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Happy Ending

A story with a happy ending was the burning at sea this week of the well known veteran logging service boat Nora Jane. Fortunately enough, the troller Sandy S. was in the vicinity and, with typical resourcefulness of the sea, Captain Arvid Sandhals quickly speeded to the assistance of the stricken vessel and effected as neat a bit of rescue work as has ever been recorded on this coast. As a result, the six members of Nora Jane's crew were safe aboard Sandy S. After being forced by the quickness of the conflagration to leap into the ocean, they owed their lives to the alert and courageous Sandhals.

The incident of the Nora Jane could well have been a grim tragedy but happily, it was to turn out otherwise.

These are the sort of incidents which again point up to the need of a Canadian coastguard and this reminds us we have not been hearing much more about it lately.

CANADA'S NAVAL STORY

A copy of "The Far Distant Ships," an official account of Canadian naval operations in the Second World War by Joseph Schull, published by the authority of the Minister of National Defence, has reached the editor's desk.

A 515-page book, it will prove of particular interest to the many Canadians who served at sea in the war as it tells many a story of the exploits of the Canadian Navy during sixty-eight months of war in the Battle of the Atlantic, in the Arctic, the Mediterranean, the Pacific and the many theatres in which Canadian ships and Canadian seamen wrote such a gallant chapter of history.

The absorbing drama is written in simple yet lively language and the profuse illustrations of maps and photographs are a feature. It is a story which will interest all Canadians generally and should prove popular at \$3.

ON WEARING SHORTS

OPONENTS of shorts, which have even made their appearance on the streets of Prince Rupert these warm days, would be on strong grounds if they based their assault on aesthetic reasons, suggests the editorial column of the Ottawa Citizen.

"The privilege of wearing shorts could be denied to all with hairy legs or knock knees, all with pigeon toes, all those whose waists are no longer slender and those whose shanks are obviously skinny," says the Citizen. "This would eliminate enough people to make the wearing of shorts on the streets an uncommon sight."

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE FOR TODAY

I waited patiently for the Lord; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry. Psalm 40:1.

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Victoria Report

... by J. K. Nesbitt

Education Has Surely Improved—About Cutting Number Of M.L.A.'s

VICTORIA—What improvements in teaching and school accommodation have come in B.C. in 100 years!

In 1850 the only school in B.C. was operated by Rev. and Mrs. R. J. Staines within the palisades of Fort Victoria.

James Robert Anderson, who started school there a century ago, gives us a good picture of that first school in his memoirs.

He wrote: "Mr. Staines, of

rather uncertain temper and dis-

posed at times to be unduly

severe in administering corporal

punishment, was nevertheless a

good student in natural history.

Mrs. Staines was a much more

energetic person; she it was who

really kept the school going and

in spite of many undoubtedly

adverse circumstances, managed

comparatively well. I can see

her now, with a row of curls

down each side of her angular

face; by no means unprepossess-

ing, however, spare figure, clad

in black, a lady undoubtedly.

and when walking out holding

up her skirts on each side and

ordering the girls to follow her

example. Sunday at the Staines

school is to this day a day of

terror to me. After morning

prayers we had breakfast, such

as it was, bread and treacle and

tea without milk. Church at 11

in the mess hall—then dinner,

potatoes and meat, sometimes

fish, then a dreary afternoon

learning the Collects; how I

hated them. The only redeem-

ing feature of Sunday was the

evening in the Staines' private

apartment when we would be

regaled with one sweet each

after prayer—and be dismissed

to bed. And what beds! The

hard boards, an Indian mat, a

Hudson's Bay blanket and over

ourselves another blanket. The

garret we occupied was not lined.

simply the bare logs; the inter-

stices, where the roof joined the

wall, was a veritable runway for

the numerous rats which infest-

ed the building."

A lot of people think that

Canada is over-governed, that we

have too many M.P.'s, M.L.A.'s,

mayors and aldermen. The pub-

lic believes such people should

be well paid but that there

shouldn't be too many of them.

By all means let's give our elec-

ted representatives more money.

We shouldn't have a system

which says that only a man of

means, or a rich widow, or a

woman whose husband doesn't

mind, can really afford to get

elected. It means that seats in

our governing bodies are not

open to anyone. There's no

class distinction, true, but there's

definitely a reason why only a

man with his own business can

give attention to politics. No

employed man could get time off

to attend a session.

Blair Fraser, Maclean's Ottawa

editor, quotes former Quebec M.P.

Frederic Dorion: "Only two kinds

of people can really afford to be

in politics, the rich, who can

make it a hobby and the others

who can't make as good a living

any other way. If you're in be-

tween you're a fool to stay in the

game."

Fraser further quotes Dorion:

"Give him (the M.P.) a salary

that's really worth working for."

Dorion suggests cutting the

House of Commons from 262 to

WINNERS

of Swift's Baby Snapshot Contest!

Congratulations to the 73 British Columbia mothers whose babies' snapshots won prize money in Swift's big contest! So many hundreds of interesting entries were received that the judges had difficulty choosing the winners! However, their choice is now made, and

bank deposits are being arranged for the three big prize winners.

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Same idea might well be applied to British Columbia. We have 48 M.L.A.'s, each drawing \$3,000 a year from the public till. This totals \$144,000. If the House was cut in half and the 24 M.L.A.'s got \$6,000 a year—the total would be the same, and the efficiency greater.

The only way, of course, to cut the number of legislative seats is by act of the Legislature itself.

Can anyone imagine the 48 M.L.A.'s calmly sitting down next session, or any session, and wiping out half the seats?

They should though, think many observers, if the business of government is to be streamlined.

Off to Church Meet in South

To represent the local Regular Baptist Church as official delegate at the annual convention of Regular Baptist Churches of British Columbia in Vancouver, G. R. S. Blackaby left by plane yesterday for the south. He expects to be back by Saturday night's plane.

L. A. Thorpe, who has been acting as pastor of the local church for the past year, will be ordained by the church council during the convention on Friday afternoon. Mr. Thorpe left last week for the south. The convention will also see the receiving of two churches, Prince Rupert and Hope.

Parking Limit Is Approved

Council of the Prince Rupert Chamber of Commerce, meeting at the week-end prior to the departure from the city of secretary P. H. Linzey for a month's vacation in the south, approved the proposal of the traffic committee of the city council of one hour parking limit on Third Avenue. The Chamber's executive suggested, however, that the proposal to ban left hand turning off McBride into Third Avenue be deferred.

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The regular weekly luncheon of the Prince Rupert Gyro Club was postponed from today to Friday when the special guest will be the international president, Walter H. Smith of Hollywood. After attending international convention in Banff, Mr. and Mrs. Smith will be here on their way home.

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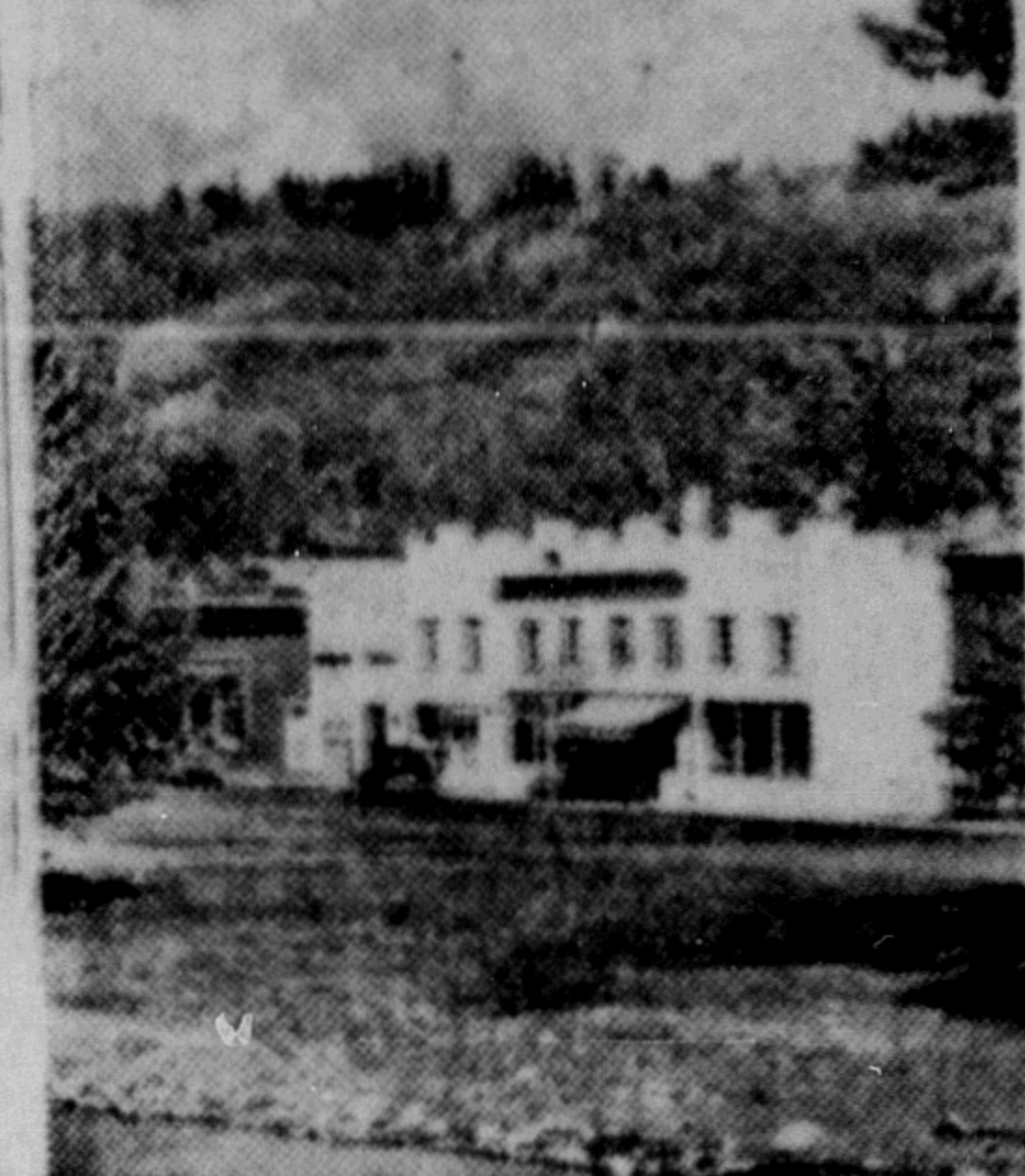
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