North Coast and Queen Char-

lottes: Moderate to fresh winds

locally, gale force over southern

portion of the Charlottes. Over-

cast and mild with intermittent

light rain. Thursday: Moderate

to fresh winds, overcast, mild.

(Pacific Standard Time)

I.N.R. TELLS OF GREATEST TASK YET IN FIFTH YEAR OF WAR

and Passenger Traffic

In the fifth full year of war, which brought with the invasion and liberation of much of Nazi-occuied Europe, which saw the Soviet advance continuno triumphantly and saw, in the Pacific, new and evere blows against Japan, the Allied Nations made long strides toward victory. On the home front in

Bulletins

POPE'S MESSAGE

ROME-Pope Pius, in his annual Christmas Eve message, called the world to again dedicate itself to peace based on respect of the sovereignty of each nation. Aggression should be stopped wherever it had occurred. Democracy, asserted the Pontiff, was still the best form of government. While losers of the war must be heavily punished, they must also be

GLENN MILLER MISSING LONDON-Major Glenn Miller, celebrated American orchestra leader, on an entertainment tour for the overseas forces, is missing on a flight from London to Paris.

LIQUOR RATION CUT HALIFAX-The liquor ration

n Nova Scotia has been cut from one quart per fortnight to one every four weeks. The cut goes into effect when liquor stores reopen after New Year's. Maritimers will still ge the same alternative beer and wine rations each month.

ST. JOHN SCHOOL BURNS ST. JOHN, New Brunswick-A Christmas day fire caused one handred thousand dollars worth of damage in Saint John when the King Edward School burned. Officials say it would cost two hundred thousand dollars to replace the threestorey building. Accommodations for the 400 pupils of the school will be difficult in crowded Saint John.

THREE DIE IN CRASH VANCOUVER-Three R.C.A.F. fliers are dead and one is in hospital in Vancouver recovering after a plane crash at Boundary Bay, near Vancouver yesterday. Two of the airmen were killed instantly and the third died in hospital six hours after the accident. The plane crashed on a take-off on

a training flight. "JAFSIE" CONDON ILL NEW YORK—One of the most colorful figures in the Lindbergh kidnapping case is ill at his home in New York, He is Dr. John F. Condon, the "Jafsie" of the famous case. Condon has been confined to his home for 30 days with

pneumonia. AL JOLSON "PRETTY SICK" Jolson is under a physician's care in Beverly Hills, California, after a recurrence of malaria. The attack is described as serious. Jolson contracted the lever last year during an overseas tour. His nurse describes the actor as "pretty sick."

RANGERS ESCAPE CELLAR NEW YORK-New York Rangers escaped falling into the National Hockey League cellar Monday night by coming from New York. The win enables in the same room with him. the Rangers to maintain their two point margin over the Chicago outfit.

PR. GEORGE MERCY FLIGHT PRINCE GEORGE — A plane left Prince George Sunday on a Mercy flight to Takla Landing in Northern British Columbia. The aircraft, a Canadian Air receipt of word that Jack Roberts, the caretaker for Bralorve Mines at Takla Landing, was dying of acute appendi-

HARDENS COPPER

Addition of two percent beryland increases its tensile strength: denly.

American Bombing Aircraft

Are Also Active Over Manila

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27 (P) -

New Westminster V.C. Winner

NEW WESTMINSTER, Dec. 27

On Christmas Eve. Private

Ernest "Smokey" Smith could

have hung up his army socks for

an English Santa Claus to fill.

the 30 year old Canadian soldier.

ing breakfast in Montreal, then

caught a plane which swept him

night with relatives at New

dinner waited till he came.

Westminster. He arrived just be-

fore midnight and the family

Smokey is Canada's newest

Victoria Cross winner and al-

though he's plenty tired, he's

also glad to get home and rest

for awhile. While he was eating

his ham and eggs in Montreal,

addressing the Empire by radio.

had been presented with the Em-

pire's highest award at Bucking-

Smokey was dubbed the one-

man army by his pals for his part

in the Savio river action last

October which brought him the

high award. When Smith stop-

ped at Regina enroute to the

coast, T.C.A. held up its trans-

continental plane for 10 minutes

ham Palace by His Majesty.

Arrived Midnight Monday

Area in Philippines

Germany Is Staking Its Best

Canada, the people continued to meet the demands of their war

effort with that vigor and re- Tokyo industrial areas were sourcefulness which have won slugged today for the fist time them an honored place among by Saipan-based superfortresses. the nations. Their magnificent A War Department communique support of the Seventh Victory did not report further details. Loan in November was but one At the same time Southwest example of their energy and seri- Pacific Advanced Headquarters reported that land-based Ameri-

Another was the year's record can bombers for the fourth conof the Canadian National Rail- secutive day blasted Japanese ways system. As the largest air fields at Manila on Luzon single industry in Canada and Island, now regarded as vulnerone of the most important in- able to re-invasion by United struments of war, the Canadian States forces mopping up in the National may be taken as a central Philippines. Of 58 Japgauge of the country's activities anese interceptors, 39 were desaccepted back into the family as a whole. In 1944, we con- troyed by American fighters. tinued to use to the utmost all our resources, both manpower and material, in the service of the SMOKEY'SMITH year's traffic reveals the magnitude of the work which has

> The National system is carrying twice as much freight as in the years before the war and nearly four times as many passengers. When it is remembered that we are handling this unprecedented volume of traffic without adding greatly to our equipment, I think we are But it would have taken Saint justified in the pride we take Nick some going to catch up with in our accomplishment. In spite Smokey ate his Christmas mornof the strain on our resources, in spite of handicaps, there has been no deterioration in service. as compared with other public westward to spend Christmas services and the railways in the other countries affected by the war. Some inconveniences have been unavoidable but these are at a minimum and are rigorously examined with a view to cor-

Factors Lending

Message

Sees Big Task Ahead

LONDON, Dec. 27 - "We do not know what may be in store for us in 1945 but we know the darkness daily grows less and less," said the King in his Christmas Day broadcast to the Empire. "The lamps which Ger-

However, the King said that defeat of Germany and Japan men were soldiers, including was only half of the task. The part of the first special service

behind to earn a three-all tie from a country house and the with Chicago Black Hawks in Queen and two princesses were

NEWS

Tokyo Is Raided Again

SAIPAN-The target is Tokyo again. Another B-29 assault has been carried out over the Japanese capital. Radio Tokyo admits the raid, but as usual claims only slight damage was done. No details are yet available on the raid from Allied headquarters. The record shows that in one month, the superforts have dropped more than three million pounds of bombs on the main island of the Japanese chain-Honshu. On this island is situated Tokyo, and there, too, the B-29's have completely knocked ou Japan's twin-engine bomber plant.

Nazis Raid Paris

LONDON-The French capital was raided by airplanes, presumably German, last night. The raid, carried out by only a small force, was the first air raid for Paris since Allied planes scattered a few bombs on the French capital in error just after its liberation in August.

Nazis Approach Meuse River

LONDON-It was officially disclosed that the German offensive on the western front had advanced fifty miles to a point four miles from the Meuse River. This represented another eleven-mile gain by the enemy since the last official report, giving the Germans a solid front on a width of thirtyfive miles. Further German gains must be expected, it was stated today as battle raged near the Meuse River. Leige and Namu appear to be the objectives of the enemy. There was no immediate danger of a breakthrough across the Meuse River, it was stated.

Churchill in Athens

ATHENS-Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden are in Athens for a conference with representatives of the Greek government and the leftist insurgent forces. There has been spasmodic fighting in Athens and Piraeus but the docks of Piraeus are in British control and communication with Athens is restored. A ton of German dynamite was found near the hotel in Athens which is being used as British headquarters.

Reds Enter Budapest

MOSCOW-The Russians have completed the encirclement of Budapest, Hungarian capital, after a five-day siege and the Soviet forces are now swarming into the city where thousands of the enemy are facing annihilation or capture. The Russians are now two miles within the city.

Canadans Take Town

ROME—After savage fighting on Christmas Day, Canadian forces of the Eighth Army captured the town of Rosetta, ten miles northwest of Ravenna, and have advanced further. Fighting on the Fifth Army end of the front has been held by snow and sub-zero weather.

Allied Bombers Busy

LONDON-For the fourth straight day United States bombers and fighters were out over supply lines and centres back of the western front. One hundred and fifty bombers and fighters attacked the Coblenz area yesterday after exceedingly heavy attacks over Christmas week-end.

Cleaning Up On Leyte

PEARL HARBOR-United States forces are now cleaning out the few enemy stragglers left on Leyte Island in the Philippines where there have been 113,000 casualties since the campaign began to constitute the greatest defeat in the annals of Japanese military history. Emperor Hirohito told the Japanese Diet yesterday hat the situation was becoming more serious for Japan.

Robots For Manchester

LONDON-Nazi robot bombs have been directed for the first time against northern England, Berlin claiming that Manchester was a target. There has been some damage but no casualties.

U.S. Subs Sink More Japs

WASHINGTON-The Navy Department announces that American submarines have sunk a large Japanese aircraft carrier and six other Japanese warships. This makes the toll of Japanese craft sunk since the war 1090 including 99 warships definitely sunk.

Thirty-eight Canadian Officers And Soldiers are Rewarded

OTTAWA, Dec. 27 (P)-Thirtyeight Canadian officers and soldiers have been decorated for service with the army overseas Major C. R. H. Porteous of Mont real; Major J. A. Dextraze, Mont real; Acting Lieutenant Colonel D. F. Forbes, Sydney; Nova Sco-Rowley, Ottawa; Major J. Stothart of Ottawa and Major J

The Distinguished Conduct Eleven non-commissioned officers and men got the military

AN OLDTIME NECESSITY been known since about 3,000 B.C. discovered.

OTTAWA, Dec. 27 (P)-The De-

fence Department has announced that service personnel going on ordinary leave will have to run the same chance of getting transportation as civilian travellers during the holiday season. Previously, Canadian railway officials had appealed to civilians to give servicemen and women priorities in the railway accommodation. The Defence Department announcment says that only service personnel proceeding on duty or on embarkation or disembarkation leave will get priority.

Still At Large

PHOENIX, Arizona, Dec. 27 (P)

AIR TRAFFIC ON INCREASE

Get Bigger and Bigger

MONTREAL, Dec. 27-Christmas for the men and women on active service overseas and for prisoners of war added to the mail loads carried by the big converted Lancasters operated across the Atlantic by Trans-Canada Air Lines. It is estimated that since the beginning of December nearly 65,000 pounds of mail have been transported. Averaging 50 letters to the pound. this means three and a quarter million letters. The heaviest load, early in the month, weighed 8,636 pounds and a number of trips carried more than 8,000 pounds. In addition, priority freight is carried.

The crossing from Montreal to cord, which T.C.A. till holds, is 10 hours and 15 minutes.

Westbound loads have been heavier in the past few weeks, running to as much as 6,500 pounds with freight and priority LETTISTS passengers on war business.

Darrow Casey Returns Home From Overseas

After spending three years overseas as a section leader in the fire fighter corps which Canada sent to the Old Country to aid in civilian defence organization in London, Darrow Casey, son of Mr. and Mrs. George B. Casey of this city, returned to his home in Trail on Christmas | Left Wing artillery yesterday Day. Darrow, who was raised in Prince Rupert, is regularly with The statement adds that as the Consolidated Mining & a result, offensive aerial op-Smelting Co. at Trail as a fire

assing of

Was Well Known as Champion of Maritime Rights BUDAPEST IS

OTTAWA, Dec. 27 (P)—A Liberal senator from Nova Scotia is dead. He is Senator H. J. Logan, who was a member of the Upper Chamber for 15 years and was known as a parliamentary champion of Maritime rights for nearly 50 years.

Senator Logan was born in Amherst, Nova Scotia, and practised law there for many years He was admitted to the Nova Scotia bar in 1892 when only 23 and read law with the Honorable W. T. Pipes, one-time premier of Nova Scotia.

The Martimer was first elected to the Dominion House of Commons in 1896 from the Nova Scotia riding of Cumberland. He was the first Liberal sent to Ottawa from that riding since Confederation, and he was returned in Westminster are threatened with 1900 and 1904, but suffered defeat in 1908 when Cumberland returned a Conservative member, E. N. Rhodes, who later be came finance minister. However Mr. Logan was elected in 1921 with the largest majority ever given any federal candidate in strike.

Mr. Logan presided in 1924 at a conference which resulted in a SALARIES MAY long-term trade agreement between Canada and the British West Indies.

At the time of his death he was, fort has been made to correct 74. His passing brings the num- what are termed gross inequali- quiet—uneasy and almost ominber of senate vacancies to 15. ties in certain cases coming ous—hung over the western front There are 48 Liberals and 33 pro- under the Wartime Salaries today. Each side probed tentagressive Conservatives, which, Order. The government has lively and ineffectually at the along with the vacancies, make up a total of 96.

Quit Jobs Without Notice, Sentenced

Gerard Drapeau and Marc Arsenault appeared before Stipenthirty days' imprisonment each. a total of about 140,000,000 trees. European fighting zones.

Iwo - Ihree Nazi Armies UN INCKEASE Put In Counter-Offensive

Situation Fairly Quiet Today, Although Ominous and Uneasy, After Continued Enemy Advance Toward Meuse River

NAZIS SUFFER REVERSE

Wes Gallagher, Associated Press war correspondent, said today that Field Marshal von Runstadt, had suffered the first serious setback in the big Nazi counter-offensive. No details were given although it was stated that the Americans had regained the initiative. Enemy spearheads have been forced back a mile and more.

PARIS, Dec. 27 (CP)—It is becoming more and more evident that German Field Marshal Von Rundstedt is determined to risk the very heart of the German Army in his newest thrust into Allied western Scotland is accomplished in 12 front lines. Estimates of the strength of the German hours, sometimes less. The re- forces driving into Luxembourg and Belgium have

Truce Ends—

ATHENS, Dec. 27 (CP) -

dispatch from the Greek capi-

tal says the Left Wing E.L.A.S.

forces have broken the con-

ference truce. A statement

from British headquarters says

fired on a British warship.

erations against the E.L.A.S.

another forty-five minute

truce would be arranged to-

day for leftist delegates at-

tending a second session. Later

it was announced that the sec-

ond conference had also failed

However the British said

forces will be resumed.

to bring a settlement.

Soviet Forces Are Now

Hungary.

Storming Into Capital of

lic utilities today as the Rus-

sians charged upon the city. All

German escape routes have been

cut off. Six Soviet spearheads

were reported nearing the west

VANCOUVER, Dec. 27 (P)

Vancouver, Victoria and Nev

6 unless the Naional War Labor

BE ADJUSTED

in salaries paid officials super-

vising employees who have re-

ceived a general wage increase,

the latter often receiving more

BIG COFFEE PRODUCER

than the former.

ern half of Budapest.

Transportation

Tie-Up in South

been revised and now it is believed the German High Command has committed two or

three armies in the counter-of-According to last reports from

the front, the Germans were within four miles of the Meuse River, and their farthest penetration so far is to Celle, four miles from Dinant. The Germans at Celle are only eight miles from the French border. Radio Berlin, meantime, claims the Allies have been shifting units from the Third and Ninth Armies to bolster the weakened First but these claims lack Allied confirmation.

Incidentally, the American Army newspaper, Stars and Stripes, tells of German parachutists in American uniforms who are dropped benind Allied lines in France with orders to kill high ranking Allied officers. The paper says these Nazis carry small bottles of sulphuric acid to throw in the face of any person who stops them from American war prisoners who were later shot.

Americans, in Christmas Day counter-attack, slammed back German armor that had reached to Celles, only four miles from the Meuse River and fifty miles from Brussels, Allied Supreme headquarters disclosed today. Later developments since this check two days ago of the enemy thrust fifty miles into Belgium were not disclosed. A German communique today reported that MOSCOW, Dec. 27 (P) - The the battle in southwestern Bel-Nazi garrison at Budapest de- gium and Luxembourg is inmolished their supplies and pub- creasing in violence.

> Meanwhile First Canadian Army units in the Netherlands have continued to encounter enemy patrols along the Meuse River north of Tilburg.

Hundreds of tons of supplies, mainly ammunition, were parachuted today to American troops cut off in the Bastogne area. Encircled infantry have repulsed Nazi tank attacks while waiting for relief columns last reported four-and-a-half miles away. a transportation tie-up January

An Allied communique cover-Board by the end of this month ing actions two days old said delivers a decision on a wage the Germans were pushing hard increase appeal. Employees of towards Antwerp supply route the B.C. Electric Co. have voted but he Allied positions were being by a large majority to go on maintained along the northern rim of the Nazi bulge. The Germans captured Manhay, ten miles southwest of Stavelot.

Kenneth Dixon, Associated Press war correspondent, report-OTTAWA, Dec. 27 (P)-An ef- ed in a front line dispatch an atmosphere amended the order in five im- other's defences. Dixon said the portant particulars. The changes Allied position seemed to be the give the Revenue Minister auth- most cheerful since the Germans ority, subject to certain con- uncorked their offensive ten days ditions to permit adjustments ago.

JOHN BRACKEN IS OVERSEAS

LONDON, Dec. 27 (P) - John Bracken, Progressive - Conservative leader, arrived by plane to-El Salvador has about 12,000 day in the United Kingdom. He

Service Standards Maintained in

Face of New Records in Tonnage (By R. C. VAUGHAN, Chairman and President)

been accomplished.

To Accomplishment The ability of the Canadian the private heard King George National to meet the heavy demands made upon it and to do Only three days before, Smith Continued on Page 2

King Speaks-

Is Hopeful Although He Still

free of aggression and tyranny. Americans and Canadians which The King addressed his message to Empire fighting men wherever they may be. He spoke

BACK FROM

while he shaved.

OTTAWA, Dec. 27 (P)-A large number of servicemen have returned to Canada from overseas BEVERLY HILLS, Calif.— Al are gradually being rekindled. but the latest contingent arriv-Anxiety is giving way to con- ed just too late for Christmas. fidence. Let us hope, God will- Most of the servicemen saw acing, that by the time another tion in the European war thea-Christmas comes the story of tres and a number of soldiers' liberation and triumph will be wives and children were included

in the movement. Most of the returning serviceother half was to create a world force, the international outfit of has served in both the Pacific, in Italy and in France.

One colorful figure among the soldiers was Private F. M. Denello of Montreal, who was a snip- Several men got the Distinguisher with a Canadian infantry ed Service Order, among them regiment during the African campaign. Denello is a veteran of the first Great War and also fought in the Spanish civil war. At the outbreak of this war, Den- tia; Lieutenant Colonel Roger ello enlisted in the Victoria Rifles and then went to the city to the regret of many form- Regiment de Maissoneuve. While M. Pigott of Hamilton. er friends telling of the death in Africa, he thought that he Lines plane, took off following in Vancouver at noon Christ- should see more action and went Medal went to Corporal Robert Nazi Prisoners mas Day of Mrs. Alice McNeill, A.W.O.L. after a seven day leave Richards, of Ia Taque, Quebec, wife of Alex McNeill, for years in Algiers. He hitch-hiked to while seven lieutenants and one staff sergeant of the provincial England with the American pliot captain got the Military Cross. police here and of late beef in- of a Liberator. Canadian Army spector in Vancouver. Mr. and officials sentenced the 49-year Mrs. McNeill left here some old soldier to eight months de- medal. eight or ten years ago. Mrs. tention but he served only 12 McNeill had been seriously ill days and then the sentence was several years ago but recovered remitted. The native of Bermuda lum to copper hardens the metal and her death came quite sud- is returning to Canada because of his age.

SERVICEMEN'S PRIORITY HAS BEEN LIMITED

Nineteen of twenty-five Nazi diary Magistrate T. W. Brown on prisoners who escaped from Saturday charged with terminatcamp Sunday night were still at ing their employment at Ocean large today. None have been Falls without giving the statutory apprehended since six were seven days' notice. Both pleaded Fans for cooling the face have caught soon after the break was guilty and were sentenced to coffee plantations, or fincas, with expects to visit northwestern