



TERRACE VILLAGE EAGERLY looks to completion of the 43-mile railway link to Kitimat, as well as start of a highway between the two points. More than tripling its population in the last few years due to a boom in lumbering, Terrace sees a bright future for itself in its relation to the future city of Kitimat.

Lumber Spells Sensational Growth For Seam-Bursting Skeena Village

Terrace, British Columbia, sprawling on a plateau overlooking the Skeena River, 100 miles east of the Pacific, lays claim to the most sensational post-war expansion of any community in the province.

"And," say Terrace residents, "this is just the beginning. Another decade will see us take our place with the other cities of B.C."

Main source of the village's growth—from 300-odd in 1911 to 4,500 today—is summed up in one word: Lumber.

Where there were 33 persons employed in lumbering in 1949 for instance, there are more than 700 directly connected with the industry today.

PULP MILL

One of the major boosts in the lumbering development was the location of the Columbia Cellulose woods operations in the area in 1951. But other private and much smaller operations have increased, and earlier ones have more than doubled their production.

In 1945 there were three lumber operations in the Terrace area. Today there are 17 working at full capacity and another 10 on a part time basis.

In 1951, after the start of operations by Columbia Cellulose whose \$40,000,000 pulp mill is located at Prince Rupert, the total cut for the year was 13,351,770 board feet.

The 1953 production was 92,000,000 board feet with the pulp mill's take of the total, 65,000,000 board feet.

MORE FARMERS

And while lumbering increased multifold, other forms of expansion were taking place in the immediate area of the village which gained its first settlers in 1908 and incorporated in 1927.

A pleasant climate with a longer growing season than most other areas east of the Coast Range so far north has attracted many farmers, several of whom are engaged in commercial horticulture supplying local and Prince Rupert markets, 100 miles westward.

KITIMAT

Meanwhile, construction for the last two years of the huge operations of Aluminum Company of Canada at Kitimat only 40-odd miles south has left its impact in and around Terrace.

Included in additional business which Kitimat is bringing to its nearest neighbor, is construction of a railroad from the Skeena Valley village to the future smelter city.

Kitimat is the reason why Terrace villagers say:

"Watch us for the next 10 years."

The railroad—a branch from Canadian National's main line to Prince Rupert—is expected to be completed this year.

Meanwhile, survey of a highway between the two centres has been authorized. Terrace Board of Trade which has been hammering at government and Alcan doors for such a highway, says only 19 miles of road construction are necessary to complete the link.

CHEAP POWER

Hope of future industrial expansion of Terrace is pinned on a proposed power line from Kitimat tapping Alcan's million horse-power supply of electric energy.

The B.C. Power Commission, a provincial body which is supplying Terrace today with diesel-generated power and has been forced to increase its capacity several times, has indicated a survey for the Kitimat-Terrace power line will be made soon.

From Terrace, a good road extends south for 14 miles to the limits of Lakelse Lake. From Kitimat, a northern road has been pushed through for 12 miles. Total distance is 45 miles. Cost of constructing the link has been estimated at \$1,200,000.

But in the wake of this unprecedented growth, the village's administration and facilities have been lost in the limbo. All services are strained to the utmost.

Because of its limited municipal area—half a square mile containing 1,000 persons—a recent request by village commissioners for a government loan to extend water service was denied.

But the commissioners are wide awake to the needs of their mushrooming community and its potentials. Heading the agenda of future action is extension of municipal boundaries to include the balance of 3,500 persons clustered around the present village confines.

Other desperate needs are installation of adequate sewer system and improvement to streets.

NEW BUILDINGS

Meanwhile, building permits to the extent of \$260,000 were taken out in 1953 for private dwellings and business construction.

Two new banks have opened up in the last year in addition to the original bank which has moved into new quarters.

A new \$375,000 junior-senior high school was opened this year to help take care of more than 750 district pupils and the 100 new beginners each year.

And the federal government recently purchased two business lots where it is expected a building will go up this year to house the post office and other federal government agencies.

A modern theatre, nearing completion, is scheduled to run first pictures this summer.

But still needed in the way of additional facilities are office buildings, apartment units, hotels, retail stores, cafes and auto courts.

No doubt, say the villagers, these things will come soon as investors hear more of mushrooming Terrace and its potentialities.

The new Canadian National rail link now being constructed between Terrace and Kitimat will open up a rich, virgin area, as yet untouched by man; it will give the farmers and the lumbermen in the interior another outlet for their produce. It is hoped a highway will be built also; this would enable Kitimat families to enjoy the warm, dry interior summers and give them opportunity to take advantage of fine camping facilities along our lakeshores as well as the excellent fishing and hunting.

When the Kitimat project gets under way, we are told there will be much surplus electric power, tempting new industry to come in; deep sea ships bringing ore for the making of aluminum, will be looking for return cargo. Along with Prince Rupert, central British Columbia will then have two outlets to the sea.

We have been told that Terrace airport will be the hub of air transportation for this section of the province. The beam station now being constructed will ensure year-round service, advantageous not only to Terrace but the entire district.

This land of opportunity, visualized by the early settlers, is entering another era in its growth. We today are the pioneers of this new industrial era. May we have the same steadfast faith, courage and spirit as did our forefathers and work together with understanding and integrity so that their vision and ours will become a secure and stable reality.

CATS STAY FREE

VANCOUVER (CP) — City council rejected a proposal to impose a license on cats, similar to dogs. "Next it will be canaries," commented an indignant alderman.

CANADIAN ARCTIC

Sovereignty over the Arctic islands north of Canada was transferred by Great Britain to Canada in 1880.

Terrace Folk Look Hopetully To Highway, Power Projects

'Desirable Location For Secondary Industry'

Final stage of construction of its rail link with the aluminum town of Kitimat is exciting a fever of anticipation in Terrace, but residents pin their major hopes of the future on twin developments yet to be launched.

- They are:
1. A highway link between the two centres.
 2. A power line to Terrace from Kitimat tapping the vast supply of electricity to be transmitted from the Kemano hydro generators.
- While the new 40-mile rail link will provide the first direct means of land communication between the two centres, it will be used mainly for freighting of supplies into Kitimat and sending out aluminum ingots.
- In the opinion of Terrace businessmen, a highway is necessary to provide easier and more versatile means of contact.

HIGHWAY NECESSITY

The active Board of Trade is confident that the highway will come soon, and claims a share of credit for having influenced a decision to survey the route, now under way. Cost of the survey is being shared on a 50-50 basis by the provincial government and Alcan.

Fred Macklin, Board of Trade president, says:

"For 18 months our group has been pressing for such a highway. Not only will it open up a lot of territory for logging, farming and tourist centres, but will boost Terrace in its stride of becoming a major distributing and divisional centre."

A highway will also give Kitimat residents the opportunity for car travel which is a must in this day and age. A community cannot be progressive and be even semi-isolated."

Mr. Macklin stressed the need for cheap power in Terrace which would, he said, "make Terrace a desirable location for secondary industry."

POWER LINE

The B.C. Power Commission already has indicated to the Board of Trade and village commission that the feasibility of hooking up Terrace to Kitimat's supply will be investigated.

Another outspoken supporter of the two proposals is Edward T. Kenney, ex-minister of lands and forests and recently re-

"mountains" of limestone are also located in the area.

On the whole, there is little but optimism in busy Terrace which now boasts a population of 4,500 persons, a 15-fold increase since pre-war days and more than double of that four years ago.

Cathie Fraser, editor of the hometown weekly newspaper, the Omineca Herald, says that while the Kitimat development will benefit all of B.C. and central B.C. in particular, "it is like an injection of adrenalin to Terrace. We're going to grow giant size."

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INVESTORS MUTUAL

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Now, as the smelter, port and townsite at Kitimat are readied for operation, the Royal Bank's Kitimat Branch opens for business.

... So another page turns in the story of Canada's northward expansion, and in the pioneering record of The Royal Bank of Canada.

The Royal Bank is on the job in many other centres of B.C.'s new northland empire—Fort St. John, Prince George, Quesnel, Burns Lake, Hazelton, Smithers, Terrace, Prince Rupert ...

In other provinces, too, the Royal has moved forward to new frontiers. Two branches are already established in Alberta's important new Pembina oil field. And at Port Radium, on the fringe of the Arctic Circle, it maintains the "farthest north" branch in Canada.

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