

Our Rising Costs

AS in the case of growing communities everywhere, Prince Rupert's budget is going up. The increase of about 12 per cent over last year's budget is a sizeable one but cannot be considered excessive if the city is to keep pace with the times. Expense increases of approximately \$46,700 for the board of works, \$19,400 for waterworks and \$22,000 for the finance committee are an indication of the stepped up requirements with which the city must cope.

Simultaneously the cost of protecting the city from crime and fire is also rising. The increase in expenses for the administration of justice represents a whopping 43 per cent over last year—due mainly to increased per capita charges under the RCMP contract—and fire protection costs have gone up by more than \$8,500.

At the same time, it is reassuring to note that the mill rate remains unaltered, though it will be borne in mind that two new taxes have been levied—on machinery and business—to help make this possible. In fact, it is conceivable that with these additional sources of revenue the mill rate might even have been lowered.

However, one item in the 1957 budget which must be considered an extraordinary expense is the fund being set aside for centennial celebrations, totalling about \$18,000 for the first of two years. This alone accounts for a large part of the anticipated \$25,000 revenue from the business tax which is being levied mainly for such promotional purposes. Another portion of the business tax totalling almost \$4,000 will go towards general publicity and assisting the tourist bureau and museum.

It is reassuring to note that at last the expenses for the telephone department are beginning to drop and are, in fact, only slightly more than the revenue to be expected from telephone rentals. Taking into account other sources of revenue for this department, the telephone service this year will be standing on its own feet. The dial system is starting to pay off in more ways than improved service.

The budget as a whole has been "carefully and economically planned. Costs are increasing all down the line but if we are to have a modern city that can hold its own with the rest of the province, we must pay for it."

GEMS OF THOUGHT —

If you would reform the world from its errors and vices, begin by enlisting the mothers.—Charles Simmons.
A man never sees all that his mother has been to him till it's too late to let her know that he sees it.—E. H. Chapin.



GETTING acquainted with his feathered "rescuers," three-year old Anton Waldla approaches a trio of ducks on the shores of Lake Lucerne (background) at Gersau, Switzerland. The birds are credited with saving the youngster's life when he fell into the water while playing. The tot's plunge into the lake was unnoticed by his friends, but the ducks raised such a clamor that people living nearby came to the rescue.

America's Churches Want but Fear Unity

By GEORGE W. CORNELL

BUCK HILL FALLS, Pa. (AP)—America's separate church denominations were pictured today as being caught in a two-way squeeze—they want closer unity, but they also fear it.

Furthermore, a report says, they don't know just "what sort" of unity they want.

The report was presented to the United States conference of the World Council of Churches in sizing up the prospects for a coming continental-wide meeting on "The Nature of the Unity We Seek."

"Fears of the evils involved in any universal monolithic church structure are widespread among Protestants," the report says. It also asserts that most churches want "some sort of increase of unity among Christ's people."

SUSPECT "NEW VATICAN".

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denominations. It is the national wing of the World Council, which embraces 163 member-denominations in 50 countries with about 170,000,000 members.

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