

## Authority to Seize Mines Is Asked

### For Government Sticks to Steel Nationalization

#### Not Back Down Following Election

OTTAWA (CP)—The Labor government was reported today to have decided against any change from its position on nationalization of the newly appointed cabinet of Prime Minister Attlee met for a short time today and a well known correspondent of the Press Association writes with official guidance, said:

#### Application For Subsidy

E. T. Applewhite M.P.  
Appears Before Canadian  
Maritime Commission

OTTAWA, (CP)—Hearing of an application of Union Steamships Ltd. for a subsidy contract for passenger and freight services between Vancouver and northern ports of British Columbia and the Queen Charlotte Islands has been on before the Canadian Maritime Commission.

Gerald McBeane, managing director of Union Steamships, presented an outline of the company's case and E. T. Applewhite, M.P. for Skeena, stated that he represented the whole northern British Columbia coast north of the fifty-first parallel, supported it while making it clear he was not interested in the company as such but in the company's services.

Mr. Applewhite stated it was up to the company to show the Commission by records and figures whether or not a subsidy was needed to maintain the services. Applewhite stated the present services were the absolute minimum to enable the area to carry on, not to mention expansion. The member pointed out the area produces primary products and basic commodities which are the backbone of Canadian economy and that in these days it was essential to such production to build up communities where men and families could live in reasonable comfort and security.

He stated no alternative form of transportation is available to many places and no other company appeared to be willing or able to supply the needed service. The hearing is continuing today.

#### Still Search For Victim

MONTREAL (CP)—Firemen cautiously picked their way through ice-covered debris today in a search for more possible victims who may have been trapped in the \$1,000,000 blaze that swept Montreal's Chinatown early yesterday. Four lives were lost, it is known.

Major George Balcer, field director of a Red Cross field station which has been set up near the scene, said last night that twelve persons were missing following a room-by-room search of the Lotus Garden Hotel where the fire originated. Some of these, of course, may be staying with friends and unreported.

An oil furnace explosion is said to have caused the blaze. Fire Commissioner Jean St. Germaine said he will open an inquiry next week.

#### WINDSORS AT MARDI GRAS

NEW ORLEANS—This city counted three dead and about 200 injured in the wake of the annual Mardi Gras celebration. The Duke and Duchess of Windsor were among the thousands of distinguished visitors.



MACARTHUR IN COMMAND "IN EMERGENCY"—U.S. Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson is shown with the joint chiefs of staff at a press conference in Washington when the chiefs revealed that "in the event of an emergency," in the Pacific, General Douglas MacArthur will have command of the Pacific fleet. Seated above are Secretary Johnson (left) and General Omar Bradley, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff. Standing (left to right) General Hoyt Vandenberg, air force chief of staff; General J. Lawton Collins, army chief of staff, and Admiral Forrest Sherman.

#### Rotary Giants and Gyro Killers Stage Mirthful Basketball Show

Playing to a packed house of over 700 persons at the Civic Centre last night the Rotary Giants and Gyro Killers came through true to form with a hard fought fun-packed basketball game. Rule-books were thrown to the wind and even tough old Johnny Comadina joined in the fun.

The program started off with music by the Prince Rupert Shrine Band which was followed by the march-on of the teams with the Rotary team arriving clad in trunks and pyjama tops and led by a smart marching group of Job's Daughters and trailed by what turned out to be Lou "Whirlwind" Felsenthal. The Gyro team showed up fully dressed to play ball except for their coach Bill Stone who was garbed in hockey equipment and skates.

From the moment the starting whistle sound and white cane, dark glasses, referees were escorted off the floor until the first whistle blew just about everything happened. The Gyro's started the action by replacing their first string with a pint sized team ranging from three to ten years and while the Rotary were protesting the kids scored the first basket of the game.

As the game rocked back and forth many and varied interruptions entered the scene led off by the arrival of Frankenstein (Dennis Mulloney) who marched up and down the floor, inspiring awe to all and sundry. The Gyro put on a teeter-totter performance with Gyro President A. J. Dominato and Rotary President Roy Van der Sluys depicting their work in playgrounds around Prince Rupert and the Rotary retaliated with a lady (Bob Brett) dressed in a barrel led by a circus barker (Tom Christie) and promoting the Rotary Barrel contest which will take place shortly.

Norm Baker of the Gyros presented sets of crutches to the poor unfortunate players of the "broken down" Rotary and Tom Christie came back with a presentation to the "much too young" Gyro's. One of the largest crowds to ever jam into a basketball game left after the final whistle, having had an enjoyable evening and the many Rotary and Gyro Charities will benefit greatly from the wonderful support that this event was given.

The final score was announced as 13 to 13 although the score board showed 22 to 13 for Gyro. During the intermission the Rotary chorus, directed by Gyro Charlie Balagno, presented a group of well received songs to the interested audience. They sang "Roll the Old Chariot Home" and "Kentucky Babe."

The shapely Job's Daughters' drill team consisted of Drill Major-jette Edith Jordan, Donna McArthur, Diane Kennedy, Heather Brewer, Claire Ritchie.

#### Is He Communist?— Are Driving on Strachey

LONDON (CP)—Lord Beaverbrook's newspapers today stepped up their campaign for the ouster of War Minister John Strachey by challenging him to prove that he had ever openly avowed communism.

The challenge was the Evening Standard's reply to a statement from 10 Downing Street, official residence of Prime Minister Attlee, saying that Strachey, a left winger, disowned the Communist Party in 1940.

Strachey, former food minister, who was named new war minister in the Labor cabinet this week, has declined to issue a statement now.

The Canadian Press said, however, that, back in 1938 when his beliefs got him into trouble with the United States authorities on visits to the United States, he told newspapermen: "I am not and never have been a member of the Communist Party or the Third Internationale."

#### Road State Protested

Premier Informed by Union  
Watson Island Work  
Way Cease

The International Hod Carriers and Building and Common Laborers' Union sent a telegram to Premier Byron Johnson today suggesting "the possibility of over 900 men being made idle due to poor government supervision of the road from Watson Island to Prince Rupert which is in a deplorable condition."

William James, conciliator and consultant of the Union, made announcement to this effect to the Prince Rupert Daily News this afternoon.

Mr. James announced that support of the Prince Rupert Chamber of Commerce with a view to having the condition remedied.

The bus concern, handling the men between Prince Rupert and Watson Island, claims that it is costing over \$200 per day for springs and tires and threatens to stop operations until roads are put in shape, Mr. James said.

#### Flash

ABOLISH MEANS TEST  
VICTORIA—Abolition of the means test for old age pensions and the granting of the provincial franchise to all citizens at 18 years of age were advocated in the Legislature yesterday. Arthur J. Ash, Coalition member for Saanich, said the Means Test should be discontinued since all parties are agreed on the matter. Granting of the franchise to 18-year olds and adoption of the transferable vote method in future provincial elections were advocated by W.A.C. Bennett, Coalition member for South Okanagan.

DEFENCE MINISTER ILL  
OTTAWA—Defence Minister Claxton is confined to his home as the latest victim in a siege of sickness that is providing one of the unscheduled studies in connection with Exercise Sweetbriar. His illness is not serious but it is connected with an outbreak of pneumonia, flu and colds during the manoeuvre.

WAS SHE DEAD BEFORE  
MANCHESTER, N.H.—A head nurse in the hospital testified today at the trial of Dr. Hermann Sander that the patient had death pangs and was not breathing before the air was injected. Dr. Sander yesterday testified that he knew the woman was dead before he injected air into her veins.

#### Hawks Down Canadiens

CHICAGO (CP)—The recently unpredictable cellar-dwelling Chicago Black Hawks scored a flashing 5 to 2 victory over Montreal Canadiens here last night and spoiled the Canadiens' chance of getting into exclusive possession of third place in the National League standing.

Detroit Red Wings are still riding high in the standing with nine points over Toronto Maple Leafs. Montreal Canadiens and New York Rangers still share third place with Boston in fifth and Chicago at the bottom.

Montreal Canadiens' goalkeeper Bill Durnan sustained a bad cut over the eye from contact with a skate last night and required several stitches.

Education Week Public Meeting, Civic Centre, March 6, 8 p.m. speaker, Dr. A. R. Lord, principal Vancouver Normal School. See Daily News tomorrow for complete schedule. It

#### THE WEATHER

Synopsis  
A large storm centre in the Gulf of Alaska is sending very moist air over the province. Light rain is being reported from most sections of the interior and steady rain and strong southerly winds from along the coast. Skies will clear slowly tomorrow with showers persisting in all areas. Temperatures will remain mild today but will become a little cooler tomorrow with showers persisting in all areas. Temperatures will remain mild today but will become a little cooler tomorrow.

Forecast  
North Coast Region—Intermittent rain today. Cloudy with frequent showers tonight and tomorrow. A little colder. Winds southerly (25 mph) occasionally reaching 35 miles tonight. Westerly winds, 25 miles tomorrow. Lows tonight and highs tomorrow—At Port Hardy 35 and 42. Sandspit and Prince Rupert—32 and 40.

#### President Truman Is Making Request

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CP)—President Truman asked Congress today for power to seize and operate the coal mines. The White House announced that Truman will send a message to Congress this afternoon. A draft of legislation to carry out the mine seizure will go to both houses of Congress with the message.

#### Winch Is Critical

Opposition Leader Covers  
Wide Gamut of Subjects

VICTORIA (CP)—Speaking for two hours in the Legislature, Opposition Leader Harold Winch discussed subjects ranging from inflation to haaging.

Criticizing the budget, Mr. Winch said that Finance Minister Anson could show economies in his own department by switching some items to other departments. Other departments did the same thing until the budget became a mass of confused figures, he claimed.

The Opposition leader claimed that the actual wealth of the province was lower than last year, contending that increased value placed on it was due to inflation. He was referring to Mr. Anson's figures on production.

As for unemployment, Mr. Winch claimed that the number of idle was increasing monthly with nothing in the budget to take care of the contingency.

The President turns to the possible seizure following the refusal of miners to go back to work despite court orders, thus plunging the country deeper into crisis for lack of coal.

Despite the step asking Congress for the legislation, it is learned the White House still is clinging to hope that the actual seizure can be avoided. Hope is that a settlement may be reached.

#### Howard Green Sees Danger

Thinks Canada Now In Most  
Vulnerable Position

OTTAWA—With "China" now under Communist control, Canada is in greater danger than any other country in the world, Howard Green, Progressive-Conservative, Vancouver Bureau declared in the House of Commons yesterday. He pictured a possible aggressive attack from Siberia by way of the Bering Sea and Alaska and eventually to the great cities of the United States.

Mr. Green hoped that Canada would take the lead in a Pacific defense pact against the encroachment of Communist Russia.

#### NATIVES ARE RELIEVED— Aiyansh Village, Short of Food, Receives Provisions by Aircraft

Three hundred native residents of the ice-blocked Naas River village of Aiyansh, about ninety air miles northeast of Prince Rupert, have run so low on food after the severe winter that the Department of Indian Affairs is dispatching Pilot Roy Berryman with his Queen Charlotte Airlines DeHaviland Rapide

there tomorrow with emergency supplies. Two trips will be made with sixty-one bundles containing 1500 pounds of essential provisions. Arrangements have been made to make the drop on the village playground which is still covered with several feet of snow.

The Naas River ice is still solid for many miles out from Aiyansh but near the mouth it has now commenced to disintegrate making it impossible to traverse it to an ice edge where

contact might be made with a boat.

Aiyansh, like the rest of the district, had an exceptionally severe winter and it is believed by Indian Superintendent R. E. Anfield that more food than usual had been used for this reason. Also some of the people there did not have a very good fishing year in 1949 and might not have had in very heavy stocks.

The village is already completely out of milk and butter.



SNOW NOT WELCOME TO ISRAEL BOY—As the Middle East experienced its worst winter in more than 50 years, this Yemenite Jewish boy sees his first snow. He is standing barefoot in eight-below-zero weather at the Ras El Ayn camp, where tents for 85,000 immigrants have been set up. The youngster is one of more than 40,000 boys from Yemen, who were recently removed to the new State of Israel with the help of the United Jewish Appeal.

THE BAND  
CONCERT  
Night 8:15  
Civic Centre  
5c Students 35c