

Friday, May 19, 1950

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C.N. Steamship Service

THE STATEMENT of Donald Gordon, president of the Canadian National Railways, regarding the situation of the company's steamship service on this coast in view of the impending retirement of the veteran steamer Prince Rupert, indicates the possibility of a change of policy in respect to service. Mr. Gordon suggests the abandonment of "part of the service," without elaborating upon the nature of such abandonment.

For some time it has been apparent that the day was not far removed when Canadian National would be left with only the one ship on this coast. Various suggestions have been heard—one that a sister ship to the palatial Prince George be built, another for one or more smaller vessels, combining somewhat less passenger accommodation with substantial freight carrying capacity to make for more economically operated year-round service.

As Mr. Gordon says, there is a question whether there is sufficient traffic—doubtless he meant year-round—to warrant a duplication of the Prince George, the finding of adequate use for which vessel itself during the winter has already been found to be a problem.

What Mr. Gordon might have been hinting is that Canadian National is thinking of getting out of the steamship business altogether on this coast—a sad and disturbing thought in Prince Rupert where the service between here and Vancouver has been a traditional complement to the railway service.

If the hard-headed Mr. Gordon curtails or abandons the already comparatively meagre steamship service on the coast, what might be his further move because of insufficient traffic?

EXPENSIVE FRIENDSHIP

IT IS REPORTED that United States has formally proposed to Britain and France that they accept western Germany as a friend, ally and co-belligerent in the war with Russia which now seems to be accepted as inevitable. The people of western Germany are not really distinguishable from those of eastern Germany; both followed Hitler. They have long been regarded in the English-speaking world as inherently possessed of certain undesirable characteristics, to put it mildly. This concept of the Germans as an unusually loathsome variety of the human family did not begin with the war of 1914 and its tale of atrocities that earned them the epithet of Hun. The Romans were so sure they had distinguished a special quality that they gave it a name, furor teutonicus, when the remnants of their legions returned from the black forests of defeat.

If this is all wildly erroneous, if Germans are actually no different from other people embracing the usual mixture of good, bad and indifferent, what a lot of "history" will have to go down the drain. But if it is all true, the proposed friendship may prove in the long run expensive indeed. In the homely phrase used by Joe Chamberlain, you need a long spoon to sup with the devil—NEW WESTMINSTER COLUMBIAN

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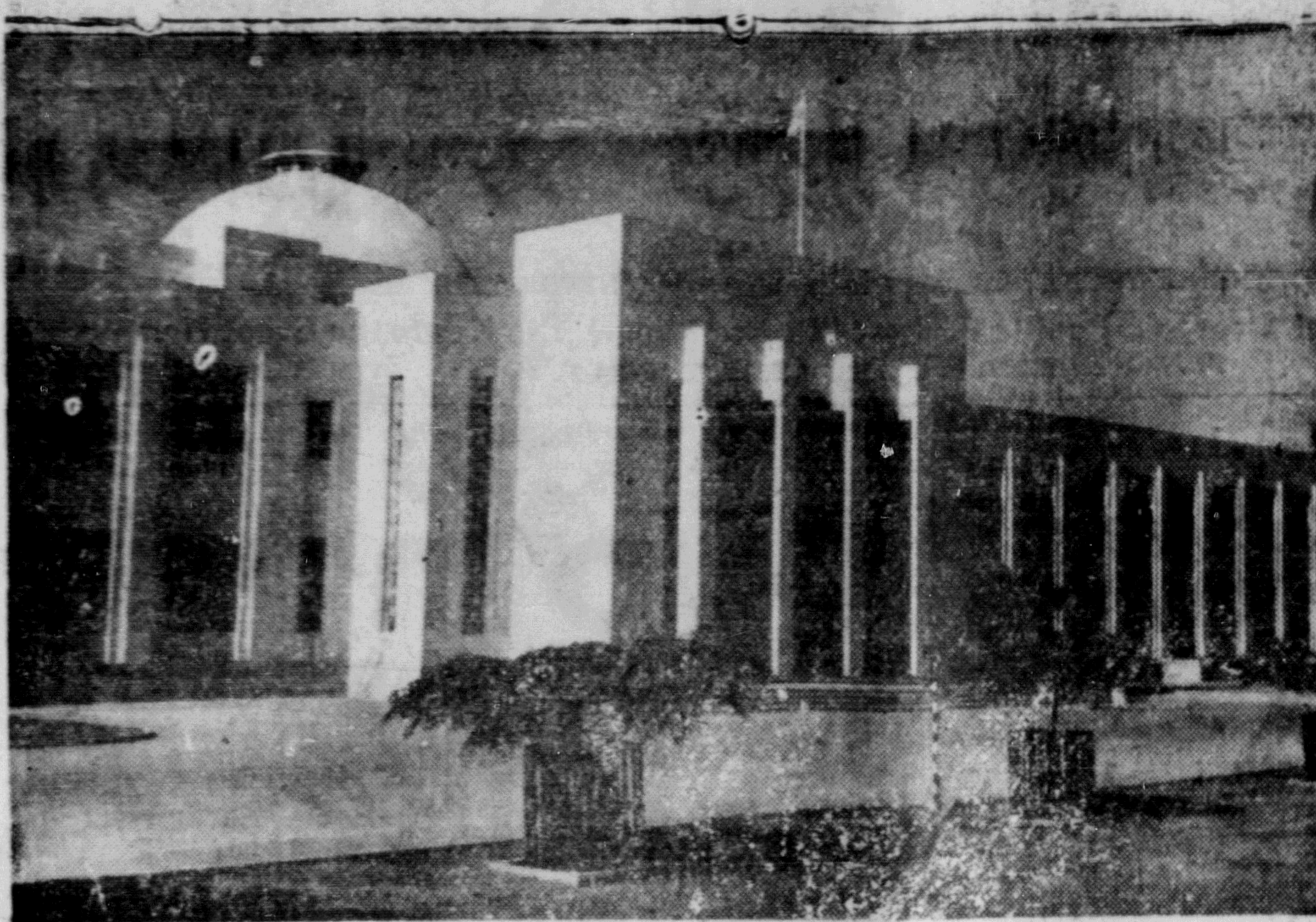
— AT —

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NEW DOMINION'S PARLIAMENT BUILDING—Above is the modern, two-storey building which houses Pakistan's Constituent Assembly, the Cabinet Secretariat and the Ministry of Finance. Built originally for the legislature of the Province of Sind, whose capital was Karachi, it was taken over for the national assembly on Pakistan's creation. Canada's guest at the end of May, Prime Minister Liaquat Ali Khan has a seasonal office in this edifice.



As
I
See
It

By ELMORE PHILPOTT
Dear Young Wan Lee and Pong

KAMLOOPS: DEAR Young Wan Lee and Pong Che Yue: The public letter which you addressed to "respected Canadian Citizens" from your hiding place in Vancouver gave me a real thrill as I read it on the CPR train. I know of your thrilling last minute escape, just before your deportation ship sailed for Korea, I figured too that you must be hiding out in Vancouver, where you have so many friends, and where all three newspapers have appealed to the Canadian government to allow you to stay in Canada as students.

But not until I read your own letter did I realize how well you have grasped the essentials of democracy.

YOU ASK THE PEOPLE OF Canada to persuade the Minister of Immigration to allow you two boys to go to Ottawa to plead your own cases in person. Surely that is a reasonable request.

If the Minister gives that permission I will do what I can to help raise the money to pay your fares.

I am sorry only for one thing—that you did not think of this plan before the other two Spanish refugees sailed for Guatemala.

As you boys know, the two Spanish lads were deserters from the navy of Franco Spain. That is, they were fugitives from the fascist tyranny in that unhappy country of Europe. You boys are fugitives from what you describe as the harsh Communist dictatorship of Northern Korea, in Asia.

Had you four boys appeared in a group, before a Committee of our parliament, we would have had a fine example of the terrible plight of some much of the human race. That might have made some of us Canadians ashamed of our indifference.

And I feel sure that if you do get to Ottawa, to plead your cases in person, that you will completely shatter the impersonal attitude from which so many public officials suffer in Canada, and other democracies. For my bet is that when the Minister himself sees you, or when a Committee of Parliament sees you face to face, the same thing will happen as happened in Vancouver. More folks will get to know you and—know—your help you.

It is a small thing that you two boys ask—to be allowed to stay here as students. Friends have already guaranteed your keep and your tuition.

But it is a big thing for Canada—the answer to that small question. For it will show whether not humane principles do apply.

JUST ONE LAST WORD. Korean friends. I think you are wrong—quite wrong—when you suggest that if you are caught and deported you will take your own lives "by steel or water" rather than go back to Korea.

We have an old motto "never say die while there's a shot left in the locker."

Organize For Flood Relief

Mayor Named to Head Local Campaign Which is Getting Under Way at Once

With Mayor G. W. Rudderham appointed to assume the active leadership, Prince Rupert's campaign in aid of the Manitoba Flood Relief Fund will swing into high gear at once on the assumption that every citizen of this city will be ready and willing to make contribution to the succor of the victims of the national disaster. At an organizational meeting yesterday afternoon in the city council chamber, a citizens' committee was appointed to take over. City Clerk H. D. Thain was named secretary-treasurer and other members of the central committee are Ald. George B. Casey, Ald. James Forman, Ald. H. F. Glassey, James Rogerson, P. M. Ray, Jack Ewart and G. A.

Don't give up hope, no matter what happens. We will do our best for you in Canada. Just as you escaped in the nick of time, so more such miracles could happen again even if the worst seems to come to the worst.

BUT I DON'T THINK THE worst will come to the worst. I think our government will give you permission to stay in Canada temporarily as students, especially if you are able to go to Ottawa in person and plead your own case.



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Ray Reflects and Reminisces

Some countries would have known what to do once the Doukhobors started removing their garments. They would not have seen their clothing again for weeks or perhaps months. Nudity can be extremely uncomfortable sometimes and in some places.

In the year 1949 Scotland exported 8,521,000 gallons of whisky and Canada and the United States drank 70 per cent of it. Solicitor General Lapointe says the curse of heavy drinking is a leading cause of law-breaking. Much of the law-breaking, say the authorities, is restricted to youth. Youth is exposed to temptation, congested home life, unhappy examples! Where is the real starting point of "juvenile delinquency" so called? Is youthfulness such an evil thing, in itself?

A candidate in the recent Toronto by-election suggested the Manitoba floods were due to indifference and incompetence of "the two old parties. He forgot something. He neglected to make any mention of the unusual depth of last winter's snowfalls, the incessant rains and partial destruction, by fire, of two cities in Quebec. It's deplorable what "old parties" can do—once they get out of hand.

Motorists have been discovered who confess, at last the highway between Prince Rupert and Terrace is in excellent shape. It's smooth and an occasional pothole is almost unknown. It's fine to hear an admission like this because year after year complaints and criticism could be looked for a matter of course. Perhaps there were sound reasons, but anything heard in the way of encouragement and approval came so grudgingly. Now, drivers are saying, straight and simple, the highway is all right. Not an if or a but in sight.

Doris Roper, eight year old colored child, sits on Premier St. Laurent's knee, at Dresden, in Western Ontario, and each appear interested in discussing school. "Uncle Tom," the original of the central character in the famous novel is buried in the

little girl's home town. Refreshing, for a change, to get away from Moscow, air crashes, prospective strikes and singing Doukhobors.

Dr. H. Speechly, chairman of the Manitoba anti-mosquito campaign, says the floods are almost certain to breed a record number of the pests. It is greatly to be hoped he is dead wrong. He may be, at that, for living in Prince Rupert are former residents of Winnipeg who say that in recent years a system of mosquito fighting has greatly reduced the number. May it be effective enough to cope with whatever develops this summer. Manitoba has more than enough, in the way of calamity without the winged plague.

Crime comics, imported into, and distributed in Canada and not long ago formally banned by parliamentary enactment, continue to flourish. Canada's action was born dead. Some Canadians had objected to the alleged comics but not with enough force to get anywhere. Possibly some of the readers on this side of the line are not juveniles, and have a taste for "literature."

TRAIN SCHEDULE

Standard Times

For the East—

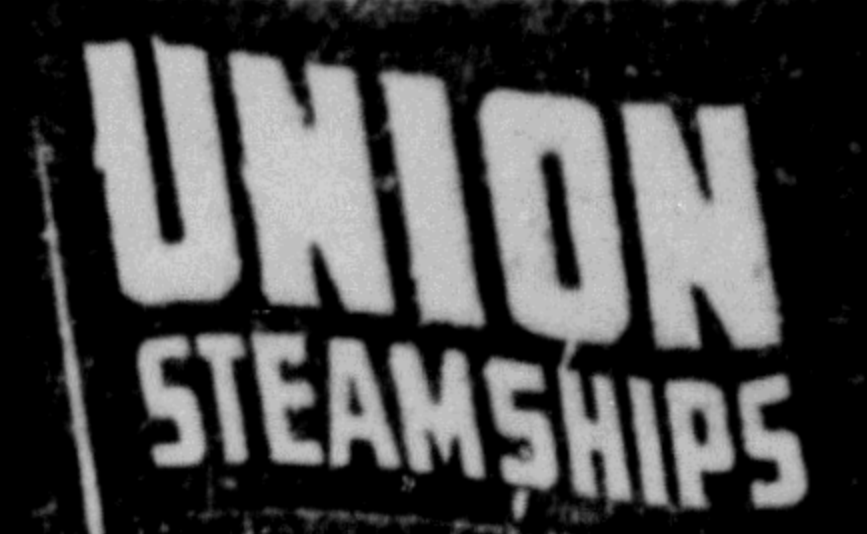
Monday, Wednesday, Friday

8:00 p.m.

From the East—

Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday

10:15 p.m.



VANCOUVER—VICTORIA

Sunday, 9 p.m., Camosun

Tuesday, 1:30 p.m. Coquitlam

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10 p.m.

FOR NORTH QUEEN

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ss. Camosun, May 12 and 26

FOR SOUTH QUEEN

CHARLOTTE ISLANDS

ss. Camosun, May 5 and 19

10 p.m.

FRANK J. SKINNER

Prince Rupert Agent

Third Avenue Phone 568

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