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NORTHERN AND CENTRAL BRITISH COLUMBIA'S NEWSPAPER

PRINCE RUPERT, B.C., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1943

Local Tides

Saturday, Dec. 25
High 0:01 18.5 feet
 11:49 22.0 feet
Low 5:39 8.0 feet
 18:35 3.1 feet

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PRICE FIVE CENTS

Famous Aerial Mascot—

Group Captain's Spaniel, Air Veteran With 300 Hours' Time, Is Poisoner's Victim

PRINCE RUPERT — One of Canada's most celebrated dogs is dead in Prince Rupert, the victim of poisoning near his home on Fourth Avenue West.
The dog is "Gyp," six-year-old cocker spaniel belonging to Group Captain Roy H. Foss, officer commanding the Royal Canadian Air Force here.
Group Captain Foss' remark that it "is almost like losing one of the family" can be appreciated when it is learned that "Gyp" was his faithful companion on no less than three hundred hours of flying in Eastern Canada, from Labrador and from Newfoundland and half-way across the Atlantic as well as later on the Pacific Coast.
One of "Gyp's" interesting flying exploits was a mercy flight into Central Labrador when Group Captain Foss went in with a Norseman flying boat to rescue three Americans who had been in a crash.
To meet distinguished people was not unusual for "Gyp." In fact, he was personally acquainted with two kings—Peter of Yugoslavia and George of Greece—to say nothing of such notabilities as Foreign Commissar Molotov of Russia, General George C. Marshall, Major General Jimmy Doolittle and many others. With some of them he went fishing. These acquaintances were made on the East Coast.
Possibly no other aerial mascot ever had more flying time to his credit than "Gyp" who was a real enthusiast in his doggy way for air travel. He was better known than many well known fliers.
He was also a faithful family pet and a friend with the neighbors although he seldom strayed from home or master's presence. He was brought up as a pup in Montreal and remained there while his master was overseas.

BREAKTHROUGH MADE BY REDS

German Counter Offensive Being Held Between White Russia and Ukraine.

LONDON, Dec. 24 — German sources have intimated that the Red Army has made a breakthrough north of Vitebsk, a report that has not yet been confirmed by Moscow. Several towns were taken north of Vitebsk.
Fierce fighting continues West of Kiev but the Russians are holding against the new German counter-offensive from White Russia to the Ukraine.
There is a new Russian assault east of Kersch.

Public Morale In Shanghai Is At Low Level

SHANGHAI, Dec. 24—Public morale in this Japanese-occupied Chinese city has reached a new low. Business is in a chaotic condition.

A.R.P. HERE IN SESSION

Preparations Are Being Made For Visit of Dominion Director.

At a meeting of the district warden of the Civil Protection Committee (A.R.P.) J. S. Wilson, chief warden, referred to the forthcoming visit of Brigadier-General Alex Ross, C.M.G., K.C., D. S. O., director of civil defence Ottawa.
The appointment of such an outstanding person as General Ross to succeed the late Dr. R. J. Manion was proof that the government recognized the importance of maintaining and even improving civil defence organization. It is well to remember that military or naval changes did not imply that civil defence organizations were no longer needed. There still was a definite risk of air or other attacks on the Pacific coast and, if such happened, the only organization to take care of civilian casualties and property would be the Civilian Defence (A.R.P.).
Mr. Wilson urged the district warden to revive interest in the organization. They had built up a very creditable and effective organization in the past. It would be very unfortunate and even tragic if the organization were allowed to fall away.
With the approaching visit of General Ross there was a real and definite incentive for all to get together again and be able to show the Dominion director that the Civil Defence (A.R.P.) of Prince Rupert, had built up in the past was fully warranted.

Are Moving Upon Rome

Fifth and Eighth Armies Are Continuing Their Advances in Italy.

ALGIERS, Dec. 24—Occupation of the important railway town of Ortona on the Adriatic coast of Italy has been almost, if not fully, completed by the Eighth Army with Canadians playing a leading role, it was indicated today.

To the west the Fifth Army has captured further important heights in its campaign for Cassino and Rome may be reached sooner than some might have expected, it is now suggested.

Reinforcements For Marshalls

PEARL HARBOR, Dec. 24—The Japanese are rushing reinforcements to the Marshall Islands in mid Pacific. Twenty enemy ships have been sighted in the atolls by American bombers. Admiral Chester W. Nimitz announced.

BERLIN GETS BOMBS FOR XMAS

FOR WAR AND PEACE TO FOLLOW GREAT PROJECTS OPEN NORTHWEST

Gigantic Undertakings Following Openings of Great Road at or Near Completion as Year Ends.

By JACK SULLIVAN

Canadian Press Staff Writer
EDMONTON, Dec. 24 (CP) — It took a war to tame Canada's much-storied northland, but this great territory enters 1944 sprinkled with the sweat of its conquerors—a huge invasion force that broke it down through sheer inventive genius and fortitude.
Dictates of the war made necessary the opening

of the northwest, linking the arsenals of the United States and Canada with outlying defence posts. Today it bristles with a chain of strategically-situated airports, and planes, both Canadian and American, range far out into the Pacific along the great sword of the Aleutians pointing at the heart of Japan.

The path-finding for this hitherto comparatively unexplored region was blazed by a band of daring Canadian bush pilots and the pioneer work proved to be of inestimable value when the time came for building the 1,839-mile Alaska Highway to the Yukon, and allied projects, including the \$130,000,000 Canol oil project at Fort Norman, N.W.T., the longest open-wire telephone line in the world, stepping-stone stop-offs for Russia-bound planes and the world's longest overland mail route.

The highway snakes its way from Dawson Creek, B.C., to Whitehorse, Y.T., through wild timberlands, over treacherous muskegs and up along the lofty glacier regions of the Yukon and Alaska. An American undertaking, the \$115,000,000 road was started in March, 1942, and was officially opened as a pioneer road nine months later.

A Co-operative Effort
Although built with American funds it will become Canadian property after the war, with the stipulation that no discrimination be made against traffic originating in the United States.
Thousands of United States army engineer troops, bolstered by American and Canadian civilian crews, fought and hacked their way through hitherto-untrammelled land. These men worked with heart-breaking speed in weather that silted from above-zero temperature to 40 and 50 degrees below zero.

Bridges were built over treacherous rivers as the workers went along. Some, including the \$1,750,000 suspension bridge over the swift-flowing Peace River, compare favorably with any in the cities of Canada and the United States.

Canol, developed to provide much-needed fuel for the United States army in Alaska and Canada, is about 1,500 miles of pipeline with the Norman Wells oilfields on the Mackenzie River as its course. Completion of this project is scheduled for Jan. 15.

Farthest North Oilfield
Canol, which stands for Canadian Oil Lines, is the farthest north oil field in the world, approximately 1,000 miles north of Calgary by air.
The U.S. army signal corps also entered the picture for development of the north, completing in November, 1943, the final link in the 2,026-mile telephone system from Edmonton to Fairbanks, Alaska. It marked the first time in history overland telephone communication between the United States and its largest territorial possession was possible.

The system extends from Edmonton to Fairbanks along the route of the Alaska Highway, then stretches from Fairbanks to Anchorage paralleling the Alaska Railroad.

Another by-product of the highway is the daily overland mail route from Dawson Creek to Fairbanks. Mail for both Canadians and American along the various posts and stations on the highway is sorted at Edmonton, shipped by Northern Alberta Railway to Dawson Creek and then taken over by U.S. army postal trucks.

The 1,600-mile run from Dawson Creek to Fairbanks takes a total elapsed time of three days, 19 hours.

BULLETINS

JAPS DRIVEN OUT
CHUNGKING — The Japanese have been driven out of four-fifths of the Chinese Rice Bowl, it is declared here.

POPE SAYS WAR WORSE
VATICAN CITY — In a Christmas Eve broadcast today, Pope Pius deplored the fact that the war was "degenerating." The spirit of the Christmas season was deteriorating throughout the world. It was terrible that mankind should be losing its way to the manger.

NEW GERMAN BOMB
LONDON—Berlin claims to have used its new and deadly rocket gun in a cross-channel duel last night. However, there were no indications in British reports that the duel was of any difference than previous ones.

TRIAL AS CRIMINALS
BERLIN — Captured British and American fliers will be tried as war criminals, it has been announced. They will be given opportunity in open court to tell of their orders and how they were carried out. It is presumed this applies to Canadians as well.

GLOUCESTER BOMBED AGAIN
ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN SOUTH PACIFIC—Another United Nations bombing attack has been made on Cape Gloucester, New Britain. One hundred and fifty-two tons of bombs were dropped. Fourteen Japanese planes were shot down over New Guinea yesterday.

Germans Try To Stop Submarines

LONDON, Dec. 24—A fifty-mile submarine net has been spread from the Gulf of Finland to the Baltic Sea in order to block off Russian submarines.

Evacuating Yugo-Slavs From Coast

LONDON, Dec. 24—The Germans are carrying out a mass evacuation of Yugo-Slavs from a 230-mile strip of Dalmatian and Croatian coast. The reason is fear that the Yugo-Slavs might co-operate with an Allied invasion.

PARTY FOR OLD TIMERS

An innovation as interesting and enjoyable as it was novel to the some forty-five or fifty real old timers in attendance was the Christmas party for pioneers held yesterday afternoon in the social parlor of First United Church (U.S.O.) under the auspices of the local Women's Council.
The guests, all of them septuagenarians or better, were received by Canon W. F. Rushbrook and Ex-Mayor M. M. Stephens and warmly welcomed. Mr. Stephens acted as master of ceremonies and made suitable opening remarks. Grace was pronounced by the venerable missionary, Rev. W. H. Pierce, and then full justice was done

Royal Air Force In Large Formation On Attack Early Today

Seventeen British Planes Failed to Return — Clear, Frosty Weather Facilitates Assault.

LONDON, Dec. 24—The Christmas season is not halting the bombing of Berlin. Indeed, advantage is being taken of clear, frosty weather to intensify the assault. Last night Royal Air Force heavy bombers in large formations, visited the German capita shortly after midnight instead of early in the evening as has been their custom.

Railways May Be Taken Over

President Roosevelt Takes Steps to Counter General Strike.

WASHINGTON D. C. Dec. 24—Clearing the way for seizure, President Franklin D. Roosevelt yesterday ordered the attorney general to draw up the papers necessary for governmental taking over of the railways of the nations failing negotiations to settle the dispute which has led to a general strike being called for December 30. Two hundred and twenty-five thousand of 350,000 operating workers have voted in favor of President Roosevelt's offer of arbitration but 1,500,000 non-operating workers have not yet expressed themselves. The President has intimated that the railways would be seized 24 hours before a strike deadline.

WAS LOST IN SKEENA

Pilot Officer R. F. W. Sedgewick of Toronto is R.C.A.F. Casualty.

Pilot Officer R. F. W. Sedgewick of Toronto lost his life in a crash of a single-seater aircraft of the Royal Canadian Air Force in the Skeena River on Tuesday of this week. It is officially announced at group headquarters here. Sedgewick was returning to his station from a routine flight when the crash occurred. The cause of the crash has not yet been ascertained and investigation is proceeding. The body has not been recovered as yet.

Heavier Xmas Mail Handled

But Due to Public Co-operation It Was Handled With Much Greater Dispatch.
There was a much greater postal traffic at Prince Rupert this Christmas but, thanks largely to the fine co-operation of the public which responded most satisfactorily to the advertised appeal for early mailing, much more orderly and effective handling was possible. The situation was completely under control at all times and nothing outgoing was missed.
Postmaster J. R. Morison, speaking this morning, expressed his appreciation for public co-operation.
The postmaster promised to give out some figures as soon as possible as to the volume of Christmas postal traffic this year as compared with previous years.

FIFTEEN MAY HAVE PERISHED

Check-up of Hull Hotel Fire Not Yet Completed
HULL, Que., Dec. 24—Fifteen persons are still unaccounted for following the fire which destroyed the Central Hotel here early yesterday morning. It has been impossible as yet to fully explore the debris for remains of victims.

Hockey Scores

Detroit 5, New York 3.

Mr. Pattullo's Greetings

Editor, Daily News:
May I through your paper, as I have done for so many years, extend to all my very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year. This year is more cheerful than the last. Let us hope that the bells will sound more lustily next year.
—T. D. PATTULLO, M.L.A.

Post Office Lobby To Be Opened Less

A change is being made in the opening hours of the lobby of the Post Office effective the New Year after which the hours will be from 7 a.m. until 3 p.m. on week-days and 9 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Sundays. At present the closing time is 11 p.m. The wicket section will be open as usual from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on week-days.

President Talks To World Today

WASHINGTON D. C. Dec. 24—President Franklin D. Roosevelt delivered a radio broadcast to the world today. Rebroadcast in thirty languages, it was carried over all North American broadcasting systems including Canada as well as the British, Australian, and New Zealand channels and to North Africa, Italy and India. The address originated at Hyde Park where the president is spending Christmas.

Greetings from Olof Hanson

Under circumstances in the war situation which it must be apparent to us all are far more gratifying and hopeful than they have been at any time since we became engaged in the struggle for maintenance of peace and democracy, it is my pleasure to once again extend my best Christmas and New Year wishes to the good people of Skeena constituency.
The great gift which Providence and Fortune brought us during the past year was the Turning of the Tide which is now flowing so abundantly in our favor. Have we not good reason to anticipate that the year to come will see well on the way if not finally consummated the era of Peace and Goodwill which the present glad season implies and for which we continue to work and fight?
Thus far the citizens of Skeena have done nobly in furthering the great cause. May I once again salute them on the eve of Christmas.
—OLOF HANSON,
M.P. for Skeena.

(Continued on Page Four)