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Prince Rupert Daily News

Published at Canada's Most Strategic Pacific Port — And Key to the Great Northwest

VOL. XLIX, No. 6 · Telephone 6767 · PRINCE RUPERT, B.C., MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 1960 · Night Calls—Business 6768, Editorial 6769 · PRICE TEN CENTS

Searchers find father's body in triple-slaying at Smithers

SKELETON IN HOSPITAL CLOSET?

IS PRINCE RUPERT General Hospital board hiding skeleton in its closet? Board's closure of its meetings to press last Thursday night suggests it might be hiding something. Actually the hospital does have a skeleton similar to one above, behind former Toronto student nurse Wendy Robinson. The skeleton used to stand in board room prior to 1958 renovation of hospital. It may be in closet now. Picture above was taken in the spring of 1956 to publicize National Hospital Day, May 12, birthday of Florence Nightingale, a day The Daily News has annually promoted for local hospital, among other projects on which the board wished publicity.

Police suspect murder-suicide

The body of 36-year old Leslie Egerton, sought in connection with the knife-slaying of his two sons, was found today at the Smithers' Dominion Experimental Farm.

A search party found Egerton's body about 8 o'clock this morning about 50 yards from his house. He was dead from a gunshot wound.

Early Sunday morning the bodies of Egerton's two sons, James, 12 and Collin 11, were found stabbed to death with a hunting knife.

The boys were staying with their father while their mother visited relatives in England and were found in their beds at 10.45 a.m. Sunday by an employee of the Experimental Farm.

He reported to Smithers detachment of the RCMP and an immediate search began for the father of the two boys, missing and believed to be in possession of a 12-gauge shotgun.

Other employees living upstairs in the house first reported the sound of screams and loud shouting which occurred late Saturday.

RCMP at Smithers said this morning that it appeared Egerton placed the muzzle of the shotgun in his mouth and pulled the trigger. His body was found under a small, snow-covered tree near an implement shed about 50 yards from the house on the Experimental Farm grounds. The shotgun lay beside the body.

The discovery was made by a search party organized by other workers at the farm.

The bodies of the deceased were viewed by a jury called by Coroner John Daniluck at 2 p.m. today. No date has been set for the inquest.

When the discovery of the bodies of the two boys was made Sunday, a hunting knife with a blade 2½ inches wide and 8½ inches long was found beside the oldest. It is believed to be the murder weapon.

Beside the other boy, was a book entitled The Cat Went to Heaven.

Police were searching for the father in the snow-covered area around the Dominion Experimental Farm, five miles east of Smithers, 150 miles east of Prince Rupert, until dark Sunday.

The eldest boy had been stabbed three times in the back and one of the stabs had penetrated his chest. The other youngster was stabbed once in the left hand and once in the chest.

The boys lived in the housekeeping quarters on the main floor of a two-storey house. The house was used to quarter single workers on the farm, where experiments are conducted into horticulture and livestock and poultry breeding.

Police said they found torn scraps of paper in an ash tray in the kitchen which indicated two attempts to write a suicide note. One of the notes said: "I leave my property . . ."

Egerton's wife left Smithers December 27, with their third son, a one-year-old boy.

Tributes paid to Hamber

VANCOUVER (CP) — Tributes were offered from prominent men in many fields today following the death Sunday of Hon. Eric W. Hamber, 80, former lieutenant-governor of British Columbia.

Said Lieutenant - Governor Frank Ross: "A great man has passed from our midst who will long be remembered as an outstanding athlete, philanthropist and one who has done more than his share in university work and public service."

Dr. Norman MacKenzie, president of the University of B.C., said Mr. Hamber was a great friend of the University and a fine chancellor. "He will be missed as a friend in every phase of university life."

Chief Justice Sherwood Lett of the B.C. Supreme Court: "He played an outstanding part in the development of British Columbia with his dynamic leadership in business and financial circles. His contribution will long be remembered."

Senator Stanley S. McKeen: "His death is certainly a loss to the community. He has done so much to bring the lumber industry of B.C. to the forefront in foreign trade. He was one of the leading characters who helped build up and make Vancouver what it is today. . ."

He had been in hospital for three months. The nature of his illness has not been disclosed.

ONE HORSEPOWER clears the streets of Snow in Eastview, Ont., and public works insists that this snowplow never gets stuck. Perhaps with weather conditions being what they are here, Prince Rupert should consider a similar means of street clearing. —CP photo.

BOT asks second road route

SMITHERS (CP)—The Associated Boards of Trade of Central British Columbia will ask the B.C. government to support its proposal for a second Trans-Canada Highway.

A meeting of the executive of the boards here Sunday passed a resolution urging that Highway 16 between Prince George and Prince Rupert, 150 miles west of here, be made part of the western end of a second Trans-Canada Highway. Prince George is 250 miles northeast of here.

The B.C. Highways department plans to extend the road as far as Jasper where it will connect with a highway to Edmonton.

SECOND HIGHWAY

The boards suggest that a second Trans-Canada highway should start at Winnipeg and run through Prince Albert, Sask., and other northern cities to Edmonton.

The executive voted to meet the provincial cabinet as soon as possible to discuss the matter. A copy of the resolution will be sent to the federal government.

LAX ATTITUDE

President Gordon Williams of Smithers criticized the "lax attitude" of Edmonton in not supporting the northern route. He said he believes Edmonton prefers the Yellowhead route through the Rockies to Kamloops and eventually Vancouver for a second Trans-Canada highway.

Another resolution asks that primary roads leading north from Highway 16 be classed as natural resources or industrial roads and be designed to carry gross loads of 150,000 pounds on five-axle combination trucks.

It says the development of the north is restricted because of a 70,000-pound limit on the roads.

Firemen answer two calls

Prince Rupert Fire Department was called out to quell a flooded oil stove fire at 7:00 a.m. Sunday at 939 Hays Cove Avenue.

A fire department spokesman said that there were only slight smoke damages.

The firemen also answered a false alarm at the Atlin Fisheries at 6:30 p.m. this morning.

Solemn dignity prevails, 16 new Canadians sworn

By KEN SPECHT

In solemn dignity this morning, 16 men and women renounced allegiance to all foreign countries and swore the oath of citizenship before County Court Judge W. A. Schultz in the courthouse.

Judge Schultz in emphasizing the privileges, duties and participation in Canadian affairs advised that our new Canadian citizens integrate with their fellow citizens.

In a stirring speech by Judge Schultz he said, "Henceforth you are no longer a stranger in a strange land. This country is your country. You share in its traditions, you can help to build its future. You must now consider that you are responsible for its policies, its development and its future."

He recited a poem by Mrs. Thea Koerner of Vancouver, B.C., who with her husband was naturalized in 1943. The poem will be presented to future Canadians at Citizenship ceremonies. This is the poem:

Oh, Canada, my Canada,
My dear beloved land,
You opened arms, you opened hearts,
And gave with generous hand.
God bless thee, my dear Canada,
And keep you strong and free,
I only am a little part,
But I belong to thee.
And I pray unto our Lord,
That Canada may be
Forever strong and beautiful,
Her people always free.
Oh Canada, my Canada,
Wherever I shall be,
From here into Eternity
My heart belongs to thee.

Following the ceremonies the new Canadians, citizenship certificates in hand, were treated to refreshments provided by the Ladies of the Canadian Citizenship council and were later informally joined by Mr. Schultz.

The following are our new Canadians:

Peter Briker, Venera Elisabetha Briker, Bruno Brunato, Joannes Henricus Maria Donders, Bottfried Baube, Eva Erna Bromnica, Rudolf Grzesik, Maatje Goverdina, Johannes (John) Hahn, Selma Hahn, Erling Krakoy, Willi Neumann, Elsa Ida Neumann, Giuseppe (Joseph) Seccia, Egon Kurt Scheitor, Rita Scheitor.

The new Canadians were previously given stiff examinations on the History, Geography, Government, and Citizenship rights. At the informal coffee session Mr. Schultz congratulated the new citizens saying that all who had applied and were given examinations, all sixteen answered the questions correctly and not one had to be turned down.

B.C. ROUNDUP

UFAWU seeks expansion of herring export trade

VANCOUVER—The United Fishermen and Allied Workers' Union (Ind.) says it will ask the federal government to expand its herring export trade to such protein-lacking countries as Japan and Communist China.

Secretary Homer Stevens said a union meeting Friday night decided to ask the federal and provincial governments to bring pressure on the fishing industry to resume herring operations.

British Columbia fishing companies announced last month they will refuse to buy any more herring because B.C. has "priced itself out of the market."

The union will suggest that the federal government use herring in some of its social assistance projects in order to bolster the industry which did $6,700,000 worth of business last year.

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SMITHERS—A woman has offered to share her 400-acre farm with a fugitive Chinese and his family and says she has told Prime Minister Diefenbaker about it.

Harry Fan, lawyer for Weldon Chan who is thought to be hiding in a church basement somewhere in Eastern Canada, said the offer was received from Mrs. C. G. Harvey of Driftwood Canyon near Smithers.

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VANCOUVER — City council will vote Thursday on whether to sell Vancouver International Airport to the federal government or embark on a costly expansion program to equip it for an anticipated increase in traffic. A special committee was unable to decide Friday night whether to go ahead meanwhile on an engineering survey for the program.

Highway deaths decrease

PENTICTON (CP)—British Columbia's 1959 highway accident toll, though numerically higher than the previous year, was actually an improvement over 1958, attorney-general Bonner said here.

In an address to the Penticton and District Safety Council's annual meeting, Mr. Bonner said while there were 27 more deaths and 750 more injuries in 1959 "there were also more cars, more drivers and more miles driven."

He credited an improved "record of discipline" established by the government motor vehicle branch as the main reason for the improvement.

He said 3,000 of the 100,000 drivers examined in the motor vehicle branch's examination program had their licences lifted. Another 2,800 drivers lost their licences and 6,000 were put on probation following investigation of 65,000 traffic accidents. And 3,000 lost their licences by court order.

But Mr. Bonner added, highway accidents accounted for 17 per cent of hospital patient days and a similar proportion of the B.C. Hospital Insurance Scheme's $40,000,000 budget.

Earlier Friday the minister addressed a closed meeting of the Penticton Board of Trade.

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Charges dismissed by court

A charge of failing to stop when requested to do so by a uniformed police officer, was dismissed against Harry Menzies, 522 Eighth Avenue West in city police court Friday morning.

Counsel for Menzies, A. Bruce Brown, told court police evidence was "slipshod" after a constable testified that the charge was laid when the licence number of a vehicle which failed to stop when flagged at an intersection was checked with Motor Vehicles Branch and found to be registered in Menzie's name.

The constable testified that the vehicle in question was speeding through the intersection at Third Avenue West and Fulton Street 4.25 a.m. January 1. He stated that an attempt was made to halt the vehicle but the driver refused to stop. He took the licence number and checked with the provincial department.

He could not, however, identify the driver, and Magistrate E. T. Applewhaite dismissed the charge.

Army parade slated tonight

Officers, men and pipe band of D Company, Irish Fusiliers of Canada (Vancouver Regiment) will hold their first parade of the new year at 8 tonight in the Armory.

Tonight's training session will see start of an intense first aid program designed to raise the unit's proficiency to St. John Ambulance certificate level.

Prince Rupert has now gone 360 days without a fatal traffic accident.

Speeding train crashes at track intersection

WELLINGTON, Ohio (AP)—A 10-car New York Central passenger train, speeding from St. Louis to Cleveland, hurtled off the rails at a track intersection here Sunday night, killing at least four persons and injuring more than 50.

Two bodies, which authorities said earlier were trapped in one car, had not been found by early morning, but search of the wreckage was continuing.

The railroad said 155 passengers were aboard the Southwest Limited when it piled up in fog and mist 37 miles southwest of Cleveland.

A three-unit diesel engine ripped down a signal-tower which caught fire, and leaked diesel oil that also was ignited.

BROADSIDE SMASH

One of these cars was a combination baggage-coach which spun sideways across the tracks and was smashed broadside by the coach which followed it. Most of the dead and seriously injured were removed from these two cars.

The identified dead included the train's fireman and three passengers. There were no Canadians in the list of dead or injured.

Allen Memorial Hospital at Oberlin, which received most of the injured, said it had treated and released 33 persons and admitted 19. It is 10 miles from the wreck scene. Other injured were sent to hospitals in other nearby towns.

A New York Central spokesman said the carrier's investigators had not determined what caused the wreck. He said he did not know the train's speed, but added that the Southwest Limited moves at a "pretty good clip" through that area.

Marion Tudor, 20, of Wellington who saw the derailment and helped remove some of the injured, said that as soon as the train hit the intersection with the Nickel Plate Road tracks "then engine rolled on its side, showering sparks and fire."

World News Briefs

WASHINGTON — Two store detectives here have accused a Soviet attache's wife of shoplifting a $2.66 cut of meat. In turn, a Soviet official has accused the store of mistreating her.

Mrs. Galina Glinsky was detained by the detectives but asked for her release on grounds of diplomatic immunity. She is the wife of Cmdr. Vladimir F. Glinsky, assistant naval attache in the Soviet Embassy.

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DURBAN, South Africa—About 20 Negroes ran wild in the city's business area here Sunday night, slashing at bystanders with knives and sticks, police said today. Early in the evening, eight Negroes interfered with both Negroes and Indians at a bus stop, knocking off their hats and ripping their shirts and dresses.

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TEHRAN, Iran—A student demonstrator was killed and several others injured today in a clash between police and students protesting against stiffer examination qualifications.

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ALGIERS, Algeria—French settlers here Friday called on the government and the army for arms following a new wave of activity by Algerian insurgents. Twenty Europeans have been killed in the last month in Algiers Province.

PRIME MINISTER Nobusuke Kishi of Japan will arrive in Ottawa January 21 for a two-day visit to Canada. Prime Minister Kishi is expected to hold talks, probably on trade, with Canadian government officials. —CP photo.

NAVY CHIEF SEEKS OLD TARS TO SPIN SOME SALTY YARNS

Old soldiers never die, they merely fade away.

So do old sailors and the Royal Canadian Navy, about to celebrate the 50th anniversary of its founding, wants to hear from its "old tars" before they vanish from the scene.

Particularly, according to a directive from the Commanding Officer Naval Divisions, Commodore E. W. Finch-Noyes, CD, received by HMCS Chatham, the RCN wants the names and addresses of serving or retired officers or chief and petty officers and RCN personnel in the following categories who:

(a) Served during the period 1910 to 1919, preferably in HMCS Rainbow or HMCS Niobe.

(b) Served with distinction during any period since 1910.

(c)—Was associated with any well-known RCN action or event.

(d) Colorful personalities who can relate interesting anecdotes of life in the Royal Canadian Navy.

Names and addresses should be turned into Lt. Ronald A. Orton, staff officer HMCS Chatham, who in turn will forward them to the director of naval information.

Navigational aids to be replaced

Three navigational aids in Prince Rupert waters are inoperative at the moment, I. M. Campbell, acting district marine agent for the Department of Transport reported today.

Mr. Campbell said that the Nab Rock buoy and Jaffrey Rock buoy in Laredo Sound are missing from their stations and will be replaced as soon as possible. He also advised that the Luardshoal buoy in Laredo Channel has been removed temporarily and will be replaced shortly.

WEATHER—

Cloudy with intermittent rain beginning over Charlottes by noon Tuesday. Little change in temperature. Winds southeast 25 over northern waters Tuesday, shifting to northwest 25 near Charlottes Tuesday evening. Low tonight and high Tuesday 30 and 40.

TIDES—

Tuesday, Jan. 12, 1960.
(Pacific Standard Time)

High	00:48	18.5 feet
	12:26	21.0 feet
Low	06:26	8.5 feet
	19:08	3.8 feet