

# Merritt Herald

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## Future bright for Merritt coal

The busy little metropolis of Merritt came into being in the early 1900's because of coal and it is possible that it will see the century out thriving more than ever because of coal.

This possibility is shown to be close to reality in a progress report on the drilling that is now going on by Imperial Metals and Power Ltd.

The first drill hole of the diamond drill program being carried out on its property in co-operation with C. Itoh & Co. (America) Inc. has been completed to a depth of 590 feet.

The vice president of the company, James Ball is re-

ported to have said that four seams of good quality were intersected in a vertical hole drilled near the centre of the property. It was through a seven foot seam between 128 and 135 feet; an eight foot seam between 397 and 405 feet; a 20 foot seam between 546 and 566 feet and a five foot seam between 571 and 576 feet.

The drill is being moved 1,000 feet northward for a second drill hole.

Mr. Ball said the coal has characteristics which are desirable for blending with low-volatile strongly coking coals to make high quality metallurgical coke.

## MLA doubts provincial government would approve "instant town"

MLA Bill Hartley is reluctant to think the Provincial Government will approve a townsite at Logan Lake in the Highland Valley when there are already established towns surrounding the area.

He told the Merritt and District Chamber of Commerce, last week, when asked to give his opinions, that he had contacted the Department of Municipal Affairs not too long ago on behalf of Ashcroft "and at that time they said they had received no request for a townsite."

"Their position is not to encourage townsites in an area where there are established towns close by because it would mean a duplication of services, which would be costly."

However, Mr. Hartley said, if a townsite does go into Logan Lake it would help Merritt. "Any development in the area is a help directly and indirectly."

The decision will be made on the basis of what's best

for the company and it's one that will be made between the company and the Department of Municipal Affairs, Mr. Hartley said.

In the meantime, it has been learned that an induced polarization survey crew has moved into the area of Logan Lake to make studies to find out if there are ore bodies in the vicinity. A six man crew has set up camp and are expected to be working there for the next couple of months.

Henry Norgaard reported there is no truth to the story that Lornex has taken an option on the Foley Ranch. "I talked to the Foley Boys and they told me they have never been approached."

The geophysical survey being carried out at Logan Lake means nothing final. It is being done just in case the decision is made that a town be established as a protection against it sitting on a valuable ore body and, consequently having to be moved.

## Time to take action and get Merritt "cleaned up"

If people feel that Merritt is dirty and needs to be "cleaned up" all they have to do is start complaining to get some action.

Chamber of Commerce member Frank Larkin of the Grasslands Hotel said that he had taken particular notice after a patron of the hotel had made the comment to him that "Merritt is a dirty town." He said he defended it then later took a trip downtown, took a real look as he drove and said he was surprised to discover it really is a mess.

He said he phoned the town clerk Jack Mehahn and asked what can be done about it and was told "Phone the various departments and complain when you see things that aren't as they should be." He said Mr. Mehahn had added he wished people would complain and act as if they cared, then perhaps something would be done.

"There used to be garbage receptacles along the streets," Mr. Larkin added, "but it seems that most of these have been torn down and the litter is thrown on the streets and sidewalks."

He pointed out the town has acquired a good street sweeper and for a time, the streets were cleaner, but lately it seems things are slipping rather badly.

Chamber members agreed there are a number of areas that need improving, including weed overgrown lots, old car bodies etc. Chamber president John Makaro pointed out that obviously people in Merritt

aren't too concerned. "A pollution meeting held recently was poorly attended and we had intended to show pollution films last week at our meeting but no one bothered to come and see them. It can only mean we really haven't got a serious pollution problem here in Merritt, at least not serious enough to get people to do something about it."

## Put back clocks one hour Saturday night

Everyone will get an extra hour sleep this coming Sunday, gaining back the one they lost last spring when clocks moved ahead for fast time.

The time reverts back on Saturday, October 25 at midnight and all activities, church services etc. on Sunday, October 26 will be on Standard Time.

So, to be prepared for the change, put your clocks back one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night and you will be in time with the world on Sunday plus having gained that extra hour of rest.



Posing happily with the trophies which were presented to their company at the Interior Safety Conference held in Kamloops over the weekend, is the crew from O'Neil-Devine Stud Mill in Merritt. They received the Progressive Mill Supplies Most Improved Frequency Rate trophy and the H. C. Tony Andrews Safety Award for their safety program carried out during the past year. Left to right, back row is Nels Flat-eseval (electrician), Pete Fraser (accountant), Dwayne Gilmore, Dick Carlson, Willie August, Bill Chappelle, Alfred Inson (millwright), Isaac Martin, Fakir Lali, Ken Hale, Dennis Begg, Danny Klein and Howard Evans. Front row, Kartar Deol, Sammy Ito, Baog Mann Singh, A. Finnegan, Pat Collins, Ted Karey (planer), Stuart Begg (mill superintendent), Bill Dzikowski, Kurt Mosebach (scaler), Terry Spahan, Bill Babij and Ralph Spahan.

## B.C. telephone prepares for Highland Valley expansion

Another step has been taken in the development of the Highland Valley with the announcement made this week that telephone service has now been provided in the form of an expandable trailer exchange set up near the Bethlehem Copper Mine.

The site chosen for the building is located on the road to Lornex Mines, about half a mile between Mary's Cafe and Bethlehem Mine, on Bethlehem property.

This is British Columbia's 241st Automatic Telephone Exchange and it went into operation last Wednesday morning to provide service to customers in the booming Highland Valley area.

B.C. Tel District Manager, Doug Smith of Kamloops, said that the conversion took place at 8:01 a.m. and went without incident.

Initially the \$82,000 exchange will provide service to some 30 customers in the

area and has the capacity for expansion as the valley population increases.

Mr. Smith said the new trailer exchange was built in B.C. Tel's plant in Burnaby and was completed in Kamloops. Finishing touches were applied after the trailer was placed on site and over one

month of thorough checking and testing preceded the Wednesday morning conversion.

The new building, which is similar in appearance to the Ashcroft exchange, contains its own emergency power equipment and a coded automatic trouble alarm system to alert Company repair

staff at Cache Creek should any malfunction occur.

Mr. Smith said that \$19,000 has been spent on new cable and distribution equipment throughout the exchange and although customers still have to go through an operator for their long distance services, all local calls can be placed by simply dialing the three digit number listed in the directory.

98.77% of the telephones in B.C. are now dial operated, Mr. Smith said.

## \$200 in change stolen

One breakin occurred during the past week and police are looking for information.

Overnight last Friday persons unknown broke into Pete's Drive-In and stole approximately \$200 in change.

Police request that anyone having knowledge of any person with a large amount of change, to contact them. Investigation is continuing.

## Figure skaters hire male teacher

All figure skaters and parents are urged to come to the arena on Saturday, September 25, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Grundy of Kamloops has been engaged to teach all junior and senior figure skaters.

Registration will be at this time also.

## \$38,000 work on Merritt airport approved

At a special meeting of the town council last Thursday evening, a resolution was passed to approve the contract with the Department of Transport for the work to be done at the Merritt airstrip, Saunders Field.

Word was received last July from Ottawa that a grant-in-aid of \$38,000 had been approved for work at the Merritt airstrip, and a contract was being drawn up.

A second resolution was passed at the special meeting

that no work would be carried out until portions of the contract were clarified however, and a special meeting will be set up with DOT representatives for this purpose.

Mayor Collett said that as soon as everything is clarified to council's satisfaction, work will begin immediately. It is to be done by town crews and town machinery and will be under the supervision of the DCT inspectors as well as town supervision.

## "What's in it for us?" Theme of Merritt recreation conference

Plans are being finalized for the Recreation Conference which will be held in Merritt on October 31, November 1 and 2 at the Nicola Valley convention centre, the Grasslands Hotel.

Registration gets underway on Friday evening, October 31 from 6 to 7 p.m., to be followed by a get acquainted hour.

The theme address will be given at 8 p.m. by guest speaker, Allan D. Collier, recreation consultant, with "What's in it for us?" This will be followed by a discourse in regional recreation.

On Saturday, November 1, sessions get underway at 9:30 a.m. titled "What services does the Community Program Branch Provide?" After the coffee break, discussions will be on what sport's funds are available to whom?

Following the lunch break, there will be workshop sessions on local and regional problems with panel sessions on the problems to follow the coffee break.

A wine and cheese social evening will be held on the Saturday evening, in the Grasslands Hotel starting at 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

On the Sunday morning, from 9:30 to noon, the president of the Region E Tourist Association, Frank Larkin of Merritt will speak on the Festival of Sports programme, and he will be answering questions in relation to this.

Convention chairman, recreation superintendent for Merritt, Bert Linder says the convention is designed to meet the needs of the communities in the Western Interior Region bordered by Hope, Princeton, Kamloops, Chase and towns in between.

"It is hoped that a new communication will be established within our recreation and sports groups."

It is anticipated that delegates will attend from all over the Interior, and it is also hoped that as many Merritt people as possible will also make it a point to attend.

Registration fee is \$15 which includes all sessions, lunches supper and the wine and cheese party.

## Car accident hospitalizes four young people

A motor vehicle accident late Friday night resulted in four young people being hospitalized with injuries after their car went out of control and struck a power pole at Lower Nicola.

Police received the report of the accident at about 12:45 a.m. and subsequent investigation revealed that a 1955 Ford had been badly damaged.

Police investigation is continuing and charges will be laid.

The young people have since been released from the hospital.

## Many thefts of gas from cars reported

Several reports have been received by the police of persons having gasoline stolen from their vehicles.

Because of the difficulty involved in investigating this type of offence due to the fact that there is seldom any information known, police advise that vehicles be equipped with locking gas caps.



Pictured following the Elks Installation ceremonies held Saturday night in the newly acquired Elks Hall (formerly armouries) were, standing, Clarence Lofdahl, J. Lehner, John Limb, Bud Beaton, Kurt Mosebach, Andy Blomberg, Don Patterson, Bill Wolfe, newest member Max Greindl, Harry Cook, Nick Benzer, Pete Stoneman. Seated is Exalted Ruler Dick Griffiths, Harold Winfield, Stan Goddard and John Burdennik.

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