

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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Housing Again

PRINCE Rupert city council this week decided to let the housing matter drop until it was found out how much completion of the Columbia Cellulose plant would affect the need.

We wonder if the city council has taken into consideration that, although the number of employees at the plant would be reduced, those who take over will be permanent residents of the city and district. Their money will be spent in local stores and not shipped out to other places where their families are living "until the job is finished." Nor will the government liquor store gobble up as large a proportion of what is left in town.

In other words, the smaller number of employees on the permanent staff of the operating mill will probably spend just as much money, if not more, in the city as do the greater number of construction men now working there. Then, too, the majority of permanent employees will probably be married with families and need more houses than the larger number of transient employees do now.

The council heard Monday night that ten bona fide applicants for national housing were forced to wait until next year's quota was allotted to Prince Rupert. They took the statement as being all right. The council at the same meeting heard the medical officer deplore the bad housing conditions that are cropping up in the city. At the same meeting council granted a licence to a firm they were told will employ up to 150 more people in the city proper.

The housing shortage in Prince Rupert has been a grave problem for some time now. The allotment of money for national housing was based on the requirements of Prince Rupert's stagnation period.

While the city council was bemoaning the fact that few answered their questionnaire on housing requirements a few weeks ago, they have now been told that ten applicants for housing are left in the cold until next year because this year's allotment of money for national housing has been used up. The fact that it has been used up when the year is less than two thirds finished must certainly give them some lever they can use to have that allotment increased.

Ten more houses in Prince Rupert would go a long way toward alleviating the crowded conditions the medical officer told them had led to poor health and moral leniency. Now is the time for the city council to act and act with force. It is quite conceivable that there will be ten more bona fide applicants for housing before the year is finished. If the allotment is left the same for next year, it is probable that next year's national housing allotment will be used up by hold-overs from this year. That does not help in solving the housing problem.

A SERIOUS LOSS

CANADA is suffering heavily from the continuing railway strike tie-up. Each day the stagnation and confusion increases and the damage becomes more widespread and serious. Disruption has now reached a point where, if the strike ended tomorrow, it would take days, if not weeks, before transportation and communication facilities would be restored to normal handling of traffic.

Effects of this deplorable tie-up have already been such that it will take a long time to repair the damage which has been done during these last ten days.

There have been many serious losses and one of the most serious of these losses, in the case of the Canadian National Railways at least, will be that of the friendly relations which over the years has grown up between management and employees, something that had been built up to such a marked degree in the lush days of Sir Henry Thornton's regime and had been maintained through the Hangerford and Vaughan administrations. Sores which have now been opened will not be quickly healed.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE FOR TODAY

"Lengthen thy cords and strengthen thy stakes; for thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left; and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles." Isaiah 54: 2, 3.

A REMINDER!

Pay your bills in full TODAY so that your Credit will be good TOMORROW!

CREDIT BUREAU OF PRINCE RUPERT



As I See It

By ELMORE PHILPOTT SOME NEW BOOKS

ANYONE INTERESTED in the growth of the labor movement can read with advantage a new novel by Ben Ames Williams. It is OWEN GLEN, published by Thomas Allen at \$4.50.

It deals with the old days when the formerly secret Knights of Labor were becoming the open-and-above-board United Mine Workers. They wanted \$1.50 per day.

In view of the Canadian railroad strike for the five day week I find this extract most intriguing. It is from the old admission ritual of the Knights of Labor, back around 1890.

"We welcome you into the army of peace... We shall use the five elements of nature... the God-given wealth of the world to produce the materials that promote the happiness of all."

We affirm that five days of the week are sufficient for industrial pursuits, and shall therefore labor to bring the time when there shall be five days in the week for labor, and two days for rest—one for God and one for humanity."

DR. C. de RADWAN, formerly of Vienna University and now of Montreal and Toronto, has written a new, succinct book called PSYCHOSOMATIC TRAINING. It contains many common sense instructions re positive thinking, and positive living.

The author specializes in healing and strengthening people by imparting suggestions by means of phonograph records.

ONE OF THE MOST unusual and interesting books that I have read for a long time is NORTHLAND POST, written by Alice Marwick of Cochrane, Ontario. (Published personally).

It is not only the story of that dynamic little city, which is the junction point between the Ontario Northland and the Trans-continental line. In a sense it is also the story of that vast north, which is in Ontario, but "not of it," spiritually at least.

This is a sprightly book, defying the orthodox rules of routine writing. Like its dynamic author, wife of the High School principal, the book gets around a lot.

There is a good deal of straight factual material about the development of the Ontario north. But it is generously spiced with witty stories, from real life. And it rises to real power when telling the story of the several terrible fires which burned to the ground, not only the little centre originally known as The Northland Post, but all other similar centers as well.

ONE THING that impresses you about Mrs. Marwick's book is that it shows how our primitive pioneer communities have a degree of social harmony that we lose as we grow bigger and older.

In her story the Methodist minister of the morning conducts the Anglican service at night; and takes time out to rescue the incoming Catholic priest from drowning. A universally respected business man is Jewish.

"At a table," says Mrs. Marwick, "sat two Frenchmen, an Italian, a Belgian, a Syrian, and an Englishman and one whose ancestors came from Ireland. To that meeting came a Finlander to impart the benefit of his experience in lumbering."

It's an old saying that "you can't keep a good man down" and this home-spun book shows why neither fire nor disease epidemics could keep down the North. For the people there still have a spirit which no outsider can describe unless he has been there and FELT it too.

Starting On New Cannery

Engineers arrived in the city yesterday by plane from Vancouver to start the preliminaries for the Canadian Fishing Co. in connection with the transfer of the company's fish processing plant from the Skeena and Naas River area from Carlisle on the Skeena River to the ocean dock at Prince Rupert.

Plant and machinery will be removed from Carlisle to Prince Rupert and new equipment will be added here. Already a start has been made on the dismantling of Carlisle.

Russia Build Up Turkistan - -

By BIP PARES



KEY INDUSTRIES: Coal, Iron, Oil, Copper, Sulphur, Uranium, Chemical Works, Industrial Centres, Cotton. COMMUNICATIONS: Soviet Air Bases and Routes, Railways, Roads 1, Roads 2, Tracks, Rivers, Soviet Frontiers.

With the rapid economic and military development of Soviet Asia, the U.S.S.R. now has a new and substantial base which could become a taking-off ground for future expansion in the direction of Persia, Afghanistan, India and China.

This vast area, shown in the adjoining map, is screened by the highest mountain ranges in the world and isolated from Russia proper by the Caspian and desert steppes. It consists of five technically autonomous republics, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tadjikistan and Kirghizia, known collectively as Soviet Turkistan, rich in minerals and agricultural resources and now having a population of some 16,000,000.

Until the last war the Kremlin regarded Soviet Turkistan primarily as a colonial area providing special crops, above all the cotton of Uzbekistan and the wheat and cattle of Kazakhstan, to satisfy the needs of metropolitan Russia. At the same time the virtually untapped mineral resources were being rapidly developed. During the war the whole area increased enormously in importance, with the denial of the food and coal and steel of the Ukraine; and with the accelerated development came an influx of settlers from the Ukraine and other western parts of Russia.

Since the war this process has continued, and the emphasis now is on building up Soviet Turkistan into a self-sustaining

area with important communications to the bordering States to the south and the east. These communications now serve as routes for trade and peaceful penetration. For example, whereas in the past the main trade of Afghanistan was with India, since the British withdrawal she has been drawn increasingly into the Russian orbit and her trade now flows north across the Oxus to Soviet Turkistan.

Similarly, whereas the trade route across the Gobi Desert between western Sinkiang and eastern China was costly and slow, the building of the motor highway from Alma Ata into the interior of Sinkiang brings Urumchi into the Soviet economic network.

The strategical value of these new ground communications is clear, and it is reinforced by the establishment of Soviet air-bases in both Afghanistan and Sinkiang. The present trade talks between the Soviet Union and Persia may be seen to mark a further step in the process of trying to convert what were once buffer States between Russia and British interests into extensions of the Soviet sphere of influence.

Airways link the new cities with Moscow, and Tashkent has become the headquarters of one of the six Russian home-based armies. The general trend of development is to make Soviet Turkistan into a new and dangerous power in the heart of backward Asia.

Police Report August Month

The city police report for July showed fines for the month at \$1,635 and costs of \$265.25 for a total of \$1,900.25. Monetary loss from Criminal Code complaints was assessed at \$3,500, while recoveries amounted to \$1,230.80. In this connection there were five major complaints investigated.

There were three motor vehicle accidents during the month. Two charges of reckless driving resulted in two convictions. Fourteen business establishments

Biggest Cattle Deal Announced

VANCOUVER — One of the largest cattle deals in the history of British Columbia was announced yesterday. Victor Spencer of Vancouver has purchased the Douglas Lake Cattle Co. ranch between Merritt and Kamloops. There are ten thousand head of cattle on the property.

There were two cases of breaking, entering and theft. No suspects have been found to date, but investigation is still under way.

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