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Logging, mineral, transportation points up rich future for town

...THRIVING TOWNSITE OF TERRACE TRAFFIC CENTRE OF DISTRICT

Terrace didn't grow from wilderness into its present state of Canadian-importance overnight as did her newly-born sister Kitimat, but in 51 short years it has become the traffic metropolis of the northwest coast district.

While its inception took place in 1909 when George Little, hiked from Kitimaat Village in 1905 to lay out the present townsite, four years later, the Haida Indians long before recognized its importance as an agricultural centre and its transportation facilities, settling on the mouth of the Kitsumgallum River.

Tom Thornhill was recorded as the first white settler in 1892 and the Frank family settled on the district's first pre-emption in 1905.

Today the Township of Terrace services some 30,000 people in the area.

Located like an oasis—a broad fertile valley in the heart of a rugged but rich wilderness—its position at the junction of the Skeena and Kitsumgallum Valleys gives its eminent importance as a transportation centre.

And while rail, highway and air traffic are becoming increasingly important factors in the local economy, the advent of the "Marine Highway" through Terrace as a junction to northern Canada and Alaska will challenge the timber industry in importance.

MAIN INDUSTRY

For logging is the main industry in the district in this year of 1960.

Together with pole-making and sawmilling it engages 75 per cent of the working population and sustains a payroll of $6,000,000.

The Columbia Cellulose Company Limited's Wood's Division at Terrace has the large t logging operation facilities which logs a forest management licence to supply the plant at Watson Island, 12 miles from Prince Rupert.

In addition there are many large modern sawmills in Terrace with markets extending to the eastern limits of the continent. The timber area is one of the greatest suppliers of cedar poles for communication and transmission lines to the continent.

In addition there are vast reserves of timber mainly western hemlock, Sitka spruce, red cedar and lesser amounts of cottonwood, balsam, jackpine and birch.

MINERAL DEPOSITS

Long-known by early prospectors as an area filled with mineral potential of gold, silver, lead, zinc, copper, tungsten and molybdenum deposits, a major oil company holds it under option and is presently exploring 12 million acres in the area.

The rate of growth has been spasmodic but, with the interest in the power and resources of the north coast in recent years, substantial markets have improved transportation facilities and has encouraged the development of the rich and fertile valleys to give farming a significant place in the economy of the territory.

In its role of traffic centre, Terrace has modern stores, shops, offices, restaurants, hotels and motels to cater to the needs of the transients.

One of the largest hot springs on the continent is located just 20 miles away. Newly-developed it has two ultra-modern swimming pools, a motel, camping units as well as coffee shop and a lounge.

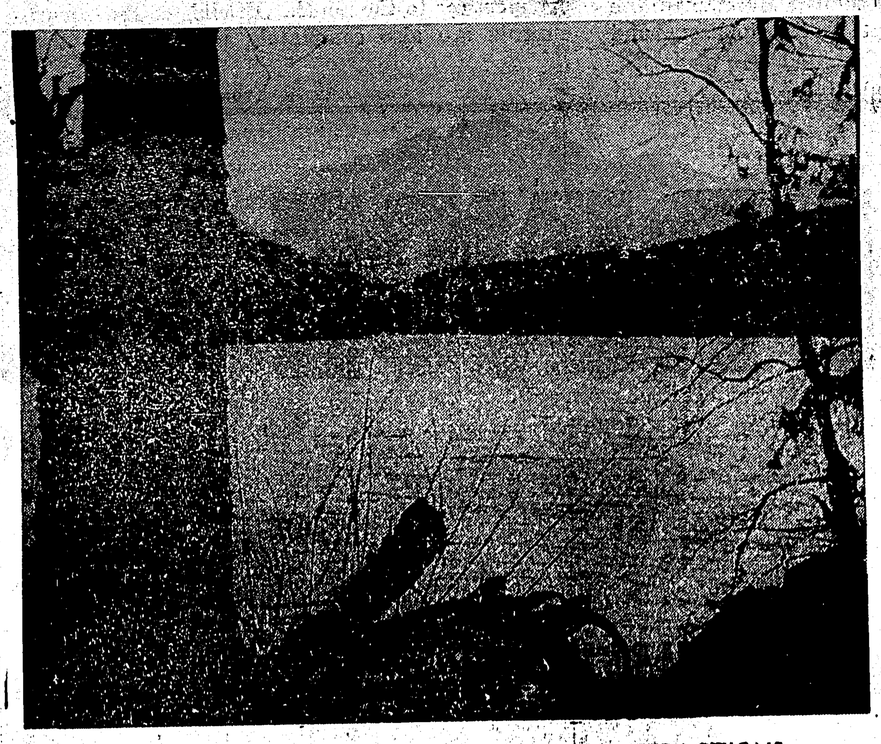
Recognizing the excellent beach at Lakelse lake the Department of Recreation and Conservation has recently completed a major public camping unit with parking facilities, boat launching site, picnic tables and trailer site.

However Lakelse lake is particularly popular for its fishing, swimming, sailing and boating conditions.

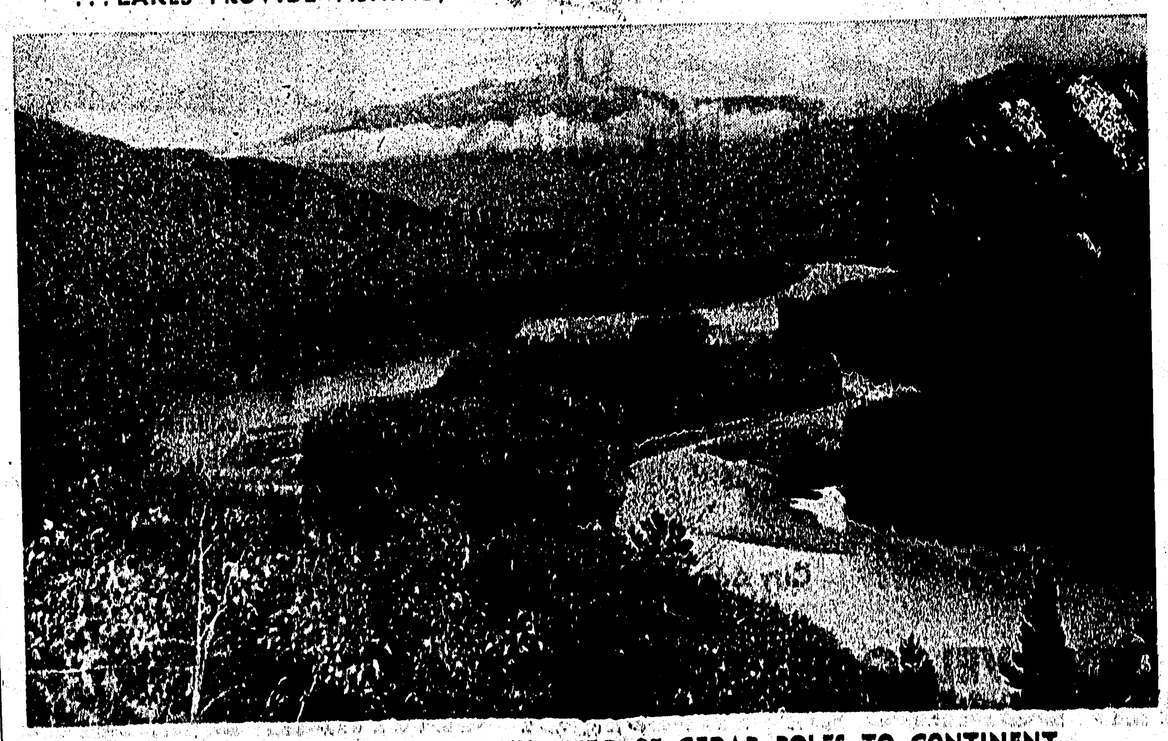
North of Terrace a great lava field is accessible by a private highway, built by the Columbia Cellulose Company. Permission to travel this scenic route is ordinarily obtained from the company.

The road runs to the Naas River and when completed will meet the Stewart-Cassiar highway to the Yukon and Alaskan points.

The entire magnificence of the north is fast becoming a tourist attraction, with its good hunting and fishing. Game readily seen is mule deer, moose, mountain goat, grizzly and black bear, while favorite fish is coho and spring salmon, steelhead, dollyvarden, cutthroat and rainbow trout, found in abundance in all lakes, streams and rivers.



...LAKES PROVIDE FISHING, BOATING ATTRACTIONS



...TIMBER AREA GREATEST SUPPLIER OF CEDAR POLES TO CONTINENT

—Photos by Walter Mantel—Terrace.

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