

# Prince Rupert Daily News

Thursday, April 9, 1953

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

Subscription Rates:  
By carrier—Per week, 25c; per month \$1.00; per year, \$10.00  
By mail—Per month, 75c; per year, \$8.00  
Authorized as second class mail by the Post Office Department, Ottawa

## Concerts Here to Stay

LAST NIGHT the curtain was rung down on the last of the Alaska Music Trail concerts for this season. The applause that followed the final encore was a tribute to tenor Raymond Manton, but indirectly it was also an expression of appreciation for the group which has steered the series through the most successful period since its inception.

Despite the wide appreciation of good music here, it is not easy to put on concerts which will not only give enjoyment but show profitable financial return as well. The latter is essential as it helps to balance off the heavy expenditures the Civic Centre must make to maintain the facilities which add so much to our general pleasure.

By dint of experiment and a certain amount of disappointing experience, those who volunteered their time to organize the concerts have, with the unsparing help of the Civic Centre staff, brought the concerts to a level where they are paying as well as pleasing. Because this has been accomplished, Prince Rupert can look forward with the warming thought that the Alaska Music Trail concerts are here to stay.

There is only one way of saying it to those who have made this possible—Thank you.

## Retirement Leaves a Gap

RETIREMENT of Ed Kenney from B.C. politics brings to an end—as far as one can see at this point—a career made notable by outstanding, though sometimes controversial, accomplishment.

Mr. Kenney was handed the important portfolio of Minister of Lands and Forests at a time when the natural resources of this province were becoming recognized by industry as one of the great wonders of the modern world.

That was just over eight years ago. Until the defeat of the government last June, the peppery little legislator from Terrace bore the awesome responsibility of being real estate agent on the public's behalf for this incredibly vast and valuable property.

The crucial test came in the latter part of his term when the Aluminum Company of Canada expressed interest in spending millions of dollars on a hydro-power development in the northern coastal range. Mr. Kenney closed the deal which led to the project now underway at Kemano and Kitimat, and with which his name will forever be associated in the form of the giant Kenney Dam at Nechako.

There are those who say he did not drive a hard enough bargain. There are others who maintain he skillfully clinched an enormous business for B.C. which might have gone elsewhere. There is no call to rehash that now. It has all been argued before.

The point is that, unmotivated by personal profit, Mr. Kenney did what he considered right for the province. Not many of his critics can claim to have reached a position in public service where it mattered whether their decisions were right or not.

Even though the last year has been an anti-climax in his political career, this native Maritimer can look back on a life of usefulness to his adopted province on the Pacific, and particularly to this piece of it.

It is hoped that he will remain long in these parts and that some of the younger constituents headed into public life will pick up a few lessons on the way from the respected old master in their midst.

## — MILESTONES —

### 40 Years Ago Today

Adair Cass, son of the police magistrate has passed with honors his final examinations for the bar. He had the additional honor of standing the highest in the whole class.

The Prince George arrived in port with its flag at half mast because a sailor fell overboard barely an hour before docking.

### 30 Years Ago Today

The largest fish catch of the year was reported with almost 400,000 pounds held at the exchange this morning.

### 20 Years Ago Today

The railway line out of Prince Rupert was closed for at least a week as a result of a rock

slide between Kwinitsa and Skeena City.

Ted Smith who has been attending the Provincial School of Technology and Art in Calgary returned to the city on the Princess Norah.

### 10 Years Ago Today

At the annual meeting of the Prince Rupert General Hospital G. P. Tinker and Arnold Flaten expressed regret at the decision of Frank Dibb to withdraw from the directorate.

Mrs. K. Nicholson arrived from Chilliwack to visit her daughter and son-in-law Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Sheardown.



SPLendor and PAGEANTRY will be the order during the Coronation ceremonies in London next June. Among the colorful array will be these Gentlemen-At-Arms, whose sole duty is to guard the sovereign at all ceremonial occasions. Here they are in full dress uniform, complete with white gauntlets.

## Western Europe Still Bewildered With 'Somersaults' in Soviet Policy

By TOM OCHILTREE

LONDON (AP)—Western Europe is watching with bewilderment the apparent somersaults in Soviet domestic and foreign policy, but there are signs of hope that the long winter of the cold war is nearing an end.

Neither Foreign Office officials nor men in the street know definitely the complex motives behind the Kremlin's conciliatory moves. But this half-formed theory is gaining ground: Stalin's death may have removed the immediate threat of an East-West conflict.

Voice has been given also to dozens of other theories ranging from the rosiest optimism to the darkest pessimism. Unquestionably the atmosphere in Western Europe has changed. East-West relations seem to have taken on a more-civilized tone.

However, for every expression of hope there are warnings from public men and newspapers telling the people of the West to keep alert and not lower their guard.

Lord Beaverbrook's Sunday Express summed it up with this quotation from "Alice Through the Looking-Glass":

"Why, sometimes I've believed as many as six impossible things before breakfast."

The same newspaper said editorially:

"A revolution has taken place in Russia since Stalin's death. A revolution in policy."

"The aggressive actions, the cold rejection of Western overtures for a peaceful understanding, the bitter threats that marked Russia's foreign policy have been replaced by soft words, conciliatory gestures, and Eastern overtures for peace."

The Sunday Observer spoke of Premier Georgi Malenkov wiping the slate clean. It wondered whether the move to change the Stalin line arose from reasons of conviction or reasons of expediency. If expediency is the reason, the new bosses of the Kremlin may need to restore morale in Russia and the satellites, ease the stress of the cold war and put the West off guard.

The Frank hope amongst most of the Liberal MPs is that the advent of peace in Korea would influence the St. Laurent Government to delay the general election until spring of next year. Their argument is that peace in Korea will result in a major cut in government defence spending, which will be reflected in next winter's budget. In the light of that prospect, the Liberals maintain that it would be the part of political wisdom to defer the election until the anticipated tax cut has been put into effect, so that the government may receive due credit from the voters at the polls.

But against this practical political argument some of the more far-seeing Cabinet sources have an answer which can't be lightly dismissed. They point out that any sudden drop in the scale of the government's defence spending is likely to bring about a period of re-adjustment in industry during which there may be considerable unemployment. The St. Laurent Cabinet isn't anxious to take a chance on the date of a spring, 1954, election coinciding with that situation.

Furthermore, Cabinet sources point out that peace in Korea is unlikely to bring about the drop in defence expenditures that many of the MPs and the public generally expect. Canada is committed to a major and long-term program in the fields of radar, aviation, and shipbuilding which peace in Korea will not affect. Consequently, the margin of saving for tax cut-backs is likely to be disappointing.

The conclusion in most Capital political circles, therefore, is that peace in Korea is more likely to expedite than to delay the coming election. The government's desire to get in ahead of any period of economic unsettlement, however temporary, is expected to be the main factor operating in the situation.

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## As I See It



by  
Elmore  
Philpott

### From War to Peace

IT NOW looks as if peace is about to break out, temporarily at least.

I see no sign that North America is prepared for peace. On the other hand, I see plenty of signs that if peace came overnight the whole economy of the U.S. might slump.

It seems to me you could picture Uncle Sam and Uncle Joe as two heavyweight wrestlers who have been grunting and growling for years to see who could throw the other fellow. But suddenly the pressure is released from Uncle Joe's side (in real life by death). Unless Uncle Sam is careful, he can fall forward, flat on his face.

THE GREAT FACT we must never forget is that since 1929 the western world has never been able to give all its people jobs, nor distribute its full production, except in time of war.

It is a fact—beyond all serious argument—that the western nations never did recover from the Great Depression until the coming of Hitler—and the armament race he started.

The inevitable end of that race was Hitler's war. But the end of that Hitler war was followed by the new "threat of plenty"—too many unsold goods. Had it not been for the "cold war" forced by almost incredible Russian truculence, most economists believe North America would long since have faced an economic crisis at least as deep as that which produced the stock market slump of 1929.

WHERE over-dogmatic doctrine Marxists go wrong—and where even many mild social democrats in the CCF are off the beam—is this:

They assume that because there was a big crash of 1929 there must necessarily be an even bigger crash of 1953? That assumption takes for granted that U.S.A. and Canada have learned nothing in a tragic quarter century. It just is not true.

Actually, the very dilemma that faces the western nations may soon compel them to take a drastic, bold new step which could give us the greatest social advance in our entire history. We can do all this by adapting war techniques to peace.

Suppose that, when peace comes, the governments of the western countries keep right on doing what they have done through the Hitler hot war and the Stalin cold war—namely, supply a government guaranteed-in-advance market for the entire output of their nations.

Suppose instead of building droves of planes, or rockets, we build hundreds of thousands of new homes, bathtubs, stoves, refrigerators. Suppose instead of building barracks for boys in uniform we build new hospitals, schools. Suppose we take a fraction of the money now spent for tanks, or guns, and spend that on superb highways, pipelines to carry cheap natural gas from one end of this vast country to another.

Suppose in a word that we wage war on poverty, scarcity, ignorance and disease in Canada as we twice waged war against Germany—and as we have been reluctantly preparing to wage war against Russian aggressive expansion.

We can finance all that exactly as we have been doing it ever since 1914—actually on a "pay as you go" plan since 1945.

But we cannot do that unless we face up to the most fundamental question of all: Is abundance a blessing or a curse?

During the 1952 season 25,322 vessels locked through Canadian canals, about 800 more than in 1951.

## Ray Reflects and Reminisces

Sign in a bowery pawnshop: "Learn the true value of money; try to borrow some."

Once upon a time the English magazine Punch could be bought in Prince Rupert news stands. This was long ago. But nevertheless, what sounds like a little cautious laughter can be faintly heard every few months.

### GOOD FOR TOM!

A policeman's lot is not always a happy one but the case of Tom Ledger of London is an exception. Tom, with all the cops, was looking for John Christie, suspect in the six dead women affair. He had applied for promotion, and was told he was unfit to wear three stripes. Some time later, while on patrol he arrested a quiet little man who turned out to be Christie. So that's that. Tom has become a national hero and his name glows among the annals of Scotland Yard.

### MORE SCHOOLBOY HOWLERS

Henry VIII had an abbeys on his knee which made walking somewhat difficult. Cleopatra ended a remarkable life rather curiously. She was bitten by an aspistras.

There must be many worthwhile stories remembered by old timers. Before they are forgotten or someone dies, see to it that they are told and filed away for use in 1960, date of Prince Rupert's anniversary. Tell your tale and do it now. A powerful lot of choice yarns, amusing, as well as true and which can be rated part of local history, is quite possible.

### QUALITY OF MERCY!

Sign beside a cattle guard in Nebraska: "Drive Carefully—The life you save may be next year's T-Bone steak."

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