



TAXI
235 Phone

DAY AND NIGHT SERVICE
Stand:
Express Hotel, Third Ave.

Girls Death Events

Girls who said they saw William Harry Eckels, Joseph Meehan and Philip Mountbatten on July 24, told of being up to the fight followed by Meehan's appearance as a preliminary murder in the morning.

They were told haltingly by W. D. Vance and Mary McKinnon, who admitted had been "picked up" at the hotel room.

More articulate than room 72 of the hotel and drank of how the man "Bill" ment out on a trip for more 11-then returned.

Identified Eckels as the man who had been with Mary McKinnon. The McKinnon girl, who followed, also identified Eckels as the man who had been with her.

Two men with girls led to a dispute between two men which started when a man threw an empty beer bottle at "Bill" hitting him on the head. The bottle was smashed to fragments.

He threw a bottle that hit the head and smashed. Just as Paddy and grab him. Paddy and Bill started and I ran out of the room. Clayton girl said.

McKinnon girl, speaking in an almost incoherent voice, told a story similar to that recounted by Jessie McKeon.

Theodore Hagblad, Central Hotel proprietor, said that when he accompanied James McKinnon, a guest, to room 72 after McKinnon had been aroused by a noise, they found a man on top of his face in a pool of blood. Another man came out behind the door.

He asked me to feel a bump on the head. Hagblad testified, and there was a slight bump on it."

Hagblad said that the accused was very much like a man I knew in the room. The man who was in the room was the one which the police took a short time later, he said.

Hagblad told the court that there was not a guest at the hotel at the time of his death but he had occupied another room from July 20 to 22, and been requested to leave creating a disturbance.

Hagblad said that he did not know why the hallway in the hotel annex was in darkness. A light in the hallway had been flickered, and a bulb taken from the bathroom. The bulb in the socket in room 72 also was taken from its socket and the room was in darkness when Meehan was found on the floor.

McKinnon, occupant of room 72, told of hearing a disturbance in the hall and of the proprietor. Both men were taken to the room 72 because of Meehan's death.

Hearing was adjourned until this afternoon.

Baseball Scores
National League
St. Louis 1, Cincinnati 8.
Philadelphia 3, Chicago 0.
American League
Boston 5, Philadelphia 3.
Washington 4.

BEACH PICNIC—Buses leave at 11 a.m. and noon Sunday. Tickets now on sale at the home of W. C. Power, 1000 St. James St., or at the home of Gordon and Anderson, Canadian Legion.

Britain Rising To Economic Emergency

Drastic Import Cuts; To Be More Austerity

LONDON (CP)—Two hundred and eighty million pounds savings in six months through immediate import cuts were being discussed in British political circles as one of the steps the cabinet plans to combat the economic crisis.

Further cuts are anticipated for October unless the situation shows a definite improvement by then. Every month Britain is importing 150,000,000 pounds worth of goods and exporting 93,000,000 worth, most of the deficit being net by drawing from the American and Canadian loans.

Other measures expected might be reduction of foreign exchange deficits without waiting for United States aid or the outcome of General Marshall's economic recovery plans.

Included in proposed cuts would also be food and raw material, the forces allowances and the diversion of coal and raw material into principal export industries at the expense of home production.

TO TALK WITH UNITED STATES

LONDON, (CP)—Great Britain yesterday arranged for high level economic talks with the United States in renewed bids to stave off her looming economic crisis. The government Board of Trade said its president would fly for a conference with William L. Clayton, United States Under Secretary of State for economic affairs and British newspapers said they would consider slashing Britain's imports from America to save dollars.

DELEGATES ARE NAMED

Prince Rupert Chamber of Commerce Finalizes Convention Preparations
To finalize preparations as far as it is concerned for the annual convention of the Associated Boards of Trade of Central British Columbia, the Prince Rupert Chamber of Commerce was in special general session last night.

There was a review of resolutions which will be presented, their numbering six in all, and it was left to the president, G. A. Hunter, who occupied the chair, to name convention delegates.

The resolutions will deal with the following subjects:
Groundhog Coal Field—asking the federal government to proceed with the aerial survey promised for this year with geological mapping in 1948.

Decentralization of industry—urging that it be done to the best interests of the nation to relieve industrial congestion in the larger centres by means of decentralization.

Alaska relations—urging the increase of travel and exchange of goods between central British Columbia and southeastern Alaska and fuller co-operation and joint action between the governments.

Refinancing—institution of a registration fee of \$5 per delegate hereafter in order to assist in the holding of annual conventions, particularly in the smaller centres.

Grain shipping through Prince Rupert—endorsement of a resolution on this subject recently passed by the city council.

Highway publicity—contacting of various persons and bodies in British Columbia, United States and the prairie provinces with a view to disseminating information regarding the existence of a good highway as far north and west as Prince Rupert.

Reporting on convention preparations, W. J. Scott, chairman of the convention committee, detailed the various events and bespoke a full attendance by local Chamber members at all convention sessions.

Authorized by the meeting to make the appointments, the President named convention delegates as follows:
Delegates—Arnold Platen, J. T. Harvey, W. L. Armstrong, Dr. R. G. Large and Earl Gordon.
Alternates—W. J. Scott, W. F. Stone, E. T. Applewhaite, G. C. Michell and E. D. Forward.

Earl Gordon was nominated to the convention resolutions committee.
Associated Boards of Trade convention banquet and dance, August 8, Civic Centre. Tickets limited, available at W. F. Stone's. Please make reservations early.

Action Against Companies Denied

OTTAWA, (CP)—The National Labor Relations Board yesterday refused the Canadian Seamen's Union permission to take court action against the chief Great Lakes shipping companies on charges that they tried to bribe T. G. McManus, national C.S.U. secretary, with an offer of \$100,000 to accept a work contract on their terms.

BOATBUILDERS FAVOR STRIKE

Union Favors Such Action By Wide Margin On Secret Ballot
VANCOUVER (CP)—Officials of the Marine and Boilermakers' Industrial Union (C.C.L.) reported yesterday that the organization's 1200 wooden shipyard workers had voted in favor of a strike if necessary. The vote, taken by secret ballot, was reported to have been 94 per cent in favor of strike action.

Boatbuilders are also reported to have voted their union committee power to stop all overtime work in wooden shipyards when such action is deemed necessary.

Contract covering sixteen wooden shipyards expired July 18. No date for the proposed strike has yet been set.

THE WEATHER

Synopsis
A weak storm which moved inland over extreme northern British Columbia during the night has brought cloudy skies and a few showers to the northern coast. This disturbance is now weakening and is not likely to have any marked effect over the southern areas of the province. Skies are cloudy on the west coast but the remainder of Vancouver Island and the lower mainland and the interior will enjoy another day of clear skies and warm weather. A few widely scattered evening thunderstorms may be expected over the mountains of southeastern British Columbia. There is little indication of any marked change in most areas of B.C. during the next 48 hours.

Forecast
Prince Rupert, Queen Charlottes and North Coast—Overcast with intermittent drizzle or widely scattered showers becoming cloudy in the afternoon. Cloudy tonight and early Saturday, clearing Saturday afternoon. Fog patches over the low-lying area lifting by noon and forming again tonight. Winds westerly 15 m.p.h. Little change in temperature. Lows tonight and highs Saturday—Port Hardy 49-66, Massett 47-65, Prince Rupert 52-67.

Royal Wedding

LONDON, (CP)—The royal wedding of Princess Elizabeth and Philip Mountbatten, Duke of Edinburgh, at Buckingham Palace, London, C. D. Howe, minister of reconstruction, attended the meeting for Canada. The wedding date is set for November 20 in Westminster Abbey.
Princess Elizabeth has chosen a late morning wedding.
With the deadline set, court dressmakers, caterers and chaplains today settled down in earnest to make preparations for the event.

Union Official Charges Bribery

OTTAWA, (CP)—T. G. McManus, national secretary of the Canadian Seamen's Union, charged Tuesday that two Great Lakes shipping firm executives had not denied but had admitted that they had offered him a \$100,000 bribe, when he went before them with Mr. Justice S. E. Richards at the time when that Manitoba jurist was seeking to arrange a settlement during last year's inland shipping strike.

TIMBER SCALE IS UP IN JULY

Sawlog scale in the Prince Rupert forestry district during July was one of the heaviest in recent years, 25,696,521 board feet, and brings the year's production to date to 126,791,943 board feet. Sawlog production for the first seven months of 1946 was 69,549,737 board feet.

Pole and piling scale last month was 87,822 lineal feet as compared with 829,378 in July 1946. The seven-month production figures this year are 1,866,130, as compared with 2,152,581 last year.

Last month, 4,169 railroad ties were cut in the district, and cordwood production was 339 cords.

ROAD IGNORANCE IS WIDESPREAD

Mr. and Mrs. William Atherton, who have been in the city in the course of a holiday visit north, will sail today by the Catala on their return home to Portland, Oregon. Mr. Atherton, who is a veteran of the First Great War and who sustained severe shrapnel wounds, lived here about 15 years ago and is renewing many old friendships. Prior to locating in Portland, he resided in Jersey City. He is in the service of the Radio Corporation of America and is doing well. He mentioned that in the south people generally have still to learn that there is automobile connection with Prince Rupert. Now that he knows there is, he looks forward to driving over the Skeena Highway, perhaps next summer.

Fish Sales

American
Seattle, 70,000, 24 and 19, Pacific.
Ethel S., 42,000, 24 and 19, Cold Storage.
Evening Star, 75,000, 24 and 19, Atlin.
(These boats sold in Ketchikan for Rupert delivery).

Canadian
Fredelia, 20,000, Co-op.
Balsac, 28,000, Co-op.

WHEAT CONTRACT FILLED

OTTAWA—Canada has completed her 1946-47 contract with the United Kingdom for the 160,000,000 bushels of wheat, but dwindling crop prospects indicate a less hopeful next year's and force the government to continue its subsidies on feed grains.



GERMAN COMMUNISTS HAVE OWN RECOVERY—Walter Fish, chairman of the German Communist party, is shown addressing a meeting of his followers in Frankfurt, Germany. Theme of the rally was, "Let us get out of the blind alley." The poster behind the speaker's platform gives the Communist plan for recovery, it reads: "Hunger and desultoriness will cease through: land reform, control of consumers, planned economy and increased authority for the works councils."

Bulletins

C.C.F. AND COMMUNISM
OTTAWA—M. J. Coldwell, C. C. F. party leader, said Wednesday his party had often been accused of communism. Mr. Coldwell declared the C. C. F. never has and never will have anything to do with those who accept the Russian system or its methods, as models for all countries.

PRISON FIRE TOTAL
PARIS—At least 21 persons, all believed to have been women inmates, died in a flash fire which swept through a section of a Paris prison Wednesday.

QUEEN MARY SAILS
SOUTHAMPTON—The world's second largest liner, the Queen Mary, on Thursday left this British south coast port on her first post war passenger voyage to New York after six years of army service.

CLYDE YACHT RACE
GREENOCK, Scotland—The United States six metre yacht John won the Seawanhaka Cup on the River Clyde by beating the British defender Joan for the third successive time by just over two minutes.

AUTO WORKERS IDLE
DETROIT—Nearly 80,000 production workers are idle or facing layoffs in seven automobile plants affected by strikes and weather.

NEW BRUNSWICK STORM
EDMUNDSTON, N. B.—Damage estimated at \$100,000 was caused here Thursday by a fierce wind, rain, hail and electrical storm which cut a path of destruction through the rich farming district of St. Hilaire.

Twelve Hundred Letters on First Air Mail Flight From Prince Rupert

No less than 1200 or so letters weighing some nineteen pounds in the gross were dispatched from Prince Rupert today in the inauguration of the new air mail service from here to Vancouver. The bulk of the letters went to Vancouver although there were a considerable number also for Eastern Canada.
Evidently a considerable large portion of the first air mail consisted of special letters of greeting and many of the letters had special "first flight" covers.

Death By Choking

Verdict of Coroner's Jury in Case of Patrick Joseph Meehan

A coroner's jury, inquiring into the death last Friday of Patrick Joseph Meehan, found yesterday afternoon that the mine worker and logger "came to his death from choking as a result of blows struck by a person or persons unknown." The verdict was brought in after the jury had heard evidence of nine witnesses during the two-and-a-half hour session.

Dr. R. E. Coleman, pathologist, testified that the probable cause of death was from choking on blood that had entered his nasal passage and windpipe after he had been beaten about the face.

Meehan was found in a room of the Central Hotel here at 1:30 last Friday morning by James McKinnon, a lodger at the Second Avenue hotel, and Theodore Hagblad, hotel operator, after McKinnon had reported an uproar in a back room of the hotel annex.

The two men were led to the room in the darkened hall by the groans of Meehan as he lay on the floor. A smashed beer bottle, believed to have been the instrument used to strike Meehan, lay near his head.

William Harry Eckels, 24-year old former American soldier, is charged with murder in connection with Meehan's death. He came up before Magistrate W. D. Vance for preliminary hearing today.

JURY HEARS OF TRAGEDY EVENTS

The story of events following the uproar in the darkened back hall room was related to the jury by James McKinnon, occupant of a room at the front end of the same corridor, and by Theodore Hagblad, proprietor of the Central Hotel.

McKinnon, whose room is about 40 feet away from the death room, told of going to bed about midnight. He read for a while, then was aroused by a commotion down the hall.

"I heard this commotion down the hall," he testified. "I opened the door of my room and found all the lights in the hallway off. Then the fighting stopped and I heard a man groaning and gasping like he was strangling."

"I ran to the head of the stairs and called Hagblad. I told him to bring a flashlight. He came a few minutes later and we went to room 72. There was a chair behind the door and we couldn't get the door fully opened. However, we got it partly opened and turned the flashlight on the groaning man on the floor. He was lying in a pool of blood and was almost naked."

"Another man stepped from behind the door as we entered. I did not get a good look at him. I don't know who he was. "I was looking at the man on the floor. "What did you do that for?" I said.

"What makes you think I did it?" the man answered.
Then, according to McKinnon, Hagblad left the room to go and telephone the police, and the strange man followed. McKinnon went back to his room.

McKinnon said that he and Hagblad were able to find the room because of the groaning and gasping which followed the uproar. "The man was writing on the floor and groaning, that's all," he said.

Hagblad, the Central Hotel proprietor, told of taking a flashlight and going upstairs to the annex when called by McKinnon.

"I flashed the light down the hallway, but saw nothing. McKinnon said: 'Not there. In one of the rooms.' We went to the room where the groaning came from."

"We found the door partly open but it had a chair behind it. We opened it and then a

AIR MAIL STARTED

Greetings Exchanged Between Civic and Boards of Trade Heads

Marking the inauguration of the first air mail service between Prince Rupert and Vancouver, special delivery air mail greetings were dispatched today by presidents of Associated Boards of Trade of Central British Columbia and Senior and Junior Chambers of Commerce to the presidents of the Vancouver senior and junior Boards of Trade. Mayor Nora Arnold of Prince Rupert also wrote a special letter to Mayor G. G. McGeer of Vancouver as did E. T. Applewhaite, secretary of the Prince Rupert Chamber of Commerce, to Reg Rose, executive secretary, Vancouver Board of Trade.

Henceforth there will be daily air mail between Vancouver and Prince Rupert via Sanspit, Queen Charlotte Islands, and Port Hardy, Vancouver Island, by Canadian Pacific Airlines. Air mail posted in Prince Rupert in the morning will be delivered late the same afternoon in Vancouver and vice versa.

Heretofore the best mail time between Vancouver and Prince Rupert has been thirty-six hours.

NITRATE SHIPS MAY BE BARRED

NEW YORK, (CP)—The refusal of Brooklyn longshoremen to load a ship carrying ammonium nitrate fertilizer such as was carried by ships which caught fire at Brest, France, and Texas City disasters, raised a possibility that ships with this class of cargo on board will be barred from the port of New York.

LOCAL TIDES
Saturday, August 2, 1947

High	1:15	20.1 feet
Low	7:52	2.7 feet
	19:55	7.2 feet

man stepped out from behind the door and was caught in the beam of the flashlight.

"I said: What are you doing in this room?"

"The man replied: I was asked to come up and have a drink."

"I said: This room isn't even occupied as far as I know."

"I went to the groaning man and saw his head was covered with blood. I told them that I was going to call the police."

"The man said: Call the police. I have nothing to worry about. I want my record clear."

STRANGE MAN HAS NOTHING TO HIDE

"I told the man: You had better stick around. The police will want you, and he answered: I will. I have nothing to hide."
Hagblad left the room and went to the lobby to telephone the police. The man followed him to the lobby and stood by the desk. The hotel proprietor said that the man told him he had gone out to try and get some beer. He told Hagblad that he had telephoned someone whose name Hagblad could not remember.

Then the man said: "When I came back I opened the door and he hit me over the head with a bottle. I let him have it because I had to defend myself."

Hagblad said that, when he entered the room, there were no lights on. A smashed beer bottle lay close to Meehan's head. He did not recognize the man on the floor at first, but later thought it might be Meehan from the clothes in the room.

"I did not recognize the other man in the room. I never saw him before."

NEITHER MAN REGISTERED
Mr. Hagblad declared that neither man was registered at

(Continued on Page 2)