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NORTHERN AND CENTRAL BRITISH COLUMBIA'S NEWSPAPER

The Daily News

Published at Canada's Most Strategic Pacific Port—"Prince Rupert, the Key to the Great Northwest."

VOL. XXXVI, No. 275. PRINCE RUPERT, B.C., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1947 PRICE FIVE CENTS

112 Blue STAR Cabs

DISASTER OFF CHARLOTTES

American Transport Lost; Fate of 49 Crew Uncertain

Clarkdale Victory Pounded to Pieces By Heavy Swell—Fate of Crew of 49 Uncertain

Marine disaster on the storm-swept west coast of the Queen Charlotte Islands quickly developed since about 10 o'clock last night when the United States Army transport Clarkdale Victory sent out general distress calls while she was being pounded by a heavy swell after going hard aground two minutes earlier when bound from Seattle to western Alaska. Anxiety increased when the Clarkdale Victory was not further heard from after sending out the "SOS'. The United States Coastguard from southeastern Alaska was rushing to the Clarkedale Victory's aid and other steamers were reported on the way. Planes were to fly over the area today. Customs and salvage officials here were notified.

There were no passengers aboard the Clarkdale Victory.

Canadian Pacific Airlines Canso flying boat, which left this afternoon on its daily run to Sandspit, intended to go the few miles further on to Hippa Island to reconnoitre the wreck and island with a possible view to sighting survivors.

With the vessel already almost pounded to pieces by 50-foot seas lashed by a south-western gale off the open Pacific Ocean, the concern shortly before noon today was how many members of the crew of forty-nine might have perished in the wreck. Capt. J. R. Elfert, harbor master and port warden at Prince Rupert, who spent the night endeavouring to organize assistance for the stricken vessel, was advised at 10:45 this morning that a United States Coastguard airplane, reconnoitering the scene, had sighted three survivors on the rocky island beach. This led to the hope that there might be others although it was admitted that to reach shore in lifeboats under such conditions would present extreme difficulties. The aircraft confirmed that the transport had broken in half with only the bow showing. The steamer Denali then at the scene, had launched a lifeboat in the endeavour to reach shore but it was evidently unsuccessful in picking up survivors. The Denali radioed: "It is impossible to land in a lifeboat. The breakers are fifty feet high outside the wreckage."

A later attempt by the mate and light seamen of the Denali to land at the rear of Hippa Island in the lee of the mountainous seas also failed.

Another vessel which Capt. Elfert was edeavouring to send to the rescue was the Queen Charlotte Islands fisheries patrol boat Sooke Post which operates in the Skidegate Inlet area.

The Clarkdale Victory is a vessel of 4561 tons and 439 feet long.

According to radio reports received here today from the Alaska Steamship Co.'s Denali, another American vessel, first rescue ship to reach the scene of the stranding at 9:30 this morning, the Clarkdale Victory would appear to be a total loss. The forepart of the stricken vessel was still visible as it clung to the reef but the after part was submerged and was believed to be breaking up up rapidly as heavy seas lashed by a strong southwesterly wind pounded the wreck.

The stranding occurred at two minutes before 10 o'clock last night.

The point is on desolate Hippa Island outside of Skidegate Narrows which separates Graham and Moresby Islands and is exposed to the open Pacific Ocean.

The Royal Canadian Air Force had a plane standing by at Vancouver today awaiting for weather to clear in order to proceed to the scene.

T WITH RNMENT

RIA — Representatives British Columbia muni- mayors and reeves— abinet today with the hat the government he cost of education ead of continuing the d which they claimed hed the limit, finance al costs by means of a

ay afternoon the dele- Hon. R. C. MacDonald, f municipal affairs. legates include Mayor ld of Prince Rupert.

TERS STRIKE; RS ENGRAVE

GO (P)—More than 1500 mployed by Chicago's newspapers are on ay but a spokesman newspapers said that n by photo-engraving ould continue uninter-

spital ension

n Additional Wing Soon—Blood Bank Established

of the expectation elanese pulp mill oper- probably mean an in- the population of Rupert, the hospital regular monthly meet- sed plans for renovat- rmer military wing to ing standards includ- dern children's ward. ded that this should out as soon as pos- as also decided that, to staff the new wing, accommodation would for nurses. This mat- d on the table for fu- ssion.

final arrangements Canadian Red Cross he hospital has the facilities for storage repared to establish a s Blood Bank. Blood, plasma from such a be available to the at no cost.

ecretary spoke briefly on lights of the recent In- or Hospital Administra- Trustees of Western held recently at Edmon-

r was received from the al Secretary appointing rmstrong a member of d of Management of the Rupert General Hospital of Judge W. O. Fulton. Flaten, chairman of nce committee, read the l report for October an operating cost of patient day. He report- there were 187 patients during the month as d to 182 for the same last year. The number of days was 1656 compared for the corresponding in 1946.

Mooney reported that the situation had improved it was still necessary to married nurses for relief s.

present at the meeting d. C. G. Ham (chairman), B. Black, Messrs. A. Fla- McMeekin, W. L. Arm- and Dr. L. W. Kergin.

derham Files rmanic Papers

nation papers of Alder- eorge Rudderham, Trades bor Council candidate for year term on the alder- board, were filed with Re- g Officer H. D. Thain at oday. Alderman Ruudder- nomination was sponsor- George Hills, who also will candidate for alderman, Harry M. Daggett, who is candidate for mayor.

LOCAL TIDES

esday, November 26, 1947

11:45	21.3 feet
5:33	7.3 feet
18:19	3.7 feet

Council Approves Bus Franchise Pact with Veterans' Stage Lines

City council's plan to issue a five-year bus franchise to Carl V. Smith and William Murray moved a step closer to its destiny at the hands of the civic voters and the provincial Public Utilities Commission last night when the aldermen approved a bylaw authorizing the signing of an agreement between the city and the two veterans.

Preparatory to submitting the bylaw to the ratepayers for approval on December 11, council last night scrutinized the agreement under which Smith and Murray, who plan to operate as Veterans' Stage Line, will pay the city three per cent of gross earnings.

Council adopted the bylaw unanimously after the agreement had been gone over clause-by-clause in the presence of Smith and Murray. Two minor changes resulted from the joint scrutiny.

Contained in the agreement was a clause under which Smith and Murray would be allowed six months in which to place buses on the city streets providing the agreement is approved by a three-fifths majority of ratepayers, the Lieutenant Governor-in-Council and the Public Utilities Commission.

Facing the city, it was mentioned, was a possibility that during this period, or a portion of it, bus service might be withdrawn or reduced if Arrow Bus Co., the present operators, decide to sell their assets in the face of approval of the Veterans' franchise.

William Murray, who acted as spokesman for the tenderers, charged that "Arrow will use the sale of its buses as a lever to defeat the franchise" after admitting that they (Smith and Murray) can't promise continuity of service during the six-month iterim."

"It might be less than six months, we can't be sure," Murray said.

Difficulty in obtaining buses from the manufacturer was given by Murray as the reason for requiring the six-month clause. The veterans' plan to use three Ford transit buses on which they must make deposits of $2,000 before their orders are accepted.

Murray told the meeting that they could not make the $6,000 committment at least until they knew whether or not the franchise plan was acceptable to the ratepayers.

Under the agreement, routes to be operated by Veterans' Stage Lines would be similar to those presently served by Arrow Bus Co. Sightseeing and charter buses would be exempted from the three per cent gross payment to the city, but such buses would have to pay the regular business license.

The applicants also would be required to post a $1,500 bond and bear the cost counting cash receipts at the bank. This would amount to one per cent of the gross.

A three-man board of arbitration would be set up to settle differences between the company and the city, one member chosen by the company, one by the city and the third by the two representatives.

The bylaw was approved on motion of Alderman McKay, seconded by Alderman Casey. Alderman Youngs, a director of Arrow Bus Co., did not vote.

STRIKE ORDER BEING AWAITED

Seamen on Deepsea Ships May Go Out Tonight

VANCOUVER—Crew members of five deepsea vessels have been ordered to stand by for a final strike order which may become effective tonight. Thirty-seven ships now in and around the port may be affected. The seamen are seeking a 15c-an-hour wage increase with 48-hour week at sea and 40-hour week in port. The final strike order would come from Toronto.

CITY SUPPORTS PENSION BOOST

Backs Up Representations Of Canadian Legion To Ottawa

City council will support the Canadian Legion in a move for "immediate" action by the federal government for increases in disability pensions, widows' pensions and veterans' allowances which, the Legion charges, are so small as to deprive many pensioners of the bare necessities of life.

Council last night unanimously endorsed a request from Philip M. Ray, secretary-manager of the local Legion branch, that the city write a letter to Hon. Ian Mackenzie, minister of veterans' affairs, "urging the absolute necessity of this matter being dealt with immediately after the opening of Parliament and without being referred to a Parliamentary committee and the delays such action would entail."

"In requesting your support, I would point out that a widow with two children receives $87 a month, a married veteran on veterans' allowance receives $60.83 a month and a single veteran or a widow on widows' allowance a mere $30.41 a month," Mr. Ray's letter stated.

"As there has been no increase in the pension scale since 1925, a 25 percent cost-of-living bonus is suggested," it continued. "The Canadian Legion is urging that a cost-of-living bonus should be authorized, based on the increased cost of living, particularly food and clothing, which showed an increase of approximately 50 percent since 1939."

Endorsement of the petition was moved by Alderman Youngs and adopted unanimously. A copy of the endorsement will be sent to H. G. Archibald, federal member for Skeena.

BIG FOUR IN PARLEY

Little Hope of Foreign Ministers Reaching Accord On Germany, Austria

LONDON—Big Four foreign ministers of United States, Russia, France and Britain went into session today for the first time since last April to consider peace terms and reparations for Germany and Austria. Owing to the gulf of differences between Russia on the one hand and United States on the other, there was little hope, as the conference opened, of any important accord being reached.

An official British source said today that Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin and Russian Foreign Minister Molotov had a "very friendly" meeting last night and had agreed that unanimity in seeking to settle the future of Germany and Austria in the Big Four meeting is of "the very highest importance" to the future of the world.

First to arrive at the conference scene today was Mr. Molotov, who was roudily cheered by watching crowds. Foreign Minister Georges Bidault was seemingly unrecognized as he arrived second. Then came Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin of Britain and Secretary of State George Marshall of the United States each of whom were also cheered.

An informant, as Bevin and Molotov seek to settle the future of Germany and Austria with Marshall and Bideault, said that Bevin's line in the conference "can be expected to be more moderate" than Marshall's.

Bevin and Marshall also met last night.

CAPE BRETON STORM FATAL

SYDNEY MINES, Nova Scotia (P)—One miner was killed today and three others were severely injured when a 65-mile-an-hour gale screamed across Cape Breton Island and tore down a trestle at the Florence Colliery bankhead near here. Trees were also blown down as well as electric light and telephone wires.

SCHUMAN TO CRACK DOWN

PARIS (P)—Sources close to the French government hinted today that Premier Robert Schuman might order conscription of workers in key jobs as one means of fighting the communist-led strikes now alleged to be threatening the whole economy of France.

Informants said that Schuman might make one last offer of increased wages before cracking down on one and a quarter million striking workers.

Meanwhile a general strike of railway workers was ordered today. Ports and coal mines are already idle.

WISCONSIN JAIL FRACAS ENDED

WAUPUN, Wisconsin (P) — A daybreak ultimatum today brought an unexpected peaceful end to a tense fifteen-hour siege by sixty-nine state prison convicts "with blood in their eyes." Their four prison guard hostages were released unharmed last night but one of them said: "It was a wild gang last night. They came in with blood in their eyes and this morning I thought they were going to burn the place down."

DEAL WITH JAP MINES

ESQUIMALT—Once a mine warning is received here, the Fairmile motor launch, assigned to mine duty, has been known to be proceeding with all despatch and full crew within 21 minutes.

There is bound to be plenty of work within the next few years. During the war, it is believed that no fewer than 50,000 mines were sown off Japan, and now, the disintegration of moorings has released them.

The mines are swept up by the Japanese current which carries them away from the Japanese coast.

Warnings are telephoned to the naval base operations room, normally by the B. C. police, although fishermen's messages are relayed through the Department of Transport channels. Since November 1, 20 mines have been reported sighted off the Unitd States coast.

ARE ON WAY TO BERLIN

Canadian Military Mission Members Being Returned There by Way of Poland

MOSCOW (P)—Following their release after having been detained at Kaliningrad (formerly Koenigsberg), East Prussia, J. D. M. Weld and Capt. A. W. M. Clabon, members of the Canadian military mission in Berlin, have been released and started the return journey to Berlin via Poland, according to announcement by the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The two men had been detained, according to a Moscow radio broadcast message last Friday, on the allegation that the Russian frontier had been "violated" by the members of the Canadian military mission and that the two persons had been accordingly detained by frontier guards.

VETERAN KILLS PENSION DOCTOR

Tragedy in Ottawa—Dr. Murray Bowie Victim of Vancouver Man

OTTAWA (P)—Dr. Murray R. Bowie, 37-year-old pensions examiner, was shot to death today in the Canadian pensions commissioner's offices here by a disgruntled First World War veteran who then killed himself with a bullet through the heart.

Department of Veterans' Affairs officials identified the veteran as Henry Page, 59, who came from Vancouver to Ottawa two months ago.

Both doctor and assailant died instantly in Dr. Bowie's uptown office just off the capital city's main business district.

Page had evidently been brooding over notification received yesterday of a reduction of $20 per month in his war pension.

BRITAIN TO SELL MORE

VANCOUVER (P)—Great Britain hopes to sell 50 percent more goods in Canada next year than she did this, Joseph Garner, deputy high commissioner for the United Kingdom, said yesterday. In Vancouver on a tour of western Canada, Mr. Garner said: "Our exports are encouraging and production is up, too, in most industries."

Although criticism of higher prices for British goods on sale in Canada had been noted, he said that in most cities dealers are satisfied with both quality and cost.

RUSSIA HOARDING GOLD

NEW YORK—Charles Prince, economic expert for the United States Chamber of Commerce, says that Russia is amassing actual gold reserves with which to combat the Marshall plan of the United States.

CITY POLICE CONTRACT COST TO TAKE JUMP

Cost of policing Prince Rupert will take a substantial jump in 1948, the second boost which has been presented to the city in two years for the services of the 10-man detachment of the British Columbia Police.

A letter from Commissioner John Shirras, read in city council last night, informed the aldermen that the 1948 contract would be for $24,949, an increase of almost $5,000 over the present contract which was signed early this year.

The $24,949 covers the policing of the city by 10 men. Any additional men will cost the city another $2,358 per man. Additional cost per man under this year's contract was $1,966.

Commissioner Shirras attributed to increased salaries and vehicle operating costs the necessity of increasing the price of policing this city. Present average salary in the force is $2,539, as compared with $2,087 a year ago, he said.

Without comment, the aldermen referred the letter to the 1948 council for consideration.

Vancouver Island Turkey Festival

VICTORIA (P)—Vancouver Island three-day turkey festival opened today with trucks bearing prize birds parading through the downtown streets. Stores gave over entire windows to turkey displays intended to publicize a $15,000,000 provincial industry.

THE WEATHER

Synopsis

Rain was falling along the British Columbia coast in advance of an active storm which reached the Queen Charlotte Islands early this morning. Elsewhere in the province skies were overcast and there were fog patches throughout the interior The rain is expected to spread inland today as the storm continues to move eastward with rapid clearing expected in its wake. There are signs of still another storm developing to the southwest of the district. This storm is expected to bring rain to the southern coast again late Wednesday.

Forecast

Prince Rupert, Queen Charlottes and North Coast—Overcast with rain along the mainland this morning, becoming cloudy this afternoon. Elsewhere clear today. Variable cloudiness tonight entire region and clear Wednesday. Winds southeasterly (25 m.p.h.) along the mainland this morning, otherwise southwesterly (20). Colder tonight. Lows tonight and highs Wednesday—At Port Hardy, 40 and 50; Massett, 42 and 50; Prince Rupert, 40 and 50.

Bulletins

HUSBAND ARRESTED

BANFF—Lloyd William Smith, whose bride was found beaten to death by a hammer in Calgary, was arrested here yesterday by Royal Canadian Moounted Police and is being returned to Calgary.

VANCOUVER MILL FIRE

VANCOUVER — Damage of between $25,000 and $40,000 was caused by fire which swept the Western Single Co.'s mill here early this morning. Origin is believed to have been incendiary.

CITY TO TAX BEER PARLORS

Impost to Be Assessed for First Time by Municipality

City Council last night gave first reading to a bylaw which will impose business licenses on the city's beer parlors for the first time in history. Authority to impose the licenses was contained in an amendment to the Municipal Act passed early this year by the provincial legislature.

Amount of the tax, however, is also set out rigidly by the provincial legislation and is based on the amount of money the various beer parlors pay to the provincial government annually for their licenses. This, in turn, is based on the amount of beer sold.

A beer parlor paying the provincial government $600 for its license will pay the city $85 in business tax, while the tax is reduced to $70 for a $550 license, $60 for a $500 license, $50 for a $450 license, $40 for a $350 license and $30 for less than $350.

"The tax we are allowed to collect is very moderate," Alderman Casey commented. "They are getting off pretty light."

TODAY'S STOCKS

Vancouver

Bralorne	11.25
B.R. Con.	.05
B.R.X.	.10
Cariboo Quartz	2.91
Dentonia	.18
Grull Wihksne	.06½
Hedley Mascot	1.05
Minto	.02¼
Pend Oreille	2.10
Pioneer	4.10
Premier Border	.05½
Privateer	.35
Reeves McDonald	1.05
Reno	.15
Salmon Gold	.24½
Sheep Creek	1.10
Taylor Bridge	.50
Taku River	.73
Vanada	.26
Pacific Eastern	.07
Hedley Amalgamated	.03
Spud Valley	.13
Silbak Premier	.67
Oils—	
C. & E.	2.55
Home	4.40

New Telephone Directory

A new Telephone Directory is about to be published. All changes of listings must be in by December 8, in writing at the City Telephone Office.

CITY TELEPHONE DEPARTMENT.

(280)