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The Daily News

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Cocktail Lounges, Pubs And Pretzels For B. C. Recommended In Report By Liquor Commission

Scrapping of Present Liquor Laws Proposed

By The Canadian Press

VICTORIA — Cocktail lounges, drinks with meals, and pubs with pickles and pretzels were recommended today for British Columbia by the three-man Liquor Inquiry Commission.

The Commission proposed complete scrapping of the province's present liquor distribution system, cancellation of all current licences, a variety of new drinking outlets and a government-directed audit and investigation of B.C. breweries.

The Social Credit government has said it will introduce legislation at the House session opening Feb. 3 based on the commission report. However, the report is not binding on the government.

B.C. newspapers have already forecast that the Commission's main recommendations will have been implemented by July 1.

DENOUNCES LAWS

The report denounced the present provincial Liquor Control Board for what is said was the Board's laxity in enforcing liquor laws and it fashioned a new set of sharp teeth for enforcement of any new liquor act. Substance of report is as follows:

Hotel beer parlors would be done away with. Beer would be sold in "public houses" similar to those in Britain and not necessarily connected with hotels. The commission stressed that the workingman needed a place where he could have a quiet beer, and sandwiches, pickles, peanuts, pretzels, potato chips and light music if he wanted them, too.

First-class hotels and restaurants could sell liquor and wine by the glass with meals. Hotels and resorts, but not auto courts, could have cocktail lounges—selling liquor, wine and beer—and beer parlors in separate quarters.

Class B hotels could have beer parlors but no cocktail lounges. Liquor by the glass, wine, and beer also would be sold in veterans' clubs, private clubs and other clubs where an annual membership fee would be at least \$10, cabarets and night clubs, trains, boats and planes.

In big cities like Vancouver, the number of liquor outlets, not counting clubs and restaurants, would actually be less than at present.

ALCOHOL RESEARCH

Establishment of an alcohol research foundation is suggested. The Commission noted there are 30,000 alcoholics in B.C., 10,000 of them in Vancouver.

The Commission said that not only were drunks being served in beer parlors, but they were also being served in government liquor stores. Method of inspection was "grossly incompetent." Some licence holders in Vancouver had police records and some beer parlors were no better than "slums."

The Commission suggested, therefore, that all existing licences be cancelled six months after the new legislation became law and that licence-holders re-apply in accordance with requirements of the new act.

A law-enforcement branch for the inspection department of the liquor board should be set up.

RAPS LIQUOR BOARD

The Commission also rapped the Liquor Board for its "cumbersome" method of selling liquor. (A person now has to give his order to a clerk, pay the cashier and collect his purchase from a third clerk).

The report dealt at length with the testimony of a brewery spokesman that breweries had lent nearly \$1,000,000 to hotel beer parlors, that they had to stock certain selling areas and that they shared beer sales on certain quotas.

The Commission recommended that financial connections between breweries and beer parlors be severed and that "complete government-directed audit and investigation be made of operations and inter-relationships of licensed brewery and distillery com-

panies operating in B.C. and their connections with licensed hotel and beer parlor operations." Closing times suggested: pubs 11 p.m.; cocktail lounges, 11 p.m.; restaurants, midnight; night clubs, 12:30 a.m.; one downtown liquor store, 11 p.m.

A three-man board should replace the present one-man liquor board.

The three commissioners were Chairman H. H. Stevens, president of the Vancouver Board of Trade and former Conservative federal cabinet minister; George Home, secretary of the B.C. Federation of Labor (CCL); and Dean Cecil Swanson of Christ Church (Anglican) Cathedral, Vancouver.

Exotic Type Cocktail Bars Not Favored

VICTORIA (CP)—The exotic, dimly lighted type of cocktail bar is not favored by the Liquor Commission in its report to the government today.

"We do not look with favor on and very definitely recommend against the exotic, dimly lighted, voluptuous type of cocktail bar which creates delusive impressions of opulence and social distinction."

"Rather, we would recommend a beverage lounge licence. A small but vocal minority have urged a wide-open system of distribution trusting to competition as an adequate controlling factor. This naive proposal does not appeal to the judgment of your commission."

"There is no reason in our opinion why a liquor store should be open all night any more than a dairy."

The WEATHERMAN Says

Cold air is lingering in the valleys of the Cariboo today and temperatures there are near zero. The remainder of the province is quite mild with temperatures in the 35 to 45 degree range. Westerly winds blowing from the Pacific Ocean will keep the weather mild today and Saturday.

There will be a few snow flurries in the central and northern interior and fairly frequent rain showers along the coast and in the valleys of the southern interior.

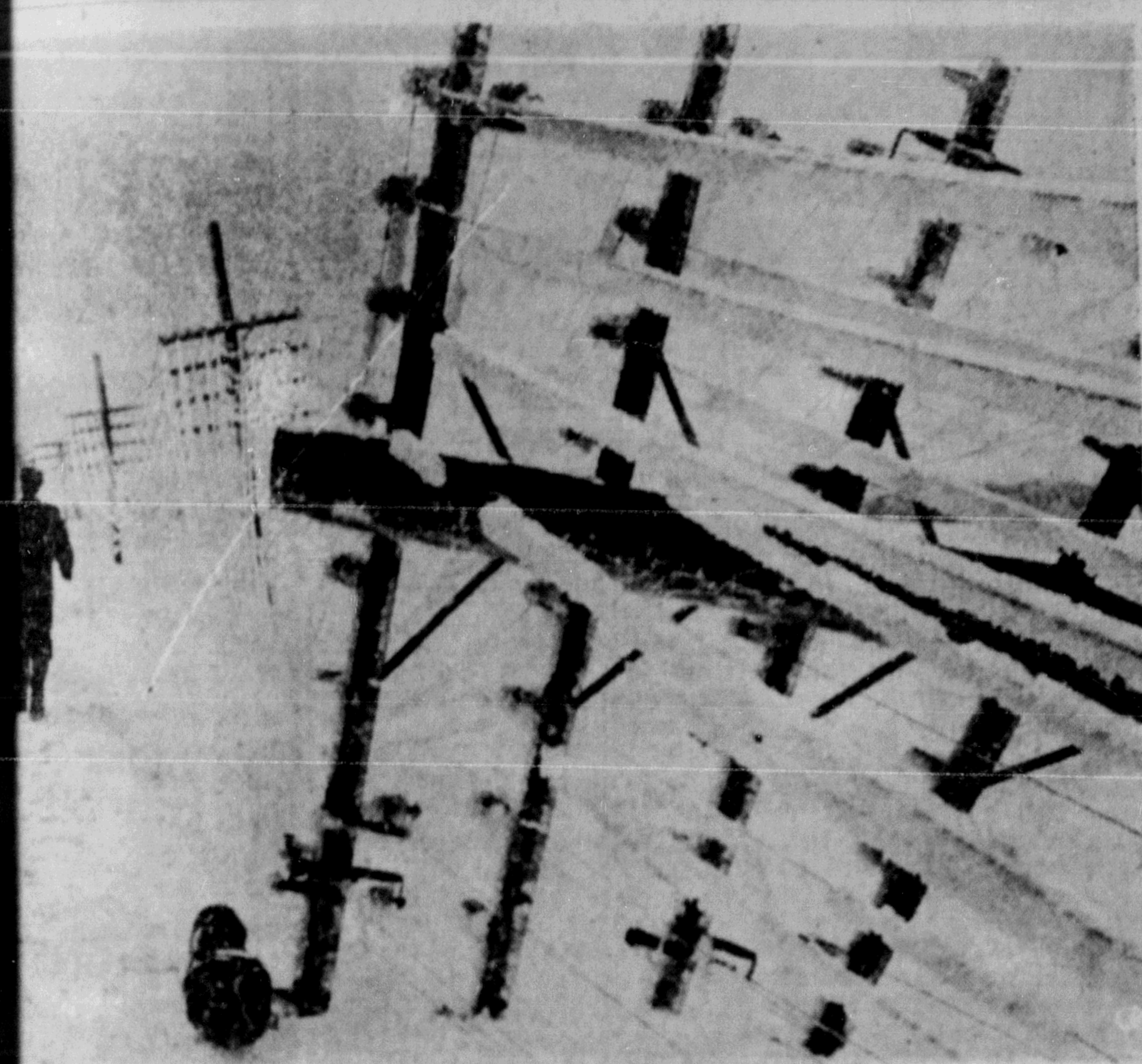
Forecast

Cloudy with rain showers today and Saturday. Some snow mixed in with rain showers in the Prince Rupert area. Becoming a little milder. Light winds.

Low tonight and high tomorrow at Fort Hardy, 32 and 45; Sandspit, 32 and 40; Prince Rupert, 28 and 38.

SAVE ON SNOW

PETERBOROUGH, Ont. (CP)—Snow removal and sanding cost the city of Peterborough only \$2,860 in the last two months of 1952, compared to \$16,753 in the last two months of 1951. The snowfall for November and December was five inches, against 45 inches the year previously.



Storm Hits Ontario

ICE STORM in 10 years knifed through a 50-mile belt in central and eastern sections of Ontario and communication and power lines were heavily damaged. Three traffic jams were attributed to the weather and another man died while working with a highway cement sanding detail. Hundreds of homes were without light and heat and telephone lines. These ice-sheathed poles and wires down near Orangeville were typical of storm damage. (CP PHOTO)

Polio May Strike Anywhere; Kinsmen Fund Helps Victims

In the history of British Columbia there have been so many victims of polio that it is hard to find one who has not needed help from those who have left adults and children helpless, many for the rest of their lives. The Kinsmen fund helps victims who need financial help. That is why the Kinsmen B.C. Polio Fund exists to supply help. The Kinsmen are able to carry on because of the support of those who contribute to the annual appeal.

One young man in particular, Frank Skidmore of the parts department of Bob Parker's Ltd., said today words cannot fully reveal this appreciation.

His sister, Lorna, came to British Columbia as a baby and was for the most part raised in Vancouver, completing her high school in Nanaimo.

Apart from her high school activities, she took up tap dancing and adagio. She also was competent at sewing and made many of her own clothes.

After graduation she worked for the B.C. Government in Victoria and while there met and married Keith Vinden, a student at Royal Roads.

Just two years ago when they were looking forward to a happy event, Lorna was stricken with polio and admitted to Nanaimo General Hospital.

"It looked a very black picture for these two people," Frank recalled. "They had very little time to accumulate anything to meet this heavy financial burden suddenly thrust upon them."

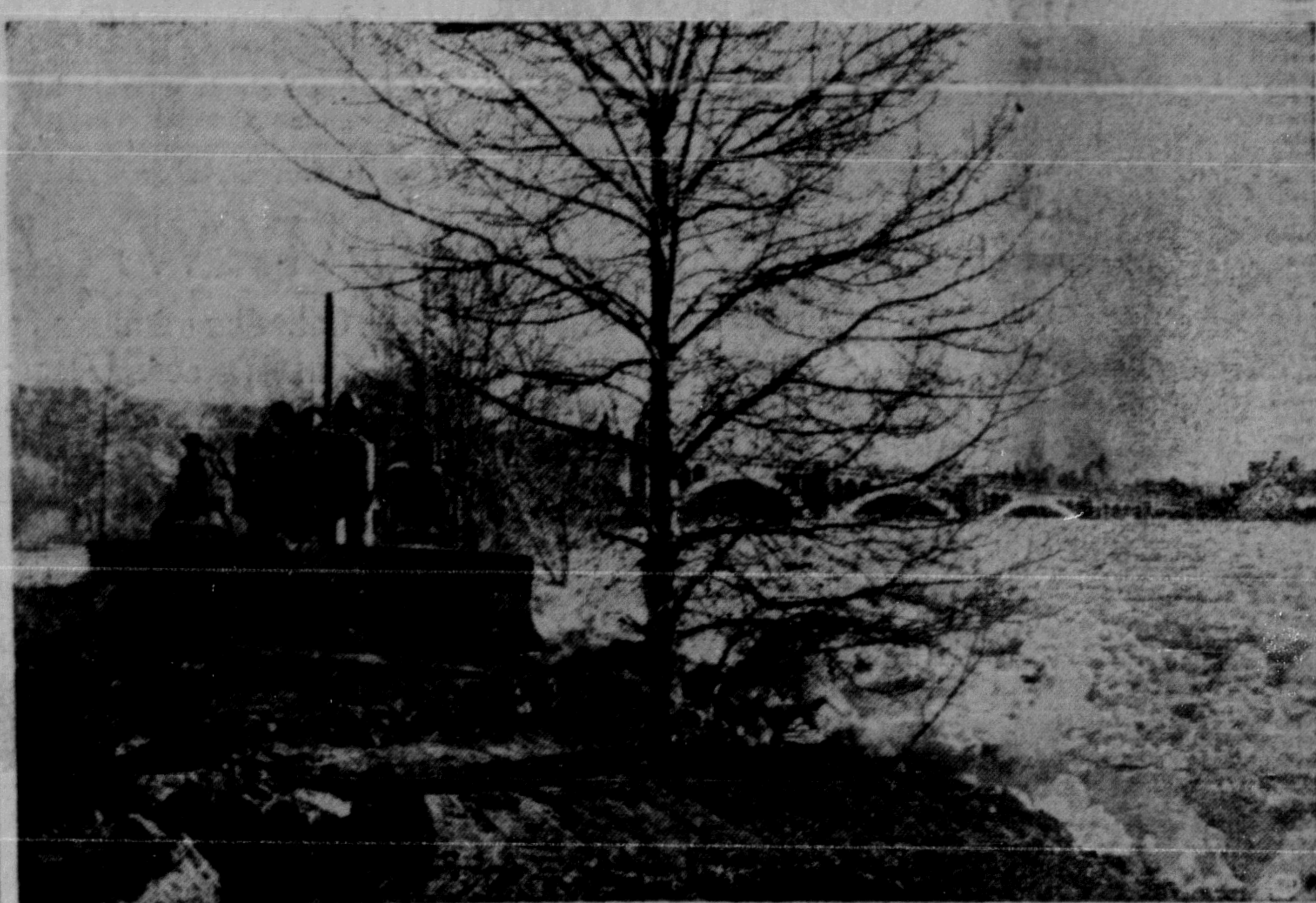
"Lorna's father was confronted with spending his life savings in order to go to the aid of his married daughter when a telephone call was received from the Kinsmen asking if they could assume the financial load."

"It was through the Kinsmen that Lorna received treatment in hospital at Vancouver, additional treatment in the Rehabilitation Centre at Shaughnessy; and an up-to-date wheelchair, whereby she can look after herself and keep house for her husband."

"Further to that, it was the Kinsmen who helped to obtain employment for her husband, where he could be close to Lorna. "These are just a few of the things the Kinsmen organization has done for my sister and I feel it not only my duty but an honor to give to this fund which provides care and treatment to people in this province stricken with polio."

"My sister is alive today, because the Kinsmen wanted to do a job. They have helped to save another victim."

Send contributions to the Kinsmen B.C. Polio Fund, Box 1612 or Box 801, Prince Rupert.



Flood Hits Calgary

THE BOW RIVER churned over the banks on Calgary's west outskirts yesterday, spilling three feet of water over land and roads and driving residents from homes as temperatures dropped to 16 below zero. Workmen toiled around the clock building new dikes and strengthening old ones as the flood approached. (CP PHOTO)

Native Fishermen Object to Late Halibut Season Opening

More than 1,000 small boat fishermen in Prince Rupert could lose as much as \$730,000 this year if the International Halibut Commission goes through with its proposal not to open the halibut season until June 1.

And more than half of these fishermen are district Indians. That is why Frank Calder, Atlin MLA and spokesman for the Native Brotherhood of B.C. here, is leaving tonight to attend the IHC convention in Seattle Jan. 21-23.

"If the season doesn't open until June, the Indian fishermen here are going to take a beating," said Mr. Calder today in an interview.

Most of the small-boat fishermen here—including gillnetters, some trollers and small seiners—take part in the halibut fishing which usually opens around May 15, which provides them with the first income of the season.

Most of the fishermen can get in some three to four weeks of halibut fishing before they prepare their boats for the summer sockeye run.

"But if the halibut season doesn't open as usual, small-boat fishermen won't be able to get out at all, because it would interfere with salmon fishing which usually opens after the middle of June," Mr. Calder said.

The spokesman for some 2,000 natives in this area said that there are about 350 small boats on Prince Rupert's waterfront involving about 1,000 fishermen who last year caught more than 4,000,000 pounds of halibut which sold for about \$730,000.

More than \$170,000 worth of halibut gear used on small boats also is involved, said Mr. Calder.

NOT CONSERVATION

Concerning conservation, the Atlin MLA said "the Indian people have always co-operated with conservation of fish and it is our wish to do so now. "But we have reason to believe that conservation is not

Railroader Kills Self

KELOWNA (CP)—John H. McLean, 72-year-old retired railroader, committed suicide by strangling himself with a tourniquet, Coroner J. A. Urquhart decided Thursday.

McLean was found in his shed with a three-quarter-inch rope twisted around his neck. Pressure was applied with a piece of wood similar to a hammer handle.

the reason why the late opening is being proposed by the commission. "I am going to sit in on the convention to find out what the real reason is and to voice the opinion of our people," said Mr. Calder.

Other organizations and some individual companies also are reported to be in opposition to the June 1 opening. It is understood the Native Brotherhood of Alaska and the United Fishermen and Allied Workers Union have voiced similar protests.

Among others leaving here for the Seattle conference are George Nickerson, chairman; Harold Thom, manager of Atlin Fisheries; and Doug Sontar, manager of B.C. Packers Ltd., and Bill Brett, representing the deep sea fishermen.

DEEP SNOW IN CANYON HALTS CPR TRAINS

VANCOUVER (CP)—A storm which dumped 18 inches of snow in the Fraser Canyon in five hours delayed departure of the Canadian Pacific Railway passenger trains from Vancouver Thursday night.

CPR line was blocked temporarily when the eastbound 48-car freight train bogged down in snow.

Liquor Law Changes Give Indians Drink

If the recommendations of the Liquor Inquiry Commission are adopted, Indians in B.C. legally will be able to drink liquor in public places for the first time in history.

"And this is another step in the right direction," Frank Calder, only Indian MLA (and the first one) in the B.C. Legislature, said today.

Commenting on the commission's report, released for the first time today, Mr. Calder, who is also official spokesman for the Native Brotherhood of B.C. in this area, said:

"I have discussed this with the Department of Citizenship and Immigration. I am told that if the B.C. government opens liquor drinking in public places, the Indians who have the vote and voted on the plebiscite last June will get the right to drink as well as the white population. "Under the Indian Act, consumption of liquor in public by Indians is left at discretion of provincial governments."

MAJOR STEP "I also believe that this is a major step in the right direction and the near future will see the Indian take his place in social drinking among other citizens."

"The reason that liquor has caused so much trouble among Indians in the past is because laws prevented him from taking it," Mr. Calder declared.

The Atlin MLA also said that the eyes of the natives in other provinces are watching us very

close to see how we adjust ourselves to this new legislation.

"First we got the vote, then the beer parlors—now maybe hard liquor as well. While I don't hold with excess drinking at all, I consider the commission's report as a very good move, and the Indians on the whole will adjust themselves."

Mr. Calder said the commission, and the public which endorsed the liquor plebiscite last June election, "should be congratulated."

"We have sorely needed a change in our liquor laws," he said, adding that he would support any move in the legislature in adopting the report.

OTTAWA (CP)—Postmaster-General Cote indicated Thursday in Commons that two-day deliveries may soon be reinstated in Canadian cities.

The government cut postal deliveries to one a day as an economy measure last year.

2-a-Day Mail Delivery Likely

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Man Committed In Son-Slaying

NANAIMO—Robert F. Adams Thursday was committed for trial on a charge of murdering his 22-year-old son.

The youth, Robert F. Adams Jr., was found stabbed through the heart and lung at the family's home in neighboring Lantzville, Dec. 30.

DOMINATO RINK SCRAPES THROUGH IN BONSPIEL

Special to The Daily News

SMITHERS—The Dominato rink of Prince Rupert was the one to scrape through without defeat here yesterday when carriers moved into action in the 27th annual Smithers Club bonspiel.

A total of 28 rinks from various north-central B.C. towns entered in the 'spiel. The visitors each played three games retiring early today.

Manson's quartette lost two games, Neely Moore, Jackson and Roy Collinson had one win and one loss; Jack had two wins and a loss and Jim Stewart lost all three games.

With the exception of the Dominato rink, composed of Bert Botham, Art Kristmanson, Bill McLean and Dom Dominato, the Prince Rupert sportsmen all arrived by train Thursday night.

The Dominato rink came here by car and were the toast of town before entering competition, being given the keys to town hall, fed moose steaks and christened with Bulkley spirits.

All players are in good spirits and skips report everyone in form except Emil Blain, who is suffering from a charley Blaine is a member of Neely Moore's rink.

Laurent Brands Currie Report as 'Stolen Goods'

OTTAWA (CP)—Prime Minister Currie has branded the controversial CCF advance copy of the report as "stolen goods" and thinks he will soon be able to identify the person who stole it.

Currie assailed Thursday by CP and Progressive Conservative spokesmen for assigning RCMP to track down the copy who delivered the copy to J. Coldwell, CCF leader, the final version of the report was given to the Defence Department.

Currie Knowles (CCF-Winnipeg Centre) called this a "red herring" to draw

attention away from government "embarrassment" at being caught in the act of "pressuring" the Currie firm into handing another advance copy to the Defence Department to be examined.

John Diefenbaker (PC-Lake Centre) suggested the RCMP are being used for "political purposes" because security of the Liberal government is in jeopardy. He scoffed at the Liberal members who interjected the suggestion that the police inquiry projects national interest, and said the government has no right to use the RCMP in this way without a charge or information being laid first, and without co-operation of provincial authorities.