That Government for the People, By the People and of the People Shall Not Perish-Lincoln

An Election 'Must'

SINCE the dawn of civilization, in the necessity of man's relationship with his fellows, the best and bravest men thought—and fought—to bring forward the ideal of life, liberty and the pursuit of true happiness in equal right for all men; or at least to defend the right to continue to seek and strive.

If all men were wise, all men would be good, and in one accord, of one mind. For there can be but one right and it is best for all. The arithmetic of right is simple, inexorable; it holds no tricks, no chances, no premiums. no magic; and the score of human happiness is the sum of its ingredients, of the consequences of all men's actions in helping or hindering the harvest of good, free truth.

Progress in human happiness is built on man's discovery of truth. But no man is a paragon, and capacities vary; and, more tragically, sincerity. And the band of soul, who lose the glory of the victory in fixing on the trophy, barter their birthright of happiness, fetter the free spirit with materialism. They mistake astuteness for wisdom, deny society their contribution, and instead direct their enegries and abilities to taking out, exploiting the weak. It has been so since men first mixed and the increasing complexities of the structure of society, of material progress, make it more sinister, less discernible.

Government is simply a necessary means of mas's acquiescence to nature's laws. Liberty, off the track of right, becomes licence and wrongs collide. Wisdom in government prevents collision, accelerates progress, within the authority of natural law; it has no magic of manipulation. But because all men are not wise, and many not sincere, authority is cereless of its true authority, and, where in sincerity and wisdom, all must seek and find the single, common right, we have parties and politics and fondly deceive ourselves that they, and our vaunted democracy, are the ideal of human liberty and good government.

Democracy, assuming, what is far from true, sincerity, is by far the best system yet devised. But can it guarantee sincerity? And is sincerity a guarantee of right? Were not some Japs and Germans sincere? And are we always? Have not strange things been done in the zeal of loyalty, aye, religion? Would water run uphill if we all wanted? Would we solve a problem in arithmetic by marking an 'X' by choice? Is the mathematics of truth ever a matter of opinion—or are we just too careless to look or too selfish to care? Then how can you justify politics and parties in sincere search of good government? Does even a jury build its verdict on the arithmetical analysis of the whole truth? Does tne lawyer so argue; does the politician? Does your vote? Are you bigger than truth? Have you the right to be wrong, and to force your wrong on he who is right?

Will multiplying error by any majority give the right answer?

For there is the fallacy of democracy; right is not a matter of opinion, but inexorable fact. It assumes, in equal rights, equal ability and sincerity to be right, and the more we accept it as an inviolable individual right the easier it is cunningly exploited; that is politics.

All too glibly are we adjured to vote—as a duty of citizenship, where an unintelligent vote is as much a weapon against our wellbeing as an enemy gun. And that is exactly why we are where we are. We have no democracy, for the will of the people is of no value unless it is right and sure of its right, and that such will be faithfully represented. It is the duty of those who seek your vote to so convince you in positiveness of fact, not faith of opinion. If they do not, yau are firing in the dark. And in power politics, the remoteness and apathy it engenders, an enlightened electorate is not easy.

Obviously abstension is not the solution; eternal vigilance is truly the price of liberty. But vigilance is not the careless herding the vote-seekers prescribe. That vigilance begins with self-searching. If you are satisfied you know the issues, that the candidate has made the true case for their solution, no one need tell you how to vote—and if anyone tries, be wary of his logic, and moreso of his sincerity, as sheer good sense compels. If you can not, search yourself whether you have the right to cerelessly condemn your equals. It is only by this true vigilance that we can have the better world we seek; let us at least not carelessly vote for worse. When the vote seekers perceive our true vigilance, they will seek our votes in the sense and sincerity we seek in place of their smoke screen. Democracy begins with you.

CAPITOL THEATRE
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Capital Entertainment
Every Week Night

The SIMILKAMEEN STAR

CAMERON'S GROCERY
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PHONE 137
— See Our Advert —

Fifty-First Year; No. 36— PRINCETON, B.C., WEDNESDAY, 12th DECEMBER, '51 5c per Copy; $2.00 per Year

Star comment

Are You Prepared?

On Thursday Princeton casts its first civic vote. Reflection will confirm that it is the most important vote you have ever cast, for this time it will not be swallowed up in a preponderant outside majority. You are voting directly for your town —and yourself.

How well are you equipped? For the signs suggest the same old pattern that has been Princeton's curse in community concern.

These men you know, and that is good. But how much do you know of what they propose? For all of us must face our inexperience in civic administration.

What preparation has there been? Here is democracy at our own doorstep, to make what we will of. And the fount of democracy is the good old fashioned truly public meeting. where on a common platform every man can state his piece and the candidates give us direct satisfaction and we can at least get as near truth as we are able. In many municipalities it is indeed preserved.

Here—not one statement — just names.

It is the old story in Princeton. There will be no lack of votes. But how authoritative will they be. how intelligent? We simply decide we want something, then sit back and trust to one vote to work wonders. We forget that we are the power that propels, in turning over the mandate to steer. That is futile; it can be dangerous What of the Memorial Park? Of all the money you put into the old Athletic Association? Do you ever stop to compute and compare, not in mills but in percentages, what you have been paying for fire protection? When, in spite of regulations, did you last state your will? What say do you have in school matters? However efficient. is it democracy? Is it safe to vote away your rights? Is it what you propose in civil government?

Now this is not to condemn the commission. On what little there is to judge they seem rather to have done very well. But is this intelligent insurance? Would they not rather go forward in an alert, intelligent mandate? Can they feel they do?

True, we have a ratepayers' group, where, if you subscribe to its conditions, you may state your piece—not to authority but to its authority. And its function is good. Indeed, its enthusiasm is its fault, its authority over-rated. For the true—and legal—authority of citizenship knows no such conditions, and recognizes none. Your authority lies in your citizenship and there is just one place you can legally and honestly express it. It is your individual obligation of citizenship that is at stake. It is your individual obligation to use it honestly and intelligently.

Can you now?

Thursday Is Election Day

§§ ELECTION DAY for Princeton is THURSDAY. 13th DECEMBER. Franchise this year: property holders in good standing, British subjects over 21. This includes, unfortunately, women of both sexes, even Albert Bloom, who is running on the w(e)ine-ticket, trying to make both ends meat.

Both he and rival slaughterer Sally Wilson is sure therefor of at least one vote—and they sure won't vote for eachother. Whichever can rustle one more vote is a cinch. Both have at times been called summat else.

Nominations must be in writing (candidates also should be able to write), signed by mover and seconder.

This year a full slate of candidates will be elected—ton three for two year terms, two for one. (Bloom should get the maximum sentence.)

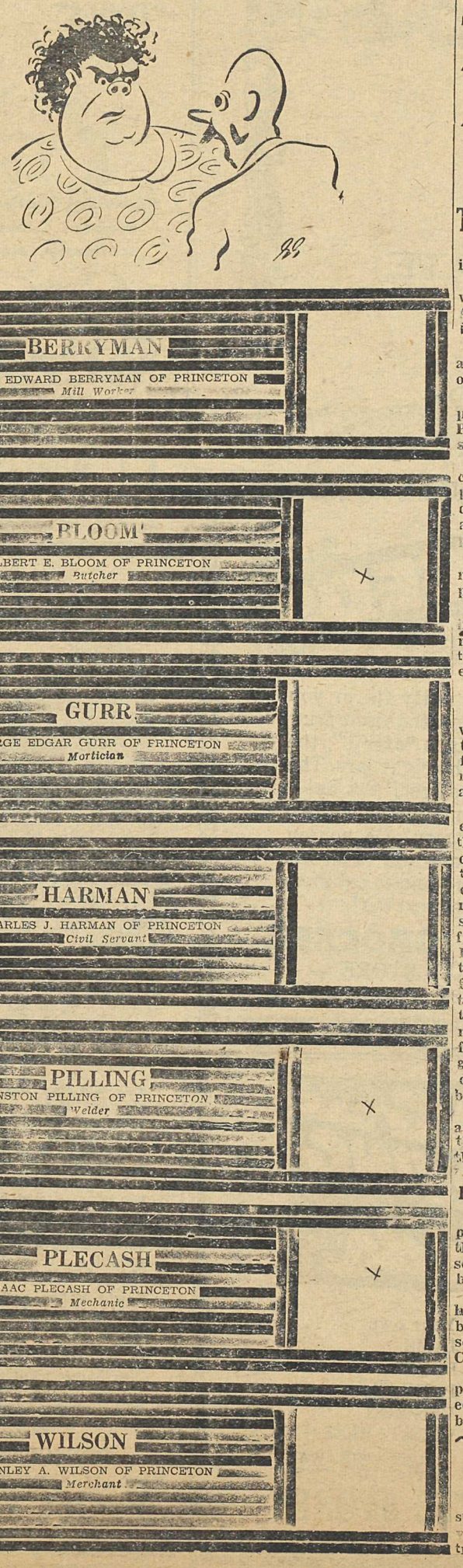
Voting will be in the I.O.O.F. Hall, under Returning Officer Jas. E. G. Smith and one assistant. The voters' list is on display at the Municipal Hall and the Post Office.

The Village Thmiths

Upon a shredded beechnut chest
The Village Smithy sits.
Plays tag mit dogs, assesses hogs
Contracts (her brows) and knits
The proof of her endurance
Hospitaled in insurance'
Politically beserk)
Our ideal village clerk.
Austere and spare in the magistral chair,
Hail the chief and hold the mayor.
To lead us by our guilty noses
Isaac aspires to be a Moses.
Here's Father Bloom — please give him room.
Behold our corporation!
Quixotically belaying rumors,
Meatballing black with buy-law Bloomers
He'll make of us a nation.
Then hail Prince Albert, dimpled, plump,
New Lord Keeper of our Dump.
Kwack! Kwik Releef cures any itch
(Including Peter Papa-vitch)
But when it comes to corporate killing
Princeton prescribes Professor Gill-ing.
Blood, sweat and tears give us Big Jim;
(Let's give the C.C.F. right back to him)
In beer and blood O Stygian ferryman,
We wallow. Be thou our pilot, Alderberryman.
Sirens, spitunias and salvation:
To lay the corpse of corporation
They shanghied gentle Georgie Gurr,
(He's coron-er, please call him sir)
To cure our ills he's instrumental
In pace requiescat: Accidental.
As on our civic trek we go,
This is our Witenagemot.
And should it fail a statesman's dream
It at least will make a hockey team.

Professor Pepper, who incorporated Princeton, will not vote. Having made it the perfect place to live in, he has moved.

"You'll Vote for Bloom"



• TRAIL TOWN GROWS UP

STATION OF DESTINY ASSUMES OWN DESTINY

Natural Gateway in Indian Era and Fur Brigade, Defied Royal Decree and Grew Its Own Way; Now Takes Authority

THE largest unorganized town in the west isn't any more. Princeton on Thursday holds its first municipal election.

One of the oldest towns in the west, after 90 years it voted 28th April, 1951, by 395 to 117, to make itself official.

Princeton has a population of about 2500, current assessment of about three millions.

The area incorporated comprises the main central basin. Princeton Heights, Allison Townsite and West Princeton.

1951 assessment was $2,994,369 comprising land $430.904. improvements $1,292,324, and machinery and equipment (taxable for school but not civic purposes) $269,141.

The voters' roll contained 596 names, representing 869 land parcels.

The decisive margin was gratifying, a close victory being the main anxiety. It was felt that the post-war influx largely turned the verdict.

★ ★ ★

There was an undertone of wistfulness in the enthusiasm that hailed the epochal turn, for even the most progressive realized this was the passing of a picturesque frontier era.

A simple "yes" seemed inadequate to epitomize not merely the revolution for this century-old trail hub of the nether Interior, but the end of a prime contention that had split this restful bonny hill-locked town, stubborn, unreasoning, bitter. for more than twenty-five years. It seemed almost wrong that the dusk should. on this eventful day, descend as usual over the murmuring twin rivers. But the new citizenry awoke, at a new (daylight saving) time to find the familiar streets void of gold, except for progressive dandelions, which will henceforth bloom by bye-law.

Over in Jimmy Fairley's hall as we toted the news to the world they were singing, more aptly than they knew, "It's A Long, Long Trail" . . .

BY ROYAL DECREE

It was in 1860 that the intrepid, imperious first governor of the infant colony fathered by a sort of kingly decree the "royal burgh" of Princeton.

With restless, gold - hungry hordes chafing at the mountain barriers, Douglas made a personal trip from Hope to Rock Creek, addressing the miners.

He promised them a road, and promtptly set the Royal Engineers, the colonizing garrison, to build it, with a pivotal point at this eastern gateway. Barges would be used on the Similkameen river, and the road would cross the divides to Hope and to the Boundary camps. Indeed he conceived it as the first link of an "imperial highway" across Canada. His hub he called Princeton, duly honoring the then current visit to Canada of the Prince of Wales—first royal visit to a dominion.

"Princeton" as a trail point replaced the Vermilion Forks of the fur trade era—first recorded visit, 1825, though Keremeos was reached by a Pacific trader, 13th January, 1813.

But "Princeton" really never came to be at all. It is only a historical curiosity of old maps, with ambitious spoke-like Parisian pattern—and remnant survey posts on the wilderness of Swan Lake flat.

Two years earlier Douglas had sent John Fall Allison, one of the many miners the waning California rush dumped on the primitive colony, to scout gold in Similkameen. Impressed by its more enduring resources, Allison settled, and leading men of the colony, including officers of the Engineers staked some of British Columbia's earliest preemptions in fabled Similkameen.

Their optimism was premature. Placer exictement moved in cycle, and the era of the fur trail and the gold rush gave way to the somnolent reign of the cattle barons—with the silken bunchgrass up to the horses' withers, swaying in the breeze.

The gold fever shifted to the Cariboo. Douglas quarreled with the Engineers. His road was abandoned after building 25 miles out of Hope.

AND DESTINY'S DECREE

Then in 1885 excitment surged anew. Similkameen had seen one of the earliest gold rushes in the north-west, at Blackfoot, obscure and shadowy, in 1859. But different was lurid Granite Creek, which mushroomed in a summer as the fourth largest town in B.C—and faded as fast.

But interest gradually turned to the more enduring lodes, with occasional mechanical placer ventures. Camps like Phoenix, McKinney, Fairview and Rossland wrote a new chapter in de-

PAGE 16 PLEASE-

WARNING!

Sure, we'd do anything for a story; but we'd rather it not be your obituary. The roads are tricky now. Do be careful!

12 SHOPPING DAYS TILL CHRISTMAS

YOU CAN!

CANNING TIME TABLE

TOMATOES — Scald 1 min.; cod dip 1 min.; peel, core, quarter, pack. Hot water bath 35 min. cooker 10 min.

PEACHES — Peel, pre-cook in syrup 3 min. Pack. Hot water bath 10 min., cooker 20 min.

PEARS — Not too ripe. Pare halve, pre-cook 5 min. in syrup; Hot water bath 20 min., cook 10.

PLUMS — Wash, prick skins pack, add syrup. Hot water bath 20 min., cooker 10 min.

PRESERVING Needs

Everything In Fruit and Vegetables, Jars, Accessories, Preservatives, Sugar, etc.

NOW'S THE TIME TO JAM AND PICKLE

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BRIDGE STREET PHONE 11

MELLOW AS A HARVEST MOON

Try These:
Rhubarb with Ginger Jam)
Ripe Tomato Jam with Ginger.
Pear Jam with Ginger.
Pineapple Jam with Melon
Melon with Lemon and Ginger.
Rose Petal Jelly

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JOHN KASSA, Proprietor

Now then Housewife!
get busy bottling your fruit

Preserving Life Preservers
Make successful bottling a certainty

A full range in finest quality of everything for your pickling and preserving needs. Put by now for a summer table on a stormy day. We have it all.

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ALLISON TOWNSITE : PHONE 48H

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Everything for Canning, Pickling Jam

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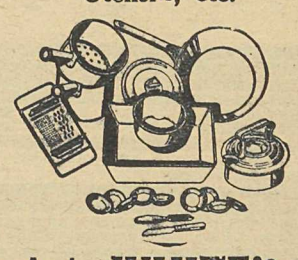
Preserving Kettles, Pressure Cookers, Utensils, etc.



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Fresh Frozen FRUITS and VEGETABLES

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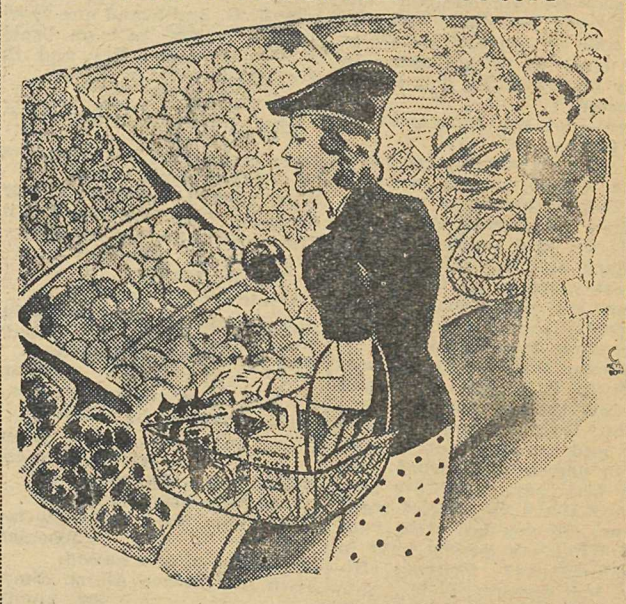
For The Preserving Kettle



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To get that ripe, nutty flavor you want the right recipe, the right fruit or vegetable, the right "extras", the right utensils and the right jars. The Family Store knows best! Ask us! Nothing quite like mother's own recipe, is there? Drudgery? Oh no, not with modern methods and facilities. A joy to make them—and to eat them . . . yum! And economical too!

- CAMERON'S GROCERY -
— YOUR FAMILY STORE —
SOUTH BRIDGE ST., PHONE 137

The WORLD'S FINEST FRUIT

The world's finest fruit is at your door. The rich vales and benchlands of our own south Similkameen, nurtured by mountain stream and champagne sky, produce a honied harvest whose flavor wins — and has won — top honors in world exhibits. And it is as health-giving as our summer sunshine. It IS sunshine . . . sealed-in sunshine for all the year.

Lower Valley orchards offer an ideal complementary industry to our northern mines and forests. Each belongs to the other. Help promote Similkameen unity by extending an eager hand for our Similkameen Fruit.

PRINCETON RETAIL MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION—PRINCETON BOARD OF TRADE

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APPLES

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Your merchants and your paper urge EAT SIMILKAMEEN FRUIT

SERVE APPLES DAILY AND YOU SERVE YOUR COUNTRY TOO

They're GOOD AND GOOD FOR YOU

Give

PROTECTION

Secure your loved ones with

LIFE INSURANCE

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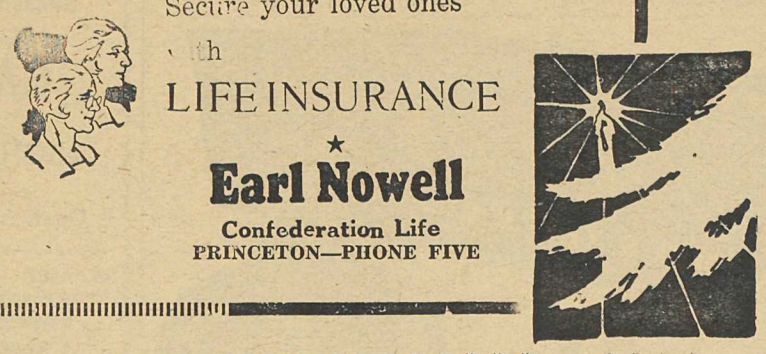
Earl Nowell

Confederation Life

PRINCETON—PHONE FIVE



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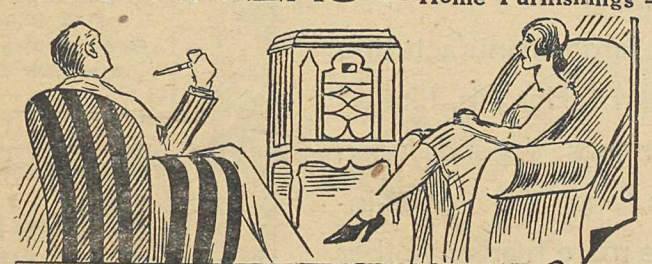

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Purveyors of Essentials, our regular stock of general merchandise is augmented with seasonal lines. You Will Find It Convenient to do all your Shopping Here

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SPANGLER
Phone 85

..for Him..for Her

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Holiday Fashions

Choice Personal and Gift Lines for Men, Women and Children

Come in - - Our Counters Will Shop for You

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Shop with complete confidence at

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BRIDGE ST., PRINCETON

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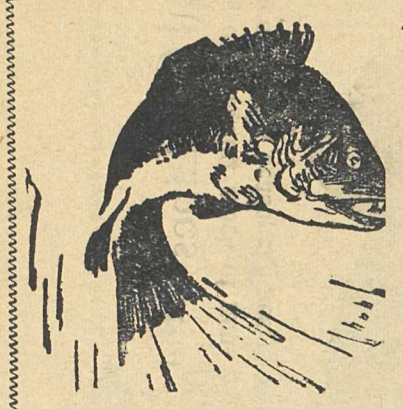

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With more than fifteen years' experience. you will find us eager to please you expertly
WE ARE ALSO AGENTS FOR THE FAMOUS LEISCHMAN CLOTHES
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STOVES
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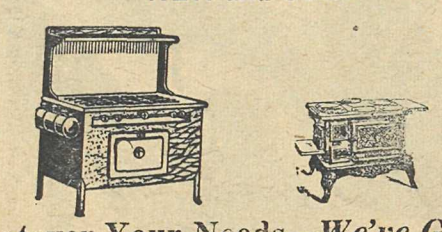

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EXAMPLE
USED RANGE—
EMPIRE—4-hole, only one year old; hot water coil, sawdust burner. SNAP!

We Recommend
ENTERPRISE
Canada's outstanding Kitchen Range
WE PREDICT—

Now is the time to prepare! We are heating experts; bring your problems to us; advice is free.
And Remember GOTT'S GOT IT!

RELIANCE SERVICES E. J. GOTT Vermilion Av. PHONE 58K

Trail Town . .

(FROM PAGE FIVE)

velopment. Some faded, some endured.

In 1897 W. J. Waterman, a free lance engineer met at Rossland Arthur Hickling, agent for an English syndicate looking for investment. Waterman introduced him to Similkameen, and he started a townsite in the basin between the two rivers.

This had been part of the orignal Allison pre-emption, but was abandoned in favor of better grazing land downstream in turn abandoned by the Engineers

Hickling therefore dealt with S. D. Sands, a son-in-law of Allison, who had taken it up; and the Allisons ruefully recount that they never made a cent from their discovery.

They made their bid, though. Hickling in 1898 had R. H. Lee survey a small segment of Bridge Street at the Tulameen bow, and John Henry Jackson pioneered with a log hotel.

Nickel Plate mine was proving a sensation and there was enthusiasm at Copper Mountain and Summit Camp. The railways scrambled to build and Jim Hill pushed his emp re-founding G. N. up the Similkameen

The Allisons, with Edgar Dewdney, an early lieutenant-governor who had married Mrs. Allison's sister, promoted a rival townsite down the river. That was our first contention. But Princeton got the school and the court house. Allison is still meadow land.

TRAIL TOWN

By 1900 Princeton was a flourishing, enterprising hub, with all essential services, spearheaded by a quixotic Star, which was talking—incorporation.

It was as it must always be, a frontier trail town, a working man's town. A feature was its celebrations, with kluchmen (Indian women) pony races among the pines on Vermilion Avenue, now part of the Hope Highway. Waist-stripped champions sweated in rock drilling duels and backers equally shed their shirts

But starved of transport, the princely town was pauper. The Douglas road was completed as a pack trail and for a time was the main artery to the southern interior. But the building of the continental railway reduced its importance. Hill's railway drooled at Princeton on its dream of a Coast-Spokane loop.

But in 1914, largely to serve the Trail smelter, J. J. Warren built the K.V.R., taking over the Jim Hill route via Coquihalla to the Coast.

Copper Mountain made various starts and Princeton surged and subsided accordingly. World War I, with its brisk demand for copper, put it on a sure, if not always steady, basis.

In 1927 Princeton rejected incorporation 48 to 44. World War II quickened the tempo and on 2nd November, 1949 the Hope Highway was opened, fulfilling the first governor's vision.

On 28th April, 1951, Princeton voted to incorporate, sealing a picturesque past, with many a lurid chapter, from Bill Miner, suave train bandit, to Ole Virginny and Mutterin' Jimmy, contemporary characters.

Star Ads Pay Dividends

AT LAST... Real Rye AND 8 YEARS OLD!
IT'S Aristocrat

The ultimate in real Rye Whiskies — full-bodied, full-flavoured. Distilled in the ancient manner and fully matured in oak casks under controlled conditions.

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You pay for age! See that you get it.

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Open from 5:30 p.m.
REPAIRS — WELDING —
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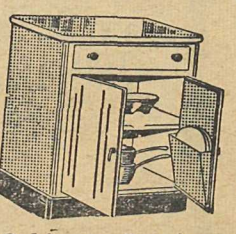

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