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B. C. Coast Range

Kitimat Power Line Goes Dizzy Heights

Kitimat power is the heart of the \$550,000,000 aluminum project being built in Northern British Columbia. One of the toughest jobs is building through the coast range a power line strong enough to withstand heavy, extreme cold and hurricane-force wind. Dave Land, Canadian Press staff writer, tells in this story, part of a series, how the problem is being overcome.

By DAVE STOCKAND
Canadian Press Staff Writer

KILDALA PASS SUMMIT, B.C. — Eagles and helicopters are sharing the pass to Kildala these days. Helicopters and bulldozers.

Helicopters are taking the right-of-way as workmen continue building an aluminum industry fight to maintain a ruggedly built line.

Kildala Pass summit is the newest and loftiest base on the route of the transmission line from Kemano powerhouse to the aluminum smelter at Kitimat. About 100 men will be based at what is known as "Camp Kildala" until winter closes in with its payload of plunging temperatures and 80-mile-an-hour gales. Helicopters are landing on snow foundations, the camp is 5,300 feet above 2,000 feet above timberline. Tents would blow away, so being built. Every board, nail and screw is coming in by air from Kemano.

Helicopters Used in Airlift

In construction, helicopters make as many as 25 to 30 trips a day, unloading without even "killing" their engines.

Foreman Russ Boyington says he hasn't the faintest idea how much snow remained heaped on the summit at the end of the day. He has found a sane reason for digging that deep—damp soggy foundation brings up a problem in ice.

Working to take a couple of men working steadily to keep an even keel," he says.

A test cable span was erected in the fall of 1951 under the best conditions. The tests showed that the ordinary cable would not do.

To withstand icing and transmit power at 300,000 volts, a special aluminum cable will be used. With a diameter of 1.5 inches, this will be the largest such cable ever made. The line will be the highest ever.

10-Mile Section to Pass

This section covers 10½ dizzy miles. Up top, workmen look down at the helicopters shuttling them supplies. Only eagles are seen.

Workers figure work on the pass will be limited to five months a year at most. That gives them this summer and next to complete the line on schedule.

Summer is treacherous in this land criss-crossed with the snowslides and avalanches.

Visibility is zero for days at a time because of clouds which fill the mountain sides and clog the valleys.

Towers northwestward out of Kemano, about 1,000 feet above the start of the line. The towers, placed during the last few weeks, spring from a right-of-way 325 feet wide.

The towers have been grubbed, chopped and burned through forest and brush.

A road back has been blasted beyond the fringes of the forest. The shrill whistling of marmots mingles with sirens and pending explosions.

Way Back a "Bottomless Pit"

At the summit, the draw leading back toward Kemano is a bottomless pit which, in the words of Engineer Joe Smith, as if you'd have to pump daylight into it.

Work on the transmission line also is under way from Kildala to Minette Bay, near Kitimat.

From the powerhouse, the first nine miles of the transmission line will comprise two double-circuit lines.

From a switching station, two single-circuit lines will carry the power on the other side of the hump, at another switching station, double-circuit lines will resume for the remaining 10 miles to Kitimat.

Carpenters who camped on the glaring whiteness of the snow a couple of weeks ago are philosophic about their lot. They've had it tough, for a time melting snow for water and doing their own cooking.

Workman Ben Brauen says: "This is probably as close as we'll ever get."

BULLETINS

Other US Strike Looms

WASHINGTON (CP) — Spectre of another steel-throttling strike before steel mills of the States have had a chance to get back to full production arose today as John L. Lewis served notice that his United Mine Workers contracts are up next month.

Deadly Disease 'Anthrax'

OTTAWA (CP) — Mysterious disease which killed three horses and a cow in Prince Edward Island was anthrax, Agriculture Department officials said today. Federal officials said they will burn carcasses of dead animals have been buried or burned.

Bennett Will Call Session If Needed

'People Want Action, Not a Session'—Premier

VICTORIA (CP) — Premier W. A. C. Bennett said today he will not hesitate to call a session of the Legislature "when the government feels it needs legislative authority for its program."

He was answering demands from the CCF party and labor organizations for an early session.

The premier pointed out that sessions usually are held in the new year and that a special session would cost considerable money.

It was recalled that on his arrival here last week, Mr. Bennett said: "The people want action—not a session."

The CCF has demanded an early session to test the strength of the government and the B.C. division of the Canadian Congress of Labor has sent the premier a telegram demanding immediate action on legislation dealing with workmen's compensation, hospital insurance and the labor code.

It is considered unlikely that Mr. Bennett will call a session until after the new year. With a \$140,000,000 budget, voted by the Legislature this spring to carry on the affairs of the province until March, 1953, it is regarded unlikely that the government will require early legislative authority for its program.

Premier Bennett's new 10-man cabinet, sworn in last Saturday night, faces the task of learning the intricacies of the various departments.

MLA'S SCOFF

Meanwhile, Vancouver Island members of the Legislature scoffed at Premier Bennett's suggestion last Saturday that two of them resign to make way for by-elections.

(There are no Social Credit MLAs on Vancouver Island.)

The Social Credit cabinet includes two members who were not elected in the June 12 voting. They are Attorney-General Robert Bonner and Finance Minister Einar Gunderson, both of Vancouver, who can continue to hold cabinet posts but cannot sit in the Legislature unless they win seats.

(It is usually the custom for members of the party in office to resign seats to make way for by-elections.)

With the exception of Tilly Rolston, the new minister of education, all cabinet members are new to British Columbians.

NONE FROM NORTH

But, out of the 10, none are from northern, central or eastern B.C.

(Continued on page 4)



PREMIER Ernest Charles Manning, 43, has been leader for the last eight years of the Social Credit government in oil-rich Alberta. A disciple of the first leader of the Alberta S.C. party, the late William Aberhart, Mr. Manning became a cabinet minister at 27, and has held cabinet rank in the legislature ever since. Besides his duties as party leader, premier and provincial treasurer, Mr. Manning preaches on Sundays at the Prophetic Institute in Calgary where he formerly was an assistant to Mr. Aberhart. He has led the party campaign in the provincial elections being held today.

5 of Family Killed In Accident

PEMBROKE, Ont. — A shopping expedition ended tragically yesterday with the deaths of five members of a family of six in a level-crossing accident at Petawawa village, 10 miles north of here.

Percy Touseant, 30; his wife, Evelyn, 25; and three sons, Nelson, 5, Leonard, 3, and Edward, 2, were killed. A daughter, Idella, 7, suffered broken legs, chest and internal injuries.

The family had been shopping after visiting relatives when Touseant drove the automobile into the path of a slow-moving freight train at an unguarded level crossing.

BCHIS Report Ready Soon

VANCOUVER — Special legislative committee on hospital insurance will have its final report ready for the new Social Credit government soon.

This was made known here today by Sid Smith, former member for Kamloops and chairman of the committee which toured the province last year.

Walking Emissary Leaves On 'Cross Country' Hike

Somewhere between here and Terrace, 100 miles away, a man is walking eastward and should a kind motorist stop to give him a lift, James Cusack will say:

"No, thank you. I'm not taking any lifts."

With a 35-pound pack on his back, dressed in blue levis and a sweatshirt, Mr. Cusack left Prince Rupert Yacht Club at high noon on his hike across Canada.

He made up his mind 15 years ago, he said today, "to someday walk across the width of Canada."

An automobile parts manager for a garage in Prince George until recently, Mr. Cusack intends to contact the farthest Kinsmen Club from the West Coast as his mission on this hike.

A charter member of Kinsmen of both the Prince Rupert and Prince George clubs, he carries with him a written message of goodwill from Stan Saville, president of the Prince Rupert club, to the president of the St. John, Newfoundland, club.

EAST BY NEW YEAR

"I hope to be in eastern Canada by New Year's Day," said Cusack as he waved good-bye to a host of friends gathered to see him off.

His official starting place was the Prince Rupert Yacht Club, where Mr. Saville filled a tiny bottle with Pacific water which Mr. Cusack will carry with him and present to the Newfoundland Kinsmen president.

The first sign of civilization on his way is Terrace, 100 miles from Prince Rupert. Between that village and Prince George a distance of more than 300 miles are scattered villages including Hazelton, Smithers, Telkwa, Burns Lake, Vanderhoof.

But the toughest part of his journey, he expects, is between Prince George and Jasper.

WILL KEEP DIARY

"But I should make it easy within a week. I will carry enough food to last that long."

Other equipment Cusack is carrying, packed in a large packboard, is a sleeping bag, extra clothes. At his belt he is wearing an axe and slung over his shoulder a powerful telescope.

The walking emissary will keep a diary day by day and plans to write of his trip after he reaches the east coast.



EAGLES AND HELICOPTERS share Kildala Pass where a power transmission line is being built for the world's largest aluminum smelter at Kitimat, B.C., 450 miles north of Vancouver. Construction camp 11, which is 5,300 feet above sea level and 2,000 feet above timber line, has all its supplies brought in by helicopter, some machines making 25 to 30 trips daily. Kildala Pass summit is the loftiest summit on the 50-mile transmission line. The pass section covers 10½ dizzy miles. (CP PHOTO)

Ald. Casey Stands 'Opposed' to Bus Lines Application for Rate Boost

An application by Arrow Bus Lines, operators of the only transportation system in this city, for permission to increase fares is being opposed by the city council.

Alderman George Casey said he thinks the 5 per cent increase sought in adult fares and the 10 per cent hike in children's fares is "pretty stiff."

"In my opinion, I protest very strongly this 50 per cent hike. I think 25 per cent would be ample and I stand opposed to the application."

The bus line has applied to the Public Utilities Commission to raise adult fares from 10 to 15 cents and children's fares from 5 to 10 cents when traveling out of school hours.

Fare between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. on school days only would remain at 5 cents for children.

The company seeks the increases because of higher operating costs.

It says the citizens have been riding at the present fare now for 10 years even though operating costs have been rising steadily.

After brief discussion of the application at the last council meeting, aldermen endorsed a motion that the city oppose the increase and ask for a hearing of the application before the PUC in Prince Rupert.

"We will then have a chance to find out the company's position," said Alderman Mike Krueger.

The company seeks to increase the fares on September 1. Its application was made on July 19.

City Clerk Bill Long was instructed to write the PUC stating the city's objection.

Included in the party bringing in Art Cameron, whose home is in Langley, is W. T. (Bill) Rowe, the sick man's partner who trudged into this village late last Friday; tired and hungry, to tell citizens of their plight. Others are Julian Berkosha and Ken McKee.

Berkosha and Ian McLeod, hotelkeeper here, found Cameron last Saturday and McLeod returned Sunday for help, leaving Berkosha with Cameron.

Meanwhile another search party, headed by Constable Gerry Schwinghammer of the RCMP, Thorlief Retvedt, Art Brown, John McNeil and radio operator Angelo Bagnella, were flown out Monday from Bowster Lake, 55 miles north of here, after their fruitless search for Cameron.

Cameron was found huddled beside American Creek, 22 miles north of here, a short distance from the spot where Rowe left him last Friday to obtain help.

McLeod said he was in "bad shape" and would have to be carried out. He said rescuers would have to "break trail" for some distance.

Arrangements were completed to take two horses in Monday with Rowe and McKee to bring out the sick prospector. They expect to return some time today.

Whether Cameron will go to hospital here is not known. He may be flown to Prince Rupert for medical treatment.

Cameron and Rowe went in to Bowser Lake last June 30 and planned on coming out July 29.

Although not in good health at the start, Cameron, a veteran prospector, weakened during the search for a base metal deposit, and after food supplies were exhausted, he "played out," letting Rowe come in alone.

Warfare Marks Korean Voting

PUSAN (CP) — Police killed six guerrillas and wounded 10 of a band of 40 that attacked a polling place about 70 miles west of here today in South Korea's first direct election of president and vice-president.

Police and troops have been on the alert for such raids.

Home Minister Kim Tai Sun said the guerrillas fled, leaving sub machine gun and 300 cartridges.

He said the police suffered no casualties and voting was resumed after a short delay.

Government officials predicted 85 to 90 per cent of the 8,218,000 eligible voters would ballot.

Presidential candidates are incumbent Syngman Rhee, former Communist Lee Cho Bong Am, former vice-president Lee Shi Yung, and former ambassador to Japan Hugh Cynn.

Price Boosted On Liquor Wines, Stout

VICTORIA — Price increases on about 35 brands of imported liquor, wine, ale and stout went into effect in British Columbia last Friday, Liquor Commissioner McGugan said today.

The increases ranged from five cents on a quart of Australian wines to 70 cents a quart on the top brand of French champagne.

All increases, except a 30-cent a quart boost on Gilbey's gin, were made on imported products.

Mr. McGugan said the increases were made necessary because of boosts imposed at the source of prices paid by the Liquor Control Board.

Confessed Slayer Hanged

VANCOUVER — Iron-nerved to the last, confessed slayer Arthur Bruce Cunningham, 65, was hanged at Oakalla prison farm today.

The trap was sprung at 6:03 a.m. and he was cut down and pronounced dead 15 minutes later. The sky was overcast. It was the first day in weeks that the sun had not shone brilliantly here.

Cunningham, the second man in Canadian legal history to plead guilty to a murder charge, walked steadily and with head high to the gallows, showing no emotion.

Cunningham pleaded guilty May 12 at Prince Rupert to a charge of murdering Albert Thorsen, 70-year-old farmer, at Endako October 2. Police said Thorsen had been killed in his lonely cabin for the \$40 he had. Only previous case of a guilty plea to a murder charge occurred in Ontario in 1935.

Nine guards and two newspaper reporters watched "Arthur Ellis," Canada's hangman, carry out the execution.

While waiting for his requested appointment on the gallows, Cunningham told prison officials that he was guilty of the 1941 murder at Prince George for which he was tried but acquitted.

He said he spent 21 years of his life in jail and added in a conversation with Warden Hugh Christie that he "got a little harder after each prison term and would kill a man again for his pay cheque."

Cunningham's last meal was a steak dinner. He refused breakfast and played cards with his guards until a few minutes before the execution.

A bachelor with no known relatives, Cunningham refused to see visitors, even a former neighbor who went to prison yesterday.

WEATHER

Cooler air spread southward over Vancouver Island and the southern interior during the night. Thunderstorms accompanied the leading edge of the cold air in the interior sections but along the coast there were only a few patches of cloud. Temperatures in all sections will be slightly lower today.

Forecast

Cloudy northern Vancouver Island section, clearing in the afternoon. Sunny tomorrow. Elsewhere a few clouds today and Wednesday. Not much change in temperature. Light winds except northwest (25) in exposed areas. Low tonight and high tomorrow at Port Hardy, 52 and 68; Sandspit and Prince Rupert, 52 and 70.

Rupert Blessed with Sunniest July in 10 Years; Also Hottest

The weatherman turned back the pages of his little black book today to find that Prince Rupert has just experienced the sunniest July since 1942.

The city enjoyed 141.1 hours of sunshine in the month that ended last Thursday. This compared with 120.9 hours in July 1951, only 82.3 in the same month of 1950 and 146.7 hours in July 1942.

Warmest day of the month was on July 11 when the mercury rose to 87 degrees above. The day climaxed a week of extreme heat. Mean temperature for the month was 57.6 degrees and the coolest day was July 4, when the temperature was only 44 degrees above.

A total of 2.98 inches of rain fell during the month and there were 16 days of measurable precipitation.

TIDES

Wednesday, August 6, 1952
(Pacific Standard Time)
High 1:33 22.6 feet
 14:05 20.9 feet
Low 7:44 0.2 feet
 19:56 4.1 feet

GOLD PRODUCTION

There were 1,435,068 fine ounces of gold mined in Canada in the first four months of 1952.