

Published every afternoon except Sunday by Prince Rupert Daily News Limited, Third Avenue, Prince Rupert, British Columbia.
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MEMBER
A.B.C.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
By City Carrier, per week 15
Per Month 45
Per Year \$7.00
By Mail, per month 40
Per Year \$4.00

Railway Inefficiency . . .

After going through an unprecedented five years of prosperity, the like of which it has never before enjoyed, and not likely to again, the Canadian National Railway System, which is government owned, has set a bad example for other large concerns and businesses, says the Interior News of Smithers. Despite an urgent plea by the government for employers to take on every extra man they possibly can the C.N. has adopted a ruthless, pessimistic policy of cut-down and shut-down. They seem to have no clear-cut plan for the future, and have been stalling and quibbling over the possible construction of a new passenger ship in their own ship building yard at Prince Rupert. Meantime skilled employees are being laid off and allowed to scatter across the Dominion in search of other work.

The latest example of inefficient management is the news this week that the Jasper-Rupert division will be cut to a tri-weekly mixed passenger service. Again, by this action, many employees will be forced to leave this division to seek steady work elsewhere. The government could establish a policy of routing wheat and other commodities for the Far East by way of Rupert, thus increasing the business over this line. Vancouver would never miss this diverted wheat business and it would help to maintain the prosperity of this division and the labor situation as a whole.

Those are the plain facts—have we any government officials who can face them and not feel the need to do the right thing for a change?

Nationalization In Britain . . .

Given practically a free hand by an overwhelming victory at the polls in July, Britain's Labor government is going ahead with its gigantic experiment in the nationalization of industry and services.

This program, sponsored by Clement R. Attlee, now prime minister, and his party, was a major issue in the election campaign. Conservatives, who held a majority in the war government, saw in it danger to the liberty of the individual and a menace to the free enterprise on which

they said Britain had flourished in the past.

"Free enterprise vs. Public Ownership" was the main election theme and it still is the basis of conflict in parliament between the major parties.

The long-term aim of Labor is a "Socialist Commonwealth of Great Britain" and for its first five years at Westminster the party set forth a detailed program on which a start has been made. Nationalization of the Bank of England, the first step, passed through the Commons with little excitement, mainly because the association between the bank and the government has been so close for generations that the change meant little.

Since then the nationalization path has been more thorny. Fuel Minister Emmanuel Shinwell has admitted the difficulties in nationalizing coal, gas and electricity; public ownership of inland transport involves numerous problems which the government agreed might take time to work out; and decisions on public ownership of iron and steel have been delayed until a report on means of increasing the efficiency of the existing industry is received and studied.

In November Herbert Morrison, government leader in the Commons, threw down the gage of battle to the opposition when he declared the government's intention to proceed with the nationalization program at all possible speed and announced that owners who allow their properties to fall into disrepair because of the prospect of nationalization will face the danger of reduced compensation.

The public-ownership program now in sight has not caused undue alarm in financial and industrial circles. Concerns likely to be nationalized, such as the railway companies, have said they expect adequate compensation will be paid. The government has said it does not intend to nationalize insurance companies. In many other fields public ownership is something for the remote future and not an immediate prospect.

Apart from its interest in public ownership, the new government seeks to extend social security legislation now on the United Kingdom's statute books. An omnibus national insurance bill will provide higher pensions for the aged, widows and others in need. Pending introduction of this legislation the government faced a "revolt" of nearly 200 of its members who demanded that the basic old-age pension rate of 10s (\$2.25) a week be increased forthwith, and it is making new haste with the promised legislation.



Three chaplain heroes, all winners of the Military Cross, who are stationed at Fort Osborne Barracks, Winnipeg, look over the helmet which H/Capt. L. F. Wilmot, M.C., wore during the breaching of the Gothic line in Italy. Captain Wilmot, centre, holds the helmet which was pierced three times by German shrapnel without doing any more damage than taking a little hair off his head and nicking one of his ears. "The angels must have been near me that time," said Captain Wilmot. On the left is H/Major James Porter Browne, who won his M.C. for exemplary service at Dieppe when with total disregard for his own safety and while subject to continuous mortar and machine gun fire, he repeatedly went to exposed positions rendering every possible aid and assistance to the wounded. His home is at Dauphin, Man. On the right is H/Major Russell Oliver Wilkes, who was born at Hamilton, Ont., and who was awarded the M.C. for gallantry at Nissoria in Sicily. Under intense enemy fire, Major Wilkes personally evacuated one man to the R.A.P. and returned under fire to assist in the evacuation of two more. (Canadian Army Photo)

TODAY'S STOCKS

(Courtesy of S. D. Johnston)

Vancouver		Toronto	
Bralorne	17.80	Beattie	1.32
B. R. Con.	18 3/4	Buffalo Canadian	.40
B. R. X.	18 1/2	Cons. Smelters	79.50
Cariboo Quartz	2.90	Giant Yellowknife	8.30
Dentonia	.29	Hardrock	1.16
Hedley Mascot	2.50	Eldona	1.42
Grull Wilksne	.23	Little Long Lac	2.90
Pend Oreille	2.50	Madsen Red Lake	4.60
Pioneer	6.55	Macleod Cockshutt	3.65
Premier Border	.08 1/4	Donalda	1.46
Premier Gold	2.45	Moneta	.95
Privateer	.67	Pickle Crow	4.40
Reno	.08	Joliet Quebec	.86
Salmon Gold	17 1/2	San Antonio	5.85
Sheep Creek	1.68	Sherritt Gordon	1.92
Taylor Bridge	.88	Steep Rock	3.05
Whitewater	.03 1/2	Senator Rouyn	1.45
Vananda	.51	Sturgeon River	.35
Congress	.12	Jackknife	.20
Pacific Eastern	.22	Bobjo	.57
		God's Lake	.34

Hotel . . . arrivals

Prince Rupert

L. W. Calway, Pacific; D. Magaran, St. Catherine's, Ont.; G. J. Scully, Dorreen; P. Farrell, Sunnyside; E. J. Litchford, New Westminster; Mrs. H. L. Frank, Miss M. Frank, Terrace; Mrs. K. Mangnall, Terrace; G. L. Brooks, Terrace; A. J. Harris, Terrace; A. Jacobson, Shirley; N. Sherwood, Terrace.

USED BY ANGLERS
The "gentles" used as bait by English anglers, are the maggots of the common blowfly of Europe.

If a dollar could write a diary . . .



"DEAR DIARY," the dollar would write, "here I am in a great big bright factory, my ears almost deafened by the roar of machinery which turns out shining new appliances that thousands of Canadian housewives have been waiting for all through the war.

"I know I'm just one of millions of dollars which the Life Insurance companies are investing now in all sorts of civilian post-war developments . . . public utilities, power resources, railways, hotels, office buildings, and a whole list of projects which are pressing needed to get us all back to a normal peacetime footing.

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A Message from the Life Insurance Companies in Canada.

LETTERBOX

MAIL SERVICE TOO

Editor, Daily News:
In Saturday's issue on your front page I see a news item regarding J. T. Harvey, president of the Interior Associated Boards of Trade, wiring the transport controller protesting the cut in train service on the Rupert line. This is getting down to where it may do some good. I would suggest that you pass the suggestion along to Mr. Harvey and other business bodies, particularly in places other than Prince Rupert and Prince George, that they get in touch with the postmaster general and protest what amounts to the total cancellation of mail service on this line and DO IT NOW. Tomorrow will be too late.

TRY IT.
Smithers.

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BRETTON WOODS SIGNED
WASHINGTON—The formal ceremony of signing the Bretton Woods international monetary agreements took place in Washington today. The representatives of 24 United Nations participated. Canada's ambassador to Washington, L. B. Pearson, is expected to sign on behalf of the Dominion.

Taxi Windows Are Smashed

H. A. Ernewein, proprietor of 431 Taxi, reported to city police that an unknown person hurled a large stone through the two front windows of his taxi while it was parked at its stand near Number Two street on early Christmas morning.

HIGH ALTITUDE LENS

A giant telephoto lens has been developed with a built-in heating system which prevents metal shrinkage and keeps the lens in sharp focus at high altitudes.

COAL MINE DISASTER

PINEVILLE, Kentucky—Hope has been abandoned for the miners trapped in a coal mine explosion at Pineville, Kentucky. It is estimated that from 30 to 50 miners were trapped in the blast.

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LARGE CALENDAR PADS (JUMBO) \$1.25

DIBB PRINTING COMPANY

BESNER BLOCK THIRD AVENUE

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A
Happy New Year



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