Prince Rupert Daily News
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COAL STRIKE COLLAPSE

WE MAY WONDER about the circumstances which actuated John L. Lewis in suddenly calling off the soft coal miners' strike on Saturday but the important and gratifying thing is that he saw the light and sent his followers back to their jobs before the extremity of a national if not international, economic disaster had been reached.

We are not going to talk about Mr. Lewis losing the strike or losing face. On the other hand, we are going to suggest that it was a courageous thing for Mr. Lewis, after having gone as far as he did, to finally act as he did.

Obviously, the big strike was a failure. Nothing was accomplished as a result of it unless it be that it served to demonstrate on a large scale the futility of the strike weapon and the urgent necessity of some other way being found to obviate or settle disputes. That way, it is clear, lies in the course of sensible and understanding employer - employee relationships.

Ketchikan Visit—

(continued from page 1)

pert Chamber of Commerce and the city of Prince Rupert. He expressed hope that any service which Prince Rupert might be to Ketchikan and soueastern Alaska in the present emergency might bring about closer and permanent relationships

Allan Armstrong, secretary of the Prince Rupert Junior Chamber of Commerce, expressed the hope that young businessmen of Prince Rupert and Ketchikan would be able to exchange visits. He would like to see a Junior Chamber of Commerce in Ketchikan.

Harry King, past president of the Terrace Board of Trade, described his town as the "playground and bread basket of Prince Rupert." It might well be the game for Ketchikan. As an illustration of what central British Columbia could produce, Mr. King announced that his companion, Kenneth Kerr, had brought along a box of fine Terrace apples which he asked the people of Ketchikan to put to the test and compare with apples from anywhere else in the world.

Allan Benson, secretary of the Hazelton Board of Trade, commented on the progress and advancement he had seen in Ketchikan on his first visit in 23 years. Potatoes and hay were only two of the items of food which central British Columbia was capable of producing for the people of southeastern Alaska and to meet the requirements of which market, production would now have to be planned.

Adversity Now, Then Prosperity

James T. Harvey, past president of the Associated Boards of Trade of Central British Columbia, briefly addressing "our best friends and closest neighbors—the people of southeastern Alaska," saw southeastern Alaska and North-Central British Columbia, both suffering from remoteness from their seats of government, in the position of poor relations. Nevertheless, they were rich in resources, endowed with enthusiasm and possessed of the will and energy to overcome handicaps. "Adversity is bringing us together as friends and from this friendship we may well emerge prosperous. What one of United States great statesmen had said of the peoples of Canada and United States—"we are one and the same people, both having the same aspirations and inspirations"—was particularly true of the people in southeastern Alaska and north-central British Columbia.

Prince Rupert and southeastern Alaska had joined economic advantages and resources during the war to make one great unit for military government purposes. Knit together in the agony of war, and made truly complimentary one to the other, there was everything to gain by cooperating similarly in the ways of peace, by tightening the bonds and examining the ways by which one might use the other and by taking every opportunity to visit one anoher.

"We would like to have you think of Prince Rupert as your port, our railway as your railway, our highway as your highway, our outlet as your outlet, our hinterland as your hinterland," said Mr. Harvey. "We would like to work with you and join our voice with yours in making this part of the continent—our part—a better and more prosperous place to live in."

Applewhaite Makes Appeal

E. T. Applewhaite, secretary of the Prince Rupert Chamber of Commerce, assured the people of Ketchikan and southeastern Alaska that Prince Rupert was appreciative of their business and friendship. Prince Rupert, in its efforts to build up as a port for the Orient and United Kingdom, had perhaps, passed up its best bet and neighbor. Possibly, too, Alaska had overlooked Prince Rupert and what it had to offer. Two neighboring communities having much in common and both striving for recognition might well co-operate for mutual benefit, learning to work and play together.

"Let's have more co-operation more friendliness, more frankness, more plain-speaking," exhorted Mr. Applewhaite. "The great thing to remember was that Prince Rupert—discovered in 1942 by the Americans, taken over by them and made into one of the world's best equipped ports—was the logical shipping point for Alaska. It was clearly up to the people of Prince Rupert and southeastern Alaska to work out a way of using the port and its facilities so that mutual benefit might be the result. If southeastern Alaska could thereby greatly reduce the cost of goods it used, it might mean greater development of the territory.

"But," concluded Mr. Applewhaite, "our real intention in coming here today is not to sell you something but as a goodwill gesture and expression of interest by Prince Rupert and our central interior." Appreciation to the Union Steamship Co. and station KTKN was expressed by Mr. Applewhaite.

W. C. Stump, Ketchikan attorney, closed the broadcast and reciprocated the belief that Prince Rupert and Ketchikan could well get together for mutual advantage. "Relationship born in war and reared amid strikes may really be utilized now," he said. Within six months an American steamship line would be operating between southeastern Alaska and Prince Rupert.

Mayor J. E. Johnson of Ketchikan was heard at the reception aboard ship. "We desire to do everything we can to foster our mutual interests and natural economic tie-up," he said. Other speakers were Mr. Jernberg, Mr. Stone, Mr. Applewhaite, Harry King and S. C. Thomson.

Luncheon guests from Ketchikan were Mayor Johnson, R. L. Jernberg, J. A. Talbot, George H. Beck, Ralph Bartholomew, Ronald Milligan, Maurice Oaksmith, Andrew Crawford, E. C. Arthur, Lester Gore, Dr. C. M. Carlson, Marshal Crutcher, Glen Hyner, J. K. Johnson, T. P. Hanson, Harry V. Newell, D. C. Schallerer, Emery Tobin, J. W. Mendelhall, A. M. Spaeth, William Baker, Sid Charles, Einer Erickson and R. R. Reagan.

The Chamber of Commerce party from Prince Rupert included Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Applewhaite, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hanson, W. F. Stone, G. A. Hunter, J. T. Harvey, G. C. Mitchell, J. C. Gilker, Bert Wouden, J. E. Boddie, David Allan, Martin Stuart, F. J. Skinner, Don Forward, Harry King, Kenneth Kerr, Allan Benson, Wilfrid McLean, Allan Armstrong, Robert Elkins, George Dibb, E. C. Garner, J. H. McLeod and S. C. Thomson.

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New Record For Strikes

Organized Labor Tested Its Strength in 1946

By JACK WILLIAMS
Canadian Press Staff Writer

OTTAWA (CP)—Canada's organized labor movement tested its new strength in 1946 but the extent of its victory remained a subject of controversy. The year went down in the record as setting a new high in strikes.

On the one hand labor could claim it had effected industrial wage increases in the neighborhood of nine to 16 cents an hour. On the other hand it could be claimed that workers had lost money through idle time—some were on strike for as long as five months — and had seriously hampered the reconversion program.

The year had brought disillusionment to those who claimed unions would slump in membership when the war ended. The two major groups—Trades and Labor Congress and Canadian Congress of Labor—both reported membership increases and more than 700,000 Canadian workers held union cards.

Post-war strikes had been regarded as inevitable, particularly after work stoppages spread through the United States. In Canada they reached their peak in the summer months with something more than 75,000 workers involved altogether. Their effect far exceeded the number of strikers.

The 81-day basic steel strike became the focal point of the dispute and was eventually settled on the basis of a 13-cent increase, compared to the union's original demand of 19½ cents. Settlement of other strikes followed quickly, but not before factories across the country had been slowed down by material shortages from the strike-bound plants.

Employment At High Level

Employment continued at a high level, even when strikes were prevalent workers found jobs in seasonal occupations. Canada's working force at the end of the year stood at 4,900,000, compared to 3,800,000 in 1939.

Labor shortages were troubling some industries. There was a shortage of skilled workers in construction and in such primary industries as mining and logging. War conditions which had cut or eliminated the training of apprentices in some trades were an important factor in this condition.

To some extent this was being met by special training courses. Vocational training schools which had been used to train war workers now were busy fitting veterans for peacetime occupations. Men were learning skills in mining and logging as well as in the industrial crafts.

Total enrolment of vet... preached the 90,000 ma...

In the field of labor... tion major event of the ... a conference of Domin... provincial labor mini... discuss the future of ... bargaining legislation ... ed during the war and ... to expire early in 1947.

There seemed little ... tion to implement dem... a national labor code ... alternative the Domin... posed amending the I... Disputes Act, which ... pended when the war ... came into effect, and ... it to stand as a mod... the provinces might ... they see fit. The provi... fairly general approva... basic plan but made no commitments.

LONDON (CP)—George... theatrical manager w... Harry Lauder his first... engagement, left £44,95... 804) in his will.

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