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Defending Prince Rupert

WE HAVE NOT BEEN HOWLING calamity but we would prefer to have our readers think we have been talking insurance in certain comments we have been making in the recent water and power crisis and in advancing another suggestion that has been made.

In the water crisis, the city has been without adequate fire protection, there is no doubt. Particularly has this been so along a good deal of the waterfront although some establishments are equipped with pumping facilities which might be used in case of emergency.

While the situation appeared to be getting under control yesterday, barring some unforeseen eventuality, the power shortage did seem rather grim the last few days and, under certain circumstances, such for instance as a railway tie-up which would interrupt deliveries of coal to the dry dock steam plant, it might become critical again.

Every one, of course, hopes for an early change to more normal winter conditions in Prince Rupert to remove these water and power crises without further emergent measures. But the Weather Man is not promising much relief yet.

The new suggestion which is being advanced is that one of the Canadian naval vessels might be dispatched to this port to take up its headquarters during the water and power emergency to stand by in the event of a waterfront fire or a further deterioration in the electrical supply situation or for possible other relief purposes. The vessel, as naval vessels have done at other places under such circumstances, could be used to pump water if required or to feed electrical power into the city lines to meet a deficiency.

If an enemy nation threatened Prince Rupert or any other port with attack, the Navy would be quickly rushed to the scene to provide defence. It would seem reasonable to provide defence against calamity through circumstances other than strictly enemy attack.

And talking about possible disaster conditions, it is to be supposed that other organizations are also keeping their powder dry.

BRITISH POLITICS

REACTION FROM ONE POINT of view to the other has something typically British about it. It bespeaks the British attachment to moderation, a political factor that takes the dynamite out of many a situation that would explode in any but British hands. It is what makes Hyde Park oratory safe—the wilder the safer.

Now that Britons know they are about to be put through a political campaign culminating in general elections February 23 you can almost hear them pulling up mental drawbridges, even at this distance.

One difference between the coming election and the one that brought the Laborites to power in 1945 is that the contending parties are more nearly equal in political maturity than they were then. So their promises may sound more alike than they did then. The voter will probably find generalities to left of him as well as to right of him when the cannonading begins.

On the matter of specific promises the Laborites have noticed that parties with more experience aim not at a mandate for doing certain things. They do not ask direct permission or direct orders from the people. They aim at winning power, reserving their position to use that power as they best see fit. This is not necessarily a sign of political dishonesty. It is a device to preserve flexibility of action. The flexibility could be used for political gain, yes. But it also can be used to achieve ends dictated by the common good through wise timing and strategic selection.

The Conservatives should feel some advantage from the devaluation of the pound. This has put a heavier burden on the workers. It invoked demands for higher wages to offset the reduced purchasing power of the currency. The Conservatives will doubtless blame the Laborites for the devaluation. The Laborites have already had to bear the onus of keeping the lid on wages in the face of trades-union restlessness.

Even when faced with disappointments, one can never tell what the British will do. The British are so self-controlled.



The George Matthew Adams Service, Inc.
"I got tired of Junior's crying! Did I do wrong?"

Ray Reflects and Reminisces

Prince Rupert has been hearing a lot about rationing. Rationing of food, rationing of fuel, rationing of this, that and something else. How come to our very door steps and isn't so good. It will be easier to have some faint notion of the other fellow's troubles, in the future.

Five hundred sacks of mail from Vancouver goes east by way of Prince Rupert. Of course this is the short route between east and west.

John Strachey, Britain's Minister of Food, must be realizing a general election is on. He announces substantial increases in bacon and candy rations. For it must be admitted that today, after any old time, the way to the heart of the average man, and this embraces the electorate, is through the stomach.

The feel of good earth, concrete, wood or masonry beneath one's cautious feet should awaken gratitude—anything save fresh snow with smooth ice underneath or slippery hummocks. On the verge of a hard fall its enough to make one catch his breath—and scores are becoming experts in remaining erect.

Even with conservation of power and water, Prince Rupert, compared with what happened

elsewhere, has been fortunate. Except an unusually lengthy cold snap, and its effect on utilities, there has been little (if that much) to cause anything approaching hardship. No floods. No succession of blinding snowstorms, no suspension of vehicular traffic, no stoppage of train service for days on end and no fatalities due to stress of weather. Taking it all around, Allah has been good to this part of the north.

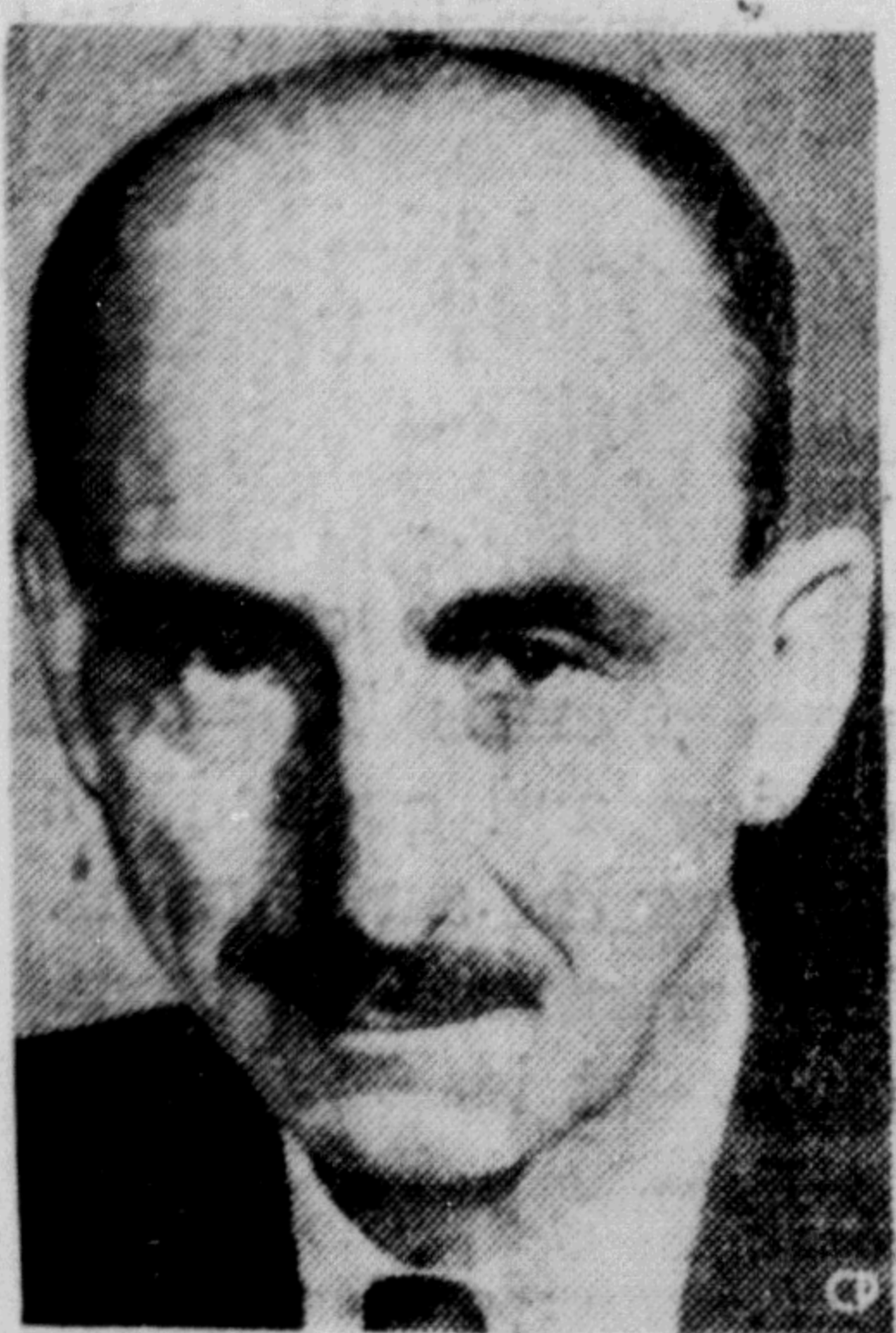
The Medical Health Officer advises the boiling of drinking water, during the present power crisis in Prince Rupert. To do so, is no trouble, and even if it were would be well worth while. Health comes first.

Still Walking After Long Hike

John Kristovich, hardy Ketchikan trapper, who drifted across Dixon Entrance from Portland Inlet to the northwest corner of Graham Island in a broken down trolling boat and then hiked for fifty miles around Naden Harbor to Massett Inlet, has not had enough walking. He was "out for a walk" when Canadian immigration authorities tried to contact him by long distance telephone.

The immigration people are in touch with the United States Coastguard at Ketchikan and two of Kristovich's brothers, James and Thomas, were considering coming to Massett to help John repair his stranded boat. But what seemed more likely is that the Coastguard would come down to Massett and take John back to Ketchikan.

LAND REGISTRY ACT
RE: Certificate of Title No. 22110-1 to Lot One (1), Block Thirty-seven (37), Section Seven (7), City of Prince Rupert, Map 923.
WHEREAS satisfactory proof of loss of the above Certificate of Title issued in the name of Levi Free-stad, has been filed in this office, notice is hereby given that I shall at the expiration of one month from the date of this first publication hereof, issue a Provisional Certificate of Title in lieu of said lost Certificate, unless in the meantime valid objection be made to me in writing.
DATED at the Land Registry Office, Prince Rupert, B. C., this 18th day of January, 1950, A. D.
Andrew Thompson
Deputy Registrar of Titles (42)



VETERANS MINISTER—Canada's minister of veterans' affairs, Milton Gregg, knows well the veterans' problems and interests. He won the Victoria Cross and the Military Cross during the First World War and was sergeant-at-arms in the House of Commons from 1934 to 1939. Mr. Gregg, born at Mountain Dale, N.B., in 1892, also is a noted educationist. He was elected to the Commons at a by-election in 1947 and was minister of fisheries before taking over his present position. (C.P. Photo)

Letters to the Editor

POWER SITUATION

Editor, Daily News:
The Northern B. C. Power Company has asked the citizens of Prince Rupert to conserve power to the extent of 40% and the Daily News concurs with an editorial. Both the notice and the editorial accuse the people of non-co-operation with the Power Company administering practically a verbal spanking to the citizens. Have either of these parties paused to reflect on the indiscretion of this move? Last year the same situation arose and the Power Company was contemplating a conservation measure. Luckily the elements intervened and the situation was relieved.

What action did the Power Company, who have a franchise to deliver power to this community take, to see that this necessity did not arise again?—NONE.

Today they are not requesting but arbitrarily enforcing on all the people of this community, a conservation measure that could have been averted if they had been willing to put some of their money into raising the dam at Falls River.

The small business man such as myself who lives on his ability to produce is not only deprived of his ability to pay his power bill but the legitimate profit he derives from the use of the power the Power Company is obliged, through their franchise, to produce for his needs. I grant when the power is off so is his bill but so is his ability to earn a living and this is curtailed through the reluctance of the vested interest to advance any more capital, even though the situation clearly shows that such an investment is required.

The Power Company is asking for a new rate structure and a

renewal of their franchise. It is for the people of this community to ponder whether the company complied with its bargain and whether they should put up with cuts in their comfort and earning capacity? Instead of telling the people that they have not co-operated with the Power Company, the officials of that Company should offer their apologies to the citizens for their own (the Company's) lack of foresight and enterprise when effecting a cut in power deliveries.

Thanking you, Mr. Editor,
DISGUSTED.

HOTEL ARRIVALS

Prince Rupert

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Leith, Kincolith; J. S. Meek, Premier; J. Selmerson, Vancouver; H. Anderson, Vancouver; I. Haugen, Vancouver; W. J. Pitre, Sooke; A. Smith, Vancouver; C. Skaaravik, New Westminster; T. Rossmesson, Vancouver; Mrs. R. Coulecombe, Sandspit; Mrs. F. Berryman and infant Sandspit; J. Jacobson, New Westminster; B. Cloke, Vancouver; S. McDermid, Chilliwack; Mr. and Mrs. Spurling, Port Edward; Capt. Brestad and wife, Vancouver.

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G. W. Njekerson returned to the city on the Prince George yesterday from a trip to Seattle on business in his capacity as chairman of the International Fisheries Commission.

Advertisement in the Daily News!

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No creaming, no egg-beating—just one easy stirring! Make some to-day!

1 cup Kellogg's All-Bran	1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup milk	1/4 cup sugar or golden syrup
1 cup sifted flour	1 egg
2 1/2 teaspoons baking powder	2 tablespoons 80% shortening
	1/2 cup raisins

- Combine All-Bran and milk in mixing bowl.
- Sift together flour, baking powder and salt into same mixing bowl. Add sugar or golden syrup, egg, shortening, and raisins. Stir only until combined.
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