

The Daily News

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Rupert Men Victims of Sea Tragedy

Police Head Is Retiring

Commissioner T. W. S. Parsons Going on Superannuation at End of Month

VICTORIA, (C)—Thomas W. S. Parsons, commissioner of provincial police since 1938, will retire on government superannuation at the end of this month. It is expected that Commissioner John Shirass will take his place.

The retirement of Commissioner Parsons, together with the recent superannuation of Inspector Ernest Gammon of Kamloops, will involve a number of changes among high-ranking officers of the British Columbia Police, involving the transferring of present inspectors and the appointment of at least two new ones. Qualifying examinations for inspectorial rank were recently held among staff sergeants and sergeants.

It is understood Inspector Hugh Mansell of Prince Rupert is going to Kamloops.

Commissioner Parsons started his long and honorable career with the provincial police in the north many years ago and was stationed, among other places, at Red Pass, Terrace, Prince George and Prince Rupert, having been formerly inspector at Prince Rupert.



CANADIAN MINISTER HAS HOME ATMOSPHERE IN AUSTRALIA
 The Hon. Brooke Claxton, left, Canadian defence minister and leader of the Canadian delegation to the empire conference on the Japanese peace settlement in Canberra, Australia, was the guest of Kenneth A. Greene, high commissioner for Canada, while he was in Canberra. Mr. Greene, with his wife and daughter, Patsy, had just arrived in Australia. Mr. Claxton is shown here with Mr. Greene, Mrs. Greene and daughter, Patsy.

Mine Blast Kills Four

Another Tragedy in Ontario—This Time at Central Patricia

TORONTO (C)—Four men were killed and three others were rescued today from a blocked mine in isolated Red Lake mining district of northwest Ontario, it was learned from the company head office here.

The seven men were trapped at the 3200-foot level by a reported premature explosion but the company had received little information other than indication that three men were alive and four others were dead and had not been brought to the surface.

Officials did not have definite word as to what caused the accident or how many of the 220 men employed at the mine were in the shaft at the time.

Local Tides

Friday, October 10, 1947

High	10:38	18.7 feet
	22:41	19.7 feet
Low	4:09	4.8 feet
	16:38	7.7 feet

Bulletins

AWAIT STRIKE RESULT

VANCOUVER—Result of the street railwaymen's strike vote in Vancouver, New Westminster and Victoria yesterday is expected to be made known between 3 and 5 o'clock this afternoon. In Union quarters it was indicated there would be a large majority in favor of striking. Meantime, residents of British Columbia's three major cities, faced with the grim prospect of walking to work, waited apprehensively for the outcome of negotiations of seven labor disputes involving 3,305 workers.

MISSING IN NORTH

ATLIN—A woman and two men are missing in their 35-foot gasboat on Tagish Lake in Northern British Columbia. They are Mrs. Eva Watt, William Jeffery and Benny Evans. The trio left Take Landing October 2 in their boat and failed to arrive at their destination.

BACON RATION CUT

LONDON—Britain's bacon ration of two ounces per week is to be halved from October 19 as a result of the strikes in Canadian meat packing factories, the Food Ministry announced tonight. The Ministry said that, should the Canadian strike continue, even the ration of one ounce per week could not be maintained for long.

THEFT OF SECRETS

WASHINGTON—Federal Bureau of Investigation announced Wednesday the arrest of two former service men on charges of theft of highly confidential photographs relating to atomic energy development. F.B.I. Director J. Edgar Hoover gave the names as George Thompson, 42, and Ernest Paperello, 29. The photographs were recovered.

LOS ANGELES IS REOPENED

Union Accedes to Edict of Maritime Industry Arbitrator

SAN FRANCISCO, (C)—Waterfront Employers' Association announces that it is reopening the port of Los Angeles as directed by the Pacific Maritime Industry arbitrator, Arthur C. Miller. The arbitrator termed the suspension operation as a "violation" of the C.I.O. longshore contract.

JURY COMMENDS GALLANTRY OF TERRACE YOUTH

Fifteen-year-old Roy Clifford, now in Prince Rupert General Hospital, was commended by a coroner's jury here Wednesday for his gallant attempt to save the life of his three-year-old brother, William John, by dashing into their burning home when it was destroyed by fire at Terrace on the night of September 23.

The jury found that the child, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Clifford, died as a result of burns received in the fire. He succumbed in the early morning of September 24, 15 minutes after he had been rushed to hospital at Prince Rupert.

The hearing was concluded by Coroner M. M. Stephens after receiving evidence from Mr. Clifford and Corporal T. D. Brunton, of the Terrace provincial police detachment.

According to testimony by Mr. Clifford, the cause of the fire was an explosion in the kitchen stove which he had been told by his nine-year-old son, Teddy, set the kitchen ablaze while he was bathing the three-year-old preparatory to bed time.

Teddy dashed out of the house and told the oldest brother, Roy, of the explosion. Roy ran into the burning house and passed through flames to save the child.

Teddy ran to the Terrace Theatre to inform his parents who had left the house an hour before.

Mr. Clifford testified that, before leaving, he and Mrs. Clifford had checked the kitchen stove and found that the fire was low and the draughts closed. He could give no cause for the explosion.

The jury commended Roy for his brave attempt to save his brother before they retired to consider their verdict.

Corporal T. D. Brunton told of hearing Teddy Clifford tell his parents of the fire while they were in the theatre and of the efforts to save the burning building. The flames had gained too much headway before fire fighters got into action, however.

Members of the jury were Alan MacDonald, foreman, Hilmar Mork, Donald Nixon, William Hall, William Webster and Lawrence Ryan.

AIR PASSENGERS

For Vancouver—Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Felsenthal, F. E. Crone, A. Dean, D. McDonough, C. L. Youngman.

CRIPPS IS ALARMED

Britain Headed For Economic Strangulation Unless Some Relief Forthcoming

LONDON (C)—Sir Stafford Cripps, head of the Labor government's new economic ministry, told a press conference yesterday that, "in the absence of some new dollar availability for Europe and ourselves, we shall be driven to cut still further our dollar imports." This would be the beginning of a process which, unless rapidly arrested, would lead to gradual "economic strangulation."

Britain's economic chief said: "We should have no alternative. We have already begun to dig into our gold reserve of gold and dollars reserve which are none too big and which serve the whole sterling area."

Settlement Confirmed

Marine Engineers' Union Head Insists Strike Has Been Obviated

VANCOUVER (C)—Reports that the strike of British Columbia coastal marine engineers might "still be called" were denied today by Denis Heard, national president of the Marine Engineers' Association, American Federation of Labor.

"As far as I am concerned, the strike has definitely been averted," Mr. Heard told the Canadian Press. "A settlement has been reached on wages and hours, the two main points in dispute."

Members of the Association have criticized the Union executive for the settlement reached with the operators of thirty-six coastal steamships in an emergency meeting Wednesday. They claimed that the strike "might still be on." They charged Union representatives with failing to follow instructions in accepting an offer from the steamship operators of 7½ percent monthly increase for chief engineers and ten percent for other engineer ranks, together with a 44-hour week. They claimed that the membership was very "dissatisfied" that the executive had not held out for original demands of 12½ percent.

Mr. Heard admitted that there was dissatisfaction among the membership and stated the whole thing would be threshed out at a general meeting.

STILL FIGHTING RATE INCREASE

United Action By All Ports of Coast Against Ship Freight Boost Urged by Local Chamber

Concerted action by Vancouver, Prince Rupert, Victoria, Nanaimo, Port Alberni, Powell River and such ports in resisting the thirty percent increase in coastal freight rates which has been effected by the steamship companies is being sought by the Prince Rupert Chamber of Commerce on recommendation of its freight rates committee of which E. J. Smith is chairman.

"It would only be by the united action of all communities affected that we could hope for results," says the local freight rates committee.

Little hope is held by the committee, however, of combatting the steamship companies on their increase in view of the Dominion government lifting controls on transportation charges even before receipt of the report of the Board of Transport Commissioners which had been considering the application for a thirty percent increase in railway freight rates.

Local Fishermen Lost As Seineboat Heeled

William Field and Oleg Krestnick Are Believed Drowned When Crew Swept Overboard in Stormy Johnstone Strait

An autumn gale claimed the lives of two Prince Rupert fishermen on Wednesday when the J. H. Todd and Co. seiner Florence II, heavily laden with fish, heeled over in the churning waters of Johnstone Strait, 300 miles south of Prince Rupert, throwing her crew of seven overboard.

NO RELIEF TO POLAND

Canada Denies Share of Post-UNRRA Fund—No Official Reason Given

OTTAWA, (C)—Canada will not make any allocation to Poland from its \$20,000,000 post-UNRRA relief appropriation approved by Parliament last summer, it was learned yesterday. No official reason was given for the decision.

So far about \$4,000,000 of the appropriation has not been allocated, Canada having already made relief grants to Italy and Greece in the sum of \$4,000,000 and to Austria, \$3,000,000.

LOCAL WISHES MET BY C.N.R.

R. C. Vaughan, chairman and president of Canadian National Railways, answering representations made recently by the Prince Rupert Chamber of Commerce that Prince Rupert should be the port of registry of the new coastal liner Prince George, has written as follows:

"You will be pleased to know that we have arranged to have our steamship 'Prince George' registered in Prince Rupert. I am glad to have been able to meet your wishes in this case."

BRUSHING UP ON LOCAL HIGHWAY

Deputy Minister of Mines and Resources Helping to Make Its Existence and Attractions Known

Assurance that his department will do everything in its power to make known the existence of the motor highway to Prince Rupert together with the manifold attractions of the area it traverses is given in a letter received by the Prince Rupert Public Relations Council from Dr. Hugh H. Keenleyside, deputy minister of mines and natural resources.

Recently the Public Relations Council drew to the attention of Dr. Keenleyside incidents of where certain federal officers had given misleading information in respect to the Prince Rupert Highway. Dr. Keenleyside's letter says that the matter is being brought to the attention of officers of his department and, in addition, is being referred to the deputy minister of national revenue (customs) and to the commissioner of Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

HAD BUSY TIME IN AUSTRALIA

OTTAWA—Hon. Brooke Claxton, minister of defence, who returned here recently after attending a conference in Canberra, Australia, spent 14 days there. Every day he was on the move for he had much area to cover in limited time. For about 25 days he covered 1,000 miles a day. Out of 25 night's, 22 were spent in different places, a good many sitting up in a plane. It was a tough trip, he declared, there and back.

LOCAL FISHERMEN LOST

Conceded drowned when they lost their holds on the seine net to which they had been clinging, were William Field, 60, of 526 Eighth Avenue East, and Oleg Krestnick, 18, son of Gerastime Krestnick, 768 Alfred Street.

Rescued, after they had clung to the drifting vessel until it was towed to sheltered water were Capt. Martin Johnson, 60, skipper of the 65-foot seiner, and crew members Frank McDonald, Larry Henning, Neils Gustavson and Wilbur Faught, all of Prince Rupert.

The Florence II, a comparatively new vessel, left Prince Rupert last Saturday for the waters off Vancouver Island for herring fishing. It is believed that the nets were out when the boat struck by the violent gale that came near to capsizing her.

The tragedy occurred south of Alert Bay, near the northern approach to Johnstone Strait which separates Vancouver Island from the mainland.

The two missing men apparently lost their holds on the trailing seine net as the unguided vessel drifted in the boiling seas.

The others held on until another boat came along towing them into Growlers Cove on Cracroft Island, 20 miles south of Alert Bay.

The missing men had been crew members of the Florence II while she was salmon fishing on the north coast out of Klemtu. They had planned on seven or eight weeks herring fishing when they left for the south last Saturday.

VICTIMS WELL KNOWN HERE

William Field was a well known Prince Rupert man, having lived in the city for the last 35 years. He had been a fisherman most of that time but also had worked as a carpenter. Born in Estonia 60 years ago, he is survived by his wife, two daughters, Mrs. Carl Erickson, 529 Eighth Avenue East and Mrs. Lloyd Mooney, 133 Fifth Avenue West, and one son, Victor, at home.

Oleg Krestnick, one of the youngest deep sea fishermen out of this port, was 18 years old in September. Born at Powell River, he spent his boyhood in Toronto and Montreal. He has lived in Prince Rupert for the last three years, serving on various halibut and salmon boats.

Earlier this season he fished halibut on the Wales Island 7, Capt. George Howe. He is survived by his father at 768 Alfred Street, and an older brother at Port Hardy.

SUPERSONIC EXPERIMENTS

PADSTOW, Cornwall, Eng., (C)—The small, pilotless rocket plane, which attained "a speed of 900 miles per hour in an experimental flight off the Cornish coast yesterday, is the first of a group to be used in Supply Ministry experiments with supersonic speed.

The experiments are expected to produce valuable data about the performances of ultra-high-speed aircraft as they approach and surpass the speed of sound which varies from about 660 miles an hour at sea level to 760 miles per hour at 30,000 feet.

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CONSUL GREETES BRITISH VICE ADMIRAL—Hugh C. McClelland, left, British consul at Philadelphia, P., is shown greeting Sir William C. Tennant, vice-admiral and commander of the H.M.S. Sheffield, after the 10,000-ton British cruiser docked at the Philadelphia navy yard on its good-will tour of the Atlantic coast. It was the first peacetime visit of a British warship to the Quaker City in more than 10 years.