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Continued Operation Of Drydock Demanded By City Liberal Group

Party Leaders Hit At Ottawa Policy

By LARRY STANWOOD

The two-month-old battle by Prince Rupert to keep its 40-year-old drydock and shipyard rushed into still another crisis today as local Liberal Party leaders placed their demands for action before the federal government.

Most outspoken was T. Norman Youngs, president of the Prince Rupert District Liberal Association, who stated flatly at a special emergency executive meeting last night:

"Any government that is so lacking in appreciation of the potentialities of this great north country as to take such a retrograde step as allowing the piecemeal disposal of the drydock... can never expect to receive the support of the electors of this area in future elections."

Walter Smith, president of the city Liberal Association and chairman of the meeting, said that "there is no question that the drydock must be kept here. It should be put into first class shape and be utilized. We need a shipyard as well as a small boat repair yard."

Jack McRae, former Liberal MLA for Prince Rupert, and president of the Skeena Liberal Association, called the proposed removal of the shipyard "a backward step."

He said: "our economy is dependent on our waterways. We are now in the most aggressive industrial expansion period we have ever known."

"If there was a good reason to operate our drydock and shipyard for the last 40 years, then there is even greater reason to continue to maintain and operate it due to our ever-increasing position in world shipping."

The executive officers declared "great disappointment" that so far the Canadian government has not intervened in steps by the Canadian National Railways to sell the drydock, "in spite of the mountain of evidence that such a move would be a fatal blow to Prince Rupert."

Mr. Smith told fellow Liberals that "there is no reason under the sun that Prince Rupert shouldn't get its share of shipbuilding which is going on elsewhere in Canada."

The latest move to get federal government action concerning the future of the drydock follows a fight which has been entered by private citizens, fishing groups, the Chamber of Commerce and city council.

Mr. Youngs said he had an answer to the government statement that the drydock cannot be operated economically here.

"I would like to point to the CNR, and naval ships that are built and refitted in the yards of Victoria and North Vancouver when they could be handled at less cost in Eastern Canada. So what's the matter with handling them in Prince Rupert?"

He said that Sir Wilfred Laurier and the Liberal Party had a vision for Western Canada when the drydock was established here.

"There is no reason why that vision now should be a mirage. If the drydock goes, we can resign ourselves to becoming a museum piece of the west coast."

Mr. McRae said: "Imagine! Alcan shortly will bring an ocean freighter into this area every six days, the Ketchikan barge service is just commencing, and there is talk of demolishing the drydock."

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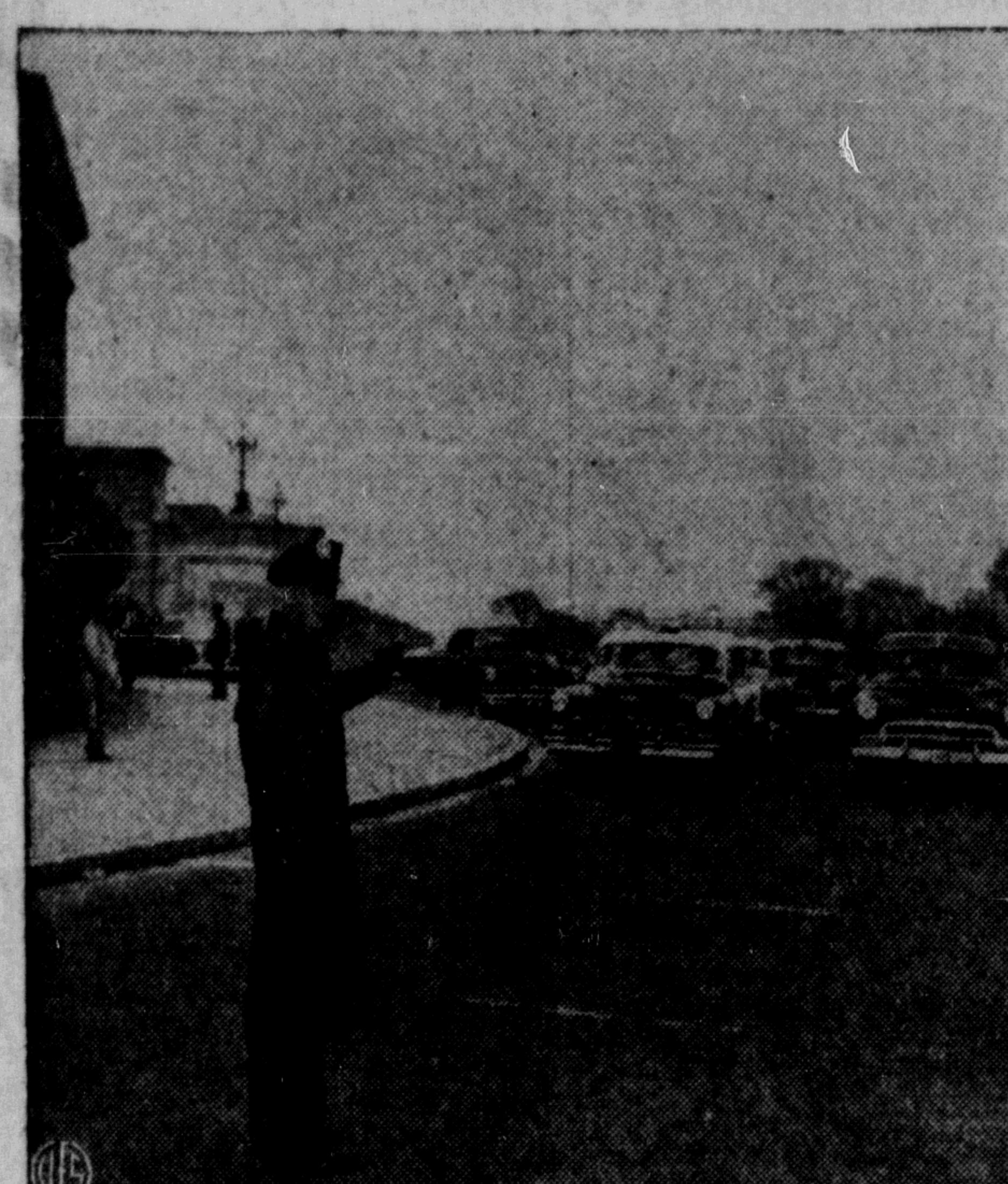
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CAPITAL POLICEMAN Eugene Barratone accords red carpet treatment to this squirrel, a Capital Hill inhabitant that became confused by Washington traffic. A Washington park habitue, the squirrel was apparently in search of new feeding grounds.

Resolution Adopted At Emergency Meet

By ERIC SANDERSON

Continued operation and maintenance of the Prince Rupert shipyard and drydock "in its entirety" is demanded by the executive of the Prince Rupert Liberal Association.

A resolution making the demand on the federal government was passed last night at a special emergency meeting of the association's executive officers.

The 40-year-old plant which is spread over an area of 17 acres has been operated at a loss for the past four years by the CNR. Operation was subsidized by the Federal Public Works Department by an agreement which expired March 31.

Sale of the plant was to have been completed by April 1, but plans to let it go were given a six-months hoist by the federal government after the wave of protests.

NO REPORT
Although it was reported several weeks ago that a spokesman for a New Westminster group would arrive here shortly to complete details for the purchase of the drydock, no report of sale so far has been confirmed.

In answer to protests and representations from the city to the Ottawa government, Transport Minister Chevrier said:

"It is felt that the work carried out by this drydock in the latter years does not warrant the expenditure of public funds for substantial annual deficits and the very large expenditures required to rehabilitate the plant and equipment."

Mr. Chevrier said he hoped that a purchaser would be found who would operate the plant... to take care of local requirements. No such requirement, however, was included in the terms of purchase.

Here is the resolution as drafted by the special Liberal executive meeting last night:

"Whereas Sir Wilfred Laurier and the Liberal Party established a drydock and shipyard in Prince Rupert to develop the north coast of British Columbia and foster trade with the Orient;

(See Drydock, Page 3)

Trade Group To Visit Osaka Area

TOKYO (AP)—A 60-man Canadian trade mission to Japan, headed by Grant McConachie, president of Canadian Pacific Airlines, left Tokyo today for a week's tour of the Osaka area.

The Canadian group from the Vancouver Board of Trade arrived here Friday and was feted at an official reception by the Japan Federation of Economic Organizations and Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The Canadian delegation is in Japan to increase trade between Japan and Canada, under a new trade agreement signed April 1.

Fourth game of the Stanley Cup finals between Detroit Red Wings and Montreal Canadiens will be broadcast over CFRP beginning at 8:05 p.m. tonight. Detroit leads 2-1 in the best-of-seven series.

Airport Committee Seeks Survey Report

Efforts to obtain complete information on the results of surveys for airport sites in the Prince Rupert area will be made by the city's newly-appointed airport committee. This was decided at the committee's first meeting yesterday.

The federal government will be asked to release details of its recent survey on Digby Island, while the RCAF and private companies known to have been interested in an airport here also will be approached for all available information.

It was further agreed that, if the need is indicated, the committee should have a survey taken on its own behalf.

Particular reference was made to Delusion Bay on Digby Island where preliminary investigation has shown that an airport might be feasible and less costly than at other sites.

The government will be asked specifically if this ground was covered in its survey.

J. T. Harvey was elected chairman of the new committee. J. F. Magor was named vice-chairman, and Charles Foreman secretary. Other members are Dr. L. M. Greene, Norton Youngs, Mayor George Hills, Pat O'Neill, Neely Moore and Ald. Ray McLean.

A fact-finding committee was named with Mr. Youngs as chairman. Other members are Mr. Moore and Dr. Greene. The committee will hold its next meeting April 23. It hopes to have enough information shortly for the submission of a comprehensive brief to the government on the whole airport question.

"Blue Rain" Splatters North Detroit Homes

DETROIT (AP)—Astonished Detroiters are talking today about their "blue rain."

For the time being at least it seemed of as much concern as the price of coffee or other such major problems.

The "blue rain" made its appearance here Thursday, splashing hundreds of homes on the northwest side. But Detroit was not the only place. Davenport, Iowa, was another.

Houses were flecked with tiny blue spots. Some of it was purple-blue. One handsome white house here was splattered.

Science came up with explanations after excitement had run high.

One unofficial theory, for instance, was that it might have come from the hydrogen bomb tests in the Pacific. There was positively no expert support for that one.

Civil defence launched an investigation and determined there was "no cause for alarm."

BLAME TREES
Elm tree buds—that's what it was in Detroit apparently.

Dr. Joseph G. Molner, city health commissioner, who advanced the explanation, said the buds had fallen to the ground, rested on the damp earth, and had then been blown forcefully against the houses by Wednesday night's big wind-storm.

Chemicals in the house paint probably contributed to the ultimate coloring, he said.

Davenport's analysis was similar.

Scientists in that city reported microscopic examination showed the flecks were caused by a type of vegetable material, probably pollen spores.

WEATHER
Forecast
North coast region — Cloudy with a few showers today, intermittent rain Sunday. A little warmer. Wind southwest 20, becoming southerly 30 tomorrow morning.

Low tonight and high Sunday at Port Hardy 38 and 50; Sandspit and Prince Rupert 38 and 48.

OLD COUNTRY FOOTBALL
LONDON (AP)—Results of soccer games played in the United Kingdom today:
ENGLISH LEAGUE
Division I
Arsenal 3, Liverpool 0
Aston Villa 5, Burnley 1
Blackpool 2, Manchester U 0
Cardiff C 2, W. Bromwich 0
Chelsea 2, Bolton W 0
Huddersfield T 2, Tottenham 5
Manchester C 5, Middlesbrough 2
Portsmouth 2, Newcastle U 0
Sheffield U 1, Preston N E 1
Sunderland 2, Sheffield W 4
Wolverhampton 5, Charlton A 0
Division II
Blackburn R 3, Birmingham C 0
Brenford 0, Luton T 1
Bristol R 3, Plymouth A 1
Bury 2, West Ham U 0
Derby C 1, Nottingham F 2
Doncaster R 0, Leeds U 0
Everton 1, Stoke C 1
Hull C 0, Leicester C 3
Lincoln C 3, Swansea T 1
Notts C 1, Rotherham U 2
Oldham A 2, Fulham 3
SCOTTISH LEAGUE
Division A
East Fife 2, Stirling A 1
Falkirk 0, Raith R 3
Partick T 4, Hamilton A 0
Queen of S 6, Airdrieonians 2
St. Mirren 3, Dundee 0
Division B
Morton 0, Albion R 1
Motherwell 6, Dumbarton 6
St. Johnstone 0, Dunfermline 0
SCOTTISH CUP
Semi-Final
Aberdeen 6, Rangers 0
At Hampden Park, Glasgow:
Amateur International
Scotland 0, Ireland 0

Backs Legislation of Criminal Code

A revision of criminal law, five years in the making, has passed the House of Commons this week approved by a vote of 233 to 133.

COMMISSION APPOINTED
A royal commission to redraft the code was appointed in 1943. A second royal commission took up the study in 1951 and brought down a draft the following year.

The draft was sent to the Senate in 1952, but the Upper Chamber did not complete study. The code was redrafted by the government and after consideration by the Senate it was referred to a Commons committee which proposed a third draft, the present legislation.

Now, a 27-member Commons-Senate committee is studying whether and how the code should be amended concerning capital and corporal punishment and lotteries. The committee started work a few weeks ago and some parliamentarians feel it may take two years to complete the job.

Too, the legal defence of insanity to criminal charges and the problem of criminal sexual psychopaths are being studied by royal commissions.

charges are against... Houston... with the death of... Carlson, also a... after a first... April 1; Charles... fisherman in... the death here... Violet Sanpate, and... William, Telkwa native,... of Cecilia Holland... truck accident near... near 8.

other case scheduled... is a charge of... against Mervyn... of Kemano, for... offence at Kemano... today the assizes... would last two weeks... over the Easter

Five Killed in Mishap
A five-year-old Chinese, died Friday night from... when struck by... earlier in the day.

knocked down by a... by a 13-year-old... stepped from the

THREE MEMBERS of a ski expedition made up of seven Ontario ski-mountaineers and a Swiss guide are shown near Jasper Park, at the outset of a 200-mile journey through the Canadian Rockies. Left to right: Ted Pope and Peggy Austin, both of Toronto, and Peter Bennett, Oakville. The expedition hopes to make history by crossing the Rockies' tremendous icefields on skis. Their first attempt ended 22 miles from Jasper when deep snow blocked their way.

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THIS BLACK BUNDLE looks more like a ball of wool, than a Hungarian Shepherd dog. The pride of its owner, on exhibit at a recent West Berlin dog show.