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RAINMAKERS ARRIVE . . . Prince Rupert's Senior High School Rainmakers arrived in Vancouver Tuesday aboard Canadian Pacific Airlines, to play in B.C. High School Basketball Championships. Rainmakers played first game last night and whipped King Edward 50-38. They'll tangle with Abbotsford at 7:45 p.m. today. In the photo, from bottom to top are: coach Don Hartwig; manager Don Scott and players Bob Adams, Bruce Mitchell, John Olsen, Brian Specht, Bill MacLeod, Bruce Kerr, Don Martin and John Scuby. — CPA Photo

Leforte sentenced to hang in Oakalla prison on May 23

Contracts on highways tabled

VICTORIA (CP)— The government agreed Wednesday to table in the legislature correspondence in connection with several highways department contracts around which controversy has developed.

Requests to have the correspondence made public were contained in several resolutions advanced by Opposition Leader Strachan and Liberal Leader Ray Perrault.

The motions were approved in the House Wednesday after Premier Bennett advised the government accept them.

The correspondence concerned is in connection with Trans-Canada highway work done by L and M Logging Company and Union Contractors Limited, two firms involved in a highways department project which eventually led to a contempt of court conviction against Highways Minister Gaglardi.

Frank Calder (CCF - Atlin) had a motion approved calling for tabling of all correspondence between the province and any other government or person since January 1, 1958, concerning Highway 16 where it runs through the Kitwanga Indian Reserve where there has been dispute here over payment of compensation for Indian lands.

VANCOUVER (CP) — Attention will be focussed on jobs for the handicapped epileptic this year, the annual meeting of the Vancouver branch of the B.C. Epilepsy Society was told Wednesday.

WINNING CARTOON — Duncan Macpherson of Toronto Star won the 1960 National Newspaper Awards for cartooning with this entry. Titled "Smile", it appeared at the time of the Castro-Khrushchev visit to the United Nations. It was the second successive cartooning win for Mr. Macpherson. — CP Photo

Child killer shows little emotion

The death sentence was pronounced on Louis Leforte, 30, by Mr. Justice Hugh A. Maclean in the Assize Court last night after the jury had brought in a verdict of guilty of murder, following a recess of four hours and 10 minutes.

This time included a clarification by Mr. Justice Maclean of a point of law covering the question of 'intent.'

As the sentence for the killing September 18, 1961, of Tina Marcelle McKay was pronounced, Leforte faced the judge unemotionally and beyond a tensing of the neck muscles showed no other reaction to the most extreme penalty the law can inflict.

Although Mr. Justice Maclean made no comment of any sort to Leforte he turned to the jury foreman, A. G. Ford, and thanked him and the jury for the verdict they had brought in, in what he termed "a very unpleasant case."

Leforte was escorted from the dock and will be taken to Oakalla prison where the date of his execution has been set May 23.

Defence counsel, Harold Rankin of Vancouver, said after the trial that an appeal would be lodged.

In his summing up the judge stressed certain aspects of the evidence produced by both the Crown and the defence which should conflict. These points were those involving the degree of drunkenness of Leforte on the day of the killing of two-year-old Tina Marcelle McKay, the evidence of Jack L'Hirondelle and Henry John Hayden and of Otto B. Jensen, all of whom stated there was no sign of fear in the manner in which the little girl or her older sister, Darlene, reacted towards Leforte in their presence; and of the time element involved in the evidence of Gordon Sinclair Bitton, a neighbor, who heard screams, thumps and a thud, and the times given by Oscar Hovdebo, taxidriver; G. M. Golds, X-ray technician at the general hospital; Dr. L. M. Greene and Nurse Heather Cap. The judge also pointed out the disparity between the recollections of Leforte in the hospital and the conversation between him and Nurse Cap as recounted by the latter.

Vancouver pathologist Dr. Carl E. Robertson told the court that certain marks on the dead child's legs were indicative of her having been grasped about the knees and swung; and that other injuries were of her having been struck against a wall or a floor. The actual death of the child was due, he said, to the multiplicity of injuries rather than to one direct cause. Bruises on the arms were compatible with the theory that the child had raised its arms to protect its head.

Mother of the child, Mrs. Margaret McKay, told the jury that she had been in fear of what Leforte would do to her if she informed police or other authorities of his treatment of the child. She told of repeated teasings, of strangling the child repeatedly until it fell unconscious and of his slapping the child until it bled.

At the time of the incident on September 18 last year, Leforte was living with Mrs. McKay at 866 Fraser, with the two children, Darlene and Tina. Mrs. McKay is now living in Vancouver. She is originally from Greenville on the Nass River.

Leforte is a Grade 2 student who roamed the prairie provinces before coming to Prince Rupert in 1952. He had a police record of assault occasioning bodily harm, robbery, common assault and vagrancy. He was born in Grandview, Manitoba.

South African loss seen as aid to British Commonwealth prestige

LONDON (CP)—South Africa's walkout was seen today as a big boost to the Commonwealth's influence in Africa and Asia.

Britons generally accepted the break as inevitable while South Africa adhered rigidly to white supremacy. But they held hope for a change in policy that would lead the African nation back to the multi-racial family of nations that replaced the Empire.

South Africa's Prime Minister Henrik F. Verwoerd, outwardly nonchalant but reported privately saddened, remained in London to take part in the closing sessions of the Commonwealth prime minister's conference. South Africa's membership does not officially end until the nation becomes a republic May 31.

Aides said Verwoerd would also attend Queen Elizabeth's farewell reception for the visiting ministers. But gloom over Verwoerd's action pervaded a party the Queen gave Wednesday night for the visiting delegations, and "the party was anything but a success," a South African reported.

The 11-nation Commonwealth prime ministers conference, meanwhile, continued with a discussion of The Congo.

BOMB IN QUIET SPEECH

Verwoerd dropped his bombshell in a quietly-worded five-minute speech Wednesday in protest against criticism of his country's apartheid (racial segregation) policies.

He withdrew his application for readmittance to the Commonwealth after South Africa becomes a republic and predicted the pullout would mean the beginning of the disintegration of the Commonwealth.

But Verwoerd said his country still hopes to co-operate in all possible ways "with those members of the Commonwealth who are willing to retain their former good relations" with South Africa.

Prime Minister Macmillan called a conference with his top cabinet colleagues on the international, political, economic, trading and citizenship implications of Verwoerd's history-making decision. He also planned a statement to Parliament.

INTERFERENCE CHARGED

Verwoerd accused the other prime ministers of interfering in the internal affairs of his country.

He said opposition to South Africa's continued membership was based on alleged discrimination and oppression of non-whites in the country and added:

"It is ironical that those allegations have come from prime ministers in whose own countries oppression and discrimination are openly practised and where the basic principles of democratic government are flouted.

"In this connection I refer particularly to Ghana, India, Malaya and Ceylon, although certain other Commonwealth countries are also not free from such practices, which are sanctioned by legal enactments."

PRECEDENT SET

The 1948 precedent of the Republic of Ireland, the only other country with dominion status to withdraw from the Commonwealth, was mentioned as a possible basis for South Africa's future relations with Britain.

'GOOD RIDDDANCE'

Most British newspapers felt South Africa would return to the fold some day. "Good riddance," said the left-wing Daily Mirror. The pro - Labor Daily Herald said the alliance had gained strength. But the empire-minded Daily Express saw a dangerous precedent, asking:

"Who can say which member will be picked on next for ostracism—and on what ground?" And the Daily Telegraph, Conservative, expressed fear of "renewed outbreaks of ideological bickering at Commonwealth conferences."

White settler leaders in Africa expressed deep concern but black African and Asian politicians hailed the move as a major triumph.

Harbor drowning trial opens in Assize Court

Trial of Ferdinand Douglas Lowell of the New Floats, charged with manslaughter in connection with the September 18 drowning death of Joseph George Roch Beauchemin, opened this morning in B.C. Supreme Court before Mr. Justice Hugh A. Maclean.

Defence counsel Murdoch Robertson of Terrace and Crown prosecutors T. G. Bowen-Colthurst of Victoria and Harvey Jessop of Kitimat, chose a 12-member all-male Assize Court jury this morning from a list of 46 prospective jurors.

Lowell pleaded not guilty to the charge this morning.

After preliminary remarks the Crown opened its case with remarks as to what evidence would be called during the case.

First witness called by the Crown was Constable Jacob Fehr of the RCMP Identification Branch who introduced photographs and measurements of a boat owned by Lowell.

Constable Fehr said that the boat was about 12 feet nine inches long and about four feet wide. He said the boat was very old and waterlogged. It had a five-horsepower outboard motor on it, he added.

The Crown next called Alfred Mitla to the stand. His testimony was scheduled to continue this afternoon.

Frederick Elbert Dowdle was chosen as foreman of the jury.

Other jurors are: Arthur King Loring, Stewart Ross Fowler, Herbert Wallace Leach, William Archibald Gordon, James Albert Herman, Howard Lawrence Wale, Robert Edward Gladding, Arne Lien, Lyle Cecil Benzley, James Ross Nicoll and William Michael Oldfield.

Sudden stop at walk causes collision

A rear - end collision occurred between two cars yesterday about 4:55 p.m. when one stopped suddenly at a crosswalk. Police said that a car driven by Mrs. J. G. Paul of 1440 Eighth Avenue East was struck from behind by another driven by Samuel Oliver Parnell of 135 Second Avenue West. Damage was estimated at $80.

B.C. ROUNDUP

Terrace hospital add new nurses residence

VICTORIA (CP) — A provincial grant of $21,247, toward cost of construction and equipping a new nurses' residence for the Terrace and District Hospital has been approved.

Dudley Little (SC - Skeena) announced Tuesday night that the provincial government had approved the grant toward the residence, which is to be a single-storey frame building providing 10 beds.

Woman disappears

VANCOUVER (CP) — Mystery surrounds the disappearance of a 65-year-old Saskatoon widow from isolated Lasqueti Island in Georgia Strait, 60 miles northwest of here. Police have organized a search for Mrs. Jean Corfield who was seen for several days on the island before she disappeared Saturday from a house she rented.

Warning to jobless

PORT ALBERNI (CP) — City council will place advertisements in Vancouver newspapers warning job seekers to stay away from Port Alberni. Many permanent residents are out of work and there is no opportunity for newcomers.

Hold the line

NEW WESTMINSTER (CP) — A hold-the-line policy on taxation was set Wednesday by the city's finance committee. The committee decided this after being handed 1961 general estimates totalling $5,335,627, or $190,304 more than anticipated revenue.

City pole percher

A complaint that a man was looking through the upstairs window of a city building brought police to the scene on Fourth Street. They found Michael Gould of Toronto perched at the top of a telegraph pole. Mr. Gould was removed to a place of safety on Fulton Street where he later paid a $10 fine on a charge of being drunk in a place.

Woman hit

About 8 p.m. Wednesday night John Hamilton Ferguson of 510 McBride Street struck a woman walking between Seventh and Eighth Avenues and Fulton Street. The woman, Mrs. Lena Amoth of the Savoy Hotel was taken to hospital for observation. Police state no charges are being considered.

Boy drowned in water hole

A small boy, Leon Victor Pahl of 1215 Frederick street was drowned in a 12-foot deep muskeg hole on the Midland development property yesterday afternoon about 4.55 p.m. The body was recovered by Benny Clifton of Sunnyside Cannery.

The death was reported by two young friends who were playing with the dead boy on their way home from school at Seal Cove.

The body was recovered from the hole about 7:05 p.m.

A coroner's enquiry will be held.

The child is survived by his parents Mr. and Mrs. John W. Pahl, and two brothers, William and Henry, and sister, Cherrill. The service will be held at Ferguson Funeral Home at 2 p.m. tomorrow officiated over by the Rev. Dr. R. W. K. Elliott. Interment will be in Fairview cemetery.

Child's narrow escape

A small child was brushed by a car about 12:15 p.m. Wednesday when it ran from behind a parked car. Five-year-old David Carlson of 936 Sixth Avenue East suffered a mildly bruised leg. The car was driven by Gordon Pierce of 2141 Seal Cove Circle. Police state no charges are pending.

France offers Algerian rebels peace talks

PARIS (AP) — The French government announced Wednesday night it is ready to start political talks with the Algerian rebel government-in-exile on self - determination for the war - ravaged North African territory.

The cabinet communique said nothing about a cease-fire, apparently an official retreat from the previous French insistence that political negotiations could be held only after the fighting ended.

The Algerian rebel cabinet, now meeting in Tunis, welcomed the French statement as a "new element" and particularly the absence of the cease-fire condition.

"The provisional government will certainly consider it during its examination of the political situaton," a spokesman said, adding that the rebel regime "has always clearly advocated" starting talks on the political issue rather than the military issue.

Observers in the Tunisian capital believed rebel premier Ferrat Abbas and his ministers would accept the French bid.

Unconfirmed reports said French and Algerian delegations would open formal talks soon near the Swiss border, a site that would permit the rebel leaders to stay in Switzerland.

World News Briefs

ANKARA, Turkey (Reuters) — A military court Wednesday convicted 26 persons of planning to overthrow the ruling committee of national unity. Sentences ranged between six months and four years in prison. Six other persons accused were acquitted. The 32, mostly small storekeepers, were arrested recently while holding a secret meeting.

ROME (Reuters) — Thirty Fascist youths fought with police Wednesday night during a demonstration outside the headquarters of the Italian state television headquarters in central Rome. Three policemen were injured and several youths were detained.

HAVANA (AP) — Communist China opened its first Latin American commercial exposition Wednesday night. Industrial development was emphasized in the exhibits. The exposition will last a month.

NEW YORK (AP) — Mayor Willy Brandt of West Berlin will be guest of honor Friday in the St. Patrick's Day Parade. Brandt, former president of the West German bundesrat, will share the reviewing stand with another official with a good "Irish" name, Mayor Robert Wagner.

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Prince Rupert has now gone 790 days without a fatal traffic accident.

WEATHER

It will be cloudy with showers Friday. Winds southerly 20 tonight. Low tonight and high tomorrow, 38 and 47.

TIDES

Friday, March 17, 1961
(Pacific Standard Time)

High	01:41	22.6 feet
	13:58	22.7 feet
Low	07:51	2.1 feet
	20:10	1.6 feet

Welcome to curlers visiting here for 10th Annual Marine Bonspiel