

# Prince Rupert Daily News

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## Terrace Shows The Way

YESTERDAY'S announcement that Terrace lumber operators are about to go into the overseas export business via Prince Rupert raises a number of points, all of them favorable to this district.

First, of course, is the stimulus this venture will provide to lumber operations along the CNR northern line. The immediate benefits to the operators themselves in finding this new market should be substantial and most likely will make expansion possible which, in turn, will benefit many others.

Second is the fact that it promises to activate deep-sea shipping of a general nature from central B.C. Already there are reports that next month a shipping line will commence operations out of here carrying mixed cargoes. It should be noted that definite encouragement to northern shipping trade of this sort was provided by the elimination of insurance penalties against Prince Rupert which followed the visit here last summer of Sir Clement Jones, of the Commonwealth Shipping Committee. In coming years this may prove to be one of the most important things that ever happened to Prince Rupert. (It is also a feather in the cap for the Chamber of Commerce which led the campaign against discriminatory rates and took care to see that Sir Clement was given all the facts during his visit here.)

A third point of vital significance locally is the possible regeneration of Prince Rupert as the port it was once intended to be. Coming at a time when the city is carrying on a grim fight to retain its drydock, this Terrace project puts a glaring light on the backward movement of the federal government when everything else suggests it should be going forward.

Next door, as the Kitimat Northern Sentinel pointed out in the editorial we carried yesterday, the Alcan development and its attendant industries will spur the growth of all the area immediately east of us. This plus the shipping it will attract to the northern coast made the government's determination to take Prince Rupert apart seem strange enough. The trade foreshadowed by the Terrace venture will now make it downright embarrassing—in case it is not that way already.

Congratulations, men of Skeena Timber Products, for demonstrating that it is not necessary to go hundreds of miles by rail from central B.C. to reach the sea!

## Ray REFLECTS and REMINISCES

If it weren't for their frames, some people would look better in photographs.

It seems there are too few cars that the automobile will run out of customers. There is always the unhappy prospect of it running out of victims.

### BETTER POSTED

The ministry at Ottawa will be represented at a conference in Prince Rupert, dealing with the shipyard and drydock situation. This is according to a recent announcement. No matter what the consequences, it is satisfying to know this. A head of a department is that much better informed after a personal visit anywhere.

Called the "beast in the jungle" comments the Wall Street Journal, the hydrogen bomb can certainly spring. But the worst catastrophe would be this—that we should be slowly drained of our faith and vitality

and wisdom by obsession with catastrophe. Then, in truth, the jungle would close in.

A pessimist happens to be a fellow who never feels called on to worry so long as other folks do. And speaking of psychiatrists, is there anyone within convenient distance who can explain what one is, how he looks and what he does for a living.

It is an undoubted, as well as a painful fact to realize the number of prime ministers, over the past half century who have never been within thousands of miles of Prince Rupert, and of those who have were agreeably surprised.

Industry seems to be impressing the News Chronicle, published in Port Arthur. It says working hours are getting so short that in some instances, as at Kitimat, B.C., the complaint is about the excess of idle and unrewarding time.

## As I See It



by  
Elmore  
Philbott

### Shotgun Wedding

CASSANDRA of the London Daily Mirror is probably the most useful writer now contributing to the British press.

His greatest talent is that he discusses right out loud things which are generally discussed only in pubs, blubs, trams and trains—and then in such a way that the discussions could never be put into plain newspaper print.

His latest subject has attracted attention on both sides of the Atlantic. It is based on a public opinion poll which tried to find out what the 38,000 Americans now serving in Britain think of the British, and what the British think of the Americans.

IT SEEMS to me that the above figure tells the whole story. There are more American airmen in Britain than there are British airmen in Britain. That single fact tells the main truth about the changed position of world affairs. The U.S.A. has not only superseded Britain as the strongest, richest world power. The American navy has not only swamped the Royal Navy in size—and taken over most of the joint commands from the British. But Britain itself has become the main overseas base of American power.

Nobody particularly planned it that way. True, Roosevelt and Churchill put their heads together before the Japanese shot the Americans into the Hitler war. Churchill's classic phrase "mixed up together for the common good" is still the best description of what has happened.

But neither Churchill, nor Roosevelt, nor anyone else foresaw the speed, and extent to which the Americans and British would get mixed up. To me, the wonder is not that there are resentments and grievances on both sides. The wonder is that the shotgun wedding is working out so well.

LET US never forget that this was a shotgun wedding. Hitler shot us together and Stalin and his heirs have kept us together.

As to Cassandra's percentage figures. They show that 47% of American airmen stationed in Britain think that the British are "indifferent" to the Americans in their midst. But 41% of the Yanks have found those same Britons "friendly." Only the small percentage of the Americans have found the British hostile—12% gave that answer.

There was a shorter, wittier answer given in the Hitler war as to British attitudes toward the Yanks:

"Over-laid, over-sexed and over here" ran the wisecracks.

ON THE day that France fell to Hitler a wise Scottish seaman gave me his forecast of how France would act. She was feminine, he said, and would only pretend to surrender, but work cunningly to regain her freedom.

But I have never forgotten his incidental remark about the English, with whom he had worked a lifetime at sea:

"The Englishman is the fairest, most decent chap in all the world provided you remember he always acts by his own peculiar code. But if you hurt an Englishman's pride, he will kill you on the spot."

The real threat to British-American relations is that the Americans sometimes forget that fact.

### EARLY PRESS

The first printing press on the American continent was used by Spaniards in Mexico in 1539.



RED-BEARDED Bill Boss says, he has travelled the equivalent of 10 times around the world since he joined The Canadian Press staff in 1944. Just back from five months in the Soviet Union, he has completed a series of stories on life behind the Iron Curtain. Boss says the fact he speaks Russian was invaluable in his reporting. (CP Photo)

## Radio Musical Slated Tonight

A tender and nostalgic story of backstage vaudeville life will be presented on Ford Theatre tonight at 8:30 on CPFR.

It is titled "For Me and My Gal" and will star Peggy Lee and Johnny Desmond.

Josie Hayden (Peggy Lee) and Jimmie Metcalfe are a struggling song and dance team. They meet another dancer, Harry Palmer (Johnny Desmond), who is already a star. He can use Josie in his act and Metcalfe persuades her to join him. But it becomes evident Palmer is in business strictly for himself. Later when he purposely maims his hand to avoid war service, she leaves him and goes to France herself to entertain the troops.

Many incidents, set against the background of the 1914-19 war, develop before the story reaches a happy ending.

## Bennett Going To Winnipeg

VICTORIA (CP)—Premier Bennett will travel to Winnipeg next week to attend a meeting of the Social Credit Association board of directors May 21.

The meeting has been called to discuss extension of the Social Credit organization to all provinces and to improve organization in places where the party now is active.

The meeting will include Premier E. C. Manning of Alberta and representatives from Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario and New Brunswick.

## OTTAWA DIARY

By NORMAN M. MacLEOD

The word which has been passed around Parliamentary circles is that the government means business in standing guard against the threat of any new outbreak of inflation.

The measure of the government's determination is said to have been its recent stand against the Conservative amendment which would have meant an increase in the allowance paid to veterans.

So far as politics goes, the government obviously would rather give the veterans what they want than refuse them. No party makes votes by just sitting on its hands where the national bankroll is concerned. Furthermore, a logical argument could be made in support of an increase for the veterans. The MPs have had their pay raised. The judges are going to have their pay raised. Why shouldn't the veterans also get something?

That question wasn't too hard for the government to answer in practical terms. For it was clear that if the veterans received an increase there would be an immediate demand for increased family allowance and old age pensions. The existing level of government welfare payments would be boosted hugely. And a new round of inflation would be inevitable.

Consequently the government, considerably to its own political discomfort, turned thumbs down on the Conservative proposal. The PCs were well satisfied with that outcome. They felt they had made substantial political yards by championing the ex-service men.

So far as the veterans are concerned the government has the answer that it increased their allowances in 1952. That's not too long ago, but the government realizes that people's memories for political favors are notoriously short. It doesn't expect that the veterans will be completely philosophic about the turnaround.

But to the general public the government is satisfied that it can present a strong argument. Signs that inflation could be on the point of mushrooming again are disturbingly plentiful. Living costs are creeping up once more. Improved business prospects suggest the possibility of a moderate sell's market later in the year. Another round of prosperity appears to be in the making. And those are the sort

of conditions under which inflation flourishes.

There's a further reason the government doesn't want the level of its own welfare payments to rise. In the ticklish situation in which it is involved with the non-operating railway trades, it intends to hold the railway wage line at the existing level. And it feels that it couldn't increase Federal payments all the way down the line from family allowances to old age pensions, and then turn the railwaymen down. The railwaymen wouldn't be expected to stand for that.

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### CNR Official Here

John A. Duff, of Vancouver, Canadian National Railways industrial agent for the B.C. district, arrived here yesterday in the course of an inspection tour. After a brief stay here he will travel east by train, inspecting points between here and Jasper.

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