

Lumbering Is Major Industry of District

Expanding From Southern to Central British Columbia

to a surge in lumbering inspired by high prices. Scores of small logging operations and sawmills sprang into existence, while at the same time, its fertile lands drew the interest of some settlers.

Business and industrial payroll in the area is in the neighborhood of \$400,000 annually, mainly from forest industries. Mining, coal and metal come second. Major coal operations are near Telkwa, some 15 miles from Smithers, where producing mines supply a good percentage of the coal used along the C.N.R. line west of Prince George. One coal mine produced 10,706 long tons in 1946 and is maintaining production. Five other mines include four hard rock operations in various

Phenomenal Increase Seen in Production During Last Ten Years

Mere passing of time and depletion of the forests, including the famous Douglas Fir, on the Lower Mainland are causing expansion of logging and sawmilling operations into the hemlock and spruce types of the northern mainland coast, contiguous to Prince Rupert forestry, and the central interior tributary to the line of the Canadian National Railways all the way from Prince Rupert through Terrace, Smithers, the Bulkley Valley, Prince George and on to the Alberta boundary. Forestry in this district, as elsewhere in British Columbia, stands predominant as a primary industry in the employment of men and the making of dollar returns.

Electric power in the district is supplied by a B. C. Power Commission diesel plant, although potentially, the area is one of the richest in the province in hydro power by way of excellent sites on the Bulkley River.

Last year construction began on a municipal water system, with a reservoir capacity of 50,000 gallons. This year considerable street improvements have been made.

The town is served by one elementary and one high school, while in the rural school district there are nine elementary and two high schools.

Burns Lake Mecca For Sportsmen

Jumping-off point for the magnificent Lakes country of Central British Columbia, the town of Burns Lake is the point of entry to a rich land of farms and forest which is coming increasingly to the notice of potential settlers.

Because of its practically unspoiled state of nature, particularly in the remoter areas, the territory also is a mecca for hunters, many of whom come from the United States to find big game in reasonably accessible places.

South of the village lie the great triangular watercourse in Twedsmuir park—Francois-Oot-sa-Whitesall which some day may be one of Canada's great playgrounds.

Estimated payroll in the district exceeds \$260,000 annually among its 2,600 residents. Lumbering, with 83 operations accounts for the greater part of productivity, with a \$200,000 annual payroll.

Burns Lake village was incorporated in 1923 and is a shipping point for lumber, railroad ties and pit props. The

LUMBER AND AGRICULTURE AT VANDERHOOF

The drainage area immediately contiguous to the village of Vanderhoof, 400 miles east of Prince Rupert, contains better than seven billion feet of lumber but its farming and cattle lands are the basis of most of the town's present wealth.

Incorporated as a village in January, 1926, Vanderhoof is a distributing centre for the surrounding farming area and a shipping point for livestock from south and north. Population of the village is 425 and its trading area 2,189.

While the village receives electrical service from a B. C. Power Commission diesel plant, immediately to the north, on the Nation River near Manson Creek is 80,000 horsepower of undeveloped hydro energy.

Since the war, population in the area has been increasing mainly on the strength of agricultural immigrants arriving from Europe.

Around Terrace there is an acreage of possibly 40,000 of good arable land which could be made into productive farms. The production of small fruits and tree fruits could be very definitely increased as well as certain other crops such as vegetables.

HISTORIC HAZELTON

The Hazelton—Old, New and South—are three small communities situated in delightful surroundings on the upper Skeena River about 175 miles east of Prince Rupert. Their division into three parts resulted mainly from the locations chosen by the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Co. for its road-bed 40 years ago.

Old Hazelton, a historic community, lies in a river valley where the Bulkley and Skeena Rivers join, while both its younger offshoots are situated high on the river bank. The area has vast, undeveloped agricultural land and a pleasant climate. There is some mineral development and prospects for more.

GREAT CITY AT TERRACE

Continued from Page 1

district. It is to be one of the major sources of timber supply for the Columbia Cellulose plant at Prince Rupert.

The town is served by the B. C. Power Commission which has a diesel electric plant in the village. However, in its immediate area are better than 2,000,000 undeveloped electrical horsepower, including the Eutsuk-Kimsquit and Tahta-Kemano potentials which are favored for the aluminum industry. Terrace's altitude is 200 feet and its annual rainfall is about 42 inches.

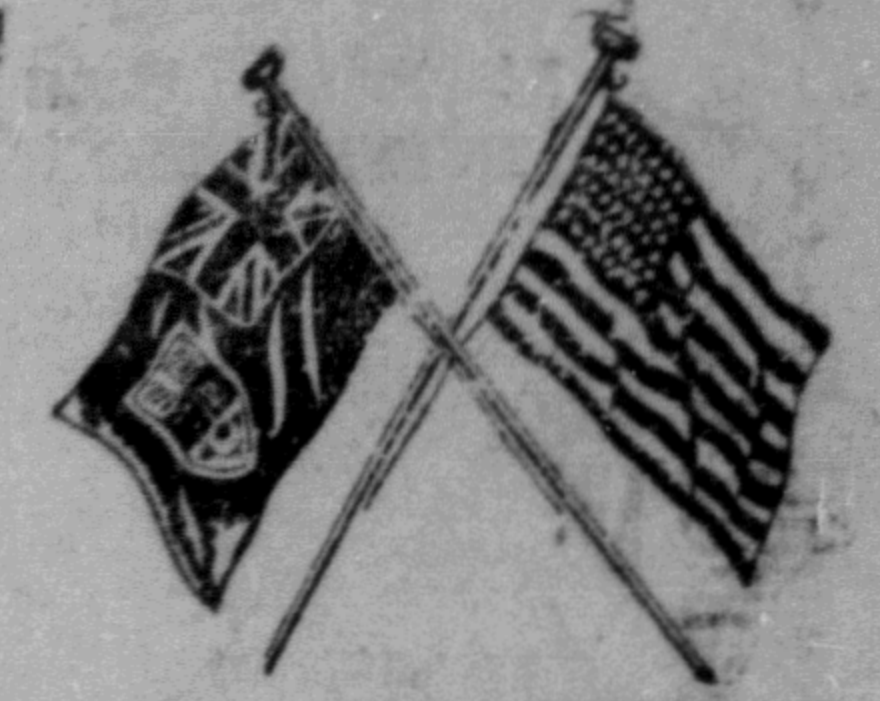
TIMBER, FISH FOUNDATION OF THE ISLANDS

With its main surface area comprised of two islands, Graham and Moresby, the Queen Charlotte Islands have, since industrial development began on the north coast, been known economically for their abundance of timber and of fish. Remoteness from other centres of this fertile territory.

Most prized of its timber has been Sitka spruce, which in two wars, has been used to make military aircraft and which has produced millions of tons of newsprint in mainland plants. However, western hemlock is even more abundant and as the spruce diminishes, demand for hemlock necessarily increases. Total merchantable timber on the islands exceeds twelve billion board feet.

Although agricultural settlement schemes were undertaken years ago, these were not too successful and the permanent population, which now exceeds 1,600 in several scattered communities, makes its living from

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its two prime industries. The islands have begun to experience an increase of population since two airlines established regular services from Prince Rupert.

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