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Famous totem link with city's past, future

TOMORROW with the scheduling of.. the City of Prince Rupert's British Columbia B.C. Centennial parade, the Port Day races, \$1,000 baseball tournament, the raising of the recarved Wolf totem pole, the dedication of the City's Centennial project the new Museum of Northern British Columbia and the Port Day Ball, it is appropriate that the contrast between the old and new be tied in with the city's progress in its official 48-year history. On the one hand is the famous old totem; (shown at right,) which has been recarved by Charles Dudoward of Port Simpson, on the other is the modern museum by which it stands. Up-to-date design and glass has replaced the old wooden. structure on Second Avenue and the city's treasures will be housed in fireproof surroundings. It is a building of which the citizens young and old can be proud of and so are the totems which are linked with the city's past.

Looking into that same past we find the famous Wolf totem, given the city by the Canadian National Railways, formerly belonged to a Nishga tribe leader named Chief Dauk. The pole stood in front of Chief Dauk's lodge at Gitlakdamix (Aiyansh) on the Upper Nass River. The carved figures on top of the pole represent the principal actors in legends describing the origin of the family crests. The owner of the pole belonged to the "Wolf"

The principal legend which explains how the Wolf was adopted for. the family crest is as follows:--

One day long years ago, a great lava. eruption took place at Gitwwunshilku on the upper Nass River. The molten mass pushed the waters of the river back across the valley to the mountainside and formed a great lava plain which extends from the head waters of the Kshluich to the canyon at Gwinsha. The fiery flow overwhelmed villages and fishing hamlets in its path, and thepeople fled to the surrounding hills. Among these fugitives was an Indian Chief named Gum-lu-gidis, the ancestor of the owner of the pole.

Gum-lu-gidis fled with his family to the highlands of the Shkamal river where they camped. Night after night they had no rest, but were disturbed by weird sounds and voices accompan-

OTTAWA REPORT

To me the most important domestic matter: that was dealt with by the ouse of Commons: last week was the steps taken to resume the operation of the CPR boats between the mainland and Vancouver Island: as: well as: the run up the British Columbia coast:

. In recent years there has been a change in the psychological attitude of both labor and management. Unforthnately our labor legis-Intion has not kept up with this change. We are still operating under labor legislation that was passed following the Second World War While it may have had some beneficial effect · upon labor-management relations at that time, If is apparent that it is now outmoded. Theseare not only my impressions for a number of people who are far more able to assess the affect of present day legislation upon present: day legislation upon present day attitudes say.

procisely the same thing. in In labor-management relations we must rightlese that people are involved and this is: the fact that our laws do not now recognize: The attitudes of the officials who are administoring those laws are equally belind the times. Because our labor laws are quickly becoming antiquated we are experiencing more difficult times in our labor-management relations.

ied by the beating of tomtoms. At length the Chieff and some of the braves determined to set out and discover where the sounds came from:

The legend describes how they found themselves in the abode of the "Lulinks" Spirits of the dead where they behald many strange things: Escaping from these haunted regions, Gum-lu-gidis, overcome by fear, again took up his flight—this time across the grease trail to the Skeena River. leaving the Nass with its terrors far behind. When the winter snows had melted and the ice had left the river. Gum-lu-gidis and his companions travelled down the Skeena River in dugouts made from cottonwood trees until they reach the Island of Khernnow known as Kaien Island on which Prince Rupert is situated:

Not very long after they had settled. Gul-lu-gidis' nest was once more disturbed, this time by the nightly howls: of wolves which seemed to be calling Gum-lu-gidis by name. The old fear overcame him after the howling had continued for two nights, the old Chief determined to meet his fate. Dressed in his ceremonial robes, and face painted he set out alone from the camp armed with his Chief's tomahawk set with abalone shell. Following the direction from which the sounds proceeded, Gum-lugidis came face to face with a large white wolf. Raising his tomahawk, prepared to defend himself, he noticed the animal was in great pain and unaware of his approach; as it was vainly trying to dislodge a sharp piece of deer's bone which had pierced its jaw. Gum-lu-gidis said, "Brother do me no harm and I will remove the

After Gum-lu-gidis had removed the bone, the wolf became very friendly, and each time the Chief went hunting the White wolf killed a deer for him—thus supplying him and his family with food. So, the legend states Gum-lu-gidis adopted the White Wolf for his "Crest" and in his ceremonial dances always wore a white wolf skin robe. After some years of peace, Gumlu-gidis became homesick and returned to the Nass, for he longed to fish once more in the waters of the Kshliich where the "Hangiwozuch" (White Salmon) spawn.

By Frank Howard MP

The theory and philosophy of the contribution that conciliation boards could make to our economy was all right some years ago, but it is: absolutely no: good: now, in: most cases,

The shipping strike on the coast of B.C. was partially a result of this failure of laws to keep up to changing times. I hope that the government: learns allesson as alresult; of this strike, the lesson that the laws must be changod) if we are to assist in overcoming such. disruptions again.

There has been a great amount of pressure put on to get the business over as soon as possible. This, of course, may be a commendable approach: for sometimes the debates do drag: on: interminably, However, to rush: through important; logislation; and through the expenditures: of: each: department: without adequate consideration, being given: is not good for our parliamentary system.

This: accoloration of buseiness; plus; absenteelam, makes, one, wonder: whether: somechanges couldn'to be made to our system, of conducting the business of the general public: Certainly the reference to House Committees: of the estimates of departments is a step in

LETTER BOX

that direction.

INJOYS VISIT

The Weller, Who Daily Nowa:

I am lonving after two weeks wholking in Prince Ruport. "Tempert for so long, I' was im-"promod by how it has dovo!" soped. It, is no longer just u "railway terminal or a port, it: "ia" nity with overything in muke the ottleons justly proud: The stores, the clean streets,

the genial clarks, are so impressive. If: Prince Ruport: keeps the friendliness it now has, it will be unique, as one donn't find that in most large

contron. Thoro was only one public discourtney that I found and it. would. do. wall, to, correct this. Lintlanded the funeral of u vary doar friend and an. tha way to the cometery we wore noveral times cut off from the procession by pedes-

trians dashing across the stroot: In larger centres funorals are honored by citizens and fines have been imposed on negligent, ones who have failed to show respect.

Congratulations on Irlace || Rupartia, part. in the Contannial. The city, is beautiful and Lami very proud to have boom a former cilizen.

Yours, truly, Mrs. W. L. Michael Cold Lake, Alberta.

TIME and PLACE...

By CHARLES DURHAM of Uski sington we tied up on the south Wells who also belonged to Kitse- Now, to the best of my knowof September 16. 1957 and refers ing the night the silt had washed amption near Copper City. to 50 years ago.

Skeena River is at a standstill back was broken across steamer Northwest, belonging to the stern were hanging down. the Northern British Columbia! Transportation Go. The wreck one lift-boat belonging to the which occurred 40 miles above steamer. Captain Bonser took Port Essington, involved no cas- this with the Welsh or Stewart

was aboard this boat at the time the Dominion Government Teleof the wreck and herewith is my personal experience in connection with it.

Captain Bonser, who for a long time had been in command of Robert Cunningham's sternwheeler "Hazelton" had just lost a smaller and probably more dissternwheeler: "The Pheasant" on the Beaver Dam just above Skeena Crossing:

A newly formed company then bought the Northwest, which was engaged Captain Bonser to take command of it.

On the first trip up the Skeena River, the chief steward went on a spree, so at Kitselas I was hired to take his place and also I got a position for Jimmy Wells for the trip. This is how it happened that Jim and I were returning to Kitselas as passengers

passengers on board, but several hundred Indians, returning home from the canneries as the fishing season was over. Among the pasand, I think, his little daughter along.



GREETINGS to The City of tem poles ever assembled in one Prince Rupert, its residents place is now on display at the and pioneers were received today from Frank Howard MP for Skeena. The young member of parliament said that it was his pleasure to extend best wishes to the city's centennial committee for a successful Potlatch Week, expressed confidence in the future of the province's north coast and interior. Mr. Howard has been MP for Skeena since June 10, 1957 and was re-elected March 31 of this year as the candidate for the CCF. Born in 1925, in Kimberley, B.C., he was educated in Kimberley and Vancouver, worked as a miner in All the poles are slowly rotting, the Kootenays and became an official of the International Woodworkers of America after preserving them when kept out- he turned to logging. He was of-doors has yet been discovered, elected to the British Columand our only recourse is to keep bia legislature in 1953. His

home is in Terrace.

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Gymnasium, were collected over

a period of 12 years by UBC and

provincial museum anthoropo-

gists from Haida and Kwakiutl

villages on Vancouver Island and

Prof. H. B. Hawthorn, head of

UBC's anthropology department,

says the collection will remain on

display out-of-doors until Sep-

tember. After that they will go

back into storage until a perm-

anent building is found to house

"No satisfactory method of

them under cover," he added.

says Prof. Hawthorn.

the Queen Charlotte Islands.

The 23 poles, which have been

now at UBC

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It seemed that there was only family and also a message from This recalls to my mind that I me to Telegraph Point asking graph Operator there to get word to Kitselas to my son, George, to come down with a canoe to get

> Where the boat was tled up one could hardly put a foot ashore before one had cleared away the willow and all kinds of scrub bushes. The only kind of trees to be seen were cottonwoods so there was not a stick of dry woods for building fires.

After Captain Bonser had lit a very large, rotten old boat and gone, the purser whose name, I think, was: Whitney, sent all the crew ashore to clear land so as to get the cargo unloaded. Meanwhile Big Bateman, who homesteaded at Remo, and his wife. who had brought a skiff on board with them, asked Jimmy Wells and me to help them launch itwhich we did; but to our indignation they went away without on this second trip of the boat offering to take us, which would only have been fair appreciation of our help.

It was a miserable place to make camp with only mud and this willow stuff and scrub around-no dry wood, million of mosquitoes and flies to torture us, and swarming with Indians so one could not move without Welsh & Stewart, who had his bumping into one or the other of

> l was happy a couple of days later when my son, George, aged only 13, arrived in my cance nich he brought down alone from Kitselas—this was quite a one of his experiences to

bring pride to a father's heart. then gathered up Jimmy

weighed about 250 lbs., we were enough load for that craft.

The Sternwheeler "Northwestl" side of the river on what used to has, a blg follow who came from ledge, nothing whatever was This item was copied from the be-called the Hudson Bay Flats- Switzerland whom I only remem- done to take the Indians away. "back when column of the apparently on top of an old lon ber by the name of Louie, and from there neither by the Prince Rupert Daily News Issue lying on the river bottom, as dur- Eric Forsman who took up a pre- Steamboat Company nor by the Government. So how they manaway from around the log and in The cance was small, but with aged I don't know, excepting I "WRECK-Navigation on the the morning we found the boat's the exception of Big Louis who do know that some of them were still around there the following following the wreck of the middle, so that both the bow and all small men and made a heavy spring when the river was again.

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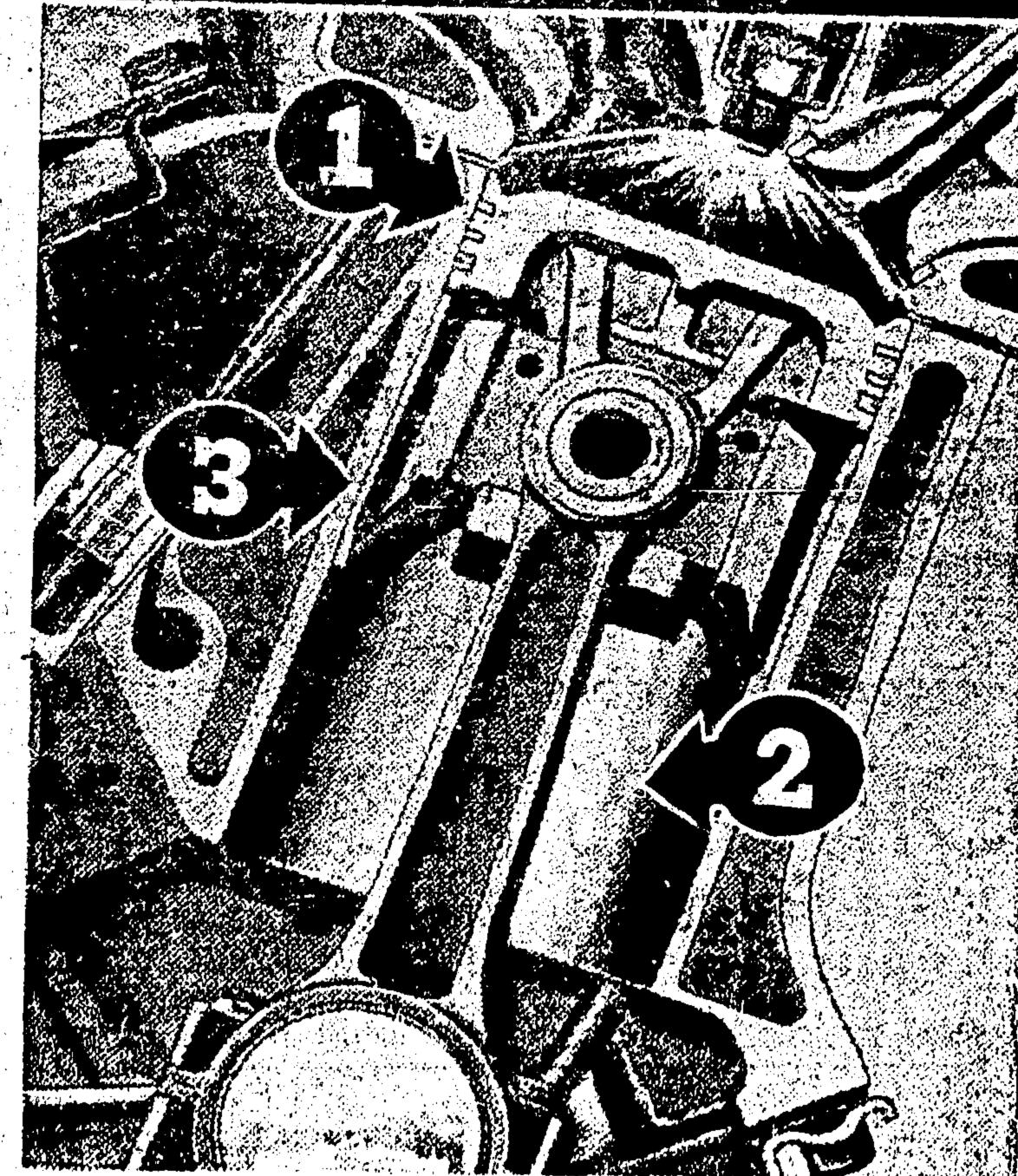
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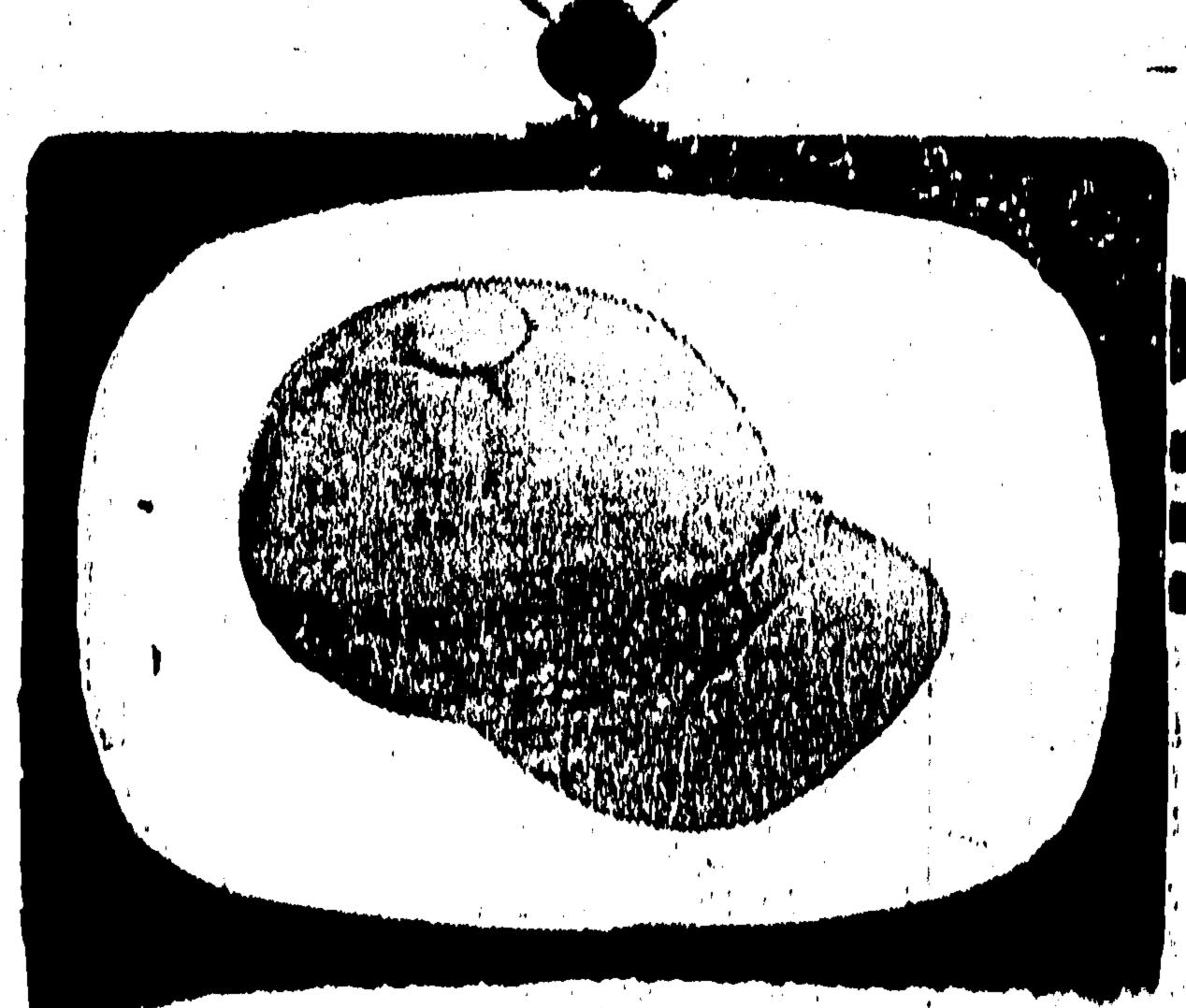
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