

THE DAILY NEWS

PRINCE RUPERT, BRITISH COLUMBIA

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HOSPITAL FOR NADWES

Prince Rupert people will be glad to learn that they are apparently approaching success in their campaign to have an adequate hospital for the treatment of tuberculosis and venereal disease among natives established in the district.

Medical health statistics leave no doubt that the Indian population has become a dangerous reservoir of infection from these two diseases.

The Miller Bay hospital is a new institution which fortunately never had to be used for the purpose.

How badly is it needed among the Indian population?

In the Prince Rupert and Queen Charlotte Islands districts there is an estimated white population of 18,000 and an Indian population estimated at 3,300.

Tuberculosis rates among natives are in the neighborhood of 700 per hundred thousand while among whites they are about 65 per one hundred thousand.

Serving the native population in this district are two hospitals—one at Port Simpson, and one at Bella Coola—each having 35 beds.

Those who are in a position to know believe that to repair the old Digby Island hospital would be a mistake.

It would seem the district would be fortunate if it could obtain the Miller Bay hospital for the use of natives.

SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS LETTER

SOUTH AFRICAN BUILDING DOWN

Construction Materials in Short Supply—Demobilization Plans Studied

(CAPE TOWN, July 22) — During the four months ending May 1944 building permits were issued in South Africa to the value of more than \$165,000,000.

Building Controller C. E. Clouston, warning the trade of the reduction of private projects, said the list of houses numbered 1000.

Construction by the Finance method of 20 sub-economic houses costing 110 (\$75) has started in Kempton Park municipality.

The readjustment of industry to absorb not only returned soldiers but general workers and juveniles is being studied by

the directors of demobilization in consultation with the South African Trade and Labor Council.

H. G. Lawrence, minister of welfare and demobilization, speaking recently at Johannesburg, said a survey is under way to find out what the war and who would need technical training and the probable number of openings in industry.

"If there are not sufficient jobs," he added, "the government will have to take the matter up with the minister of economic development. We must increase our national productivity by expanding our industries. At present we are trying to get back to what we were our economic development."

Labor Minister W. E. Mchale announced at the House meeting that he has drafted a bill for progressive shortening of hours in industry until maximum employment is achieved.

Johannesburg has started a drive to use out digiberta by providing free immunization services to all suburban children since 1000 children have been vaccinated. The aim is to immunize eight per cent of children before school age when an additional "booster dose" should free the child from infection for life.

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MORE LEAVES ARE SOUGHT

Consecutive M. P. Says Five Years Without Too Long

By DONNELLS AMARON Canadian Press Staff Writer

(LONDON, July 22) — A plea for more frequent home leave for servicemen overseas, with the observation it would result in fewer broken marriages, was made in the British House of Commons by a member with the virtue of recent service in the Middle East.

"When a soldier goes abroad, five years seem an eternity and sometimes produce a sense of irresponsibility," said Sir E. Clark Gledhill, East of Scotland. "The result is seen in the many cases of wifelessness in home-land."

The British qualifying period for leave is five years overseas service and Mr. Henderson, financial secretary, war office, said that period will be reduced "if it is at all practical."

"Unfortunately," he warned, "the position is going to get more rather than less difficult because we shall shortly have to take into account the very large number of men sent overseas after the outbreak of war."

The Canadian counterpart to the British problem lies among men who enlisted at the outbreak of war and who came to

Britain with the five-year contract in December, 1939. Many of these men, making their way back home with the 1943 decision, have been away from their homes and families nearly five years.

FOUR AND SEVEN (LONDON, July 22)

Home leave has always been a favorite off-hour discussion subject of Canadian soldiers. There have been strong representations made by captains of the 100th Battalion, with Maj. E. J. Kelly, Winnipeg, and the 10th Canadian Trenchment, an unopposed champion of the troops' wish for compassionate leave.

There are many arguments on both sides and the army has not been entirely deaf to the appeals. With army possessions now made an official topic of the pre-war preparation, the contention is that the present, when every man is needed for the front, is not the time to make a special leave.

Many soldiers in letters to army newspapers have lent support to the argument and some would honestly prefer to remain abroad until the job for which they enlisted is done.

"If I don't go home to stay I would rather see my home and all in a corner frequently heard, 'Separation has to be a second parting' would be even worse."

Soldiers who speak that way usually are men whose homes they have stood the strain of the last separation. These marriages overhull on solid foundations and despite the grief of being parted

from their wives and children they can plan with confidence and hope for the year when they will be reunited.

(CHICAGO, July 22)

Unfortunately all marriages have not been as successful and the succession of tragic incidents related by soldiers lends strong support to those who argue in favor of home leaves. Chicago's closest counselors of the troops fear of these incidents more frequently than after coffee and a consequence are more sympathetic.

There have been many suggestions for retaining troops in Canada, among them one that soldiers should be in the occasional instance which become available in ships or aircraft. Compassionate grounds go into into consideration when soldiers are returned for special courses or instructions.

Last month a large draft of Canadians returning home for compassionate reasons left England. Each battleship was given space for 10 or a dozen men as a ship carrying prisoners of war.

This was only a drop in the bucket, but if only a fraction of the distress and unhappiness which war separation causes is alleviated by the return of these men, the question of home leaves had something worthwhile will have been achieved.

A few weeks ago I flew a English from North Africa, with a British garrison returning home on compassionate grounds. He had walked six weeks for air

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message after receiving a press message which led to believe that the wife was daily damaged.

Started 10 years and 10 three children, the father's wife had sufficient going "over" so he put up last two brothers in the and her home was being worked.

"But I'm not worried," he said. "I don't think anything the matter in home-coming won't put up. And there are many as at fortunate who are mine way."

INFLATION GONE? GOING-GOING-GONE? 1944 PRICES, WAGES, COSTS. 1939 PRICES, WAGES, COSTS. EVER walk into an auction and find yourself getting excited and wanting to bid... a victim of "auction fever"? War-time conditions can breed "auction fever" if we let them. Everything is in short supply. Many more people are able to bid. But... if prices are bid up... all our dollars will lose some of their value. Even necessities could get out of reach. What use is more money, if living costs go up still higher. What good are higher returns to business, if they are offset by higher costs. What does the farmer gain if higher farm prices lead to depression and low prices later. We cannot continue a full war effort and prepare to meet the problems of the post-war period unless we maintain a stable and reasonable price level now. DON'T BID AGAINST YOURSELF - DIG IN AND HOLD! LISTEN TO "IN THE SPOTLIGHT" RADIO PROGRAMME EVERY SUNDAY NIGHT 7.30 p.m., E.S.T. This is the eleventh of a series being issued by the Government of Canada to emphasize the importance of preventing further increases in the cost of living now and deflation later.

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