

The Daily News

NORTHERN AND CENTRAL BRITISH COLUMBIA'S NEWSPAPER

PRINCE RUPERT, B.C., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1943

Dim-out Time

(Half an hour after sunset to half an hour before sunrise.)

Sunrise 9:28 a.m.
Sunset 6:23 p.m.

Local Temperature

Maximum
Minimum

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PRICE: FIVE CENTS

Churchill Has Paid Turkey Visit

CANADA'S WAR EFFORT DESCRIBED

Ships Available Only Limit On Forces and Goods For Overseas

Reveals Plans Marked Increase in Overseas Establishment Abroad—Most "Serious" Year in War is Coming Up

OTTAWA, Feb. 2 — Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King told the House of Commons yesterday that the only limit placed upon troops and supplies sent overseas from Canada was the "limit of ships available to take them." That, he said, was the answer to the criticism of Canada's war effort but he also gave many figures indicating the significance and volume of the Dominion's contribution.

Mr. King announced that there would be marked increase in the Royal Canadian Air Force establishment overseas with Canada taking full responsibility for maintenance and an increase in merchant and warship building in Canada.

The Prime Minister warned that 1943 would be a "more serious" one for Canadian forces than any year since the war started.

Going further into details, Premier King announced in his address, which was in the Throne Speech debate, that Canada plans to increase the number of Royal Canadian Air Force squadrons overseas from about thirty to thirty-eight during the present year. Canada was also undertaking to provide pay and allowances of Royal Canadian Air Force personnel serving in Royal Air Force squadrons.

The cost of the changed policy, Mr. King said, was not estimated. An Air Force spokesman said it might not be made until it would run into millions upon millions.

Mr. King also disclosed that something like eight or ten corvettes and other ships had succeeded in sinking enemy U-boats.

False Pretences Charges Are Laid

Man Who Was Arrested in Vancouver For Local Police Appears In Court

Peter Shelby, who was arrested in Vancouver and returned here on charges of false pretences by cashing worthless checks, appeared before Magistrate W. D. Vance in city police court yesterday on one of these charges and pleaded guilty, being remanded until this afternoon when two more charges of similar nature will be read. The checks are in the amounts of \$25 and \$15.

Tightening Up On Accounting

Interests and Penalty Payments Henceforth to be Insisted Upon

Steps are being taken by the city council towards bringing about a tightening up of accounts and collections in the city hall.

Payment of interest on delinquent taxation will henceforth be insisted upon as well as payment of penalties after the due date on service accounts. There will also be cutting off of services after two months of delinquency.

Recommendations along these lines were accepted at last night's council meeting.

BATTLING IN AFRICA

Activities From Various Sections of That War Theatre is Reported

CAIRO, Feb. 2 — It is reported that the British Eighth Army exchanged artillery fire with Axis forces west of Zuara in the Tunisian border area yesterday while Allied patrols probed Axis defence positions along a line extending inland from the coast.

United States forces are striking toward the coast in southern Tunisia while farther north the British First Army smashed a German counter-attack southwest from Pont du Fahns toward Rebaa and followed up with a counter-attack.

Inquest Into Boat Fatality

Circumstances of Fatal Fire on Local Waterfront Sunday Morning Being Investigated

After viewing the remains, a coroner's inquest into the death of Private Rodney Valpy of the Royal Canadian Army Service Corps who lost his life in a fire aboard a power cruiser at the floats of the Prince Rupert Rowing & Yacht Club on Sunday morning was adjourned until tomorrow evening. The inquest is the first to be conducted by the newly appointed coroner, Dr. R. J. MacDonal. The jury consists of W. J. Sheardown, foreman, E. J. Cobb, Jack Furness, N. L. Jones, Albert Still and David Young.

WATER IS DISCUSSED

Dry Dock's Supply May Be Regulated—Others Entitled To Consideration

After hearing a lengthy report from the utilities committee on the recent water shortage in the city, the council decided last night to take steps to limit the consumption of water at the dry dock to normal levels. It was suggested that much of the recent trouble was due to the dry dock opening up its hydrants and permitting the water to run into the sea to prevent freezing. There was an abnormal increase in the amount of water used by the dry dock.

Ald. Thomas Elliott was quite outspoken on the matter. He felt that the residents were entitled to consideration and that it would be little help if the city was permitted to burn down owing to lack of water pressure.

There was no shortage of water in Woodworth Lake, the committee reported.

CAR CRASH IS PROBED BY JURORS

Manner of Army Doctor's Death Established—Safety Recommendations Are Made

Capt. John Menzies MacDiarmid, local army doctor, came to his death at the Prince Rupert military hospital at 12:45 a.m. January 29 as a result of concussion following a fractured skull and internal injuries suffered when a sedan car which he was driving plunged over an embankment from Fourth Avenue West into Service Memorial Park at the rear of the city police station at or about midnight January 28. Such was the verdict of a coroner's jury which yesterday investigated the circumstances of the fatality. The jury recommended that a well lighted sign should be installed at the west end of Fourth Avenue West and that consideration be given by the city engineer to the erection of a more substantial barricade than that which exists at present or that some means be adopted to insure the safety of the public in that quarter.

The inquest was conducted by Coroner Norman A. Watt and the jury consisted of C. L. Youngman, foreman, Oiler Besper, D. P. Miller, W. F. Sheardown, William Brass and William Bussey. Examination of witnesses was conducted by Staff Sergeant F. W. Gallagher. Three army officers sat in to represent Prince Rupert area defences in the hearing.

Principal Witness

Capt. Robert Fraser Stewart, who was in the death car with deceased, had considerable difficulty in recalling the circumstances of the fatality. Still bearing marks of the injuries he himself sustained, he was visibly in stress and finally was taken out of the witness stand at the suggestion of Major Arthur Lancelot Cornish, officer commanding the local military hospital, who stated that he (Stewart) was suffering from retrograde amnesia, could not recall anything that transpired for two or three hours prior to the accident and was in no fit condition to give testimony of answer questions.

Capt. Stewart had said he could remember nothing about the accident. He had been in company with eight army doctors. He had a Plymouth DeLuxe sedan. He had been in Prince Rupert about sixteen months and knew Fourth Avenue. He did not remember who had been with him about 11 o'clock that night but believed it was Capt. MacDiarmid and Lieut. Yager. Who was in the car with him prior to the accident he could not recollect. There had been a gathering at the Commodore Cafe about 7:15 p.m. and they had left there about 9:30 p.m. and went to the garrison officers' mess. He did not remember when he left there. He could not recollect who was driving the car but suggested it was Capt. MacDiarmid. He could not say who was driving when the accident occurred. Capt. MacDiarmid had often driven his car. As Capt. Stewart was having difficulty in going on, Major Cornish interjected and suggested that he was in no fit condition to proceed.

Major Cornish then took the stand himself. He told of being called to the military hospital where he arrived at 12:30 midnight about the time MacDiarmid and Stewart had been admitted. He attended both doctors with the assistance of Dr. J. J. Gibson, Dr. MacDiarmid gradually "became worse and died at 12:45 a.m.

Earlier in the evening there had been a dinner for two visiting colonels. They were classmates. After the dinner they went to the garrison officers' mess and remained about fifteen or twenty minutes.

GERMANS CRACKING

Even High Command Announces Last Bulwark at Stalingrad Gone—Red Advances Elsewhere

NEW YORK, Feb. 2 (CP)—The German High Command announced today that the defensive ring of the German Eleventh Army Corps in Stalingrad has been breached and Russian troops have broken into "the last bulwark of the defenders" in several places.

The Russian noon communique recorded in London said: "More towns were taken, in advances west of Voronezh by the Red Army aiming at Kursk and stubborn resistance on the southern front is broken with Axis troops retreating."

The Soviet forces are threatening Rostov, Kharkov, Kursk and Krasnodar.

LOG SCALE IS HIGHER

This January's Production Nearly Four Times as Great as Same Month Last Year

During the month of January the log scale in Prince Rupert forestry district was 8,092,288 board feet. Spruce, as usual, was the principal variety, amounting to 5,044,510 board feet. Last year in January the scale was only 2,256,116 board feet.

EXCHANGES IN PACIFIC

Air and Sea Activity Over Wide Area is Disclosed

WASHINGTON, D.C. Feb. 2—All the way from the Solomons to the Aleutian Islands in the Pacific war theatre, there have been fresh air and naval exchanges between Allied and Japanese forces.

Some proceeding to the McBride Street mess, MacDiarmid, Stewart and Yager had walked from one mess to the other as the keys of Dr. Stewart's car could not be found. Later Major Cornish himself brought the car up to McBride Street. While he (Cornish) was driving he found it necessary to continually clear the windshield of frost. They sat around for a few minutes at the McBride Street mess and at 11:50 p.m. he (Cornish) saw MacDiarmid and Stewart off in their car. There were just the two of them. Capt. MacDiarmid took the wheel and drove away. Witness personally watched them drive away, turning off McBride Street on to Fifth Avenue West. Both were in the front seat. They were both quite capable. A certain amount of liquor had been consumed during the evening. Capt. Stewart had driven from the Commodore Cafe to the garrison mess. The car when it left McBride Street mess was under good control. Major Cornish identified photographs of Capt. Stewart's car and gave the cause of death as concussion following fracture of the skull and internal injuries.

Constable Testifies

Constable Robert C. Moore told of sitting in the police office at 12:01 last Thursday night when a rumbling sound was heard from outside. He immediately went out and the car was found lying in Service Memorial Park. The car

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Conference With President Inonu Is Regarded As Very Significant In Connection With Spring Plans

WATERFRONT EXPLOSION

Boat Shattered and Two Men Injured on Local Waterfront This Afternoon

Another gasboat explosion took place this afternoon on the local waterfront. There were two blasts and buildings around were shaken. The boat itself, a small vessel, was to large extent shattered and two men were injured. The ambulance went to the scene and took the men away.

CONNECTION TO JASPER

Plans For Further Improvement Of Radio Here Being Proceeded With

Ira Dilworth, regional director of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, assured the Prince Rupert Chamber of Commerce in a letter last night that the commission was "proceeding actively with arrangements to complete the construction of a direct line with Jasper" to connect the local station CFPR up with the national network. As a matter of fact, one of the members of the Chamber said that construction was already under way.

Mr. Dilworth was replying to a letter which had been sent by the Chamber expressing appreciation of improved radio service that was already being given here.

There was also a letter from Dick Halhed, local manager, expressing gratification that the programs were approved but also stated that there was still a great deal of improvement to be done which it was hoped could be effected.

City May Get Pipe Thawing Device Soon

An electric device for the thawing out of water pipes may be obtained by the city for the use of the citizens. This was proposed at last night's meeting of the city council. There was such a device available which, for a payment of \$5, might make money and do an efficient job of thawing out frozen pipes.

Leaders of Two Nations in Two-day Parley Discuss Whole European Situation—British Premier Also Inspects Cyprus

LONDON, Feb. 2 (CP)—Going direct from the historic war strategy conference with President Franklin D. Roosevelt at Casablanca, Prime Minister Winston Churchill has paid a visit to Cyprus and Turkey, giving broad and unmistakable warning to Chancellor Adolf Hitler against a spring offensive in the direction of Turkey. The British and Turkish leaders, in meetings Saturday and Sunday, discussed the entire European situation, giving particular attention "to those regions in which Turkey is directly interested," a British communique said.

Mr. Churchill flew to Turkey via Cyprus and his meeting with President Inonu was at Adana.

The visit to Cyprus was regarded as of considerable significance. Reference is made to strong Allied forces which are occupying that island which might be a springboard against Crete and Greece.

Corvette Named For This City

A new corvette for the Canadian Navy to carry the name Prince Rupert is nearing completion at a West Coast shipyard and the launching will take place before long, according to information received at the city council meeting last night from the builders.

Mayor W. M. Watts has sent a message of congratulations to the yard and the officers.

'Pay As You Earn' Plan Is Discussed

Local Chamber of Commerce Hears Correspondence in Regard to Matter

There was correspondence at the regular monthly meeting of the Prince Rupert Chamber of Commerce last night in regard to the proposed "pay as you earn" income tax plan. This is strongly urged by the Canadian Chamber of Commerce which has communicated with the federal government on the subject. A communication from the secretary of the minister of finance said that the proposal was being given serious consideration and official study.

Gov't Held Responsible

City Council Endorses Resolution From Teachers' Federation In Regard to Educational Costs

After hearing representations on the subject by Bruce Mickleburgh on behalf of the Prince Rupert City and District Teachers' Association which also presented a letter written by the secretary of its publicity committee, Miss Dorothy O'Neill, the city council last night endorsed a resolution approving the principle of the provincial government assuming the financial responsibility for education in British Columbia. This, it was pointed out, would be in compliance with the terms of the British North America Act.

Ald. N. E. Arnold took the lead in endorsing the resolution of which she said she was heartily in accord. Ald. H. M. Daggett seconded and endorsement was unanimous.

The resolution is as follows: "Whereas the children now in our schools are those who must face the grave problems of the war and of the post-war periods and are, therefore, in greater need of an adequate education than children have ever been before,

"And whereas the inspiring stand of some of the United Nations, notably Great Britain, China and Russia, may be attributed in no small measure to the emphasis they have placed and are now placing on education,

"And whereas the British North America Act assigns the responsibility for education to the provincial government,

"And whereas thousands of children in British Columbia are today not receiving a proper education, due to the closing of schools and the replacing of qualified teachers by persons unqualified for teaching, and due to the inability of many districts throughout the province to provide sufficient funds to equip their classrooms,

"And whereas this council is desirous of seeing equal and sufficient to all the children of this province, educational opportunities open whether they reside in Prince Rupert or in more wealthy districts,

"THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this council urge the provincial government to recognize the importance of education in an all-out war effort as well as its responsibilities to the children of this province by providing a more satisfactory basis for financing education than the present land tax, such as the establishment of a provincial fund to cover all educational costs, and by establishing at the coming session of the Legislature a scale of salaries that will ensure the retention of competent and trained teachers throughout the province."

A meeting of the executive of the Junior Section of the Prince Rupert Chamber of Commerce, which was to have been held last evening, was postponed until tonight.

WAR NEWS

REDS HEMMING IN NAZIS

MOSCOW—Red Army troops have pushed one wedge of their arc around Rostov to within less than forty miles of the city with the capture of Zernovoy and are developing new thrusts against Kursk, Kharkov and Krasnodar, Soviet authorities indicated today.

AMERICAN FORCES STRIKE

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA—Under an umbrella of fighting planes, United States troops, striking toward the coast in southern Tunisia, drove the Germans out of the village of Sened yesterday and then withdrew after accomplishing the mission, it was announced today.

CHURCHILL IN TURKEY

LONDON—Prime Minister Winston Churchill, carrying forward the Allied pattern for conquest of the Axis designed at Casablanca, has flown to Turkey and agreed with President Inonu, among other things, on plans for the bolstering up of Turkish defences, it was announced today.