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MORROW'S TIDES
Pacific Standard Time
Wednesday April 27, 1955.
4:27 20.6 feet
17.11 17.9 feet
11:12 3.3 feet
23:22 8.6 feet

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DRUGS

AYING WITH HINDSIGHT — The characteristic stance of the marble shooter provides just right frame around the target marbles in the centre of a circular slab at Tinsley Green, Sland. A 75-year-old veteran of the game, Sid Town, is one of the starring players of the ndel Mallets team competing in the British Marbles Championships.

City Water Conservation Urged As Submarine Main Line Breaks

Ald. Casey Asserts Council Blundered

Conservation of city water was urged today by Mayor George E. Hills, following a break in one of the two underwater main water lines at Shawatlan Passage yesterday afternoon.

A noticeable fall-off of the supply was noticed at the reservoir late yesterday afternoon and the trouble spot in one of the 14 inch submarine lines located while the city council was in session last night, discussing a report from F. N. Good on the availability of an emergency water supply for the city.

The report had been asked by Alderman George B. Casey two weeks ago in case any such emergency as yesterday's break should occur.

Last night Alderman Casey accused the council of blundering in not leaving $9,500 in a fund to make repairs to the Mount Oldfield dam. Council applied in February to have the sum transferred to provide a 12-inch main to Section Two under the Morse Creek Bridge.

The break in the submarine line was located last night by Carl Gustafson, city superintendent of works and members of the city water works department.

The valve to the broken pipe was closed off and the emergency pump at Shawatlan lake put into operation.

Today in a proclamation, Mayor George E. Hills said that while the state of absolute emergency had passed, it was still necessary to conserve water as much as possible while the line is being repaired.

A diver will be available by Wednesday, the mayor said and exact amount of the damage can then be ascertained.

"It is not possible to estimate the amount of time required to repair the line," the mayor said.

Fortunate Two Lines Provided

"It is extremely fortunate that in the water supply design two lines were provided. However by using only one line our water supply is considerably reduced despite the assistance of the booster pump," the mayor said.

"The water being delivered is required firstly for food, fire and hospital purposes," Mayor Hills said urging that residents cut down on consumption of water until the system is back to normal.

City engineer Good's report to council said that a preliminary investigation of a storage dam supplied by creeks from Mount Hays would be a multi-million dollar project if it were to supply the 20,000,000 gallons essential for rationed domestic use and provide gravity feed to Acropolis reservoir.

Cost of rock excavation alone would exceed $300,000 Mr. Good's report said.

However, Mr. Good pointed out he had located an area at the foot of Mount Hays that would provide a 30,000,000 gallons. A dam at this area would not be higher than 25 feet with a crest length of 260 feet. Mr. Good recommended a creosoted timber structure with rock fill as the most reasonable for such a location. Pumping system to put water from such a storage basin into the city mains would require a gasoline driven engine, the report said.

Full Survey Seen Long Project

Further information on establishing such a storage supply would require considerable time as it would entail surveys, foundation investigations, structural designs and estimates, Mr. Good said.

Ald. Casey dismissed engineer Good's report as being inadequate.

"That report is not worth 10 cents," he said.

"You're not giving this matter serious thought," he charged "there is water in Hays Creek and it could be stopped at its source."

"There is a huge rock bluff which could be used for the base of a reservoir," the veteran alderman said.

"I think Mr. Good's report is way out of line," he added before moving that the report be tabled. No seconder was received and the report was accepted.

Ald. T. Norton Youngs said that the suggestion of a low-level dam was a good one, and that when time permitted a survey should be carried out as well as a record kept of flow readings.

Asked by Mayor Hills if a pipe were put in at Ninth Avenue to the Mount Oldfield dams the draw-off would dissipate the pressure, engineer Good said it could be possible.

"How did the water get there before you got here Mr. Good," Ald. Casey asked to which the engineer replied that amount of usage and layout of the town had changed.

"I would like the aldermen to admit they made a mistake in taking the $9,500 from the Mount Oldfield project for the Morse Creek line. You may think you did a wise thing. I think you blundered," Ald. Casey said.

Ald. Youngs pointed out that the money had been lying idle with the city paying interest on it for some time.

St. Laurent Proposes Jobless Aid

No Boost Set In Tax Rentals

OTTAWA (CP) — Prime Minister St. Laurent today proposed a formula for federal aid to the unemployed but told the premiers they can't expect a general boost in federal treasury payments for tax rentals.

Launching federal-provincial conference, he called on the 10 premiers to have experts join federal officials immediately in working out a plan of jobless aid without waiting for the full-dress conference due this fall.

Mr. St. Laurent's proposal called for payments of between 30 and 50 per cent depending on rises in unemployment of the cost of caring for the excess of what would be established a normal level of those unable to work.

In effect, the federal treasury would be assuming these percentages of relief for the able-bodied, but administration would be simplified by lumping the employable and unemployable together.

As an alternative, he was prepared to consider a flat 40—40—20 split among federal, provincial and municipal governments, but he considered the federal plan better in providing more treasury aid as employment heightened.

On the general question of renewing the federal-provincial tax rental agreements, he said the federal government doesn't consider an increase in the payment scale justified because of continuing defence expenditures.

But he would be ready to consider reshuffling of available federal money among provinces, he said, evidently with a view improving payments to so called "have nots" at the expense of the more well-to-do areas.

The two suggestions were the only positive ones laid before the agenda-setting conference by the prime minister, who suggested this curtain-raising meeting for the fall session be kept to basic points.

RINGED IN PLATINUM — The lacy wreath framing pretty Clara Vallaire is formed by tiny pellets of precious platinum, which has a new use in something other than jewelry. The metal is now being used to make electrodes for aircraft spark plugs. Highly resistant to heat and erosion, the platinum electrodes are said to double the life of the plugs. Miss Vallaire, who'se inspecting some of the electrodes spread on a glass plate, is an assembly operator at the AC Spark Plug plant in Flint, Mich.

Only Four Polio Cases Says Medical Officer

There are only four polio cases in Prince Rupert not 40, Dr. Donald Oakley, acting medical health officer for the Skeena Health Unit said today.

The fourth case was confirmed yesterday. A 30-year-old mother of three children was diagnosed as having the non-bulbar type of poliomyelitis. The woman, who is suffering partial paralysis of the neck and face, is being treated in Prince Rupert General Hospital.

The medical health officer pointed out that it had been brought to his attention that rumors had the number of polio victims in the city up to 40.

Only three other cases all of them children, have been diagnosed as having polio this year.

Two are being treated in Vancouver General Hospital, the other in PRGH. Flown to Vancouver were 11-year-old Dennis Nystedt and 3½ year old Dale Johnson. Being treated here is 6½ year-old Michael Hill. Younger brother of Michael, Robert Hill, 3, was found not to have polio.

Adequate rest, avoidance of colds, chills and fatigue and observance of complete hygienic habits are the best safeguard against polio, the medical health officer said.

Yesterday, the second phase of innoculations of Salk anti-polio vaccine began for pre-school and Grade One pupils.

The same program of innoculations is being adhered to this week at last, the health unit said.

Final shots will be given registered children starting May 24.

Red Cross Drive Goes Over Top

Prince Rupert and District's Red Cross fund drive is over the top by more than $300, campaign chairman Cliff Ham said today.

He said that outside areas had contributed $1,245.50 to the Red Cross drive which, together with city donations of $4,596.00 make a total of $5,841.60.

Quota for the city and district was $5,500

There are still some outside points. Cumshawa, Sandspit, between Charlotte City and points up the Naas River, to be heard from

Donations from outside points are as follows:

Port Edward $134.57; Port Essington $22.75; Miller Bay $62; Digby Island $21.15; Kitkatla $30; Port Clements $47; Skidegate $93.73; Alice Arm $200; Naas River $3.10; Justkatla and Masset $131; Tlell $24

City Workers, Electricians Accept Offer

The city's inside and outside workers, as well as electricians have accepted a wage offer of the city in negotiations on their 1955 contracts.

Both civic workers, members of the Civic Employees Federal Union Local No. 5 and members of the IBEW, Local 344 accepted a 4 cent an hour increase for hourly paid workers and a $6 monthly boost for salaried workers.

The civic employees' union asked a 10 cent wage hike, the electrical workers a 5 per cent increase.

Further amendments to the civic workers agreement, made known at last night's council meeting called for the removal of the section referring to blacktopping on Saturday's as well as establishing the hours of work from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. with a half hour off at noon for lunch

Settlement of the civic employees' and electricians' contracts completes the city's negotiations with majority of its employees.

On April 15, a conciliation board unanimously awarded members of the Prince Rupert fire department wage increases ranging from 1.9 per cent to 4.6 per cent.

City council also went on record as not being in favor of the practice of civic employees accepting work after normal working hours.

Power Company Shares Included in Transfer

The British Columbia Power Commission not only has the power to take over shares in a company, but plans to exercise that power in its negotiations with the Northern B.C. Power Co., the city council was informed last night in a progress report from T. H. Crosby, chairman of the power commission.

Mr. Crosby told council that the commission had been waiting for confirmation of the commission's powers in this regard from their solicitor.

The commission chairman said that he had informed John Farris, solicitor for NBC Power of the BCPC's intention and had asked a reply to the commission's offer for the power company's assets.

A reply on the offer was expected shortly, Mr. Crosby said.

Ship Delayed As Theft Investigated

VICTORIA (CP) — Investigation into the largest theft of public funds ever recorded in the Canadian Navy's Pacific command has tied up the tribal class destroyer Cayuga "indefinitely."

The RCMP and naval officials are investigating the theft of $14,522 from a strong box on the destroyer and sailing orders of the vessel, supposed to sail to San Diego Monday with the cruiser Ontario, have been "delayed indefinitely."

The ship is still under four-hour call for sea duty, but otherwise normal routine is being carried out and regular shore leaves are being allowed.

The large amount of money was to be used to pay bills for the ships in San Diego.

RCMP are in charge of the investigation. They reported Monday many of the 300 ship's officers and men have been questioned but no arrests have been made.

The strongbox, similar to a safe, was in the cabin of supply officer Lieut. A. K. Cameron.

Lieut. Cameron spent overnight leave ashore Friday and when he returned to his cabin Saturday morning he found the strongbox door ajar and the money gone.

Parks Board Bid Referred To Estimates

A requisition of the Prince Rupert Parks Board, amounting to $4,670 to purchase materials for the shell of a bath house for McClymont Park was deferred consideration when the city goes over its 1955 estimates, the city council decided last night.

The Parks Board had submitted the requisition to city clerk comptroller R. W. Long for approval and allocation of interim funds until the board's budget is approved. The Parks Board was granted a $5,000 interim budget at the first of the year in order to carry on operation and preparation of the city's parks.

Motion to defer a decision on the request was made by Alderman T. Norton Youngs, who said that estimates were always a difficult proposition as there were few places that the city could pare its expenses.

The public works program usually bore the brunt of any cut-backs in expenditure, Ald. Youngs said.

RUSSIA AGREES TO PARLEYS ON AUSTRIANS, JAPANESE

MOSCOW (CP) — Russia today agreed to a Big Four ambassadors' meeting in Vienna to settle final details of an Austrian treaty and announced that she has agreed to open negotiations with Japan in London June 1 on a peace treaty.

The moves, announced at Kremlin press conference, followed by only a day another Russian step toward cancellation of the 1942 Soviet friendship treaty with Britain.

The Vienna ambassador's meeting is to prepare the way for a conference of the Big Four foreign ministers there to conclude an Austrian state treaty.

The three Western powers occupying Austria — the United States, Britain and France — suggested an ambassadors' meeting for May 2 in a note sent last Friday. Russia agreed.

Former Indian Agent Here, Reginald Pidcock Dies at 77

SIDNEY, B.C. (CP) — One of British Columbia's noted pioneers, Reginald Pidcock, 77, died in hospital here after a brief illness.

Longtime Indian agent at Prince Rupert, he was the last surviving member of his family. His brother, George, magistrate and juvenile court judge, died in hospital at Comox a month ago.

Mr. Pidcock's father, Reginald Pidcock, came out from England in 1862, piled the Courtenay River in a canoe and pre-empted the 160 acres of what now is Courtenay townsite.

He built a sawmill and a steamboat, the Daisy, to run between Courtenay and Vancouver but it was not a commercial success. He sold the townsite property to Joseph McPhee.

The family lived at Alert Bay and later went to Quadra Island where they bought 1,000 acres, ran a store, sawmill and logged for 15 years.

The brothers separated in 1920. George went to Courtenay and Reginald remained at Quathiaski Cove for some years.

Later he retired to his home at Campbell River, where he remained until taken ill a week ago.

Nearest relatives are three nieces, Mrs. T. S. Barnett, wife of the CCF member of parliament for Comox-Alberni; Mrs. D. Dunlap of Victoria, and Mrs. D. Mulligan of Ottawa.

Funeral service will be held Thursday from St. Peter's church, Campbell River.

Stolen RAF Plane Crashes, Kills 3 Persons in France

VALENCIENNES, France (AP) — An RAF training plane stolen from a station in England crashed about midnight on two houses at the nearby mining village of Vieq, killing three persons and injuring three others.

Police said no trace of the pilot, a young RAF corporal, was found. A ground crew member not qualified to fly military planes, he had zoomed dizzily at low levels over London for nearly three hours Monday night before disappearing.

The RAF said he had no parachute, and it was believed he had died in the flaming wreckage of his plane, which destroyed one of the houses it hit.

Killed were two little girls, aged 9 and 12, and a 55-year-old woman.

The plane was stolen from the Thorney Island navigation school in Hampshire, England, by a near-sighted Indian or Pakistani corporal, identified only as "Nick" about 20 years old.

A pilot pursuing the runaway said Monday night that he saw flames and the outline of a burning aircraft on the ground in that section.

The corporal took off in a $700,000 Vickers Varsity trainer at 7 p.m. circled the Thorney Island field three times, and then headed in the general direction of London, 60 miles northeast.

A witness said the plane almost stalled and crashed on the takeoff.

Skeena, Naas Closing Set At 72-Hours

A 72-hour weekly close season will be in effect in all waters covered by the Skeena gillnet salmon fishing area, has been announced by A. J. Whitmore, chief supervisor in Vancouver. It is effective May 1.

The announcement, merely confirms a recommendation by the Skeena Management committee in the interests of conservation. It is made with the understanding that further extension will be applied if it is found necessary due to seasonal conditions as the salmon run develops.

A similar arrangement will also apply to all salmon net fishing in waters of the Naas River area

Bootlegger, 88 Gets Jail Term

NANAIMO, B.C. (CP) — John Spencer, 88, was sentenced to six months for selling liquor when he appeared in police court here Monday.

However, Spencer claimed that despite three previous convictions, he was a newcomer at bootlegging and didn't take it up until he was 79

WEATHER

North coast region: Sunny today. Mostly cloudy Wednesday with widely scattered showers. Not much change in temperature. Winds light. Low tonight and high Wednesday at Port Hardy, Sandspit and Prince Rupert 32 and 48.

Rookie Policeman, Witness In Drug Case, Ambush Target

VANCOUVER (CP) — A rookie policeman who toppled a kingpin in the narcotics racket with his lone-wolf investigations was fired on from ambush Monday night in an apparent underworld bid for revenge.

Two shots were fired in rapid succession at Joe Haywood but both missed the 27-year-old constable. He was patrolling his beat on suburban West Broadway and the gunfire came from a vacant lot across the street.

Haywood did not return the fire but said there were two attackers. They were traced for several blocks but lost themselves in a maze of apartment buildings. Haywood was immediately placed under protective guard.

The assailants were believed to be either in the late teens or early 20's.

Two persons were picked up and searched but were released immediately.

It was Haywood's testimony on Vancouver's illicit drug traffic which led to William Semenick, 52, being convicted on a charge of trafficking in narcotics. He was sentenced to 10 years Friday.

A salesman at a used car lot near the scene of the shooting said he was in his office when he heard the shots.

SOUNDED LIKE BACKFIRE

"It sounded like a backfire," said Al McLean. "There wasn't anything you could see. But Haywood called rushing into the office and asked to use the phone.

"He was white and really upset."

Haywood sat quietly with another constable in a police cruiser, encircled by eight other patrol cars, while officers searched the area.

Haywood's sensational testimony at Semenick's preliminary hearing prompted magistrate Thomas Dohm to order the rookie policeman placed under the protection of fellow-officers.