

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)  
SUBSCRIPTION RATES:  
City Carrier, per week, 15c; Per Month, 65c; Per Year, \$7.00;  
By Mail, Per Month, 40c; Per Year, \$4.00.

## The Economic Situation

MUCH WAS MADE during the war of the necessity of preventing the swirling spiral of inflation so that there would be no diversion from the war effort. Controls were imposed in many fields and the result was that Canada maintained her economic equilibrium in such an admirable manner that the plaudits of the world were accorded not only on that account but also for her remarkable war effort.

Now the postwar period is here and there are alarming portents that the Dominion's economic equilibrium is in danger. Already there is a price inflation resulting in a cost of living level which is approaching the breaking point as far as the capacity of average wage earners are concerned.

The government is to be commended on its endeavour to keep away from coercion as long as possible but a position may be reached, and it may not be very far removed now, where some measure of re-imposition of controls will be necessary. The nation cannot be permitted to drift into economic chaos involving unemployment, insecurity and all such evils.

The average person expects, and there is some justification for him so assuming, that, if economic stability and prosperity is possible in wartime, it should also be possible in peacetime. Some reasonable measures, with a minimum of legislative or governmental coercion and a maximum of self-discipline on the part of the citizens themselves, should be forthcoming to meet the current situation.

\* \* \* \*

### KEEP BAND ALIVE

PRINCE RUPERT'S city band, although some eighteen or so enthusiastic members continue their practices, is in danger of folding up through lack of public interest. It would be a regrettable thing, indeed, if that should come to pass and the city found itself without any band whatever.

It is said that there is plenty of band material in the city—players who were in the original boys' band and are still here and players of band instruments of more recent arrival in the city. Those interested in keeping the band alive are desirous of getting in touch with such people and having them enrolled.

It need not be suggested to potential bandmen that it would not only be an act of good citizenship to get into the band and help make it a strong and creditable organization but, through competent instruction and direction they would receive under the excellent leader which the local band has the good fortune to possess, they can keep fresh and even further improve their talents.

\* \* \* \*

### GIFTS OF SEEDS

IN BRITAIN and throughout Europe in cities, towns and suburbs, are millions of little gardens, cultivated after working hours by non-farming families.

Produce from these gardens in Germany, for example, must bridge the gap between rations of 1,200 calories a day, and the 1,500 needed to avoid starvation.

But garden seed is scarce this year. A bad winter killed most hardy crops and the summer's drouth reduced the seed harvest from annual plants.

So, many little gardens must lie idle in the spring, unless seed from this side is forthcoming to plant them.

Two pounds of garden seed, sown in average soil, will grow five to ten tons of vitamin-rich vegetables. Is there any better or more efficient way to help your friends abroad than to send them a gift of seed?

This has been made easy by an organized program. Almost any store handling seed will accept orders for a seed assortment, packed for export and delivered abroad prepaid.

If you know no individuals abroad, recognized charitable institutions will accept your gift and insure that it reaches those who need it.

While we plant Freedom gardens at home, we can help the industrious people abroad to grow their own Freedom gardens.

## LETTERBOX

### THINKS C.C.F. O.K.

Editor, Daily News:

The writer became deeply interested in an item headed "Only Socialism Can Stop B.C." appearing in last Friday's issue of the Daily News.

It so happens that the writer was born and raised in Saskatchewan and knew the province well under Liberal administration, also the Anderson coalition government. He left Saskatchewan in the fall of 1941 more or less because he was of the opinion that B.C. would be one of the first provinces in the Dominion to enjoy a Socialist government. In that respect he was mistaken for Saskatchewan was the first to overthrow either of the old line parties, to instal the first C.C.F. government in Canada.

It was the writer's privilege to leave here a year ago, November 4, to return January 13, 1947. During that time (with the exception of travelling time) the writer's time was spent in Saskatchewan. The writer got off at Saskatoon, motoring from there to Naicam, a distance of about 140 miles. The first thing that came to his attention was the remarkable condition of the road—fewer railway crossings, nicer curves, etc. One who had not been accustomed to the condition of these would not notice them as outstanding improvements.

The government in Saskatchewan operate their own bus service and their buses are not old, dilapidated automobiles, but up-to-date luxury coaches. Due to this fact the highway department, needless to say, operates in keeping the roads passable.

To quote a friend whom the writer has known since childhood from Watson, Saskatchewan: "What is all this I hear about this C.C.F. government in Saskatchewan?" To this he replied: "Well, I didn't vote for them in the last election but I am not proud of the fact today. I will go as far as to say that we will never again have a Liberal government in Saskatchewan."

The writer is convinced that Socialism has been beneficial to Saskatchewan and would in no way be detrimental to B.C.

Thanking you, Mr. Editor, for the space. LEWIS ANDERSON.

## THIS AND THAT



"What have you been doing to keep busy these days?"

chewan. The government we have at present is really trying to give the people fair and sound administration." The writer has known this man to be a staunch Liberal supporter and a remark as he made speaks of satisfaction.

When the writer was back a year ago the government was advocating state medicine. Since that has become law—poor old Saskatchewan leads again. As a Social Credit supporter told the writer: "Alberta had the best government in the Dominion but if Saskatchewan gets this state medicine bill through, they have us beat."

The C.C.F. government was the first in the Dominion to make it compulsory for each automotive vehicle to carry insurance. Other provinces are threatening to follow suit, even B.C.

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Thanking you, Mr. Editor, for the space. LEWIS ANDERSON.

### Railway Officials Coming This Week

Party of British Columbia divisional officials of the Canadian National Railways, on an inspection tour, will be here later in the week, arriving on Thursday night's train from Vancouver via Jasper and leaving Friday evening on their return south. They will be J. F. Cooper, general superintendent, British Columbia division; W. S. Hewson, superintendent of transportation, Vancouver (former chief dispatcher here); R. M. McBain, assistant general freight agent, and J. A. Baillie, rule instructor. C. A. Berner, divisional superintendent here, will accompany them in from Prince George.

### KNOCKS ARE BOOSTS

Children should be allowed to take the little knocks of life in order to teach self-discipline and behaviour to social standards, say health officials.

## SEA GULL AT HOME ON SHIP

### Incident to Relieve Monotony of H.M.C.S. St. Stephen

OTTAWA—H.M.C.S. St. Stephen has returned to Halifax from her first tour of duty as an ocean weather reporting ship on Station "Baker" between Greenland and Labrador.

The one break in the monotony of the three weeks in the sub-Arctic was when a seagull, who they named "Steve," came riding in on a gale and became a temporary addition to the ship's company.

"Up until then we hadn't seen a living thing—no ships, no aircraft, no whales, no seals, nothing but water and the seagull was a very welcome visitor said Lieut. E. M. Chadwick of Victoria, commanding officer.

The bird was surprisingly tame. In the sick bay it was treated for a slightly injured wing, and where it spent the next two days resting in a nest made from a cigarette carton and bedded with cotton waste. The nest was hung in a sling, and the gull swung happily to and fro with the roll of the ship. It liked to frequent the bridge, and perch of Lt. Chadwick's shoulder. But the time soon came when "Steve" tired of posing for pictures and having ease and comfort sat up and flew away into the gray northern sky.

### Steamship Sailings

#### For Vancouver—

Monday—ss Princess Louise 10 p.m.

Tuesday—ss Catala 1:30 p.m.

Thursday—ss Prince Rupert 11:15 p.m.

Friday—ss Cardena, midnight.

#### From Vancouver—

Sunday—ss Catala 4 p.m.

Monday—ss Princess Louise p.m.

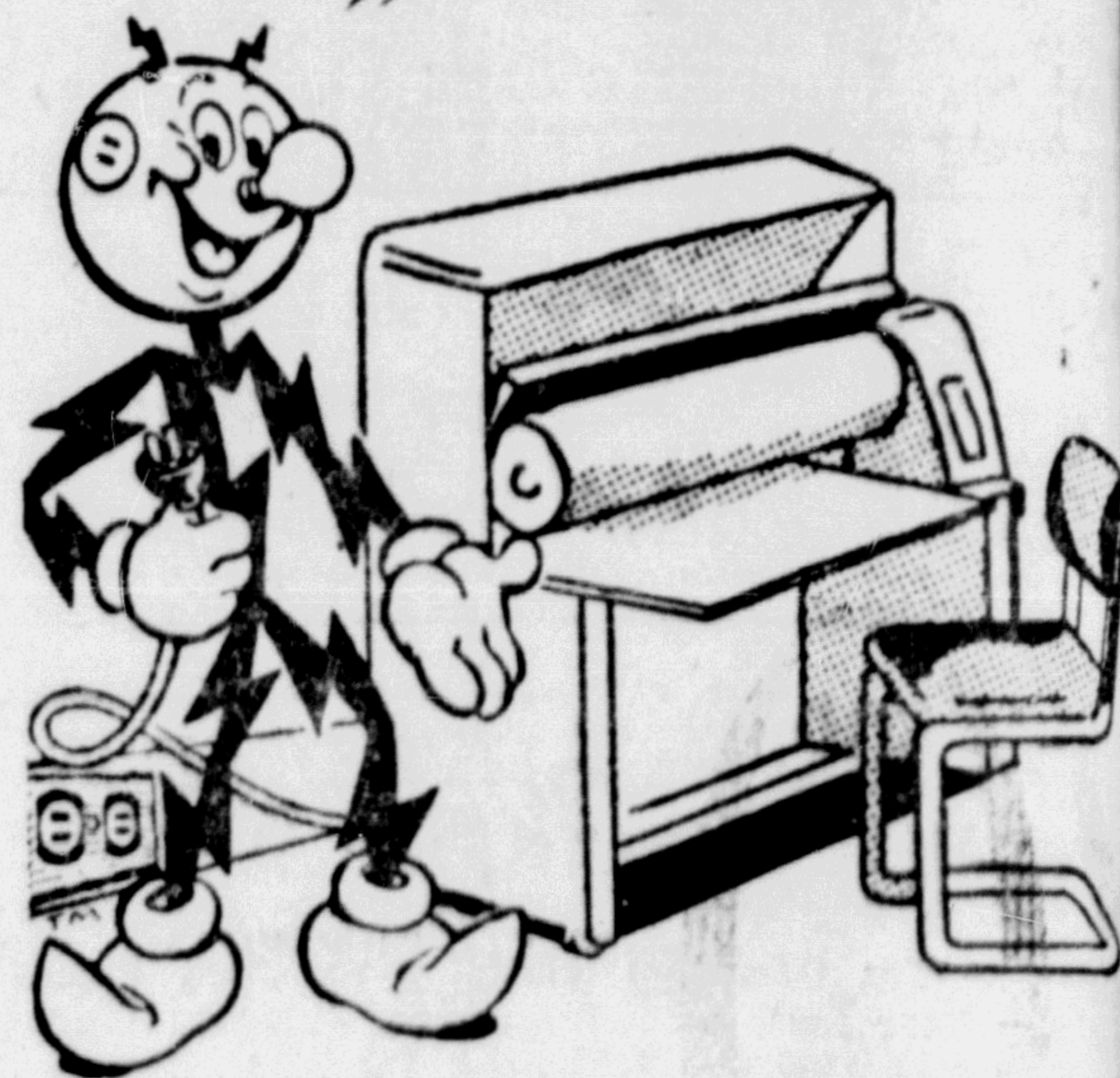
Wednesday—ss Prince Rupert 10:00 a.m.

Friday—ss Cardena p.m.

For Alaska—

Wednesday—ss Prince Rupert 12 midnight.

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