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City P-T Council joins call for welfare probe

Centre told tighten school gym policing

District 52 School Board will deny Civic Centre basketball groups the use of the Prince Rupert High School gymnasium if stricter supervision is not carried out, Centre manager Jacob Vandenbrink said today.

Mr. Vandenbrink said that he had received a letter from the school board over the signature of board secretary - treasurer Mrs. M. M. Roper asking co-operation in future.

The school board had been informed, Mrs. Roper wrote, that spectators, at two Metlakatla, Alaska-Prince Rupert All Star games January 6 and 7, were smoking in the bleachers, in spite of requests made by the school engineer and over the public address system for no smoking in the gymnasium.

"In addition," Mrs. Roper said, liquor bottles were found in the lavatory after the games."

She said that the school board "deplores this disregard for the school regulations and has directed me to advise you that stricter supervision will be necessary in future or it may be necessary to prohibit the use of the gymnasium."

Mr. Vandenbrink said that four Civic Centre volunteers were at the PRSHS gymnasium the nights of the games in question, two on the doors and two to supervise the spectators.

Tonight and tomorrow night for the Ketchikan - Rupert All Stars series, there will be four supervisors plus a city fireman on duty, Mr. Vandenbrink said.

However, L. A. Harrington, spokesman for the Prince Rupert Basketball Association, said today, that it was the association that provided the supervisors, not the Civic Centre.

Mr. Harrington said, that if the supervision provided at the high school on January 6 and 7, was not sufficient, then tonight and tomorrow, more supervisors will be provided and a closer check made.

Referring to the association using the high school gym instead of the Civic Centre one, Mr. Harrington said that the Civic Centre association receives 40 per cent after expenses of all proceeds from games played in the high school gymnasium. Any losses of games at the high school are absorbed by the basketball association not the Civic Centre, he said.

Three-car crash occurs on Third

RCMP are investigating a three-car collision which occurred in the 600 block Third Avenue West yesterday afternoon.

Police said that a car driven by Jack Wing, of Prince Rupert, was in collision with a parked "99" taxi which in turn collided with another parked "99" taxi.

No estimate of damage was given.

Minister Black says won't call meeting

A rising storm of criticism of the Social Welfare Department, both from without and within the organization, is rising around the head of Minister W. D. Black.

The 52,000 member Parent-Teachers Association of British Columbia has added its voice to the chorus protest becoming heard against the welfare services.

In Prince Rupert an approach has been made to Mayor P. J. Lester and the city council by the president of the Parent-Teacher Council, Mrs. A. J. Bussanich, asking for a committee to investigate the child welfare in this city and to make a survey of the need for low rental housing.

In line with this approach the P-T council have also written to Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation in Vancouver bringing this matter to their attention and asking for "a favorable answer."

Mrs. Bussanich has also written to Minister Black regarding the welfare situation in this city. She says:

"Our primary concern is the need for adequate foster homes in this district. Due to the lack of staff in the social welfare office there is a definite lack of visitation and examination of existing foster homes, with the result that 45 to 60 per cent do not measure up to standard. The need is continually increasing."

"If the staff were increased," she went on, "they would be able to help with the foster home situation. This is a situation you are in a position to do something about. We hope that in the coming budget there will be provision for at least two more staff members for the Prince Rupert branch."

HOMES UNFIT

Referring to housing, Mrs. Bussanich said: "We find that some of these children living in poor housing conditions are in homes so poor they should be declared unfit for human habitation by the local public health authorities.

"The reason they aren't (so declared) is that there aren't any other places for them to live in.

"We have consulted with Dr. Wilfred Sinclair, director of the Skeena Health Unit, and he tells us that there are more than 30 families now living in improper housing."

Mrs. Bussanich went to point out that there are some 50 families in the city living in rooms or other unsuitable conditions; and 60 families in Port Edward in need of adequate housing.

MINISTER'S REPLY

In October, 1960, the city council approached the Minister of Social Welfare with a request for increased social services staff in this city.

In his letter Mayor Lester pointed out that the number of social welfare cases had more than doubled over the past two years.

The shortage of staff also prevents home visits by the staff, said Mayor Lester and children who need care and counselling are not being helped. Also, he went on, there are children in foster homes who are not receiving the proper care and attention they need.

Mr. Black replied the following month stating that no extra staff could be made available at that time. He said: "However, my department is giving study to the rearrangement of caseloads which we believe will relieve the situation. As a matter of interest to you it is hoped that in the very near fuure a special social work posiion can be created in the Prince Rupert area to give assistance to and survey the Indian problem."

This change has not so far occurred, said Mayor Lester today.

NO CONFERENCE

Welfare Minister Black has rejected a proposal to call an immediate conference of top people in welfare work in the current controversy over government welfare policies.

The proposal was made by the Greater Vancouver Community Chest which said a conference would "alleviate needless suffering" and could be used to "institute immediate improvements and effective action in public welfare."

These were other developments:

Social Credit MLA Bert Price (Vancouver Burrard) has joined the ranks of those urging an investigation of welfare services. He said: "I feel sure some things should be better taken care of by the social welfare department."

Opposition leader Robert Strachan charged the government is short-changing its welfare budget by spending huge sums on debt reduction instead of helping the needy.

NO COMMENT

The premier, Mr. Black and others continued their "no comment" stand on Miss McKay's criticism of government policies.

Community Chest President T. Boyd Haskell told the minister in a special delivery letter that "the situation warrants more than political concern and vocal complaining affecting as it does thousand of men, women and children."

Earlier, Prof. William Dixon, head of the University of B.C.'s school of social work, urged a royal commission be set up to probe welfare services. Several organizations have backed him.

Rotarians join drive to aid alcoholics here

Prince Rupert Rotary club yesterday joined the City Council in seeking recognition of the need for facilities to help the city's alcoholics.

Council Monday night approved in principle a motion to ask the provincial government to establish a branch of the Alcoholic Foundation in Prince Rupert.

The same night, the Chamber of Commerce referred to its executive a motion urging MLA William H. Murray to ask the provincial government to have the Alcoholic Foundation station a counsellor here to help alleviate the local alcohol problem.

At the Rotary Club's weekly luncheon meeting at the Broadway Cafe yesterday, Rev. R. W. K. Elliott asked the members to go on record as supporting the work of the Alcoholic Foundation.

He said that the one-day clinic proposed last fall by E. D. McRae, secretary of the foundation was not enough. He said that the government should be made to realize that "there was a north country, not just Vancouver and the Okanagan."

He was referring to the fact that it was not until recently that the Alcoholic Foundation had been able to expand its activities beyond Greater Vancouver, despite the fact that it had received a grant of $110,000 last year.

Mr. Murray told the Chamber of Commerce Monday night that money was not a problem to the Alcoholic Foundation, it was a lack of trained staff to counsel and treat alcoholics.

Yesterday, Dr. Elliott was supported by Dr. W. S. Kergin who said that the government was unwilling to spend money in the north on what had become a major problem.

"A one-day clinic up here is nothing," Dr. Kergin said.

The Rotary Club passed a motion that it support both the Alcoholic Foundation and Mr. Murray in trying to bring more concrete assistance to alcoholics in this area.

Prince Rupert has now gone 7 2 9 days without a fatal traffic accident.

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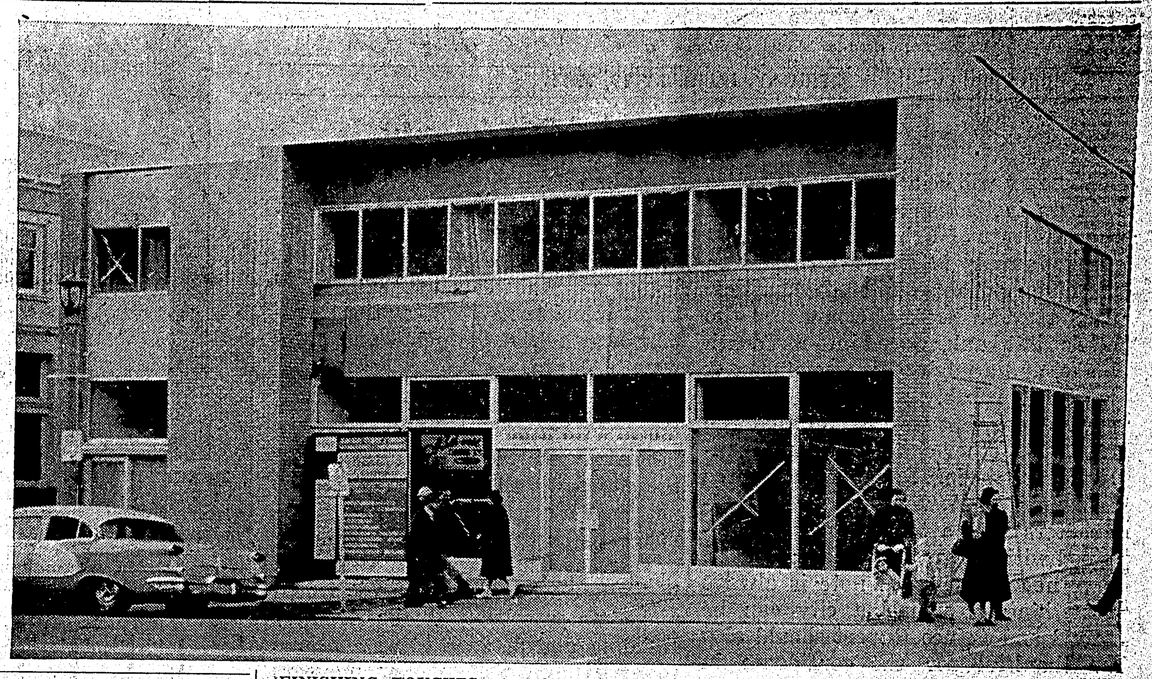
DRAWING TECHNIQUE is demonstrated to interested onlookers by Bob Hinman at the recent Arts and Crafts Display held at the Civic Centre. A survey which the Centre has been conducting to find out what the public wants in this department is now in its last day. Persons who have not filled in one of the forms appearing in The Daily News, can help the Civic Centre by filling in the one on Page 5 today and mailing it to the Civic Centre.

— Photo by Jacob Vandenbrink



FINISHING TOUCHES were being added today to new Canadian Bank of Commerce building on corner of Third Avenue West and Fourth Street so that city's newest structure would be ready for opening ceremonies tomorrow afternoon. Canadian Bank of Commerce director, J. M. Buchanan will cut ribbon across doors of pioneer bank's latest premises at 2 p.m. tomorrow. Public will be invited to inspect new bank and attend "open house" between 2—p.m. and 4:30 p.m. starting immediately after official opening. Local Bank of Commerce manager R. A. Morley will be host for the "open house" at which light refreshments will be served.

— Photo by J. R. Wrathall

UN aircraft under fire

ELISABETHVILLE (Reuters) — Forces loyal to jailed premier Patrice Lumumba today opened fire on United Nations troop planes flying into North Katanga province, according to reports reaching here.

One Moroccan soldier attached to the UN force was injured as pro - Lumumba troops who invaded Katanga Tuesday fired on a UN plane at the town of Manono.

The plane was reported to have landed about 50 Moroccans and then turned back to Elisabethville with the wounded man.

Other troop transports were unable to touch down at Manono because of the fire, the report said.

The pro - Lumumba troops were reported angry following two days of air attacks by the embryo Katanga air force against Baluba tribesmen in North Katanga, allies of the Lumumba force.

Court finds driver guilty

A charge of criminal negligence earned Robert Morden of Seal Cove, a $50 fine in Port Edward police court yesterday afternoon.

Morden was convicted on the charge which was laid following the August 25 death of Daniel Hienricks who was killed when a car which Morden was driving hit a shoulder at the side of the road, went out of control, plunged over a 17-foot bank and came to rest on its right-hand side, about five miles east of Galloway Rapids on Highway 16.

There were three girls in the car at the time of the accident.

Peace power seen cheaper than Columbia

PRINCE GEORGE (CP) — Firm prediction that Peace River power will be cheaper in Vancouver than Columbia power was made here Thursday night by John S. Shakespeare, solicitor for Peace River Power Development Co.

He told the annual meeting of the Prince George Board of Trade: "I can't quote you the rates, but don't be fooled by the stories you hear. I am prepared to say that Peace power will be delivered in the Vancouver area cheaper than Columbia River power."

He said B.C.'s huge hydro-electrical potential should be developed as soon as possible "if we are to realize cheap power by taking advantage of present-day construction costs."

Prowler hits boat owner

Charles Walter Doyle, of Prince Rupert, pleaded not guilty to charges of breaking and entering with intent and common assault today in police court before Magistrate E. T. Applewhaite and was remanded until January 17 for trial.

RCMP told the court that the charges were laid following an incident about 7 p.m. last night at the yacht club when Hugo Kraupner, of 326 McBride Street found a prowler on his boat "From Now On". The prowler struck Kraupner in the face with his fists and escaped.

Doyle was later identified from a line-up at the city police station.

No damage resulted when fire broke out in an oil burner at 1102 Sixth Avenue East, the home of D. S. McGreish, about 2:05 p.m. yesterday.

Firemen said the blaze was out on arrival

Minor damage resulted about 11:30 pm. yesterday on Third Avenue West when a car driven by Paul Lacoursier, of the Oceanview Hotel was in collision with another vehicle driven by Gerrard de Bartolo, of 1066 Third Avenue West.

B.C. ROUNDUP

Labor-management mood has major trade effect

DUNCAN (CP) — Steady growth and continuing prosperity are in British Columbia's future if it can overcome several major problems, Maurice Finnerty of Penticton, president of the B.C. Chamber of Commerce, said Wednesday night.

Labor-management relations is the most pressing of the problems, he said at a meeting of the Duncan-Cowichan Chamber of Commerce.

As a result of the situation, B.C. had become known the world over for its costly labor force, inability to settle disputes and as an undependable supplier of products. It was impossible to measure how much industries and how much investment capital had been "scared away".

Farmers pay more

VICTORIA (CP)—The B.C. Federation of Agriculture Thursday asked the provincial government to reduce school taxes on farm land and offered to prove farmers pay more than their fair share. In its annual brief to the cabinet the federation said farmers have asked for reduced school taxes since 1935 without success.

Pipeline planned

VICTORIA (CP) — Government sources said Thursday Trans-Prairie Pipe Lines Limited has applied for permission to build a 306-mile crude oil pipeline in northern British Columbia. The Saskatchewan-based firm would lay a 12 or 16-inch line from Taylor, near Dawson Creek, to Albreda, near the B.C.-Alberta border.

Girl stabbed

VICTORIA (CP) — A 15-year-old boy was arrested following the stabbing Thursday afternoon of a 15-year-old girl. Police said the youth will be charged today with the attempted murder of Caroline Yates who is in satisfactory condition at hospital with a scalp wound and one stab wound in her stomach.

UK firms assist

VICTORIA (CP) — Services of two British engineering firms have been obtained by the British Columbia Energy Board to assist in an inquiry into the relative costs and benefits of the Peace and Columbia river power developments.

Tentative parks budget submitted to board

A tentative budget was submitted to members of the city Parks Commission Thursday night amounting to $41,400 for improvements and maintenance of all city parks.

Parks Commission chairman H. S. Harrison stated that approval of this budget will not be received until about April when the total figure may have changed slightly due to modifications taking place during that time.

Major items in the budget are: Civic Centre program and supervision, $5,500; maintenance and summer help, $8,000; Algoma Park sanitary landfill; $6,000; Algoma Park extension, development, maintenance and additional backstop facilities, $8,500; Casey Park, fill, grading, additional playground equipment, $1,000; Borden Street Park, maintenance and sand, $100; Alder Park, general maintenance and fountain, $200; Roosevelt Park, new dugout, fill, grading and picnic site, $5,500; Service Park, $500; Rotary tennis courts, $100; and general costs amounting to $3,250.

Mr. Harrison was unanimously re-elected to the position of chairman. He stated that "the chairman cannot do the work required without the full co-operation of the commissioners and that I had last year in full. I am sure that I will have it again this year and look forward to our two new commissioners taking part in the work. Our present relationship with the city's engineering department is now very good and we are getting full assistance from them in our various projects."

Dr. R. B. Smith and Jack Lem, newly appointed commissioners this year, took part in their first meeting.

The commission will meet Sunday at Roosevelt Park to plan further improvements.

Mr. Harrison stated that, owing to a $10,000 cut in the budget the proposed tennis courts at Gyro Park would not be commenced this year.

The commission approved the first Monday of every month as the meeting date for the commission.

Mothers March set for Jan. 28

Kinsman Ray Billing will head the Mother's March in aid of the Poliomyelitis and Rehabilitation Foundation of British Columbia, President W. A. Gordon said today.

Throughout the province some 20,000 mothers will canvass homes on January 28.

The objective for Prince Rupert Kinsmen and the mothers is the sum of $3,000. The provincial target has been set at $300,000.

Bulkley pioneer dies aged 73

Special to The Daily News

TELKWA, B.C. — Oldtime district resident, Thomas Heslip, died aged 73 Wednesday night after a brief illness.

One of the district's best-known and respected citizens, Mr. Heslip came to Canada in 1910 and moved to the Skeena area and later settled in the Bulkley valley where he practised as a chemist. He also had a keen interest in mining.

He came from Ireland where he has a sister surviving. He was predeceased by his brother, Samuel. Mr. Heslip has no known relatives in Canada.

Details of funeral arrangements have not been announced.

WEATHER

Gale warnings continued. Cloudy Saturday with rain in the afternoon. Little change in temperature. Southeasterly gales 45 will drop Saturday afternoon to southeast 35. Low tonight and high tomorrow, 36 and 47.

TIDES

Saturday, Jan. 14, 1960
(Pacific Standard Time)

High	11:05	22.1 feet
Low	04:54	8.0 feet
	17:40	2.8 feet