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ALUMINUM

A SERIES of statements and near-announcements during the past week indicate that decision has been all but finally made by the Aluminum Co. of Canada to establish in central British Columbia a new \$500,000,000 aluminum plant. The most significant statement of all came from one of the company heads who said that further expansion of the great concern would be in British Columbia instead of Quebec where its power resources have been exploited to their limit.

For the past year or so the Daily News has from time to time published stories and articles about the strong possibility of Alcan coming into this area with a manufacturing plant at Kitimaat receiving its power from a vast hydro-electric development in the lakes country to the south and west of Ootsa Lake. It is gratifying now to have those forecasts confirmed and substantiated by important developments which are now being highlighted by a million-dollar final survey program summer.

No doubt the stabilization of the political situation in the Dominion and the province as a result of the two recent general elections has made the company more confident and confiding and thus the announcements of the last few days.

It is possibly just a little hard to realize the impact of a new \$500,000,000 industry for British Columbia and right in our own part of the country. We became thrilled and excited about the Celanese Corporation of America building its \$25,000,000 pulp mill a few miles outside of Prince Rupert. Now the Aluminum Co. comes along with a project twenty times as big and it is past the talking stage now.

TRIBUTE TO 'TED'

A MOTOR TOURIST from Colorado, visiting Prince Rupert yesterday, said that, of hundreds of letters of inquiry which she (it was the wife who was speaking) had written to boards of trade and chambers of commerce in regard to their travel plans, never had she received such courteous reply and assistance than had emanated from the Prince Rupert Chamber of Commerce through its secretary, Ted Applewhaite.

Those closely identified with the Chamber know what invaluable service Mr. Applewhaite has been giving and the good fortune it has been for the Chamber to have an official such as he. The assistance which Mr. Applewhaite rendered to the appreciative Mrs. Dexter Walker of Montrose, California, was but one of hundreds if not thousands of such incidents in the fine work he has been carrying on assiduously if unostentatiously in the promotion of Prince Rupert's good name far and wide.

Now that Mr. Applewhaite has been elected Member of Parliament, his services will be available in new and broader quarters and we do not need to fear that there will be anything, big or little, overlooked nor that his good offices will not be unselfishly forthcoming for each and every citizen, regardless of their station or affiliation.

The Prince Rupert Chamber of Commerce is going to miss Ted Applewhaite badly as its secretary and to find a successor who will be so energetic and meticulous as he has been will be a difficult matter. However, his particular talents are such that in his new sphere he will be in a position to be of even greater service to the city and district, whose problems he knows so much about and of which he has such a comprehensive grasp.

COMPLAINTS AND PROGRESS

AFTER ALL, it must be admitted the rate of progress depends on an eternal round of complaints. Forty years of grumbling preceded the Skeena Highway. Then it was too rough and new for safe and comfortable driving. Later, an occasional slide was apt to block things. After that, snow drifts were a nuisance. Today the dust is thicker than Satan. Tomorrow, the mud will be anywhere from three to four feet in depth.

BOWLING GREEN MYSTERY TO HIM

A tourist in Prince Rupert yesterday looked long and earnestly at the bowling green on the railway reserve and, until told, had no idea of what use it is put to.

Curiosity finally getting the

better of him, he started asking questions which were promptly answered. He had tried to figure it out himself but could find no solution of what seemed to him a mystery. Once, he thought it might be a sort of Canadian golf course, but, finally, reckoned there was not enough space.

Ray Reflects and Reminisces

"I never expected to find Prince Rupert so large and promising looking" is the favorite salutation from new arrivals, after the first glance around. The gentle stranger speaketh truth.

Clear air and bright sky undoubtedly influence the spirit. But should there be more sunshine at Prince Rupert than needed (and stranger things have happened) just as much time could be wasted discussing it as there is in deploring surplus rainfalls now and then.

One learns that a western jury has found a woman, described as "53 and plain" guilty of shooting a man. Had she been a beauty, the result might have been different. If a fellow has to be murdered, or hit by a car, let her be fairer than the morn and the car a dazzling

Rolls-Royce. Somehow, we all prefer it that way.

W. R. Wallace, expert in color photo murals, now in the north as one of a party of illustrators and artists, says Californians like B. C. That's natural enough—seeing California and British Columbia have been chummy since the days of '49 and San Francisco and Victoria good neighbors long before Vancouver was ever heard of.

Perhaps in future, the Conservative party will do without the expression "Progressive." The double-barrelled, pointless and unwieldy example of political nomenclature never seemed to get anywhere. And when headline writers, struggling for space each crowded day, trimmed it down to "Prog-Con," the general effect was worse than ever. Maybe it had something to do with the ultimate outcome.

ANTI-RAT CAMPAIGN

One Cat Does Job At C.N.R. Shops

The queen of the Canadian National shops would never win a beauty contest and she certainly can't claim to be cultured. She hasn't even got a name, she is just an old gray cat with a "pussiness" that has captured the respect and affection of the men who work to keep the rolling stock on the move.

In the three years the "Puss" has been reigning over the shops and yards it has been estimated that she has killed between 3,000 and 5,000 rats. For some reason the men who work in the engine pits seem to be her favorites. Whenever she gets a victim she lugs it over to the pits and meows until one of her friends take notice. More than once a pitter has popped his head up out the depths and had a dead rat literally pushed in his face by the proud huntress. When the expected praise and rewarding caress has been given "Puss" is content to dispose of the rat.

"Puss" works hard at her unofficial job of chief rat catcher and, like any honest workman, she isn't backward about collecting her pay. Each morning she sits beside the power hacksaw waiting for one particular workman who invariably brings her a snack from a nearby restaurant. When the noon whistle blows the latter heads for the lunch-room with the rest of the gang. She goes from man to man collecting food donations. During the gathering period she doesn't waste time eating. She jiles her loot in the centre of the floor and only partakes of the feast when the men have gone back to work.

As well as being a top rank rat catcher "Puss" is also quite a family cat. During the annual

family raising time she makes her home in the rotary snow plow. When the young ones are old enough to scamper around "Puss" parades them through the repair departments and exhibits them to her friends with as much pride as a master of a five ring circus.

Other cats and even dogs appear to recognize "Puss'" authority in the territory she has chosen for her own. For a like a big Newfoundland, belonging to one of the craftsmen, attempted to make the shop his daytime home but "Puss" spent all her spare time staring at him which apparently upset him for he finally stopped coming on the premises.

Although her name doesn't appear on the repair shop's payroll, her enterprise and entertaining antics have won for her an honored spot in the affections of the men who work there.

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LETTERBOX

MR. CAMPBELL AGAIN

Editor, Daily News:

This is a feeble reply to the atomic blast by F. Frank, self appointed champion of Mr. Brett and the C.C.F., in your paper of July 2.

I would like to compliment Mr. Frank on his able defence of his lost cause but, like Mr. Brett, he still insists on linking the Co-op movement with the C.C.F. political party even while preaching it must be kept out of politics. My one and only reason for my first letter was to protest the false claims of Mr. Brett in this respect.

Smarting under one personal defeat as a candidate for the

C.C.F., it is easy to understand Mr. Frank's feelings but, as he has said, "Time Marches On" and the election returns all across Canada, even in Saskatchewan, show the fade out of the C.C.F. in the march of time. In fact in another four years even Mr. Frank may be supporting the free enterprise system under which he was able to accumulate the funds he so proudly boasts of digging up for the local Co-op.

I cannot believe he would rather be milking cows in a collective dairy like in some countries we hear of than running their own little dairy.

However, here's success to Free Enterprise and the Co-op movement.

STUART F. CAMPBELL.

Mrs. N. A. Beketov and family arrived in the city on the Prince George yesterday morning from Victoria to join Mr. Beketov, who recently assumed the duties of agent here for the Department of Transport. They are taking up residence on Borden Street.



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