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G. A. HUNTER, Managing Editor.

MEMBER
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Trouble Lies At Top

We have thought that the higher-ups of the Canadian National Railways might have been spurred to the adoption of a little more helpful and efficacious policy in regard to the maintenance and development of business for their facilities in this part of the country, one of the most important of which is the Prince Rupert dry dock, after our protestations a short time ago. That was what the Daily News had been lately hoping for and believing but the Prince Rupert Industrial Development Committee, and it has been working hard on the matter and should be in a position to know, does not appear to think that Mr. Vaughan, the chairman and president, is doing all that he could in this connection. Today it announces its "extreme dissatisfaction" with a reply which Mr. Vaughan has made to its representatives urging continuation of activity at the shipyard here, advocating specifically the early construction at the plant of at least one vessel for its depleted and inadequate coastal fleet which, with only the ancient and hard-working steamer Prince Rupert remaining, will find itself turning away business this year and next year, too, unless immediate action is taken to secure new ships.

If apathy towards this end of the railway stems from the very head of the company in the person of the chairman and president it is indeed difficult for lesser officials, and, no doubt, the hearts of some of them are in the right place, to be fully effective and enthusiastic.

It is becoming increasingly apparent that the difficulty as far as getting the railway company to assume a forward-looking and progressive policy in connection with this very important line and port, which demonstrated its great usefulness and value in the emergency of war, instead of a niggardly "dollars and cents" attitude of waiting for business to fall into its lap and doing a minimum to assist it, lies right at the top, and possibly, even, beyond the chairman and president himself.

It appears that right here in Prince Rupert we have a lot of fighting still to do to win with our rightful place in the sun.

Civic Centre Situation

There can be little criticism of the decision to defer the acceptance of the Y.M.C.A. war services building here as the civic centre until such time as certain points in the terms of contract for the turning over are clarified. Even if there may be some inconvenience and disappointment over the official opening having to be deferred after full preparations had

been made for it this week-end, it will be well worth waiting a couple of weeks or so if, as a result, a better deal can be obtained. In any case, it is but good business to know fully of what we are going into.

There seems to be some uncertainty as to what the Department of National Defence might have had in mind when it supposedly attempted to get possession of the building. That is one of the points that was obscure and may fittingly enough be cleared up.

The fuss that was raised over the whole matter this week may not have been in vain. It at least brought things to a head and may speed the final settlement on the most favorable terms.

Mr. Hart's Program

Northern and Central British Columbia will, no doubt, share large measure of benefit from the extensive program of development in highway and public works projects as well as other fields suggested in Premier Hart's keynote address in the Legislature yesterday.

Of particular local interest is the announcement of a complete rural electrification plan for Terrace district, a start on which has already been made and the machinery for further extension of which is on the ground.

Roads in all parts of the province are reportedly in a deplorable condition, the Skeena River area being not alone in that regard. We may expect the attention which the Prince Rupert Highway, for instance, so badly needs.

It is high time that a program such as that now pledged was undertaken. Probably, it would have been instituted had it been possible to provide men and materials earlier. But it will be all the more timely now.

Of direct interest to the central interior of the province, particularly the eastern section, is the statement of the provincial Prime Minister that the commission idea of forest administration, as proposed by the Sloan report, is not to be implemented but that direct departmental administration will be continued under the minister of lands, Mr. Kennedy, the north's sole cabinet representative.

The Matter of Spain

The situation which has arisen currently over Spain and the insistence of the thoroughly unpopular Francisco Franco upon maintaining his dictatorship has its spectacular phases and is attracting a deal of attention but there is no reason but to suppose that it is little more than a tempest in the teapot.

The fact that Great Britain and United States with France are taking an active part in the matter by suggesting that the people of Spain oust the strutting little Fascist should serve to speed his elimination which is bound to come sooner or later.

There are possibilities of a more or less minor flare-up to be sure but the danger of a major conflagration in arms is not very potent. At that, however, it may be a source of irritation for a time.



WALLACE BELFRY— At 21 and in his freshman year, he is managing editor of Varsity, the University of Toronto's eight-page daily, the world's largest student publication. He will be interviewed on Canadian Cavalcade, on Monday, March 4, from 8 to 8:30 p.m. E.S.T. Belfry got his discharge as an ordinary seaman only a few months ago from the Royal Canadian Navy.

Rotary Club Sees Colorful Films

The magnificence of British Columbia's scenery and its opportunities for all types of game hunting and sport fishing were beautifully portrayed to the Prince Rupert Rotary Club on Thursday afternoon in colored film presented by James Cunningham, chief game commissioner for B.C. Showing scenery all the way from the Stikine River country to the southeastern part of the province, the pictures contained remarkable shots of game in natural habitat. Vivid scenes of trout fishing throughout the province deeply impressed the Rotarians. Guests at the meeting, welcomed by club president James H. Thompson, were Ernest and Walter Hammond of Vancouver; Frank Brown, Penticton; Richard Evans, Smithers; Inspector H. H. Mansell, provincial police; Game Inspector George Martin, Carl Dybhavn, Vancouver; P. D. Bannerman, Victoria; Bruce Rogers, Game Inspector Thomas Van Dyk, Prince George; William Drake, Vancouver.

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HOLDING DOWN FRONTIER

By PEG DEEDER, Francois Lake

One sometimes wonders what would happen if all the frontiersmen and women should suddenly decide that life in the wilderness is much too raw and rugged, and move to the cities. Certain it is that, within a few years, all the clearings, made with axe, grub-hoe, and strong backs, would be reclaimed by second

growth. Wild animals would once again inhabit the fields from which man has long held them at bay.

In British Columbia, at least three-fourths of the vast province must be termed "frontier." In this hinterland there is no town with a population of ten thousand people. The little towns and villages, comprised mostly of a few hundred persons, are reminiscent of mining towns shown in old flicker-films of by-gone day. They are thrown up with no regard to planning. In the spring their main streets are hub deep in mire. Many of the business buildings are paint-peeled and decrepit, if indeed they have ever been painted at all.

Ancient, one-room log school-houses may be seen at intervals along the dirt roads. These take care of the grade school children, some of whom must attend from a distance of five or more miles away. There are no school buses. High school students must either take correspondence courses or their parents must arrange to board them in the village. This is usually prohibitive, because people in the back-woods do not have very much money.

Their produce must be shipped, except for the small quantity locally consumed, hundreds of miles to Vancouver. There, in the extreme south of the province are the only processing plants. Freight rates are high, and all of the manufactured goods the frontier people use must be freighted in, and cost dearly.

The women of the frontier look longingly at advertisements depicting the new labor-saving devices of the modern kitchen. They, who are lucky indeed, if they have a pump in the kitchen, and an old fashioned gas washer, console themselves by saying, "Maybe by the time the children are grown and have homes, those things will come to this country."

First South, Then North?

What they mean is that when the south of the province, with its milder climate and larger voting population, is properly equipped with electric power and modern farm homes, then, and only then, will some attention be given to the problems of the remainder of the province.

The population of B.C.'s hinterland has not increased in many years. True, people come, and are impressed with the scenery and the potential productivity of the country; but they immediately ask: "Where is your market? Vancouver?"

That's too far, too much freight! What? No manufacturing? No payrolls? Do you mean there is no packing plant this side of Vancouver? No railroad connecting your northern port of Prince Rupert with the Peace River country? No rail or highway into your mineral belt in the north? No pulp mills? No nothing this side of Vancouver?"

These are the questions they ask; then the prospective settlers say a very emphatic "Goodbye!" Still, the pioneers continue to hold down the frontier. They love their country, and many of them were born there. There is narrowness and ignorance among them; but, on the whole, they are tolerant and fair-minded people and wonderful neighbors.

Co-ops are coming to the fore, much to the disgust of those who have waxed fat from fleecing the producer. People are learning to buy and sell co-operatively. Enough of the settlers have stuck together over a period of years that they now begin to see clear sailing for the ship of "co-operation."

But the frontier people know that, until some inducement for settlers is provided in the way of payroll industries, hydro-electric power, and transportation, the hinterland of B.C. will remain a frontier.

"We can't put the cart before the horse," they say, "but bringing in thousands of settlers until we can assure them a livelihood."

REBEKAH HEAD IS VISITOR TO LOCAL LODGE

Mrs. H. D. Hollingshead, president of the Rebekah assembly of B.C. and Mrs. Lottie MacDougal, one of her officers, who arrived Wednesday from Vancouver to pay an official visit to the local Rebekah lodge, will leave by tonight's train for Calgary to attend the Rebekah assembly in that city. They will visit lodges in the interior of British Columbia on their way back to Vancouver.

During her official visit here, a very good turnout of members of Centennial Rebekah Lodge, Number 40, greeted Mrs. Hollingshead at a meeting held Wednesday night in the Oddfellows' Hall. They were rewarded by hearing an inspiring address given by the president in which she brought out the fundamental and far-reaching effects of the work of the Order in B.C. The Order showed a successful year in all phases of endeavour, particularly in the United War Relief effort, in which it worked through the International Red Cross.

Mrs. Hollingshead stressed the fact that the population now stands, hydro-electric power would not be a paying proposition; but, without it, manufacturing industry will not move into the country. Give us the facilities, and the settlers will come. Give us the settlers and we'll provide our own markets. Give us the markets and transportation will find its way into the rich, far-flung corners of this province."

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need to carry on this work... the rehabilitation period... A substantial increase in membership was also shown throughout the province during the year. Mrs. Hollingshead and Mrs. MacDougal, one of her officers, who arrived Wednesday from Vancouver to pay an official visit to the local Rebekah lodge, will leave by tonight's train for Calgary to attend the Rebekah assembly in that city. They will visit lodges in the interior of British Columbia on their way back to Vancouver.

Court whist was enjoyed eight tables in play. Prizes were: ladies, Mrs. Maguire, Mrs. Pearl Howe, Clarence Campbell, Alex...

Allen Morgan left last on a trip to Vancouver brief visit.

Clarence Salter, northern erintendent of Canadian Mining Co., sailed last night on a business trip to Vancouver.

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS
TAKE NOTICE that letters probate of the last will of Henry Schmidt, otherwise known as Henry Smith, deceased, formerly of Prince Rupert, British Columbia, who died at Prince Rupert, British Columbia, on or about the 29th day of November, 1944, were issued to Alfred J. Steinert, sole executor of Prince Rupert, British Columbia, out of the Prince Rupert District Registry of the Supreme Court of British Columbia on the 18th day of February, 1946.
All persons indebted to the said estate are required to pay the amount of their indebtedness to the solicitors of Alfred J. Steinert, forthwith, and pursuant to Section 28 of the Trustee Act all persons having claims against the said estate are required to file the same properly authenticated with the solicitors of Alfred J. Steinert on or before the 15th day of April, 1946, after which time distribution of the said estate will be made, having regard only to claims which have been so filed.
DATED at Prince Rupert, B. C., this 23rd day of February, 1946.
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