

THE DAILY NEWS

THE LEADING NEWSPAPER IN NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA
Published Daily and Weekly by
THE PRINCE RUPERT PUBLISHING CO. LTD., PRINCE RUPERT, B.C.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES—To Canada, United States and Mexico:
Daily, 50c per month, or \$5.00 per year, in advance. Weekly,
\$2.00 per year. All Other Countries: Daily, \$8.00 per year.
Weekly, \$25.00 per year, strictly in advance.

TRANSIENT DISPLAY ADVERTISING—50 cents per inch. Contract
rates on application.

HEAD OFFICE

Daily News Building, Third Ave., Prince Rupert, B. C. Telephone 98.

BRANCH OFFICES AND AGENCIES

New York—National Newspaper Bureau, 219 East 23rd St., New
York City.

Seattle—Puget Sound News Co.

London, England—The Clougher Syndicate, Grand Trunk Building,
Trafalgar Square.

Subscribers will greatly oblige by promptly calling up Phone 98 in
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DAILY EDITION

Wednesday, Mar. 12, 1913.

A GREAT FACTOR IN PRINCE
RUPERT'S PROGRESS.

Any one who is at all familiar with the wonderful natural resources of British Columbia is forced to admit that this province is bound to become, in the not distant future, one of the most important of all the provinces in the dominion. Almost day by day new resources are being discovered and greater possibilities are becoming evident. For some time past it has been known that the Groundhog coal district, which is within two or three hundred miles of Prince Rupert, is rich in anthracite of an exceptionally good quality, but it is particularly gratifying to learn from an expert who has examined coal areas on nearly every continent that this particular district is destined to become one of the greatest coal producing centres in the world. Just what this means to Prince Rupert it is impossible to estimate, but it will, beyond doubt, play an important part in the city's development. The presence of such a high grade coal in large quantity so close at hand is bound to be an important factor in the development of the city as an industrial and manufacturing centre and the working of the coal fields themselves will necessitate the employment of thousands of men in a district for which Prince Rupert is the natural distributing centre. The Groundhog coal areas is an asset that probably was not counted on when Prince Rupert was chosen as the terminus of the greatest transcontinental railway in America, but it is one that will not play the least important part in the building up of one of the most important commercial cities on the Pacific Coast.

FOR CANADIAN
AUTONOMY

The colors of the Liberal party were nailed to the masthead by Sir Wilfrid Laurier early yesterday morning. The Liberals of Canada are unalterably opposed to Mr. Borden's policy of "hiring" naval defence. They believe that as the daughter nations of the Empire grow in strength and wealth they should protect their own coasts and trade routes, and be prepared, if the need ever comes, to take their place in the Empire's firing line.

That is the policy of the Liberal party today. It was the policy of the Conservative party also in 1909, when the Parliament of Canada deliberately adopted it. Upon that policy Sir Wilfrid Laurier challenges the Borden Government to take the verdict of the people by a general election.

Mr. Borden met Sir Wilfrid's challenge by the announcement that the Government confidently believed that in its policy it had the Canadian people behind it, and would therefore press its proposals to a conclusion in Parliament. The issue is joined. The Borden Government will not consult the people unless it is forced to do so by the withholding of supply or the prolongation of debate on the naval bill with the object of preventing its passage. Sir Wilfrid's speech seems to indicate an intention to force the question to a decision at the polls. Canada may have a general election on the navy issue in May or June. In that election Liberalism will stand for Canadian control of Canada's defensive forces on land and sea.—Toronto Globe.

GREATEST COAL PRODUCING
CENTRE IN THE WORLD

THAT IS THE OPINION EXPRESSED BY NOTED EXPERT IN
REGARD TO THE GROUNDHOG DISTRICT

Gustav Grossman, one of the best known engineers in the province of British Columbia, was a visitor to the city yesterday morning, says the Victoria Times. He is a graduate of Freiberg School of Mines and Heidelberg University, and has engaged in experting properties all over the world, having acted for the Pearson Syndicate in Burma and Peru and for other firms in Africa, China, Siberia, Borneo, Australia and on this continent.

Last year he reported on three hundred and thirty-five claims in the Groundhog Mountain coal district for the Groundhog Amalgamated Anthracite Coal Syndicate, taking in a party of nearly twenty men and spending the entire season in compiling a voluminous report, which he submitted to the provincial government yesterday morning.

He estimates that there are over two hundred million tons of fine anthracite coal available in the Groundhog field and believes that that will become one of the greatest coal producing centres in the world. His examination covered the slopes of the Skeena, Stikine and Klappan Rivers.

There is in the Groundhog field," he said to the Times yesterday, "one of the greatest national assets of the Dominion. The coal I have tested in laboratories has shown as high as 85 per cent. fixed carbon, with an average of a little over 80. Some of the seams are exposed at the surface and the country offers no difficulty for railway construction, and in addition the owners have many admirable sections which may be used as townsites."

W. Fleet Robertson, provincial

government mineralogist, in his report of the field says that the coal is undoubtedly an anthracite, while Dr. Martin, of the United States Bureau of Mines, after examining many specimens, reports it is a "good, firm anthracite."

Mr. Grossman is confident that the anthracite fields of Pennsylvania, where his father before him was an expert, and where he himself was brought up, is no better in its resources than the Groundhog basin. There is one mountain there, he says, which is almost all coal.

"I cannot conceive," he says, "that there should be any delay in the railway companies entering that field for the certain tonnage, not only to the tidewater, but throughout the northern sections of the prairie provinces."

"All along the western coast of the United States there is a shortage of coal for household and manufacturing purposes and though they have had in the past large forest areas and mills to draw upon for firewood this resource is now being dissipated and more and more strongly on coal. As their manufacturing industries increase with the opening of the Panama canal and the influx of settlers and cheaper labor the demand for good steam coal, such as anthracite, will be enormous and the companies first in the field and best able to supply the demand of that market are the ones who will benefit most from the demand. Anthracite is peculiarly adapted to steam-making, and there is nothing to prevent the Groundhog field from becoming one of the best on the continent."

SOUTH AFRICAN
POLITICAL SPLIT

Premier Botha and General Hertzog Still at Loggerheads—Later Will Only Be Satisfied If Botha Resigns the Leadership.

Cape Town, March 10.—The differences between General Botha and General Hertzog are still occupying the attention of the Nationalist party. At a recent caucus of the Nationalists a large majority declared in favor of General Botha retaining the premiership, and therefore as a party the Nationalists are supporting General Botha.

It is now said that General Hertzog's adherents are considering the advisability of separating themselves entirely from the Nationalist party. In their opinion the bulk of the Afrikaner constituencies are with General Hertzog in spite of the fact that the majority in the parliament are against him. Meantime General Botha continues to hold office as premier, and parliamentary business is being carried on under disturbed conditions.

General Botha has issued a statement denying General Hertzog was left out of the new cabinet owing to his statement that he placed the interests of South Africa before those of the empire, declaring that he himself and his colleagues agree with that principle. The differences arose as the result of General Hertzog's speeches and general conduct. He declares that since parliament met every effort has been made to reach a solution of the difficulties, but owing to the fact that General Hertzog will only be satisfied if General Botha

resigns office as premier the ministers have found it impossible to go further as they do not agree that such a step would be in the direction of peace.

In answer to General Botha, General Hertzog denies having made the retirement of General Botha an absolute condition of his return, or that the negotiations failed on account of his having taken an absolute stand. He maintains that if General Botha can find honorable terms suitable to himself and General Hertzog, he will be willing to sink all personal feeling and submit to the will of the people.

As yet no allusion to the Botha-Hertzog quarrel has been made in parliament which, however, is supporting General Botha, mainly on account of the fact that the speech made by General Hertzog at Smithfield was of an outrageous character, but General Hertzog's influence in the country is by no means ended. It is generally felt that the breach between the two leaders is final and that the solidarity of the Nationalist party is thus broken up.

ALLEGED DEFAULTER
ARRESTED AT RHEIMS

Fled from Brussels Last October—Alleged to Be Short Over a Million Dollars.

(Special to The Daily News.)
Rheims, March 11.—Wilmart, former manager of the Grand Ternaunen Railway, who fled from Brussels in October, 1912, after alleged defalcations amounting to over a million dollars, was arrested here today.

The paper that prints the facts—the Daily News.

PERFORMED DARING
FEAT AT MASSET

Crossed Inlet on a Single Log
With Tide Running at
Its Swiftest

The Masset Leader gives the following particulars of a daring feat performed recently by an experienced river man:

"Displaying remarkable agility acquired on the swift rivers of Eastern Canada, Robert Violet, a new comer from Kelowna, last Tuesday successfully crossed Masset Inlet on a single log. He stood upright for the whole distance, steering the strange craft with an oar. The tide was running out at its swiftest at the time and it was calculated that he travelled nearly four miles in little more than twenty minutes.

Those watching him from the shore near the Woden river thought he would capsize more than once when the eddies caught the log and whirled it around. This happened several times, but each time Violet succeeded in steering the log out into quiet water, and headed with the tide.

Violet had accompanied Albert Goulet and Patrick Galvin to inspect some land up the inlet across from the Woden river and during the night their boat went adrift and landed on the opposite side of the inlet. Against the advice of his companions Violet secured a log and set out across after the boat, in which he soon returned to the others.

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