

B.C. CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE (Pacific Standard Time)	
% ARCHIVES OF B.C.	High 5:32 20.8 feet
PARLIAMENT BLDGS.	17:42 18.7 feet
VICTORIA	Low 11:42 7.2 feet
	23:54 5.0 feet

Drug Store Hours

CHRISTMAS DAY
12 Noon — 2 p.m. Only
We will not open
Christmas night
Deeth's Pharmacy
Ormes Drugs Ltd.

50 IRA Suspects Arrested

Sweep Follows Bomb Attacks

BELFAST (Reuters)—A police dragnet Friday night picked up 50 Irish Republican Army suspects in Northern Ireland.

The men were served with internment orders and detained under emergency laws which grant police the power to arrest and search without warrant.

About eight or nine of the suspects were arrested in Belfast, and will be interned in Belfast prison. The remainder were taken in Tyrone, Fermanagh, Derry and other centres.

FIRST SWEEP

It was the first big roundup of IRA suspects since bomb-and-gun attacks on Northern Ireland installations began two weeks ago.

The law providing for their arrest was introduced last weekend by the Northern Ireland government, and, up until Friday only a few men had been detained.

Friday, service units began blocking up secondary roads in order to stop further raiding parties from crossing from fire and attacking territory in Northern Ireland.

Additional security measures, including powers to impose a curfew on border areas and screen visitors entering Northern Ireland from outside the United Kingdom, were announced in Belfast.

NO INFORMATION

A police spokesman here said: "we can give no information or any comment on any description at this stage."

Under the new laws, the men can be held indefinitely, without trial.



GORDON J. TOUCHIE, manager of the Toronto branch of the Bank of Nova Scotia, shows twins Janet and Jennifer Moffatt the Christmas tree in the lobby of the bank in the financial district of Toronto. The spruce tree, cut in Pefferlaw, Ontario, is 37½ feet high and is believed to be one of the biggest indoor Christmas trees in Canada. It is lighted by 925 bulbs and has been fire-proofed. The tree, wrapped in burlap to compress its spreading branches, was brought through the bank's door at midnight to avoid disrupting traffic on busy Bay Street.

Airliner Slides To Safety As Landing Gear Fails

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)—Capital Airlines flight 77, loaded to its maximum 44 Christmas-bound passengers and four crew members, slid to safety on a blanket of fire-fighting foam here Friday night with defective landing gear.

Crew members said the passengers reacted calmly to the threat of disaster.

A young mother prayed, using the words of the Christmas carol Silent Night, and a male passenger worked a crossword puzzle but "wondered if it was worth finishing."

The four-engined, turbo-prop Viscount made the emergency landing after circling the Charlotte airport for two hours as the pilot attempted to remedy the trouble and burn up the highly flammable fuel.

SPREAD SOAPY BLANKET

Meanwhile, on the field below the overcast, murky skies, ground crews worked hastily to spread a soapy foam blanket over half of the runway.

Flight 77, New York to Mobile, Ala., was scheduled to stop in Charlotte. When the pilot, Capt. H. A. Corkey Corcoran, started to set the craft down, he dis-

Impaired Taxi-Driver Fined \$100

A city taxi-driver, charged with being impaired by alcohol while driving two passengers, was fined \$100 and costs or in default of payment, sentenced to two months in jail when he pleaded guilty before Magistrate W. D. Vance this morning in city police court.

RMP Cpl. Robert Milne, prosecuting, told the court Frank Walls of 269 West Fifth Avenue, was arrested after he had been observed weaving from side to side on Highway 16 near Miller Day Hospital. He had two passengers in the car at the time and was travelling 10 miles per hour.

In sentencing Walls, Magistrate Vance said:

"That you are in charge of a public conveyance makes the charge more serious."

Also pleading guilty to impaired driving, a Terrace man, Daniel Rockwell, 26, was fined \$50 and costs or in default sentenced to one month in jail.

The court was told Rockwell was followed down Third Avenue to McBride Street where he barely managed to stop and then did a complete reverse turn and faced oncoming traffic.

Supervisor, Millworker Win Free Trips

November winner in the Columbia Cellulose Company Ltd. monthly housekeeping competition which entitles two employees and their wives to take weekend all expense paid trip down south, is combined acid plant, digester and screen room department.

The department is under the supervision of Alex Drobner who with his wife will take the holiday award.

Other member of the department, Terrence Garner, of 110 Eighth Avenue East, who drew his award, will also be going.

The housekeeping awards were instituted in October in an effort to keep the Watson Island mill tidy and observant of all safety precautions.

There has been a noticeable improvement since the institution of the competition, a spokesman said today.

Mother Dies In Vain Attempt To Rescue Child From Flames

Boat Shed Destroyed At Digby

Loss of Building, Equipment \$5,000

A roaring fire which threatened several houses at Dodge Cove, Digby Island, last night completely razed a large boat house, destroying all equipment and several boats inside.

Damage was estimated at approximately \$5,000.

Owner of the boat shed, Kamut Uggla, had to dive into the water as fire caught his clothes alight. He received serious burns to his hands and legs.

The fire, which started at 5:10 p.m. and could be seen in Prince Rupert, started from a backfire from a light plant in the shed.

Neighbors prevented the blaze from spreading by forming a bucket brigade. Mr. Uggla's house which stands adjacent to the boat shed, was threatened several times as gusts of winds carried sparks through the air.

Mr. Uggla who had just returned from a Christmas shopping trip in Prince Rupert, had started the light plant and was returning to his house when the building was enveloped in flames. Reports say it only took a few seconds for the entire shed to catch fire.

Mr. Uggla rushed back to the shed and attempted to salvage some items.

Remembering some gasoline barrels he edged his way around the burning structure and threw them in the water and averted an explosion.

The 57-year-old man who works as a fisherman in the summer then caught alight and was forced to dive into the freezing water.

The shed which housed three boat berths also contained many pieces of equipment and machinery instrumental to Mr. Uggla's work as a boatbuilder and repairer during the winter. There were two boats and a hull of a third inside the shed.

The fire was still blazing away at midnight last night.



THE WHITE ENSIGN is hoisted at the jack-staff and the red ensign lowered marking the new destroyer-escort Saguenay as a Canadian naval vessel in full commission. The ship's captain, Cmdr. G. R. Hayes of Victoria and Vancouver, and his first lieutenant salute during the traditional commissioning ceremony at Halifax. The Saguenay is one of 14 destroyer-escorts ordered for the Royal Canadian Navy. (CP from Nat. Defence).

Last Allied Troops Leaving Egypt Today

PORT SAID (AP)—The last of the British and French forces were expected to leave Egypt today—just short of eight weeks after their ill-fated military venture began.

Final obstacles to their departure seemingly were removed by an exchange of prisoners and announcement that the British salvage fleet will remain here "as volunteers" to help clear the Suez Canal under direction by the United Nations.

Reliable sources in Port Said said the withdrawal would be completed during the day. UN police troops have taken over occupation of the city temporarily, planning to hand it back to Egyptian authorities as soon as possible.

TO STOP FIGHTING

The announced purpose of the British-French operation, begun October 31, was to separate the Egyptian and Israeli troops then fighting on the Sinai Peninsula to the east, and protect the vital waterway from the hostilities. Both Britain and France had been pressing for international control of the canal nationalized by Egypt July 26.

Israel now is going slowly in

Pair Remanded To Jan. 29 On Two Counts

Two Port Simpson men were remanded until next Saturday to elect trial when they appeared before Magistrate W. D. Vance in city police court this morning jointly charged with two separate offences of breaking and entering and theft over \$50.

The men, Ambrose Wells and Charles Edward Banky are charged with stealing an outboard motor, property of James Bernard Rice, from Cow Bay floats, December 10, and also breaking and entering the vessel Joker A-3 owned by Walter Wilson, December 15, with intent to commit an indictable offence.

No pleas were taken this morning.

The Weather

New gale warning issued. Cloudy and mild with showers today and Sunday except northerly continuous rain overnight. Southern gales 40 early Sunday otherwise variable southerly winds 25. Low tonight and high Sunday at Port Hardy, Sandspit and Prince Rupert 35 and 42.

Four Children, Father Escape

A mother of five children who dashed back into her blazing home last night burned to death with one of her youngsters at Remo, about four miles southwest of Terrace.

Dead is Mrs. Mabel Grant and her three-year-old daughter Jessie. Police said that from the position of the bodies the mother reached the child's side but was overcome and unable to save herself or the child.

Managing to escape the flames were her husband William Grant and four other children.

RCMP at Terrace detachment and Prince Rupert sub-division were unable to get many details of the fire but said that it was reported that one of the children had filled a lamp with gasoline. Police said that the father went to light the lamp not knowing that it had just been filled and an explosion is believed to have taken place.

As flames spread rapidly through the small cabin on the side of Highway 16, the mother and father and children dashed outside.

When they got outside the frantic parents discovered one of the children was missing. Mrs. Grant immediately dashed

back into the flaming home to try to bring out three-year-old Jessie. Police said that from the position of the bodies the mother reached the child's side but was overcome and unable to save herself or the child.

An inquest is scheduled to be held by Terrace coroner Larry Pruden but no date has been set. Names and ages of the other children were not available, police said.

Steelworker Shot Dead Near Home

HAMILTON, Ont. (AP)—Larry Rose, 37-year-old steelworker, was found shot to death Friday night in a dark lane near his home.

Police said he may have been slain as he confronted an intruder at his back door. A trail of blood led to his home, where a window was broken in a kitchen door.

Bullet wounds were found in the chest and leg.

Mrs. Elsie Rose was reported out shopping at the time of the shooting and their children, a three-year-old boy and an infant girl, were asleep upstairs.

The body was found huddled near a garage.

Police said Rose may have been shot when he met the intruder at the back door and then staggered down the lane in pursuit. They said the shooting occurred about an hour before the body was found.

Ship Loading Pulp, Chemicals

The German freighter Ingrid Leonhardt of Saguenay Terminals Ltd., which arrived at the Port of Prince Rupert from Saguenay, Quebec, is presently loading 3,700 tons of pulp and approximately 500 tons of chemicals from Canadian Chemical and Cellulose Co. Ltd., Edmonton affiliate of CCC.

The vessel is expected to leave for the United Kingdom and the continent December 28. Skipper of the ship is Capt. J. Walter.

Hotel, Hall, Shop Burn At Squamish

SQUAMISH (CP)—Fire which for a time endangered the business community of Squamish early today, destroyed a 40-room hotel, valued at about \$175,000 and gutted a beauty parlor and Masonic hall.

Everyone in the 30 rooms occupied escaped unharmed.

Ross Brown of Vancouver, owner of the three-storey Newport hotel, built 40 years ago, said "it is a complete loss."

Inquest Set As Infants Die Suddenly

PORT ALBERNI (AP)—Mr. and Mrs. Glen Danesh will bury their only two children today, three days before Christmas, following a routine high mass in the little Roman Catholic church here where the couple were married three years ago.

Seven-month-old Renato died in hospital Wednesday after a brief illness. His sister, Marina, 1½, died Thursday.

Coroner Dr. N. H. Jones has ordered an inquiry into the deaths and health authorities have taken samples of city water from the Danesh home. Autopsies have also been ordered.

Dr. Jones said Friday he does not believe the illness which caused the children's deaths is communicable, but no other details on it were released.

Santa Greets 1,500 Children at Centre After Council Approves Trades Licence

giving the appearance of a big cloud approaching the city, Santa Claus, his sleigh overburdened with a huge sack of presents and pulled by nine reindeer led by Rudolph, landed promptly at 10 a.m. in the city this morning.

City RCMP had cleared the sky lanes and given Santa the green light to arrive here as fast as he could without worrying about the speed limit.

Residents looking out of their windows reported Santa made a perfect landing on the Civic Centre roof and then proceeded to the main floor where, surrounded by toys, he prepared to bring in a crowd of enthusiastic youngsters bursting with anxiety to tell Old Santa what they wanted for Christmas.

By 4 p.m. this afternoon, Santa had spoken to nearly

1,500 children, giving them tokens provided by five city merchants.

Children at the Prince Rupert General hospital had a surprise too, when Santa, driven on a city fire truck arrived to see them during the lunch hour. He talked to all of them and asked them what they wanted for Christmas. Driving Santa to the Centre was from Terrace, Wayne D. Harrison.

Last night at city council, the Mayor and Aldermen received a report from building inspector J. C. Ewart that Santa had made an application and paid for his Trades Licence.

The application read as follows: "Mr. S. Claus, North Pole, Christmas Delivery Service" one vehicle—intends to operate one day and one, overing in Prince

Rupert, on December 22 and December 24. Recommended by Harold Gray of the Prince Rupert Daily News and Dr. Brock Chisholm of the GNC, Vancouver."

"I might mention that this applicant had me worried for some time since I heard reports that he would be operating a delivery service and I have had a difficult time trying to get in touch with him and make him apply for his trades licence." Mr. Ewart said. "However, Mr. Gray kindly offered to take an application form on his recent visit to Mr. Claus and we now have application with signature."

"I also have Mr. Claus' check for the fee of \$20 written on local I trust this will be acceptable."

Council granted the licence.

Firemen's Christmas Ball 48 Years Ago, Gala Affair

By GLADYS J. BALDWIN

May left her Christmas baking. Dad left the Christmas tree stand half finished to attend the first annual "Firemen's Ball," held on December 10, 1908.

Two hundred and twenty-five Prince Rupertites attended the gala affair which was held under the auspices of the Prince Rupert Volunteer Fire Brigade.

The new office building on Second Avenue, still holding the fragrance of fresh-cut lumber, was the ballroom.

B. J. Bacon and his helpers transformed the bare walls and entranceway with evergreens, flags, bunting and lights. The 40 by 70 foot floor space was polished to a high gloss with wax and floor.

A 200-piece band from Methuella gave the dancers their choice of two-steps, three-steps, lively schottisches or "May I

have this Waltz, Madam?" When refreshment time came, the merry-makers had McKinnon's Bakery to thank. It was 4 o'clock in the morning of the 10th when the bread and cakes for the ball were ready.

Patronesses for the ball were —Mrs. McHutch, Mrs. Arland, Mrs. Tremayne, Mrs. Brandt, Mrs. Crull, and Mrs. Stork.

Committee in charge of arrangements included: R. J. Peacock, George Milner, J. R. Beatty, S. A. Corby, W. F. Carpenter, and R. E. Grant.

The sum of \$175 was realized from the ball, which was used for fire-fighting equipment.

Cabinet Quits

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP)—Official sources said Premier Sabry Assal's cabinet resigned today. The premier announced last Monday he planned to form a new cabinet "more active and harmonious."

A new parliamentary bloc, numbering about 70 members, has been formed to give Assal an absolute majority in guiding affairs of this strategic Middle East country.

GETS FOUR YEARS

KARLSRUHE, Germany (AP)—Otto John, former West German intelligence chief, was sentenced to four years in prison today for treasonable relations with the Communists during his 17-month stay behind the Iron Curtain.

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Neighbors prevented the blaze from spreading by forming a bucket brigade. Mr. Uggla's house which stands adjacent to the boat shed, was threatened several times as gusts of winds carried sparks through the air.

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The shed which housed three boat berths also contained many pieces of equipment and machinery instrumental to Mr. Uggla's work as a boatbuilder and repairer during the winter. There were two boats and a hull of a third inside the shed.

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