MORROW'S TIDES
(Pacific Standard Time)
Wednesday, March 30, 1955.
5:31 19.4 feet
19:02 16.2 feet
12:33 5.2 feet

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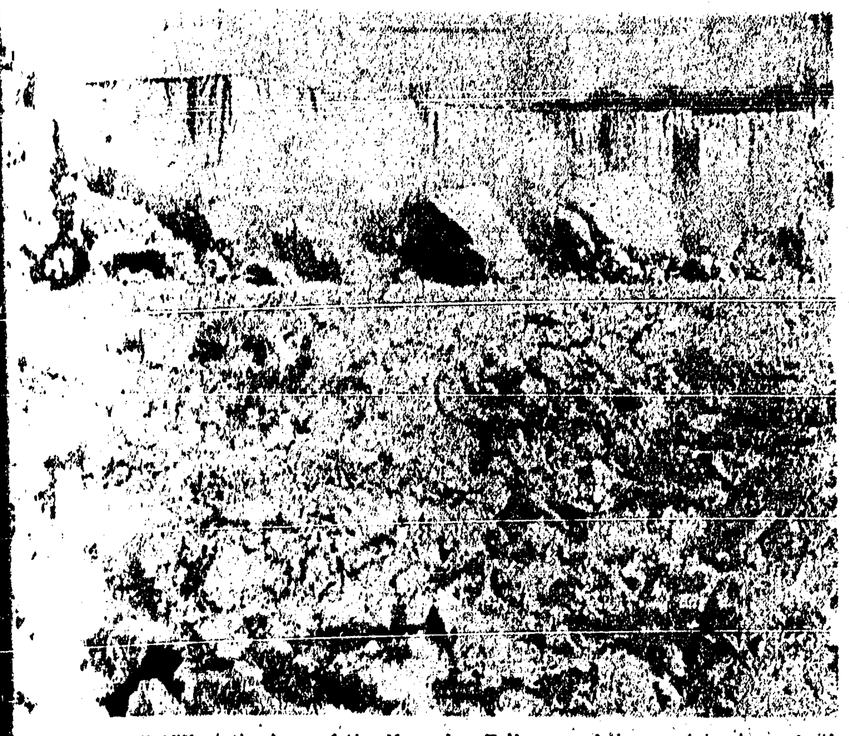
GIVE to the RED CROSS

By-Law To Boost 'Phone Rates Gets First Reading In Council



ARTIC PILES OF ICE at the base of the Horseshoe Falls, one of the worst ice jams on the Niagara River in 20 years, may disappear in the face of milder weather. The ice, whisked down the river from Lake Erie, has done extensive damage on both Canadian and American shores. The pileup, as high as 35 feet, demolished wooden buildings along the way and forced three families to evacuate from their homes. (CP Photo)

Milder Weather May Break Up Mighty Niagara River Ice Jam

NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y. (AP) — Nature took over today where man's best efforts had failed as the Niagara river's mighty ice was left to the elements.

While there was a good chance the elements would respond to the challenge.

The weather outlook was favorable for the first time since it began a week ago with water from Lake Erie plunging over the falls. Sunny skies and rising temperatures were expected.

In addition, several expanses of open water were reported in a mile stretch of the lower river between the falls and Lake Ontario. A couple even appeared in the final six miles. The 40 and 50-foot mountains of ice have done their greatest damage.

WHITE ICE

Demolition experts touched off hundreds of dynamite yesterday at the face of the jam at the river's mouth. Two floes of ice broke away, but the main jam refused to budge. United States army engineers, who had agreed to the dynamite attack only with misgivings, gave it up as a hopeless task.

Col. Loren W. Olmstead, district engineer in Buffalo, said a check of range stakes set out before the blasting began Saturday showed there had been no movement in the main ice pack.

"The corps of engineers will stand by," he said, "and if there is a change indicating future efforts would be beneficial, we will mobilize again."

The engineers, who had said the ice was so soft it would absorb explosions, took on the job only after pleas by officials in Youngstown and Lewiston, the two downstream villages on the American side that suffered the greatest damage.

Druggist's Body Found by Police

The body of a former Prince Rupert druggist, Alan C. MacDonald, 40, was found by RCMP today after he vanished while fishing alone on Shuswap Lake.

The Canadian Press story from Kamloops said that a search was made for Mr. MacDonald's boat but were found Sunday floating near the mouth of the Adams River.

MacDonald, a druggist for a time at McCutcheon's Drug Store, on the corner of Third Avenue and Sixth Street, now the site of Family Shoe Store. At the beginning of the World War, Mr. MacDonald bought a drug store in Kamloops and about two years later moved to Clinton, where he was working up until last week-end.

Springing of Trap Halts Condemned Man's Protests

VANCOUVER (CP) — Fisherman Steve Bordeniuk was hanged here at midnight today for the gun slaying of a woman with whom he had lived for 18 years. The drop silencing his cry that he was not given a fair trial.

The trap was sprung at 12:00 and the quiet-mannered, 60-year-old fisherman was pronounced dead 18 minutes later. He dropped from the gallows at Oakalla prison farm his cry "I did not give me a fair trial" was broken off.

Bordeniuk was convicted at Vernon, B.C., last November in the slaying of Anna Pesko, 48. His last hope for reprieve vanished Monday when prison officials told him that the federal cabinet had decided not to interfere with the execution.

He had his last meal with the priest who had been with him since 7 p.m. Monday night. His family has not claimed immediately after his death and officials said he would be given a pauper's burial outside the prison grounds unless the body was claimed today.

PRISONERS DEMONSTRATE

Prisoners in the wing housing the death row and adjoining the gallows demonstrated briefly as the civilian witnesses filed past them to witness the hanging. But they were quiet when Bordeniuk was led to the scaffold.

Bordeniuk and Mrs. Pesko had been separated when he went to her home last August to seek a reconciliation. He told the court he had lived with her for 18 years.

He claimed he remembered nothing of the shooting. But he was quoted as telling police officers, "everything went all right until the last shot."

Police evidence also quoted him as saying he had planned the murder for months.

CITY WOMAN COLLECTS $392 IN LOCAL RED CROSS DRIVE

Prince Rupert's Red Cross campaign for $5,500 reached the $4,200 mark today and according to Cliff Ham, campaign chairman, one canvasser personally collected $392.

The energetic canvasser, Mr. Ham said, is Mrs. Yet Wong, 711 Third Avenue West, who canvassed for both the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire and the Chinese Community here.

Mr. Ham said that the $4,200 represented practically all the city canvass and that no reports of donations from outside centres had yet been received. Both Kelly Logging Company Camp at Juskatla and Port Edward are staging their drives in the near future.

Meanwhile the British Columbia drive for $631,000 has reached the half-way mark, Vancouver headquarters reported.

Deposed Georgi Malenkov Reported Among Missing

LONDON (AP) — Rising speculation about the whereabouts of Georgi Malenkov, deposed Soviet premier, was heightened today by his absence from a farewell ceremony for a visiting Swedish delegation in Moscow.

The Swedes Monday night ended a 17-day tour of Soviet power stations, made at the invitation of the Soviet government. For unexplained reasons they did not see Malenkov, who was demoted seven weeks ago from the premiership to the post of minister of power stations.

A Moscow radio broadcast describing the departure of the delegation made no mention of Malenkov. Alexi Pavlenko, described as a deputy power stations minister, saw the Swedes off at a Moscow airport.

Malenkov also was missing from the government box at the final session Saturday of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, parliament of the largest of the 16 Soviet republics. He had attended the previous sessions, which began on Wednesday.

There was no official explanation for his absence.

Some western officials have speculated that Malenkov, who stepped down as Premier February 8 with a confession of failure to do his job, was doomed to eventual liquidation.

Moscow radio Monday night reported what could be construed as an attack on the ex-premier by Moscow social science teachers.

Meeting under the auspices of the Moscow town committee of the Communist party, the broadcast said, the teachers "sharply condemned the anti-Marxist reasoning of certain economists who rejected the law of the primary development of heavy industry under socialism."

As premier, Malenkov undertook to ease the lot of the people by putting more emphasis on the production of consumer goods and less on heavy industry. With his downfall, this policy was reversed.

The Chicago Tribune press service reported Monday that rumors were circulating in London that Malenkov was executed last Thursday. The dispatch said the reports had been received in London "through diplomatic channels" from New Delhi.

WEATHER

North Coast Region — Cloudy with showers today. Cloudy Wednesday with continuous rain beginning before noon. Little change in temperature. Winds southwest 25 in exposed areas decreasing to 15 tonight. Winds southeast 30 Wednesday morning. Low tonight and high Wednesday at Port Hardy 45 and 50, Sandspit and Prince Rupert 40 and 48.

Senator Protests Attacks

Ecuadoreans Fire On U.S. Vessels

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Magnuson (D-Wash.) Monday demanded the State Department take immediate action to prevent attacks on U.S. fishing boats off the Ecuadorean Coast.

Magnuson said two American-owned vessels were fired on and seized by an Ecuadorean patrol vessel Sunday. One American seaman was wounded by fire from the patrol boat, he said.

The senator said he was informed by Mark and William Jensen that their freezer ship "Arctic Maid," out of Seattle, had been captured 35 miles west of Santa Clara Island off the Ecuadorean coast.

The wounded man was identified as William Peck, 42, Seattle, an engineer on the "Arctic Maid." A Guayaquil physician said the bullet passed through his groin and locked in his left thigh. He will be in hospital about three months.

The 185-foot vessel had been freezing tuna for the Washington Fish and Oyster Co., Seattle sources disclosed. It had operated the past three years in Bristol Bay, Alaska, fisheries and this was its first trip south. Only a little more than a month ago it was seized by Peru in a similar dispute and released, although five accompanying seiners were fined $400 apiece.

A State Department source said it has received no official information but has asked for a report from Guayquil. The source said the department has received a cable on the matter from the Jensen brothers.

His informants, Magnuson said, also said the tuna clipper Santa Anna, believed to be of California registry, was seized at the same time. Both vessels went under armed escort to Guayaquil, the informants said.

Magnuson insisted the State department take immediate action to free the two American vessels, furnish aid to the crew members and take action that will prevent recurrence of the seizure.

VICTORIA (CP) — Thieves escaped with between $1,000 and $1,500 in jewelry during the weekend when they ransacked the second-floor offices of a downtown jewelry store.

Thieves removed a skylight to enter the building of Edward Rowbotham.

PREMIER SCELBA of Italy shakes hands with an unidentified RCMP constable on his arrival at Montreal airport for a three-day visit to Canada. Transport Minister George Marler looks on. Premier Scelba is now in Washington for top-level talks with United States officials. (CP Photo)

Red China Not Ready For War—Eisenhower

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Eisenhower does not believe that Red China is prepared to cause any major conflict in the Formosa straits in the weeks just ahead.

The president does not share the view that a Chinese attack might be made on the Nationalist-held islands of Quemoy and Matsu by April 15. He has rejected this estimate of the situation by some military sources, reported from Washington during the weekend.

LONDON (Reuters) — Sir Winston Churchill told the House of Commons today that prospects for a four-power conference had taken "a friendly turn" lately.

He added: "I have never departed in any way from my view that a top-level meeting without agenda might be a a helpful manner of approaching the solution of these world problems."

Information reaching the White House indicates that Red China lacks air bases and supplies to back up an amphibious assault on the islands just off the Chinese mainland.

These views were outlined by an authoritative administration source in a discussion of key current issues in the foreign relations field.

As for the possibility of a Big Four conference, the source said the administration sees all signs as pointing to a meeting of some type.

Here are some questions on the key issues, with answers from an authoritative administration source:

Q. What are the odds on a Big Four conference?

A. All the signs point toward one—when and where is a question. What form it may take is another question still unsettled.

Q. After Tehran, Potsdam and Yalta, does the Eisenhower administration see any possibilities in another top-level conference?

A. Yes, with conditions. This means finding out first some evidences of good faith. The Moscow statement by Premier Bulganin evidenced some difference in tone. If the foreign ministers in a preliminary meeting could clear the ground, that would help.

Q. If the foreign minister could not clear up all points, could there still be a meeting at the top?

A. It would depend upon the questions left unsettled. Since the death of Stalin there have been upheavals in the Soviet government. While Malenkov was premier it seemed that Moscow would like nothing better than a meeting with the president of the United States and Prime Minister Churchill. It didn't happen and it may have made a difference. Nobody in the U.S. government ever referred to Malenkov as the leader of the Soviets. That omission was intentional.

Q. Are we going to have a war April 15? It's reported that on about that date the military expect an attack on the Matsu Islands.

A. That prediction doesn't reflect the views of the Eisenhower administration. Nobody can say what the Chinese Reds might do. But our information is that they lack air bases and supplies. There's no evidence of a sufficient buildup at this time.

POPULAR GROUP

SACKVILLE, N.B. (CP) — The 33nd Maritime provinces' Tuxis and Older Boys' Parliament met here with the largest enrolment on record. About 500 boys and leaders attended camps last summer under auspices of the Maritime religious education council.

MINTO, THE WINNIPEG zoo's 500-pound grizzly, is hoisted out of his pit by a rope attached to a derrick truck. The bear drugged to get him out of the pit and into another so that his mate, Maude, could take care of their newly-born cub or cubs — nobody knows which yet — in peace. (CP Photo)

50-Cent Increase For Householders

The Telephone By-Law, under which Prince Rupert's phone rates will be increased was introduced last night at the city council meeting.

Under the proposed rate hike, phone bills for the average householder on a party line will be increased each month by 50 cents and businesses will pay from 50 cents to $1.50 extra depending on the type of phone.

For a party-line wall type phone the new cost will be $3, Alderman Phil Lyons, chairman of the council's utility committee said.

COMPARES FAVORABLY

"This compares favorably with other centres," he said.

Present rates in other centres for the same type of phone were $4.20, Vancouver; $3.60, Victoria; $4.25 Ketchikan and $3.90 at Vernon, Penticton and Kelowna, Ald. Lyons said.

In introducing the by-law for passage, Ald. Lyons said the city had never promised that there wouldn't be any rate increase.

He quoted from a letter printed in the Daily News in 1952 in which Ald. Harry Daggett said that no increase of rates would be needed "at that time."

"However, it must be pointed out," the letter continued "as the number of subscribers increases, telephone rates of necessity must increase. The possibility of changing costs over a 20-year period makes it impossible for the present council to undertake that there will be no change in rates during that period of time."

MORE TELEPHONES

The number of phones presently in use is 3,400 as compared to 2,200 in 1952, Ald. Lyons pointed out. The decrease in staff when the automatic phone system was inaugurated had been offset by the increase in debt costs, which last year were $52,000, he said.

In addition, the city was not getting the toll revenue it used to, Ald. Lyons said stating that two fishing companies had installed teletypes to communicate with their parent companies.

BOOST IN REVENUE

The increased rates would bring in $20,000 to city revenue and 25 per cent of net profits would be allocated to reserve, Ald. Lyons said, adding that he would like to see 50 per cent go into reserve.

Ald. Lyons said that in 1951 the telephone utility's loss was $10,000. In 1952 a rate increase saw neither profit or loss while in 1953 the utility's loss was $30,000.

Last year the loss was even greater, the utility committee chairman said.

The by-law comes up for final adoption April 11 and the new rates would go into effect May 1.

R. A. McLean City Nominee

Ex-alderman R. A. McLean was named at last night's city council meeting to be the city's representative on a conciliation board which will consider the deadlocked negotiations between the city and its firemen members of Local 559 of the International Association of Fire Fighters.

Appointment of Mr. McLean came after the council's wage committee report showed that no agreement had been reached between firemen and the city after R. Forgie, conciliation officer had met with both parties.

Mr. Forgie's appointment as conciliation officer was extended until April 15 regarding negotiations with the Civic Employees Union.

TLC Letter on Rent Control Not Sidetracked Says Mayor

Calm was restored today by Mayor George Hills after a vigorous protest had been voiced by the Prince Rupert Trades and Labor Council because a TLC letter calling for establishment of a civic rent authority here had been omitted from the city council's agenda last night.

Mayor Hills said he had assured TLC President Pat O'Neal this morning that the letter had not been deliberately ignored but had been overlooked accidentally when the council agenda was compiled.

The mayor stated that the matter would be referred to the airport, housing and zoning committee for consideration. He added that this would more than likely have been the course followed had the matter been brought before council last night.

Also overlooked when compiling the agenda was the library board estimates. The mayor said these will be referred to the finance committee for consideration at the time of estimates.

Referring to the establishment of a civic rental authority, Mr. O'Neal said today that members of the labor group felt very strongly about the matter.

The letter to council, called for the city to take over rent control after March 31 when provincial rent control ends. The letter asked establishment of a committee to consider any reasonable rent complaint brought before it. The committee would have both landlord and tenant representatives.

"We feel that it is a very reasonable and studied request and that the matter of rent control is vitally important to many of the members," Mr. O'Neal said.

Columnist's Condition "Improving"

Condition of William Raymond, long-time Prince Rupert newspaperman and writer of "Ray Reflects and Reminisces" which appears daily in The Daily News is improved, his doctor reported today.

Mr. Raymond has been in hospital for the past few days with a bad cold and chest condition and is reported to be "resting better."

Lumber Ship Expected Today

The freighter Scotia was due in at noon today at Ocean Dock inbound from Japan to pick up a cargo of interior lumber for United Kingdom markets.

Twenty-nine cars of lumber, estimated at approximately 650,000 board feet, are due to be loaded aboard the vessel, which was due in here early in March. The lumber, handled by agents, J. P. Herber and J. W. Webster, is from Burns Lake, Terrace and Knockholt districts.

The Neptune, currently loading No.1 and 2 feed barley at the government grain elevator, should have taken on a cargo of 9,350 long tons of grain by tomorrow afternoon. The vessel docked at the elevator Sunday afternoon and will sail for the United Kingdom later this week.

SAIGON (AP) (Wednesday) — Premier Ngo Dinh Diem's palace was under attack this morning, as six mortar shells fell in the palace grounds. The sound of mortar fire, light artillery and machine-gun fire could be heard throughout this capital city of South Viet Nam.