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NORTHERN AND CENTRAL BRITISH COLUMBIA'S NEWSPAPER
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Amberley Closes Playgrounds To Ward off Polio Threat; 1 Dead

AMBERLEY — All swimming pools and playgrounds at Rocky Mountain community were ordered closed Thursday after the death in hospital of a 12-year-old boy. Four other polio suspects have been taken to hospital for observation. The death is British Columbia's fifth from polio this year. 12 cases have been reported.

Dealings 'Above the Table'

Bennett Plans Open Policy

VICTORIA (CP) — An open policy of dealing government purchasing was announced Thursday by Premier W. A. C. Bennett. Explaining his Social Credit government purchasing policy, Premier Bennett stressed he isn't joining the Purchasing Commission.

Here is the government's policy:

1. Preference to be given to all goods made in B.C. by B.C. labor and using B.C. materials.
2. All firms will be given equal right to tender on all government supplies.
3. Any unsuccessful tenders on any government purchases will have the right to inspect the successful tender seven days after it has been awarded.

Premier Bennett did not go into details of the policy but it is expected the new government is aiming at saving money on purchases by in effect encouraging unsuccessful tenders to see successful ones.

It is expected that unsuccessful bidders on seeing the successful bid would cut down their future tenders accordingly in an effort to get contracts.

Final outcome would be a saving to the government. Premier Bennett said all orders-in-council properly passed by his government will be open to public view.

He made this statement after Attorney-General Robert Bonner had released an order-in-council approving liquor price increases which was passed by the outgoing Liberal government.

"Everything is going to be done above the table," said Premier Bennett. In the past, governments have refrained from allowing the press to view all orders-in-council. Many were kept secret.

"The CCF has never attacked legislation solely for political purposes," said Mr. Snowsell. He added that the Legislature should be called into special session this year.

He assured Premier Bennett that CCF members would not take advantage of his new cabinet ministers' inexperience.

18-Year Old Fisherman Drowned

An 18-year-old fisherman is believed to have drowned early today in the Skeena River.

RCMP here said Ernest Davis, 18, native of the Naas River Indians, is reported to have fallen off his gillnet fishing boat between Carlyle Cannery and Lambert Point about 4 a.m.

He was fishing with his brother.

BULLETINS

American Escapes Czech Jail

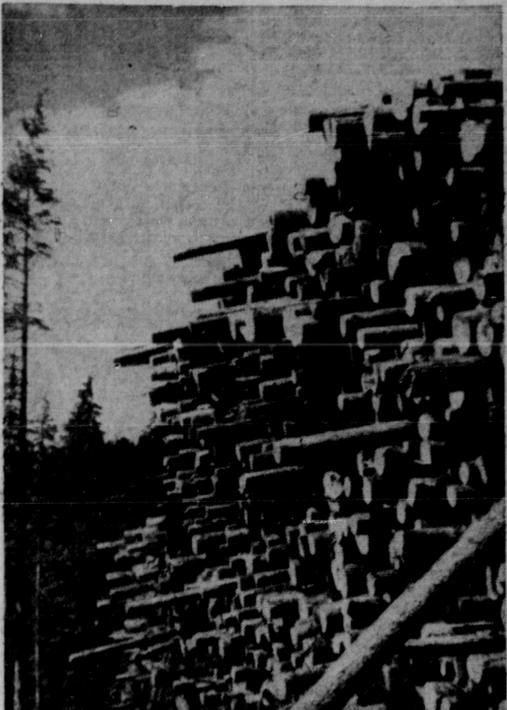
WASHINGTON (CP) — A young American jailed as a spy in Communist Czechoslovakia was reportedly today to have escaped. The state department said the man is John Hvasa, 25, of N.J. He was under a 10-year sentence on charges of espionage.

Ant Starts August 18

VANCOUVER (CP) — There will be at least 10 days uncertainty before British Columbia's general election finally is settled. Re-count in Vancouver-Burrard, where Social Credit now leads CCF by 246 votes, has been set to start on August 18. Re-count will probably take three days and possibly as many as 10.

Hold-up Nets \$2,000

MONTREAL (CP) — Provincial police reported a bank held up a branch of the Canadian Bank at Point Fortune, on Ontario-Quebec border and escaped with about \$2,000.



SYMMETRY OF LOGS is this stockpile of pulpwood cut for Columbia Cellulose Company mill at Watson Island. Logs are from the Terrace district which has resumed operation following the month and a half strike by woodworkers. Logs are shipped to Watson Island by rail.

Worst Fire in Months Razes Home - \$2,000

Fire early today caused damage estimated at more than \$2000 to the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Lovin, 120 Seventh Avenue West.

The blaze, worst in the city in several months, is believed to have started in the basement, where most of the damage was done.

SAYS CCF Socreds Need Not Fear Legislature

VICTORIA (CP) — Social Credit government needn't be afraid to face the Legislature in the near future if its new legislation will benefit the people, Frank Snowsell, Saanich MLA and provincial CCF organizer, said Thursday.

"The CCF has never attacked legislation solely for political purposes," said Mr. Snowsell. He added that the Legislature should be called into special session this year.

He assured Premier Bennett that CCF members would not take advantage of his new cabinet ministers' inexperience.

Britain's Manners Need Polishing?

LONDON — A few unvarnished facts about receiving visitors for the coronation are being dish-out to the British public.

Sir Alexander Maxwell, chairman of the British Travel and Holidays Association, says Britain's tourist industry is at the cross-roads. A tourist plan is needed, he adds, if the industry is to be developed as it should be and new money attracted to the country.

He emphasizes that if the home population must go without in order to provide visitors with the best available, that is the way it must be.

Sir Harry Brittain, a member of the council, was even more outspoken. He said that in his opinion, the United Kingdom is one of the world's most untidy nations.

Talks are being held already with hotel and restaurant associations by Sir Alexander who is keenly aware of criticism about service. He says Britons who go abroad for vacations do not help by boosting their own country.

Last year Britain's tourist industry brought £73,000,000 in foreign currency into the country—£23,000,000 of which was in dollars.

FORMER GREATNESS Only about 10,000 descendants of the ancient Mayan civilization remain in the British colony of British Honduras.

Hospital Insurance Rate Reduced by Government

Greece Will Hold Bulgars Off Border

ATHENS — Acting Premier Sophocles Venizelos told a packed conference today that Greek forces have been ordered to keep Bulgarian troops off the border island of Gamma, from which Communist Bulgars were driven by Greek fire yesterday.

Venizelos said Greek troops at the river border between Greece and the Soviet satellite neighbor on the northwest had been ordered to stand by on th alert until the United Nations backs Greek demands for unquestioned sovereignty over the tiny island.

Meanwhile, Bulgaria has sent a letter to the United Nations secretariat protesting against the number of frontier incidents which are said to have occurred on the Greek-Bulgarian border between July 26 and August 7, a Bulgarian news agency said in a report broadcast from Sofia today.

At United Nations headquarters in New York yesterday, the Greek firing on the Bulgarian patrol on the island was generally considered just another one of the border incidents which have been a common feature of Greek-Bulgar relations in recent years.

Greks earlier reported that the Bulgarian patrol—probably of 10 or 12 men—were on the island and ordered them off by Wednesday morning.

Yesterday the Greeks said the Bulgars were still on the island and they fired on them for several hours with mortars and machine-guns. Greeks said the Communists withdrew after the firing.

Coal Strike Looms As New Setback

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

Lewis, president of the Mine Workers' Union, wrote Joseph E. Moody, president of the Southern Coal Producers' Association, that his work contract will expire Sept. 30.

That's 60 days from the date on Lewis' letter. Terms of the existing contract provide termination upon 60 days' notice by either side.

The notice to Moody, following by 10 days' similar word to the Bituminous Coal Operators' Association, is certain to mean a shutdown of all but a small portion of soft coal mining by the end of next month unless Lewis, Moody and Harry M. Moses agree on new contract terms. Moses heads the Bituminous Operator's Association, representing an estimated 240,000,000 tons of annual production, much of it owned by the steel industry. The Moody group produces about 100,000,000 tons a year.

Lewis, it was also learned yesterday, has served contract-termination notice on the anthracite (hard coal) industry, which employs 100,000 miners. Bituminous diggers number 450,000.

Still not a party to the series of recent Lewis letters are operators in Indiana and the far west, with an estimated 40,000-odd tons a year.

Top Sentence Levied on Communists

LOS ANGELES (CP) — California's 14 leading Communists—including the self-styled founding member of the party in Russia, today came under a maximum sentence of five years in prison and \$10,000 fine for conspiracy against the United States.

The heaviest judgment possible under the Smith Act of 1940 was levied yesterday by Judge William C. Mathers after he upheld the jury's guilty verdict.

WELL-KNOWN LABELS The American party symbols—the Democratic donkey and the republican elephant—were created by cartoonist Thomas Nast.

Britain To Set Off Atom Blast

MELBOURNE, Australia — Shipping and planes today were warned off an area of 23,500 square miles encircling the uninhabited Monte Bello islands, 12 miles off western Australia, where Britain's first atomic explosion is to be staged.

No official date has been set for the explosion beyond the fact it will take place "sometime this year." Today's announcement indicates a stage for the test.

Exploding Jet Kills 9 Seamen

WASHINGTON — A jet airplane exploded between decks on the carrier Boxer of Korea Tuesday night, killing nine seamen and injuring 75 and destroying 12 other aircraft.

Sixty-three crew members leaped overboard to escape the flames which raged through the hangar deck. They were rescued by lifeboats and helicopters. The Navy reported the accident on Thursday and said it occurred 50 miles off Korea.

No enemy action was involved, the Navy said. Cause of the explosion is still undetermined though there was unofficial speculation here that accumulation of aircraft gases led to the blast.

Grain, Fruit Crops Ripen; No Damage

WINNIPEG — Further rains occurred in most sections of the prairie provinces during the past week. Temperatures were slightly below normal in Manitoba and eastern Saskatchewan and above normal in western Saskatchewan and Alberta, according to the weekly crop report of the Canadian National Railways.

Harvesting of early sown crops is under way in southern Manitoba and in some sections of southern Saskatchewan. Leaf rust is prevalent in some districts but stem rust, which has been reported in southern areas, will probably be largely offset by the advanced state of maturity of crops affected.

IN OKANAGAN In the Okanagan Valley, the weather has been very hot, with no rain. Fruit is maturing rapidly and the movement of apricots is past the peak but will continue for another week in lesser amounts.

Peaches are moving in small quantities from southern sections and will commence over the entire valley early next week.

Crabapples will also commence to move next week and Bartlett pears will move about the middle of this month.

Plums are now moving in volume and prunes will move in volume by the end of August. Tomato volume will be increasing considerably next week.

No general damage to fruit crops from any source has been reported during the past week.

Sockeye Pack Exceeds '51 By 46,000

VANCOUVER (CP) — British Columbia sockeye salmon pack for the week ending Aug. 2 was 46,963 cases more than for the same period last year, Department of Fisheries announced Thursday.

A total of 379,738 cases were packed this year compared with 332,775 last year. However, the department announced bluebacks, coho and chums were down from last year. In 1951, 592,620 were packed against 560,923 this year.

Premiums Cut by \$3 Now Family Pays \$39

VICTORIA — A reduction in hospital insurance premiums in British Columbia was announced today by the newly-appointed Social Credit government.

In his first major move since taking over the reins of government last Saturday, Premier W. A. C. Bennett announced the new rates will be retroactive to July 1.

Families now will pay \$39 a year, instead of \$42 as at present, and single persons will pay \$27, a reduction of \$3 in both instances.

The premier also announced that effective at midnight tonight, patients will be charged \$1 a day during their stay in hospital, replacing the co-insurance clause in the scheme now which forces hospitalized patients to pay \$3.50 a day for the first 10 days of their stay.

Premier Bennett estimated the new plan will save British Columbians \$2,000,000 a year. The Social Credit party, during its campaign for election, said the B.C. hospital insurance scheme, introduced by the Coalition government three years ago, would be put on a voluntary basis instead of the compulsory plan if the party was put in power.

While there was no announcement from other departments of the government, it was learned the \$5,000,000 road construction program proposed by the previous government would be given the go-ahead signal shortly.

The works program was held up when the defeated Liberal government ordered a halt to letting any contracts until the political picture was cleared up.

Public Works Minister Philip Gagliardi said he is reviewing all scheduled work and "considering the various projects in their line of importance."

The halt in road work, however, did not affect the 1952 program laid out for the Skeena Highway as all contracts for clearing and graveling were let before the June 12 election.

Plane Crash

SEATTLE (CP) — A light airplane crashed and burned near Mount Baldy, 30 miles southeast of here, yesterday, killing the pilot and two passengers.



MONSTER HALIBUT caught near Prince Rupert represents a vital part of this province's industry. Halibut fishing for Prince Rupert fishermen is over for another season, but many of them are now engaged in salmon fisheries either at sea or ashore in camps and canneries. Some have made enough earnings to "take it easy" for a while and are on holidays with their families.