

Russian Maritime Ambitions Are Reawakening

Office Is Jammed By Many Hundreds of Bags of Xmas Mail

With 500 sacks of mail arriving by train during the night, 250 sacks by boat from Vancouver this morning and the late air mail also coming in this morning, the Post Office is extra busy today, the staff wrestling with huge piles of parcel mail as the Christmas rush gets underway.

Murder Charge—In Case Of Miss Fisher

VANCOUVER—Puzzling circumstances surrounding the death last month of a religious movie-going spinster of 45 were revived yesterday when police charged an unemployed laborer with the murder.

Clark Gable And Lady Ashley Wed

HOLLYWOOD—Clark Gable was honeymooning somewhere today with Lady Sylvia Ashley, 39-year old widow of Douglas Fairbanks sr. They were married in a surprise ceremony late yesterday at a luxurious guest ranch, forty miles north of Santa Barbara, California.

Shortest Day Is Dark and Murky

Cloudy, murky weather, with a dash of rain and sleet and a storm from the Gulf of Alaska predicted for this evening, mark the shortest day of the year in Prince Rupert today. It will be a while, of course, before lengthening days are really noted.

WINTER ARRIVES ON SKEENA RIVER

All the lakes between Prince Rupert and Terrace have become frozen and ice from three to six inches thick is pushing and jamming its way down the Skeena River.

NOTICE

It was erroneously reported that all stores would remain open Friday night. The following food stores will be closed as usual Friday night:

SUNRISE, BLAINES', RUPERT BUTCHERS, PIONEER MARKET, OVERWAITEA, RANCE & HARDY, JONES FAMILY MARKET, SHEARDOWNS, BULKLEY MARKET, SKEENA GROCERY, KAIEN CO-OP, PRINCE RUPERT FISHERMEN'S CO-OP.

These merchants wish to point out that owing to the heavy Xmas business, they will be compelled to work Friday evening preparing orders and cleaning turkeys for Saturday's deliveries. Help us to help you by placing your orders early. (298)

President Takes Over

JOGJAKARTA, Java—President Soekarno of Indonesia has been sworn into office under the Moslem oath. He received a 21-gun salute.

Soekarno humbly declared himself "the servant of the people, not their master, and appealed to the world "to clasp hands with the newly-born country that wants to determine its own fate."

The new President raised the historic "proclamation flag," the red and white banner of the Indonesian Republic which he first unfurled at his bungalow in Batavia on August 17, 1945, in the declaration of independence from the Netherlands.

Evangelize Pubs, Police Complaining

SPENNYMOOR, Durham, Eng.—Rev. Ronald Gibbens has been warned by police against waging an evangelical campaign in public houses.

"Police tell me complaints have been made about my visits to public houses," Gibbens said, "on the grounds that they may cause a breach of the peace."

"Yet during my visits only two publicans have objected. I had a tremendous welcome in one pub. They asked me to play the piano and for 15 minutes I played popular and classical music, and some hymns, to a packed house."

Family Allowance Checks For Xmas

This being Christmas week, family allowance cheques are arriving earlier than usual in British Columbia. The date was advanced. Total payments amount to \$1,750,000 affecting 280,000 children.

Steel For P.G.E. Extension Due

QUESNEL—The first steel for the P.G.E. main line extension to Prince George is expected to arrive from Great Britain in February, officials of the railway announce.

AIR PASSENGERS

To Vancouver (today)—Miss J. P. Wilkinson, T. P. M. Grant, Miss Peggy Smith, R. S. Turner, P. Orr, G. Glass, G. Dickson, Miss A. McAlpine, Miss B. Forbes, R. Magnus, Miss G. Petit, J. L. Parent, L. Geferson, W. Froese, J. W. Macri, R. Hoyter.

To Sandspit (today)—R. Hole. From Vancouver (Wednesday)—Mr. and Mrs. D. M. McDonald.

M. G. Gormely, district forester, returned to the city on the Prince George today from a trip to Portland where he attended a forestry conference.



CURISEY ENDS IN SIT-DOWN—Wearing a broad smile, Queen Elizabeth accepts a bouquet of flowers in London from six-year-old Victoria Hutchinson who follows up the presentation with a curtsy of her own design. The curtsy ended when Miss Hutchinson sat down and hard.

Joint Xmas Tree Attended By 70

Approximately 70 adults and children were present at the annual Christmas tree in the Oddfellows' Hall, Tuesday afternoon. The event was held by the Oddfellows' and Rebekah lodges of Prince Rupert.

Mrs. J. W. McKinley, district deputy president of the Rebekah Assembly, welcomed the children. Interesting films were shown by Mrs. E. A. Evans and numerous "oh's" and "ah's" were heard from the tots when animal and bird movies were screened.

Carol singing followed and the program concluded with recitations by Marion Evans and Eileen Howe, ballet dancing by Sylvia Cherry, vocals by Vernon Healy and a piano solo rendition by Grace Woods.

While children danced around the Christmas tree singing "Jingle Bells," Santa Claus appeared and distributed gifts and delicacies. The event ended with three cheers for Santa Claus.

Convenor was Mrs. L. McLean. The refreshment committee consisted of Mrs. W. McLeod, Mrs. J. S. Irvin and Mrs. Lineham. A committee for entertainment comprised Mrs. T. Priest, Mrs. J. W. McKinley, Mrs. Horace

Quiet Wedding At Ahm Cottage

A quiet wedding took place Saturday evening at 8 o'clock at Ahm Cottage, 1438 Overlook Street, the home of Canon W. F. Rushbrock who officiated, when Mrs. Joan Johnson became the bride of Oscar H. Johnson of this city.

Matron of honor was Mrs. Ella Vaccher while Arne Eyoifson, brother of the bride, attended the groom.

Mr. Johnson is employed by Campbell and Bennett at Port Edward, while Mrs. Johnson is on the staff of Wallace Dept. Store. They will reside at the Angus Courts, Second Ave.

W. J. Nelson arrived in the city on the Prince George today from Ocean Falls, where he is located as customs officer, to spend the Christmas and New Year holiday season at his home here.

Tattersall, Mrs. Alex Barbe, and rs. G. Howe.

Flash

LABOR PARTY RE-ELECTED KINGSTON, Jamaica—William Bustamante's Labor Party will form Jamaica's government for the next five years. Returns flooding in from yesterday's election gave his party 17 of 32 house of representative seats. The rival National Party gained 13 seats and Independents, two.

MINER'S BODY FOUND BLAIRMORE, Alta.—Part of the body of Newfoundland-born Ben Carter, 67, was uncovered at Greenhill Colliery near here last night by a party of 75 men who had been digging for four days.

GREETINGS TO STALIN LONDON—Prime Minister Attlee today sent a birthday message of greeting to Prime Minister Stalin of Russia through the British ambassador in Moscow. Attlee's message said: "Permit me to tender you my greetings and congratulations on the seventieth anniversary of your birthday and my best wishes for your continued good health."

THE WEATHER

Synopsis

The polar air which has gripped the entire province for the past few days is receding slowly. Temperatures have risen sharply along the coast during the night and tonight promises to be much milder throughout the entire province.

A disturbance which lies about 400 miles west of the Queen Charlotte Islands will bring rain to the north coast today and showers to the south coast overnight. Skies will remain generally cloudy in the interior with some light snow expected in the north central portion tonight and tomorrow.

Forecast

North Coast Region—Intermittent rain today. Cloudy with showers tomorrow. Milder, wind light, becoming southeast (20 mph) by afternoon and shifting to southwest (25) tonight. Lows tonight and highs tomorrow—At Port Hardy, 37 and 44; Sandspit, 39 and 44; Prince Rupert, 37 and 43.

Cariboo, Prince George, Bulkley Valley Regions—Variable cloudiness, and widely scattered snow flurries today. Overcast with intermittent snow tomorrow. Not quite so cold. Light winds, becoming southerly (15), tonight. Lows tonight and highs tomorrow—At Quesnel, 15 and 25; Prince George, 15 and 25; Smithers, 15 and 35.

Northern B. C. Region—Cloudy and cold with occasional snow flurries today and tomorrow. Light winds. Lows tonight and highs tomorrow—At Telegraph Creek, 5 below and 15 below.



Thursday, December 22, 1949
High 3:21 20.4 feet
 14:56 22.0 feet
Low 9:01 3.1 feet
 21:36 2.4 feet

Miss Margaret Martinusen, R.N., who graduated this year from Royal Jubilee Hospital at Victoria, arrived in the city on the Prince George this morning from the south and will spend a vacation here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Martinusen, before proceeding to Princeton where she has accepted a nursing appointment.

James Ellefson, who has been attending school in Seattle, returned to the city on the Prince

American Admiral Sees Necessity Of Ensuring Sea Lane Stay Open

BOSTON (CP)—Admiral Forrest P. Sherman, chief of United States naval operations, said today that there is "ample evidence" of a reawakening of Russian "maritime ambition." He added pointedly that a superior force of United States aircraft carriers must be maintained in order to keep vital sea lanes open.

Menzies Makes First Address

CANBERRA—Robert G. Menzies in his first broadcast as Australian Prime Minister, said today that his government will seek a United British Empire and cultivate "real understanding with the great United States of America."

However, Menzies added, Australia's happiness would in the long run depend upon the well-being of the simplest citizens of India, China or any other great communities of the people.

Sammy Snead Is Golfing's Best

CHICAGO—Sammy Snead, sweet-singing golfer from from White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, was officially crowned golf's top money winner and captor of the coveted Vardon Trophy for 1949.

The Professional Golfers' Association, which recently proclaimed Snead "golfer of the year," calculated Sammy had amassed \$31,593 as he won six major meets and finished second or third in seven others.

The Vardon Trophy went to Snead for a snappy average of 69.37 strokes for seventy-three ten-hole rounds.



COMMONS NEWCOMER—Dr. E. A. McCusker, making his first bid in federal politics, was elected Liberal member for Regina City in the 1949 election. Dr. McCusker was born in 1890 in Alfred, Ont. He is vice-president of the Saskatchewan Medical Association and, as a brigadier in the Army medical corps, was in charge of medical services for the Second Canadian Corps during the Second World War. He is a past president of the Canadian Rugby Union. (C. P. Photo)

George today to resume residence with Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Skinner, Sorden Street.

EUGENE HIGH SCHOOL BAND
of Eugene, Oregon
CONCERT
Wednesday, Dec. 28, 1949
8 p.m. Civic Centre Auditorium
Sponsored by Bo-Me-Hi Students Council
Students 50c
(Tickets on Sale at Civic Centre and Orme's Drugs.) (301)

Outstanding Athlete—Vancouver Girl Awarded Honor

VANCOUVER—It's a wonderful feeling 18-year old Eleanor McKenzie has today. "I never dreamed that anything like this would happen to me," said the young Vancouver sprint star who was announced yesterday as Canada's outstanding woman athlete of the year. A teammate interrupted Eleanor's packing for the British Empire Games, for which she departs Thursday, to break the great news.

Miss McKenzie who is seventeen years of age is a star of track and field, was officially named yesterday at Hamilton by the Women's Amateur Athletic Federation of Canada as Canada's outstanding woman athlete. The announcement was made by Margaret Lord, Federation secretary.

Only two athletes were nominated for the honor by W.A.A.F. officers—the speedy Miss McKenzie and Irene Strong, 20-year old Vancouver swimming star. Miss McKenzie won by a casting vote after a tie of the executive, Irene Wall of Montreal, Federation president, cast the deciding vote in favor of the sprinter.

The two will compete February 4-11 in the British Empire Games at Auckland, New Zealand. They will leave Vancouver by ship tomorrow with the first group of Games athletes and officials.

Two Years In Penitentiary

Two years in penitentiary was the sentence meted out at Smithers last week by Judge W. O. Fullon to Raymond Peters, Point Grey Indian, after he had been found guilty of assault with intent to rob.

Peters, it was shown, had set upon June Lim, a Chinese restaurant man, on the street and proceeded to bellow him with a flashlight. Kee Mah, another Chinese, came up whereupon Peters made off to be taken into custody later.

J. T. Harvey acted as crown counsel in the case and Peters, who showed that he was not unfamiliar with such circumstances, conducted his own defence. He was disclosed to have had a record.

M. O. Kullander of the local Forest Branch office returned to the city on the Prince George today from a trip to Victoria on official duties.

HOLIDAY SEASON CLOSING HOURS

Retail stores in the City will remain open until 8 p.m. December 23rd, closing at 6 p.m. on December 24th. Stores will be closed December 26th and 27th and January 2nd as well as Thursday afternoon each week.

Prince Rupert Retail Merchants Ass'n.