

Merritt Herald

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SIXTY-FIFTH YEAR - NUMBER 40 MERRITT, B.C. - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1970 COPY 104

IF WE ARE TO GROW WITH HIGHLAND VALLEY

Merritt's population over 10,000 within five years?

By Ida Makaro

Merritt will be a busy little city of 10,000 people in five years time.

This optimistic but very positive statement was made this week by Ken Moyes of Moyes Realty in Merritt when he, among other Merritt people, was asked to comment on Merritt's future in relation to the Highland Valley development.

"There are 80 to 100 Highland Valley employees living here now that are travelling back and forth to work there every day," Mr. Moyes said, "and we have constant inquiries, mostly for rentals, with quite a number of them coming from Lornex employees."

The key, of course, and everyone agrees, is the Highland Valley Road. It gives the most positive assurance that the Merritt will share in the de-

velopment. "About 30 per cent of the Highland Valley employees will live there, close to their work, but the other 70 per cent will divide themselves between Kamloops, Ashcroft, Cache Creek and Merritt."

"Merritt has a lot going for it," Mr. Moyes said, pointing out the weather factor which he feels will be one of its biggest drawing cards. "Merritt is about 2,000 feet lower than the Highland Valley and has about six weeks less winter."

It also has good education, hospital and recreational facilities, all of which will figure in with employees decisions of where they will live. "Lornex is only one-third of the potential development that is going to take place in the Highland Valley," Valley Copper and Highland are also going to be felt by the neighbouring communities

and when one considers that Valley Copper is expected to be one of the largest open-pit operations in Canada, it is easy to see why there is exciting optimism.

Mr. Moyes said Merritt can support 25,000 people without any problem "and the business community we have right now can easily support 10,000 people."

He pointed out too, that not only are Highland Valley employees causing a demand for housing here. We are having a lot of inquiries from retirement people. "Not only is our climate a factor in their consideration but we have a reasonable tax structure as well."

Mayor Allan Collett was asked if service facilities could stand a growth pattern of any size and he said, "Our sewerage system and distribution of water system has been gauged to accommodate a population of 10,000 to 12,000 people."

There is no problem for sewage disposal as the new system, which can presently handle up to 7,500, can be enlarged. "It was designed in this way that it can be added to as the need grew."

He was asked what the land situation is here in Merritt and replied that Merritt has adequate land within the municipal boundaries to accommodate a 10,000 population, including commercial property. "At the present time, we are exploring additional water facilities in the form of deep wells."

The row housing development by Homecraft Enterprises, on the east side of Merritt, is progressing well. Of six units almost completed, all have been sold. There are

eight more now under construction and nearing completion as well. These are not rental accommodation.

A new subdivision, with 34 lots is opening north of Nicola Avenue. The application was approved last week by Merritt's council and is presently awaiting approval from Victoria. Once this has been received, building will begin, with the homes to be put up for sale.

A transient population, such as mining development attracts, is desperately looking for rental accommodation at this stage of the game. They like to "try out" a town before they decide to settle down, and they like to know if they are going to like their job and what their future is in the area before they decide to buy or build.

It would seem therefore, that the second big key for Merritt is more rental accommodation, perhaps catering mostly to younger couples with young families.

Approval has been given for a mobile home park on the south-east side of Merritt. Consideration should be given to this type of accommodation as mobile homes, set on permanent foundations are becoming a way of life. It was suggested that someone might be interested in building foundations in a subdivision development to

accommodate these new kind of home dwellers.

MERRITT NEEDS ACCOMMODATION FOR 150 FAMILIES IN TWO YEARS

The local manager of B.C. Hydro, Len Riley agreed there is a very real need here for rental accommodation. "I feel Merritt will possibly need homes for 100 to 150 families within the next two years. The Highland Valley employees will be young families looking for rental accommodation."

The local hydro office is in charge of the Lornex townsite electrical supply development and Mr. Riley said pre-

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THREE FIRMS AWARDED CONTRACTS

Construction begins on Lornex townsite homes

Three firms have been awarded work agreements totalling \$1.8 million for construction of the first homes on Lornex Mining Corporation Ltd.'s instant town at Logan Lake in British Columbia's Highland Valley.

Engineered Homes Ltd., Vancouver; Kamloops Town and Country Homes Ltd., Kamloops; and Nu-West Homes Ltd., Calgary, have been given letters of intent to build 100 homes in the first phase of residential development at the Lornex townsite. Value of the three agreements totals \$1,180,600.

Foundations for the 3-bedroom houses are expected to be completed by this fall with occupancy anticipated by next summer. A second group of houses is planned for completion in mid-1972.

Situated on gently rolling

hills, the Logan Lake houses will have 1000 to 1200 square feet each with full basement. A choice of 15 to 20 designs will be available with many designs incorporating fireplaces. All homes will have gas heating.

The "instant town" houses will be individually owned. John Aldrich, Lornex townsite development supervisor, stated that mortgages have been arranged through CMHC and Canadian banks. "In addition," said Mr. Aldrich, "as part of its housing policy, Lornex will assist employees in arranging downpayments."

Another contract for \$350,000, was recently awarded to Manning Construction Co. of Vancouver for the construction of roads and installation of underground services for sewer and water facilities. For this modern "instant town"

all wiring for electricity, telephones and cable television will be underground.

The Lornex town, as yet unnamed, will be incorporated under the Province of British Columbia's Municipal Act. While the town is being built for the convenience of the employees at the Lornex copper-molybdenum mine, it will not be mandatory for employees to reside there nor will it be restricted to Lornex employees.

The townsite is located 11 miles east of the mine property and 35 to 40 miles from Kamloops, Merritt and Ashcroft.

Approximately 900 employees will be employed during the construction period. When in production some 500 persons will comprise the work force.

Government grants total \$19,500 towards area's centennial project

A recent announcement by the Federal Government re an adjustment in the Centennial -71 grant for British Columbia means that Merritt now has \$19,500 available for the construction of her project, a library extension-museum building.

Jim Sproston, chairman of the Merritt Centennial Committee announced at the Committee meeting this week that this news means that Merritt will receive \$2.60 on a population of 7500 people, one dollar from the Federal Government, one dollar from Provincial and 60 cents from the Municipal Government.

The library-museum project is estimated to cost about \$75,000 for 4800 square feet.

The committee is presently awaiting the plans from the architect.

In addition to the one dollar per capita allotment announced Friday, which amounts to \$2 million, the Federal Government is providing \$1 million programming during Centennial year. There has been no allotment as yet of the remaining \$7 million announced earlier by Prime Minister Trudeau as Federal participation in British Columbia Centennial '71.

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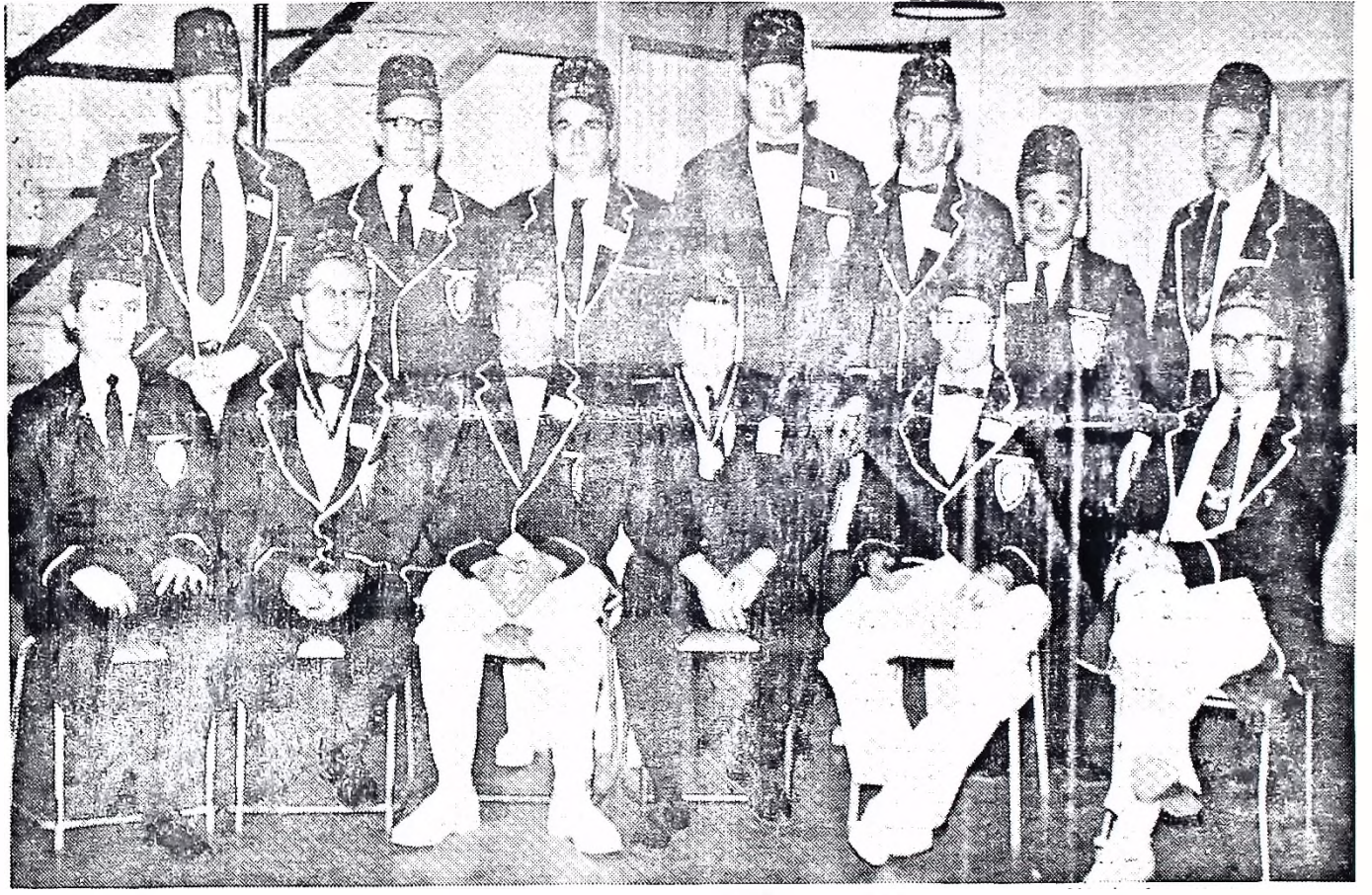
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BIRTHS

HOLMES - Born to Mr. and Mrs. Howard Holmes a son, weighing 8 lbs. 3 1/2 ozs. on September 27th, 1970, at the Nicola Valley General Hospital.



Newly installed officers for Merritt Elks are, left to right, front row, Ron Sherwood, publicity chairman; Bob Fyall, Esquire; Harold Winfield, Secretary; John Limb, Lecturing Knight; Bill Wolfe, Exalted Ruler and Stan Goddard, trustee. Back row, Andy Blomberg, trustee; Harry Cook, treasurer; Dick Griffiths, Past Exalted Ruler; Bud Beaton, Loyal Knight; George McLaughlin, Inner Guard; John Suzuki, Chaplain and Kurt Mosebach, Historian.

Craigmont awards \$2500 in scholarships

The most generous \$2,000 scholarship announced last April to be awarded this fall by Craigmont Mines, was awarded this week to the 1970 graduating class valedictorian, Miss Susan Lucyk who is presently in teacher training at the University of Victoria.

Tony Petrino, mine manager, announced that Miss Lucyk had been selected for the award because she had filled the requirements to quality.

The annual scholarship is to be payable at the rate of \$500 a year for four years providing the student remains in university in a course leading to a Bachelor's Degree.

In addition to the \$2,000 from Craigmont, Miss Lucyk has won three-quarters of her fees paid as a provincial government award to top students, plus a government scholarship for her 95 per cent mark in French. She has also been presented with the Sara and Jean McDonald bursary of \$300.

Craigmont Mines also presented two more \$250 scholarships again this year, which they had set up for annual presentation last year. Mr. Petrino announces that Albert Paul Fink and Randine Chenoweth are the recipients of these awards.

These awards are presented on the basis of academic standings and future plans, with preference given to sons or daughters of Craigmont employees.

Susan Lucyk graduated with a 83.6 per cent mark, Albert Fink with 83.2 per cent and Randine Chenoweth with 71.6 per cent.

Last year's winners of the two \$250 awards in their first year were Carl Zappacosta and Robert Dodge, both of whom are in their second year of university.

Albert Fink and Randine Chenoweth are continuing their education in a field related to mining.

So far, there has been no word received on winners of

Herald subscription contest puts circulation over 2200

A subscription contest presently being conducted by the Merritt Herald through junior salesmen has pushed the paper's circulation past the 2200 mark.

Hardworking David Maritorenna still heads the list as top Junior Salesman for the Merritt Herald in the fourth week of a subscription sales contest which ends on October 24.

David was also the bonus point winner for 3000 additional points this week for selling the most subscriptions during the past week, and this brought his score up to 94,100 points.

Kerry Kandall has moved in second place and during the week he gave David a battle for the most points, but he was edged out on Tuesday evening to be awarded 2,000 additional points.

Ron Rochford was third highest point winner during the past week for 1500 additional points.

There are about ten more

points, Stephen Nemish was fourth for 1,000 additional points and Dennis Campen was fifth for 500 points.

This week, there will be another bonus, but this time it will be 1,000 points for every five subscriptions, new or renewal brought in to the Herald office. This will be added to the points they have already made in the contest and will count towards valuable prizes which will be awarded at the end of the contest.

Point standings this week are as follows:

David Maritorenna	94,100
Kerry Kandall	77,400
Theresa Mihura	35,900
Ron Rochford	34,500
Dennis Campen	18,400
Harcharan Sekhon	14,600
Brian Post	14,500
Stephen Nemish	11,100
Edna Cohen	11,000
Manager Kaila	6,600
Mike Desimone	5,600
Arnie Brock	5,100
Dilbagh Sohi	700

If you are interested in helping any of these boys and (Continued on Page 8)



The 1970 United Appeal campaign in the Nicola Valley is now underway and posters are being distributed throughout the town to remind Nicola Valley residents. This year's workers are headed by, left to right, campaign co-chairman Terry Michels, 1970-71 president Mrs. Green Munro, secretary Mrs. Ruth Cassidy and campaign chairman Dick Stapleton. Anyone wishing to help in any way with the canvass or campaign is asked to contact any one of these people and they will be assigned. The goal this year is \$9,890.

Wednesday, October 7
7:30 to 10 p.m. at the
FIRE HALL

FIREMEN'S OPEN HOUSE

COME AND VIEW THE EQUIPMENT

FREE Coffee
and Donuts