

An independent daily newspaper devoted to the upbuilding of Prince Rupert and all communities comprising northern and central British Columbia. (Authorized as Second Class Mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa.) Published every afternoon except Sunday by Prince Rupert Daily News Ltd., 3rd Avenue, Prince Rupert, British Columbia. G. A. HUNTER, Managing Editor. H. G. PERRY, Managing Director. MEMBER OF CANADIAN PRESS — AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS CANADIAN DAILY NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

New Housing Welcome

WITH THE SALE of the former United States Army administration building to Frank Kaftel, Toronto financier, satisfactory culmination, it would seem, has been reached in connection with the disposition of at least one of the important war installations in Prince Rupert.

Mr. Kaftel has become otherwise interested in Prince Rupert through the purchase of valuable property on Second Avenue where he plans the erection of a million dollar hotel.

Conversion of the First Avenue building into apartments cannot come too soon to relieve a housing shortage in Prince Rupert which is already proving acute and which is in fact holding back the growth of the city through unwillingness of people to come here because of the inadequacy of accommodation.

The Prince Rupert Chamber of Commerce, the city itself and E. T. Applewhite M. P., are among those that can be thanked that the administration building was held up from demolition on several occasions. Now it is to be hoped some useful purpose can be found for the big waterfront warehouse building which, of course, should be held intact any way for possible use in connection with a defence program.

HOPE-PRINCETON HIGHWAY

THE HOPE-PRINCETON HIGHWAY, an integral link in the trans-provincial highway system in the southern part of British Columbia, is to be formally opened tomorrow with considerable acclaim and ceremony.

There is no question that the new road will fill a valuable function and there would be no point in disputing the fact even though it will be of no direct benefit to this particular part of the country.

We can hope, however, that, with that road now finished, the day will be considerably closer when more and quicker attention will be paid to the highways of this rapidly developing central and northern part of the country including the northern trans-provincial highway out of Prince Rupert, especially the unfinished gap east of Prince George between the Sinclair Mills and McBride.

AN IMPERIAL WAR VETERAN

George Bradbury, who died in the city yesterday, in his seventy-third year, was born in Gloucester, England. He had lived in Prince Rupert for some 30 years and in that length of time became quite well known. He had also been located in Georgetown where he was in the employ of Weldon McAfee

for some time. A brother Arthur, living in Toronto, survives.

An Imperial veteran of the first world war Mr. Bradbury suffered frail health following his army service. After working at the Big Bay Lumber Co. at Georgetown, he later took up residence in the city, doing odd jobs and janitor work until he entered the Pioneer Home. He never married.

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Victoria Report

by J. K. Nesbitt

PREMIER GETS TOUGH WITH CIVIL SERVANTS—JOHN CITIZEN AND POLITICS

Premier Johnson who prefers the clubman's handshake greeting, got tough when he announced a new cost-of-living bonus for B. C.'s 7,000 civil servants.

The Premier doesn't like being tough. He much prefers that everything go so smoothly he can keep smiling and talk pleasantries. This time, however, his

patience was at an end. He told civil servants—and he was blunt about it—that there'll be no more cost-of-living bonuses. In future, he said, increases in pay will be considered on their merits. And, he said, in effect—that's that; civil servants can put it in their pipes and smoke it.

Back in 1947, before Mr. Johnson was Premier, the cabinet told civil servants they could have another bonus every time the cost-of-living index went up 12.5 points. This has happened three times and has cost the treasury \$3,000,000. In addition to saying there'll be no more bonuses on the 1947 agreement, the Premier told the civil servants that every time the cost-of-living index goes down 12.5 points a bonus will be lopped off until, the government hopes, the civil servants will be back to their basic wages.

The latest bonus, as the others, gives every civil servant receiving up to \$160 a month a straight 10 per cent increase and those getting more than \$160 get \$16 a month, which is the maximum.

There's no doubt the public is a little burned up about the latest bonus. Many people consider civil servants better off than the average person. They get three weeks' vacation a year with pay after 10 years employ-

ment, sick leave, pensions. They have security few persons in private industry have. They know they'll never lose their job. They're not overworked. They often get three day holiday weekends.

Time was when civil servants were scandalously underpaid. That has been rectified—now. Most people feel Premier Johnson was

quite right in putting his foot down.

Politicians in legislative corridors were interested in what Mrs. Eugenie Anderson, the new U.S. Ambassador to Denmark, said the other day about political parties and their place in public life. She said every citizen should be a member of some political party.

She is, in this, of course, quite right. There is too much grumbling that political parties run the country. But every citizen can be a member of a political party, vote for delegates who chose federal and provincial leaders at conventions and set the party platforms which, to some extent later become government policy. In this way every citizen can have a part in government.

The members of political parties, the rank and file, are the ones, in the long run, who have the final say—so. True, the boys in the smoke-filled back b.d.-rooms of big hotels have a lot of say, but even they must depend on the rank and file for support. There is too much unfounded suggestion that political conventions are rigged from the top.

There may be attempts at this, but if the rank and file is intelligent and independent in thought the big boys won't get away with rigging and dictation.

Mrs. Anderson puts this whole thing in a nutshell when she says: "Only the participation of average citizens in political parties will keep democracy safe."

B. C. agriculture department officials in the Legislative Buildings have been busy in recent days making sure 50 aristocrats of the B. C. cattle world have every comfort on their long trek across the country to the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto.

Some of these animals are worth \$10,000 each. They must be pampered and petted, have their every whim catered to. There will be five carloads in all and each car will have two top herdsmen to look after the occupants. Special cars are fitted up; wooden ceilings are put into all-steel cars so that the cattle won't drown from moisture. Every animal has been vaccinated against shipping fever and guaranteed free of tuberculosis and

brucellosis. In the ring, in the great Coliseum, the pride of the B. C. cattle world will be paraded before the experts of all North America. It is a great opportunity for publicity for British Columbia and will still further prove that this province is a natural home for bluebloods of the barn and pasture.



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