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Rupert Rats Best Fed

DR. I. C. RODENT, the famous authority on rats, claims that Prince Rupert rats are so well fed that they are gradually multiplying themselves out of house and home. In support of his statement, he cited his latest experience of finding two sleek baby rats on his doorstep. Abandoned by their mother, who had apparently run into serious housing trouble, the babies were found quietly munching on a crust of bread. Dr. Rodent believes that something should be done about rats, either to increase their available housing, or decrease their number. He says that over-crowding is unhealthy.

It is pointed out that over-crowding in a rat population is not only serious for rats, but it also brings the rat into closer contact with humans and with foods destined for human consumption.

There is always the danger of disease being spread by rats.

Rats can be destroyed by trapping and poisoning. However, it is most important to deny them food and shelter. Rats cannot exist without food—garbage is rat food. It is almost impossible to deprive them of water, but the entrance to sewer pipes and drains should be screened. All openings into buildings, around windows, pipes, wires, etc., should be tightly closed. Cement mortar or heavy guage metal flashings should close all possible cracks in foundation.

The co-operation of all householders is urged in keeping their premises clean. Garbage containers should be of metal with tight fitting lids.

Rats can be destroyed by the use of poison baits or traps. These should be placed in such places as rat runways, narrow openings, and other places where rats have been seen.

For further information on methods of control consult Sanitary Inspector R. G. Scott. Through the Skeena Health Unit warfarin (rat poison) can be obtained and steps to oppress the rat problem will be explained by the sanitary inspector.

Beer In Lowest Hold

AN Australian colleague has provided us with this postscript to a reference to the cost of beer in Darwin.

The town was always dependent for most of its food and materials upon shipment from the south. A popular legend in Australia describes how Darwin's housewives for years would sit in despair after each shipment arrived. The wharf laborers would first remove the cargo of beer; then such mundane essentials as butter, canned milk, flour, tea, and clothing had to languish in the holds until the liquor had been consumed—a task which often took days.

A simple decision finally brought startling reform. The beer was stowed in the lowest hold, beneath the other goods, which henceforth emerged at gratifying speed. —Manchester Guardian.

Scriptures

A new commandment give I thee, that ye love one another. John 13:34.

Some hate the rich, some hate the successful, some hate Jews, Catholics and Negroes and burn crosses to prove that they are better than those they hate. That is a desecration of the cross for Christ commanded love not hate.

NEW MINISTER AT UN — Hon. Sidney Smith makes his first appearance at the United Nations as Canada's minister of external affairs. Here he chats with Richard Casey, Australian foreign minister, at the opening of the United Nations General Assembly. Mr. Smith, who resigned as president of the University of Toronto, was called to Ottawa last week and appointed to the external affairs post in the Canadian government. (CP from AP)

TIME and PLACE...

By STAN ROUGH

Patriarch of Pioneers

Charles Durham celebrated his ninety-sixth birthday August 21st. Mr. Durham, the patriarch of the early pioneers of the Skeena, lives at Usk, 18 miles from Terrace and 4 miles from the old settlement of Kitselas where he homesteaded in 1901. He has his own cabin with two cats and takes his meals at the nearby home of his daughter Mrs. W. R. Adams. The Adams operate a thriving sawmill.

Charles Durahm today doesn't look a day over 70, he has a 64,000 dollar question memory, a terrific sense of humor, fine timing in telling stories and a real gift to give them an ending that a modern slick writer would envy. When we visited him recently Ed Kenney remarked that the government was thinking of awarding bonuses to those who reached the century mark. "In that case," observed Mr. Durham. "I'll hang around for awhile."

ARRIVED IN 1876

Charles Durham was born in Norway in 1861. He followed the sea in his early youth and came to Canada to settle in 1883. For a number of years he worked for the CPR and arrived in Vancouver in 1892. Vancouver in those days was a small town and no one thought it would ever amount to much.

He was a fisherman and prices were low—four cents a fish and a daily limit of 100 to a boat. The fishermen went on strike. J. T. Phalen, through Bob Kelly of Kelly Douglas, secured him a job up the coast. He arrived at Port Essington in the old sidewheeler Princess Louis in 1901 after a ten-day trip and worked as a lineman between Graveyard Point and Hardscrabble. The same year he took up a homestead at Kitselas and the following year brought his family up from Vancouver. Mr. Durham was married in 1885 and of the seven children two were born in Sudbury, three in Vancouver and two in Kitselas. Irene, Mrs. George Bowie of Skeena Crossing, was one of the first white children to be born in the district. Charlie's first contact with Kitimat was in 1904 when he came up from Hartley Bay with Captain McCrosby and hiked over the Kitimat trail to the Skeena to reach home. He ran the mail from Kitselas Canyon to Kitimat for two years—1906 and 1907.

EARLY KITIMAT BOOM

Mr. C. W. O. Clifford, in 1906, was surveying the line for his Kitimat and Omineca Railroad and besides being a magistrate, Mr. Clifford operated a hotel at Kitimat. The hotel, a two-storey log building, was located near the present government dock. It had seven rooms for guests, served meals and operated a bar, rum being the favored beverage. Mr. Durham remembers George Robinson who operated a store and traded in furs at Kitimaat Village, George Anderson, Charles Carlson, Brown and other settlers who lived on the flats. The mail was taken from Kitimat to Copper City in the winter when the canoes could not navigate the Skeena to Port Essington. One trip, due to the difficulty in breaking trail for the dogs through deep snow, took eleven days.

KITSELAS A TYPICAL BOOM TOWN

When the Grand Trunk Railway decided to push the transcontinental railway through to Prince Rupert as its western terminus, the Kitimat Railway boom and sale of townsite lots collapsed and mushroom towns followed railway construction along the Skeena.

Kitselas was one of these towns. In the steamboat era of the Skeena, freight had to be portaged around the rapids in Kitselas Canyon and as a result a small community developed. This community boomed when the railway was built through the canyon and several tunnels had to be constructed.

The town, serving a population of 200 and the construction crews in the vicinity, supported three stores, Hudson's Bay warehouse, jail, Foley Welsh and Stewart warehouse, three hotels, one of twenty rooms including a snake room, a weekly newspaper, the Big Canyon, edited by Enoch R. Jones and a number of miscellaneous entertainment establishments. Besides the above mentioned buildings, I quote Mr. Durham:

"A large tent was used for church services which were held by the Rev. Thomas Marsh who was at that time Anglican missionary at Kitsumgalem, two miles west of present-day Terrace. There was also an aerial tramway for portaging freight from the mouth to the head of the Canyon, mostly used during high water, and an excellent piece of wagon road over which passengers walked while the steamboat made its way up to the head of the Canyon approximately one mile. There were two large construction camps across the river where four railroad tunnels were being driven, as well as other construction camps in the vicinity.

"At the head of the Canyon was situated a railroad hospital under charge of Dr. Seymour Traynor who afterwards settled in Terrace and practiced there. Also there were warehouses and, most interesting, the residence of Chief Kitselas George, sole remainee of the Indian tribe who had once dwelt there."

The following news item from the Big Canyon Weekly issued October 28, 1909, indicates that the paper kept up to date with local and international events: "House of Lords Pass Irish Land Bill," "Prince is Assassinated," "Harry K. Thaw to remain in Asylum," "Jack Johnson favourable to another Fight with Jefferies." The same issue carries a full page advertisement of the Kitselas Book Store, an enterprise that is unfortunately nowhere to be found in the whole district today. Postal views of the town were also superior to the selection of our present day ones.

Kitselas became a ghost town when the railway workers moved west and Usk became a boom town for a short time before it gave way to the next. In its day Kitselas was a lively town.

RECALLS OLD TIMERS

Charlie Durham, during our visit, had comments and in many cases recalled amusing incidents about Black Jack MacDonald, George Cunningham, R. S. Sargent, J. C. K. Seeley, Louis Anderson, Jimmy Wells, Jack Patterson, H. E. Bigelow, Wiggs O'Neil, Auguste Johnson, Ed Youngdal, Dave Stewart who grew the first apples in the district, Sim Dobie, Harry Daniels, George R. Kerr, Pete Brusk, Arthur Clore, Eli Hamlet, Bruce Johnstone, C. W. O. Clifford and Tom and Eliza Thornhill, earliest residents of Little Canyon (Terrace).

Mr. Durham served with the 102nd Battalion in the First War and by juggling dates around at the age of 81 served as a volunteer during the last war in Prince Rupert.

As we talked and drank coffee in Mrs. Adams' living room there were four generations present and soon there will be five generations in the Durham family. Mr. Durham made the average day's chit-chat sound very dull indeed.

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ROADSIDE STOPPER — This marker provides extra protection for sightless Horatio W. Hendrick, who is shown crossing the highway to his chicken barn at Plainfield, N.H. The State Highway Department has erected the warning signs on each side of the road at the farm, which Hendrick operates in his spare time. He is employed at a hospital at Hanover, N.H., where he develops X-ray film.

STEEL MAGNATE INTERESTED

Successful Quebec Ore Development Could Make Germany Biggest Client

QUEBEC (CP)—If Alfried Krupp finds what he expects in Quebec's northern Ungava the province's booming iron ore mining industry will apparently undergo a third major development that will boost investment in the barren subarctic area to almost $1,000,000,000.

Mr. Krupp, West German steel magnate who represents a syndicate of Ruhr steel producers, said when he arrived in Montreal Wednesday that if a great expanse of territory now under exploration turns out to be what he thinks it is "there is every possibility Germany will become Canada's biggest client."

The area, said to contain fabulous reserves of low-grade ore, covers 136 square miles under exploration by Atlantic Iron Ores Limited. The Quebec mines department estimates the company, owned by Cleveland steel magnate Cyrus Eaton, has spent some $2,000,000 so far in drilling and research.

Production would call for a total outlay of at least $200,000,000.

Because the ore in the area is low grade, mining operations would have to be accompanied by concentration operations on the site so the ore could be shipped economically from harbor facilities on Ungava Bay.

If the project materializes—and nothing has been definitely decided yet—it would be Quebec's third large iron ore development. Iron Ore Company of Canada at Schefferville has been producing more than 10,000,000 tons annually since 1954. Quebec Cartier Mining, subsidiary of U.S. Steel Corporation, is engaged in preliminary work to set up production north of Shelter Bay. Iron Ore Company has spent upwards of $250,000,000, U.S. Steel will spend an estimated $200,000,000 before it gets into production.

Mr. Eaton and the West German syndicate have formed Ungava Iron Ore Company which would carry out the mining operations for Atlantic should the development take definite shape.

TOURS UNGAVA AREA

Mr. Krupp accompanied by Mr. Eaton's son, now is touring the Far North area. Wednesday, accompanied by Mr. Eaton Sr., he will meet Premier Duplessis.

BRIGHT FEATHERS

The male scarlet tanager is a rich, bright scarlet, but the female bird is greenish.

Queen To Ride in Landau To Opening of Parliament

By DON PEACOCK
Canadian Press Staff Writer

OTTAWA (CP) — Queen Elizabeth is to ride to the opening of Parliament October 14 in a horsedrawn open landau, weather permitting.

Present plans are for her and Prince Philip to drive through the autumn streets of the capital in Governor-General Massey's state carriage.

Accompanying the royal couple on the two-mile ceremonial drive from Government House where the Queen and the Prince will stay while here Oct. 12-16, will be a 24-man mounted RCMP escort—members of the musical ride who spent the summer touring Britain.

The landau, drawn by four horses, was brought back into service after years of idleness when Mr. Massey used it to attend special ceremonies on Parliament Hill June 2, 1953—the day of the Queen's coronation in London.

The following November he resumed the practice of riding to the Hill in the landau to open Parliament.

The classy carriage, its horses guided by two postilions, one on each of the lead horses' backs, was built in Melbourne, Australia, before the start of this century. Two brightly-clad footmen sit at the rear.

IN THE NEWS — Former U.S. Ambassador to Italy Clare Boothe Luce stops to buy some French newspapers and magazines after arriving at Paris' Orly Airport from New York. After stocking up on reading material, she boarded another plane for Rome, to which she's returning for a visit.

NORTHERN LIGHTS DANCING FROM OREGON TO OKANAGAN

VANCOUVER (CP) — A brilliant display of northern lights was reported Sunday night from the California border to British Columbia's Okanagan Valley.

The weather office here said the dancing lights lit up the sky as far south as Medford, Ore., a small town near the California border.

The display was termed the clearest ever seen by residents of Victoria. The lights were visible in Vancouver and far into the interior of B.C.

The weather office attributed the phenomenon to heavy sunspot activity.

Residents of Osoyoos, at the southern end of the Okanagan Valley, reported seeing what is described in that area as an Okanagan arch.

The arch is an auroric display in which the light seems to come from all directions, not just from the north. The resitlents said it was the first time the arch had been seen in color, which varied from green to bright red with varying hues between.

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Other Papers Say . . .

. . . on Dr. Sidney Smith

Prime Minister John Diefenbaker has enlisted for his government's key External Affairs portfolio a man who truly possesses one of Canada's keenest minds and who should maintain for this country a high reputation at international conference tables. Dr. Sidney Smith is a leader with broad vision, a champion of Canadianism but an internationalist in his outlook. —Halifax Chronicle Herald.

Mr. Diefenbaker, with this appointment, has begun to tap the great, unused reservoirs of Tory strength in the country. He has gone outside the rank of his own parliamentary group in his choice of Dr. Smith. Others can probably be found in due course—men and women of stout conservative faith and tradition who have been outside the pale of office since 1935. General congratulations therefore upon an excellent and imaginative appointment. The strength of the Government has been increased. —Montreal Star.

The choice of Sidney Smith as Minister of External Affairs will receive the unanimous approval of the different political parties and of the city as of the country. Mr. Smith is an excellently representative personage . . . He is a renowned intellectual and a man of broad culture. He has a good knowledge of both East and West. In Quebec province Mr. Smith is well known.—Montreal La Presse.

Dr. Smith's wit and scholarship as a lawyer and administrative educator, his liberal outlook—with small "l"—fits him for service in a post of such high cosmopolitan requirements. He is a brilliant man with a tough mind.

Politically, Mr. Diefenbaker has leaped a high hurdle in requesting Dr. Smith to make his talents available to his country. —Hamilton Spectator.

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