Prince Rupert Daily News
Tuesday, December 31, 1946

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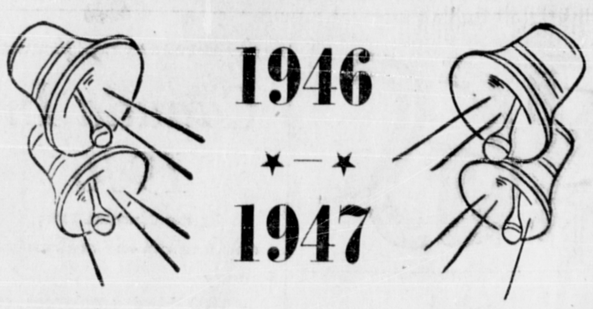

LOOKING BACK, we must admit that 1946 was in some ways a year of recession in Prince Rupert but it was also a year in which considerable progress was made in transition from war to peace conditions. The war boom burst in Prince Rupert during the year which fades with this day and some people, who seemingly did not think there would be a reaction from the artificiality of the war stimulus, found the shock a little hard to take. On the other hand, there were the more realistic and probably the more numerous although less voluble whose expectations encompassed the progress of events such as have and are transpiring and feel no disappointment or discouragement.

So 1946 fades out, not as one of Prince Rupert's very satisfactory years but as an epoch of twelve-month through which we had to pass and, as a result of which, there are few who can say they did not do too badly after all and through which progress was made to better things.

We enter 1947 with some uncertainty to be sure. Uncertainty is the order of the world these days. There are many things to be settled, many situations that must be straightened out, many differences that must be squared away, many difficulties that must be reduced, many problems of many kinds that must be met or solved—and these things are not only local but provincial, national, indeed worldwide.

The world has become smaller relatively through the speed of transport and communication. No longer is any community, section, or nation sufficient unto itself. What affects people on the opposite side of the globe may well be reflected upon us.

The point we endeavour to make to the people of Prince Rupert as we speak to them through this column on this New Year's Eve is that Prince Rupert cannot hope to have the sudden fulfilment of its hopes and expectations—materially or any other way for that matter—until a stability, a spirit and an attitude comes to an area that traverses far beyond our own confines. The change, in the physical nature of things, cannot come overnight or over-year.

The year 1946 was a year which saw world peace, at least the fighting to large extent was ended, but it was not a year of harmony nor of very apparent goodwill. Distrust, aggrandizement and suspicion were still rampant motivating spirits and our accomplishments were hampered because of them.

However, we can look forward to the year ensuing to bring us further on the road to a recovery of those cherished conditions of goodwill and mutual understanding which, in a world whose peoples are so much more closely in contact one with the other, are essential to real and lasting re-establishment and progress.

With these better conditions becoming established between and within the nations, the sections and the communities, we may be confident that we in Prince Rupert, blessed as we still are with our heritage of nature's benefits, rich and so fortuiutously placed, will make further progress toward realization of permanent aspirations and hopes which, so often through the years, have been disturbed and, at times, seemingly frustrated.

Meantime, it is for us to maintain our courage and our energy, work hard and co-operatively among ourselves, radiate good cheer and optimism —that the New Year may be a better one than the old in a happy, progressing and mutually helpful community.

May we be thankful and appreciative of the blessings and benefits which we do enjoy and which so many less fortunate than we would be glad to have and to use.

We can sincerely and earnestly wish you all a Happy New Year with the sure knowledge that, if we all help to make it such, it shall be so.

Sears, Roebuck and Company, one of the largest U.S. mail order and department store organizations, spent 79% of their 1945 advertising dollars in daily newspapers.

The light is green and we're speeding to wish you a wonderful New Year filled with joys.

67 TAXI
(Ross Bros.)

SWITZERLAND'S THIRD-TERM PRESIDENT — Philip Etter, member of the Swiss federal council, who has been elected president for 1946, is pictured at his home in Geneva with some members of his family which include five sons and five daughters. Left to right are Monika, Pia, Mrs. Etter, Margarete and President Etter. This will be the third time the popular statesman has held the Alpine republic's highest office. He will officially take office on New Year's Day. President Etter's previous terms were in 1932 and 1942.

EMPLOYMENT HOLDING UP

Situation "Remarkaby Good," Says Report of Minister of Labor

OTTAWA, (CP)— Canada's employment situation is "remarkably good, confounding pessimists who prophesied widespread idleness," Labor Minister Humphrey Mitchell said yesterday in a year-end message. Reports from a large group of employers showed employment at more than 45 per cent higher than in 1939.

BALFOUR DEATH FOUND ACCIDENT

Body Found on Beach Near Port Edward Positively Identified

The body of a man discovered on the beach at Ridley Island, near Port Edward, at the weekend, was identified at a coroner's inquest here Monday afternoon as that of John Balfour, 229 Albany Avenue, Toronto, who was drowned when a gillnet boat foundered in a storm near Port Edward on October 31.

Identification was made by Victor Dell, ex-Air Force Officer, and partner of Balfour, who survived more than 12 hours in the half-sunken boat and saw Balfour disappear into the water when a huge wave rolled the vessel over.

The two men had bought the boat from a cannery at Port Edward and were taking it to Prince Rupert when the engine stopped. They clung to the derelict all night while it smashed its stern on a reef and then drifted shoreward.

Dell described to the coroner's jury the harrowing night that preceded Balfour's disappearance after he had identified a brown leather packet as similar to that worn by Balfour, and a pair of long rubber boots as resembling a pair he had lent the missing man.

Later, he positively identified a cigarette lighter taken from the body as Balfour's. Papers on the body also bore the name of John Balfour.

The jury brought in a verdict that Balfour came to his death on or about 5:30 a.m. October 31 as a result of the foundering of a gillnet boat on the west side of Ridley Island. The jury concluded that death was accidental, either by drowning or exposure.

Constable G. L. Simons of Port Edward told of how the body had been discovered lying on the beach by Chetman Leavitt, Port Edward trapper, late Saturday afternoon. On Sunday, Constable Simonds, Albert Carlsen and Leavitt went over to Ridley Island from Port Edward and brought the body back to the cannery village.

Identity of the dead man was confirmed by Harry M. Stanley, local taxi operator, and a friend of Balfour.

Jurymen, under Coroner M. M. Stephens, were W. M. Watts, foreman, W. S. Noble, John Kelly, Robert C. Wood, Arnold Barton and Cherrill McIntyre.

Too Many O'Malleys So Scot Substituted

LONDON, (CP) — Because Bing Crosby played Father O'Malley in two films, Alastair Sim, who was to have been Father O'Malley in the British film "Captain Boycott" will now appear as Father McKeough, a Scot living in Ireland.

Sim, however, doesn't mind the change of name and nationality, for he is an ex-professor of phonetics at New College, Edinburgh, and a pure Scot who will not have to acquire a temporary Scots accent.

1946 IN PRINCE RUPERT

(continued from page 1)

APRIL

11—The Eventide Home, housed in the rear of the Dyer Block, was gutted by flames which took the life of one of the inmates and sent five others to hospital suffering from burns and shock. Bert Johansen, age 55, was burned to death a few feet from a doorway. Later, a second man, David John Robertson, succumbed.

23—Claims for revision of existing conditions in regard to municipal taxation of provincially-owned property, social service costs, administration of justice and provincial grants were contained in Prince Rupert's brief presented to the Goldenberg commission enquiring into provincial-municipal relations.

29—H.M.C.S. Crescent, sleek Canadian destroyer, made her first visit to Prince Rupert on an emergency run with a sick crewman. Her first official visit was scheduled for May 3.

MAY

3—Prince Rupert experienced the warmest day of the year as the temperature went above 73 degrees. Temperatures throughout the province were 20 degrees warmer than average for that time of the year.

13—Prince Rupert Fish Exchange experienced what was believed to be the greatest halibut landings in a single day in the history of the port when 987,000 pounds were unloaded from more than 30 boats.

21—Communications between Prince Rupert and other continental cities advanced a step with the inauguration of a land telephone long distance line between Prince Rupert and Vancouver. The line was officially transferred with conversations by prominent citizens at both ends.

23—Margaret Strachan was elected Queen of the Kinsmen Club's May 24 celebration in a four-way popularity contest. She was crowned the following day with brilliant pageantry.

JUNE

4—Announcement was made that the former American overseas stock terminal warehouse was to be thrown open for bidding by tender. The announced plan was that the building should be put to use rather than torn down.

7—The many industrial opportunities in the Prince Rupert area were laid bare to a fact-finding commission representing the provincial government and the Canadian National Railways representatives at a round table conference.

12—City Council decided to appeal a ruling by the Provincial Public Utilities Commission in which the latter denied the city the right to grant a bus franchise to the Black and White Transportation Co.

JULY

2—Jarvis H. McLeod, local Collector of Customs received word that he had been awarded the Order of the British Empire in the King's Honors List.

13—A gold medal, donated by Al Manson, was posted by the Prince Rupert Public Relations Committee for the first car to cross Canada by highway from Halifax to Prince Rupert.

16—Members of the United Fishermen and Allied Workers Union threatened to strike against local fishing plant operators over overtime rates and wage increases.

24—Prince Rupert was host to H.M.C.S. Uganda, cruiser, and H.M.C.S. Crescent, destroyer, which moored here for a five-day visit. An interesting round of entertainment was planned.

AUGUST

7—Terrace was the scene of the annual convention of the Associated Boards of Trade of Central B.C., which included delegates from several Alaskan cities as well as representatives from towns as far east as Prince George.

15—Chief Petty Officer and Mrs. L. A. C. Paige of Halifax claimed the Manson gold medal for being the first to drive an automobile from Halifax to Prince Rupert. They drove 4,913 miles in two weeks.

16—Transport Minister Hon. Lionel Chevrier informed Mayor Daggett that a "serious unemployment situation" might result if a new coastwise vessel was to be built at the Prince Rupert Dry Dock for Canadian National Steamships.

19—Prince Rupert's Civic Centre carnival was officially declared opened by Mrs. L. A. C. Paige who, with her husband, were guests of the city. The carnival was the first to be held at the new Civic Centre.

21—Canada's Governor-General, Viscount Harold Alexander of Tunis, paid a brief visit to the city accompanied by his family. The vice-regal party arrived on H.M.C.S. Crescent, and left two hours later by train.

SEPTEMBER

1—Acropolis Hill was formally re-christened Franklin D. Roosevelt Park by Major-General George P. Hays, United States Army, at a ceremony attended by dignitaries from United States, Canada and Alaska. The Americn cruiser Tucson ws in port for the occasion.

2—The Queen Charlotte Airlines flying boat Skeena Queen crashed into the sea off Tsimpsean Peninsula carrying seven persons to their death. Disappearing in a fog, the plane was the object of a widespread search. Four of the bodies were never found.

14—Some 8,000 Prince Rupert citizens collected their Number Six ration books during the distribution period which ended September 14. There were about 2,000 less than collected the Number Five book two years earlier.

20—Prince Rupert was swept by the first violent autumn storm during which three inches of rain fell in 24 hours to the accompaniment of a 40-mile-an-hour wind.

24—Federal Fisheries Minister H. F. G. Bridges arrived in the city in the course of a western tour. He met members of the fishing industry at a banquet given in his honor. Fish was served.

OCTOBER

8—Search parties went out to seek Hans Jacobson, 73-year-old man who disappeared while on a hunting trip on Porcher Island. A son came out from Winnipeg and made several attempts to find his father.

9—Hon. Alphonse Fournier, federal Minister of Public Works visited the city. He was escorted to various places on the waterfront by members of the city council and the fishing industry.

11—According to information received from Ottawa, Prince Rupert was justified in expecting "several" grain ships to call here this winter to load grain for export.

19—W. R. "Wop" May, general manager of Canadian Pacific Airlines, visited the city and made a survey of Tugwell Island as a site for an aircraft landing strip.

21—H.M.C.S. Chatham, wartime naval base, was re-commissioned as a Naval Reserve division and recruits were being sought.

NOVEMBER

1—Prince Rupert counted up the heaviest Hallowe'en damage in its history following a night in which windows and street lights in all parts of the city were smashed. Damage was estimated at more than $1,000.

5—Alaska cities, short of supplies because of an American maritime strike, had begun to depend increasingly on Prince Rupert for food shipments. Coastwise steamers and small craft were taking supplies north regularly.

12—The new Union Steamships vessel Coquitlam paid its first visit to Prince Rupert and was visited by many citizens. The second vessel, the Camosun, made its first call a few days later.

19—The city experienced the lowest temperature in many years—17.2 degrees, which caused the populace to shiver and closed King Edward school for half a day.

DECEMBER

2—The local halibut boat Lorna H. holed her bottom on a reef at White Rocks near Banks Island, as she sought shelter from a storm. The boat was brought to Prince Rupert for repairs.

3—Word was received here that grain shipments through the local elevator had been cancelled because of the condition of Alberta wheat which required drying prior to shipment. The Chamber of Commerce protested.

12—Alderman Nora E. Arnold was elected Prince Rupert's first woman mayor when she defeated Mayor H. M. Daggett by a four-vote margin at the civic polls.

17—Deep snow, turned to slush by a heavy rain, almost tied up city traffic. Workers at the Co-op's Fairview Bay plant were taken to their jobs by boat.

30—The body of a man identified as John Balfour, lost in a storm off Port Edward, was discovered on a beach at Ridley Island. Identification was made by Victor Dell, his partner.

31—The Daily News wishes all its readers a happy and prosperous New Year.

Indian Road Links China and Russia

NEW DELHI, (CP)—A scheme to link India directly with China and Russia by extending the Khagan Valley Road was revealed recently by Dr. Khan Sahib, premier of the Northwest Frontier province.

Dr. Khan Sahib was speaking on frontier roads and other public work schemes as envisaged in a five-year plan for the post-war development of his province.

He said that certain roads classified as national highways would be maintained at the expense of the government of India through the agency of the provincial public works department.

ANCIENT RIDDLES

Riddles were known to the ancient Egyptians.

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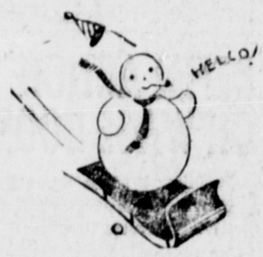
Our thanks to our many friends for past kindness.
GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY NEW YEAR
J. T. GILLINGHAM, Divisional Commander



We wish all our friends
THE SEASON'S COMPLIMENTS
CANADIAN FISH & COLD STORAGE CO. LIMITED
PRINCE RUPERT — BRITISH COLUMBIA

As another year draws to a close we extend to our many friends and customers the sincere wish that the year 1947 may hold full measure of Health, Happiness and Prosperity.
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