely said that Prince Rupert is one of the brightest spots in all B. C. for potential developments. These must be brought into active purpose without delay. Dominion, provincial, municipal governments and business should speed up their plans for post-war expansion. Leadership may have to come from private business, for the slothfulness of all governments to take action on their planning is appallingly disappointing.

In the meantime, however, those in business who are alleged to rebuff the veteran when seeking employment should resolve to accord him not only a welcome but a helping hand to secure employment.

Such a resolution must come from the heart. It must be the reflection of an abiding faith in our future as a city and in the destiny of our nation. Above all it must be sincere, so that the sincerity is reflected by our actions and deeds toward those to whom we owe so much.

It starts with ourselves and extends throughout the entire community.

Modern Community for Atomic Research Workers Deep River, Ont., Owned by Dominion Government





CIVIC CENTRE

(Continued from Page 1)

effort which came to light less any development of the Army's than a week before the centre scheme to "grab" the building. was to be taken over as a Civic Centre.

Led by the Civic Centre Association and the city council, at least 20 organizations have dispatched telegrams to the Department of National Defence and Department of War Services at Ottawa urging the government carry out its original commitment of turning the building over to the citizens of Prince Rupert as a Civic Cen-

So unanimous was the wave of objection which resulted in the flood of telegrams to Ottawa that one local citizen remarked that it was the "first time in history that everybody sion. in Prince Rupert got together and agreed on the same thing."

the "Y" building from under the original scheme of turning over the military authorities would poised hand of the Civic Centre | the building to the citizens of soon realize it and abandon the organization became apparent Prince Rupert as a Civic Centre. building anyway. last Friday, when a local Army | Telegrams dispatched by local | nated with Pacific Command, building and emphasized the building dates from the time for taking over the building as serious need for such a facility when its construction was ap- mendation of finance commitan armory for Canada's postwar active and reserve army.

First counter-move was made by the Civic Centre Association and Mayor Daggett on Saturday. Yesterday afternoon the Civic Centre executive contactother local organizations whose indignation inspired the veritable flood of telegrams to Ottawa.

resorting to public pressure.

ganization on January 9 author- Recreational Council. ing on March 1 would head off ed whole-hearted commenda- ing sits belongs to the city.

Conflict Between Two Departments

The dispute, it now appears, has developed into a conflict between the Department of War Services, which is willing to honor its commitment, and the 'Department of National Defence, whose main concern is to provide attractions and facilities for an active and reserve control of Prince Rupert de- ory," he said.

According to information last night it had been placed in the hands of the Judge Advocate General's department for deci-

Y.M.C.A. War Services, as rep-The Army's intention to grab director, is solidly behind the suitable for an armory and that

officer informed Civic Centre organizations yesterday remind-Executive Director Don Forward | ed the government of its comof the plan, said to have origi- mitment in regard to the "Y" by the people of this city. They proved on the informal agree- tee that accounts for February on January 9, the Civic Centre it off the government's hands organization had employed a after the end of the war. Conpermanent staff and made other | siderable correspondence in this ment is they have to be abrupt- ing used to justify its claim. ly terminated.

Publicity on the altercation that, to allow the army to take which was owned by the proover the building was withheld the building from the people of vincial government and part of on the advice of Civic Centre Prince Rupert, would constitute which still is owned by the city. representatives who had hoped a "breach of agreement and a Agreement to turn the property that it could be solved without breach of faith" on the part of over to the Department of War the government.

izing it to take over the build- City council members register- the property on which the build-

tion of Mayor Daggett's action in making early protest in behalf of the city on Saturday and on Monday morning.

Alderman S. B. Johnston, former area commandant here, while making no attempt to justify the Army's attempt to "grab" the building, suggested that a probable explanation would lie in the Defence Department's attempt to attract men to the postwar army by providing attractive surroundings in a good armory.

"They plan to have two units centred in Prince Rupert and they are quite aware of the inarmy which will be charged with adequacy of the present arm-

> make use of the naval drill hall or some other unoccupied military building suitable for the purpose.

Opinion among many citizens

Prince Rupert's Solid Claim

Prince Rupert's claim to the pointed out that, on the ment that the building would totalling \$41,617 be paid. strength of the Department of be put up providing the Civic War Services "go ahead" signal Centre Association would take long-term arrangements which regard is on file with the Civic will cause it great embarras- | Centre Association and is be-

The building itself is con-Services for a nominal sum of They felt that the commit- The situation as it existed at \$1 was completed in the case ment of the Department of War that time was explained to city of the provincial government Services contained in corre- council last night by Mr. For- but, in the case of the city, it spondence of more than a year ward, who presented himself never became effective because ago, and the mure recent tele- along with Maurice Brydges, the government department gram to the Civic Centre or- secretary of the Prince Rupert neglected to make payment of the \$1. Consequently, part of

Other aldermen wanted to recommendation of the commitknow why the Army does not tee of the whole that the proposed subdivision of Cow Bay as at \$3.75 a cubic yard. cutlined by the city engineer be approved and that the city clerk be authorized to take the neceswho are ex-army men is that sary steps to have the plan preresented by Alan Hurst, its B. C. the Y.M.C.A. building is not pared and registered and the property assessed.

Council approved a recommendation of the board of works which concurred in the city engineer's recommendation that a section of sidewalk on Comox Avenue not be rebuilt.

Council approved a recom-

Sale of lot 42, block 34, section I, to J. R. Wrathall for \$1,730, the woman. and lot 9, block 39, section 7, to H. Sites for \$60 was approved amount of space to allow beby council last night on recom- tween each guest at the dinner | mendation of finance commit

Council last night approved a Several te:egranis charged structed on property part of report by the board of works Buy more War Savings Stamps.

Council last night approved a | that a contract has been completed with J. W. Wilson and associates for the quarrying of crushed rock for road building

Modern Etiquette By ROBERTA LEE

Q. Is it good form for a bride to leave the cards attached to her wedding gifts, that the guests may read the names of the donors?

A. This is not a matter of etiquette; /it is entirely optional with the bride and is all right if she cares to do so.

Q. When one is introducing a man to a woman, and the man is a celebrity, should the woman be presented to him?

A. No; present the man to Q. What is the correct

A. Thirty inches.

JUST RECEIVED

Velour and Mohair Chesterfield Suites. Also Solid Hardwood Bedroom Suites.

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LONDON, @ - Six hundred service and ex-service men with admitted in a London theatre, all the seats in the theatre.

recently on production of free tickets issued by the manager He was following the instructions of an unknown who paid their wives and families were approximately \$659 in cash for

DAILY NEWS

Your Assistance Invited

The Daily News is completing a Roll of Honor which it is hoped may contain the name of every man and weman of this city to serve with the armed forces at sea, or, land and in the air. To make this list complete, it is essential to obtain the co-operation of the public as a whole in submitting the names.

It is impossible for the Daily News or any one person to compile the list complete so we are asking YOU to be responsible for the submission of the name of YOUR boy, YOUR girl or YOUR friend.

The following is the information we would like you to fill in and send to-

> ROLL OF HONOR EDITOR Daily News, Prince Rupert

Name	
Service (Army, Navy, Air Force	e)
Rank	
Next of Kin	
Relation	
Address	
Date of Enlistment	
if Casualty, Nature and Date	
Remember, if YOU do no name, no one else may. You a	t submit a certain person

PROPAGAND

Labor-Progressives D Developments In Espir Case

The members of Rupert Labor-Progressie last night deplored the of anti-Soviet propagar pearing in the press. of official government in tron it was felt was ev enough of the extent of the principled propaganda.

The barrage it was say touched off over a week Washington by Drew Po This was followed by Prime ister King's official am ment from Ottawa at which neither the extent of the tivities nor the country volved were indicated. tainly agree with an ime tion into these matters be methods of government cedure were deplorable" Club statement today, 1 this, certain sections of press were given the goand the executives of large firms were im But fortunately, to date of these rumors have vehemently repudiated.

"It is readily admitted espionage agents of Britis at work in the United State vice versa. Yet in spite certain sections such a Globe and Mail and the treal Gazette go so far as for a severence of relation tween Canada and the Union. The fact that the Union has acknowledged ception of some small a of technical information friendship and co-og Thus in the light of the dence let us go forward to tual co-operation and the ly exchange of scientific

before the people of Prins pert at the earliest moment."

The American G.I. ne "Stars and Stripes," re a new subscriber. He is b Hirohito of Japan, who copies a day delivered to perial Household.

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