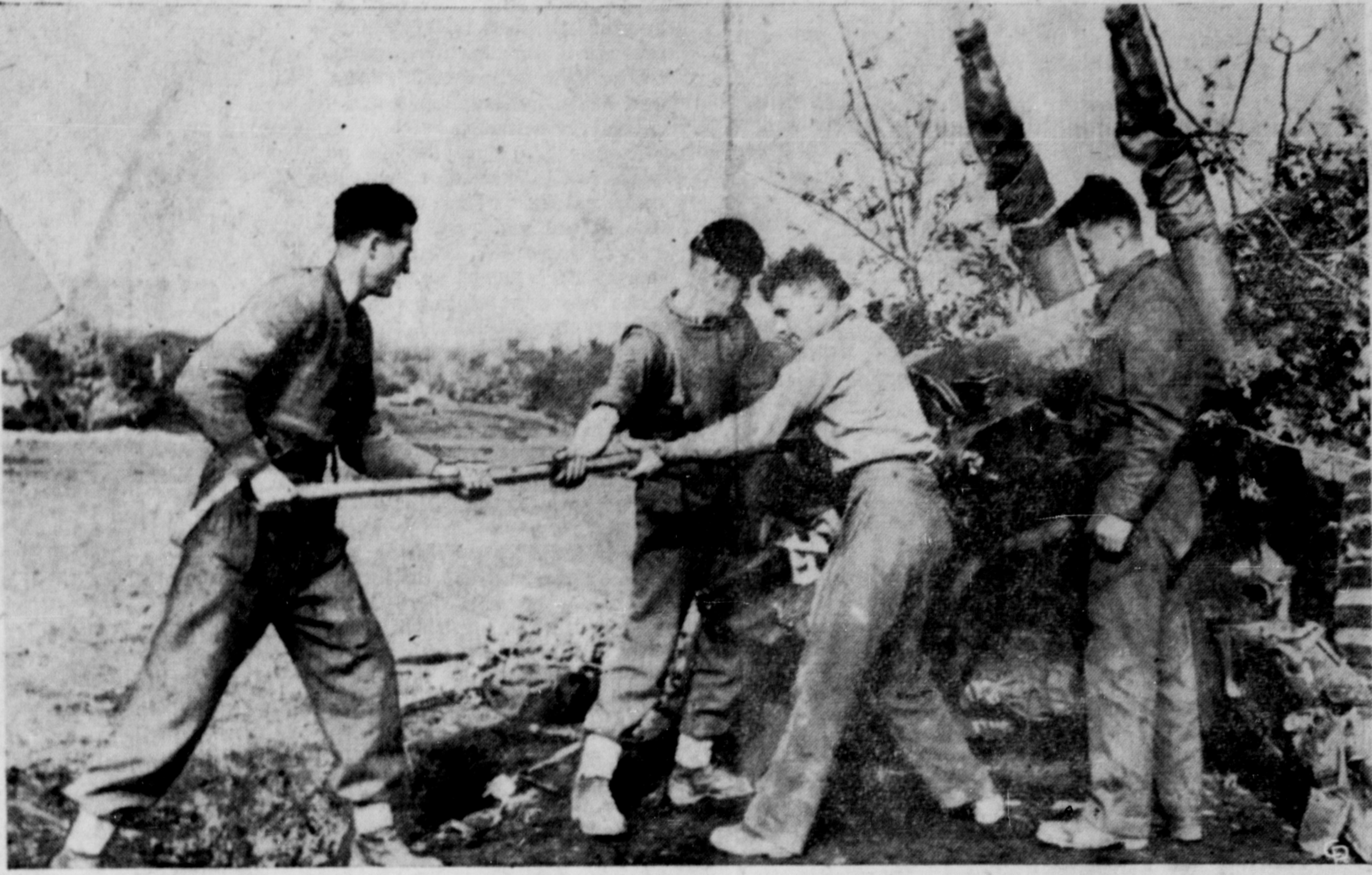


# Twenty-One Perish in Hotel Fire



BRITISH BATTERY CLEANS UP FOR COMING BEACHHEAD BATTLE—Tommys of a British artillery unit on the Anzio beachhead, Italy, take advantage of a lull in the action to clean out their gun. The weapon is a 5.5 and is blasting German positions in the Cisterna sector.

German attempts to wipe out the beachhead have been tipped in the bud and the Allies have regained the initiative here. Photo by Sam Goldstein, I.N.P. pool photographer.

## Holocaust in San Francisco; Origin Is Believed Arson

SAN FRANCISCO, March 28 (CP)—Twenty-two persons are known to be dead and a score are injured and in hospital after a fire which Chief Albert J. Sullivan said "undoubtedly must have been of incendiary origin" swept through the New Amsterdam Hotel at midnight. Most of the one hundred tenants of the hotel were shipyard and war industry workers. Four floors of the hotel appeared to burst into flames about the same time. There was a strong odor of gasoline. The place was a roaring inferno before the fire fighters had time to reach the scene after the alarm was turned in.

## NEWFOUNDLAND NIGHTINGALE MAY CALL MORE MEN

Canadian Branch Directed by Mona Wilson Does Splendid Work Among Fighting Men And Merchant Seamen

ST. JOHN'S Nfld., March 28.—There is a woman in Newfoundland who might be called the "Florence Nightingale" of St. John's. She is Miss Mona Wilson, deputy commissioner of Canadian Red Cross, who has achieved a record of wonderful service since the Red Cross was organized there on October 1, 1940. Seamen who reach St. John's invariably hurry up the pier saying, "Is Miss Wilson here? She was here when I set foot on this dock a year ago." She usually is. A naval officer's wife crossing the Atlantic bound for Canada received many requests from fellow passengers, many of them merchant seamen who had at one time been torpedoed and taken as survivors to St. John's to remember them to Miss Wilson. "The St. John's Canadian Red Cross organization is the kindest and most efficient we have met in our world travels—and what is more, many of our friends hold the same opinion," they said. Military hospitals were the first to tap Red Cross resources when an influenza epidemic swept the area. After that came the Auxiliary Services officers working overtime to get entertainment for the troops, recreation halls built and equipped. In those "early" days the Canadian Red Cross got the resident Canadian women together and backed these efforts. Then the Navy rolled in and the men of the "silent service" discovered they could get all kinds of information from the Red Cross—where to eat and dance, bowl and skate, be photographed, buy souvenirs, get rooms, find their Newfoundland relatives. A general information bureau functioning 100 percent, was this new Red Cross post in this North Atlantic port.

## Fire Department's Work Appreciated

The Department of National Defence had a letter before the city council last night expressing appreciation for a prompt and effective work of the city fire department in extinguishing a fire which broke out in the officers' mess Second Avenue on March 11. The council decided to refer the expression of appreciation on to Fire Chief H. T. Lock.

## 70-Ton Raid Hits Rabaul

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, SOUTHWEST PACIFIC, March 28.—More than 70 tons of explosives and incendiaries poured down on Rabaul, New Britain, on Friday and Saturday in raids aimed at levelling enemy warehouses, shops, barracks and other buildings. Previous raids were aimed at air-dromes.

## Red Cross Donations

COMFORTS FOR SAILORS

Over a three-year period more than 250,000 beautifully knitted woollen garments have been given out. The Red Cross truck and station wagon driven by smart Red Cross Corps girls are familiar sights delivering bags of woollens to Allied ships. Volunteer work is maintained by wives of navy, army and air force officers and men, and a group of Canadian, English and Scottish women resident in St. John's for many years. Some 65 of these women work each week at Red Cross to keep all services functioning.

Prev. Acknowledged	\$18,259.59
C. Haug	5.00
Stan Findlay	5.00
Dorothy Edgar and Jean Fendick (Sale of hand-made woollen dolls)	13.25
Donald Main	5.00
Miss H. Valentine	5.00
Dr. J. L. Curry	25.00
Howe & McNulty	50.00
Rayner Construction Ltd. (Employees Skeena and Tye Camps)	202.65
Prince Rupert General Hospital employees	52.50
Archie Stewart, Skeena	20.00
Digby Radio Station staff	21.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$18,669.05</b>

"What Teheran Means to Prince Rupert, Will There Be a Postwar Slump?" Hear Bruce Mickleburgh at Eagles' Hall Sunday, 2 p.m.

## Bulletins

### OPPOSE JAPS R

OTTAWA—Attorney R. L. Maitland told in Ottawa that the people of B.C. are opposed to the reversion of the Japanese to the province after the war. He made this statement when asked to comment on a story that the Japanese were buying land in B.C. on which to settle after the war.

### EXPECT INVASION

BERLIN — German people were warned today by the Nazi radio that an Allied invasion attempt of Europe could be expected any time now.

### HIGHWAY NO USE

OTTAWA—The Alaska Highway, in its present location, is of no use to British Columbia, said Premier John Hart here today. British Columbia had not been consulted on the route, Mr. Hart said. Maintenance was a matter for Ottawa and Washington.

### LUNCHEON WITH KING

LONDON — Prime Minister Winston Churchill had an audience with the King at Buckingham Palace today and stayed for lunch.

### NEW WESTMINSTER STILL LEADING

Although Beaten by Flin Flon Last Night in Western Canada Hockey Semi-Finals

SASKATOON, March 28.—New Westminster still leads the best out of five game series in the Allan Cup western Canada play-offs two games to one in spite of being defeated last night by Flin Flon by a score of 4 to 2.

### MOSQUITOS STING RUHR

LONDON, March 28.—Mosquito bombers last night spread destruction through the Ruhr Valley where R.A.F. and R.C.A.F. bombers had dealt a devastating blow to the German aircraft industry 24 hours earlier by a raid on Essen. It was the Mosquito's twentieth night foray this month. All planes returned safely from the raids but specified targets were not disclosed.

### SADDLES FOR WOMEN

Side saddles for women were first used in England by Queen Anne in 1388.

### STEEL MILL IS ENDORSED

Resolution of Local Boilermakers Gets Widespread Support.

The Boilermakers and Iron Shipbuilders' Union of Canada has petitioned the government of British Columbia for the establishment of a steel mill within the province and the following is a list of the organizations, municipalities, and cities which have given their endorsement to the petition, including about 800 signatories:

- Prince Rupert—Boilermakers and Iron Shipbuilders' Union of Canada local number 4, Allied Trades Council, Chamber of Commerce, City Council, Gyro Club, Canadian Legion, Civic Employees Federal Union, Fishermen's Co-operative Association, International Union of Steam & Operating Engineers local 510 Industrial Workers' Union, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers local 344, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners local 1739, Labor Progressive Party.
- Cumberland—City Council and United Mine Workers of America local 7293.
- Ladysmith—City Council.
- Duncan—City Council.
- Nanaimo—United Mine Workers of America local 7355.
- New Westminster—City Council.
- Nelson—City Council.
- Alberni—City Council.
- Port Alberni—City Council.

### PATROLS ACTIVE

NAPLES, March 28.—The Allies repulsed three small attacks on the beachhead south of Rome, and a German thrust against the French on the main Fifth Army front was also beaten back at Allied patrols clashed with the enemy on all fronts. Allied bombers struck at rail bridges in Italy while fighters attacked air fields and shipping.

### ORIGIN OF PRIVATE

The word private—the lowest army rank—was the name originally given to soldiers hired by feudal barons in their private wars.

### GENERATORS ON WHEELS

Power trains of eight cars, capable of generating power for a community of 15,000, now are being built for the United Nations.

### Prince George—City Council

- Courtenay—City Council.
- Smithers—Corporation of the Village of Smithers.
- Penticton — Corporation of Penticton.
- Burnaby—Corporation of the District of Burnaby, Co-operative Commonwealth Federation (CCF) B.C. section.
- Vancouver—Canadian Congress of Labor Regional Office, Vancouver Labor Council.
- West Vancouver—Corporation of the District of West Vancouver, International Woodworkers of America.

## TAX RATE 50 MILLS

Is Same As Last Year Although Assessment, Expenditure and Revenue Up

The city tax rate for 1944 will be fifty mills on one hundred percent of assessable land and fifty percent of improvements. The city council set the rate at a special adjourned session last night. The tax rate is the same as last year although the estimated expenditure, assessment and estimated revenue over and above that derived from taxation are all up.

The tax rate for the year is divided as follows: General, 12.5 mills, providing for \$51,242.01. Schools, 25.3, providing for \$103,713.83. Special, 12.2, providing for \$50,012.24.

Taxes are due and payable up to August 1 after which date penalties are imposed.

## Airport Is Abandoned

Project for Prince Rupert Given Up, it is Announced at Ottawa.

OTTAWA, March 28.—Replying to a question by Olof Hanson, M.P. for Skeena, Hon. C. D. Howe, minister of munitions, told the House of Commons railway committee at a meeting Monday that proposals for a military airport at Prince Rupert were abandoned because of heavy expense and labor shortage. Mr. Howe did not know whether an airport would be developed at Prince Rupert in future as a civilian project.

## Postponement of Tax Payment But Not of Returns

Attracting considerable interest in the show window of the drug store is the display of a beautiful doll and wardrobe which is being raffled by the Commercial Class of St. Joseph's Academy for the Red Cross.

Bruce Mickleburgh, local school teacher and Labor-Progressive candidate for Prince Rupert in the next provincial election, returned to the city last night after having spent some time in the south.

## Russians Penetrate Rumania

Red Army Within Four Miles of Czernowitz, Capital of Bucovina

Large German Force Trapped North of Dniester River—Further Soviet Advances in Poland.

LONDON, March 28 (CP)—The Russians have crossed the Dniester River into pre-war Rumanian province of Bucovina and are within four miles of the capital of that province, Czernowitz, a Moscow communique announced Monday night. Other Russians were within twenty-eight miles of northern Rumania proper and, apparently, had trapped large German forces north of the Dniester. Soviet advances in the southeastern corner of pre-war Poland were reported.

## Co-operative To Pay Cost Prove Popular

City Council Makes Decision in Support of Waterfront Water Connection

On recommendation of a special committee for which Ald. Harold Arnold reported, the city council, after some discussion last night, decided that the Prince Rupert Fishermen's Co-operative should pay the cost of new water connection to premises which they are establishing on waterfront block A, the cost being estimated at \$620. Previously the council had decided that the city should bear the cost of the line but this was later rescinded. The committee reported that it would be in contravention of the city bylaw for the city to pay the cost.

## Japs Press Into India

NEW DELHI, March 28.—Japanese forces pushing through the Somra hills, are pressing home attacks in the vicinity of Ukhrol, 32 miles northeast of Impah.

South of Impah the Allies are reported to be continuing operations to clear the Tiddim-Impah road, along which the Japanese have been moving northward since crossing the border from Berma several days ago.

## ANCIENT MARINERS

The mariner's compass was known to the Chinese in 1115 B.C.

## CHINESE LIKE RED

Red, which the Chinese consider the luckiest color, predominates at their weddings and funerals.



CANADIANS IN ITALY BECOME EXPERTS WITH PIAT GUN—Pte Edmund Arsenault, Egmont, P.E.I., crouches in his fox hole ready to fire the PIAT. Pte. Arsenault is attending a training school west of Ortona, Italy, to pick up some more essential training in warfare. The shell from this gun will penetrate the turret of a German tank.