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Provisional budget shows increase in millrate for 1961 city estimates

Peterson given labor ministry with education

Mrs. Buda Brown, Richter appointed to cabinet posts

By H. L. JONES
Canadian Press Staff Writer

VICTORIA (CP) — Premier Bennett of British Columbia revamped his Social Credit cabinet Monday in a surprise four-way shift which brought in two new members—including a woman—and saw two of his present ministers given additional portfolios.

Elevated to cabinet rank were Mrs. Buda Brown, 66-year-old member for the big urban Vancouver riding of Point Grey, who will be minister without portfolio, and Frank Xavier Richter, 50-year-old agriculturist from northern Similkameen riding, who became minister of agriculture.

Education Minister Leslie Peterson, at 37 the youngest member of the cabinet, took on the controversial portfolio of minister of labor and Recreation Minister Westwood, 51, will also handle the portfolio of commercial transport.

Disclosure of the shifts in the cabinet the premier will take before the legislature opening January 26 were made at a swearing-in ceremoney at Government House.

Council to approach province on housing

City Council will make an approach to the provincial government to re-animate the low-rental housing scheme which was abandoned by the government two years ago.

The Monday night decision was taken after a letter of protest from the United Fishermen and Allied Workers' Union was read to the council regarding the eviction of "shanty town" inhabitants along Wantage and Pipeline roads.

R. L. Gardiner, who signed the letter, stated that "although the union did not dispute the state of the buildings involved in the proceedings and burnings, it did protest the fact that these inmates were not found alternative accommodation."

He stated: "In our opinion, before the unfortunates of Wantage road were evicted and their property, such as it was, destroyed, other adequate lodgings should have been found and provided."

He made reference to the depression days of the 1930s and the "Hoovervilles" of those times.

He called on the council, on behalf of his union, to make a survey with the health and welfare authorities" to see these individuals are re-located in decent and proper housing so that the citizens of this city need not feel ashamed of the treatment of those less fortunate in our society."

Mayor P. J. Lester agreed with the general content of the letter and proposed the approach to the provincial government. He pointed out that the city had already done a great deal in assisting the senior citizen housing scheme, but the problem of the city's housing shortage was beyond the ability of the city to handle alone.

This scheme was abandoned two years ago when a private firm undertook to build a housing development on the site of the old Midland army camp.

A recent approach to the minister of welfare, Mayor Lester, had been replied to after some delay stating that the Prince Rupert welfare branch could not be enlarged. It was previously reported the inability of the welfare branch to handle the work required of them owing to lack of numbers.

The motion to approach the provincial government was made by Alderman M. Krueger and seconded by Alderman A. D. Ritchie.

Well-known city teacher Mrs. Norma Halliday dies

A well-known city school teacher, Mrs. Norma McDougall Halliday, died early this morning in Prince Rupert General hospital after a lengthy illness. She was 45.

Born in Terrace, Mrs. Halliday spent the early part of her life at Pacific. She took her teacher training in Victoria after which she taught school in Doreen and Cedarvale.

She came to Prince Rupert in 1940 and began teaching in School District 52 six years ago, remaining on the King Edward Elementary school staff until last June.

Prior to returning to teaching she was an active member of the King Edward Parent-Teacher association and at one time serving as president. She was also an active member of the First Presbyterian church and the Order of the Eastern Star.

She is survived by her husband H. Clinton Halliday in Edmonton, a daughter Shirra Halliday and son Grant Clinton Halliday at home at 132 Fifth Avenue East; a brother John McCubbin in Victoria and a sister Elizabeth, Mrs. Leo Spencer in Edmonton.

Funeral arrangements, in the hands of Ferguson Funeral Home have not yet been completed.

Prince Rupert has now gone 6 8 4 days without a fatal traffic accident.

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Mrs. M.A. Bond dies Sunday

A 40-year resident of Prince Rupert, Mrs. Alice Maud Bond, lived at 305 Third Avenue West, died Sunday morning in Prince Rupert General Hospital at the age of 78 years.

Born in Colchester, England, Mrs. Bond and her family came to Canada in 1910 and settled in Winnipeg before coming to Prince Rupert in 1920.

She was predeceased by her husband, J. W. Bond, on June 21, 1955.

A mother of 11 children, Mrs. Bond is survived by two sons Percy and William of Prince Rupert; and two daughters, Mrs. Harry (Dorothy) Gawthorne and Mrs. Edward (Hilda) Des Brisat, both of Vancouver.

Funeral services will be held at 3 p.m. Wednesday at Ferguson Funeral Home with Rev. G. T. Pattison officiating.

THE 55-FOOT SEINER OLDFIELD sank after grounding on a rock in Galloway Rapids Monday. Owned by Carl Rosang of 216 Seventh Avenue West, the vessel was salvaged during the afternoon by Armour Salvage Ltd. and will be reconditioned. Behind the Oldfield is the Signal, owned by V. W. Fossum of 327 Sixth Avenue East which grounded on a rock hummock. The rock supported her when the tide dropped and she was floated free on the next. Unlike the Oldfield, she did not lose her load of herring. — Staff photo by John Pain

Postmaster Scherk ends 35 years of service

After almost 35 years of continual service for the Canada Post Office, Prince Rupert's Postmaster, R. S. Scherk announced that he will retire December 1.

J. T. Kelly of Prince George who has already arrived in the city is to be Prince Rupert's new postmaster.

Mr. Scherk, 60, joined the postal service in 1926 as a postal clerk under Postmaster J. R. Morrison, who has since retired.

From December 1, 1927 to July 1, 1939, Mr. Scherk served as a railway mail clerk between Prince Rupert and Prince George. He was promoted to assistant postmaster in Prince Rupert then and to his present position on June 10, 1956, replacing Mr. Morrison.

Born in Kenora, Ontario, Mr. Scherk came to Prince Rupert in August, 1909 where his father was employed as a worker in the construction of the Grand Trunk Railway.

Mr. Scherk lives at 1717 Graham Avenue with his wife Violet and they have three children; Stanley of Vancouver; Norman of Prince Rupert and Ruth of Terrace.

He is a member of the Prince Rupert Rotary Club.

Even though Mr. Scherk is retiring, it won't mean the end of postal work for the Scherk family as son Stanley is presently employed in the railway mail service in Vancouver.

Mr. Kelly, replacing Mr. Scherk as postmaster, arrived in town recently with his wife Eliza and 13-year-old son John.

He started his postal career in 1945 at Vancouver as a postal clerk and was transferred to Quesnel where he served as assistant postmaster until going to Prince George in 1957 as postal officer No. 1.

Mr. Kelly was promoted to assistant postmaster at Prince George in 1958 and his new promotion will go into effect Thursday.

The Kellys are presently looking for accommodation.

TURNS OVER DUTIES . . . Retiring Prince Rupert Postmaster R. S. Scherk left, shakes hands with successor J. T. Kelly of Prince George as Mr. Kelly prepares to take over the big job of keeping Prince Rupert's postal services working smoothly. Mr. Scherk is retiring Thursday after 35 years of service. — Staff photo by Gary Oakes

QCI settler dies in city

Funeral services for 75-year-old William Vyse who died November 21 at 812 Second Avenue West where he had been living for about a week, was held at 2 p.m. today at Ferguson Funeral Home with Rev. Dr. R. W. K. Elliott officiating.

Born in Hatfield, England, Mr. Vyse came to Port Clements on Queen Charlotte Island, about 1910.

He came to Prince Rupert about a week before he died from Queen Charlotte city.

He is survived by two brothers, Robert of Nelson and Alfred of Dawson Creek; and three sisters, Mrs. J. (Alice) Sewell, of North Mimms, England; Mrs. B. (Julia) Ayres, of Berton on Trent, England; and Eleanor Vyse, also of North Mimms, England.

Call about prowler discloses feline

An urgent call from a woman in the 1000 block Sixth Avenue East, Friday night, stating that "a prowler is in the neighborhood shining a flashlight around the houses," brought two RCMP vehicles and an RCN vehicle to the area immediately.

Police converged on a "person with a flashlight" and discovered it to be a woman trying to persuade her cat out of a tree.

Additional 1.384 without schools

An increase of 1.384 mills over last year's rate of 37.944 mills was forecast last night as City Council brought down its annual provisional budget.

The proposed mill rate of 39.338 plus the 1960 school tax rate of 17.046 mills gives an indication of a minimum total mill rate for 1961 of 56.384. School costs for 1961 will not be known until next year.

The general rate is increased from 34.067 to 34.809. The loan mill rate has been increased from 2.88 to 3.529, while the special rate for the Civic Centre remains standard at 1 mill.

The provisional budget shows a proposed increase in general revenues of $26,528.82; an increase in expenses from $1,194,113.10 to $1,228,736.56, or an increase in overall expenses of $34,623.46.

One mill in 1961 is valued at $15,200 as against $14,745.92 in 1960; which will bring in $529,102.92 to the city.

Major increases in expenses as outlined in the provisional budget appear to be in board of works and in increased telephone services. In 1960 the board estimates amounted to $267,688 and for 1961 they are estimated at $274,008. Telephone services in 1960 amounted to $200,672 and next year will reach $208,313.

On the other hand reductions are shown in several other departments such as sanitation and waste removal with a reduction from $58,723 to $55,773; and in health services from $20,300 to $18,500. Judicial expenses also show a steep rise from $124,432 to $131,033.

Mayor and aldermen indemnities are to be increased by $3,300; and donations and grants will be boosted by $1,750; a new section for the airport ferry has been apportioned $12,000.

This gives a total overall increased departmental expenditure for 1961 of $9,870. Board of works shows an increase of $6,320; waterworks increase of $889; fire department, up $4,235; telephones, up $7,641; administration of justice, up $6,601; health, down $1,800; social welfare, up $3,817; sanitation, down $2,950; cemetery, parks and street lighting remain at $10,000, $40,000 and $34,000 respectively; and library, capital expenditure from revenue and equipment replacement reserve remain stationary at $14,572, $33,561.35 and $4,500 respectively.

Rail talks may fail

OTTAWA (CP) — Barring a dramatic last-minute concession from the major railways or something more firm from the government, union negotiators will probably walk out of the railway strike crisis talks later today, informants said.

After a 100-minute session the government-sponsored talks adjourned until 3:30 p.m. EST.

After the railway union talks ended railway presidents conferred with their aides and Labor Minister Michael Starr, Postmaster-general William Hamilton and Transport Balcer.

Meanwhile, in Vancouver, the union leaders meet this week to set up strike headquarters in preparation for the threatened national strike.

Miller Bay resident dies

Margaret Sharkey Connington, who had resided at Miller Bay since 1959, died yesterday morning in Prince Rupert General Hospital at the age of 43 years.

Born in Ayr, Scotland, Mrs. Connington came to Canada in Newfoundland, Ontario and 1920 and resided in Nova Scotia, Baffin Island before coming to Prince Rupert in September 1959.

She is survived by her husband, James, an employee of the Indian and Northern Health Services of the Department of National Healtht and Welfare; three children, Patricia, Philip and Richard, all of Miller Bay; her father Walter Miles of Alton, Nova Scotia; and three step-brothers and three step-sisters in Nova Scotia.

Funeral services are tomorrow at Ferguson Funeral Home with Rev. D. R. Chassels officiating.

Minor pleads on two charges

Dale Clifford Gatzke, of Prince Rupert, was fined $15 when he pleaded guilty to a charge of being a minor in possession and $10 when he pleaded guilty to a charge of driving without insurance in Port Edward police court yesterday afternoon.

A juvenile with Gatzke is being held in custody on a charge of obstructing a police officer.

Ferry meet unattended by province

VICTORIA (CP) — Alaska is eagerly awaiting B.C. government plans on joining a "marine highway" it will open in 1962. However, state representatives in Victoria Monday for a ferry conference say they haven't heard what the province plans and no government officials appeared at the conference.

Premier Bennett, B.C. ferry manager Monty Aldous, and provincial comptroller general C. J. Ferber were all invited to attend a meeting.

Alaska officials had hoped for some unofficial talks on linking up to the $23,000,000 Haines, Alaska to Prince Rupert Ferry which will be built next year.

"It's so much cheaper than building highways," said Alaska Senator Al Owen Monday.

"We're very anxious to hear what B.C. will do," added State Works Commissioner Richard Downing.

Premier Bennett indicated recently first B.C. step will be improvement of Highway 16 which runs to Prince Rupert.

Alaskans don't want an inland road route to the U.S., said their officials.

"The ferry will mean a tremendous amount in tourist business and to our economy," said Sen. Owen. Fares will be "very reasonable" he said, and service will start in 1962.

Asked what he thought of a railroad through B.C. and the Yukon to Alaska, Sen. Owen said "that's kind of obsolete isn't it?"

He added: "Look how much it would cost."

The Pacific Northern Railway plans a B.C.-Yukon line 700 miles from Summit Lake, near Prince George.

It also aims at eventually connecting Alaska to the rest of the U.S. Cost of the B.C. stretch alone would be $250,000,000.

Sen. Owen indicated Alaska is not particularly interested in any rail link. It sees quicker access for goods and people from the sea.

From Prince Rupert, they would like to see either a ferry direct to Vancouver Island—or the Kitimat, Kitimat-Port Hardy route suggested some time ago by Highways Minister Gaglardi.

Mr. Gaglardi, however, indicated it would be a matter of years before roads were complete up the island to Port Hardy.

Estimated city spending, revenues

	Budget 1960	Provisional Budget 1961	Over 1960	Under 1960
Expense Accounts:	$1,194,113.10	$1,228,736.56	$34,623.46	—
Revenues: General Revenues	691,539.00	699,633.64	8,094.64	—
	502,574.10	529,102.92	26,528.82	—
1960 Taxation—34.067 mills (1 mill - 14,754.92)	502,574.10			—
1961 Taxation — 34.809 mills (1 mill - 15,200)		529,102.92		—

NO RATE COMPARISONS

	1960 Mill	1960 Amount	1961 Mill	1961 Amount
General, 1960	34.067	$502,574.10		
General, 1961			34.809	$529,102.92
Loan Rate 1960	2.887	42,597.45		
Loan Rate, 1961			3.529	53,650.50
Special Rate, 1960	1.000	14,754.92		
Special Rate, 1961			1.000	15,200.00
TOTAL	37.944	$559,926.47	39.338	$597,953.42

EXPENDITURES:

	1960 Budget	1961 Prov. Budget
Finance	$ 151,803.00	$ 161,673.00
Board of Works	267,688.00	274,008.00
Waterworks	106,510.10	107,399.06
Administration of Justice	124,432.00	131,033.00
Fire Protection	85,560.00	89,804.00
Social Welfare	41,783.00	45,600.00
Health	20,300.00	18,500.00
Sanitation and Waste Removal	58,723.00	55,773.00
Telephone	200,672.00	208,313.50
Parks Commission	40,000.00	40,000.00
Cemetery	10,000.00	10,000.00
Library	14,572.00	14,572.00
Street Lighting	34,000.00	34,000.00
Capital Expenditures (Rev.)	33,561.00	33,561.00
Equipment Replacement Reserve	4,500.00	4,500.00
TOTAL	$1,194,113.10	$1,228,736.56

Man injured in two-storey fall

Suffering from sustained back injuries, a fractured ankle and knee is Lawrence Albert Loyie, of Prince Rupert.

Loyie fell from a window of room 21 on the second floor in the New Royal hotel, and landed on the sidewalk adjacent to the building yesterday afternoon.

It is believed the man was drinking heavily shortly before the incident occurred. He is in satisfactory condition in hospital.

WEATHER

Gale warning is in effect for the north region. Intermittent rain tonight and Wednesday. Southeast gales 40. Little change in temperature. Low tonight and high tomorow 35 and 42.

TIDES

Wednesday, Nov. 30, 1960
(Pacific Standard Time)

High	11:20	21.7 feet
Low	05:17	7.0 feet
	17:38	4.0 feet