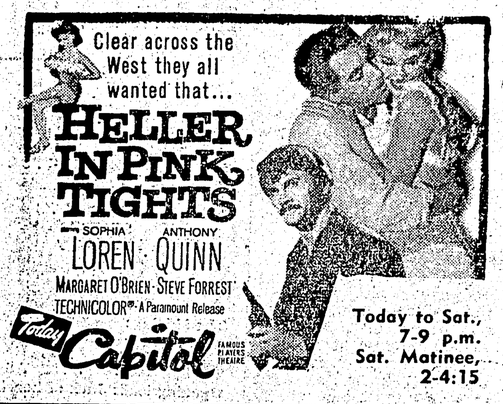
TWO SMALL autograph hunters try to add a pair of distinguished signatures to their collection as Prime Minister and Mrs. Diefenbaker chat with the crowd before joining the Calgary Stampede parade Monday. The Diefenbakers arrived in Calgary almost a full day ahead of schedule and were an unexpected addition to the parade, witnessed by an estimated 140,000. —CP photo.



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B.C. ROUNDUP

Highway 16 tenders east of PG opened

VICTORIA (CP)—The department of highways has opened tenders for $500,000 worth of construction and clearing on the route of the Northern Trans-Provincial highway east of Prince George.

A department spokesman said Wednesday a low tender of $317,-040 has been received from Ben Ginter Construction Limited of Prince George for clearing and grubbing 20.1 miles of right-of-way between Dome Creek and Crescent Spur.

Jamieson Construction Limited of Vancouver submitted a low bid of $208,365 for 6.52 miles of grade construction east of Taber Lake to Willow River.

A 12-mile construction contract has been completed in the McBride area, along with four miles in the Taber Lake area.

Completion of the route to McBride will give Prince George an all-weather route to Edmonton via Jasper, Alta.

Russians better off

VANCOUVER (CP) — Secretary Homer Stevens of the left-wing United Fishermen and Allied Workers Union (Ind.) said Wednesday Russia is making better use of sea products than Canada and plans to increase its fish production by 75 per cent in the next six years.

Mr. Stevens, who returned this week with five other members of the union from a 15-day visit to Russia, said almost all the Russian fish will be for home consumption.

The average Russian eats 30 pounds of fish a year while the Canadian average is only 13 pounds a year, he said.

Mr. Stevens said Russian fishermen are better off than their counterparts in B.C. in most cases. He said Russian living standards are now on the same level as those of other European workers, with free clothing, low rents and meal costs and free medical services.

New water link

VICTORIA (CP)—High-speed hydrofoil service linking Victoria and Bellingham, Wash. definitely will start in early August.

This assurance was given today by Mayor John E. Westford of Bellingham, who has been an active supporter of the project.

Mayor Westford said the hydrofoil itself arrived at Portland, Ore., this week. It is being uncrated and reassembled, and will likely go on short test runs next week.

Bennett too busy

VICTORIA (CP)—Premier Bennett told a press conference today he has "too many other things on his mind at present to be thinking about election dates. There seemed to be no shortage of predictions from other sources, he noted, adding "whenever they get a real date I wish they'd let me know."

Lung flown north

PRINCE GEORGE (CP)—An iron lung was flown here from Vancouver Wednesday night for the city's fourth polio victim in the last two weeks.

Mrs. Sylvia Birchall, 30, was admitted to hospital Tuesday.

Originally it was planned to fly Mrs. Birchall to Vancouver with a portable iron lung but medical officials later decided to bring a full-sized lung here.

Hotel bought

PENTICTON (CP)—Kimit Hotel Ltd. announced today it has bought a controlling interest in a company formed to purchase and operate the 78-room Prince Charles Motor Inn at Penticton.

A joint announcement to this effect was made here by Alexander Campbell, president of Kitimat Hotel Ltd. and by brothers Evans and Al Loughead, principals in the ownership of the Prince Charles.

Clear corridors

PRINCE GEORGE (CP)—Inspectors from the provincial fire marshall's office Wednesday ordered corridors cleared of beds at the new Prince George General hospital to make room for escape in the event of fire. Facilities at the 125-bed hospital have been overtaxed and extra beds have had to be placed in the passages.

Safety plates

VANCOUVER (CP) — The B.C. Safety Council Wednesday urged B.C. boat owners to place department of transport plates in their vessels indicating the number of persons safely accommodated. The council said the department has issued 40,000 such plates in eastern Canada but only 180 in B.C.

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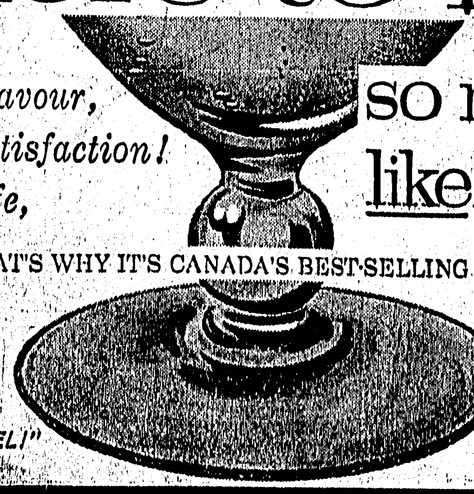

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