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Co-operation--Co-ordination

PERHAPS the two bodies in Prince Rupert that can do most to benefit the city are the Chamber of Commerce and the City Council. But in order to get things done they must work together.

The council transacts civic business. The chamber represents business organizations. Both have the interests of the city at heart. Through various associated boards and the Canadian Chamber of Commerce the chamber of commerce co-ordinates its efforts with other cities. Both, in their own spheres, are acquainted with and act in accordance with the national scheme.

But in the civic scheme sometimes they are inclined to follow their own devices. What is needed is closer co-operation with each other. Both can be of use to the other if they act in a spirit of mutual helpfulness.

This can be brought about by keeping each other posted on activities, one consulting the other on matters of common concern and by a full understanding that one has the interests of the city just as much at heart as the other.

The cartoon of the two mules pulling against each other and accomplishing nothing and of the same two mules pulling in the same direction to move a heavy load is apt.

What is needed in Prince Rupert today is co-operation between the Chamber of Commerce and the city council. Co-ordination of those bodies with provincial and national organizations is an accomplished fact.

OUTDOOR RECREATION

CIVIC CENTRE activities, which do so much towards occupying the leisure time of old and young alike, are now moving to considerable extent outside with the opening for the season of the swimming and wading pools at McClymont Park and supervised playground activities due to commerce about the time of closing of school at McClymont Park and Seal Cove playgrounds. It is satisfactory that, now the fine long days are here, the Civic Centre should devote itself to this beneficial and useful work.

Long since has the Civic Centre and its activities been credited with being a large factor in keeping juvenile delinquency at a minimum in the city through providing the young folk with somewhere to go and something to do. The work among the young fry—and we are told no less than six hundred of them turned out at the swimming and wading pool on opening day Thursday—is a worthwhile effort, well justified and worthy of the fullest measure of support.

FREEDOM—OR LICENSE

NORTH AMERICA boasts of a free press, but freedom does not imply license to defame the reputation of a citizen. True there are laws against libel, but experience shows that it takes plenty of money to fight such a case through the courts.

That portion of the press which is known as "yellow" and which thrives on sensations and hysteria, aids and abets countless injustices. Yet in fairness to the press which stoops to such tactics, it must be said that it could not sell its papers if a large segment of the public did not relish such journalistic garbage, but it must also be realized that the "yellow" press stimulates the appetite of this segment of the public to feast on this kind of a journalistic menu. However, were the public to refuse to buy such papers, then those papers would have to change their methods or go out of business.

Ray Reflects and Reminisces

Believe it or not, Prince Rupert in the early days supported three daily newspapers. One, The Journal, was printed in the morning. The proprietor and editor was O. H. Nelson who, only recently died in Victoria, aged eighty. He established his two floor office and home on Third Avenue a short distance east of McBride Street, facing the ground reserved for the provincial government court house.

UPS AND DOWNS

In the course of general street construction, deep fills and high retaining walls were often required and, as a consequence of this, The Journal stood away below grade. This, while inconvenient, was of comparatively small moment. Dozens of heavy contracts in the way of city building were pending if not already started.

CARS TO COME

Today, cars by the hundreds glide day and night back and forth near the site where Nelson settled. In 1909, McBride Street, from Third to Fifth Avenues, was a flinty slope or hillside, demanding much hard labor and dozens of resounding blasts to dislodge. Third Avenue, between McBride and First Streets was a gulch. Everywhere, nothing but rough edges, rawness and the bleak beginning of things.

NOT MUCH DUST

And also, rain! For clouds hung low. In conversation, in written articles and letters, in homes, aboard ship and wherever human beings foregathered it was declared a town had been found where rain descended every day. Well, the season of 1909 was moist. It was then that thousands of tons of explosives were being fired regularly. And this, in a country like the coast, where reasonable, but not extraordinary rainfall was natural and to be expected. Of course, it became much greater when for years powerful blasts, some enormous, shook the townsite and along the Skeena. Hence an unjust renown as to Prince Rupert's wetness became fixed in the public mind, lasting to this very day.

HOW ABOUT NAME?

Originally what became the Daily News was founded near where the railway station now stands. Its position was in what was known as Jap Alley at the foot of Centre Street, and handy to the informal social centre where Arthur Little sold bananas and tobacco and listened to arguments.

Much pondering followed the query as to what name the paper would bear. Something fresh and challenging appeared to be the objective. George Morrow thought he had it. George had served as Indian Agent at Metlakata before Prince Rupert was ever thought of.

"Call it The Skookum," he suggested. He was asked to explain. Why Skookum? And, what was a skookum, anyway?

"It's an Indian word," said Mr. Morrow, "and means strong." If they proposed to have a newspaper, why not have a skookum one?

THE OPTIMIST

The idea, however, failed to click. There was a feeling it might take readers too long to understand what it was all about, and perhaps cause some confusion.

The question was finally left to public competition, the winner being J. H. Pillsbury, whose choice was The Optimist, and this received unqualified endorsement. Mr. Pillsbury, civil engineer, had surveyed the townsite, and consequently ranks among the earliest to come here. Years ago he became identified with the Workmen's Compensation Board and moved to Vancouver.

Later The Optimist was renamed Daily News.

V.D. Control Emphasized

All phases of venereal disease work here were thoroughly examined recently when Miss Doris Barish, epidemiologist of the V. D. division of Vancouver, visited the Prince Rupert Public Health Unit. It was announced in the May report of the unit.

New policies were worked out and have been put into effect. The tracing and treatment follow-up of contacts still occupies a great deal of the unit's time and the report recommends that the public assist the unit when necessary and raise the standards of health in this community. Premarital checks will reveal any sign of venereal disease and will prevent much unhappiness in later years, the report states.

Interior School Children Checked

A May report of the Prince Rupert Public Health Unit revealed that 134 school children at Terrace, U.S.; Copper City and Cedarvale were examined by a nurse and a medical health officer. A total of 140 vaccinations were carried out; 38 children were protected against diphtheria, and whopping cough and 47 immunizations against typhoid were performed.

In the Smithers district at Quick, Kispiox, New, South and Old Hazelton and Kitwanga, ten vaccinations were carried out in addition to 31 immunizations. A total of 56 pupils were examined by the nurse.

Prince Rupert Gyro Club will be in regular monthly business session at this week's luncheon. An executive luncheon was held today.



As I See It

By ELMORE PHILPOTT
ALVA MYRDAL'S VISIT

THE CONFERENCE on Social work which takes place in Vancouver during the week ending June 17 is one of the most important ever held in Canada.

For instance—if anybody in all the world has the answers to the question of juvenile delinquency—how to prevent it and curtail it—the Social Workers are the ones.

They are bringing to Vancouver many of Canada's and some of the world's outstanding leaders in such fields. Many of the meetings are not only to the general public but in fact are addressed directly to the general public.

THE SPEECH BY DR. ALVA MYRDAL, in the Denman Auditorium, Wednesday night, should be of key importance. This Swedish woman is one of the world's greatest social welfare leaders.

My rule for measuring a real leader, as compared with a mere time server, or cashier-inner, is this:

Is that leader willing to withstand temporary unpopularity for some cause which the leader knows to be right and necessary, even though the majority of colleagues in the leaders' profession do not agree; and even though the majority of the population may be actively opposed to that cause?

Dr. Alva Myrdal is such a leader. She and her famous husband (Professor Gunnar Myrdal) became convinced that Sweden needed more babies. In 1934 they published a book Crisis in the Population Question which ran directly against the world wide tide for ever smaller families.

The Myrdals argued that a further decline in the birthrate

would be disastrous to the nation and hence the ground would be cut from under the very feet of those who had been advocating small families in order to raise the standard of living of the individual families.

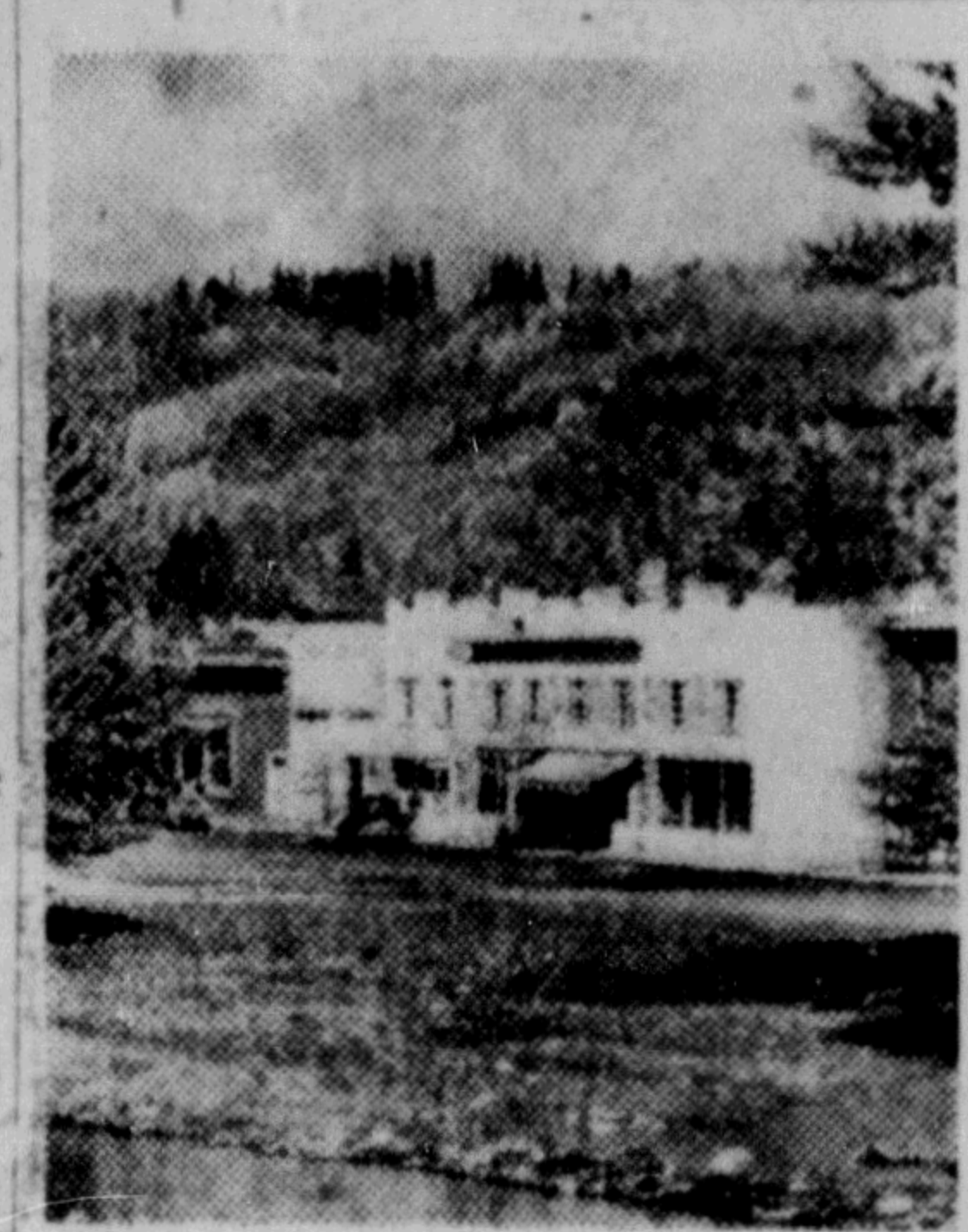
AS THE MYRDAL THESIS collided head-on with the prevailing opinions in trade unions, liberal and intellectual circles they met a storm of ridicule.

My friend, the American professor, Leonard Silk (who edited the U.S. army newspaper "North Star" at Edmonton during the war) writes thus re the Myrdals: "Large families were called 'Myrdal families' and a new verb 'to Myrdal' was introduced into the language. More serious than this were the attacks from Left and Right politicians."

The Social Democrats feared the larger family plea was militarist propaganda, the Conservatives saw it as a scheme to get in more socialism through the back door.

Nevertheless the logic of the Myrdals case was so overwhelming that it finally became state policy in Sweden. One result was that Sweden got, and still has, about the most enlightened policy of state-encouraged housing in the whole world.

APART FROM WRITING A dozen books of her own, I believe Mrs. Myrdal collaborated with her great husband in the classic work on the U.S. race and color question. An American Dilemma is without doubt one of the greatest books of this century—great as most helpful. So, when Canadians get a free



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