

February 2, 1954
(Pacific Standard Time)
0:51 18.6 feet
12:27 21.3 feet
6:29 8.1 feet
19:06 2.1 feet

ORMES DRUGS
Daily Delivery
Phone 81



FRANCE'S BROOKFIELD Zoo's baby elephant Melinda, her keeper Cliff Jones, and a friend, Pearson of Berwyn, Ill., view the devices that aided the animal's convalescence after she slipped both hind legs last September. Melinda has made a satisfactory recovery and soon will be walking without a limp.

Two Weekend Fires Raze Home, Wreck Baptist Church Interior

Two major week-end fires destroyed a Seventh Avenue home and singed the interior of the Regular Baptist Church with total damages amounting to nearly \$6,000.

AIR CADET COMMITTEE MEETING HERE TONIGHT

Results of a recent discussion here with V. R. Clerihue, executive member of the Air Cadet League of Canada, will be on the agenda at the annual general meeting of the sponsoring committee of the local air cadet squadron.

Rupert Rinks Ousted from Smithers Bonspiel

Ken Robertson's quartet was downed 6-4 by Cpl. McKim's RCMP rink in the Bulkley Hotel trophy event and the Mounties went on to oust Al Miller 11-3 in the semi-finals. Miller beat Evans of Smithers 6-5 in the eighth but was unable to match the neat play of the McKim rink in the semis. Four Prince Rupert rinks headed for home yesterday and the remaining curlers plan to leave on tomorrow's train, arriving in Rupert tomorrow night. (See earlier story page 4.)



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Nine Persons Aboard Launch Missing In Strait Of Georgia

Five Children Among Passengers

By The Canadian Press

VANCOUVER.—Nine persons, including five children, are reported missing aboard a 30-foot pleasure boat.

The white-colored power launch disappeared Sunday during a 40-mile trip across Georgia Strait from Galiano Island to Steveston, B.C.

Heavy fog patches over the strait was hampering a search for the missing vessel by RCAF planes.

All ships in the vicinity and shore stations were warned to be on the lookout for the small launch owned by Oliver McKay of Duncan, B.C., one of the nine persons reported aboard.

Others missing are: Mr. and Mrs. Wally Graham and their three children, Jimmy, 13, Roger, 8, and Robert, one year; Mrs. Gloria Bromley and her two children, Judy, 10, and Trudy, 1. All are from North Galiano, on Galiano Island.

Doukobor Women Set Fire

By The Canadian Press

VANCOUVER.—Six Doukobor women prisoners were injured today when they set fire to a quonset-type hut in which they were quartered at Oakalla Prison Farm.

One woman was taken to hospital suffering from serious burns to the back. The other five were reported to have escaped with minor burns to their hands, arms and legs.

Thirty-seven women, all members of the radical Sons of Freedom sect, were in the 200-foot building being used as a temporary cell block when the fire broke out about 3:30 a.m.

Guards removed all the prisoners within minutes after the alarm was sounded.

NO DETAILS

Officials of the prison in suburban Burnaby declined to release details of the fire, but it was reported that the women had piled their bedding and wooden furniture against the side of the building and set fire to it.

Firemen said the interior of the building was badly damaged but that it could be salvaged. An estimate of damage was not immediately available.

It was the third fire in the prison's Doukobor section in recent weeks. Earlier two minor fires were started by women who stripped off their clothing and set it afire.

WEATHER

Forecast

North coast region — Gale warning in effect.

Cloudy with intermittent rain today and Tuesday. Continuing mild. Winds southeast 20, frequently reaching 40 over the open water.

Low tonight and high Tuesday at Port Hardy, 34 and 46; Sandspit and Prince Rupert, 38 and 48.

Blizzards Isolate Villages

LONDON (Reuters) — Snowplows guided by helicopters today battled through drifts up to eight feet deep in southeast England to clear a way to five villages isolated by blizzards during the week-end.

All 432 inhabitants of the village of Eastling have been cut off by blizzards since Saturday. Snowplows clearing roads to Eastling and four smaller hamlets were guided by helicopters which spotted deep drifts and guided the plows along the clearest routes.

The temperature here was 23 degrees—the coldest in six years. Many trains froze up. Snow still was falling on the capital at noon.

The Thames froze over at Windsor for the first time in seven years. Meteorologists said there will be no let-up for at least two days.

Other countries reported: **The Netherlands:** Nearly all inland and coastal shipping paralyzed.

France: Temperature in Paris dropped to eight below zero. The coldest night of the winter Sunday night; four below.

Germany: Two below this morning, but prospects of warmer weather from Siberia.

Moscow: Moscow radio today reported slightly warmer weather in the Soviet capital—23 below.

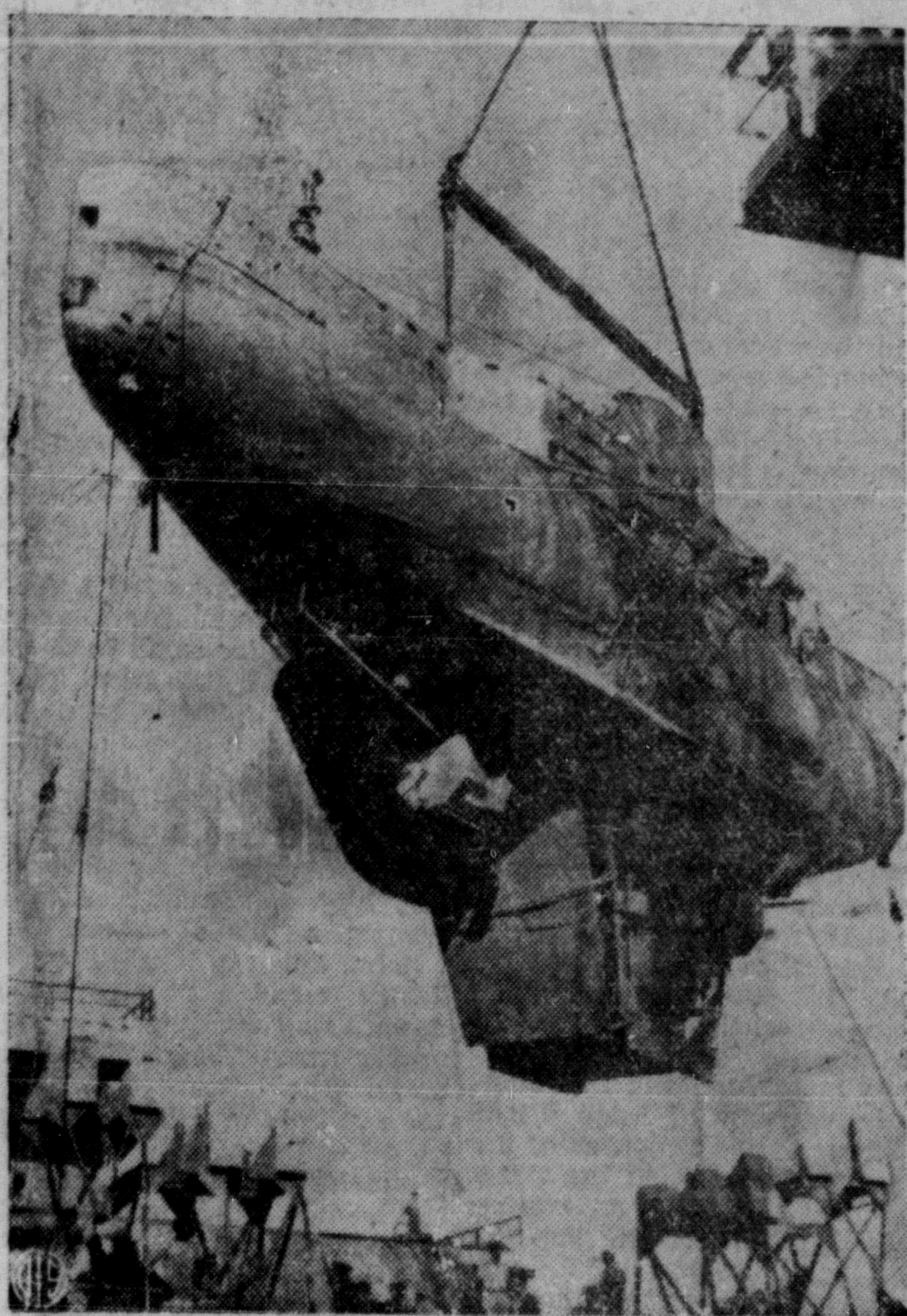
Loggers' Strike Ends

VANCOUVER (CP) — A three-month strike of wood workers in the southern British Columbia interior has ended.

Joe Morris, district president of the International Woodworkers of America (IWOA) said a referendum vote completed Friday night showed the workers in favor of accepting a 10-cent hourly wage increase spread over a three-year contract. The present basic wage is \$1.29 1/2.

Some 2,500 IWOA members have been on strike in the area since Oct. 23.

Quake Strikes
CALEXICO, Calif. — A short, sharp earthquake jolted this community at 8:25 p.m. Sunday but authorities said no damage had been reported.



A FRENCH NAVY F.N.R.S. III depth boat is lowered into the water 20 miles off Dakar, French West Africa, for a test dive. French Navy Captain Nicolas Houot and Henri Wilm, a marine engineer, plan to challenge Professor Auguste Piccard's depth record of 10,344 feet in the craft. They plan to make the attempt 120 miles off Dakar.

Big Four Still Deadlocked On Chinese, German Issues

BERLIN (AP) — The Big Four foreign ministers moved their conference over to the Russian sector of Germany today without budging an inch on any world problem.

They are deadlocked in holding a Big Five conference to include Red China.

They are supporting rival plans for uniting Germany so radically in conflict that another deadlock appears inevitable.

State Secretary Dulles and Soviet Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov have had their first brief face-to-face talks since Eisenhower's proposal to establish a world atomic pool for peace.

Clashing plans for disarmament have been turned over to secret sessions of the foreign ministers where they can argue more freely.

But Western diplomats talked optimistically about the conference. To them the most pleasing thing was the change of atmosphere.

NEW MEETING PLACE
The conference moved for this week from the American sector's Allied Control Authority building to the shiny new \$5,000,000 Russian embassy.

As the conference went into its second week, no evidence that the Soviets were changing their basic aims was manifested. Just before midnight Saturday, the East Germans published their own plan for a united Germany.

It provided that the Communist bosses of the 18,000,000 East Germans would have as many votes in a new government as the 50,000,000 West Germans.

It would pit the solid phalanx of the one-party East regime against West German's democratically divided several parties.

Baseball Bat Used in Holdup
VANCOUVER (CP) — An elderly Vancouver Chinese was slugged with a baseball bat and robbed of about \$400 in the lane behind his home Sunday night.

Police said 61-year-old Foon Wong was slugged by two men who they believed were familiar with his habits.

Police found a blood-stained baseball bat in the lane where the attack took place.

Pioneer Surveyor Still Prefers Horse For Travels Through Rugged Northland

EDMONTON (CP) — Horses may not be so fast, says Knox McCuster, "but at least you know you're going to get there."

McCuster has been "getting there" on horseback for more than 45 years, in which he has probably trekked through more of the great northwest than any other man, surveying and mapping land contours.

His faith in horses doesn't mean he's old-fashioned. He was one of the first to use bulldozers instead of an ax gang to cut out boundary lines.

BOSS SERVEUR
McCuster has been reputed able to carry out more survey work in a given time than any other boss in the trade.

Last summer he surveyed 132,000 acres in the Peace River Block, near Fort St. John, B.C., and Hines Creek, Alta.

McCuster's life has been largely spent in northern Alberta and B.C., the Yukon and the Northwest Territories. He has pegged out millions of new acres in the northlands.

COOK IS KINKPIN
His gang numbers between 12 and 24 men. Most valuable of them all, from Knox's point of view, is the cook.

Things have changed since Mr. McCuster first explored the backwoods in 1909.

"In those days we were isolated for four or five months at a time," he recalls. "Mail was brought into camp by pack-horse and the letters were about two months old. We spent most of our time in the bush. But nowadays we're isolated only about 50 per cent of the time."

Knox McCuster is getting on in years and admits he has "slowed up" a little. Nowadays he's happy to stay at home by the fireside during the winter months.

He laughs off talk of retirement. "What would I do with myself?" he asked. "Another summer is coming."



"REALLY, OLD CHAP, you're most frightfully sensitive," says trainer Armand to Oscar, the tall-walking sea lion, as that bewhiskered gentleman turns up his nose at something the trainer has said. Armand and Oscar are stars of a circus in London.

U.S. Accused Of Kidnapping Russ Diplomat

TOKYO (AP) — A Russian spokesman today accused the United States of kidnapping the missing second secretary — an intelligence agent — of the defunct Soviet mission in Tokyo.

An American source who refused to be identified told the Associated Press that the missing diplomat, Huri Alexandrovich Rastvorov, has asked the United States for political asylum and had been granted it.

The break in the long silence of the cloak-and-dagger story of Rastvorov stirred speculation that the largest spy ring in Asia may have been cracked.

The affable 34-year-old Russian diplomat disappeared from the Soviet embassy Jan. 24, on the eve of his scheduled departure for Russia.

The American source said it is almost certain Rastvorov has left Japan and may be en route to the United States.

There was speculation that the Russian had been flown Saturday to Okinawa, a huge U.S. base 700 miles south of here.

S. I. Runov, spokesman for the Russian mission here — unrecognized by Japan — called in Japanese reporters and issued a prepared statement accusing "the American espionage organ in Japan" of seizing and holding Rastvorov.

The U.S. state department and Far East command had no comment on the case.

Italy May Get Coalitionist Government

ROME (AP) — The badly battered Christian Democrat party hoped today to form a centre group coalition to pull Italy out of its long political crisis and keep it facing to the West.

There seemed no other possible solution to the rising challenge of the Communist left and the Fascist-Monarchist right which has upset three Christian Democrat cabinets in six months and plainly worried other NATO capitals.

The centre party, still Italy's biggest and in control of the government since the war, seemed likely to call its grizzled old warrior, former premier Alcide De Gasperi, back to the helm.

President Luigi Einaudi began his weary rounds of consultations with senior statesmen and party leaders all over again this morning, seeking a man who could form a new government.

TOKYO (CP) — U.S. air force officials said 35 persons died today when one of its courier planes crashed into icy waters just south of Hokkaido island.