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Develop Bulkley Valley

NOW that the way is open to Kitimat by rail, it is to be hoped that farmers in the Bulkley Valley area will endeavor to develop this new market which is so accessible for their produce.

In the past these farmers have lacked initiative in adopting up-to-date grading and marketing methods. Their position was understandable to some extent since this northern region of B.C. did not have sufficient population to provide an incentive.

But with the growth of Kitimat the situation is changing rapidly. Even with its present population of about 4,000 this new town offers attractive possibilities as a market, and if people there spend as much on food as they do in Prince Rupert—a recent survey showed that locally the annual food bill per family is twice the national average—the prospects are bright indeed.

Although it may be true that Bulkley Valley soil is less fertile than that of the Fraser Valley, it is assuredly productive enough to be a much greater source of supply than it has been in the past. With more development of farms in that area and a modernized sales technique, the economy of this whole district would be strengthened. Since food is a primary requisite, it follows that any section of the country which is deficient in agriculture is seriously handicapped.

In view of their proximity, the Bulkley Valley farmers could put themselves in an unchallenged position as suppliers for these rich coastal markets, if they had a mind to do so. Moreover, their sales need not be confined to Kitimat and Prince Rupert. Southeastern Alaska is in an equally unfortunate position as far as its food supply is concerned. With more enterprise, the Bulkley Valley farmers might find markets there, too.

It is imperative that the Bulkley Valley attain its full agricultural value. Until it does, the growth of northern and central B.C. must continue to be retarded.

THEY'RE
HERE
WITH
Flying Colors!

As I See It

BY

Elmore Philpott

Down The River

THE government of Canada has asked Parliament to make a law which will have the effect of nullifying the proposed contract between the government of B.C. and the Kaiser Corporation.

Under that contract, the Kaiser

Corporation would have con- shows that the water stored be- structed a storage dam at its own expense. The stored water only create huge blocks of electricity in the United States, but the same stored water otherwise would have been un- loaded from the CCF benches.

* * *

IN ANSWER to a question in the

House of Commons, the Minister showed that Canada's representative on the International Joint commission had been informed of the proposed deal with Henry Kaiser less than 24 hours after the contract was signed.

As soon as General MacNaugh-

ton had been informed of the pro-

posed deal, he wired his ob-

jections.

Almost before the telegram was delivered, the reply came from B.C. to the effect that a decision has been recorded.

Henry Kaiser already had the name of the B.C. minister on the dotted line.

* * *

THE undeveloped water powers

of the Kootenay and Columbia

rivers are a great Canadian na-

tional asset. They do not belong

to the present government of

B.C., nor to the present govern-

ment of Canada.

The Parliament of Canada has

the negative duty to make sure

that the half-baked, hastily con-

ceived deal between the govern-

ment of B.C. and the Kaiser Co-

rporation is nullified.

But all governments in Can-

ada, federal and provincial, pres-

ent and future, have the positive

poses of Alderman Alex Read

to develop the entire water

power of all our Canadian rivers

for the benefit of all the Cana-

dians.

Hon. Mr. Rowe made no reply

SLIGHT MISUNDERSTANDING

PRINCE ALBERT, Sask. —

City council has changed its

mind. It will accept the federal

government's offer of a two-

tone siren for civil defence pur-

poses. Alderman Alex Read ex-

plained: "Our previous refusal

was based on the wrongfull as-

sumption that it was a two-ton

siren."

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OTTAWA DIARY

By Norman M. MacLeod

It hasn't taken the House of Commons many hours to realize that Acting Conservative Leader, Earl Rowe, is a real veteran of the Parliamentary arena and experienced in all the finer points of Parliamentary manoeuvres.

The Acting Conservative leader demonstrated his practical knowledge of the parliamentary game in his "basket amendment" to the speech from the Throne.

That amendment may shorten the length of the present sitting of Parliament by a matter of weeks. Even more important, it is expedient in the national interest for the time being, at least. The CCF's supporters may gag a lot of Socialists and Conservatives.

The trend of thinking in the group ever since the last general election has been that the well-being about the maximum of paternalism in the minimum of time. And their next concrete aim is a plan of national health insurance.

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