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DEC 31/61

OLDTIME WELCOME was given Prime Minister Diefenbaker when he was welcomed by a committee at Quebec's Ancienne Lorette Airport. He gave a press conference and then addressed a dinner meeting of the Quebec Progressive Conservative Association. Mr. Diefenbaker was on his way to the prime ministers' conference in London. — CP Wirephoto

Diefenbaker favors statement on Commonwealth free rights

"Always advocated freedom, equality"

By DAVID OANCIA
Canadian Press Staff Writer

LONDON (CP) — Prime Minister Diefenbaker came out strongly today in favor of a Commonwealth declaration of rights.

Arriving at London airport from Ireland to attend the conference of Commonwealth prime ministers starting Wednesday, Diefenbaker told reporters:

"Throughout my life I have been an advocate of the basic principles of freedom and equality."

He referred to the bill of rights passed by the Canadian Parliament last fall. He had first introduced the bill in 1941, and it had taken 19 years to get it passed.

"It took us many years to bring this about. I believe the Commonwealth should have before it a similar objective," Diefenbaker said.

DECLARATION NEEDED

"We ultimately must have as our objective a declaration of principles for which all Commonwealth countries must stand."

Asked whether he hopes for action at the coming conference, Diefenbaker cited a Chinese proverb:

"Every journey of 1,000 years begins with one step."

Diefenbaker arrived from Dublin accompanied by his wife and a number of external affairs department officials. He immediately scheduled a lunch at Admiralty House with Prime Minister Macmillan, who has already had meetings with most of the other visiting premiers.

Macmillan is believed to be seeking to persuade ministers that the controversial topic of apartheid should be considered separately from the question of South African readmission to the Commonwealth.

The British prime minister's motive is to try to keep discussions on South Africa as restrained as possible.

Diefenbaker suggested Commonwealth meetings should be held at yearly intervals. At present, they tend to be held about every 18 months on the average. Meetings of prime ministers are "at the core" of the Commonwealth relationship, the Canadian leader said.

There would be no shortage of complex and difficult questions at the 10-day conference, he said. The "paramount" question would be disarmament.

Ferry bid of $79,920 submitted

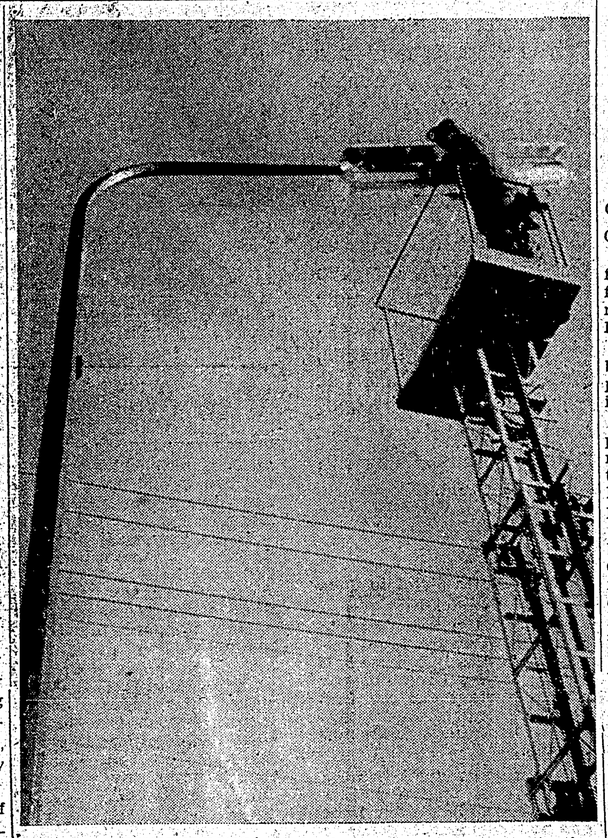
Low bidder when tenders were opened Monday night at a meeting of the city council for the construction of ferry landings on Digby and Kaien islands for airport transport was Vancouver Pile-driving Co. Ltd. of Vancouver, at $79,920.

Four other companies also entered bids for the project. They were: J. H. Todd and Sons Ltd., $85,307; Quadra Construction Co. Ltd., $85,606; Greenlees Pile-driving and Construction Co. Ltd., $94,848; and Pacific Pile-driving Ltd., $97,510.

The low bid will now be forwarded to the consulting engineers, Swan, Wooster Engineering Ltd., Vancouver, for final approval, and, subject to approval, the contract will be awarded by council.

Work on the installation of floats, dolphins and wharf trestles is expected to start in the near future and to be completed in the early summer.

The ramps have already been constructed and will be installed when this work is completed.



NEW STREETLIGHTING standards add a modern note to the better-known thoroughfares of the city as the council program progresses. A Canadian Comstock Ltd., workman from Vancouver perches percariously at the top of his lift as he fits the light itself to the pole union. — *Staff photo by John Pain*

Second vessel required here

The Chamber of Commerce's port and marine committee will investigate the increasing need to base a second Department of Transport supply vessel in Prince Rupert, it was decided last night.

The chamber took the action after learning that nothing had been done to alleviate the situation of having one vessel based here for light-tending with a second coming up here from Victoria at intervals.

No word has been heard from Transport Minister Leon Balcer since he wrote the chamber in December last year saying that the suggestion that two vessels should be based here had "been very carefully noted and will be given every possible consideration."

The chamber felt that Mr. Balcer had had sufficient time since he succeeded former minister of transport George Hees, to study the situation and remedy it.

When the port and marine committee has completed its study it will report to the chamber and further action to have two vessels based here again.

The chamber also heard from Frank Howard, MP Skeena that the two "so-called coast guard vessels" scheduled for the Pacific coast are in the design stage and tenders are expected to be called in April. They are expected to be between 90 and 100 feet in length.

Mr. Howard urged that the chamber "keep up an insistent demand that Prince Rupert is an ideal location for one of them to be based."

Chairman urges city businessman to consider northern exhibition

There is no reason why a revived Northern British Columbia Exhibition shouldn't follow the lines of the original exhibition of 49 years ago and have an exhibition building which could also be a skating rink, a box lacrosse floor, basketball court and auditorium, the Chamber of Commerce was told last night.

Dr. R. G. Large, chairman of a committee to consider if the chamber should sponsor an annual exhibition, urged that the Chamber of Commerce sponsor such a project and set up a committee to study ways and means of doing so.

"This committee could report on how the exhibition should be staged, whether the Northern B.C. Agricultural Association should be rejuvenated and also learn what support would be forthcoming from City Council.

The meeting approved an amended motion that the chamber study the matter but failed to approve sponsorship.

Dr. Large said that the committee was in favor of sponsorship but not unanimously, as one member doubted if the chamber was the proper body to undertake the project.

Earl Gordon said that he was in favor of the exhibition but thought that some other organization should stage the exhibition.

Dr. Large said the exhibition was begun in 1912 by the retail merchants of Prince Rupert, with financial support from the City Council. The exhibition was so successful that in 1913 the residents built the exhibition on top of Acropolis Hill and the exhibition was held annually until the 1930s when the depression closed it.

He said one or two abortive attempts had been made to revive it and last year the Jubilee Committee staged an exhibition which it hoped would again become an annual affair.

"In reporting favorably," Dr. Large said, "your committee points out that an exhibition is desirable because:

"It brings visitors to the city and therefore business."

"It helps to establish Prince Rupert as the commercial centre for this portion of B.C.

"If we don't take steps to do this we can expect some other community to make the effor and usurp our place.

"It has educational, cultural and entertainment value."

He said the only argument against the exhibition was that it meant a great deal of work.

He said last year's experience emphasized the lack of interest and support of local mrchants.

"To be successful it must be backed by the businessmen of the city and we suggest that the idea should stand or fall on the decision of this meeting as the chamber is the only representative organization of businessmen in the city."

Bonner boosts magistrates

VICTORIA (CP) — British Columbia's magistrates were defended in the legislature Monday by Attorney - General Robert Bonner, who said they are the most dedicated group in the province.

The remark was prompted by lengthy discussion on magistrates in British Columbia.

Mr. Bonner, whose departmental estimates said it's unfortunate there have been sweeping generalizations in criticisms of magistrates.

Greater use Pacific ports required

VANCOUVER (CP) — Agriculture Minister Alvin Hamilton said Monday the Canadian Wheat Board has recommended more grain be shipped through Vancouver.

The minister was meeting with representatives of 18 grain handling organizations in special conference on port facilities after complaints about slow grain handling and tieups of ships picking up grain sold to the Soviet Union and Communist China.

He said he hopes grain shipments from B.C. can be speeded from an average of 15,000,000 bushels monthly during peak months to 18,000,000 to 20,000,000 bushels.

Too many fishermen, says university man

OTTAWA (CP)—A program to reduce the number of fishermen dipping into British Columbia's salmon and halibut resources is recommended in a report tabled in the Commons Monday.

Said the report, prepared by Dr. Sol. Sinclair, head of the department of agriculture economics and farm management at the University of Manitoba:

"Since free entry has produced a depressed industry, it seems absurd to argue for its continuation by permitting entry to everybody who desires employment in it."

Dr. Sinclair was hired by the federal fisheries department to make the study following representations charging excessive participation in the primary fishing industry of B.C.

In a prefatory note, Fisheries Minister MacLean said the report "does not imply a commitment by government with respect to any of the findings."

Ferry bill vote soon

JUNEAU (AP) — Legislation creating a new department of transportation was introduced in the house of representatives by the finance committee Saturday in an effort to bolster support for House Bill No. 44, the $23,000,000 ferry bond issue measure, which is still waiting on the rules committee for placement on the house house calendar.

The bill was passed by the finances committee by a vote of four to three. This bill is a substitute for the administration proposal and implements ferry bond proposal approved last November 8 by Alaskan voters.

The new department would be empowered to operate and maintain: the present state - owned ferry and terminals; ferries and terminals involved in the Alaska Marine Highway; Anchorage and Fairbanks airports; and a variety of facilities financed in the future by revenue bond issues approved by the legislature.

Caldough tries for bail appeal

VANCOUVER (CP) — Leonard Udell, 34, of West Vancouver was granted bail of $5,000 when he appeared in court Monday in connection with fraud charges against Vancouver promoter George Caldough.

Roland Smith, 49-year-old publicity assistant, and Caldough were remanded Saturday in custody today. They were allegedly involved in an oil fraud totalling almost $250,000 and will appear today to have their applications for bail heard.

One-day alcoholic clinic urged for middle May

H. J. Huggins, director of education for the Alcoholism Foundation of British Columbia will be in Prince Rupert Wednesday to help organize the foundation's proposed one-day clinic scheduled for mid-May.

Chamber of Commerce president A. P. Crawley at the group's monthly meeting in La Gondola Cafe last night appointed Karl Lundstrom, Dr. L. M. Greene and Norman Larson as a committee to work with Dr. Wilfred Sinclair, director of the Skeena Health Unit in meeting Mr. Huggins. Before coming here Mr. Huggins will go to Kitimat to confer with groups there who wish to have a clinic held to help alcoholics.

In other business the chamber elected Mr. Lundstrom a director to replace A. D. Perley who resigned when he was transferred to Kelowna.

T. H. Ogilvie was named chairman of the chamber's Alaska marine highway committee to replace Orme G. Stuart who resigned as chairman. Mr. Stuart will remain on the committee along with Earl R. Gordon and G. E. Sherman.

W. G. McGruther was appointed the chamber's representative on the city's employment advisory committee to replace Edwin Enright who was transferred to Vancouver

The meeting referred to the Department of Transport a letter from the Dodge Cove Improvements Association asking why the Digby Island village couldn't be hooked up to the power lines that now had been laid to the island.

The chamber voted payment of its annual dues to the Northern Trans-Canada Route Association and urged individual members to join the group which is supporting a second trans-provincial highway through B.C. via Jasper, McBride, Prince George to Prince Rupert.

As the chamber's next regular meeting night would fall on Easter Monday, the date of the April meeting was set for Monday, April 10.

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Prince Rupert has now gone 781 days without a fatal traffic accident.

Accused threatened victim with death, Assize jury told

An Assize Court jury was told this morning that Robert Skin of Burns Lake, charged with murder, threatened to kill James Andrew who died August 27, 1960 in Burns Lake.

The second day of the trial in B.C. Supreme Court got underway this morning before Mr. Justice Hugh Allan MacLean.

Skin, represented by defence counsel John Coates of Prince George, pleaded not guilty to the charge yesterday.

Crown prosecutor T. G. Bowen-Colthurst of Victoria called the dead man's 26-year-old son Alex to the stand and, after Mr. Justice MacLean had ruled the evidence admissable, Mr. Andrew testified about a fight at Grassy Plain August 13.

He said that he and a friend were play - fighting when Skin interferred. He stated that when his dad came around Skin punched him and knocked him to the ground.

"I told him to leave my dad alone because he was too old." He stated that Skin "swore at my dad and said he was going to kill him someday."

Mr. Andrew testified that while his family was camped at Southbank on Francois Lake, he and his younger brother, Peter, were attacked by Skin and his three sons. He said that the three brothers ganged up on Peter and knocked him down.

"I went for my dad and he came down and told Skin to leave Peter alone as there were too many of them."

He then stated that Skin hit his dad over the head with a "two by six" board and that his dad fell to the ground.

He stated that he went to the forestry office for help and subsequently met two men who returned to the scene with him.

When they returned, he said, they found Jimmy Andrews lying on the ground with his eyes open. He wasn't moving but he wasn't dead either, Mr. Andrew stated.

Jimmy Andrew was later ferried across the lake to the Francois Lake settlement, Mr. Andrews testified.

Trial is continuing.

Japan to build largest tankers

TOKYO (Reuters) — Contracts were signed Monday for construction here of the world's largest oil tankers, both of which will be 130,050 deadweight tons. They were ordered by Japan's Idemitsu Kosan oil refinery.

Three-car crash causes $600 bill

A three-car collision occurred about 1:25 a.m. Sunday in the 300 block Sixth Avenue West, RCMP said yesterday.

Police said that a car driven by James S. Haugan of 310 Fifth Avenue East was in collision with a parked cad owned by John Michaelson of 1317 Eleventh Avenue East. This vehicle in turn collided with another parked car owned by Earnest T. Schooley of 1425 Eleventh Avenue East.

Total damage amounted to about $600.

Chamber contacts Minister to study city shipping potential

A wire was sent last night to Agriculture Minister Alvin Hamilton in Vancouver urging him to fly up to Prince Rupert and study the potential for additional grain outlets to the Orient.

Mr. Hamilton is in Vancouver conferring with grain officials on the handling of grain destined for Russia and Communist China.

He said there yesterday that there would be a need for additional grain outlets on the Pacific Coast and mentioned New Westminster and Prince Rupert.

The chamber voted to wire Mr. Hamilton thanking him for his interest in Prince Rupert's grain handling facilities and the motion was amended to also ask him to fly here for an on-the-spot survey of the present facilities and the possibility of having them expanded.

The meeting was told that the Canadian government elevator here was originally built so that it could be expanded to handle an additional 1,000,000 bushels of grain.

$1,500 damage

Damage amounted to about $1,500 about 4:30 a.m. Sunday when a car driven by Vincent Charles Lid of 1132 Second Avenue West was in collision with a parked car owned by Peter Martinovich of 1717 Second Avenue West in the 1700 block Second West.

RCMP said that charges are contemplated as a result of the accident.

WEATHER

Cloudy Wednesday with clear periods along the mainland tomorrow. A few showers or wet snow. Little change in temperature. Winds north 15 tomorrow. Low tonight and high tomorrow, 32 and 45.

TIDES

Wednesday, March 8, 1961
(Pacific Standard Time)

High	04:48	19.7 feet
	17:20	16.0 feet
Low	11:20	5.5 feet
	23:19	7.7 feet