

Queen Charlotte Islands and North Coast: Light to moderate winds, cloudy and little change in temperature.

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The Daily News

PRINCE RUPERT, B.C., MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1944

(Pacific St)

Tuesday, Dec. 19
High 15
Low 9
22'

Port

How French Canucks In Italy Feel

Think that Soldiers in Canada should go Overseas

MONTREAL, Dec. 18 (CP)—A section of the French-Canadian soldiers going home from Italy has been interviewed by a Canadian Press war correspondent, Doug How, who is on his way back from the front. Speaking seriously with much thought, they expressed regret that the Canadians of two races at home carry on their share of the effort with the same unity which Canadians of two races have achieved overseas.

PEARSON NEW EMBASSY HEAD AT WASHINGTON

OTTAWA, Dec. 18 (CP)—Appointment of Hon. L. B. Pearson as Canadian Ambassador to the United States was announced Saturday by Prime Minister Mackenzie King. The new ambassador at present holds the post of minister at the Canadian embassy in Washington. He succeeds the Hon. Leighton McCarthy, 75, who has resigned.

LONG SERVICE MEN ARE HOME

Canadian Soldiers from Overseas Here for First Christmas in Five Years

TORONTO, Dec. 18 (CP)—Many of the Canadian soldiers who returned to Canada at the end of the week from overseas on special leave have been overseas for more than five years and the thorough means for many of them that they will be spending the first Christmas at home since the war started.

Many of the men will return to the battle lines when their 30-day furlough is completed. Some of them had fought with the Canadians in Sicily, Italy and France and a few in all major Canadian campaigns.

Local Temperature

Maximum 40
Minimum 31

WAR NEWS

Nazi Counter-Offensive

LONDON — Strong German attacks have been made against the American forces which have been driven back several miles south of Aachen. Several fronts have been thrown into the fight and the German action again. In Luxembourg the Germans have been forced back for three miles. To the north they have had better success and have advanced further into Germany, taking a few miles of miles.

Siege of Budapest

MOSCOW—The Battle of Budapest has entered into the phase of a siege. The Soviets are attacking very heavily but the Nazis have been able to balance the scale and the Russian High Command announces that no further progress has been made.

New Zealanders Take Faenza

ROME—New Zealand forces, after several days of bitter fighting, have captured the important German stronghold of Faenza on the Italian front and have advanced three miles on towards Bologna.

Supply Road Cleared

ATHENS—British attacks have resulted in clearing the supply road between the port of Piraeus and Athens. Fighting continues although on a reduced scale following rejection by the British of the Leftist offer to withdraw from Athens and Piraeus if they are not required to lay down their arms.

New Landing Progresses

WASHINGTON — United States forces, following their landings on Mindoro Island in the Philippines, have driven seven miles inland to capture the town of San Jose. The American air force has destroyed 440 Japanese planes. Eight Japanese ships have been sunk and seven damaged.

Ulm and Munich Bombed

LONDON—British night-shift bombers worked overtime last night. In their first assault, the British heavyweights struck at the industrial centre of Ulm. The second blow was aimed at Munich.

Still Fighting in Greece

ATHENS—Fighting in Greece continues today. British troops are engaging in a house-to-house drive against Left Wing elements in the eastern sector of the Greek capital of Athens. Armored forces as well as infantry are being used in this new drive to wipe out E.L.A.S. resistance.

Nagoya Is Again Target

WASHINGTON—The Japanese radio this morning has announced sighting more B-29 superfortresses over the Japanese homeland. According to the Japanese, Nipponese fighters and anti-aircraft defences swung into action when the big planes were sighted. There has as yet been no indication where the big bombers are operating but there are signs that the industrial city of Nagoya has been picked as a target once again. This city was blasted yesterday during one of two raids carried out by the B-29's. The other attack was carried out in the area of Hankow, China.

The Situation in Burma

CALCUTTA — The Allies are consolidating positions in North Burma. A juncture between the Royal Scottish Fusiliers and the British Fourteenth Army is near. United States infantry and artillery is also there.

More Jap Ships Sunk

WASHINGTON—The Department of the Navy announced today that American submarines have sunk 33 more Japanese vessels—12 of them warships—in the Pacific.

Hockey Scores

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Saturday
Detroit 1, Toronto 1,
Boston 5, Montreal 8.
Sunday
New York 1, Montreal 4,
Chicago 2, Detroit 1.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Saturday
Pittsburgh 6, Buffalo 3,
Cleveland 3, Hershey 3.
Sunday
Buffalo 4, Hershey 2,
Cleveland 6, Providence 5.

SEATTLE MAN FINED HERE ON CUSTOMS CHARGE

Leland D. Kish of Seattle was fined \$50 and costs under the Customs Act in police court Friday when he pleaded guilty to a charge of being in illegal possession of American liquor. He was also assessed \$108.73, the appraised value of 13 bottles of whiskey found on his yacht when it was visited by R.C.M.P. officers on November 20. The boat, the 50-foot yacht Mystery of Seattle, was seized by customs authorities.

Police said they searched Kish's boat after they learned that it had been in port from Ketchikan 36 hours without being declared at customs.

Premier Churchill To Speak Thursday

LONDON, Dec. 18—Prime Minister Winston Churchill did not make his expected radio speech to the nation yesterday. He will make a statement to the House of Commons Thursday on foreign affairs.

New Westminster Greets Mahoney

NEW WESTMINSTER, Dec. 18—Major Jack Mahoney, New Westminster's Victoria Cross winner, returned home yesterday from overseas to receive a great welcome. Streets were specially decorated. A civic welcome was formally tendered today.

Germans Are Launching Big Counter - Offensive

No Early Conference

WASHINGTON, D.C., Dec. 18 (CP)—There will be no Churchill-Roosevelt-Stalin conference before the end of January, it was learned at the week-end. Despite reports to the contrary and problems in need of adjustment, February is probably the closest that the big three of the United Nations can assemble. This is the present judgment of the State Department and British spokesmen in Washington. It contrasts with London talk of an immediate meeting.

The possibility of a Churchill-Roosevelt-Stalin conference looms after a speech in the British House of Commons yesterday when Prime Minister Churchill stressed its desirability as he enunciated new British policy in regard to Russo-Polish negotiations.

The Prime Minister expressed disappointment that it had been found impossible to arrange any meeting of the three great powers.

Churchill's address brought from Henry Raikes, Conservative, comment that the Atlantic Charter has become a ghost. The Prime Minister, critical of American failure to be as precise as Britain on the Polish problem, said that President Roosevelt had been informed of Russo-British decisions on Poland but "find great difficulty in discussing these matters because the attitude of the United States has not been defined" with precision. However, he added, "the President is aware of everything that has passed."

Mr. Churchill said that Poland would be compensated for the sacrifice of Lwow and territory near the Ukraine by tactics of East Prussia and Danzig to be wrested from Germany.

TRADES COUNCIL SCORES BRITISH GREEK POLICY

The Prince Rupert Trades and Labor Council met in regular business session last Thursday with a fair turnout of members. President A. Wallin was in the chair.

Among correspondence dealt with was a letter received from Olof Hanson, M.P., reporting that arrangements had now been made whereby wartime houses would be rented to the general public in Prince Rupert. This information was received by the delegates with satisfaction but it was still felt that for single men and women in this city there was a serious lack of suitable accommodation and consideration is being given this question.

J. S. Black, delegate to the recent Trades and Labor Congress convention held in Toronto, gave his report. Arising out of this report a motion was passed deploring the use of British troops against the natives of liberated countries. It was ordered sent to Congress headquarters in Ottawa, hoping that by so doing the strength of organized labor would be able to avert conditions similar to what happened in Russia after the last war and that the liberated countries would be left free to elect democratic governments without outside interference.

The executive was instructed to again take up the question of future dry dock shipbuilding, as previous answers to communications sent could not be accepted as satisfactory.

War-time Prices and Trade Board announces the following ceiling prices for turkeys:
Grade A, 45c.
Grade B, 43½c.
Grade C, 39c.

Most Decisive Battle of War May Be Joined on West Front

Situation Is Very Liquid — Americans Being Driven Back Into Luxembourg and Belgium—Luftwaffe in Action Again

PARIS, Dec. 18 (CP) — The American First Army struck back advancing Germans in Belgium and Luxembourg today in a fierce battle which may prove to be one of the most decisive of the war. The situation at the front was reported to be extremely fluid and for this reason Supreme headquarters decided upon a strict blackout on detailed information concerning the extent of enemy advances and counter-moves of the Americans.

Berlin claimed that the Germans had crossed the northern port of Luxembourg on a broad front and were nearing the Luxembourg-Belgian border. The Allied-controlled radio station at Eindhoven, Holland, went abruptly off the air without explanation.

The Germans have temporarily thrown the fighting along the western front into reverse. Counter-attacking along an eighty-mile front, the Nazis have dented the American First Army lines and have re-invaded Belgium and Luxembourg. In one sector, the Nazis have pushed the Americans back four miles.

In his order of the day to his troops, German Field Marshal Karl Von Rundstedt declares: "Strong attacking armies are advancing against the Anglo-Americans. I don't need to say more to you. Bear in yourselves a holy duty to give everything and achieve the superhuman for our Fatherland and our Fuehrer. Everything is at stake. Your hour has struck." It was suggested the Germans would be back in Paris by Christmas.

The exact location of this enemy counter thrust has not been disclosed. But it is known that the German drive extends along the eighty-mile front southward from the key base of Dueren on the Roer River. What appears to be the main German thrust has carried to within ten miles of the Belgian city of Malmédy.

For supporting their ground troops, the German Air Force is paying a heavy price. In the first thirty-six hours of their counter-attack, the enemy is known to have lost one hundred and ninety-four planes. Allied aircraft losses up to nightfall last night totalled thirty-three fighter planes.

Elsewhere on the western front, the Third Army continues to advance into the Saar Basin, and the Seventh Army has reached the Siegfried Line beyond the captured town of Wissembourg.

Reports from the British Second Army front said that German fliers in the greatest strength since D-Day had appeared along the Aachen sector with many reconnaissance aircraft.

While the enemy counter-offensive appears to be spreading to other sectors, an Allied statement today said that necessary steps were being taken to deal with it and there was no cause for alarm.

ATHENS SIEGE NEARLY OVER

ATHENS, Dec. 18 (CP)—The British launched a full-scale drive against leftist forces in Athens today and it appeared to be only a matter of hours before the siege of the capital is lifted.

General Mark Clark In Italy Command

ROME, Dec. 18 —Lieut. Gen. Mark Clark has assumed command of all Allied land forces in Italy succeeding Lieut. Gen. Sir Harold Alexander who is now Allied commander-in-chief in the Mediterranean area.

VANCOUVER FOG LIFTS

Downtown Has First Clear Night in Eight—Higher Parts Still Misty

VANCOUVER, Dec. 18 (CP)—The second fogbound week started for New Westminster, Burnaby and other suburban points while the downtown Vancouver area with the lower levels escaped and had their first bright night in eight. A pall of fog hung five hundred feet over the city, affecting only high ground in Vancouver proper.

At least four week-end marine accidents were reported in the harbor in spite of the fact that marine traffic has been cut to only essential vessels being allowed in and out of the port.

Traffic accidents were so numerous that police have not been able to sort out the record of them. There have been at least 100 minor accidents. Traffic had been slowed to a snail's pace.

TransCanada Air Lines planes continue to by-pass Vancouver and land at Victoria instead. Vancouver passengers are carried between here and Victoria by boat.

Bootleg Booze Is Dangerous

OTTAWA, Dec. 18—Commissioner S. T. Wood of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police has issued a warning against purchases of alcoholic beverages at other than government liquor stores. There had been many deaths last year from bootleggers' liquor. There was particular danger from industrial alcohol.

INSIDE WORK ON INVASION

Valuable Tasks Performed in Enemy Territory Before D-Day by French Speaking Officers

Toronto, Dec. 18 (CP)—Scores of young French-speaking officers of the Canadian Army parachuted into France before D-Day on June 6 to lead groups of maquis in special tasks which the High Command required to be perfected before the main invasion blow was struck, it was disclosed Saturday. The men were all volunteers and were picked by inspection of battle records. Some had spent months in enemy-occupied country before the invasion.

SHOULD HAVE GREATER SAY

C.C.F. Leader not Satisfied With Dumbarton Oaks Conference

NEW YORK, Dec. 18 (CP)—M. J. Coldwell, C.C.F. leader, told the American Labor Conference on International Affairs here Saturday that Canada and other peace-loving nations of her status should be given greater authority on the world security council proposed at the recent Dumbarton Conference.

Coldwell said under present proposals, Canada might be directed to sever trading relations with or supply armed forces to fight against some future aggressor without having had the opportunity of participating in the decisions reached.

C. C. Ketchum, well known local logging operator, has been in the Prince Rupert General Hospital for the past few days.

NEW WEAPON BEING USED BY GERMANS

WITH THE AMERICAN NINTH ARMY IN GERMANY, Dec. 18 (CP)—The Germans have launched a new "V" weapon on the western front and are bombarding rear areas with it night and day. A dispatch gave no details concerning the weapon. The Germans have already used weapons V-1 and V-2 against troops behind the front.

Premier Douglas Back In Regina

REGINA, Dec. 18—Premier T. C. Douglas, after having been ill for several weeks in hospital in Ottawa, has returned to Regina but it will be another month before he will be able to return to work.

Bulletins

PREMIER KING'S BIRTHDAY

OTTAWA — Prime Minister King was 70 yesterday and he was honored last night at a dinner given him by the correspondents of the parliamentary press gallery. At one time Mr. King was a reporter himself. Yesterday members of the cabinet presented Mr. King with a silver framed photograph of the Earl of Athlone, President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and Mr. King. It was taken during the Quebec conference.

ELEVEN MILES INLAND ORMOC, Leyte—Allied troops are making good progress in their invasion of Mindoro Island in the Philippines. The Allies now are eleven miles from the beachhead which they established at dawn last Friday. Up to now only scant enemy resistance has been encountered.

IS FULL UNIVERSITY TORONTO — The Ontario Agricultural College is going to be given the status of a full university and will be removed from political control Ontario Agriculture Minister T. L. Kennedy says that legislation to this effect will be introduced at the next session of the Provincial Legislature. O.A.C. will thus become the first agricultural university in the Dominion and the sixth university in Ontario, the others being the universities of Toronto, Western Ontario, McMaster, Queen's, Victoria and Ottawa. The new higher learning institution may be called the University of Ontario. Dr. G. I. Christie, principal of O.A.C., will be made president of the new university.

HELP SERVICEMEN TRAVEL

OTTAWA—The federal government has eased its restrictions on inter-urban bus travel for the Christmas holidays. The new ruling is to help servicemen and women get home for the Yuletide season. The Defence Department said that but operators on routes still in operation may suspend the curtailment regulations from December 21 to January 4 for any navy, army or air force personnel as well as properly identified merchant seamen and members of the R.C.M.P.

MANY VETS HOME

TORONTO — The largest contingent of Canadian veterans to return to the Dominion since the start of the war have poured into the Toronto district on Christmas leave. For some of the eight hundred men who came home, it was the first time home in five years. Some of the soldiers paid two visits to Europe—in 1940 when they were pushed off and again this year after D-Day. Under the rotation leave plan, men who have served five years are given thirty days furlough.

LIKE VOICE FROM PAST

LONDON, Dec. 18 (CP) — The familiar but now subdued voice of Benito Mussolini was heard Sunday speaking from Milan. He complained bitterly at the "unbelievable and ever-increasing difficulties" facing his regime and begged support for his Fascist puppet government.



ONLY 5 MORE SHOPPING DAYS TILL CHRISTMAS

THE VARIETY STORE IN YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING TOUR