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Civic Elections

PRINCE RUPERT civic voters in yesterday's municipal election indicated that they are not so keen for organized slates. The striking victories of Ex-Mayor H. M. Daggett and Ald. G. B. Casey in the two-year and one-year aldermanic contests respectively showed this. Neither Daggett or Casey had the official backing of either Non-Partisan or Civic Labor Federation. Both, undoubtedly, received support from both sides, support the full measure of which they might not have received had they been officially tied up to either. Mr. Daggett might possibly have had the backing of either N.P.A. or C.L.F. but, instead, he went it alone and headed the poll by a substantial margin. Stormy petrel of last year's council and most publicized alderman of 1948, George Casey can probably count his success to the fact that, rightly or wrongly, he kept things stirred up and the people knew he was a fighter.

It was a severe blow for the Civic Labor Federation to be unable to elect a single candidate although it presented full slates for all the offices. Some people may say that organized labor does not have the hold on this community it once had.

It was fitting and proper that the three members of the school board who offered themselves for re-election should have been accorded it. They were in the middle of an important job and had demonstrated their competence. There would have been no good reason for turning them out.

The voters were in a generous mood in their approval of the plebiscites on the big telephone project and parks development. They indicated that they recognized the need for improvements in the city and are willing to pay for it. The chlorination issue was settled once and for all with a decided affirmative vote.

Taking it by and large, the voters did a good job in their selections. The winners are to be congratulated and the losers can take comfort from the fact that they offered themselves as good citizens and can now stay home with clear consciences.

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HEALTH PLAN SUPPORTED BY MEDICAL MEN

The British Columbia medical profession is strongly in favor of the contributory hospitalization plan which will go into effect in this province at the beginning of the year.

The same group is just as firmly opposed to the principle of "state medicine" in which administration of medical functions would be controlled by political rather than medical leadership.

These opinions were expressed Thursday by Dr. C. H. Hankinson, city practitioner, in an address to the Rotary Club in which he assessed the background of the contributory health plan and the worthiness of its aims from a doctor's viewpoint.

A member of the panel of 90 doctors and government leaders, which, in 1943, advised on federal enabling legislation to set up such contributory health plans, Dr. Hankinson said that both the government and the medical profession were aware of the forces which have made such legislation desirable.

"Three wars since the turn of the century have made the government aware of the low rating of physical fitness among the country's younger age group," he said. "This was particularly noticeable in the last conflict when a surprising percentage of young men were found unfit for service."

Economic pressure has been a factor, particularly in the groups with fixed incomes and pensioners, dependent mothers and others.

"In 1900, the average life expectancy was 48 years," Dr. Hankinson declared. "Today it is 65. People are living longer and therefore, greater numbers will require in their latter years more medical and government care."

Public clamor for the benefits of mass purchasing power as applied to the health field also have been an important factor.

"There are many hit-and-miss schemes providing various degrees of health and medical service and government intervention has begun knitting these together into a large, solid plan."

Far from being opposed to such procedure, the medical profession of Canada has welcomed it and provided leadership and technical knowledge in its development, both in the federal enabling stage and in the final provincial stage, Dr. Hankinson said.

However, they remain opposed to any "state medicine" scheme which they believe would put national health on a political basis and stultify research and medical practice.

As applied to Prince Rupert, the Act will prove of benefit, particularly since this is a city in which seasonal labor looms large. Payment of hospital dues during periods of employment will be a guarantee of hospital costs during periods of unemployment.

The Act also covers hospitalization costs of social service and other cases which ordinarily would be burdens on the municipality or other government agencies.

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Britain's Future In Labor's Hands, Gov't Declares

By H. L. JONES
Canadian Press Staff Writer

LONDON)—The Labor government has told the British working man that he is master of his own destiny, that whether Britain sinks or swims economically depends on him and his production in mines and factories.

The story is hammered home with pamphlets, posters, radio broadcast luncheon addresses. It is told to men inclined to be suspicious of the "boss," and to grumble about high prices, short rations and taxes that almost put beer and cigarettes out of reach.

Government spokesmen say that despite such disappointments as the failure of the coal industry to reach its 1948 production target of 211,000,000 tons, its campaign is beginning to take effect.

The labor year in Britain, which produced only one strike—a two-week tie-up of London's docks at a cost of \$3,500,000—saw these developments in the production drive:

The Trade Union Congress, mother body of 8,000,000 British workers, began a campaign to carry the productivity drive right to the workshop floor; open warfare was declared against Communists in the British trade union movement; labor generally reiterated support of the government's wage-prices-profits stabilization policy but warned prices can't go higher.

Working with the government, the T.U.C., headed by 59-year-old Will Lawther, himself once a 4s. (80-cent) a day coal miner, has taken the lead to "educate" the worker on the importance of production.

Regular conferences on production problems in individual industries. A T.U.C. productivity school for shop stewards is also planned.

Lawther, once jailed for six weeks in 1925 during mine labor troubles—and in the very courtroom where he later sat as a magistrate—terms unofficial strikes in Britain today "treason."

The London dock strike of last June was unofficial. It tied up 152 ships and forced the government to proclaim a state of

the government because the grants are made on the basis of service provided.

Dr. Hankinson was thanked for his address by D. C. Stevenson, Rotary Club president.

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Modern Etiquette
By ROBERTA LEE

Q. Should the guests at a dinner always be introduced before they are seated at the table?
A. Yes, always. It's always awkward to make and acknowledge introductions while seated at a table.

Q. Is one obligated to send a gift if one has received an invitation to a wedding ceremony, but not to the reception that follows?
A. No; the gift is optional in this case.

Q. What is the proper method to use for hailing a taxi?
A. By merely lifting the hand, the same as when signaling a streetcar.

Q. When dining in a restaurant where dancing is included, should one do with the hand when rising to dance?
A. Leave the napkin on the plate, unfolded.

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