

The Daily News

PRINCE RUPERT . . .
BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Published Every Afternoon
Except Sunday by Prince
Rupert Daily News Limited.
Third Avenue

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

By City Carrier, per week . . . \$1.15
Per Month \$6.50
Per Year \$7.00
By Mail, per month \$4.00
Per Year \$48.00

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DAILY EDITION . . .
Tuesday, October 24, 1944

EDITORIAL

Who Will Fight In Orient . . .

Whether veteran Canadian volunteer soldiers who have won their laurels in the battlefields of Europe after spending dreary years in England waiting for action will be transported to the Orient to clean up the war with Japan or whether 80,000 presently called Home Guard draftees now stationed in Canada will be ordered to do that area is the moot question in Canada today.

Some of the draftees may not like to be compelled to do a job which after all is quite as much their duty as those who volunteered to go to Europe and do the battle against Hitler. On the other hand, we cannot imagine that the boys who have fought already in Europe, gone through all the terrors and hardships of war, have seen their comrades die and suffer will like it any more to have to proceed to another field of combat while their less loyal or courageous fellow Canadian citizens are permitted to remain in idleness at home.

We are inclined to believe that, in due course, the draftees will find themselves on their way to the Orient whether they like it or not.

The authorities need not worry unduly about the possibility of trouble with the draftees.

If it is a matter of trouble, the veterans who have served might also have their possibilities if they are not treated fairly.

But we are confident that the government, in due time, will adopt a policy which will be fair and generally satisfactory.

One course appears to be obvious.

There are thousands of well trained qualified soldiers in Canada today, and, doubtless, it is not the intention of the government to keep them doing what they are doing now.

Logical Naval Base . . .

The Vancouver Province boasts editorially, on the occasion of the formal opening of H.M.C.S. Discovery as a permanent naval training establishment, that Vancouver is now a real naval port. Vancouver has also received important contracts for naval buildings.

No doubt, the naval authorities at Ottawa are fully cognizant of Prince Rupert's strategic position in the Pacific theatre, particularly its nearer proximity by almost 500 miles to the Orient.

If there is any suitable point for a naval base on the Canadian Pacific coast it is Prince Rupert and we emphasize that not just because we want to see the naval base here but because we believe it to be in the interests of the protection and defence of the whole of the Dominion to have it here.

Of course, there could not be such a thing as Ottawa inconsistently establishing a naval base at Vancouver at the expense of Prince Rupert just because there is a large population and many votes there.

Civic Election Coming Up . . .

We are reminded that October 31, a week from today, is the deadline for registration of those who would vote as householders and licenseholders at the forthcoming civic election in December when polling will be held to choose the 194 mayor and four aldermen as well as members of the board of school trustees.

Interest in the civic election seems to be at a minimum just now in spite of the fact that the voting is such a short way off. That is a sorry state of affairs at a time when, with the war nearing its close and the problems of rehabilitation and reconstruction demanding increasing consideration, there will be expanding work and business of importance for the municipal authority.

It is high time now that some attention should be paid to the future affairs of the city and serious thought given to the personnel who will be entrusted with the responsibility by the voters of the carrying on of those affairs.

Wrangell—

Looks For Post-War Prosperity

Stikine River Port Greets Prince Rupert Delegation

WRANGELL, Alaska, Oct. 24—This attractively located town which is the port of entry for the great Cassiar mining district is quiet these days because

of the curtailment of the gold mining industry and tourist travel during the war but it is looking forward to a greater boom than ever from these two sources when peace returns world economic conditions to normal.

Spokesmen for the Wrangell Chamber of Commerce, meeting the Prince Rupert Chamber of Commerce goodwill delegation here Wednesday night, emphasized the attractions of the Stikine River boat trip to Telegraph Creek and suggested the big steamship companies might be more kindly in encouraging tourists to make it.

The local speakers were also strong in their support of the proposed passenger - automobile ferry service from Prince Rupert

northward to southeastern Alaska ports as far as Haines and emphasized the need for better accommodation for the travelling public at Prince Rupert.

Arnold Flaten opened the proceedings and E. T. Kenney was again the Prince Rupert spokesman. Mr. Thornquist introduced the Wrangell people. Mayor Hanford expressed much interest in the proposed passenger-automobile ferry service between Prince Rupert and Haines and Alaska points. He expressed the belief that in the near future Prince Rupert would be the outlet for considerable Alaska shipping.

Leo McCormack suggested the formation of an association in

which Alaska towns and Prince Rupert would be represented. He referred to the need of Prince Rupert, Ketchikan, adequate hotel accommodation which was essential to tourist business. "Prince Rupert," he said, "is the gateway port to the finest coast scenery in the world. The tourist business is our best bet. We should get together to organize our resources." Mr. McCormack spoke of the beauties of the 155-mile river boat trip up the Stikine River.

Capt. Hill Barrington, veteran Stikine River boat operator, emphasized the tourist possibilities of the trip up that stream and predicted that Cassiar mining would come back in a greater de-

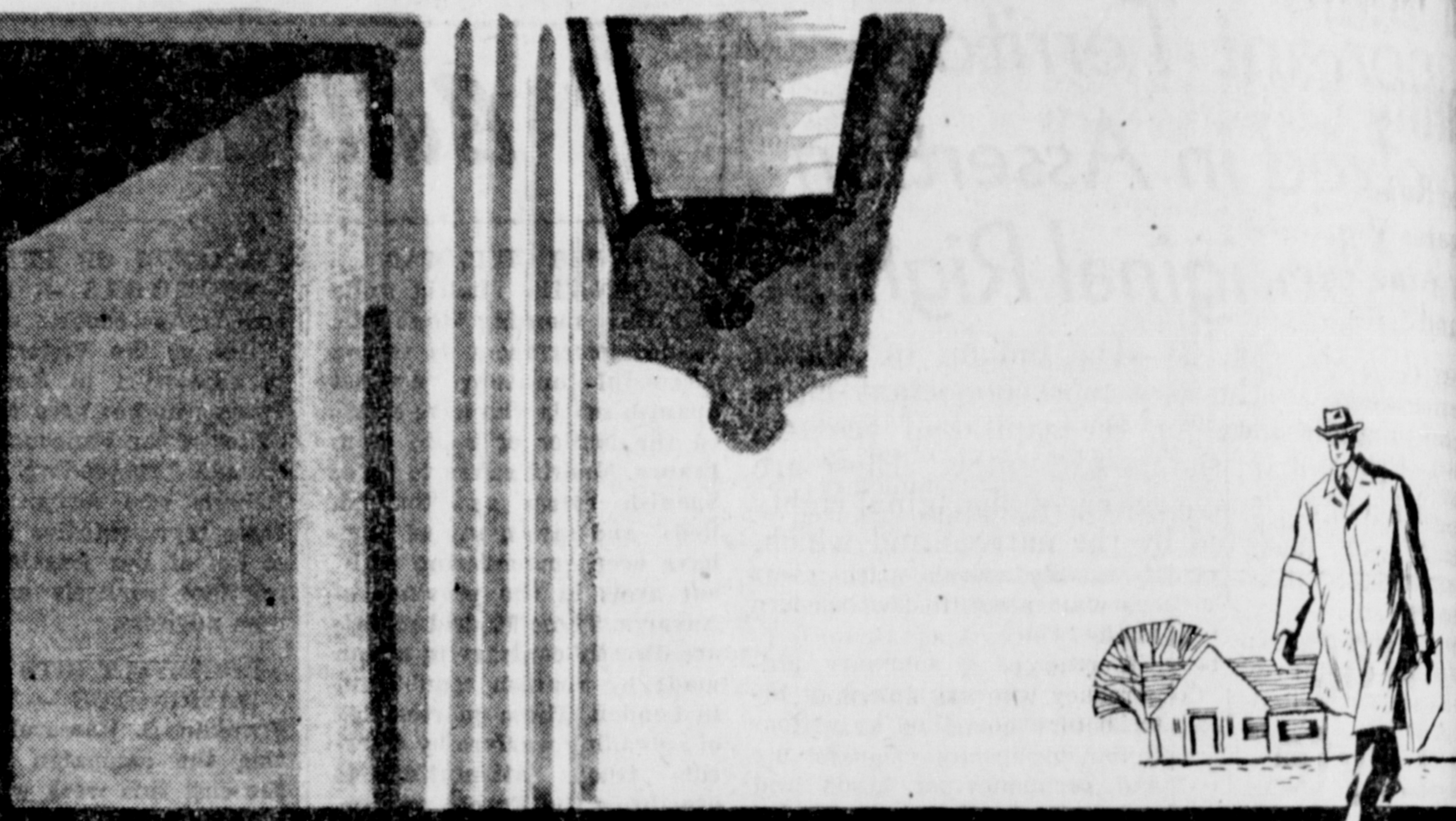
SMITHERS TO USE FOG IN FIGHTING FIRE

In a move to modernize its fire fighting equipment, the village of Smithers will purchase a fog nozzle for use in combating fires in the district, the board of Village Commissioners decided at a recent meeting.

The decision to modernize the first fighting equipment was made after considerable study, and will call for the renovation

of existing equipment, as the purchase of new equipment. The chemical foam which has served the village a number of years is being discarded, and the tanks removed from the fire truck to room for water storage holding up to 600 gallons use with the fog nozzle. Actual demonstration of fog method have convinced commissioners that they will take steps to see that men get sufficient practice handling the new equipment.

MIXED ANCESTRY
Inhabitants of the Comander Islands, situated in the Sea, are descendants of Eskimo and Aleuts.



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