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
Canadian Daily Newspaper Association
Published by The Prince Rupert Daily News Limited
J. P. MAGOR, President
Subscription Rates:
By mail—Per month, 75c; per year, $8.00
By carrier—Per week, 25c; per month, $1.00; per year, $10.00
Authorized as second class mail by the Post Office Department, Ottawa

Co-Operation Pays Off

IT IS cheering to think that when an emergency arises the people of a town can, without consulting one another, get behind a move that will benefit not only themselves but the entire city. Such is the case with the present emergency created by the water shortage which followed the rockslide at Shawatlans Lake, thereby cutting off Prince Rupert's main water supply. Auxiliary pumps have fed some water into the lower levels and the co-operation of the majority of citizens has seen a return of a small amount of water to homes in the higher levels. With the weatherman giving an assist, moisture-wise, the average householder has spent busy afternoons and evenings collecting rain water in tubs, pails, and, so it was reported, even canoes, so that they would have some water for essential household requirements. There have been a few people, as there always is, who just because they had water in the taps, shrugged their shoulders and mentally voiced the thought that the plea for conservation wasn't for them. There is not much we can say about such people, except to ask them to get in and "play ball" like the majority of folks. There is still Sunday to get through without a full water supply and there is always the ever-present threat of fire. Anyone who has seen a business section fire when there was no water to fight it (and it happens every year somewhere), knows the horrible results.

One thing that should be stressed is the seriousness of the medical health officer's and sanitary inspector's joint plea that **ALL WATER** whether in the taps at present or rain water if used for cooking or drinking, **SHOULD BE BOILED.** This is no idle warning and if tests show that there is a danger of water being contaminated, then the advice should be followed to the letter.

All we can hope is that City Works Superintendent C. J. Gustafson and his hard-working crew do manage to get the broken water line repaired by Monday and that the residents continue to co-operate right through until the emergency is over.

Mr. St. Laurent and the Press

THAT Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent occasionally forgets the function of the press in Canada is strongly indicated by his crotchety comments to Ottawa reporters last week. Asked for a statement on Canada's position in the Suez crisis, Mr. St. Laurent snapped that they "should not pry," adding:

"It's too bad that you can't come in to the cabinet meeting and tell us how to do it."

The Prime Minister's surprising lack of courtesy is matched by his disregard for the press function. Reporters do not ask questions to satisfy their own private curiosity. They are the agents of 16 million Canadians who have a vital interest in the current crisis, and are entitled to a courteous statement on the progress of negotiations.

We have no doubt that the Prime Minister was under terrible stress in this crisis. But so were the people of Canada. Their eyes and ears, the reporters, have a right to ask questions and might to expect fair answers.

Just A Craze?

"PRESLEY is king," says Louis "Ol' Satchmo" Armstrong who has been blowing a trumpet for forty-three years, "but all this jumpin' and hollering' won't last like music the same as the St. Louis Blues."

Thus a reputable expert in the field of popular music dismisses the current teen-age vocal craze.

We hope Satchmo is right. And we'll happily ignore the fact that a generation ago parents were saying, "Bing Crosby is popular, but all this groaning and moaning can't last like music the same as the Missouri Waltz." —The Victoria Times.

OTTAWA DIARY

By JAMES R. NELSON

As Little Buttercup and Capt. Corcoran in Gilbert and Sullivan's "HMS Pinafore" agreed, "things are seldom what they seem," and Maritime leaders who are vociferous in their complaints about the lack of industry in their part of Canada—and alternatively proud of what they have—have figures to back up both sides of the story. They were released this week by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in a special compilation of the value of manufacturing industry in the four Atlantic provinces.

The report said that the gross value of factory shipments of the manufacturing industries "declined slightly" in 1954, the latest year for which figures are complete, compared with 1953. The total figure for the four seaside provinces is $720,462,000 in 1954, and $745,486,000 the previous year. That's a decline of 3.3 percent for the year 1954.

DBS points out that Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island enjoyed some increase, but it wasn't enough to pull up the declines in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Nova Scotia is the leading manufacturing province of the four, and suffered a decline from 1953's total value of manufacturing industry shipments, $320,012,000, to just a shade over $300,000. New Brunswick's figure dropped from $295,750,000 in 1953 to $287,351,000.

These figures are sufficient of an indication of a manufacturing industry decline in the Maritimes to back up demands that the federal government "do something."

But when you come to compare the figures of the Atlantic provinces with those of the rest of Canada, you come up against some strange situations.

Between 1953 and 1954, the Atlantic provinces suffered a 3.3 per cent drop in the value of manufactured goods shipments. In that same period, there was a drop of 1.15 per cent in the rest of Canada. Ontario suffered a decline at the same time, dropping $343,000,000 from its 1953 manufacturing output of $8,876,000,000. Quebec, the second largest manufacturing province in the country, was able to maintain its manufacturing output at virtually an unchanged level. Alberta and British Columbia boomed.

A 3.3 per cent decline in the Atlantic provinces collectively, while the rest of the country had a decline of 1.15 per cent is a cause for some concern.

But look at it this way, the share the four Atlantic provinces had of the nation-wide total. In 1953, the all-Canada total was $17,785,000,000, and the Atlantic provinces had 4.3 per cent of the total. In 1954, the Atlantic provinces' share of the national total was 4.10 per cent. That's a difference of three cents in $100, and it may not prove anything more than that you can argue any side of any question with statistics.

Other Papers Say . . .

SUEZ ACTION JUSTIFIED

Critics of Britain and France for their intervention in the Israeli-Egyptian dispute appear to have forgotten that Britain acted within her legal rights and France assisted her.

By the terms of Britain's withdrawal from the Suez canal zone under the Anglo-Egyptian treaty she was given authority to re-enter the zone if hostilities ever endangered the area. The treaty has since been discarded by Egypt but that doesn't lessen Britain's right to safeguard freedom of passage through the canal.

The British and French action was also in the nature of a police action to ensure that the Israeli and Egyptian forces observe the original truce lines, 100 miles east of the canal.

This aspect of their intervention has been vindicated by the United Nations decision to establish an international police force to keep the belligerent forces of Israel and Egypt apart pending a new attempt to reach political settlement. This decision, which will relieve Britain and France of a distasteful duty, is an indirect admission that the U.N. was wrong in allowing the situation to deteriorate as it has.

It was fortunate that Britain and France were courageous enough to take this action at the outset of the recent hostilities. Had they not taken steps to protect the canal and separate the belligerents, the whole of the Middle East might now be in flames.

The possibility of a major conflagration is still strong, of course, but the British and French action has dampened some of the sparks.

—Trail Daily Times.

Birthday Tragedy

Special to The Daily News

FRANCOIS LAKE — Celebrating his 29th birthday with a hunting trip proved fatal to a saw mill operator when it was believed he slipped and accidentally shot himself through the head early Monday morning.

Dead is Helmut Eberhardt, German emigrant who came to Canada six years ago, who was found by a truck driver on a road not far from Nadina Lake, his rifle lying by his side. It is thought Eberhardt was waiting for his partner, Rudi Kutz when the mishap occurred. The rifle was reported to have a hair trigger.

Eberhardt's remains were taken to Prince George by his brother for funeral there.

LT.-COL. CLIFF P. McPHERSON, Winnipeg (centre), commanding officer of the 1st Battalion, Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, plans the departure of the battalion Canada's contribution to the United Nations police force in the Middle East. With him is RSM Howard Rowbotham of Victoria, (left) and Capt. Herb Pitts of Castlegar, B.C., adjutant. (CP from National Defence).

Shadow of a Doubt

Marilu A. Schneider

YOUR LIFE MAY DEPEND on the doctor's skill in using the miracle of X-ray. The merest shadow on the film may spell early tuberculosis—and TB found early responds most readily to treatment. Ever-better training for doctors in finding and treating TB is one goal of the Christmas seal campaign against tuberculosis.

Sales of Christmas Seals Finances Anti-TB War

One of the earliest and gayest signs that Christmas is on the way is the Christmas seal of the B.C. Tuberculosis society. They are sold annually in Prince Rupert by the Soroptomist International club.

But the pretty red and green stickers have a far more important purpose than decorating Christmas mail. They also are a reminder that the fight against B.C.'s biggest public health problem must continue.

Christmas seals have been fighting TB in the world now for 50 years and, in countries like Canada, excellent progress has been made against this disease which once was a virtual sentence of death.

Today only 10 people in every 100,000 die of TB in Canada. But an average of 2,000 British Columbians are under treatment for it every day of the year in this province.

And the treatment period extends from four months to more than a year, depending on the severity of the disease.

Health authorities estimate it costs British Columbians $15,000,00 to treat and rehabilitate an average TB case. This includes the cost of diagnosis and treatment, social welfare and rehabilitation, plus cost of lost production to the community.

This is estimated as an exceptionally high cost when it is considered that TB, although contagious, is a preventable disease. If all the cases of TB could be found and treated, it would no longer be a threat to health.

The B.C. Tuberculosis society has a year-round program of prevention against the disease.

The program includes health education, assistance with free chest x-ray surveys, grants to health units and other organizations in the TB field.

This program is financed by the society's Christmas seals which are now on sale in the area.

Persons buying Christmas seals not only will make their Christmas mail brighter, they continue to work throughout next year to prevent tuberculosis.

Asks Boycott On Soviet Trade

HAMBURG (Reuters) — The executive of the anti-Communist International Confederation of Free Trade unions has called for a boycott of Soviet trade and shipping by members of affiliated trade unions throughout the world. A committee has been set up to work out measures for applying the boycott.

Unless tuberculosis prevention can be speeded up about 35,000 Canadians who are healthy today will develop this disease in the next five years.

More than 90 per cent of tuberculosis in Canada is pulmonary tuberculosis, which is tuberculosis of the lungs, but the disease can attack all parts of the body.

All Aboard

By G. E. MORTIMORE

Men often accuse women of being fuzzy-headed, lacking in concentration and vague about world affairs. If some women have these faults, there's a reason. Children make them what they are.

Anyway, that's my guess after I have been shut in a house with small children for a few hours. I don't know how women keep their sanity, let alone think long thoughts.

In the presence of small children it is difficult to read, think or listen to anything for more than two minutes on end. Any attempt at sustained effort is cut short by a loud scream for first aid from a child that has banged its nose; or a demand for intervention in a quarrel; or a small fist pounding your leg, clutching some sharp-edged and dirt-encrusted treasure that has been dug up in the yard.

The mother of small children lives in a surrealist world where fragments of thoughts, facts and sense-impressions are littered around everywhere, shorn of any connected meaning. No wonder she develops a "grasshopper mind."

It is nearly impossible for any women to absorb a political speech when her attention is shattered by a small head butting her in the stomach, the liquid smash of a glass of milk on the floor, or the howl of a tot falling down the steps.

In self-defence she acquires the habit of tuning out all noises except actual distress calls, treating them as so much static. This explains the absent air that a woman often has, and her way of saying "Yes dear" and "No dear" in a lively and interested fashion, without actually taking in a word that is said.

Such habits persist long after the children have left home. The lady pays little heed to the grave news from Budapest or Cairo. It registers at the back of her mind with a faint "ping" as just another quarrel between grown-up children somewhere in the world.

But of course I don't mean you, Madam. I know what a keen student of affairs you are.

British, French Action Seen Disastrous by U.S.

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER
Associated Press News Analyst

WASHINGTON (AP) — The British-French invasion of Egypt is considered in United States official quarters to have produced results little short of disastrous. Whether the results prove to be a total disaster, they say, depends on the final outcome, which is not yet clear.

As seen here, this now is the situation:

Britain and France have not gained physical control of the Suez Canal. Under threat of Soviet intervention with military force and under strong demands from the United Nations for a ceasefire, they had to halt their military operations within hours after the troops landed.

Nasser may not be stronger than he was before British and French planes began bombing his airfields and military installations, but there is no evidence he is weaker. He is in the position of the leader of a relatively weak country who could not adequately defend his territory by direct military action, but who rallied a tremendous segment of world public opinion to his side.

WESTERN UNITY HIT

U.S. official disapproval of the invasion split the Western alliance over an issue of vital importance, a result from which only the Soviet Union stands to profit.

Russia has been given a new opportunity for wooing Arab goodwill and for gaining a military foothold through the much-talked-of dispatch of "volunteers" to assist Egypt.

The anti-Communist Baghdad pact anchored on Iraq and Turkey with Britain as the strongest member, has been badly shaken and in some degree wrecked by the attack on Egypt.

The one positive gain which could come out of the middle east crisis is the strengthening of the UN if it averts a much greater war and takes effective steps for permanent settlement of Middle East problems.

QUIET CONFIDENCE

BIRMINGHAM, England (CP) — Dominion, 11-8 favorite in a race here, ran around the track to victory with his ears blocked by cotton wool. The horse "shows more confidence without any noise from the crowd," explained his trainer.

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