

The Daily News

PRINCE RUPERT, B.C. CIVIC CENTRE SUPPLEMENT SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 1946

NEW CIVIC CENTRE HERE A MODEL FOR CANADA

Congratulations

AS MEMBERS OF THIS COMMUNITY WITH AN ESTABLISHED INTEREST IN ITS WELFARE, WE ARE AFFORDED GREAT PLEASURE IN CONGRATULATING OUR CITIZENS ON THE OPENING OF THE NEW CIVIC CENTRE BUILDING.

KNOWING THE UNREMITTING YEARS OF EFFORT THAT ARE BEHIND THIS SUCCESS, WE ARE SURE THAT ITS FACILITIES WILL BE FULLY APPRECIATED!

**Gordon and
Anderson**

"Everything for the Home"

... the cheapest thing in the world, yet with me men have within them the power to climb mountains; to fly the air like birds; to gain the wealth of the sea. I am the secret of good health. I am good health."

"What is the first task and the purpose of sport from the objective and Christian point of view but to cultivate the dignity and harmony of the human body to develop its health, vigor, agility and gracefulness?"

Co-operation ...

... between Prince Rupert citizens and the Government authorities gave us our new CIVIC CENTRE.

CO-OPERATIVE EFFORT, too, will make

this community enterprise a success ...

Prince Rupert Fisherman's Co-operative

Kaien Consumers' Co-operative

PRINCE RUPERT

Community Enterprise Is Being Watched by Cities Throughout the Dominion

Prince Rupert's program of community-sponsored recreation is being watched keenly by many towns and cities in British Columbia and other parts of Canada. As a recreation enterprise it is unique in that it is being run and financed not only for the citizens but by the citizens with only minor financial outside help.

Not only is Rup-Rec outstanding in this regard but so is the Civic Centre organization, which, with a courage which makes some cautious local souls shiver, has undertaken to finance and operate one of the largest community buildings of its kind in the Dominion.

This combination of organizations, Rup-Rec and Civic Centre, destined to eventually become a single working organization geared to the recreational and cultural needs of the community, is creating history.

The fact that both the Civic Centre and Rup-Rec are purely citizens' programs which sprang "from the grassroots" and have blossomed into powerful progressive movements is a tribute to the independent spirit of this city.

"The work of the Recreational Council in Prince Rupert has put the city in the spotlight," said an observer recently. "It is being watched closely by other towns which are developing recreational activities. Rup-Rec is distinctive in that it is purely a citizens' movement and is recognized as such."

Not only is the movement being watched closely by other communities, but it is also subject to the approving gaze of Major Ian Eisenhart, director of the national "Fitness First" program, with which it ties in closely, and with the provincial Department of Education's Pro-Rec program, whose director, Jerry Mathisen, gave valuable advice on the founding of the Recreation Council last June.

Mr. Mathisen, who was highly pleased with the community spirit behind Rup-Rec, has since recommended that the Provincial government's contribution to it, instituted in the regime of H. G. Perry, president of Prince Rupert Daily News, as minister of education, be raised. Even the enlarged contribution, however, will constitute only a minor part of the total operating cost of the organization.

The Civic Centre Association's action in deciding to take over the building and have it run by the citizens, for the citizens, is supported by the community as a whole, and indicates the strong consciousness of the responsibility which the people of this city hold for their own well being.

Programs in arts, field athletics, gymnastics, music, drama, and photography are all contained in future plans of the Civic Centre Recreational Board.



CIVIC CENTRE HEAD—Ald. T. Norton Youngs.

CIVIC CENTRE ASS'N OFFICERS

President — Alderman T. N. Youngs (Junior Chamber of Commerce).
Vice-President — Dr. R. G. Large (Gyro Club).
Secretary — Alderman C. G. Ham (Junior Chamber of Commerce).
Treasurer — D. C. Stevenson (Rotary Club).
Directors — A. D. Ritchie (Rotary Club); W. F. Stone (Gyro Club); Gunnar Selvig (Sons of Norway); Oscar Havroy (Sons of Norway); Don Fitch (public-at-large); Art Murray (public-at-large).

OFFICERS OF REC COUNCIL

President — William Noble.
Vice-President — Alderman T. N. Youngs.
Secretary-Treasurer — Maurice Brydges.
Directors — S. D. Johnston, Miss Florence Parker, Dr. R. C. Bamford, Duncan Wing.
Finance Committee — Alderman George Hills, V. G. Houston, E. V. Whiting, Alex Armstrong.

CIVIC CENTRE BUILDING IS FULFILMENT OF 20-YEAR DREAM

Funds Raised By Gyro and Rotary Clubs in 1925 and Early Private Contributions Were Basis of Civic Centre Fund

When the citizens of Prince Rupert accept the Y. M. C. A. War Services building for their Civic Centre at tomorrow's ceremonies, they will receive the fruit of a 20-year aspiration. For in spite of many delays and frustrations, the vision has been alive in this city for that length of time.

Sometimes during that 20-year interval, it is true, the plan seemed dormant, but it sprang to life periodically, and seven years ago the people of the city took hold of the idea vigorously, developing the preparedness both financial and moral, which is a strong factor in enabling them to take over the present, fine, war-constructed building.

Leadership in the community centre idea was undertaken originally by the city's two senior service clubs, Gyro and Rotary, which back in 1925 started a program to raise money for a \$50,000 Y.M.C.A. building. The plan never succeeded in its original form but the money raised by both clubs, assisted by other organizations, today is part of the Civic Centre fund which may be required for permanent acquisition of the present day community centre.

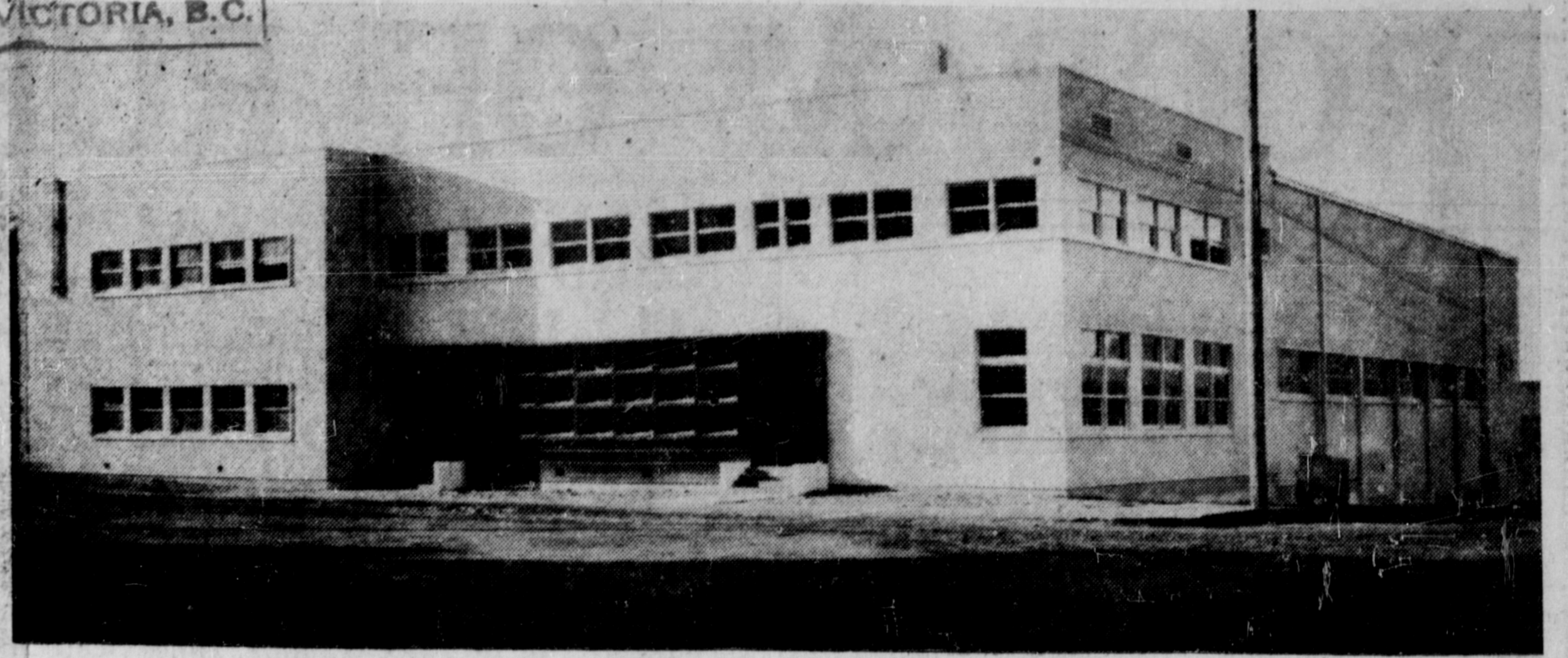
When the Civic Centre committee was formed in 1939 it consisted of the Gyro Club, Rotary Club and Junior Chamber of Commerce. The Sons of Norway were invited to join in 1939 and entered the movement in 1940. Since that time they have been among the most ardent supporters of the Civic Centre.

The Civic Centre Association, an incorporated body, came into being in June 1942 and at that time its component organizations approved the transfer of funds held by them to the Civic Centre fund.

The original contributions consisted of \$5,000 by the Gyro Club, \$3,000 by the Rotary Club, a private donation of \$1,000 by C. H. Orme, and \$500 by Dr. W. T. Kergin which was turned over to the Rotary Club for application.

(Continued on Page 4)

PRINCE RUPERT CIVIC CENTRE



Fine new building being turned over by Department of National War Services to Prince Rupert Civic Centre Association.



DIRECTOR — Don Forward, manager of Prince Rupert's Civic Centre.

Co-ordinates Rec Council, Centre

The Civic Recreation Board is an outgrowth of the Civic Centre Association and the Prince Rupert Recreation Council. It is a co-ordinating body whose duty it is to operate the Civic Centre building as an agency of both the parent organizations.

On its directorate are members of the executive of both the Civic Centre Association and Recreation Council as well as members of the finance committee of the Rec Council.

Chairman of the Civic Recreation Board is Alderman T. N. Youngs, who is also president of the Civic Centre Association. Vice-chairman is William Noble, who is chairman of the Rec Council. Directors are Dr. R. G. Large, Alderman Nora Arnold, W. F. Stone and Gunnar Selvig.

ON THIS SIGNIFICANT OCCASION

Pioneer-Canadian Laundries

SALUTE THE ENTERPRISE AND GOOD FORTUNE OF THE PEOPLE OF PRINCE RUPERT

● *Enjoyment and responsibility for this magnificent Civic Centre will be a strong unifying force in the community.*

OUR BEST WISHES TO THE LEADERS AND STAFF OF THE CIVIC CENTRE AND TO THE CITIZENS OF PRINCE RUPERT. CARRY ON!

PIONEER-CANADIAN LAUNDRIES

Third Avenue Prince Rupert

Port Alberni, which has taken raised by the citizens who voluntarily contribute one per cent of their income for its support.

W. D. LAMBIE

Monarch Life Assurance Co.

Pioneer sportsman, leader in the local recreational movement and President of the Prince Rupert Gyro Club, has asked us to extend his congratulations and best wishes on the opening of the Civic Centre.

A HEALTHY BODY IS THE BEST LIFE INSURANCE

To all those who have labored to create our new Civic Centre, we tender our thanks. May it give many years of useful service to our community.

GORDON'S HARDWARE

• Sporting Goods - Tools - Builders' Hardware
Paints and Wallpaper - Glass
Household Hardware
Bicycles - Floor Coverings - Electrical Goods

McBride Street

Phone 311

Our Young People are our Real Wealth!

THE NEW CIVIC CENTRE CAN BE OUR STRONGEST AGENCY, OUTSIDE THE HOME, IN DEVELOPING HEALTHY AND RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS.

WE CONGRATULATE PRINCE RUPERT ON TAKING OVER THIS FINE BUILDING

Morgan's Men's & Boys' Wear