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MEMBER
A.B.C.

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The virtue of your newspaper is to be readable and interesting. Its speech flows like a river of life itself, bearing on its broad bosom before you the deeds and thoughts of all the world, including those of your own community and neighbors.

The Civic Election . . .

Turning out in near-record numbers yesterday despite the fact that there was no mayoralty contest which is usually the piece de resistance of a civic election, the people of Prince Rupert displayed a healthy renewal of interest in municipal affairs. It is to be hoped that this is just the inauguration of a new acceptance of responsibility and manifestation of active interest by the citizens in community business generally. Possibly, the old apathy is at last being dropped off. If it is, it will be all to the good.

Those who were elected to city council and school board are no doubt worthy of the trust that was imposed upon them. They will have important work to do and may be counted upon to face the job with courage and resolve to employ their talents to the best and most generous advantage in the furtherance of civic and community affairs. No doubt, they will sometimes think that they have a thankless task but that will not matter as long as they are working to the best and utmost of their ability.

The new aldermanic board is adequately representative of various interests and sections of the community although labor has lost strength, this indeed being a notable factor, the council being evenly divided between Civic Labor Federation and independents with the Mayor in the King's seat. The fact that there is new blood should be helpful.

It is satisfactory that the three by-laws were passed by such substantial measure. Of course, nothing else but that had been expected.

Stewart Percival McMordie

The passing at Vancouver of Lieut. Col. S. P. McMordie, D.S.O., has removed another of the most prominent personalities of the early days of Prince Rupert.

Col. McMordie, was, indeed, one of Prince Rupert's most distinguished pioneers for the activities in which he played a leading part were unusually diversified. He helped to carve the city out of the rocks as a contractor in the building of the streets.

He was among the first to enlist in World War I and, having had military experience with the old militia unit here, he was immediately commissioned and soon went overseas where he served as a fighting officer with distinction until he sustained severe wounds, including extensive shrapnel injuries and the loss of an eye. But that did not put him out of service and he went back to France in connection with army railway construction and later was an administrative officer in England. Deservedly he was awarded the Empire's second highest military decoration.

The ending of the war brought Co. McMordie back to Prince Rupert and he resumed contracting business. Probably his most valuable service to the community was in his capacity as police magistrate for several years. On the judicial bench he showed a fairness and fearlessness which became a byword. Later he became mayor and gave efficient and conscientious service.

His versatility extended beyond business and public service activities. He was a keen sportsman—in the strenuous athletics such as football in his college days. He was Prince Rupert's champion tennis and billiard player, despite the ocular handicap.

He was also a pianist of some accomplishment. In social circles he was known as a "perfect host."

The Daily News joins with the many old friends in expressing sentiments of regret at the passing of Stewart Percival McMordie and in extending condolences to Mrs. McMordie and her sons.

THIS AND THAT



"Why don't you watch where you're going?"

COST OF SHIPS DOOMS SEALING

Colorful Newfoundland Industry Has Virtually Disappeared Under Variety Of Handicaps

ST. JOHNS, Nfld.—The sealing industry of Newfoundland, punctuated with a long history of adventure and tragedy, apparently is fading into the rugged past of the island. One explanation is the cost of ships which, with the exception of the steel steamers first used in 1905, can be employed only two months and not used in other work during the rest of the year. The last fleet to sail for the icefields was in 1941.

When seal hunting was one of the important factors in the industrial life of St. John's, in 1855, the St. John's Seal-skimmers' Union was formed. It is the oldest trade union organization in Newfoundland, and one of the oldest in the New World. In those days, when a man could skin 300 or 350 seals in nine hours or so, Newfoundland was exporting 440,828 seal skins annually. The gradual decline of the industry is shown in the figures for seal skins exported. In 1895 the number was 81,699; 440,828 in 1850; 203,585 in 1900; 183,689 in 1936. The largest figure is for the early year of 1831.

when 686,836 found outside markets and the lowest figure was in 1920, with 33,985.

May Sail In Spring

Although it is believed that some firms formerly engaged in the industry are planning to replace some of the sealing ships, any plans will have to wait the return of more normal conditions in the shipyards. No definite plans have been made but it is not unlikely that the Eagle, the sole survivor of the wooden ships, will make a voyage next spring. The sole survivor of the steel ships once used is the Nasscopie, now used by the Hudson's Bay Company in its trading operations in the far North.

The only remaining attempts at the moment to revive the once important industry is made by shoremans around the north coast, who sometimes succeed in getting remunerative catches. The conditions are subject to the vagaries of wind and tide, and the fishermen practically have to wait for the seals to come to them.

The whale industry of Newfoundland has also decreased in importance until only one firm is engaged in the industry. The whaling plant is at White Bay, and last year about 130 whales were captured.

One of the foremost Australian newspaper publishers says that the role of the press in a democracy is that of a "public opinion parliament" in which every kind of grievance can be aired and investigated.

Modern Etiquette
By ROBERTA LEE

Q. After returning home from her honeymoon, should a bride wait for her friends to call before she calls to see them?

A. Yes. At-home cards may be issued and she is not expected to make any calls until her friends have come to see her.

Q. Is it proper for a person to rise when a toast is proposed to him?

A. No. After the toast has been given he may rise to acknowledge it and speak a few words.

Q. What is the correct manner for a woman to introduce her husband?

A. "Mrs. Jones, this is my husband."

QUEBEC ACES LEAD LEAGUE

QUEBEC—The Quebec Aces have moved into sole possession of second place in the Quebec Senior Hockey League with their victory on home ice Wednesday night over the Shawinigan Falls Cataracts. The 4-3 Quebec victory broke the deadlock that existed between the Aces, Shawinigan Falls, Ottawa Senators and the Valleyfield Braves behind the league leading Montreal Royals.

Over in the Provincial Hockey League, the Lachine Rapids defeated the Victoriaville Tigers, 4-3, thus extending their lead on first place in the loop. The game was played in Lachine.

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