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STILL OUR MAINSTAY

HUNDREDS of salmon trollers are on the contiguous fishing grounds again. The halibut fleet is on the move as the season opens this mid-week. We are reminded that, even as we contemplate other important industrial developments, the fishery is still our mainstay. To the fishery in one way or another we account Prince Rupert's economic welfare and a very substantial prosperity at that. We can see, if we look, a fishery industry here developed to a much greater degree than it was in the pre-war days. We see a great expansion in cold storage capacity and processing plants arising out of the newer and more efficient methods of handling fish and the recovery of by-products. As another season opens, we should not undervaluate the importance of our fishery. If we had nothing else here, the fishery by itself would support a sizeable and prosperous community.

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CHOCOLATE BARS

PUBLIC OPINION has been aroused as far as the eight-cent chocolate bar is concerned. Even in Prince Rupert it is to be observed that there are now plenty of chocolate bars in evidence without many takers. It may not have been organized here as it has in many other places throughout the country but it would appear that boycott is also on in this city. The eight-cent bars are not only unpopular but they are unfashionable. Unfortunately, the retailers, who claim they get no share of the increase in price, may to some extent suffer through the buyers' strike. However, the most of them seem to be understanding and are not unsympathetic. When public opinion becomes aroused to the point of action, something is usually done about it. So it is to be expected that something will be done about the eight-cent chocolate bar, particularly if it cannot be sold.

* * *

BOLD, AT LEAST

THERE is nothing pink about Tim Buck. He comes back from a tour of Europe and boasts that there are twice as many Communists there than there were before. As for his own Communist party, the Labor- Progressives, he says in Toronto that it will add many new members by boring into the C.C.F. and ranks of Left Wing Liberals. Even if we have our own ideas about the Communists and those who support that cause, even questioning the bonafide sincerity of some of them, we at least must admit that they are unashamed of their convictions. They do not lack in boldness.

TO REMAIN AT MASSETT

Bert Phillips to Continue Residence There Following Retirement as Indian Agent

B. T. Phillips, who has retired after having held the post of Indian Agent at Massett for the past 10 years, will continue to reside at Massett. Mr. Phillips is a long-time and well known resident of this part of the coast, having been for many years in the service of the Pacific Mills at Ocean Falls before being appointed Indian Agent at Massett.

J. A. Findlay of the local Indian Agency has gone to Massett to take over Mr. Phillips' duties in the capacity of acting Indian Agent.

LOT OF LUCIFERS

About 800,000,000 matches are used every day in the United States.

Girl Guides' Leader Busy

Mrs. Lomas Having Continuous Round of Inspectional Activities Here

A busy round of inspectional activities for Mrs. Godfrey Lomas of Vancouver Island, Blue Pointed Guider, who is in Prince Rupert, commenced last night when she visited the combined Catholic and Anglican Guide groups, the demonstration being also attended by members of the Association, parents and other interested persons.

This afternoon Mrs. Lomas is visiting the First Brownie Pack at St. Andrew's Cathedral and this evening will meet the Conrad Street School Brownie Pack. Wednesday afternoon she will visit the Second Catholic Brownie Pack.

You saw it in The News!

THIS AND THAT

"Don't you just love the first touch of spring!"

U.K. WORMS SPUN REGAL SILK ROBES

By RATNA GUPTA

EYNSFORD, Kent, Eng. (Reuters)—Nearly 4,000,000 silkworms will soon be spinning for Britain's smallest industry at the Lullingstone Castle silk farm in this small Kent village.

The farm is the only one of its kind in the United Kingdom. Lady Hart Dyke, director, told me when I visited it: "Our annual production of silk is 1,200 pounds and the demand for it is tremendous. We have orders on our books which will keep us busy for the next 10 years."

The success of the Lullingstone silk farm, which is being expanded to set aside considerable land for growing mulberry trees, has encouraged other people to consider silkworm farming as a profitable industry. Lady Hart Dyke said: "As Britain has been importing a tremendous amount of raw silk from abroad for many years, it is obvious that there is great scope for home production.

"Though I started silkworm rearing as a hobby, its potentialities were so attractive that my farm now employs 22 girls all the year round."

Lady Hart Dyke founded the Lullingstone Silk Farm Ltd., in 1932 with a capital of $60,000. Since then, 8,000,000 cocoons have been exported to Australia, the Bahamas, the United States and Denmark.

THEY SPUN ROYAL ROBES

Her silkworms spun the threads for the robes worn by the King and Queen at their coronation in 1937, and for the dresses of Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret.

Price of silkworm eggs rose about 50 per cent during the war but that did not matter as the price is negligible—a few shillings to an ounce; and each ounce contains as many as 36,000 to 40,000 eggs.

Lady Hart Dyke explained that the Lullingstone silk farms pass the raw silk to weavers for making up. "Ours is a silkworm industry and this in itself absorbs our entire attention, leaving no time to concentrate or experiment with other phases of silk industry."

Instruments used at the farm for getting silk strands from cocoons are the invention of Sir Oliver Hart Dkye. They are very simple but more useful than tools in use in other countries. Girls employed on the farm are exceptionally skilful, specialization being a necessity in handling the cocoons and the strand in any form.

Lady Hart Dkye said that mechanical devices have almost killed small-scale industries of this type. "I am dreaming of the day when the silkworm industry gets a solid footing in Britain,-" she concluded.

Classified Advertising Pays!

What City Council Did

Approved a recommendation by finance committee that accounts totalling $47,742 for the month of March be paid.

* * *

Adopted a licensing committee report granting a license to T. A. Moseley to operate a transfer business.

* * *

Approved a utilities committee recommendation that a quantity of telephone cable, cement and truck tires be purchased.

A letter from Dennis Back, regional director for Central Mortgage Corporation, informed council that he would be in the city in the near future to discuss the sale of Wartime Houses to private purchasers.

ROAD PATROL IS DISCUSSED

Police Head Sympathetic and Expresses Hope Something May be Done Before Long

While Making no commitment, Commissioner T. W. S. Parsons, provincial police, expressed sympathy with a proposal put to him yesterday by representatives of the Prince Rupert Automobile Association and the Prince Rupert Chamber of Commerce that a highway patrol be established on the northern transprovincial highway. Eventually, the commissioner said, the plan was to have two patrolmen on the road between Prince Rupert and Prince George, one possibly stationed at Terrace to work east and west and the other at a central point between Prince Rupert and Prince George. However, when this would be carried out depended on a number of factors. In the first place this was by no means the only road in the province which was in need of highway patrol and the amount of traffic using it would have a lot to do with what was to be done in this regard. There was also difficulty in obtaining personnel and vehicles.

It was realized, Commissioner Parsons admitted, that this was a dangerous road in spots. Endeavours would be made to see that signs were put up, especially marking the bad spots. As for protection in case of accidents, Commissioner Parsons said the St. John's Ambulance Association was ready to establish first aid posts at such points as first aid personnel were available. Kwinitsa and Shames sawmills in the lower Skeena Valley were suggested as possible points for such posts.

Highway matters from the traffic standpoint were given a general discussion at the conference and one of the matters brought out was the deplorable practice of beer bottles being thrown out of railway trains on to the highway where it skirted the track.

FIRE LOOTING IS ATTEMPTED

Dial and Handle Knocked Off His Safe, George Dawes Reports

There appears to have been at least some attempt at looting of the ruins of the Clapp Block fire at the end of last week. George J. Dawes reports that the dial and handle were knocked off his safe which went through the fire. There was no money in the safe which was used for the storing of papers.

SORRY, NO FAGS

TERLING, Eng., (CP)— Miss A. Godfrey, 72, says she is closing her tobaconist shop because she is tired of saying "Sorry, I haven't any."

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