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# *Case of Newfoundland*

EVERYTHING looking to an early formal admission of Newfoundland into the Confederation of Canada still appears well under way despite the motion of George Drew, the Progressive-Conservative leader, calling for a delay in the union until the provinces had time to express themselves on the matter. The line-up of Liberals and C.C.F. members easily overrode the Progressive-Conservative-Social Credit bloc on this matter.

Col. Drew indicated that he was in favor of the union but was concerned about how it was being brought about. He submitted there has been an overlooking of provincial rights in the matter. If such was the case, it might have been supposed that some of the provinces themselves would have been heard in opposition and the Dominion would, no doubt, have felt itself constrained to heed their voice.

There could have been opposition to the acceptance of Newfoundland into Confederation on the ground that, from a straight matter of dollars and cents, Canada is getting the worse of the bargain. Union legislation, if enacted, may also be attacked on constitutional grounds on the basis of Col. Drew's contention. There is still the possibility of attack on such grounds outside of Canada.

## PUBLIC OR PRIVATE OWNERSHIP

ALD. H. M. Daggett's move in city council suggesting the possibility of the taking over by the British Columbia Power Commission of the Northern British Columbia Power Co.'s power franchise for the city of Prince Rupert brings up the old debate of private vs. public ownership of the utilities. Prince Rupert has had its experience with public ownership of the power utility and there are those who still believe that, had the power been in private instead of municipal hands in those early days, it might have been a more industrialized and a larger and more prosperous city than it is. Then for almost the past twenty years we have had private ownership on the success or otherwise of which it is the right of every citizen to judge. It is possibly reasonable to reflect that there were certain times during those twenty years when, had the power still been in municipal hands, the situation would not have been met. Who knows too but, had the city retained its power utility, it would have been as badly off as the telephone system is today?

Of course, the present move is not to have the power utility become municipally-owned but rather to turn it over to the provincial governmentally-owned commission which has the resources behind it to organize and provide adequate service. Whether or not we would be wise, even with all the advantages public ownership may have, to have too much Victoria control over the utility is something to be questioned. There is already considerable control from that quarter through the Public Utilities Commission.

Much will be said on both sides in regard to the future of the power franchise in Prince Rupert. And, while we are at it, we might also be thinking of whether we are going the right way about this vexed telephone service problem, which is going to cost us half a million dollars. There are even governmental agencies that might be interested in taking it over and relieving us of that headache.

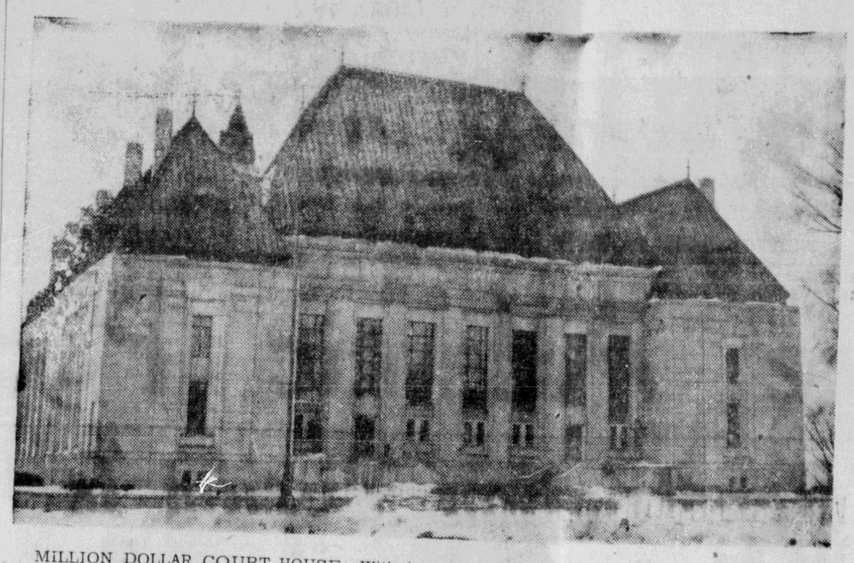
## BLESSED RAIN

DEFAMING what's good for you is an old and somewhat popular practice but now and then an unlooked for development suggests sitting down and trying to do a bit of serious thinking. Practically everyone laments the lavish way in which Prince Rupert has been provided with rain water. It's long been a byword but the coast's population should be congratulated instead of being offered sympathy. Rain shortage means shortage of health, shortage of crops, shortage of power, shortage of work. There are dozens of places on earth where no rain falls for a year, and longer. Suppose Prince Rupert was rainless for six months! We'd all be feeling pretty groggy.

REMOTE CONTROL

DUNCAN, B.C., (CP)—"Chicago" an elderly Chinese resident, blames British Columbia's unusual weather this winter on the scientists. "Cold snaps comes from atom bombs," the pioneer of the Yukon area, now residing here, said.

NANAIMO, B.C., (CP)—Nanaimo Reserve Indians recently smashed six cab windows of a C.P.R. engine as it crossed Reserve property. Indians have an agreement with the collieries for coal-hauling across their land, but are demanding they be paid for the concession.



MILLION DOLLAR COURT HOUSE—With legislation to abolish appeals to Britain's Privy Council forecast in the Speech from the Throne, Canada's Supreme Court, 74 years old this spring, may finally live up to its name. This photo was taken from the southwest side looking toward the main entrance and shows the million-dollar structure which houses the court and its seven judges. The building was being completed when the Second World War broke out and was used to house government departments during the war. (CP Photo)

# RESOLUTION'S PROPRIETY IS QUESTIONED

**Ald. Daggett Moves for Public Ownership of Electric Utility**

City aldermen are pondering the propriety, under the rules of order, a notice of motion read by Alderman H. M. Daggett as it is desirable that, in fairness to all concerned a definite answer be obtained as soon as possible, copies of this resolution be forwarded to W. H. Brett, M.L.A. and Hon. E. T. Kenney with request that they urge the Power Commission to give favorable consideration to this matter."

Point of order involved in the notice of motion is that the resolution would nullify a specifically committed action not by council but by the citizens of Prince Rupert themselves.

It was pointed out by Alderman T. B. Black, following the meeting, that the Northern B.C. Power Company franchise was granted by the citizens of Prince Rupert in a 1929 plebiscite for a 25-year period and that the granting of the franchise was not the action of any council.

"I feel certain that the resolution is out of order," Alderman Black said.

Monday night urging that the "British Columbia Power Commission be requested to take over all installations of the Northern B.C. Power Company now used for the supplying of electric light and power to the city of Prince Rupert."

Alderman Daggett presented the resolution in a notice of motion and announced that he would present it formally to council at its February 28 meeting. The notice was received without comment by the aldermen during the session but, afterwards, its propriety was questioned privately by some members.

The resolution adds that the provincial Power Commission take over "all rights now held by the said company under the existing franchise and operate said installations for the supplying of light and power to the city and its citizens."

It resolves further that "where-

## PRINCE RUPERT YEARS AGO

**Twenty Five Years**

A whirlwind, three-day canvassing campaign with a $10,000 objective for a building fund for First Presbyterian Church brought in $8,000 with one more canvassing group to report. A grand congregational rally was planned to hear the final results.

Lieut.-Col. S. P. McMordie, D.S.O., pioneer city resident, was elected president of the Prince Rupert Liberal Association at its annual meeting. Theo Collart was named first vice-president and James Neville second vice-president.

The provincial government planned immediate construction of a road to Galloway Rapids and a survey of a right-of-way between Galloway Rapids and Terrace, Hon. T. D. Pattullo, minister of lands and forests, said at the annual meeting of the Prince Rupert Liberal Association.

**Thirty-Five Years**

Ald. D. W. Morrissey, chairman of the civic finance committee said that the money market was easing up. Completion of the Panama Canal and the transcontinental railways had made it necessary for financiers to look elsewhere for investments. The finance committee planned to market through the Bank of Montreal $317,000 in city treasury notes.

The wedding of Miss Olive Wrathall and H. H. Little took place at the home of the bride's brother, W. W. Wrathall. The ceremony was performed by Rev. F. W. Kerr. The couple left on the Prince George to honeymoon in Vancouver. Mr. Little was manager of the Union Bank at Hazelton.

# CITY TRAFFIC TO BE STUDIED

A code of regulations covering parking of motor vehicles and the operation of taxis in the city will be drawn up by a special committee of city council consisting of Alderman W. F. Stone, chairman of the Police committee, Chief of Police Sgt. L. A. N. Potterton and City Clerk H. D. Thain.

The regulations may include a suggested proposal that diagonal parking be invoked on Second Avenue in the business district. A suggestion from business owners was read in council last night that such parking be enforced on Second Avenue between Sixth and Seventh Streets in front of their premises.

"I think that we should have diagonal parking on the whole lenth of downtown Second Avenue," Mayor Arnold said as she referred the application to the committee at the city council meeting.

The committee will draft the regulations, then present them to council for approval. Decisions made by the committee will be subject to appeal to city council in case any citizen does not approve.

Mrs. R. G. Evans of Smithers, who has been paying a visit to the city, left by aircraft this morning for Terrace enroute back to he rhome at Smithers. Others leaving here for Terrace on the SeaBee plane of the Skeena Air Transport this morning were O. Van Barneveld, Mrs. A. Hicks and Joselyn Wark.

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Donaldson returned today on the Prince Rupert from a fortnight's visit to Vancouver.

## Better English

By D. C. WILLIAMS

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "The party began immediately I arrived."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "melee."
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Lieutenant, licentious, liesure.
4. What does the word "dispensation" mean ?
5. What is a word beginning with au that means "boldness"?

ANSWERS

1 Say, "The party began immediately after I arrived." 2. Pronounce ma-la, both a's as in ate, accent second syllable. 3 Leisure. 4. A specific plan; a provision. "It was a happy dispensation of nature." 5. Audacity.

## CFPR Radio Dial

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WEDNESDAY—P.M.
3:30—Divertimento
3:45—BBC News
3:55—U.N. Com't'y
4:00—Edmund Hockridge
4:15—Stock Quotations and Int.
4:30—Maggie Muggins
4:45—Easy Listening
5:00—Rendezvous Room
5:30—Musical Cocktails
5:45—Supper Varieties
6:00—Supper Serenade
6:15—Sammy Kaye
6:30—Musical Varieties
6:45—Plantation House Party
7:00—CBC News
7:15—CBC News Roundup
7:30—Recital, Jan Cherniavsky
8:00—"La Traviata"
8:30—Waddington Conducts
9:00—Winter
9:30—Feature on Sir J. Boyd
10:00—CBC News
10:10—CBC News
10:15—Stanley Reed
10:30—London Studio Concerts
11:00—Weather Forecast and Sign Off

THURSDAY—A.M.
7:00—Musical Clock
8:00—CBC News
8:15—Morning Song
8:30—Music for Moderns
8:45—Little Concert
9:00—BBC News and Com'ty
9:15—Morning Devotions
9:30—Morning Concert
9:59—Time Signal
10:00—Ellen Harris
10:15—Morning Melodies
10:30—Roundup Time
10:45—Scandinavian

11:00—Musical
11:15—Songs of
11:30—Weather
11:31—Message
11:33—Recorded
11:45—Let's Wal

—P.M.
12:00—Mid-Day
12:15—CBC News
12:25—Program
12:30—B.C. Farm
12:55—Recorded
1:00—Concert H
1:30—Bernie B Story
1:45—Commentary
2:00—B.C. School
2:30—Musical P
3:45—Western
3:00—Ethel and
3:15—Spotlight
3:20—Sketches

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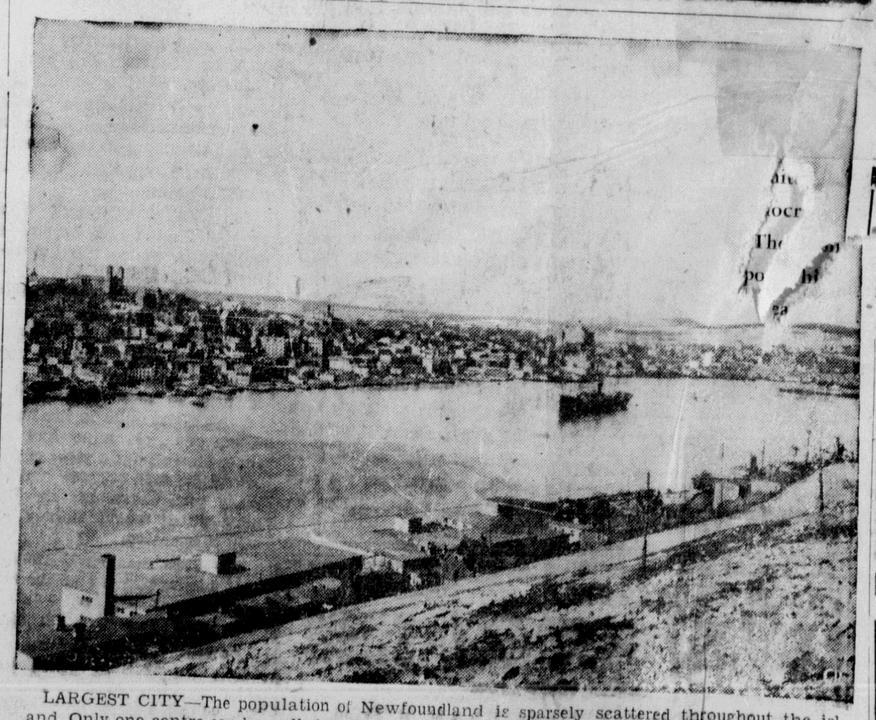

LARGEST CITY—The population of Newfoundland is sparsely scattered throughout the island. Only one centre can be called a city and that is St. John's, capital of the island and the oldest city in North America. With a population of 60,000, St. John's has one of the finest harbors in Newfoundland. This photo shows St. John's and the harbor from Southside. In the left background cutting the skyline is the Roman Catholic Cathedral. (CP Photo)