

Prince Rupert Daily News

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Another Rate Increase

THE FURTHER INCREASE of 7.4 percent in railway freight rates is not going to ride very well. Such increases never are. Forty-one percent increase over wartime freight rates, which the latest of the succession of boosts means, is a lot of increase. It is a serious added burden for business and industry which has to pay. Whether or not it is going to solve the problem of railway financing, in view of the increasing operating costs including the hoists in wages which have been made or may be pending, is a question. The public, it may be expected, is going to seek means of transportation other than railway freight. The railways may lose out that way.

An increase in railway freight rates hits everybody and the consumer pays with the rest because much of the freight increase just goes on the price of consumer goods. We know that here in Prince Rupert where high prices on some commodities at least are blamed on the freights.

RENT CONTROLS

THE SUPREME COURT of Canada, in its wisdom, has upheld the validity of federal rent control and the government at Ottawa has intimated that the controls will be retained for another year.

The fact that the power of control remains in the federal government means that the levels of the controls can be revised, relaxed, or adjusted as the government authorities see fit. So there is still recourse for those who feel they are not done right by—their renters or renters.

Controls or no controls, there are already signs that rent structures, in some cases, particularly in the higher classes, are reaching a point of natural levelling off.



Pen Inmates Had Little Schooling

OTTAWA—Eighty-two per cent of the inmates of Canadian penitentiaries are persons who did not get beyond elementary school. All told there are 4,300 prisoners. Forty percent are under 25 years and twenty percent are twenty or under. Average school experience was between grades 5 and 6.



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RUSSIANS ARE SPECTATORS AT SKI MEET — Watching the men's giant slalom event at the 1950 world Alpine skiing championships of the Federation Internationale de Ski at Aspen, Colorado, are, left to right: George Pokrovsky, of the Russian embassy in Washington; Viktor Andreev, of Moscow, chairman of the all-union department of skiing in the Soviet Union; Peter Sobolev, Russian ski technician. The Russians are attending the meet as observers, no Russian teams being entered in the championships.

Ray Reflects and Reminiscences

The opinion can be safely ventured that in view of recent business developments it will not be Prince Rupert's fault if the increasing number of bathing beauties does not give an added zest to the charm of life in the northern metropolis.

March came in quite gently. Wednesday dawn was soft and still. However, there was no reference concerning resemblance to a lamb. One would have felt sheepish, saying so.

A delegation of Japanese, touring the United States to observe democracy at work, found a welcome at Washington but did not in Boston. The city declined to receive the visitors. But Boston did not miss a million dollars after they had left.

American coal consumers can go a long way toward telling John L. Lewis and his miners to go chase themselves. And right now they are in the humor to do it. Ability to settle strike troubles that will stay settled seems impossible to find and 140 million people are turning sour. It might be made plain, some day, that to obtain heat and power it's not necessary to order coal.

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Manager Named— Prince Rupert's Friendliness

There is an air of friendliness and mutual benevolence as well as frankness which the people who have lived here for a long time may not realize. Dr. L. M. Greene told the Prince Rupert Gyro Club at luncheon yesterday in an autobiographical talk in his capacity as a new member. A confirmed non-smoker who admits that he will not be contented any more in the East or in the larger cities of the south, Dr. Greene, Toronto-born, told highlights of his career. He graduated in medicine from University of Toronto, obtained his F.R.C.S. in Edinburgh. He practised at McBride, Smithers and Foulch River before coming to Prince Rupert last year to locate permanently.

Erni Blain, Prince Rupert-born merchant, also told his life story which included education here, enlistment in the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve here and long service in the Navy throughout World War II.

President A. J. Dominato was in the chair and there was another large attendance of members.

Next week the club will be in regular monthly business session with an executive luncheon on Monday.

TORONTO DUCKS FREEZE TO DEATH

TORONTO — About 200 wild duck were caught napping by a cold snap. The birds were frozen to death in the ice inside Sunny-side's breakwater.

What To Do With \$400?

The Prince Rupert Public School Board, at a meeting last night, handed the problem of the newly acquired Conrad Street School playground to the grounds committee following reading of a letter from City Clerk H. D. Thain, informing the board that the four lots adjacent to the school were being leased to the board.

Discussion arose concerning a retaining wall approximately 100 feet long and six feet high which it would be necessary to construct. This wall would be a safeguard against slides. The board has set aside only \$400 from the yearly estimates and was thought doubtful that leveling, grading and construction of a retaining wall could be accomplished with that sum of money.

It was moved that the grounds committee obtain figures on what can be done with \$400 and also that the city be approached for the title to the four lots.

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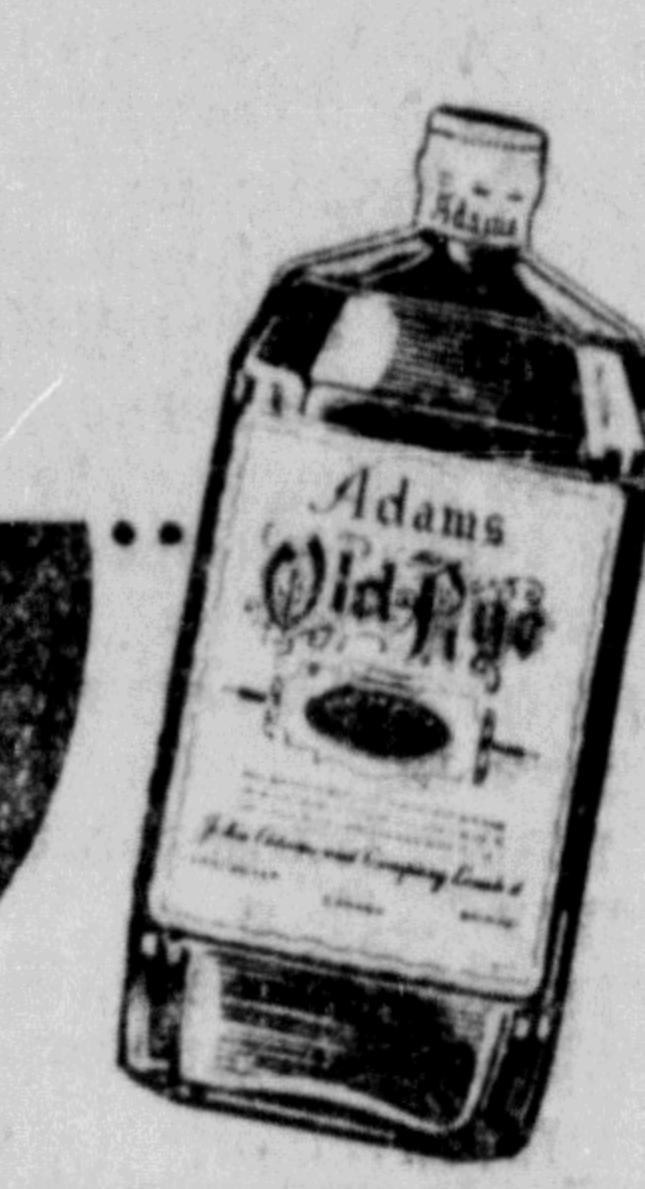
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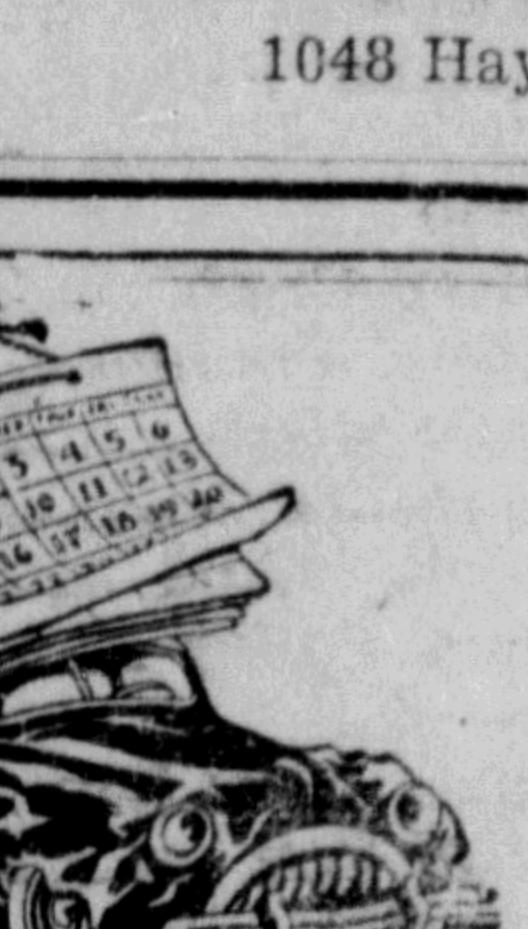
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