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**Air Field Essential**

COMMERCIAL flying out of Vancouver has been hampered during recent days by fog, snow and wind. Delay at Sandspit is frequently caused because of high winds. Prince Rupert very rarely has flying interference because of unfavorable meteorological conditions but it has a greater handicap than all these things.

If there was ever ample demonstration of the urgent and immediate need at Prince Rupert of a landing field and the proper air navigational aids and facilities, it has been during the last couple of weeks and yesterday was a culminating example.

Snow and smog conditions at Vancouver Friday morning prevented departure of the daily flights for Prince Rupert until about the noon hour. The flights got through as far as Sandspit but there the passengers, express and mail had to stay overnight because they had missed the daylight deadline into Prince Rupert. Had there been the air field and the beam facilities here, the flights would have been able to come through, daylight or night, without the delay and inconvenience which has been pretty persistent here of late.

Prince Rupert has gone just about as far as it can now in commercial flying until a landing field is provided. Its lack, as air traffic mounts with the increasing demands of rapid industrial development requiring speedy transport and communications, is now seriously delaying and inconveniencing business. Immediate action on getting Prince Rupert equipped with an adequate and properly equipped air field is now an immediate "must."

**Safe Christmas Trees**

NOW that so many of us are engaged in putting up our Christmas trees, another word of warning might be in order.

Don't say to yourself—it couldn't happen in my home. Beware! Christmas trees will burn—if they are ignited. Don't run any risks with the lighting. Use approved electric lights and not candles for illuminating your tree and window decorations. Make your Christmas this year a safe one.

A fire hazard exists when the wiring of Christmas lights is frayed or the bulbs used are unsafe or if sparks are created in connecting or disconnecting lights. Be sure there are no frayed wires, loose connections or broken sockets. Watch those Christmas gift electrical toys and your electrical appliance gifts.

In decorating the home for Christmas, don't place cotton and other inflammable material around the tree. It is safe practice to keep electric trains and other electrical toys away from the Christmas tree. Don't hook up electric toys near water, heating or gas pipes. A child might be badly shocked.

So do not take a chance! Be sure your Christmas tree and electrical decorations are safe! Don't let a preventable accident ruin a joyous Christmas!

**Scripture Passage for Today**

"The Son of man came not to be ministered unto but to minister."—St. John 1:38-39.

**BIRD HAVEN** ST. THOMAS, Ont. (CP)—Members of the safety patrol of anyone finds an ill or injured schoolboys who help children bird in this district he knows across busy streets near the where to send it. Judge L. T. schools were guests of a service McKim, president of Ducks Un-club at a theatre party. The 30 limited, has a small, fenced en-boys are outfitted with special closure now holding 25 ducks uniform equipment including and a variety of other birds. shiny white capes.

**GENERAL ELECTRIC**

Nothing finer for the home this Christmas than a **G.E. Steam Iron**

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**ray . . .**  
**Reflects and Reminisces**

Rumania is reported to have a new and what is called a popular song called "Stalin Is My Sunshine." Nothing is said as to whether or not Moscow has a power question or kilowatt hours.

Who wouldn't work—or vote—for Truman? He announces a four-day Christmas and three-day New Year holiday.

Had Petain possessed a plane in 1942, he would have joined the Allies. But, unable to fly, he had to do the best he could in a France held by Germany. This was told at an investigating committee four years ago and has now been divulged. He had wanted to escape from France. Planes must have been scarce.

Society Russia, it appears, might have had a chance to seize Alaska early last summer, says a U.S. Representative. That long ago, Prince Rupert had already been fooling around with civilian defence ideas since the previous winter and getting nowhere. It is to be hoped the politician's observations are more accurate than Chamberlain's exultant declaration that Hitler had "missed the boat" when he failed to attack in the fall of 1939.

The South Carolina Supreme Court rules that when a citizen holds a public office or becomes a candidate he is an object of legitimate criticism. Any newspaper is privileged to publicly criticize him without being liable for damages. What's a newspaper for, anyway?

If past anniversaries can be taken for examples, Palestine is crowded with pilgrims and tourists this season. More than at any other time is the Holy Land of interest. Jerusalem is a busy city, cars are everywhere but alas, the irony of it all—right next door—Egypt and the Suez Canal—what is virtually war continues to work toward a more grave situation.

**Christmas Party By Three Links**

A group of happy children enjoyed a Christmas party held under the auspices of the Rebekahs and Oddfellows, Friday afternoon in the Oddfellows' Hall.

Three entertaining films were shown to the children by Mrs. E. A. Evans. The small guests sat down to a table beautifully decorated by Mrs. T. H. Priest and partook of delicious refreshments which had been prepared by Mrs. J. S. Irvine assisted by Mrs. A. E. Wood, Mrs. T. Sollein, and Mrs. Fred Green.

The special treat of the afternoon was a visit from Santa Claus who arrived with gifts, candy canes, and oranges for all. Santa had all the children join in jolly games.

The party was convened by Mrs. W. J. Lineham who was assisted by Mrs. L. Sandvaar and Mrs. Gordon Daniels.

NAVY NEWS—  
**Chatham Decorates For Christmas; Santa Comes**

The Christmas spirit has sprung forth over the entire land invading one and all. The Navy has several customs prevalent at Christmas time, one of which is the tree at the masthead. Chatham has hoisted four small trees this year and decorated the large Drill Hall for the coming festivities.

One custom found in all three Armed Forces is the custom of officers entertaining the men at Christmas time so Wednesday night found the men and Wrens as guests of the Wardroom.

Lieutenant Commander Jack McRae, MLA, spoke for a few minutes, wishing the troops a Merry Christmas and pointing out that during these troubled times the Navy must remain constantly at the alert and well trained.

**SANTA'S VISIT**  
Santa Claus should again have no trouble at "Chatham" this year as the large chimney has been cleaned and Santa's reindeer have snow to travel over this year.

The Ship's Company dance was a success, and much credit is due to the Wren Organization and A.B. Sid Alexander, A.B. Eddie Dawes and A.B. Peterson. The profits of the dance went directly into the "Christmas" Tree fund.

The RCN staff have spent a busy week cutting and decorating trees in preparation for Santa's visit Sunday afternoon. Music and a show will help to keep the children busy while awaiting for Saint "Nick."

Wrens will be serving tea to ladies attending Chatham's Christmas tree party.

**The Officers, Men and Wrens of HMCS Chatham wish to take this opportunity to wish all the citizens of Prince Rupert a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.**

**NEWS—**  
Eby & Sons Limited were granted the contract for repairing and painting the new Wren's mess at Chatham. Work should be completed by mid-January.

Three more RCN recruits arrived from Prince George and were duly examined and attested by Lt. N. D. Langham, departing for HMCS Cornwallis Friday, December 21 with a short stay

amazed at the hospitality extended them by the citizens of the Alaskan city and were sorry to depart.

Lieutenant "Tommy" Scheer has left this division to take up a position with Okanagan Airways.

Mr. Anthony Aldridge, who suffered an accident previously, has recovered and will be back with Chatham soon.

**NAVAL TRADITIONS.**  
The decoration of the ship on Christmas Day, the officers' rounds of the mess decks and the boys wearing petty officers' rig, and so on, descends from the Romans who celebrated this festival by the masters taking the place of and waiting on their own servants.

The youngest officer striking 16 bells on New Year's Eve, is of great antiquity. Probably the youngest officer is chosen for a similar reason as the Roman custom of reversing positions when celebrating Christmas.

**Bill Morrison Named Mayor Of Jaycees' Future Citizens**

Mayor-elect for the Junior Chamber of Commerce sponsored Future Citizens' Day next month is popular athletic Bill Morrison, Booth Memorial High School Grade XII student. The complete council of mayor and aldermen were elected yesterday.

Two other nominees for mayor were Miss Margo Brown and Darrel Young.

Aldermen elected were Misses Patricia Hill, Flora Ball, Dorothy Marshall, Shirley Patrick and Marjory Way; Jimmy Bateman, Roald Fenness and Bill Donaldson. Other nominees were Misses Joan Grimble, Claire Ritchie, Jean Sharpe, Muriel Sheir and Ken Malcolm.

Voting was heavy with an 85 per cent average turnout. Miss Verna Graham appointed city clerk, was returning officer. Deputy returning officers were Misses Margaret Strachan and Jean Chesher.

Future Citizens' Day—when the High School students take over civic, business and industrial administration of the area—will likely be in the third week of January, says Sid Gonick, Jaycee chairman of that committee.

Our office and plant will be closed from December 24 to January 2 for staff holidays.

Wishing All the Compliments of the Season.

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with Santa Claus in attendance

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With the McCulloch chain saw, one man can fell standing timber easily, buck logs quickly, cut off stumps close to the ground. You can't beat it for making fence posts, cutting firewood, or for cutting and bucking timber for sale or on contract.

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