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HELLO THERE fellow skier, would seem to be the greeting exchanged here by Derek Lintell left, and Dirk Keena, who met at the Ottawa site of the Canadian Olympic trials, Camp Fortune. —CP photo.

Hospital board votes to bar press from covering meetings

Engineers, nurses granted pay boost

Two wage settlements, one with the operating engineers and the other with the nurses employed at Prince Rupert General Hospital, have been negotiated by the hospital board, it was reported today by Administrator Edward H. Knight in a press release to The Daily News.

Mr. Knight said that the board's personnel committee had reached an agreement with Local 510 of the International Union of Operating Engineers which, in a two-year contract, will give the engineers an overall salary boost of 7 per cent.

An increase of 4 per cent has been granted for 1960 and a boost of 3 per cent for 1961.

The agreement increases a chief engineer's salary from the 1959 rate of $405 to $420 in 1960 and to $434 in 1961. Shift engineers, who received $360 per month in 1959 will get $375 in 1960 and $384 in 1961.

It was also agreed between the union and the hospital board that when the British Columbia Hospital Insurance Service authorizes a superannuation plan as a recognizeable expense, such a plan will be incorporated in the contract.

Also ratified by the board was the provincial salary scale for nurses, approved jointly by the B.C. Hospital association and B.C. Registered Nurses association in December. The agreement is for a two-year period.

The new scale, which in Prince Rupert had a minimum of $283 a month in 1959 has been raised to $285 a month in 1960 and $297 for 1961. The previous maximum in Prince Rupert, after three years, was $313 and has now been raised to $342 in 1960 and $359 for 1961.

Differentials have been set at $20 a month above the basic rate for head nurses and $45 a month above the basic for supervisors. Agreement was also reached on other fringe benefits.

Mr. Knight said that negotiations between the board's personnel committee and Local 5 of the Civic Employees Union are continuing.

Hospital seeks approval for expansion

The Prince Rupert General hospital board will seek from the provincial government approval of a modernization and expansion program that it hopes will include a new kitchen, a laundry of its own and an additional wing.

The action was taken at last night's meeting of the board last night held in place of the December meeting which was postponed because it coincided with Christmas Eve.

Administrator Edward H. Knight said today that on Tuesday the present building and equipment committee met to review the medical staff's objections to the proposed renovation which was first presented to the board by the former long-range planning committee in the fall of 1958. The committee unanimously voted in favor of the plan presented it last night to the board which approved it in principle and agreed to approach the provincial government for its approval.

NO ESTIMATE

No estimate for the modernization program has been made but it is hoped that when the plan is completed it will include a new kitchen, a hospital laundry, renovation of the operating rooms, an additional elevator and other modernization throughout the hospital. The expansion will mean construction of an L-shaped wing at the east end of the hospital with the new kitchen in between the new section and the old. The laundry will be built on the site of the present kitchen.

OPERATING SURPLUS

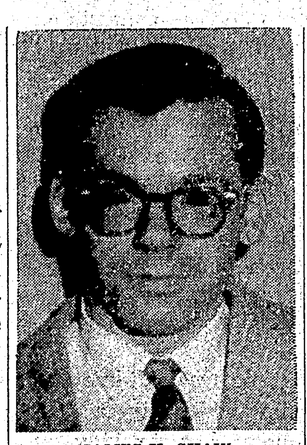
In other business the finance committee reported an operating surplus of $196 for the month of November and that the 11-month operating surplus was $6,010 compared to a deficit of $34,183 for the same period in 1958.

Statistical reports, Mr. Knight said, showed that to the end of November 3,887 patients had been admitted and they had put in a total of 28,360 patient days in the hospital. Occupancy rate for the year up until the end of November was 70.4 per cent.

SITUATION GOOD

Mrs. J. L. Kelly, RN, superintendent of nurses reported that the staffing situation "was quite good" and the hospital was fully staffed with 41 nurses. At the end of November 90.7 per cent of the hospital's 109 beds were occupied.

Mr. Knight also reported that the term of provincial on the board of provincial government representative W. D. McAra had expired. Mr. McAra has served on the board since the spring of 1953. No new appointment has yet been made by Health Minister Eric Martin.



JAMES K. SHAW
. . . Bound by motion.

E. A. WILLIAMSON
. . . finally gets own way.

No explanation of action given

The board of trustees of the Prince Rupert General hospital last night reversed a position it took in mid-summer last year and voted to bar the press from its regular meetings.

In a press release this morning, hospital administrator Edward H. Knight said that the board last night approved a motion which ruled that in future regular hospital board meetings would be held without the press present and that any news of hospital board meetings would be given to the press in the form of releases.

The only "press" in this city are reporters from The Prince Rupert Daily News. The Daily News, however, is the representative of The Canadian Press, a news-gathering co - operative which serves all the other daily newspapers in Canada.

The action was taken near the conclusion of last night's meeting under the heading of new business.

It was moved by personnel committee chairman E. A. Williamson and seconded by former board chairman Dr. H. W. McDonald that:

"All regular board meetings be held without the press present and that a full report of any business that is finalized or suitable, be released by the administrator through a press release."

The board's action means that all hospital board meetings, regular or committee are now closed to the press. The press never has attended committee meetings.

On June 25, 1959 when the board was under the chairmanship of Dr. McDonald, a motion by Mr. Williamson that the press be barred from all future meetings, failed to receive a seconder.

James K. Shaw, present board chairman, who succeeded Dr. McDonald in November of last year, today would make no comment on the board's action.

Mr. Shaw told The Daily News that he was bound by the terms of last night's motion.

Asked whether a press release had been prepared giving the board's reasons for voting to bar the press, Mr. Shaw said one hadn't been prepared.

In answer to a question as to whether the board wished its ban against the press to go unexplained to the public, Mr. Shaw said "That is a fair statement."

Neither Dr. McDonald nor Mr. Williamson would make any comment on the board's move.

Mr. Williamson in making his attack on the press in June last year asserted that the board had experienced embarrassment at the hands of The Daily News, that the editor, (J. R. Ayres), used the paper "to play politics", that the paper had published material from a meeting after the reporter present had been asked to withhold it from publication, that he objected to being quoted and his initials had been printed incorrectly.

Quebec premier sworn

QUEBEC (CP) — Quebec's new premier, Labor Minister Antonio Barrette, will be sworn in today with ministers of his new cabinet. He will be the 18th premier of Quebec and his administration will be the 22nd since 1867.

All the ministers in the cabinet of the late Paul Sauve are to be members of the new administration, it is understood. One or two new men from party ranks are to be elevated to cabinet rank.

The Quebec public—still somewhat confused over the behind-the-scenes activities that for four days preceded the choice of the new premier—will be watching the actions of Mr. Barrette in his new post closely.

His first major move will be the choice of new cabinet ministers. The only portfolios now vacant are those of youth and social welfare held by Mr. Sauve since 1946.

Speculation is that the new ministers will be either Maurice Custeau, 43, Montreal business man, or Germain Caron, 48, Louiseville, Que., lawyer, or both.

There is talk that a minor cabinet shuffle is possible with Lands Minister Jean-Jacques Bertrand taking over youth or social welfare and Maurice Bellemare taking the lands portfolio. Mr. Custeau might be youth minister, or minister without portfolio.

Employment picture brighter than 1958

The employment situation for December of 1959 was brighter than the same month of 1958, as a total of 1914 were registered for work on December 31, 1959 while 2118 men were unemployed at this time in 1958.

It is noted that the 200 employed difference were for the most part unskilled construction workers and loggers.

Gordon Simpson, manager of the local branch of the National Employment Service, in commenting on the unemployment reduction said that it could be partly attributed to the decrease of transient laborers moving into the Prince Rupert district.

Of the 1914 men registered for work, 534 are fishermen, 211 are persons normally employed in fish plants or occupations related to the fishing industry, unskilled construction workers account for 342 of this total and an additional 118 skilled building tradesmen contribute to the figure.

The only other sizeable unemployed group are men who normally work in the lumber and sawmill industry and they account for 238 of those presently unemployed.

Of the 477 women who were out of work on December 31, 1959, approximately one half are fish plant or cannery workers. The balance being mainly clerical, sales and service occupation.

A year ago there were 569 women seeking work, the difference accredited to additional plant workers being registered at that time.

Benefits paid out to Prince Rupert residents for December 1959 totalled $58,607 while $76,000 in cheques were sent to outlying districts which go as far North as Stewart, south to Clemtu, west to the Queen Charlottes and east to Topley.

Pt. Edward driver fined

John B. Summers of Port Edward was fined $75 and costs, or in default of payment 30 days, on a charge of driving without due care and attention, when he appeared in Port Edward court Thursday.

The charge arose out of a head-on collision which totally wrecked Summers' car and a second vehicle owned and driven by Jundo Tasaka, also of Port Edward.

The accident occurred 3 miles northeast of Port Edward at 9:30 p.m. December 18. Tasaka was driving to Port Edward while Summers was enroute to Prince Rupert at the time.

Impaired, fine set at $50

Arnie Oliver Rodseth of 1177 Eleventh Avenue East was fined $50, or in default 30 days, by Magistrate E. T. Applewhaite in city court this morning.

He was found guilty on a charge of impaired driving following an accident on December 12, 1959 at 3:30 a.m. when his car left the road on Fifth Avenue East and overturned.

Rodseth suffered a long gash on his leg requiring 17 stitches as a result of the incident.

Government reintroduces Combines Act

OTTAWA (CP)—The government is preparing to reintroduce in Parliament the Combines Investigation Act amendments it withdrew in the closing stages of the 1959 session.

The legislation was held by Justice Minister Fulton for the new session opening Thursday to let business and industry make their views known on the proposed changes. The proposed amendments take two forms:

1. An outlawing of misleading advertising and a provision that manufacturers could refuse to sell their products to retailers who persistently used them as loss leaders—items sold below cost to attract customers.

2. A clarification and modification of the law on mergers, combines and monopolies.

B.C. ROUNDUP

Lack of funds stalls winter works project

VERNON—The provincial government says a lack of funds has forced rejection of three winter works projects sought by the Vernon Winter Employment Campaign Committee.

The projects were widening of Highway 97, erection of a retaining wall around Kalamalka Lake lookout point and development of a trailer camp.

PRINCE GEORGE—Discussion of the feasibility of a second Trans-Canada highway will be on the agenda of a meeting of the Associated Boards of Trade of Northern B.C. Sunday at Smithers.

✦ ✦ ✦

VERNON—Junior Chamber of Commerce will call a meeting of interested organizations this month to discuss plans for a winter carnival on a similar but smaller scale to Quebec's famous attraction.

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PORT MOODY—Two Vancouver city police constables were seriously injured Thursday night when their car crashed into a concrete abutment on an overpass near here. Police officials said Const. Stewart Coffin and Const. Ken Brown were trailing a well-known criminal when the accident occurred.

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VANCOUVER—City police will hire five women jail guards to free matrons for medical duties. Chief George Archer said Wednesday the plan will cost $15,000 compared to $50,000 if three doctors were provided as suggested earlier.

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Prince Rupert has now gone 357 days without a fatal traffic accident.

Jews fearful of outbreaks

VANCOUVER (CP) — Many members of North America's Jewish population are afraid of current outbreaks of anti-Semitism because their relatives died in similar incidents during the Second World War.

That is the opinion of Mrs. Irving Wieder of Sherman Oaks, Calif., vice-president of the western division B'nai B'rith Women.

Mrs. Wieder said in an interview Thursday members of Jewish communities find the incidents revolting because anti-Semitism did not exist in Germany at one time either.

"According to surveys of employment, housing and education being made by the Anti-Defmation League, organized anti-Semitism is at its lowest on this continent," she said.

Several swastika-painting and name-calling incidents erupted in Vancouver this week and a 10-man committee was formed by the editor of a German-language newspaper to catch the offenders.

Dr. D. W. Hooter, editor of the Weekly Der Nordwestern, said the committee is made up of prominent members of Vancouver's German community.

Jail break sentence 4 months

Two men who escaped custody from Prince Rupert city jail were sentenced Thursday in County Court by Judge W. A. Schultz to four-month terms.

Marcel Dube, 32, was being held in jail awaiting trial on a charge of shoplifting, and escaped custody with Joseph McInnis, 54, December 12 at about 10.15 p.m. They were located next day near Barrett Rock.

Dube, McInnis and a third man, Allan McTavish, 25, were charged following an incident at the Co-Op centre.

On a charge of shoplifting Dube was found innocent. McInnis and McTavish entered guilty pleas to the charge and were sentenced by Magistrate E. T. Applewhaite late in December.

Dube and McInnis faced two charges Thursday — escaping custody and jail break. They were both sentenced on the two charges to four months, sentences to run concurrently.

Juvenile fined

A Port Edward juvenile was fined $10 in Port Edward court Thursday morning on a charge of driving contrary to restrictions.

LABOR BRIEF URGES

Public ownership of utilities

VICTORIA (CP)— The 120,000 - member British Columbia Federation of Labor (CLC) in a brief to the cabinet Thursday urged complete public ownership of public utilities, with emphasis on electrical power and natural gas.

The brief urged that the publicly-owned B.C. Power Commission take over all existing and future electrical power and natural gas developments.

The brief also urged:

That the new B.C. energy board plan development of the Peace River and an experienced conservationist and a labor representative should be added to the board;

"Gimmicks" in retail sales should be investigated;

Amendment of the Equalization of Assessments Act to exempt old age pensioner homeowners from its provisions;

A 30-per-cent increase in social assistance payments;

Free school for all, from kindergarten through college with construction of more vocational schools, especially in the B.C. Interior to assist native Indians;

Changes in forestry regulations to create more public working circles and less tree farm licence areas—with opening of private access road to the public;

A government car insurance scheme;

Exclusion of citizens from coroner's witness duties except for the actual time required to give evidence;

Assumption by the province of the full cost of arterial highway upkeep within city or municipal boundaries;

More camp and picnic sites and investigation of river pollution problems and more fish stocking;

A more equitable distribution of provincial electoral ridings—and an easing of limitations on the time in which a tenant-elector may register to vote;

A drive to obtain more skilled mental hospital workers through pay and working conditions improvements.

On matters of concern primarily to organized workers, the federation prefaced its proposals with an offer to take part in a broad conference of labor, management and government delegates "to examine all aspects of industrial relations."

The federation voiced objection to the conference called by Labor Minister Wicks in 1958, stating "it was designed solely to provide further avenues for management to advocate restrictive labor legislation."

The brief noted a recent request was made by employers' groups for a royal commission on labor unrest. It proposed, if there is such a commission, it should study also, prices, profits and wages, unemployment and safety in industry.

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Rod & Gun annual meet set Monday

The annual meeting of the Rod & Gun club will be held on January 11 at 8 p.m. at the Moose Temple a Rod & Gun club spokesman announced today.

The purpose of the meeting will be to elect new officers and discuss the annual executives report.

World News Briefs

MOSCOW—Ivan Bardin, onetime metal-worker who played a major role in launching Russia's Sputnik space satellites, has died at the age of 77. Bardin, a specialist in metals, had been vice-president of the Soviet Academy of Sciences since 1942 and was chairman of Russia's International Geophysical Year committee.

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CAIRO, Egypt—The United Arab Republic has seized the British-owned Alexandria and Ramleh Tramway Company and placed it under government control.

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WASHINGTON—John L. Lewis picked January 14 as the date he will retire as president of the United Mine Workers Union.

Lewis, who will be 80 February 12, announced just before Christmas that the time had come for him to step out of his career in organized labor.

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DUBLIN—President and Mrs. Eamon de Valera celebrated their golden wedding anniversary Friday. Messages from friends and well wishers in Ireland and many parts of the world poured into the presidential residence, where the de Valera's six children and 16 grandchildren gathered for a reunion. The 77-year-old president met his wife, now 70, at Dublin's Leinster College.

✦ ✦ ✦

CAPE CANAVERAL—A Polaris submarine missile, using a new guidance system, successfully hurled a dummy warhead 900 miles Thursday night. The launching followed Wednesday night's successful firing of an intercontinental-range Atlas missile.

WEATHER—

Few clouds tonight and Saturday. Not much change in temperature, with winds north at 20 at noon today. Low tonight and high tomorrow 30 and 40.

TIDES—

Saturday Jan. 9, 1960
(Pacific Standard Time)

High	10:23	10.2 feet
	23:26	17.1 feet
Low	04:00	0.7 feet
	17:00	6.2 feet