

Monday: Cloudy and mild with frequent rain showers. Frequent winds. Wednesday: Mild and mild with frequent fresh winds, becoming overcast with gale force winds.

The Daily News

VOL. XXXIV, No. 67.

PRINCE RUPERT, B.C., TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 1945

PRICE FIVE CENTS

Wednesday, March 21, 1945		
High	7:06	17.9 feet
	20:44	15.9 feet
Low	0:36	9.5 feet
	13:52	6.1 feet

Britons Capture Mandalay

Western Front— Saar Battle Nearly Over

Thousands of Germans Fighting Bitterly to Escape Entrapment

PARIS, March 20 (CP)—The battle of the Saar Basin is almost over. Thousands of Germans, although their encirclement is complete, still are fighting stubbornly along the Saar River. But these enemy forces gradually are being squeezed into an ever-narrowing pocket by elements of the American Third and Seventh Armies which are racing for a juncture and were only 20 miles apart today, one report being they had actually made contact. When the two American forces meet, the Basin's capital of Saarbrücken will be sealed off as well as most of the industrial area's steel mills.

Both the Third and Seventh Armies are rapidly enveloping the bulk of German forces west of the Rhine in the Palatinate. The plight of these enemy troops has become even more precarious with the German destruction of three Rhine bridges in the Mainz area.

The American First Army on the east bank of the Rhine has reached the plains leading to the Ruhr at two points.

Opposite the Ruhr, the Ninth Army has ordered German civilians from five west bank cities on the Rhine, clearing the way for an imminent crossing.

There is no news of recent developments on the Canadian First Army sector at the northern end of the western front.

REDS STILL CLOSING IN

Great Pincer Drawn On Upper Silesia—Driving On to Stettin

MOSCOW, March 20 (CP)—On the eastern side of Germany, massed Soviet forces have clamped a great pincer on industrial upper Silesia. According to the Germans, the Russians have broken into Neustadt, following a twenty-five mile dash from the Upper Oder River at Casel.

The Russians are driving deeper into the defences of Stettin and are massing across the river from the great Baltic port, having captured a city there.

The Russians captured Braunsberg in East Prussia, 32 miles southwest of Koenigsberg, Stalin announced tonight.

CWAC Officer May Return to Ballet

HALIFAX, March 20 (CP)—Diminutive Capt. Marial Mosher, officer commanding No. 106 Depot Company, Canadian Women's Army Corps, here, has trod a variety of interesting paths in her size 3½ shoes. A former ballet dancer who had tramped with Shubert musicals in New York, she was one of the first Nova Scotians to enlist in the C. W. A. C., and later one of the first C. W. A. C. officers to go to England on a course to study with the British Auxiliary Territorial Service. While in England she was presented to Queen Elizabeth. Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Mosher, (5 Bloomingdale Terrace), Halifax, she says she is considering a return to the ballet in a choreography-production capacity as a post-war plan.

LOCAL OFFICERS ARE PROMOTED

Twelve officers of the Prince Rupert Sub-Port of Embarkation have just been promoted from second to first lieutenants. They are Ethel M. Anderson, Stephen J. Ardes, Beatrice M. Calliari, Jack Frooman, Alvin Gottschalk, Edward J. McCormick, Donald F. Sachau, Eugene R. Sajo, John W. Sharp, Martin Sloan, George C. Weigle and Tillie E. Zembal.

TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND NAZIS BEING TIED DOWN BY NORWEGIANS

LONDON, March 20 (CP)—Norwegian patriots have tied down more than 200,000 German troops in Norway. Underground forces have destroyed railway lines serving embarkation points and in that way have prevented the movement of Nazi units from Norway to the eastern and western fronts in Europe.

FINLAND HAS GONE TO LEFT

HELSINKI, March 20 (CP)—Extreme left wing factions have gained fifty seats in Finland's parliament while conservatives and social democrats have lost heavily. The result of Sunday's election is interpreted as a rebuke to those Finnish leaders who led the country into war on Germany's side.

Himmler's Conspiracy—

Plotted To Kill Hitler

Reneged When Plan Failed and Said He Was Only Trying to Get Evidence

LONDON, March 20 (CP)—The former chief of the Associated Press Bureau in Berlin, Louis P. Lochner, has gathered information indicating that the German Gestapo chief, Heinrich Himmler, was a member of the group which attempted to overthrow Hitler on July 20 of last year.

Lochner has been given this information by a man who now is a fugitive from German authority because he was implicated in the attempt on the Nazi leader's life. This informant, a man Lochner has known for years, says Himmler reneged when the plot failed to take Hitler's life. The Gestapo head swore he pretended to play along with the plotters just to get evidence.

BUTTER RATION IS INCREASED

OTTAWA, March 20 (CP)—The butter ration in Canada has been increased. The increase — from six to seven ounces weekly — goes into effect April 1. The new ration restores a one-ounce reduction put into effect on January 1.

FIRST USE OF COAL

The first certain reference to the burning of mineral coal was made by the Greek philosopher, Theophrastus, about 300 B. C.



U.S. MARINES AND JAP DEAD ON IWO—U.S. Marine and Jap dead on Iwo Jima, within a few yards of each other, lie amidst the debris of the fierce battle that has been raging on the island where the Yanks set in to establish their bases. Two bodies covered with ponchos are Marines while others are Japs.

No Respite For Berlin

Twenty-Eighth Straight Nocturnal Attack On Reich Capital—Industries Hit

LONDON, March 20 (CP)—The German radio says fast Allied bombers — probably R.A.F. Mosquito planes — struck at Berlin for the twenty-eighth straight nocturnal attack.

A blackout of the entire German radio network for two hours after midnight also indicated that other R.A.F. bombers were hitting the Reich.

Today American flying fortresses and Liberators attacked Hamburg and other targets. Huge fleets of Allied warplanes yesterday battered war plants deep inside Germany against aroused Luftwaffe opposition.

COUNCIL GRANTS OLIVER APPEAL

Allowed Right to Drive Taxi In City After Two Previous Refusals

City council, sitting in special session as Court of Appeal last night, reversed a decision rendered on two former occasions and decided to grant Thomas Murray Oliver the right to receive a permit to drive a taxi in the city.

Oliver, a longshoreman, lost his permit in March, 1943, following his conviction in police court on a charge of keeping liquor for sale. His permit was withdrawn by provincial police Inspector Ernest Gammon whose subsequent refusal to issue another permit was twice upheld by city council.

The appeal was granted in the face of an opinion by Inspector Gammon that council's original decision was final and, therefore, could not be reversed.

"It seems to me that the issue here is whether I have the authority to issue this man a permit after one has already been cancelled," the police officer declared. "I haven't the authority and I doubt if this council has the authority under the Motor Vehicles Act to reverse its former decision."

T. W. Brown, counsel for Oliver, presented testimony by Dr. J. J. Gibson that Oliver was under treatment for a leg ailment and foot injuries and was incapable of carrying on heavy stovering work. Oliver holds a grade "A" chauffeur's status.

Defence counsel challenged the police inspector's interpretation of the clause of the act affecting the decision.

"That phrase 'the appeal shall be final' means that the appeal simply cannot be carried to a higher court. It does not mean that one decision by this court ends the whole business — it merely ends that particular appeal."

"I hope that will allow the Inspector to see his way around his interpretation which would deprive a man for all time from his chosen work," Mr. Brown declared.

Charging that his client was being "kicked around" Mr. Brown proceeded to question Inspector Gammon concerning the issuing of permits to drive passenger vehicles to men who had been convicted of indictable offences.

The inspector replied that he had issued no driving permits to men who had previously been deprived of them for lawless activity during his term as senior police officer at Prince Rupert.

Mr. Brown concluded his argument by urging council that, in reversing its previous decision, it was acting within its rights as a court of appeal and by quoting from the Magna Charta on the rights of individuals.

William Finlayson, superintendent of the local elevator, returned to the city Sunday evening from a business trip to Vancouver.

Japanese Yield Great Burmese City; Had Been There Near Three Years

MANDALAY, March 20 (CP)—Fort Dufferin, stronghold in the centre of Mandalay has been captured. After intensive bombing by medium bombers a group of refugees imprisoned in the city came out leaving a white flag and a Union Jack flying over the fortress.

Swede Fleet To Be Used

Arrangements Being Made For It to Join United Nations Pool

LONDON, March 20 (CP)—The negotiations between Britain, the United States and Sweden for use by the United Nations of the Swedish merchant fleet are nearly completed. It is understood that the fleet will be used by the Allied shipping pool. It is expected that the fleet will be used for the purpose of meeting Sweden's import and export trade, as well as being used for getting vitally needed supplies to liberated Europe.

RED SHIELD MEN IN CITY

Major John Steele and Major Stanley McKinley Coming

Major John Steele, area supervisor of Red Shield War Services on the Pacific Coast, accompanied by Major Stanley McKinley, supervisor of the Red Shield Centre in Vancouver, will visit the city this Wednesday and Thursday. Both of these men have spent over three years overseas during the present con-



Major John Steele, leader of Salvation Army Red Shield war services visitor in city.

ROAD COVERED BY ROCKSLIDE

A rockslide at Kwinitza tunnel, 45 miles east of Prince Rupert, poured down the mountainside Monday covering the Skeena River highway but leaving the adjacent railway unobstructed.

Motorists, confronted by the obstruction, are reported to be driving their cars through the 1,400-foot tunnel which parallels the road in order to by-pass the slide. Railway authorities, who point out the obvious dangers of such a detour have taken steps to have it stopped.

The possibility of an automobile stalling in the tunnel and being struck by a train is a major danger to motorists driving along the track to by-pass the slide, they point out.

Provincial police at Terrace were despatched to the scene of the slide today to erect warning signs against use of the tunnel.

Railway traffic was not affected by the slide.

It is not known when the debris will be cleared from the road.

They said that the Japanese defenders had cleared out of the fort, which occupied one square mile in the centre of Burma's second city.

Meanwhile, the first phase of fighting to drive the entire Japanese army out of central Burma was under way.

Mandalay has been under Japanese occupation for nearly three years.

Lord Louis Mountbatten, Allied commander-in-chief, sent a message of congratulations to all Allied forces saying: "To all of you in every army I send my grateful thanks and look forward to even greater victories."

ITALIAN TROOPS HOLD OFF HUNS

ROME, March 20 (CP)—Volunteer Italian troops fighting beside the Allies held out against a counter-attack yesterday in a captured German strong point between Cuffiano and Riolderebagni, five miles south of the Bologna-Rimini road hub of Imola, while action along the rest of the Italian front was confined to patrolling.

TRAPPED JAPS COUNTER ATTACK

CALCUTTA, March 20 (CP)—Increasing enemy counter-attacks indicated yesterday that trapped Japanese forces in central Burma may be contemplating a breakthrough effort in the vicinity of Meiktila, 70 miles south of Mandalay.

The Japanese attacks in the Meiktila area have been repulsed with heavy losses to the Japanese. The Allies are now astride all the Japanese communications lines southward from Mandalay. The fall of the capital appears imminent.

PERU REVOLT IS SMASHED

LIMA, Peru, March 20 (CP)—The Peruvian government announced that an attempted revolutionary coup was smashed Sunday at the Ancon air base, 25 miles north of Lima with the arrest of two non-commissioned and a small number of men.

Planned Works

Public Housing Comes in for Attention in Session of Legislature Yesterday

OTTAWA, March 20 (CP)—Estimates for the public works department, railway department, and municipal affairs were passed yesterday in the Legislature.

Discussion in the afternoon taken up mainly with public works estimates while in the session discussion was on the phases of mining.

Herbert Anscomb, minister of public works, piloted the bills through the

discussion of the public works vote Mrs. Dorothy Critchley criticized Wartime Housing and said that homes built were poorly constructed, it was peeling, foundations were sinking, plaster was cracked and general dilapidation was everywhere. She urged that the federal government obtain a better answer from Wartime Housing regarding post-war housing.

Public works department estimates totalled \$3,571,083 compared with \$3,404,500 last year.

A. Shepherd, C.C.F., urged abolition of tolls on the Pattullo and Hell's Gate bridges. Mr. Anscomb said that tolls on the Hell's Gate bridge went back into improvements and Pattullo tolls were inadequate to cover debt charges.

Government Values Lots At \$96,000

Three lots on Third Avenue, across the street from the Post Office, owned by the federal government are valued on government books at \$96,000, Alderman Robert McKay informed the city council last night. He said that he had received the information unofficially.

The alderman's statement came during discussion of an offer by the government to purchase three other lots, now occupied by a Navy garage on Second Ave., for their assessed value of \$3,050.

Faced with the alternative of the government expropriating the three lots if council declined to sell, Alderman McKay moved that the city yield gracefully and accept the government's offer. Council adopted the motion.

Alderman Hills, chairman of the finance committee, proposed that the city should attempt to trade the three lots on Second Ave. for the three government owned lots on Third Ave.

"I agree with Alderman Rüdgerham's statement that, if this business of the government taking over city property continues, there will be a shortage of taxable property in the city before very long," he declared.

"I have learned that the government is carrying those Third Ave. lots on its books at a value of \$96,000 so it isn't likely that it would trade them for other property valued at \$3,050," Alderman McKay rejoined.

FATHERS MAN OF WOUNDS

Isaac Cornelius Middleton, son of a Smithers resident in a late army list as having died overseas. He was serving in the Saskatchewan regiment. George Ernest Middleton, a special constable with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police at Smithers. His wife, Mrs. Ivy Middleton, lives at Yorkville, Yorkshire, England.

As wounded while serving in a B. C. regiment is Carl Muller, whose father, Carl Gustave Muller, lives at Terrace. As wounded is Pte. Reginald Lynn, whose mother, Mrs. Emma Lynn, lives at Lake, B. C., near Fort