

Soviet Union Is Aiming To Become World's Greatest Hydro-Electric Producer

By TOM WHITNEY

The last month has seen important developments in the field of hydro-electric power in the Soviet Union. The immense Farkhard power dam in central Asia was completed and had been generating current. This immense development begun during the war will be little less than the largest hydro-electric power station now operating in the Soviet Union. It will, in addition, irrigate an immense area of 500,000 hectares (more than 1,250,000 acres) of some of the richest cotton land in the world and a so-called hungry steppe.

power station and dam on the Volga River at the large city of Gorka had begun. The dam will be 11 kilometres (about seven miles) long, and will produce hundreds of millions of kilowatt hours of electricity for the central industrial region of Russia upon its completion. The excavation work for this dam alone will be several times as great as that for the Dnieper dam in the Ukraine, the biggest hydro-electric installation in Europe.

Another tremendous new dam and power plant are under construction in the Altai region of eastern Kazakhstan. A Soviet magazine has reported that "the day is not far off" when the first hydro-turbine of the plant using the water-power resources of the Irtysh river will give current. Little information is available on this dam but it is clear that it is a development of

first importance for one of the newer industrial areas of the U.S.S.R.

A four power turbine—with a capacity of 55,000 kilowatts—has been installed at the Shcherbakov (Rybnski) power station near Moscow. This is a further step in the realization of the electric power of the Volga which at Rybinski is dammed back into one of the biggest artificial lakes in the world. The current will flow to the industries of Moscow.

The construction of the Dnieper dam and power station is proceeding at full speed. Four complete turbine-generator units now have been installed and put into operation at this largest station in Russia and Europe which was so seriously damaged by the Germans when they occupied the Ukraine. This leaves five

more turbine-generator units to be installed before the plant has surpassed its pre-war capacity.

It has been announced from the Caucasus that construction work is progressing rapidly on a great project for harnessing the power of Lake Sevan in Armenia in a series of cascades and hydro-electric plants. The largest hydro-electric plant in this series is now being built and work is in an advanced stage on lengthy tunnels through mountains which are to bring the water to the turbine blades.

These are only some of the more important of dozens of hydro-electric projects in the Soviet Union now in the process of being realized. But they alone are sufficient to show that the U.S.S.R. is determined in the not distant future to become the greatest producer and consumer of hydro-electric power in the world.

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PRICE FIVE CENTS

Blue STAR Cabs

112

ORMES DRUGS

Daily Delivery

PHONE 81

PRINCE GEORGE-ALASKA RAILWAY LINE BEING PROJECTED

RESCUED AFTER GOING THRU ICE BREAKING UP FRANCOIS LAKE

FRANCOIS LAKE (Special to Daily News)—A rescue was made from Francois Lake Thursday afternoon of Isaac Knelson and Sam John, rangers who tried to walk across the lake's two-and-a-half miles, dragging a sleigh with three cases of gear through into water of about 600 feet depth when about a mile and a quarter out.

COMMUNISTS TO VOTE

to Germans to Vote "Unification" Russian-backed communists went over to the western powers with a direct appeal to join their German unification appeal was broadcast by the pro-communist "People's Council" which proclaimed its aim as the Allied Control of the governing body.

FINES ARE BEING MONEY

Increased Canadian and freight traffic have TransCanada Airways a \$1,761,000 deficit on the annual report, the House of Commons, yesterday. Canada Atlantic service, had a surplus of \$136,000 flight to and from Britain.

TRAFFIC INCREASE

was suffered in spite of a 10 per cent increase in traffic and thirty per cent jump in volume and other costs were up.

WEATHER

Synopsis Showery conditions are to persist in several of the province today. Windiness is expected to subside but the day will be mostly mild. Forecast Rupert, Queen Charlotte North Coast—Cloudy with showers today. Little change in temperature. Low tonight and Sunday—At Port Hardy 54, Massett 32 and 45, Rupert 35 and 48.

British Hanging in this Province

VICTORIA — Support of British Columbia Legislature is more to abolish capital punishment will be sought. Which (C.C.F.—Burrhead) before the House proposed to abolish the death penalty for murder had given encouragement" to resist against hanging.

WELCOME TO THE CHAMPS DANCE

For Prince Rupert's victorious B.C. All-Stars

AT CENTRE, MONDAY, 10 P.M. Admission 50c

C.N.R. IS GLAD TO CO-OPERATE

WASHINGTON, D.C. — S. W. Fairweather, vice-president in charge of research and development, Canadian National Railways, testified before the United States Senate commerce sub-committee on modification of restrictions against Canadian boats serving south-eastern Alaska, testified that the railroad would be glad to co-operate with American shippers if they wished to stop at Prince Rupert and pick up cargoes for Alaska.

RED SCHOOL FOUND HERE

But Not "Little Red" One—To Teach Children Communism MONTREAL — Police today studied text books and other documents seized in a raid last night on what they termed a well organized communist school for children of Ukrainian descent to be taught about life in Russia.

LOCAL TIDES

Sunday, April 18, 1948

High	8:48	17.7 feet
	22:02	17.7 feet
Low	2:39	9.9 feet
	15:30	5.2 feet

HOSPITALIZATION BILL IS INTRODUCED AT VICTORIA

Basic Family Premium To Be \$33 Per Year—List of Services Provided

VICTORIA (CP)—British Columbia's compulsory hospitalization act was introduced as a proclamation measure in the Legislature yesterday by Hon. George Pearson, minister of health and welfare. It set \$33 a year as the rate which may be charged for any one family group.

The scheme will provide public ward, operating and case room facilities, x-ray, laboratory, diagnostic and therapeutic procedures, anaesthetics and approved drugs and dressings.

Mr. Pearson said that, if a person paying into the fund is stricken outside the province, his bills will be paid.

The Act will be run with the onus on the medical profession to see that hospitals are not unduly crowded. Christian Scientists, Blue Cross members will be exempt, also persons in remote areas where hospital services are impracticable.

There will be an advisory council and a building fund will be set up towards the provision of extra hospital accommodation which it is conceded will be needed.

WIN CHAMPIONSHIP

MINNEAPOLIS—With Doug Maher scoring the winning goal with 28 seconds of play, Houston, Thursday night defeated Minneapolis four to three to win the United States Hockey League championship three games to two.

BULLETINS

STRIKE IS ALL OVER VANCOUVER—The forty-five day old strike of marine, radio and deck officers on west coast deep-sea ships is now officially ended and vessels which had been tied up here are preparing to sail.

QUEBEC ELECTION QUEBEC—Ontario's election, fixed for June 7, was taken here today as sign of an early election in Quebec, possibly in the same month and coinciding closely. It is believed Premier DREW and Premier DUPLESSIS discussed election prospects during a week-end meeting in February.

ESPIONAGE CHARGES PRAGUE—It was officially announced today that the Czechoslovak government has filed charges of espionage against the former general secretary of the Czech National Socialist party, two other members of Parliament belonging to the party and 51 others including high-ranking army and police officials. The National Socialist party was headed by President Benes.

EDMONTON GRAIN FIRE EDMONTON — A \$100,000 blaze early yesterday gutted the United Grain Growers "South Side" feed plant, destroying valuable machinery and much of 30,000 bushels of stored grain.

Mr. Leckie and Mr. Healy expressed hope to the Daily News this morning that local people would take full advantage of their availability here.

ON EVE OF ELECTION

Momentous Polling In Italy To Start Tomorrow ROME — On the eve of the momentous general election in which voting starts tomorrow, Italy has assumed some of the aspects of an armed camp as the government has mustered special military and police forces to guard against any possible communist coup.

Interior Minister Mario Scelba's security forces are watchful last, as constantly rumored, last minute communist moves materialize, especially in the leftist north.

Scelba held out the threat today to suspend the fateful election "if liberty of the vote should be compromised."

Police have been making displays of strength in several sections to demonstrate they are ready to keep order.

As Italy wound up the final hours of the crucial Parliamentary campaign, communists scrambled to regain lost support.

Campaigning ended at midnight last night and the voting starts Sunday morning at 8 o'clock.

Betting odds have dropped to five to one against the communists winning.

The election tomorrow and Monday will test whether Italy is to line up with Russia or the West.

The Popular Front, led by communists, has striven to oust the moderate coalition government under the Christian Democrats.

Public security forces are variously announced and between 300,000 and 400,000.

There was guarded election eve peace over the country today.

Preliminary Work May Commence This Summer

Two Hundred Million Dollars To Be Spent If United States and Canada Finance Defence Extension

SEATTLE (CP)—Civil Engineer Willis T. Batcheller said yesterday that he represented an eastern syndicate which was prepared to put up \$200,000,000 for the building of a railroad to Alaska. But he added that the United States and Canadian governments first must provide \$375,000,000 to extend the Pacific Great Eastern Railway as a military defence measure from Sifton Pass to Fairbanks.

Batcheller said that his firm hopes to obtain within a few weeks from the United States Congress this financial assistance. He predicted that preliminary work would start in midsummer on a line north from Prince George.

In the British Columbia Legislature yesterday John Hart, president of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway, said "a man from the south" had recently made new overtures toward the purchase of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway. He said that he had told the man that, until the government had exhausted efforts elsewhere, he could not discuss the matter with him.

RUSSIA IS MILDENING

Tones Down Attacks On United States and Eases Up On War Talk MOSCOW — The Russian press has toned down its attacks on the United States and Great Britain.

There has been nothing official on this but foreign political observers in a number of Moscow missions have noticed a change in the tone of the press.

The Literary Gazette, sharpest critic of the West, has become much milder in the past month.

(The Gazette once compared President Truman to Adolf Hitler). There is a decided lack of war talk in Russian newspapers.

TODAY'S STOCKS

Courtesy S. D. Johnston Co. Ltd.

Vancouver	
Bralorne	7.55
B. R. Con.	.02 1/2
B. R. X.	.95
Cariboo Quartz	1.20
Dentonia	.02
Grull Wikhsne	.04
Hedley Mascot	.52
Minto	.01 1/2
Pend Oreille	3.85
Pioneer	2.90
Premier Border	.03 1/2
Privateer	.20
Reeves McDonald	1.60
Reno	.08 1/2
Salmon Gold	.18
Sheep-Creek	1.05
Taylor Bridge	.40
Taku River	.54
Vananda	.15 1/2
Congress	.02 3/4
Pacific Eastern	.05
Hedley Amalg.	.02 1/2
Spud Valley	.13
Central Zeballos	.00 5/8
Silbak Premier	.33
Oils—	
Calmont	.51
C. & E.	5.25
Home	7.50

NON-CONFIDENCE TALK NEXT WEEK

CITAWA — Protracted debate on the freight rates issue has been delayed until next week. Opposition motions of non-confidence in the government are coming up. Fifteen speakers participated in the debate yesterday but there are still about ten to be heard from.

P. R. FISHERMEN'S CO-OP

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

ODDFELLOWS' HALL, 2 P.M., SUNDAY, APRIL 18

(91)

Prince Rupert Wins Senior Hoop Title

Second Game Score 48 to 37: All Out Reception Is Planned Led by the mayor whose enthusiasm and appreciation appears to be matched by that of all citizens, Prince Rupert today planned an "all out" welcome for the conquering local basketball heroes who are due home Monday afternoon on the Princess Adelaide from Port Alberni where they captured the British Columbia Senior "B" championship last night. They are turning out the band and expectation is that citizens in large number will be on hand to cheer as the boys come home.

ISLAND LOGGER IS KILLED BY FLYING SNAG

A Saskatchewan man, whose cousin resides at Terrace, was killed in a logging accident at Morgan's camp, Cumshewa Inlet, on Tuesday. His body was brought to the city Thursday night on the Coquitlam and will be sent to the prairies for burial. Killed by a flying snag as he was bucking sawlogs in the woods was Henry Emde, of White Fox, Saskatchewan. His skull was fractured as he tried to step clear of the hurtling piece of wood.

His cousin, Ralph Emde, was working at the same camp at the time. He accompanied the body here.

Deceased is survived by his parents and a brother at White Fox, Saskatchewan. He was unmarried and had worked at the Queen Charlotte Islands camp for the last five months.

ONTARIO TO VOTE JUNE 7

TORONTO — The Evening Telegram said yesterday that it had learned there would be a provincial election in Ontario next June 7. Later there was an official announcement from the government.

U.N. CALLS FOR TRUCE

NEW YORK — The United Nations Security Council early today ordered a truce in Palestine, the terms being the same as those previously rejected by both Jews and Arabs. There was no indication, however, that either faction would abide by it.

Russia and the Ukraine abstained when an 11 member council ended a 5 1/2-hour debate at Lake Success with a 9 to 0 vote.

ARE MEETING FOR RECOVERY

Conference of Marshall Plan Beneficiaries At Oaris PARIS — Western Europe yesterday bound itself to stand united in order to avoid falling divided into deeper poverty and war. It did so in a 3,000-word charter signed in Paris. The charter created the "European Organization of Economic Co-operation," designed to assure efficient use of more than \$5,000,000,000 which the United States has pledged in the European recovery program charter signed at a meeting of representatives of sixteen Marshall plan countries and occupied western Germany. Among the delegates were many foreign ministers.

The meeting was called to order by Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin of Great Britain.

FOUNDED BY PIONEERS Winnipeg, at the junction of the Red and Assiniboine rivers, was founded as Selkirk's colony by Lord Selkirk in 1812.