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.
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MEMBER OF CANADIAN PRESS — AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS
CANADIAN DAILY NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION
SUBSCRIPTION RATES
City Carrier, Per Week, 20c; Per Month, 75c; Per Year, $8.00.
By Mail, Per Month, 50c; Per Year, $5.00

The Lumber Situation

NOT TO BE UNEXPECTED is the lower price development in the lumber market which was told about in a week-end dispatch. Prices for some time have been exorbitant. Indeed, much major building activity has been deferred or even cancelled because of the high price situation, not only in lumber but all building materials. Now, in spite of the great need and desire to build, something of a buyers' strike has been developing. A price recession was, therefore, bound to come.

If all concerned in the production and handling of lumber from the raw material to the finished product are reasonable about the matter and co-operate towards economy of production and marketing, an orderly movement from producer to consumer may still be maintained, sustaining employment or reasonable profit for all those who benefit from the industry which is of major importance, particularly in the economy of British Columbia.

There is a great demand and market for lumber from a vast need for construction not only in this country but throughout the world. A gradual and orderly scaling down of prices would appear to be essential if it is to be taken advantage of fully. There is no need for a panic but there will have to be a readjustment from abnormal profit and wage conditions which have prevailed in lumber production since the war days when it was a case of "lumber at any price."

SALES TAX ON NEWSPRINT

THERE IS an eight percent tax on newsprint in Canada and the request has been formally made by the Canadian Daily Newspaper Association that it be removed. This request has been made not without reason. The tax does not apply to magazines published in Canada or periodicals from the United States, or comic and pulp fiction publications. But it does apply to every daily and weekly paper in Canada—and, from the standpoint of necessity and usefulness, the latter are considered more essential than the other. And incidentally, it might be mentioned that the cost of newsprint has been climbing for years.

KETCHIKAN SYMPATHETIC

FOUR COGENT REASONS are presented by Editor W. L. Baker of the Ketchikan Chronicle as to why the port installations established at Prince Rupert by the United States Army should be retained instead of being sold for demolition.

The Chronicle editorializes as follows:

"The Chronicle is sympathetic with the desires of the Rupert chamber of commerce and civic leaders to have the buildings retained on their site. They are on land of the Canadian National Railways which possibly is putting some pressure on the war assets group to sell them. Or the drive to close out war assets and liquidate the agency itself may be behind the latest move.

"Two possibilities present themselves at once to Alaskans, however. Since the extension of the ocean dock is being used for storage of Alaska canned salmon, one wonders why Rupert can't have it retained for similar purposes? The time is coming when Alaska-made pulp will be shipped by barge to Rupert and stored for shipment over C.N. rail lines to rayon mills i nthe eastern states. Perhaps more than one of these buildings could be used for the purpose.

"Secondly, Rupert long has talked of becoming a free port, which is still in the back of its mind. If it takes that step, or sets up a bonded warehouse, which is the next thing to it, it can use part of these facilities very nicely, it would seem.

"Thirdly, and perhaps of more immediate importance, is the outlook for Alaskan statehood which would automatically rescind the objectionable section 27 of the Jones shipping act and give Alaskans the right to import freight via Rupert on Canadian ships, promising more regular service because of the fewer labor tie-ups on Canadian lines, and in some cases lower rates.

"A fourth possibility, of course, is that of war with Russia. In any such a struggle, the Rupert gateway to Alaska would be indispensable; even more so that it was in the struggle against Japan. The same facilities we used in that war might be needed again and it might be costly not to have them. We have felt the U.S. erred in not building the sub-port on Alaskan soil, or on Canadian soil leased to the U.S. for 99 years, so this problem of demolition would not have to be faced. But certainly it costs little or nothing to maintain the facilities still left there. They might be worth their weight in gold in a few months or even years."

GOOD WEATHER LEAVES RUPERT

More storms are sweeping along the British Columbia coast with gales, rain and snow continuing. In Prince Rupert week-end weather was none too cheerful as windswept rain started changing last week's snow into a sea of slush. The snow, heavy and wet, was still on the streets and ground this morning in the process of disintegration. The good weather that Prince Rupert had been enjoying throughout the fall, in comparison with the rest of the coast, appears to have gone at least temporarily.

AND SOMETIMES THE TWAIN SHALL MEET—From the howdah of an elephant, Pairamdas Daulatram, India's minister for food and agriculture, watches a modern tractor at work on the Ganga Khadir Colony reclamation project sponsored by the government of India, in an effort to grow more food and rehabilitate refugee families. Some 47,000 acres of land are being reclaimed here with machinery replacing the elephants and oxen of old India. The minister of food is the man in white, wearing spectacles.

Trade Board Gets Advice

From Representative of Canadian Chamber—Urges Roads and Other Things

TERRACE—A special meeting of the Terrace Board of Trade was held on Thursday evening to hear Larry Eckroyd, regional representative of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, who arrived here earlier in the day by car from Vancouver.

Stating that the Canadian Chamber of Commerce plans to keep him in the west, Mr. Eckroyd outlined its activities and said that the Boards of Trade are the most outstanding organizations in Canada exemplifying democracy. There are 578 Boards of Trade and Canadian Chambers of Commerce in Canada now, an increase of 148. Boards have been visited and been helped with plans for action.

The visitor said that B.C. is the fastest growing province in Canada. There has been a 25 percent increase in population since 1939 with a tremendous growth in all ways. Agriculture and mining have increased as much in the past ten years, forestry three times as much and fishing five times as much.

"We are now on the verge of a tremendous period of expansion in population and the roads should be improved to attract people here, not waiting until they are here to make the improvements," declared Mr. Eckroyd who then went on to tell of other improvements which could be made to attract settlers and tourists, not just from the United States, but from the larger centres in B.C.

"We are not so rough in B.C." would be a good headline for a newspaper article or a booklet and the comforts of home with all the beauties of nature should be a combined attraction for all travellers. With regard to the development of industry, he said that the Boards should have on hand all the pertinent information which an inquiring industrialist would wish and settle the type of industry which might be best here.

In regard to civic improvements Mr. Eckroyd said that western towns were going to grow whether we liked it or not and that town planning should be started now in preparation for the future. An active committee formed jointly by the Board of Trade and the Village Commissioners would be the best solution of that problem.

The prestige of the Board of Trade movement has never been higher than it was today and the whole economic future being prepared for by them. A question period followed Mr. Eckroyd's talk and several members took advantage to have some matters properly explained to them.

CARD PARTY AIDS CONRAD P.-T.A.

Nine tables of bridge, whist and cribbage were in play at the monthly card party sponsored by the Conrad Street School Parent-Teachers' Association in the school basement Friday night. Money raised through the function will be used to further the work of the organization. Under direction of Principal T. G. Bateman, there were three tables of bridge, four of whist and two of cribbage. Winners were: bridge, Mrs. G. Krause; whist, Mrs. M. Girardet; cribbage, Robert Cameron. Convener of refreshments was Mrs. J. K. McLeod and serviteurs were Mrs. R. Ferguson, Mrs. C. Stevenson and Mrs. M. Girardet. Mrs. C. Stevenson was cashier

Better English

By D. C. WILLIAMS

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "You hadn't ought to let your daughter work."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "fortune?"
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Alienation, altruistic, allotment.
4. What does the word "auspicious" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with ha that means "commonplace; trite?"

Answers

1. Say, "You ought not to let your daughter work." 2. Pronounce for-tun, us as in unit, and not for-chun. 3. Allotment. 4. Giving promise of success, prosperity or happiness; predicting good. "It was an auspicious beginning." 5. Hackneyed.

Civic Centre Dates

TUESDAY

Sports

a.m.
9:00—Bo Mi Hi Gym Class.
p.m.
2:30—King Edward Gym Class.
3:30—Rup-Rec Jr. Boys.
8:00—Rup-Rec Men.
4:00—School Basketball League.

Basketball League Games

6:30—Junior.
7:15—Women.
8:15—Intermediate.
9:15—Senior.

Special

a.m.
11:00—Civic Centre Staff Meeting.
p.m.
4:00—Junior Leathercraft.
7:30—Mixed Leathercraft.
8:00—Symphony Orchestra.
8:00—Bridge Lessons.
8:00—J.C.C. Public Speaking.

Medicine Is Highest

OTTAWA—The latest analysis of Federal income tax statstics show that physicians are better paid than any other occupational class, receiving an average income in 1946 of $7,466. But they paid taxes averaging $2,226.

Special Flight Is Made To Cumshewa

While on her regular flight from here to Sandspit Friday, the Canadian Pacific Airlines Canso made a special hop from Sandspit to Cumshewa Inlet to pick up 17 passengers from the logging camps there. The special flight was made as the Sea Bee seaplane, which ordinarily operates between Cumshewa and Sandspit, was out of commission for the day. Of the 17 passengers, 11 headed south for Vancouver on the regular flight of the Douglas and six came on here in the Canso. Both Prince Rupert and Vancouver flights were delayed on account of the extra operation.

City Merchants

City merchants are asked in future to have copy for all display advertisements into the Daily News office by 4 p.m. of the day previous to their publication.

This co-operation will greatly assist the mechanical department in keeping to the regular hour for publication.

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