

The Daily News

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Alaska Clipper, With 18 Aboard, Is Missing

Petersburg, Alaska's Wealthiest Community, Is Linked With Rupert
Founded Nearly Fifty Years Ago, Desires Its Permanent Prosperity From Fishing, Industrial Fishing People

By G. A. HUNTER
Petersburg, thriving and wealthy fishing community, southeast Alaska, picturesquely located on a mile from the northern end of the Narrows of the "Inside Passage," 200 miles north of this port, becomes directly connected with Prince Rupert through a new service inaugurated by the Union Steamship Co.

The steamer Camosun at the Prince Rupert wharf, with its complement of 1500 persons, living in homes, thrifty and comfortable, some seven-seventeen of Norwegian descent, claims to be the largest community in the United States. The city wants to do business with the world.

The rest of southeastern Alaska, Petersburg, is a small town, with a developed port and strategic location. It is a direct link between the central and eastern states with which Alaska has its business and a good proportion of its population. Petersburg business would like to draw products from other goods from Central British Columbia through Prince Rupert.

Breezy, bewhiskered Earl Ohmer, whom one soon recognizes as the chief factotum of Petersburg and who is the perennial president of the Chamber of Commerce, has every fact and figure about the town where he has been in business for thirty-two years, at his finger tips. Interviewed at Petersburg on Saturday as the steamer Camosun, inaugurated the extension of the company's service beyond Ketchikan to Petersburg and Wrangell and instituted the first regular run by a Canadian steamship line to Petersburg, Ohmer welcomed the direct connection thus afforded his town to Prince Rupert and Vancouver. He was not so anxious as many Alaskans appear to be to cut away altogether from the hold of Seattle on the shipping and economy of southeastern Alaska but he declared himself as being enthusiastically favorable to the use and development of Prince Rupert as another avenue of supply not to replace but to supplement Seattle. He sees definite advantages and economies from the use of Prince Rupert. Like all other Alaskans, he is working for the suspension of the Jones Act and restrictions which prevent the free shipping of goods from the United States through Canadian ports and on Canadian ships to Alaska.

"After all," said Ohmer, "you people in Prince Rupert and Canada are our neighbors. Why not cut out the restrictions which prevent us from full enjoyment of our neighborliness? I never saw a fence between us and, if there is one, why not tear it down? If we lived next door, house to house, as neighbors we would not have all this sort of rigmarole. We may not like to think of more sombre possibilities but there is also the matter of our common security which would make it appear timely to cut away the restrictions which mitigate against our natural relationships."

Petersburg may only have 1500 or 2000 people but it is a well-developed and up-to-date town. One senses a feeling of solidarity of citizenship, soundness of business and thrifty enterprise and progressiveness on the part of any one with whom one converses. Ohmer and the rest of the Petersburg people say that good hard work, steady thrift and permanent attitude have been the secret of their community's success. There is obviously a great spirit of civic pride and co-operative public spirit. Every one is proud of their town and happy to live there and make their permanent home. One hundred and fifty of Petersburg's young men served in the last war and all but three of them returned to the home town and are permanently re-located in employment there, playing their part in carrying on the town.

Receptions were held at Petersburg and gratification was expressed by mayors and Chamber of Commerce heads of the towns at the inauguration of the new weekly run and the vessel which is being used for the service is being used for the first regular service that Petersburg has from any line, either Canadian or American. The inauguration of the service also marks the first regular run for the line from the expressions of Petersburg and Wrangell after inspecting the vessel. It was assured of a good measure of patronage. Even the inaugural voyage, passengers were picked up at both ends of the line into Prince Rupert and the ship called southward yesterday, numbered 100. Larger bookings were made for next week.

The steamer Camosun had no difficulty in maintaining the time set out for her. Wrangell, the tricky spot of the voyage was navigated with dispatch and precision.

Those who met the steamer were Mayor Care Velje and Chamber of Commerce President Earl Ohmer of Petersburg and Mayor (Mrs.) J. A. Barnes and Chamber of Commerce President Howard Crompton of Wrangell. They were aboard ship by, on board of the Union Steamship Company's steamer, Capt. Eric Sutherland, superintendent, the ship's master, Capt. J. A. McLean.

BANDIT SHOT IN POLICE WAGON ESCAPE ATTEMPT

VICTORIA, (CP)—A Vancouver man is in hospital here with serious wounds in his abdomen and arm following a wild ride in a patrol wagon, the hold-up of an Esquimalt drug store and a running gun battle Saturday night.

Police say Lorne Clark, 40, alias Nicholas Clarke, of Vancouver, was wounded in an escape attempt following a holdup in which the loot was allegedly a quantity of narcotics.

Clarke reportedly forced Constable George Hardy to drive him in a patrol wagon from the city. A road block was thrown up and stopped Clarke's police vehicle. He jumped out and was felled by shots from police officers' pistols.

34 DEAD IN PLANE CRASH
ATHENS (CP)—Greek Air Force headquarters announced today that a Swedish Airlines Sky master transport, carrying 34 passengers, crashed into a three-thousand-foot peak of Hometos mountain range, southeast of Athens last night. All are believed to be dead. The flight was from Istanbul to Rome.

Denies Delaying Tariff Revision
CANBERRA, (CP)—J. J. Dedman, Minister for Post War Reconstruction, today denied that Australia is delaying an international agreement under which the British Commonwealth and the United States planned certain tariff compromises. "As far as Australia is concerned, there is nothing outstanding," he said. "The question will go before the cabinet tomorrow."

EDUCATION WEEK HERE

A small committee of members of the Prince Rupert Teachers' Association met Saturday under the chairmanship of J. S. Wilson, to arrange details for the observance of Education Week November 3-8.

During this week a 15 minute radio address will be featured each evening over station C.F.P.R., also a daily article in this paper on some aspects of education. Various prominent citizens and members of organizations will be asked to speak and to contribute to the newspaper articles.

On the evening of Friday, November 7, the Teachers' Association will sponsor a public meeting in the Civic Centre Auditorium to stress the importance of education today. In addition to the various speakers, contributions will be made to the program by students of the four public schools.

Parents will be afforded an opportunity to visit and to inspect the classrooms of the three elementary schools on the afternoon of Wednesday, November 5, after 2:00 p.m. The day for "open house" at the High School has yet to be decided.

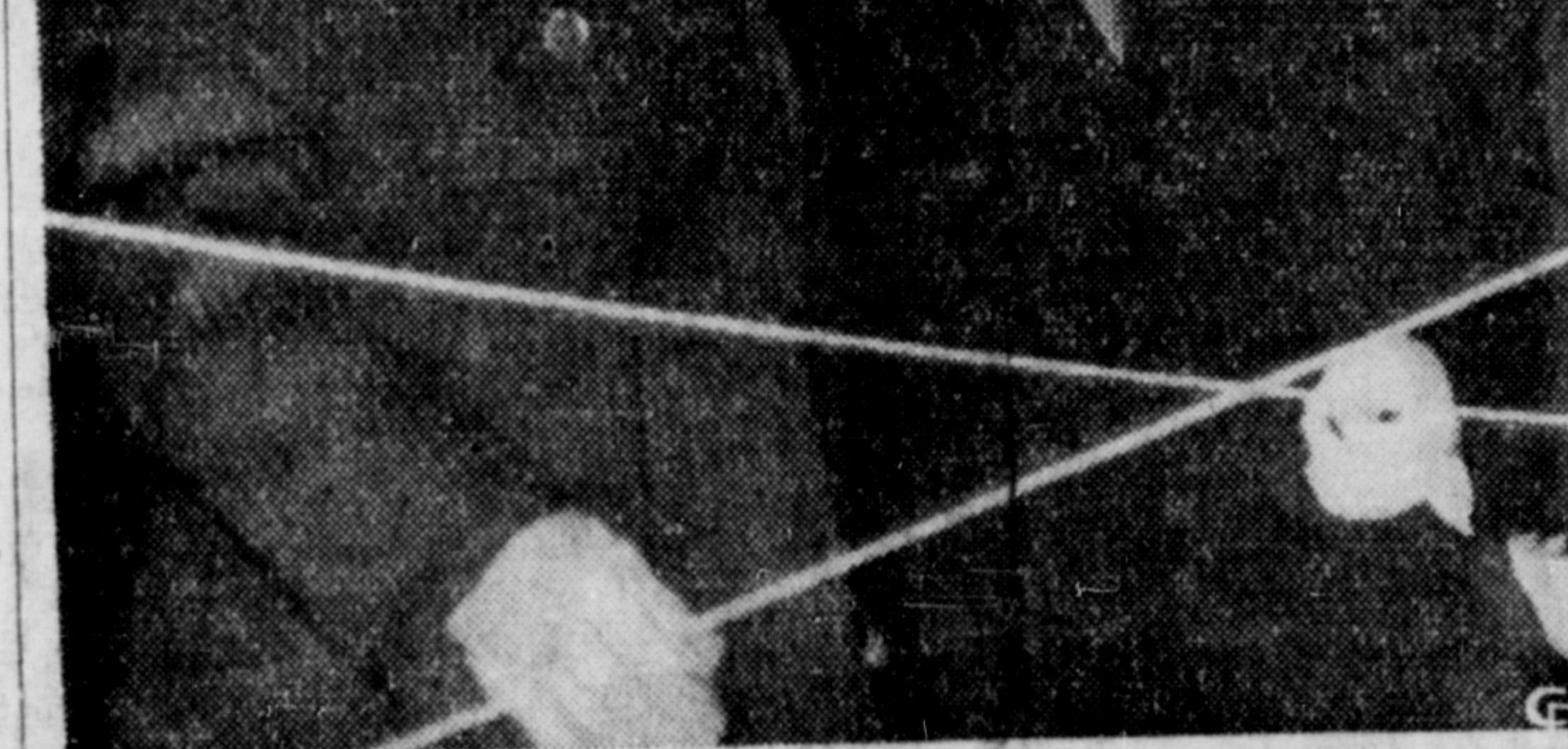
DOUBLE MURDER AND SUICIDE
REGINA, (CP)—Royal Canadian Mounted Police Sunday reported an apparent double murder and suicide at Bordon, 31 miles north west of Saskatoon after the finding of three bodies and a badly wounded woman there Saturday night. Dead are August Gerster and his daughter Joyce and Jeannette. Mrs. Gerster is in a Saskatoon hospital.

Pan-American Plane Vanishes While Nearing Juneau Sunday

JUNEAU (CP)—Land, sea and air search for a missing Pan-American World Airways plane, with eighteen aboard, was organized in southeastern Alaska today as lashing wind and rain storm continued to grip the area in which the four-engined clipper vanished Sunday near Ketchikan. Rain-soaked clouds scudded low over the rugged "Inside Passage," threatening to hamper plans to send dozens of planes aloft in the hope of finding the big D.C.-4.

The search is being concentrated in an area 25 miles southwest of Juneau where the plane, coming north from Seattle to Juneau, was last reported as she approached this Alaska capital city.

Most of the passengers are believed to be from Seattle. There are no Canadians.



CRIPPS OPENS INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION—Sir Stafford Cripps, minister for economic affairs for Britain, who is the man chiefly responsible for carrying out the whole of the government's economic policy, internal and external, is pictured (with hand on rope) as he attended the opening of the "British Enterprise in Australia" exhibition at the Australia House in London. He is talking with Rt. Hon. J. A. Beasley, high commissioner for Australia. Sir Stafford Cripps opened the exhibition.

TODAY'S STOCKS

Courtesy S. D. Johnston Co. Ltd.

VANCOUVER	
Bralorne	10.85
B. R. Con.	.05
B. R. X.	.09 1/2
Cariboo Quartz	2.60
Dentonia	.20
Grull Wiksne	.06
Hedley Mascot	1.04
Minton	.03 1/2
Pend Oreille	2.10
Pioneer	3.65
Premier Border	.04 1/2
Privateer	.36
Reeves McDonald	1.10
Reno	.13 1/2
Salmon Gold	.25
Sheep Creek	1.03
Taylor Bridge	.44
Vananda	.23
Congress	.04
Pacific Eastern	.08
Hedley Amalgamated	.03
Spud Valley	.11
Central Zeballos	.01 1/4
Silbak Premier	.67
Oils—	
A. P. Con.	.12
Calmont	.37
C. & E.	2.40
Foot hills	2.50
Home	3.95
Toronto	
Athlona	.12
Aumaque	.31
Beattie	.76
Bevcourt	.68
Bobjo	.15 1/4
Buffalo Canadian	.18
Consol. Smelters	89.50
Conwest	1.45
Donalds	1.18
Eldona	1.21
Elder	.76
Giant Yellowknife	6.30
God's Lake	1.12
Hardrock	.37
Harriana	.10
Heva	.30
Hosco	.34
Jackknife	.07
Joliet Quebec	.52
Lake Rowan	.15
Lapaska	.25 1/2
Little Long Lac	1.70
Lynx	.11
Madsen Red Lake	3.50
McKenzie Red Lake	.62
McLeod Cockshutt	1.72
Moneta	.47 1/2

WILL TALK WITH BRITISH LEADERS

LONDON, (CP)—Lewis Douglas, United States ambassador to Britain, who returned this week from Washington, soon will hold important talks with Prime Minister Attlee, Foreign Secretary Bevin, Economics Minister Cripps and Hugh Dalton, British Exchequer Chancellor, it was learned authoritatively today.

Sugar Ration Going Soon

Canadians Should Be Able to Buy Without Restriction by End of Year

OTTAWA, (CP)—With world sugar stocks improving, and the Canadian supply better than a year ago, some observers in the capital are predicting that Canadians may be able to ditch their ration books before the start of the new year.

Latest figures from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics show that on October 4, raw sugar stocks were more than 151,000,000 pounds, compared with 134,000,000 at October last year.

This gives rise to speculation that the last item will come off the ration list within a couple of months.

Canadians are now consuming 83 pounds of sugar per head per year, 90 per cent of the post-war consumption.

FRENCH CRISIS IS STILL TENSE

Herriot's Party Wins Small Town Elections—deGaulle Calls For New Deal

PARIS (CP)—Impending cabinet crisis and imminent threat of railway and postal strikes today overshadowed the outcome of Sunday's run-off elections in France's small towns and villages. Early returns of the elections put former Premier Edouard Herriot's radical Socialists out in front.

Meanwhile General Charles deGaulle has called for a complete overhaul of France's voting system followed immediately by dissolution of the National Assembly and new elections.

HOLY FATHER PLEADS IGNORANCE, LEARNS OF RUPERT FROM BISHOP

People of Prince Rupert Parish Hear Most Rev. Anthony Jordan Tell of Visit to Pope and Other Incidents of Tour Abroad

His Holiness the Pope made a confession to Bishop Anthony Jordan of Prince Rupert when the chief pastor of this vicariate visited the Holy Father at the Vatican during a recent visit in Rome. The Pope admitted to the Bishop that he had not previously heard of Prince Rupert but he soon evinced a hearty interest in Northern British Columbia and, in the course of a twenty minute audience, obtained a considerable fund of information, ecclesiastical and general, about this area to the people of which he sent his holy blessing.

Bishop Jordan's description of the contact with the Pope was the highlight of an intensely interesting and informal "family" talk which he delivered before the people of the city parish last night at a reception to mark His Excellency's return following a seven month's absence.

The Bishop discussed present-day Europe under three headings—economic, political and religious—and also told of visits to his own birthplace in a Scottish village and to that of his father in Mayo County, Ireland. Numerous incidents of a humorous nature made the talk the more delightful.

Father J. A. Carroll O.M.I., the priest of the parish, acted as emcee.

(Continued on Page Two)

COMMUNISM GROWS IN RUHR VALLEY INDUSTRIAL AREA

Elsewhere In British and U.S. Zones of Germany Social Democrats Hold Strong Position

FRANKFURT, Germany (CP)—Everywhere in the British and American zones of Germany there are rumors of underground Nazi movements, supposedly waiting an appropriate moment to strike, but from police and military officials little concrete information is forthcoming. "If there are active Nazis in Frankfurt they are lying very low," a U.S. police official said. "Occasionally we haul in people for questioning but no Nazi agitators have been arrested for some time."

During hundreds of miles of travel I sometimes heard Germans refer to Nazism nostalgically, as: "Under Hitler we were fed, now we are hungry," or "Hitler gave us something to live for" but if these feelings are deep they are not loud-mouthed.

Although in the British zone copies of underground Nazi newspapers have been unearthed at intervals during the last two years, few arrests have been made recently and the situation according to officials is "passive."

Communism, on the other hand, is clearly growing in industrial Germany. The rubbled towns of the Ruhr offer fertile ground for party agitators, many of whom are believed to have affiliations with the mysterious Russian zone, and most Ruhr towns have active Communist bi-weekly newspapers, some previously suppressed by the Nazis.

SITUATION IN FRANKFURT

Here in Frankfurt many observers are surprised that in spite of general discontent over housing and food the Communist Party occupies only third place in the political field with no more than 1,800 members. Some German leftists hint at suppression of Communist activity by U.S. military police.

This is denied by officials who say that in little more than two years since the war, political life in Frankfurt has revived to the point where there are now five active, unhindered parties including Communist and Labor.

A young German student pointed to the recent dismissal of Emil Carlsbach, Communist co-editor of the United States-licensed Frankfurter Rundschau, as evidence that political thought is not free in the American zone. He believed the occupational forces were "influenced" by anti-Communist feeling in the United States.

Although some Communists tell of being "picked up" and interrogated by military police, officials declare German Communists are never questioned unless "organized violence" is suspected. They say police intervention is mainly concerned with stamping out black marketing.

In both the American and British zones, the Social Democratic Party, promoting socialization, compulsory social insurance and limited land reform, has the largest official membership, chiefly composed of workers employed in mining and industry.

But in the Ruhr, Communism is growing so fast that many observers believe it may finally oust the Social Democrats from top places.

Local Tides

Tuesday, October 28, 1947
High 0:09 19.5 feet
12:24 21.0 feet
Low 6:12 5.7 feet
18:41 4.1 feet

CHURCH BROUGHTON, Derbyshire, England (CP)—The airfield here is being plowed for agricultural purposes.

Tories Seek Premiership

Progressive-Conservatives Want Anson to Succeed Hart

VANCOUVER (CP)—The British Columbia Progressive-Conservative party gave stern warning Saturday at its annual meeting that it wants the Premiership when Premier Hart leaves office at the end of the year.

The Association endorsed a statement by Provincial Leader Anson that it wants the coalition to continue but passed a resolution saying that, when Premier Hart resigns, he should advise the Lieutenant-Governor to call upon Herbert Anson to form a government in order that the future of the Coalition will be assured.

National Progressive-Conservative Leader John Bracken stressed to the delegates the need for preparedness in event of a third world war. He called for strong economic and military organizations "because we mean to keep our own territory."

Major-General G. R. Pearkes, V.C., member of Parliament for Nanaimo, was elected president of the provincial association. He succeeds W. A. Jones of Vancouver.

C.C.F. LEADER IN CITY TODAY

M. J. Coldwell, M.P., leader of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation in the House of Commons, was due to arrive in the city early this afternoon to speak before an audience in the Civic Centre auditorium tonight. Mr. Coldwell planned to motor to the city from Terrace, where he spoke before a public meeting last night. The C.C.F. leader will be guest of honor at a dinner given by the local C.C.F. club at 6:15 at the Commodore Cafe this evening. He plans to sail on the Princess Adelaide for Vancouver at 10 o'clock.

AIDED SHIPPING INTERIOR MEAT

This Was Effect of Meat Packers' Strike—First Snow In Interior

Effect of the recent packing house workers' strike was to give an impetus to shipping of cattle—live to Vancouver and killed to Prince Rupert—from the central interior, according to C. A. Berner, divisional superintendent, Canadian National Railways, who returned to the city yesterday after a ten-day inspection trip over the line as far as Jasper, accompanied by R. C. Davidson, division engineer, and H. C. Halliday, bridges and building master. The trip was a preliminary to the first fall of snow of the winter which actually came during the last few days to the Bulkley Valley, east and west of Smithers, to a depth of about one inch, which was expected to soon disappear.

BARMOUTH, Wales, (CP)—Arduwy, Welsh beauty spot which has been under military control, now has been freed.

CCF PUBLIC MEETING
Hear . . .
M. J. Coldwell
M.P., National Leader
CIVIC CENTRE
Monday, 7:45 p.m.
(251)