Your Engagement For
Thursday Afternoon
THE ROTARY TEA
and
BABY CONTEST

The Daily News

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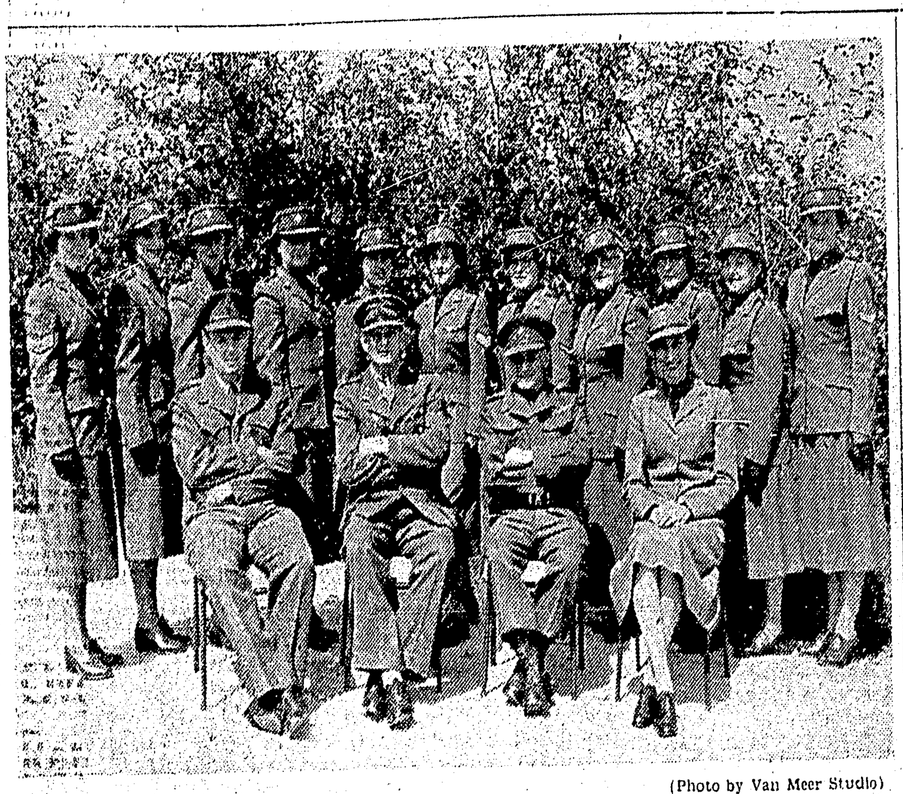
TOMORROW'S TIDES

Thursday, June 21, 1956
(Pacific Standard Time)

High	12:45	17.6 feet
Low	6:27	3.0 feet
	18:19	8.3 feet



(Photo by Van Meer Studio)

SHOWN FOLLOWING the "passing out" parade for the Canadian Women's Army Corps of the 120th Troop, 5th West Coast Harbor Defence Battery, RCA (M) are officers of the 120th, inspecting officers and members of the CWACs unit which had been taking recruits' course. Front row, left to right are Lieut. E. T. S. Moore, Major F. D. H. Nelson, commanding officer of the 5th West Coast Harbor Defence Battery, Victoria; Capt. R. O. Evans, officer commanding the 120th troop and Lt. D. I. Faryon, CWAC officer also from Victoria. CWACs, back row, left to right are: Sgt. Margit Macarthur, Pte. W. D. Moore, Pte. Thelma Thody; Pte. Janet LeForge; Pte. Sheila Bennett; Sgt. Mae Eyre, who was qualified with her wartime rank of sergeant; Pte. Sharon Lee, Pte. Josephine Bruce; Pte. Edna Bond; Pte. Lena Everleigh; Cpl. Donna Macartur.

74 Die As Venezuelan Airliner Plunges In Sea Off New Jersey

Falls Two Miles In Worst Disaster

NEW YORK (AP)—A Venezuelan airliner carrying 74 persons plummeted like a huge ball of fire from the sky early today and crashed into the ocean off the New Jersey shore in the world's worst disaster in regular airline service.

No survivors had been located by search ships hours afterward. Two bodies were recovered by 7:30 a.m. six hours after the crash.

Later one of the rescue boats radioed:

—"Found no survivors; expect to find none."

The pilot of a coast guard plane which had gone out to try to guide the stricken four-engined Super-Constellation back to New York's Idlewild airport after it reported engine trouble said later of the falling airliner:

"It was a frightening sight. It was a big ball of flame. It all happened very fast.

"The plane began to jettison fuel and then five seconds later a ball of flame broke out. The plane caught fire and took a spilling dive into the water.

"It was falling 4,000 feet a minute. It hit the water with terrific impact. The plane was enveloped by flame on impact."

It was nearly two miles high when it began the fatal plunge.

The coast guard pilot, Lt.-Cmdr. Frederick Hancox, 35, said the airliner dived through bright moonlight at an angle of about 60 degrees until it hit the water at 1:32 a.m.

He said there was a "loud explosion" and that there were flames on the water for about 10 minutes. He said he couldn't land his own craft, although it was an amphibian, because of the danger of doing so in darkness.

Ten Minutes Away from Airport

Later he spotted an oil slick and debris, including "clothing, handbags and miscellaneous items in the water."

10 MINUTES SHORT

The airliner crashed about 32 miles east of Asbury Park, N.J., and 40 to 50 miles south of Idlewild—just 10 minutes of flying time.

It had taken off for Caracas, Venezuela, from Idlewild at 11:18 p.m. Approximately an hour later the pilot, Capt. Luis Plata of Venezuela, radioed that he was having engine trouble and was turning back.

He was then 250 miles east of Norfolk, Va.

Later he calmly advised that he was "dumping gas"—a routine fire-preventing measure when an emergency landing is anticipated—and then came his final, dramatic words:

"Gas caught fire."

NO CANADIANS

Hancox, whose amphibian had just come in sight of the airliner, said one engine was feathered on its left wing—that is, the propellor was stopped.

Then, he said, the fire appeared to have broken out in an engine on the right wing. The craft quickly dived into the sea.

There were 64 passengers—including an infant—and a crew of 10 on the airliner. Eighteen of the passengers and two of the crew were Americans.

There were no Canadians aboard.

A navy transport ship was directed to the crash scene and picked up the bodies.

An Eastern Airlines plane crew also saw the flaming crash as did a fisherman on the beach at Avon, N.J.

The fisherman, John Doman, a 45-year-old carpenter and a navy veteran of the Second World War said:

"I made my cast and when I came up the beach to tighten my line I saw this thing coming down."

TROUBLE WITH PROP

He said it appeared to be 15 or 20 miles off shore and that it had a glare of light around it as if burning.

"It plummeted down quite sharply and then seemed to level out in a glide. It seemed to hover there for 15 seconds and then it dipped again and went down."

Pilot Having "Prop" Trouble

The plane, operated by the Linea Aeropostal Venezolana, had got as far south as a point 250 miles east of Norfolk, Va., on its night flight to Caracas.

At 12:44 a.m. the pilot radioed that he could not "handle prop," meaning that he was having trouble with a propellor. He advised that he was returning to Idlewild and Hancox' coast guard plane was ordered up to escort him in.

At 1:25 a.m. the escort plane made contact and the Venezuelan pilot prepared for the emergency landing. With the glow of the lights of New York ahead of him he began the routine dumping procedure.

GAS CAUGHT FIRE

But something happened, and the high-octane aviation fuel streaming out behind the wings burst into flames.

Then came the word from the coast guard amphibian hovering overhead: "Into drink, big explosion."

The coast guard immediately marshalled every ship available to head for the scene, but first to get there was the navy transport.

The restaurant at Idlewild, notified earlier that the airliner was returning, had started to prepare meals for the passengers.

With word of the crash, government aeronautics officials sped to Idlewild to begin an investigation.

GOOD SAFETY RECORD

Linea Aeropostal Venezolana, the Venezuelan national airline, was founded more than 25 years ago.

It won American Safety Council awards in 1949, 1950 and 1951 for operating without an injury or fatality of passengers or crew members.

The line uses 50 Super-Constellations on its inter-American runs and has been doing preliminary work toward use of jet airliners.

Worst Loss of Life in 1950

The greatest loss of life ever recorded in a commercial plane crash was in 1950 when 80 soccer fans perished in a mishap near Cardiff, Wales. However, this plane was a chartered craft rather than a scheduled commercial airliner.

Two military crashes took an even greater toll—a C-124 with 129 American servicemen, which went down near Tokyo in 1953, and another C-124 which smashed on a takeoff with 87 aboard in Washington State in 1952.

Greatest loss of life in a commercial crash in the United States was recorded last Oct. 6 when 66 perished as a United Air Lines plane smashed into a wyoming mountain peak.

Rezoning Meeting Monday

City Inaugurates Loader Purchase

A public hearing will be held next Monday at 9:30 p.m. at the city council chambers to consider rezoning of two sections of the city.

The decision to rezone two lots on Fifth Avenue and a large proportion of Section Two was taken at a special meeting of the city council last night.

Two lots on the south side of Fifth Avenue in the 100 block will be changed from minimum density residential to minimum density commercial.

The council intends to change the entire developed area of Section 2 from a minimum density residential to a medium density residential district and rezone waterfront lots 1 to 22 along Graham Avenue from heavy industrial to medium density residential.

In other business, council introduced a by-law to buy a new one-yard tractor shovel from the land sale reserve account. Cost of the machine, tax included, is $15,099. Trade-in value of the old front-end loader was placed at $1,800.

Also passed by council was a by-law to make it mandatory for persons carrying out alterations estimated at more than $50 to secure a building permit. Sketch plans of the proposed work must also be made if required by building inspector John O. Dolphin under the by-law.

SECOND OFFERING of the Fourth Annual Stratford Shakespearean Festival at Star Stratford, Ont., "the Merry Wives of Windsor," kept an audience of more than 2,000 in constant mirth, lifted frequently into uproarious guffaws. The rollicking start augured well for the festival's nine-week run. The "Wives" is billed jointly with Shakespeare's King Henry V which opened Monday night. Henry, according to Canadian Press staff writer Bill Boss "was a patchy performance, still in need of tightening up." The drama critics of New York, however, pulled out all stops in praising the production of Henry V with Brooks Atkinson of the New York Times describing it as "A stunning piece of work." Walter F. Kerr of the New York Herald Tribune wrote that "It's hard to tell which is the better news—that the excellent Canadian festival players have approximately doubled their resources by inviting a band of French-speaking colleagues from the province of Quebec to share Henry V with them, or that actor Christopher Plummer (who plays Henry) has taken one more bold step toward what seems a certain stardom." In the "Merry Wives," shown above, Helen Burns, left, plays Mistress Ford; Douglas Campbell, plays an Falstaff and Pauline Jamieson is Mistress Page.

Five Girls Now Entered in Contest For Miss Prince Rupert Set for July 2

There are now five girls entered in the "Miss Prince Rupert" contest being staged July 2, as part of the Elks lodge Flag Day and Dominion Day celebrations, Donald Hawryluk, beauty contest chairman said today.

Besides the first entrant, Myrna Knutson, 17, sponsored by the Civic Centre Teen club, there are now: Lenore Hughan, 19, sponsored by the Prince Rupert Gyro club; Betty Anne Preus, 18, by the 99 Taxi Co. Ltd., and Tilden-Rent-Car Service; Jean Anderson, 17, sponsored by The Daily News, and Norma Johnsen, 17, sponsored by the Prince Rupert Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Three other groups, Local 708 of the International Brotherhood of Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Branch 27 and Local 559 of the International Association of Fire Fighters, have announced their intention of entering a candidate.

Deadline for news pictures of the contestants is Friday afternoon.

E. D. Manson, chairman of the Elks Flag Day program announced today in conjunction with the city of Prince Rupert and HMCS Chatham that four Canadian warships will be berthed at Prince Rupert for the Dominion Day holiday.

Through the permission of the Flag Officer Pacific Coast, Rear Admiral H. F. Pullen, OBE, CD, the four vessels of the 12th Canadian Escort squadron, which were to call in for refuelling on their way up to Ketchikan, Alaska, for July 4, will now stay until 4 p.m. on the afternoon of July 2. It is anticipated that crews from the HMCS Oshawa, Brockville, Digby, and Cordova, will take part in the big parade and also in sports events. The Elks lodge will challenge a Navy tug-of-war team and a softball game is also being arranged.

Mr. Manson also announced that the Elks plan to bring in noted square dance caller Al Barry of Vancouver. Mr. Barry, a champion Texas Town dance caller in his youth, is former director of the Edmonton recreation commission and has been active in setting up square dance groups at Chilliwack, Princeton, Hope, Hedley and Keremeos.

Plans for the big day also include a giant barbecue slated for Algoma park. Four hind-quarters of beef, donated by Parks Commissioner Hugo Kraupner, will be roasted.

Highway Funds Misdirected Asserts Laing in Kitimat

KITIMAT (CP)— A charge of misdirected spending in its highway program was laid against the B.C. government by Liberal leader Arthur Laing in an address here Monday night.

Expenditures in the Kootenay and Kelowna regions were cited as unnecessary while Kitimat and other northern communities were still without road connections to the rest of British Columbia.

First priority roads, Mr. Laing said, such as the Terrace-Kitimat highway, are not receiving adequate attention and unless the program is stepped up considerably in the next few months Kitimat will not be linked to the rest of B.C. in 1957.

"No road," he said, "would pay itself off faster than a highway from here to Terrace."

Policeman's Family Given Armed Guard After Bombing

VANCOUVER (CP)—An armed guard has been placed over "the lives and property" of the family of Constable Angus MacDonald whose car was blasted by a bomb early Tuesday.

The officer, who is working out the last week of his notice after resigning from the city force, has applied for reinstatement "to get" those responsible.

MacDonald who worked on the city drug squad for two years, said he believes the bombing was the work of one of the more than 200 addicts he and his partner picked up in that time.

He and Constable Frank Hill had one of the longest arrest records with the drug squad, rounding up 56 persons in one three-week period.

Macdonald resigned to take a job as security officer with the RCAF.

The blast tore out windows of surrounding homes in the quiet suburban district and scattered pieces of the vehicle more than 200 feet. Police said they believe nitroglycerine was used, placed on the engine.

Overdue Four Return Home

POWELL RIVER (— Four men returned home safely Tuesday night after being overdue for a day on a fishing trip in the Strait of Georgia between Vancouver and Vancouver Island.

The four were sailing down the lower British Columbia coast Sunday when a rope fouled the propeller of their inboard motorboat capsizing it. They righted the craft and paddled to shore.

John Sandall, 47, his two sons William 21 and Robert 19, and a friend, 19-year-old Glen Gelean of Vancouver went ashore at Salmon Bay.

They spent two nights there and lived on raw oysters.

The second night they sighted a passing fishboat and attracted its attention with a gas flare. The boat picked them up and took them to Land. They completed the 10 miles to the Sandall home here by taxi.

The Weather

Cloudy today and Thursday with scattered showers. Occasional sunny periods this afternoon. Little change in temperature. Light winds. Low tonight and high Thursday at Port Hardy, Sandspit and Prince Rupert, 46 and 55.

Tito Signs Pact

MOSCOW (— Yugoslavia's President Tito signed two agreements today to co-operate with the Soviet Union on "A basis of equality" in party and government affairs, and in a separate ceremony immediately after the signing Marshal Georgi Zhukov, the Soviet minister of defence, said Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union would fight shoulder to shoulder in any future war.

MONTREAL (— The RCAF today identified two fliers killed in a crash of their CF-100 jet fighter near Chicoutimi, Que., Tuesday as Sqdn. Ldr. Louis A. Dolan of Winnipeg, pilot, and FO Allan K. McKenzie of Brookfield, N.S., navigator.

The accident occurred when the aircraft, based at Bagotville, Que., crashed and burned in a wooded area while practising ground control approaches.

SOVIET MAGAZINE

WASHINGTON (— A Russian picture magazine, resembling Life in makeup and called USSR will appear on U.S. newsstands in a couple of weeks. Its content, the Soviet embassy said, will be a non-political exposition of life in the Soviet Union.

Mr. Justice T. W. Brown Sworn in at Vancouver

VANCOUVER (CP)—Two B.C. Supreme Court judges were sworn in here yesterday.

Thomas Wilfred Brown of Prince Rupert and John Graham Ruttan of Victoria took their oaths of office from Chief Justice Sherwood Lett.

Mr. Justice A. M. Manson, welcoming the new jurists, promised them plenty of hard work. He mentioned that Mr. Justice Brown came from a desk he (Mr. Manson) once occupied and later was used by Mr. Justice J. V. Clyne in Prince Rupert.

Other brief addresses of welcome were made by Senator J. W. Deb. Farris; Elmore Meredith, treasurer of the B.C. Law Society; P. R. Brissenden, president of the Vancouver Bar Association, and Stuart Davidson, of the Victoria bar.

Mr. Justice Brown starts work as a jurist today.

MR. JUSTICE T. W. BROWN
. . . starts new job today.

Record Votes Seen Today In Quebec, Saskatchewan

By The Canadian Press

Election fever reached its pitch in Saskatchewan today as voters, in what is expected to be record numbers, began to trek to the polls to pass judgment on 12 years of socialist government under Premier Douglas and the CCF.

The polls opened at 9 a.m. and by the time they close at 7 p.m. nearly 85 per cent of an estimated record 515,000 eligible voters are expected to have cast ballots.

Today, with a three-cornered fight for control of Saskatchewan's 15th government since the province was formed in 1905, political observers say the interest is higher than in 1952 and larger turnouts are expected.

At the same time Quebec voted today to decide whether the Union Nationale party reigns for its fourth successive term or the Quebec Liberal party returns with a mandate it once could virtually take for granted.

Some 2,500,000 citizens were eligible to cast ballots. Predictions of province-wide fine weather and near-seasonal temperatures prompted expectations of a record turnout. More than 2,247,000 were eligible to vote in 1952.

Polls opened at 9 a.m. in daylight saving zones and closed at 6:30 p.m. For standard time areas, the hours were 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

At stake were 93 constituencies, one more than in 1952, with the Union Nationale seeking to hold or increase its wide margin conferred then when it polled 860,578 votes to the Liberals' 773,505.

Standing at dissolution: Union Nationale 65; Liberal 22; Independent 1; vacant 4; total 92.

B.C. Population Now 1,305,000

VICTORIA (CP) — British Columbia's population rose to 1,305,000 last year, an increase of 30,000 over 1954, the Department of Trade and Industry reported Tuesday.

FRENCH START DRIVE

ALGIERS (Reuters) — More than 3,000 French troops, including navy and air force units, have opened military operations against insurgents 25 miles west of Oran, the western Algerian port, according to reports reaching here today.

"Frightening Sight" Says Crash Witness

NEW YORK (— "It was a frightening sight. It was a big ball of flame. It all happened very fast."

A coast guard pilot painted this grim word picture today of the death of a great airliner and the 74 persons aboard.

Lt.-Cmdr. Frederick J. Hancox and his crew of four saw the crash of the crippled Venezuelan airliner that plunged into the Atlantic ocean off Ashbury Park, N.J. They were among the few fliers in aviation history who have seen a giant commercial airliner dive into the sea.

Hancox was ordered to take up a coast guard plane to escort the crippled ship back to Idlewild airport.

"One engine on the port left wing was feathered and windmilling," he said. The airline pilot had stopped the engine. Its propeller was whirling freely in the wind.

Hancox said a "flicker of flame" lit up the shining aluminum right wing. The "flicker" burst into a "ball of fire." The plane nosed over into a steep dive and screamed toward the sea 9,000 feet below.

Minutes later the huge plane thundered into the glassy water.

The coast guard plane circled the wreckage.

"It burned bright about 10 minutes," said Hancox. Then the night closed in.

No Sales Today On Exchange

There were no sales reported on the Prince Rupert Halibut Exchange this morning, but three vessels delivered a total of 82,000 pounds of halibut to the Prince Rupert Fishermen's Co-Operative Association.

They were the Five Princes with 50,000 pounds, the Selma II with 25,000 pounds and the Advance with 21,000 pounds.