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### Unchanging Soviet Policy

THE CREATION of the new "council for economic mutual assistance" between the Soviet Union and its European satellite states is clearly of great importance in itself but it is also of importance as an indication that the hopes which had been aroused in some quarters that a change in Russian policy was imminent, that there was to be a new effort to reach an understanding with the West, have been false hopes.

The whole character of the announcement of the formation of a new council for mutual economic assistance makes it clear that the Soviet Government has no thoughts of rapprochement with the West but is still seeking to deepen and intensify the division. And simultaneously, in Berlin, Communist vituperation has attained new levels.

It is plain that while Moscow may, for local and tactical reasons, speak with two voices, it has a single policy. And that policy has not as some had begun to hope changed with the new year despite the waving of olive branches and seeming cordiality to nations which the Soviet would infiltrate if it cannot subjugate by other means.

### REASON FOR OPTIMISM

THE PORT of Prince Rupert is complaining, and justifiably so, at the recent 40 per cent increase in rates on railway express heading east from the coast. The biggest damage it will do to Rupert's economy is in reducing the movement of fresh fish by fast train to eastern markets.

The Rupert Daily News points out that Alaska's halibut fishermen also will be penalized by the cut, because much Alaska-originated fish also moves by express into the eastern U.S. markets such as Chicago and New York. This means that the added cost of transportation comes from the check paid to the fisherman or is passed along to the consumer. Since high prices and costs all along the way already have caused some consumer resistance to fresh fish, the new rate boost is not welcome at this time.

The fisherman is paid a better price for the fresh fish that goes into the fresh market by express than he receives for that portion which is put into cold storage and shipped out frozen by freight. If the public refuses to pay a premium for the fresh product, however, and more of it is frozen, the price of frozen fish may be effected eventually, too.

Rupert's prospects, otherwise, seem very good. She probably will be the receiving port for much of the pulp manufactured in Alaska. She will be a shipper of pulp in her own right in two years or so, from the big rayon mill going in near the eastern city limits of Rupert. And with statehood coming to Alaska, the Jones act's discrimination against Alaskan use of Canadian ships for freight will end automatically. That should be reason enough for her to be optimistic.

-Ketchikan Chronicle (Bill Baker)

### BRITISH COLUMBIA TOO

NEW MEMBERS of the Historic Sites and Monument Board of Canada are Hon. T. A. Campbell, K.C., of Charlottetown and W. K. Lamb, Ph. D., of Ottawa. The Board, originally appointed in 1919, has examined more than a thousand sites of which about 400 have been considered of sufficient national importance to justify being suitably marked and maintained. These include Indian earthworks, forts and villages, trading posts and mission enterprises, explorations and scenes of military operations in the long struggle for possession Canada, Hudson Bay Co. posts, and birthplaces of distinguished Canadians. Of the two recently appointed members of the Board, Mr. Campbell is Chief Justice of Prince Edward Island and Dr. Lamb a former librarian of the University of British Columbia and now Dominion Archivist.

British Columbia and the prairie regions offer the same historic background Eastern Canada does yet the record would indeed be incomplete were the west, because of this, to be at all neglected.

Lasting recognition of the old explorers, the early navigators, the builders of great enterprises should remain as permanent reminders to succeeding generations of what has gone before. To allow the memory of achievements to fade, to let scenes and sites which are intertwined with the story of the last frontier sing into oblivion would be a sad omission.

### LETTERBOX

**MEAT PRICES**  
Editor, Daily News:  
I have been in Prince Rupert for four years now and have noticed the difference in the price of meat here and in Vancouver. Even taking freight rates into account, the prices here seem terrible—pork legs, Vancouver, 37c; Prince Rupert, 65c and 70c; veal steak, Vancouver, 50; Prince Rupert, 60c and 70c; pork loin, Vancouver, 45c; Prince Rupert, 65c and 70c, and so on with all the meat. Granted that there may be different grades, why could we not have them here too?

There are three of us to feed in this house and it costs us over \$1 per day for meat alone. How the man with a family of seven exists is hard to see. I have seen some such families here in Prince Rupert and their limit is hamburger at 45c per pound.

It's time somebody took this up. After all we are not so very far from Vancouver. Wages are no better here than in Vancouver.

FED UP.

### SOOTY CHURCH

YORKTON, Sask. (CP)—When the furnace stoker exploded in Holy Trinity Anglican church here, soot covered the newly-decorated building inches deep inside.

### SCOTTISH UNIVERSITIES

The first Scottish university, St. Andrew's was founded in 1411, the other three, at Glasgow, Aberdeen and Edinburgh followed within the next century.

### CITY SCHOOL ENROLMENT UP

Enrolment at the city's four public schools was slightly higher in January than in December, reports of principals received at last night's School Board meeting showed. Total enrolment last month was 1,168 as compared with 1,159 in December.

Enrolments, with attendance percentages, follow:  
Booth Memorial High School 445, 92 per cent.  
Borden Street, 230, 91 per cent.  
Conrad Street, 215, 93 per cent.

King Edward, 278, 94 per cent.  
Enrolment at Port Simpson was 14, at Digby Island 23 and at Port Edward eight. There was no report from Port Essington.

### Better English

By D. C. WILLIAMS

- 1. What is wrong with this sentence? "He is a small man, but he is a good fighter at that."
- 2. What is the correct pronunciation of "hysteria?"
- 3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Acetylene, achievement, accumulator.
- 4. What does the word "formative" mean?

### Answers

- 1. Say, "but he is a good fighter nevertheless." 2. Pronounce his-ter-i-a, both i's as in ill, e as in here, a as in ask unstressed, accent second syllable.
- 3. Achievement. 4. Giving or having the power of giving form; plastic. "These experiences date back to the formative period of my life."

### Reminiscences and Reflections

By W.J.

On the front page of a Vancouver daily there recently appeared the portrait of a citizen of prominence and below it, the caption "Sam Carr" involved in the Soviet spy prosecutions bounced back to the all-time high of 159.6. That more like it, by gum!

A copy of The Empire way back in 1912, says the board of works will inquire into the construction of the fire hall. For one thing, the horse stalls were not sufficiently long. Well, well! Is that so? So there was once a time when horses—a handsome, smart-looking animal used for driving or riding—actually were in Prince Rupert.

How much of the water in the North Sea comes from where—and when does it come? This is one of several questions fishing fleets overseas would like answered. Here's another question: What's it all got to do with the fishing industry?

The etiquette column, yesterday, inquired how should one place the knife and fork after finishing a course at the dinner table. Sometimes we have observed a diner use the fork for a toothpick.

Local folks, Friday morning, were given a close-up of a gasoline fire that damaged a car on Third Avenue. They observed the speed and fierceness with which it works. Next time you see in a newspaper something about gas having been mistaken for oil or a passenger plane catching fire when it crashes the chances are you will understand it better.

Things are not always what they seem. It was almost said in this chaste column Thursday that the cost of living was coming down and official data

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