

Independent daily newspaper devoted to the upbuilding of Prince Rupert and Northern and Central British Columbia.
Member of Canadian Press — Audit Bureau of Circulations
Canadian Daily Newspaper Association.
Published by The Prince Rupert Daily News, Limited.
J. F. MAGOR, President H. G. PERRY, Vice-President

Ketchikan Rockets, Welcome

PRINCE RUPERT is looking forward to the visit of the Ketchikan Rockets. These fine basketball players, who are due here today for a two-game return series with our own Challengers, come as good neighbors as well as tough competitors.

It is the competition, of course, that puts the spice in their visit, particularly since they took two games away from our boys at Ketchikan. The Challengers have their work cut out.

But the time on the court is only a small part of it. When the Challengers visited Ketchikan, they were shown all the warm hospitality of which that friendly Alaskan city is capable. In Prince Rupert it is hoped this neighborly gesture can be returned in full measure.

What puts these exchange visits in a particularly happy light is that not just two cities, but two countries, are involved. It is pleasant to think that international relations can be reduced—or maybe we should say lifted—to such an informal and agreeable level. Regardless of which basketball team comes out on top, this kind of relationship means that both sides are winning anyway.

Hello, Rockets! We're glad to have you with us—and sportswise against us.

Two Good Jobs at Once

ONE of the best jobs in public works to be carried out here in a long time is the elimination of rats at the city dump.

It has been done so swiftly and effectively that it is in danger of missing the attention it deserves. But when one considers the anxiety and revulsion that the rat menace has caused Prince Rupert through the years, this operation begins to look more like the remarkable accomplishment that it really is.

Destruction of the rats would be gratifying enough by itself, but simultaneously we see the preparation of new grounds at Algoma Park where the garbage is being disposed of by sanitary landfill. Any industrialist who could find an equally good use for his waste product would be a satisfied man.

Let's hope that for the city this means the beginning of a new playground, and for the rats—oblivion.

Alberta's Coal Industry Ailing But Not Crippled, Say Spokesmen

LETHBRIDGE, Alta. (CP)—The coal mining industry in Alberta, which works coal reserves estimated at 48 per cent of Canada's total known deposits, has fought adverse conditions and come up with an improved long-term outlook.

Although the industry slipped last year the setbacks were not crippling. Many officials of the coal mining industry now see a better future because in part, of the development of coal turbine engines.

The province's coal production last year amounted to 5,881,419 tons—the smallest output since 1939 and a reduction of almost 3,000,000 tons from the record year of 1946. The decline of 1,313,053 tons from the 1952 production of 7,194,472 tons was the sharpest annual reduction for decades.

LESS WORK DAYS
The average number of men employed by Alberta's coal mining industry dropped from 7,084 in 1952 to 5,670 in 1953 and the average number of days worked declined from 190 in 1952 to 145 last year.

The 1953 pay for Alberta mine workers averaged about \$15 a day but contract miners got as much as \$16 to \$18 a day and machine operators between \$25 and \$28 a day.

The industry's hardest blow was the mild winter last year and the early mildness this winter. Dealers still had last winter's supply this year.

The industry has also had marketing problems since the Leduc oil discovery early in 1947 set off western Canada's crude oil and natural gas developments.

But officials now feel that displacement of coal by fuel oil, propane and natural gas has gone its full length.

CROW'S NEST LEADS
The coal market also suffered last year from the lighter movement of grain throughout western Canada, reducing the num-

All Aboard

By G. E. MORTIMORE

Waiting for something to happen is a tedious process. Saints endure it. Cows enjoy it. Saints use waiting as a chance to bring self-control to bear, and meditate upon the word "Om." Cows, bovine and human, welcome a chance to wait because they're not going anywhere, and waiting gives them an excuse to lounge.

Human cows settle down to wait with a big, happy grin on their round faces. They chew a straw (in a restaurant, a toothpick) and lean back in their chairs, at peace with the world.

Ordinary people chew their nails instead. They pace up and down, or drum with their fingers on the table. They smoke one cigarette after another and sometimes (in extreme cases) two cigarettes at once.

Some travellers dislike waiting so much that they start out to walk instead of remaining at the bus stop. A bus, conjured up by the strange laws that govern the movements of buses, always arrives when the walker has covered 50 yards.

People who have been in the armed services know a lot about waiting. They have spent most of their careers waiting to enlist, waiting for a course, waiting to be posted, and when they are posted, waiting to find someone who knows why they are there.

With all that experience, you might think they would get used to waiting. They don't, however. After they have waited for, and got, their discharge, they detest waiting as much as ever.

Waiting habits vary from one nation to another. There are more saints and cows among the English than among Canadians and Americans. Because there are so many Englishmen in such a small space, they have a greater respect for the rights of others, or a greater stolidity of temperament.

Englishmen, therefore, wait in lineups, or queues, and North Americans often wait in struggling, clamorous masses. When North Americans are jammed together in one place, they refuse to recognize the fact, and continue to behave as though they were roaming through the woods.

In Britain, certain entertainers, called "buskers," make a living by playing to people who are waiting in a queue—usually a theatre queue. For all I know, the buskers may line up for a chance to entertain, and other buskers may entertain them.

Some of the world's dreariest waiting is done in doctors' and dentists' offices. Many of the people in these offices are in a tough position, because they are waiting for something they don't like. They don't like waiting, either, so they have two things to be gloomy about.

Waiting is always easier when you have something to do, and patients (what a misleading word) in dentists' and doctors' anterooms at least have the consolation of reading matter—if they like the Stone-Masons' Journal and The Tattler of April, 1911.

What we need are some buskers to cheer up doctors' and dentists' waiting-rooms.

Logger Dies At Burns Lake

Special to The Daily News
BURNS LAKE—Robert (Bob) Ball, well-known trapper and logger, was killed at Pendleton Bay, Babine Lake, when a big log rolled over him.

Coroner Aubrey Fisher conducted an inquest into the death, termed accidental.

Mr. Ball, well-known from Hazelton to Prince George, is survived by his wife at Prince George.

How Christian Science Heals
"Sickness is Against the Law of God"

KTRN, 930 kc, Saturday, 10:15 a.m.



JUST TAKE A LOOK at the rigid body and alert mouth of Seaman, canine buddy of British tommies fighting Communism, and it is easy to realize that Field Marshal Sir John Harding (right), Britain's top soldier, must have been impressed with both dogs and men during a recent inspection in Malaya. On the serious side, Britain has been fighting Malaya's Communism for six years.

Ray REFLECTS and REMINISCES

Poles are reported to be attacking Russian trains. In Canada it is common knowledge that on numerous highways motor cars are attacking poles.

Lieut.-Col. Joe Peck of Vancouver, addressing the Board of Trade of that city, was somewhat critical of Canada's west coast defence policy. But this, he is remembered, has nothing to do with another Colonel Peck, also of the west coast.

Mankind's most powerful urge is thirst, say the psychologists. No doubt this is after a tape recording of a child just put to bed.—Chatham News

JUST DOGS

Prince Rupert dogs, with and without collars, are none the fewer. Not a solitary one has the slightest lung trouble. Each can usually overtake the other dog when the urge is felt. More dogs are using cars and trucks, and may be said to be obedient. Dogs on foot and dogs on cushions are somewhat given to conversation, most of it believed to be profane.

A small town is the place where they wonder where the doctor is going when he leaves his office in a hurry.

The Denver Post declares the general knowledge of the average man and woman is "pitifully, shockingly low." And from this point Jack Scott in Vancouver takes a shot at the situation in Ottawa. He writes having discovered one in thirty could name the speaker of the House of Commons and four of five could not locate Korea geographically. And incidentally, we learn members of the Commons are to be hoisted to \$10,000 salary.

When we are young, friends are, like everything else, a matter of source. In the old days we know what it means to have them.—Edward Grieg

Money cannot go to Heaven, but it can do something Heavenly here on earth.—Selected.

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THE LETTER BOX

ROAD TO FREEDOM

The Editor,
The Daily News:

It is with gratification that I, and I'm sure many others, read in your paper the news item that all anti-communist prisoners of war will be turned over to the United Nations to be released as civilians in the near future.

It has been quite plain from the Communists' attitude during negotiations that their aim is to thwart this move, the significance of which may have far reaching consequences.

That such a large number of prisoners have chosen the road to freedom is also an indication to the whole world of the feeling of a large number of their fellow countrymen under the Communist yoke today. Those prisoners have good reason to be overjoyed and we know that the United Nations will not let them down.

Let us hope and pray that the great efforts made in leadership and guidance by the western democracies, of which Canada is an important member, will not be in vain.

R. WHITMORE,
1311 First Overlook.

MAKE UP MIND

The Editor,
The Daily News:

It is quite apparent the federal government has no intention of repairing and maintaining the drydocks in Prince Rupert.

Under these circumstances it should be in order to ask the federal government to either put the drydocks up for sale or donate them gratis to either the province of British Columbia or the City of Prince Rupert.

What have you got to lose?
EDWARD W. GREEN,
Prince George, B.C.

WASTE OF TIME

The Editor,
The Daily News:

I have read your article concerning the banning of so-called "horror and love comics." In my estimation and estimations of other people that I have talked to about this subject this move is a complete waste of time.

Who does Ald. Lyons and the panel think they are fooling? Do they think that all the merchants in this city will stop putting these comics on their shelves for sale?

If the children can't buy these comics at a certain place they will go to other places where they will buy them. What about these love magazines like TRUE

LOVE, TRUE EXPERIMENTAL PERSONAL ROMANCE MY TRUE STORY, that of the teen-agers read and adults too?
And then there are the Sunbathing, Phocian those small 10-cent magazines that are on sale at the concerned. Why don't they these?
Then they can call the Saviours of civilization tell their grandchildren about it! This is a free country now the younger generation cannot read what they like is not a subject that can be read aside after it has been with.

SOMEONE COMES

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My NAME.....
My ADDRESS.....

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