

The Daily News

NORTHERN AND CENTRAL BRITISH COLUMBIA'S NEWSPAPER

141 Capitol TAXI Macey's Coffee House

Tomorrow's Tides

High 1:32 a.m. 19.1 ft.
13:13 p.m. 21.0 ft.
Low 7:25 a.m. 7.8 ft.
19:53 p.m. 3.1 ft.

Vol. XXVII, No. 129

PRINCE RUPERT, B.C., THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 1939.

PRICE: 5 CENTS

Attempt To Kill Son Of Premier

ENLIGHTENING ADDRESS ON CANADIAN BANKS BY LOCAL INDUSTRIALIST

Much of Criticism May Not Only Be Ignorance But Deliberate Misinterpretation—Tells Important Functions That Financial Institutions Are Performing

Expressing the belief that a great deal of the criticism that has been levelled at the banks of Canada during recent years may not have been all in ignorance but a deliberate misinterpretation of facts designed by demagogues to further their own ends in some manner, Col. J. W. Nicholls, general manager of the Canadian Fish & Cold Storage Co. and at one time in the banking service in England, spoke before the Prince Rupert Gyro Club, at its regular weekly luncheon yesterday on the subject of "The Canadian Chartered Banks." Col. Nicholls commended the soundness of the Canadian banking system, defended its administration, described some of the important services it was rendering to the business, trade and people of the country, referred to the trust that was imposed in it by those who used its facilities and closed with an exhortation of "Hands off the Banks." In the course of his address, Col. Nicholls gave a great deal of interesting information which he had gleaned in regard to the operation and affairs of the banks and of the vital service they are playing in the orderly operation of the affairs of the country. He expressed amazement at the fulminations of some "perverted patriots" in regard to the Canadian banking system and equal amazement at the extent of their followers.

A good attendance of Gyro members, under the chairmanship of the president, D. G. Borland, heard the address. Guests were, besides the speaker, C. H. Orme of Victoria, F. A. MacCallum, Dr. L. I. Pugsley and A. W. Newman.

Said Col. Nicholls in part: "There is no secret about our Canadian banks. You can, and our politicians can, get all the information they want without even going to the banks themselves as it is all publicly printed. It is an open book excepting, of course, the confidential relationship of a customer to the bank. But even this relationship is not entirely private as it is checked up periodically by the government itself through the medium of the Dominion Banking Department which department is charged with the responsibility of checking our banks and has free access to all its records.

Up to a year or so ago the banks ignored criticism. Personally, I think they were too high and mighty and had placed themselves on a virtual pedestal. I suppose they were complacent because they had a clear conscience but they overlooked their public responsibility to reassure the millions of people who had their life savings in their custody. They were brought to realize that a lot of their customers were worried by the growing criticism originating with demagogues who were creating popular prejudice so a year or so back the banks started a publicity and educational campaign. This has done some good but, as it originates from those accused, may not have had the same force as coming from outside sources. "One common complaint against the banks is that they will not loan against homes, real estate, fishing boats and other real property. Several fishermen with first class reputations have tried and failed and they are very bitter at the banks. A very prominent Member of Parliament made the same criticism. Why don't the banks tell us that these very Members of Parliament passed an act a few years ago making it illegal for banks to loan against real estate and real

property? The banks lose their charters every ten years and they are renewed after the Bank Act is revised. The Dominion government appoints a special committee of members of Parliament every ten years to study these very questions and for generations each revision specifically forbids banks to loan the depositor's funds excepting against liquid securities and particularly has denied the banks loaning against real estate. The banks would probably like the privilege of loaning a small percentage of their deposits against real estate as it would yield them a higher rate of interest but the Bank Act is wise in its provision which forbids it. It was this very cause which closed the banks in the United States in 1933 with about one quarter of them still closed with millions of people losing some of their life's savings. They had too much invested in real estate loans which couldn't be converted into cash to meet depositors' demands. "A demagogue can always raise a cheer by an invidious remark about St. James Street or "the money changers in the temple." This trick is as old as the hills and the use of the word bank itself excites, in the consciousness of some people, a feeling of antipathy.

Control Not Centralized "It has been claimed that the banks are controlled by a few wealthy men who are directors and stockholders. I looked into this and find that no one is a director of more than one bank and also that there are over one hundred and sixty directors of the ten chartered banks. These directors are elected by the shareholders and are spread all over Canada. Several of these directors live in British Columbia and every province is well represented. They are the finest men in the country and come from all walks of life. The life insurance companies are well represented on the directorates, presidents and managers of bakeries, fish companies, sawmills, ex-cabinet ministers, steel companies. In fact all branches of business and professional life meet annually, or sooner, as directors of our banks. "These directors, of course, have little to do with the detail of the banks but simply lay down policy. The actual work is left to the general manager and down the line to the bookkeeper and teller. Who are these general managers? Well I have known several and am acquainted with two of the present occupants. They are fine, clean-living, honorable men who have worked up to their present positions from juniors. If you want to know what they look like walk into any of our three banks and ask for MacCallum, Hopkins or Robertson. That is the type and we have no finer men in this city than the men who have been our bank managers. They

(Continued on Page Two)

Alan H. Fairweather, who arrived in the city earlier in the week from Carcross where he has been engaged in commercial aviation, will sail tonight on the Prince George for Vancouver.

GOV'T AID FOR DRIVE UPON VICE

Wismar Promises Backing For Telford Campaign—Seriousness Of Venereal Disease Is Stressed

VANCOUVER, Jan. 19: (CP)—Attorney General Gordon Wismar last night promised fullest co-operation of the provincial police in the drive instituted by Mayor Lyle Telford to eliminate prostitution and the accompanying spread of venereal disease. The promise of backing of the mayor's campaign against vice was made at a conference of city public health authorities and the medical profession.

Dr. D. H. Williams, director of the venereal disease control division, told the conference that the disease incidence in the province was sixty-eight percent higher than the Dominion average and 1600 weekly were now being treated while others were being turned away.

RELIEF IS LESS HERE

Considerable Decrease in Civic Disbursements Shown in 1938 From 1937

Relief disbursements from the City Hall here during the year 1938 maintained the steady decrease which has been recorded each year for the past four or five years. In 1938 the amount paid out from the City Hall was \$34,145.65 as compared with \$39,001.25 in 1937, \$50,056.83 in 1936 and \$55,494.21 in 1935.

At the end of 1938 sixty-seven families were receiving relief as compared with eighty-two at the end of 1937, 92 at the end of 1936 and 119 at the end of 1935. Ninety-six single men were receiving relief at the end of 1938 as against 118 at the end of 1937, 96 at the end of 1936 and 117 at the end of 1935.

Women receiving relief at the end of 1938 numbered five as against six in 1937 and 1936 and five in 1935.

December Relief In December 1938 \$1353.35 was paid to families in relief as compared with \$2440.70 in 1937. These figures may not represent an accurate picture in comparison since there were some changes in the classification between 1938 and 1937.

Other classifications in relief payments in December were as follows, 1937 figures also being shown for comparison:

	Dec. 1938	Dec. 1937
Unemployables	\$394.60	
Single	783.55	\$820.50
Single, not homeless	135.85	153.70
Chinese	43.20	
Women	9.00	77.59
Families (provincial)	253.35	412.05
Single men (provincial)	36.90	64.75
Women (provincial)	13.50	

Weather Forecast

General Synopsis—Pressure appears low near and south of the Queen Charlotte Islands. The weather continues unsettled and mild over this province while heavy rains have occurred on Vancouver Island.

Prince Rupert and Queen Charlotte Islands—Fresh to strong west to northwest winds, part cloudy and colder with sleet or rain.

West Coast of Vancouver Island—Strong southeast to south winds or moderate gales, cloudy and mild with rain.

FINAL BULLETINS

ALASKA DEFENCE

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Legislation to authorize a dozen new naval bases, including an air and submarine base on Guam Island, was introduced today by the chairman of the Senate and House naval committees. The bill would authorize the Navy to establish or expand existing facilities at Kodiak and Sitka in Alaska.

FRANCE OPPOSES NEW JAP ORDER

TOKIO—France joined Great Britain and the United States today in refusing to recognize the "new order" proclaimed by Japan in Eastern Asia. The note expressing the French position will be delivered to the foreign ministry tomorrow.

HYSTERIA ON SHIP

NEW YORK—Stories of hysteria and near panic among 360 passengers of the Italian Line steamer Vulcania when she was struck by a furious storm which silenced the radio off the Azores were told today on the arrival of the ship in port. J. M. McClelland of Longview, Washington, said that at least six passengers were injured and scores bruised when the waves crashed over the top of the ship, breaking windows on deck.

HAVEN FOR REFUGEES

OTTAWA—M. J. Coldwell, C.C.F. member for Rosetown-Biggar, Saskatchewan, speaking in the House of Commons debate on the address, in reply to the Speech from the Throne, asked Parliament to permit the admission to Canada of a "reasonable quota" of refugees from Central Europe where they were suffering persecution.

STAND BY OLD LAND

OTTAWA—Senator Arthur Meighen made a plea in the Upper Chamber yesterday for Canadian co-operation with Great Britain in all defence measures. Canadian defence policy should be based on co-operation with Britain, he contended. Senator Raoul Dandurand, government leader in the Senate, suggested that it might be difficult or even dangerous for Canada to pledge itself to stand by all British defence policy as different Imperial governments in power in the Old Country might alter the situation.

GRITS ARE ALL HAPPY

OTTAWA—Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King was given whole-hearted endorsement as leader of the party at a caucus of Liberal members yesterday. The quarrel with Premier M. F. Heppburn of Ontario is said to have been only briefly mentioned and then only with conciliatory remarks.

GOING ANTI-COMMUNIST

BERLIN—Germany and Italy are moving to bring Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia into adherence with the anti-Communist pact.

REFUGEES IN VANCOUVER

VANCOUVER—One hundred and twenty happy Jewish refugees from Germany and Austria left here yesterday for Australia where they will make their future home. They crossed to Vancouver from Halifax where they landed.

BENNETT VACATES OTTAWA

OTTAWA—Former Prime Minister R. B. Bennett is vacating the nine-room hotel suite here which he has occupied for years and will leave Ottawa next Monday for Saint John where he will embark January 26 for his future home in England. Whether or not he will make a farewell appearance in his seat in Parliament was not known up to last night.

UNITED FARMERS OF ALBERTA

CALGARY—Robert Gardiner was elected for the ninth term yesterday as president of the United Farmers of Alberta in annual convention here. The convention endorsed a resolution favoring a tax on wheat processed for home consumption.

TRAIL WINS AGAIN

PRAGUE—Playing the sixteenth game of their European tour here last night, the Trail Smoke Eaters hockey team set back a Czechoslovakian team by a score of 4 to 1.

TORONTO TIN-CANNERS

TORONTO—Forty single unemployed men were under arrest last night for tin-canning on the windswept streets of Toronto.

LUNENBURG SCHOONER ASHORE

BOSTON—The Lunenburg four-masted schooner Laura Annie Barnes, enroute from Lunenburg to New Haven with pulpwood cargo, is aground in Nantucket Sound. The crew of seven men was removed by the coastguard cutter Tahoe. Efforts to refloat the schooner failed and it is feared she may not be able to live through a northeast gale.

CO-OPERATIVE POOLS

ANTIGONISH, N. S., Jan. 19: (CP)—Nearly 67,000 pounds of turkey were marketed in co-operative pools during the 1938 Christmas season in Antigonish, Inverness and Victorian Counties, an increase of 10,000 pounds over the previous Christmas.

IN QUEEN'S ROOM

OTTAWA, Jan. 19: (CP)—Originals of the illustrations in the Morney edition of Louis Hemon's French Canadian classic "Marie-Chapdelaine" will hang in the Rideau Hall sitting-room to be used by her Majesty the Queen on her visit next summer.

Young Chamberlain Is Evidently Intended As Irish Bombing Victim

Powerful Explosive Set Off at Hotel In Ire Where He is Guest for Hunting Holiday—I.R.A. is Blamed for Blast

TRALEE, Ire, Jan. 19: (CP)—An apparent attempt to kill Francis Neville Chamberlain, twenty-four-year-old son of Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain of Great Britain, failed today when a powerful bomb exploded at the rear of Hawney's Hotel here where young Chamberlain is staying. Several hundred windows in surrounding houses were broken but no casualties were reported. The youth, who had come here for a hunting holiday, was apparently little worried. Later he left the hotel with friends to hunt. Authorities expressed the opinion that members of the outlawed Irish Republican Army set the blast.

Had Fished Here Twenty-Five Years

The funeral took place at the end of last week from the B. C. Undertakers Chapel at Fairview Cemetery of Rasmus Ivarson, well known Prince Rupert fisherman, whose death had occurred earlier in the week at the Prince Rupert General Hospital after an illness of considerable duration. Rev. K. H. Risberg of St. Paul's Lutheran Church officiated and Miss Lois Judge presided at the organ to accompany the hymns. Pallbearers were Robert March, Jonas Thompson, O. K. Olsen, Jens Larsen, E. C. Hopen and Joseph Kilby.

The late Mr. Ivarson was a native of Norway and forty-six years of age. He had been located at Prince Rupert and along the coast employed as a halibut and salmon fisherman since 1913. He was unmarried and a member of the Deep Sea Fishermen's Union. Further incidents have occurred in the alleged campaign of Irish Republican Army terrorism in England and Ireland in demand for withdrawal of British armed forces from Ireland. Yesterday a monument in Belfast was attacked. In Birmingham a section of a power line was bombed. In Manchester an electric tower was the object of attack. Seven young men, all under the age of twenty-five, alleged to be Irish extremists, appeared in Bow Street police court yesterday on charges of illegal possession of firearms and explosives. They had been arrested following raids when quantities of firearms and explosives were found. Similar cases are proceeding in other centres as the round-up of supposed extremists continues.

Great Britain And France Are Agreed Finally Not To Change Hands Off Policy In Spain War

Thousands of Loyalists Reported to be Surrendering Voluntarily, Taking Equipment With Them, As Franco Promises no Reprisals

LONDON, January 19: (CP)—The British cabinet, in a two-and-a-half hour session yesterday, at which Prime Minister Chamberlain reported on last week's mission to Rome, decided to stand by its policy of non-intervention in the Spanish civil war. From Paris came word that the Daladier government there had decided to follow a similar course. It means that both Great Britain and France will refrain from giving direct aid to the Spanish nationalists for whom defeat at the hands of the insurgents led by General Francisco Franco now appears imminent.

Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain, in a letter to Clement Atlee, Labor leader, declined to accede to a request to call a special session of Parliament to discuss the giving of aid to government Spain. Intervention at this time, said the Prime Minister, would only serve to extend the conflict. Meantime in Spain the government, in a final desperate effort to save Barcelona from capture, is reported to be moving sixty thousand troops from idle Madrid front to the defence of the provisional capital. They will have to be transported by sea from the south to the north of the eastern coast of Spain, braving the risk of blockade by insurgent naval craft on the way. It was said last night that twelve thousand of the government troops had already embarked from Valencia for Barcelona.

With the loyalist outlook now seemingly hopeless, there were reports of whole units of government troops deserting and going voluntarily over to the insurgents, taking their equipment with them.

Other reports said government forces were resisting insurgents strongly in mountains west of Barcelona. Yesterday planes flew over Barcelona dropping leaflets suggesting surrender. This followed radio broadcasts a couple of days ago by General Franco promising the loyalists that there would be no reprisals against them if they surrendered.

Chief Petty Officer Instructor A. G. Bird of the local unit of the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve was an interesting speaker at the regular weekly luncheon of the Prince Rupert Rotary Club today. His subject was "Peace Time Operations of the Navy." President W. L. Coates was in the chair and there was a good attendance of members with a few guests.