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PRINCE RUPERT, B.C. FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1956

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TIDES

Saturday, Sept. 29, 1956

(Pacific Standard Time)

PROVINCIAL LIBRARY,	High ..... 9:17	17.4 feet
	21:18	18.7 feet
VICTORIA, B.C.	Low ..... 2:43	5.7 feet

97

DEC 31/56

# Strong Hint Of General Election Next June Given By St. Laurent

Says Vote "Apt" To Be Necessary

OTTAWA (CP)—A strong hint has been given by Prime Minister St. Laurent that the federal Liberal party will go to the country next June to seek its sixth consecutive mandate.

The prime minister told reporters following a two-hour cabinet meeting that he wanted to make it clear he was not announcing there would be a general election next June. However, he said there is "apt" to be a necessity for one in 1957 and June is the "best" month.

Earlier, on his return from his summer home at St. Patrick, Que., Mr. St. Laurent disclosed he has asked Hon. George Drew, retiring Progressive Conservative leader, to continue in public life as a Senator or in some other public post. Mr. Drew announced his resignation from the leadership last Friday because of poor health.

Mr. St. Laurent's hint that an election may be held next June was bolstered by two other statements he made to reporters. He said there will be no fall session of Parliament and the session that opens next year, probably early in January, is "apt" to be short.

Some observers believe Finance Minister Harris will bring down his budget in February with the session ending in late March or early April. Speculation on election dates has centred on June 10 and June 17—both Mondays.

Replies to questions about a June vote, the prime minister said: "I think there is apt to be the necessity of providing for a national election."

The Liberals, in power since 1935, picked June as an election month in 1945 and 1949. The 1953 election was held Aug. 10 and resulted in Opposition complaints that many Canadians were away on summer holidays during the period of enumeration.

**Rupert VC Winner, Col. Cy Peck, Dies**

Col. Cyrus Wesley Peck, Prince Rupert's first holder of the Victoria Cross and the only man in the British Empire to win the VC in the First World War while a member of parliament, died in hospital at Sidney, Vancouver Island, yesterday. He was 85.

Col. Peck, a pioneer of the Prince Rupert district, had been ill for some time and on September 18 suffered a stroke.

A Canadian whose ancestors had taken root in this country nearly 200 years before, Cyrus Wesley Peck was born at Hope Hill, New Brunswick April 26, 1871. He was 16 when his father moved to New Westminster, B.C. to carry on lumbering on the lower B.C. mainland. Young Cyrus took the various courses for militia soldiers and actually crossed the Atlantic to enlist in the British army; but he changed his mind.

In 1900 he volunteered for the South African campaign but was not accepted. His desire for adventure then sent him to the Klondike before the turn of the century.

In 1901 he came to the Prince Rupert district and installed cannery machinery at Port Esquimalt. In 1903 he and his partner Donald Moore built Cassiar cannery on the Skeena river slough.

He then carried on business at 617 Second Avenue West as a general broker and insurance agent under the name of Peck and Moore Company. This he continued to operate even after he had been overseas, won his VC and become a member of parliament until he sold out to S. D. Johnston in 1921.

Col. Peck became commanding officer of the 8th Regiment in August, 1914; and later that year went overseas with the 30th.

His promotion to Lieutenant-colonel and command of the 10th Battalion came during the Somme fighting of 1916. At the capture of Vimy Ridge in April 1917, he won the DSO and for the third time was mentioned in dispatches.

He won the Victoria Cross during the fighting at the Drocourt-Queant Line, east of Arras, in September, 1918.

Part of his battalion was held by the 10th village of Cagnicourt, between Arras and Cambrai, and in imminent peril from machine gun fire. Col. Peck was with another tributary of the Nais River, the Bell Irvin—a fast flowing, treacherous stretch of water.

While they foresaw the navigation difficulties in such rising water they couldn't stop the raft.

A wave hit the raft washing away Nellison's pack sack. By the time he retrieved it, another wave took Huntley's pack sack far down the river. Col. Peck was with the group. He had "gone over the top" with the first wave of the attack.

REGARDLESS OF DANGER, Col. Peck went in search of help. Through a rain of point-blank fire he made his way to a tank rumbling in the rear. Still a conspicuous target for German bullets, he walked in front of the tank and pointed out one by one the enemy strong points.

"They did not realize that they were entering big game country where their 22 would be no match for bear, moose and deer," Huntley said.

Having shared out rations equally, this meant that two had to share what was adequate for one.

Lost in the mishap were a sleeping bag, a camera and a film sequence of their experience.

Reorganizing the unit, Col. Peck led his men in a final assault. The German positions

"They had about \$200," Mr. Murray said, "and I'll throw \$10 in the pot to start them off."

"If they're going to represent the city," Mr. Murray said, "they should have local backing."

To Mr. Murray's donation, The Daily News has added \$10, leaving approximately \$100 to be collected. Any donations from sports-minded citizens or city groups can be sent to The Sports Department, The Daily News, Prince Rupert.

Forming the nucleus of the team, Morrison wrote: "Mike Murray, will be himself, Fred Kristiansen, Art Hollin, Gary Myron, Chrol Forbes, Ron Cleone and Roy McKey."



GENNADI F. POPOV, second secretary at the Russian embassy in Ottawa, was ordered to leave Canada last July for attempts at spying. Popov sought information about Canada's CF-105 jet planes through James Stanley Staples, 30, former RCAF civilian employee at an Ottawa chess club. (CP Photo).

MRS. SAM GOLDSTEIN was "shocked" to learn that her former tenant, second secretary Gennadi F. Popov, of the Russian embassy at Ottawa, was ousted from Canada for attempts at spying. She described Mr. Popov and his wife as "such nice people." (CP Photo).

REJECTED RUSSIAN BRIBE—James Stanley Staples, 30, former RCAF civilian accountant, says Soviet embassy officials tried to bribe him to get military information. Staples refused, but was dismissed later for being "indiscreet" and a doubtful security risk. He now is an apprentice accountant in Ottawa. (CP Photo).

## CM & S Buys Heavy Water Plant From U.S.

TRAIL (CP)—The Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co. Thursday announced the purchase from the United States government of the heavy water plant here which the company had operated for the Americans during the war years.

The company did not reveal the price.

The plant was designed and built by the U.S. government in 1942 for a reported \$2,800,000 and was opened in July, 1943, as part of the American government's Manhattan Project which resulted in the world's first atomic bomb.

A company statement said some of the heavy water plant equipment would be adapted for the production of hydrogen which the company uses in the manufacture of chemical fertilizers.

Alfred Bull, appearing for Mr. Sommers, objected to the application and to an affidavit by Mr. Sturdy referring to a speech made by Mr. Sommers in the legislature. He said the speech was privileged and completely irrelevant to the slander suit.

Mr. Bull said his client will be entering "relevant" entries from his bank accounts in an affidavit or documents in the near future.

## No Sign Found Of Lost Pair

PRINCE GEORGE, B.C. (CP)—Planes that have covered more than 45,000 square miles of north-central British Columbia in the hunt for two flying prospectors missing since Sept. 15 reported no sign of men in an all-day search Thursday.

Bert Goodridge, 48, and Bert Lloyd, 39, both of Williams Lake in the British Columbia interior left Vanderhoof, B.C. Sept. 10 to survey several mining claims. Their plane was last seen Sept. 15.

Thirteen planes directed from RCAF search headquarters here flew over the Fort St. James and Buckley House areas Thursday. They included three canoes from Vancouver, an RCAF Dakota and a number of private craft.

The search continued today.

## To Be Transferred

Capt. Stanley and Mrs. Armstrong, officers commanding the local Prince Rupert Salvation Army Corps have received notice they are to be transferred, it was announced today.

White Rocks, 1,555 tons. Total to date for the season in the northern district is 7,299 tons. Quota for this area is 30,000 tons.

Rennison Island, 700 tons. Total to date for the central sub-district is 1,514 tons on a 40,000 ton quota.

Catches in the two areas are as follows:

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HONOR CONFUCIUS

TAIPEI, Formosa (CP)—Nationalist China today observed the 2,500th anniversary of the birth of the great sage Confucius.

Under a new Salvation Army system of development, Senior Major Cyril Letheroe, district officer here, will also assume command of the city corps.

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**Herring Catch 2,255 Tons**

Herring catch for the week in the northern and central subdivisions totalled 2,255 tons, Prince Rupert Fisheries Department announced today.

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**FIRST STAGE GOOD**

From Atlin to Telegraph Creek the journey was "exceptionally good" the men reported.

"We lived off the land, hunting squirrels, grouse, duck and salmon—one of which I speared with a hunting knife and scooped it from the water. In that part of the country there is a great deal of berries and mushrooms," Huntley said.

Shouldering 75-pound packs they started off down the old Telegraph trail to Telegraph

Creek about 200 miles away, on the 500 mile journey to Terrace.

Circumstances prevented them from attaining the pre-arranged goal. Their trek ended at Stewart.

To the adventurers it was imperative that they accomplish their task with this year. Both wanted to experience the wilderness in its virgin state for they believed that within another year highway survey crews would be thrashing their way over the terrain.

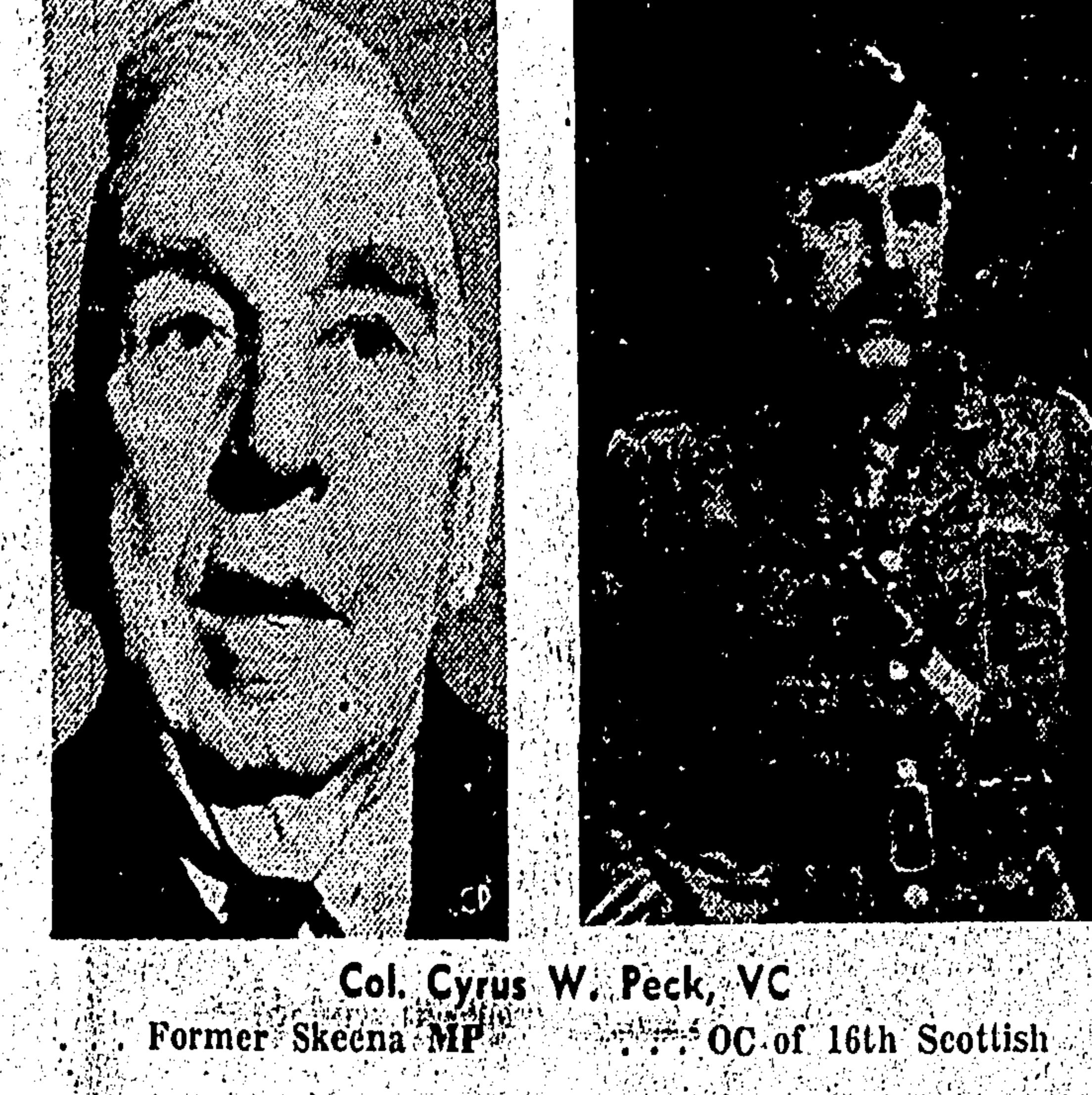
Both men are involved in outdoor work, Nellison being a shovel operator for Preder Construction at Whitehorse and Huntley is a surveyor for the North West Power Company in Yellowknife.

**SECOND STAGE GOOD**

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They journeyed on, undiscouraged, until they reached the



Col. Cyrus W. Peck, VC  
Former Skeena MP

OC of 16th Scottish

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By the time the pair reached the tank they were fairly exhausted and their food supply was depleted. They rested in the historic town for a few days in order to stock up on food and discard excess clothing. Everything was cut to a minimum. The pack-sacks now weighed 55 pounds.

**MADE BIG MISTAKE**

However, said Huntley, they made one mistake—a big mistake that could have resulted in death through starvation. They lost their large calibre gun behind, instead they carried a .22 rifle which had been the means of obtaining food up until then.

They did not realize that they were entering big game country where their .22 would be no match for bear, moose and deer. Food was scarce and other than occasional berries, there was nothing edible.