

STRONG COALITION HELD ESSENTIAL

(Continued from Page 1)

cate the nationalization of certain industries. But regardless of shade or degree, they all represent the forces of the Left—the least violent of them leads eventually to complete domination of the many by the few... to state control of the thoughts, actions and lives of the people and to the destruction of the dignity of the individual—in other words—to dictatorship. Against such a disaster, all democratic forms of government must battle, and it has already been proved that we in British Columbia are no less immune from the infiltration of the communist-socialist doctrine than the countries of Europe, Asia or South America.

MUST FIGHT TOTALITARIANISM

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"I maintain, as I have always maintained that we must fight the spectre of totalitarian socialism by closing ranks. The strength of communism lies in the fact that all communists, no matter of what nationality, adhere to the same doctrine. In their struggle for domination, they seek to divide their opponents. In the face of such a dangerous enemy, too close adherence to party politics can lead to disaster. Far better a strong coalition of two democratic parties than a united socialist front opposing two divided right wing parties. To be blunt about it, we are, at the present time, in the position of the Three Musketeers of fiction—United we stand and divided we fall. While there are important differences between the theories of Conservatives and Liberals, both are advocates of the system of free enterprise. Today, our differences must be retired to the background. We are fighting to maintain our

way of life—the democratic system of free enterprise... therefore we must fight together, draw strength from each other, and with that strength, annihilate the disruptive forces of communism and socialism, one and the same thing, and remove the threat of the totalitarian state.

"There have been some party supporters, both Liberals and Conservatives, who had suggested, in all sincerity, I am sure, the dissolution of the Coalition and the return to the straight party line in the Legislature at Victoria. With all due respect to those who have felt this way, I believe that the continuation for the present of the Johnson-Anscomb Coalition is the more logical step. At this time personal and party considerations must be considered of secondary importance to the welfare of the people of this province. I believe that no one man and no one party is as important as British Columbia. Her affairs can best be administered by a Coalition government, as they have been since 1941, and as they will continue to be served until all danger from communism has been eradicated. When that is accomplished fact, we will deal with the then problem in the light of the then conditions.

"British Columbia has never been as prosperous at any time in its history as it has under the administration of the Coalition. We have proved beyond any shadow of a doubt that a business planned administration is far superior to excessive paternalism in government. Few provinces in Canada stand today in as excellent position as does the province of British Columbia. Certainly the province of Saskatchewan, which has a Social-

ist government, cannot begin to compare in finance, public works or social services to the province of British Columbia.

"Our basic industries, in spite of labor difficulties and other economic troubles, set new records in 1947 and our social services have been expanded year by year until they are now equal to or better than any in the Dominion of Canada.

"Never at any time during the war, nor since, have we in this Dominion suffered more than a few petty inconveniences. In matters of food and clothing, and even luxuries, we have never really gone without. Even our housing situation, which has been used from one end of the country to the other at various times as a political football, has never approached the plight of peoples who have had vast sections of their cities levelled to the ground by bombing and shell fire. Austerity is a convenient word for foolish and selfish people. It is a convenient word for those who dislike going without some small extra luxuries. It is a convenient word for those who cannot or will not see beyond their own selfish appetites. It is also a convenient word for those who do not believe in our system of free enterprise and who seize on it as a weapon to prove that the system is a failure. After an examination of the real austerity program which exists in Socialist Britain, or the inflationary difficulties now being faced by Communist Russia, they could, perhaps, choose a less fragile weapon.

OTTAWA PROGRAM NO REAL AUSTERITY

"The Dominion government's program of import restrictions and other dollar saving devices has actually affected us very little. As individuals we cannot make protracted and expensive trips to the United States—a minor inconvenience—not a tragedy. Many luxury items of household use and personal use will for a time be in short supply or entirely cut off. Time enough to complain of austerity when we have not seen many necessities for five and six years—when our children are going barefoot—or clothes are patched, our houses cold and our lighting rationed.

"Nor are we suffering in business and industry. The year 1947 has been a record year for British Columbia, and 1948 shows every prospect of setting still greater records.

"The British Columbia Coalition government, because of its unique position of unity, strength and co-operation, is advancing more rapidly in es-

sential works than any other provincial government in Canada.

"The most exhaustive road program in its history is already under way—plans are being worked out with the leading railroads for the extension of the P.G.E. to give complete and efficient service to the North country, one of our richest assets, to link it effectively and efficiently with the coastal areas.

"I have no hesitation in repeating what I have so many times before said—that to the North we can look for expansion and progress in the years immediately ahead, such as we have never had before. The north holds the 'key' to our future greatness. It is there for us but to turn if we have the energy, spirit and determination to work as did those settlers of 30 to 35 years ago who came to this promised land and made the West what it is today.

"Then what of power—the life-blood of all industry is here in abundance. All we have to do is harness it. That is now being done by private capital and government alike. It must of necessity precede industrial development—but most important of all we must as a people re-live the spirit and desire to work and produce. Production and still more production is the only answer to high costs—shorter hours and less production leads us only to a fools' paradise. Shorter hours if we like, but more production must come from them if we are to survive economically."

COALITION OR COMMUNISM

Mr. Anscomb outlined "some of the many reasons that I am prepared to see the Johnson-Anscomb Coalition continue in British Columbia. It is a coalition of parties which believe in the free enterprise system of democracy as opposed to Communism and Socialism. It is a parliamentary and governmental unit that places the interests of the one million people of British Columbia before either party or individual interest. In that faith and policy lies greater expansion, wealth, success for British Columbia. I believe that our future, in the hands of the Coalition, is secure."

INVITATION TO THUGS

TORONTO (C)—When 66 card players appeared in one day at Toronto city hall's special "gambling court," the magistrate saw fit to warn the gamblers that their activities were an open enticement to hold-up men.

WOULD CONTROL COASTAL RATES

Chamber of Commerce Hears of Steps Being Taken With This End in View

With a view to ensuring some form of consultation if not control when changes are made in coastal freight rates such as the recent thirty percent increase imposed by operating companies on this coast, a special committee representing coastal Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce has been appointed to start by interviewing the steamship companies concerned. It was reported to the Prince Rupert Chamber of Commerce last night by the retiring president, G. A. Hunter, who attended a conference on the matter in Vancouver a few days ago.

Mr. Hunter reported that exception had been taken not so much to an increase in rates, which it was conceded had some justification in mounting operating costs, but to the sudden manner with minimum of explanation in which the increase had been imposed. The suggestion had been made at the conference in Vancouver that coastal steamship companies might be brought under some form of federal control in regard to rates but, before the proposal was pursued further, it had been deemed fitting to consult with the companies and hear their side.

The special committee which has been set up in Vancouver consists of W. F. McClintock, H. Dalton, O. Crawford and W. A. Rundle, prominent members of the Vancouver Board of Trade who are intimately acquainted with transportation problems.

L. M. Felsenthal left by air this afternoon on a business trip to Vancouver.

FUNERAL NOTICE

KING—In the city January 5, 1947, Thomas, beloved husband of Mrs. P. King. Funeral services will be conducted by Rev. Mr. Loomas at Grenville Court Chapel at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, January 7. Remains to be forwarded on evening train to Kelso, Washington, for interment.—B.C. Undertakers.

3-CENT LETTER RATE IS SOUGHT

On the grounds that postal revenue should be considered merely as a basis for the financing of public service rather than as a form of indirect taxation, the Prince Rupert Chamber of Commerce, at the suggestion of G. R. S. Blackaby, decided at its meeting last night to make representations to the federal government seeking an early reduction of the basic letter postal rate from 4c to 3c.

Also at Mr. Blackaby's suggestion, the chamber decided to protest to the postal department at the arbitrary closing down even of the box section during the recent New Year holiday. It was felt that this had caused an unnecessary inconvenience to boxholders.

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Announcement

Rose McCallum, nee Rose La Belle, operator and manager of Nelson Beauty Shop for 10½ years, wishes to announce that from January 1 she will be associated with Winnie Poxon, Modern Beauty Shoppe, Bessie Block, Phone 947.

Rose sincerely appreciates the long patronage of her many customers over the years, and looks forward to continuing to serve them at the Modern Beauty Shoppe.

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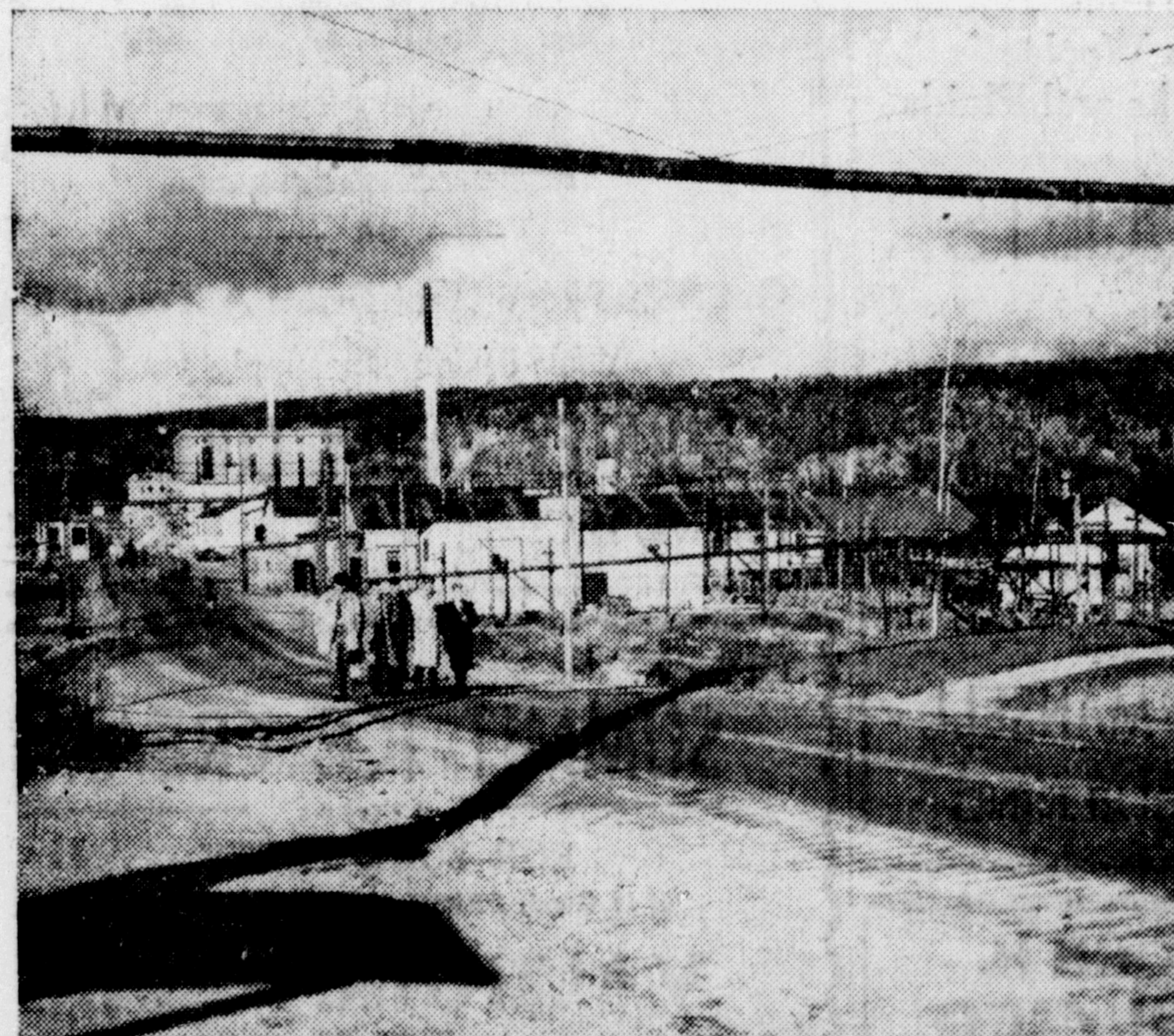
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