

EDITORIAL

Howdy neighbor!

This is the traditional greeting of one neighbour to another in the "old west" and Merritt extends a warm greeting to Logan Lake, our newest neighbour.

Logan Lake, the "instant town" around which has centred so much controversy and interest in the past year, came officially into being on November 26, 1970.

Our mayor, Allan Collett was at the inaugural meeting of their first town council and on behalf of the citizens of Merritt, he extended his hand and congratulated Mayor John Aldrich, the man who has been honored for the position of first mayor of the "instant town."

While there are no residents as yet, the large modern homes of this model town, so unlike the "instant mining towns" and shanties of a century ago, are under construction. The town will have the advantage of most modern planning and futuristic designing.

We welcome Mayor Aldrich's suggestion that our residents will visit and intermingle for social and sporting events. After all, we are only 28 miles apart, Logan Lake's closest neighbour

and we do have much to offer in friendship and assistance when needed.

There is not the slightest doubt that the "instant town" will have an impact on the economy of the surrounding communities. The predictions that the town will accommodate about 5,000 people makes us all realize the potential that exists.

It was announced that the first residents will move in to the town by next summer. We hope we can be ready to welcome them with a good connecting road. This is scenic country and could very well be a good "circle tour" for our residents for a Sunday drive to travel in to the Highland Valley, stop for a visit at Logan Lake, then on out to either Ashcroft or Kamloops and back home to Merritt.

Tourism could very well be the alternate industry to uphold the safe future of the "Instant Town." We all recognize that competition is good and we look forward to a friendly competitive spirit between our towns in sporting events and the business affairs of our communities.

Logan Lake, we at Merritt sincerely wish you a long, prosperous and happy life.

Unlocked motor vehicles an invitation to thieves

The following editorial taken from the Kamloops Sentinel, applies very well to our area as well. Almost every week the police report tells of one or several car breakins and especially the theft of tapes and of guns during hunting season.

The number of breaking and entering into automobiles is sharply increasing and while the main target of the thieves appears to be tape recordings and tape players almost anything of value is being taken.

Motorists with tape decks installed in their cars should take special precautions to protect their property, even when leaving the cars for only a few minutes. There are enough reports of thefts of quantities of tapes from automobiles parked for short periods of time that there is a real need to lock the doors when the vehicles are not occupied.

When planning to leave a vehicle for an extended period it is suggested that anything visible of value be removed from sight—possibly to be locked in the glove compartment or the trunk or to be otherwise put into safekeeping.

The locking of most automobiles

is only a symbolic gesture for anyone really intent upon entering the car can do so with not too much trouble. Attendants of B.C. Ferries who have been called to rescue car keys locked inside vehicles being carried on the ferries can open doors so quickly the automobile owner is led to believe the doors were never locked and if the ferry attendants with their few tricks of the trade can do the job there is nothing to prevent others using similar knowledge for dishonest purposes.

Still, for communities where many cars are readily recognized as belonging to particular people, the locking of a car takes on added significance as anybody attempting to enter a locked car without the keys is almost sure to attract unwanted attention.

The public is asked to be on the alert for people who may be responsible for the thefts and to contact police as soon as suspicions are aroused.

As busy as the police are they much prefer to receive information which will lead to the prevention of a crime than to have somebody wait until the act has been performed before they start their investigations.

Local arena users are lucky

Hundreds of people in the Nicola Valley benefit greatly from the Nicola Valley Memorial Arena, yet many of us are still complaining about unavoidable overlapping of schedules.

Maybe we should examine a few pertaining factors; before this season's ice activity began, a meeting was held for all those requiring ice time, and specific times and dates were subsequently drawn up. This required a great deal of work, and care was taken to avoid any unfair allotment to any group.

However every fight and injury during a hockey game cannot be accounted for beforehand, and these things take extra time.

It must be annoying to arrive on time for a particular session, only to find the ice is still in use by a group "who should have been off the ice five

minutes ago", and this does happen.

However let's keep in mind we're very fortunate to get the ice time we have. In Kamloops, due to the population factor, their Pee Wee Pups not only don't get any practice time, their league games are played on half-ice, with the goal nets placed across the width of the ice instead of the length. Four teams thus play at the same time. The Pee Wees do get full ice but no practice time, and are only on the ice during league games.

At present the arena is open for sixteen out of the twenty-four hours per day, but with the predicted population expansion in Merritt plus the additional Logan Lake populace, who knows?

At this rate, the only alternative to keeping the arena open for longer hours (and let's not forget there are only eight hours left), is to build another arena.

MERRITT HERALD

P.O. Box 9 - Merritt, B.C. - Phone 378-4241 - Telex 048-785
Published every Wednesday at Merritt, British Columbia, by Merritt Herald Limited.
Editor and Publisher: Oswald Elsasser; Advertising Manager: Al Bangert
Second class mail registration number 0414
Deadline for advertisements and news is 12 noon Tuesday preceeding publishing days.

Subscription Rates
Canada: 1 Year \$4.50 - 6 Months \$3.00 - 2 Years \$8.50
Other Countries: 1 Year \$6.00 - 6 Months \$3.50 - 2 Years \$10.00

Advertising rates on request. Change of Display Advertising each issue is permitted. For classified ad rates see classified page.



Member of



CANADIAN WEEKLY NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION - AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATION

Copyright © Merritt Herald Limited 1969

LOCAL SCENE

KINSMEN AUCTION, DECEMBER 4TH



"... but your ad says: 'Clean up your basement - the Kinsmen will take anything.' Doesn't say mother-in-laws are excepted!"

BY AL BANGERT

Merritt Herald Files...

60 Years Ago
December 2nd, 1910
Every effort is being put forth by Messrs. Whipple and Flemming towards the completion of the new Bank of Montreal residence at the earliest possible date.

50 Years Ago
December 3rd, 1920
The Jazz Orchestra "electric dance" in the Armory Friday night last was well attended, over 70 being present, and the dancing to the five-piece orchestra as well as the refreshments, were much enjoyed. Jack Fairley (violin) has joined the orchestra which in future will consist of piano, violin, two banjos and two drums.

40 Years Ago
December 5th, 1930
J. Corbett, R. Cousins, L. Jones, R. J. Pollock, Pete and Val Peterson and Oscar Vick, who were thrown out of work with the closing down of the Copper Mountain Mine have obtained jobs at Blakeburn colliery.

30 Years Ago
December 6th, 1940
Miss Rita McCreight resigned recently as local agent, B.C. Telephone Company, and Miss Cecilia Mataya has been appointed acting agent. Miss Annie Grant has changed from night to day duty, and Miss E. Boyd succeeds her at night. Miss Pamela Merkeley is first relief operator.
December 1st, 1955
Mayor Allan Collett, Mel Pratt and George Garthwaite motored to Vancouver last Friday to attend the Grey Cup Game. Mr. Collett was accompanied back by J. H. Pratt who will spend a few days in Merritt.

Through the Province

The Tribune
Williams Lake

Ratification of a new union agreement some ten days ago ushered in two years of labour peace for the district's largest industry.

The agreement was hammered out in a late night session by management and union officials. Over the weekend the rank and file of union members in four local sawmills voted on the package. Essentially the settlement is the same as that approved earlier a week before by union and members of the Northern Interior Lumber Manufacturers.

Workers in the basic rate category won a 70 cent-an-hour raise over the two year life of the contract. Operators say the new wage agreement will cost the mills about \$3.50 per thousand board feet of lumber.

The Similkameen Spotlight
Princeton

Construction on the \$4.5 million Northwood Mills sawmill complex in Princeton is on schedule, said manager A. J. Porritt. Full production is expected on 200,000 FBM per shift combined facilities in early March.

"The new sawmill is introducing many new features in the close utilization of small logs. It is a foregone conclusion among lumber people that the old methods of manufacturing lumber no longer serve the purpose. In the respect to recovery of raw resources it was no longer economically acceptable", said Mr. Porritt.

One of the new innovations is the introduction of the Reese-Medford burner, which almost totally eliminates the smoke and fly ash problem in sawmills. It is the ultimate in technological advancement in disposal of the sawmill waste material.

The Salmon Arm Observer
Salmon Arm

The medical health officer of the South Okanagan Health Unit has voiced concern that health considerations are being excluded from studies currently underway on the Okanagan water basin, and expressed doubt that a Shuswap diversion can be related to solving Okanagan environmental problems.

Dr. D. A. Clarke has also stated the opinion it has not yet been made clear why the Okanagan supposedly has need for additional water, from a Shuswap diversion or any other source, "unless there is some plan for large industrial development which demands would otherwise adversely affect the
Continued On Page 11

Letters to the Editor

The Editor
Merritt Herald
Dear Sir:

Re: headlines in November 25 Merritt Herald "Shutting down the mills is not the answer. Spec group told" . . . by John Makaro.

In my opinion this is a clever attempt to sway public opinion.

Our organization knows this is not the answer to the problem and have never stated it as such.

Another statement made was that all burners would have to close in two years. This is not a law and not a forestry regulation. I believe this rumour was started to be used as a stall.

If the government gives the Kamloops Pulp and Paper Mill a permit to kill the Thompson River, it would solve the waste problem for the K.P. mill. What about the other three?

These two year promises are too far in the future to get me excited. The K.P. Mill has been talking about moving for the last five years. They're still here!

Yours truly,
Jim Hennigar,
Spec president.

The Editor,
Merritt Herald,
Dear Sir:

As a home owner, I believe it's my right and the right of everyone concerned to breathe clean air. We pay taxes each year but I am going to appeal mine if the mills are going to keep using our land and home for a Town Dump.

The mills may have a problem but don't we all? This is their problem and it's up to them to do something about it. They have never solved any of our problems, each of us has to solve our own matter how tough they are and I'm sure town council wouldn't blame me too much if I refuse to pay my taxes until this dirty mess has been stopped as I am not going to continue to live under such conditions.

Maybe we should all move out of town and give the whole town to them. They're using it so let them have it. Why don't they, the mills, move out of town far enough so this dirty stuff won't bother people. No, this would mean a little effort on their part.

The filthy stuff has been covering everything for years and I believe it's time to stop it, not two years from now but NOW. Our health is at stake and this smoke and dirty fallout is full of carbon which we breathe day and night, 24 hours a day.

The mill owners say closing down the mills is not the answer. No one from Spec ever said closing down the mills was the answer. We do know, however, the mill owners use this as a stall to keep the mills from having to operate in a clean, healthy manner. They're the ones that keep

hinting they may have to close down when all of us know they never intend to close the mills. They use this as a weapon against Spec and people here so we will be afraid to approach them.

But the Spec group is not a cowardly group but made up of people who will fight for a clean way of life if need be. So far we've tried to be understanding of the mills and their problem but now it's time we thought of our own problem and if it's fighting we have to use to have good health, fresh pure air, I for one am ready to fight.

Rumours saying all Beehive Burners will have to be torn down is just a rumour to let them continue to throw dirt right in our faces. If anyone complains about this, the mill owners start yapping about maybe the mills will have to close down. This is the only weapon they can use against us as they know Spec would never want to see them close down. That's why we're trying to avoid this. There's no proof the beehive burners will be torn down at all, neither is their proof that shavings, fallout etc. will be shipped to Kamloops Pulp and Paper. They do not have their permit and it's doubtful they will ever get it. If the mill owners have proof, we'd be happy to see it but not just rumours or stalls. In my opinion, this stalling has gone on long enough and sooner or later this pollution must stop.

If the people in this town want a clean town and fresh air to breathe, which everyone has a right to, we may have to fight for it. Mayor Collett how do you feel? We'd like your opinion. After all, it's your town also.

Please send your ideas and letters, we welcome them all, to Marie Hennigar, Box 2316 or phone 2491, or write a letter to the Merritt Herald.

Yours truly,
Marie Hennigar.

The Editor,
Merritt Herald,
Dear Sir:

This letter was written in order to expel my anger toward person or persons unknown who, by their actions, obviously have no respect for the property of others. Last summer when we were away for a few days our house was broken into and several things were stolen. A month later when we were out, the neighbour's dog scared off some thieves who were trying to steal our barbecue. Last Saturday night someone stole our extension cord that was used to plug in the car. At this point I wouldn't be surprised to find the clothes line removed from the pole some morning.

In the last four months one
Say I saw it in
The Herald,

neighbour's car is stolen; another neighbour's vegetables are stolen out of his garden. And look at the list of thefts reported in the paper each week!

I've lived in small towns and I've lived in large cities yet I've never run into a situation such as exists in Merritt. A solution? I regret to say that I have none. But if anyone does have a suggestion, now is not too soon to hear it.

Yours very truly,
M. L. Pollard

1030 Nanton Avenue,
Vancouver 9, British
Columbia, Canada

Patricia Young Says...



Throughout 1970, most major cities throughout Canada and the U.S.A. suffered the costly inconvenience and harassment of Hippies, Yuppies, Weathermen and SDS intent upon "liberating" our Institutions, City Hall, Police headquarters, Universities, jails, parks, beaches, Indians, women, tenants, unemployed and welfare recipients.

While some of the millions of dollars cost to taxpayers by way of damage and cost of policing the demonstrations and protecting property filtered through the smog, all too many of the "bleeding hearts" in our news media would con us into believing that these were the mere "pranks" of high-spirited "children" and students. In this one town of Vancouver, B.C., 1970 has seen an insolent "invasion" of the U.S.A. at the Blaine border by a group of Vancouver based radicals. We have stomached the University mayhem, Pot parties in public parks, beach Nude-Ins, riots at a downtown department store, inside City Hall, outside Police Headquarters, the U.S. Consul, two local jails and weekly mind-demonstrations.

Then, in the summer of 1970, would you believe that the Liberal Government, against the wishes of Mayor Tom Campbell, handed over a local Armories to this self same crew of radicals as a so-called "youth" hostel? That within weeks, the building was filled with assorted Maoists, Marxists, Hippies, Yuppies and U.S. draft dodgers? That the Canadian flag was desecrated with the communist symbol, war memorials insulted and the walls hung with pictures of Mao Tse Tung?

When asked to leave, the radicals refused to do so, barricaded themselves inside and proceeded to make "demands" that they be given free year round accommodation, adequate funds and the "right" to govern themselves! And would you believe that within nine days the government capitulated, gave the radicals another building and announced that the "student" hostels would be funded with tax dollars again in 1971!

Now while no one can knock the "cause" of young people wanting to explore their land on a shoestring, the funding of radicals on a year round basis is something else again. Indeed before spending taxpayers money on causes, I suggest government begin spending a few bucks on investigating some of today's "causers" who, like termites, move in to destroy the best intentioned movements, be it a desire for "peace" social justice or pure air. So what's next on the radicals calendar? Your guess is as good as mine. Only time will tell whether the taxpayer will again be suckered into footing the bill.