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# Prince Rupert Daily News

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# Number of jobless in district drops considerably in month

## Spring break-up hindering work

Unemployment situation in the Prince Rupert district is showing further improvement despite adverse effect of the spring break-up in the interior, Gordon Simpson, manager of the local branch of the National Employment Service, reported today.

Number of unplaced applicants by April 25 was set at 2,472, a drop of 445 in five weeks. Number of unemployed males decreased by 345 to 1979 while female jobless dropped by 100 to 493.

However, seasonal return to work was partly offset by the spring break-up which curtailed sawmill operations in the interior and forced two mills to close down temporarily, Mr. Simpson said.

Vacancies listed call for professional and highly skilled occupations in the male category and for stenographers and domestic workers in the female classification.

Despite the reduced number of persons drawing unemployment benefits, payments by the Prince Rupert NES office hit another all-time high.

During the first four months of 1958, approximately $1,000,000 in benifits was paid out, more than twice as much as for the same period last year and higher than for any other four-month period on record, Mr. Simpson said.

About one third of all persons drawing benefits live in Prince Rupert.

## Charges follow mishap

A city motorist will stand trial next Wednesday or earlier on charges of drunken driving and hit-and-run driving.

Adjournment without plea was granted by Magistrate E. T. Applewhaite to Joseph George Roch Beauchemin, of 817 Ninth Avenue West, on request by defence counsel Willa Ray. Bail was set at $500 in cash or one surety.

The charges of failing to remain at the scene of an accident with intent to escape civil and criminal liability and driving while intoxicated were laid following an accident on Fulton Street at 7 o'clock last night at which a car belonging to William Kernahan of 315 Sixth Avenue West, was slightly damaged.

Beauchemin was arrested by RCMP a short time after the accident.

KENNTH CLARK holds four-year-old Roman Young after they were ousted from the home in which they live at Windsor, Ont., by fire set by an arsonist. A garage behind their house was destroyed and smoke filled the dwelling. The blaze was the 23rd in the city within 40 days. (CP Photo)

## Conquer cancer fund at $3,600

Four hundred dollars today was added to the Conquer Cancer campaign fund, local chairman for the Prince Rupert branch to the Canadian Cancer Society, Dean A. E. Hendy said.

The "blitz"-drive staged Monday night went on record as being one of the most successful one-night fund-raising campaigns in the city, as the objective of $3,000 was exceeded by $200.

Dean Hendy said that today's return from 17 city zones brings the total amount to $3,600.

"We still have to hear from out-of-town canvassers," Dean Hendy said.

TARGET FOR RUPERT 1960

## Trans-Canada highway completion seen by '59

VANCOUVER (CP)—All remaining sections of the Trans-Canada Highway in B.C. will be under construction by early next year, Highways Minister Gaglardi said Tuesday.

He told the B.C. Chamber of Commerce his department has allocated $42,000,000 to work on the Trans-Canada this year and $27,000,000 to other highway projects in the province. He promised the Trans-Canada route would be "the most scenic highway in the world."

His reports on individual road projects included:

Cascade route from Grand Forks to West Kootenay is proceeding more slowly than had been expected, but should be completed next year;

**Cariboo highway paving has been held up by a route change at Quesnel but paving north and west to Prince Rupert to go ahead with 1960 as the target date for completion;**

Vancouver Island Trans-Canada highway paving to be completed this year and road to Tofino expected to be completed this fall; island survey work to continue next winter;

Highway 93 held up near Fernie by lack of bridge over Elk River; bridge foundation should go in this year;

Monashee road from Vernon to Arrow Lakes will see some work this year "but not as much as I should like;"

Hart highway paving delayed until Pacific Great Eastern Railway construction complete and some sections of highway relocated; should be paved by end of 1960.

Mr. Gaglardi said the recent strike of heavy construction drivers in B.C. has had severe effect on highway work. Although the men were out for only three months, the strike interrupted work at the slack traffic period and has set it back six months in some cases.

## School board shuns protest from ministers

District 52 School Board, faced last night with a "vigorous protest" against allowing the Jehovah's Witnesses use of Booth Memorial High School auditorium for a convention May 30, decided to advise the Prince Rupert Ministerial association that the board's feelings were adequately expressed earlier by city council in answer to a similar protest.

Council April 14 told the association that Jehovah's Witnesses would be "treated the same as any other organization as long as they operate under the law."

The ministers' protest to the school board contended that the sect's teachings advocated removal of the very same institutions with which it was dealing now.

School Board chairman W. J. Scott appeared to express the opinion of the entire board when he suggested that the board take the same stand as the city. A motion to that effect by trustee William Homenuk was accepted unanimously.

## WCB claim deadline on Friday

Persons wishing to have a check by the Workmen's Compensation Board's medical board in Terrace May 20 and 21, should wire in their claim immediately, a spokesman for the Prince Rupert Labor Council said today.

**He said that claims have to be in the Vancouver office of the WCB by May 9.**

The WCB medical board will be held at the Skeena Hotel in Terrace from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 20 and from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. on Wednesday, May 21.

The board is leaving Terrace at 12:45 p.m. May 21.

The spokesman said that the Prince Rupert Labor Council has written the WCB asking a medical board be held in Prince Rupert instead of Terrace as the long trip "is not only inconvenient but imposes a hardship on some claimants, especially a man in pain."

## Ruling near on demand for dismissal

VANCOUVER (CP)—Mr. Justice J. O. Wilson will rule today on a defence application for scrapping of at least 13 charges in the 38 - charge indictment against former lands and forests minister Robert Sommers, three other individuals and four companies.

The British Columbia Supreme Court judge was forced for the second time Tuesday to dismiss until this morning a panel of 100 prospective jurymen as legal argument stymied the case. He directed that they should return today when selection of a jury is expetced to begin.

At the same time the judge rejected a defence plea for a change in procedure in picking the jury. Defence counsel sought to have the prosecution proclaim its challenges before the defence but Mr. Justice Wilson said that has never been done before. If it was wrong, then Parliament, not the bench, was at fault.

## Princess cheered

GANDER, Nfld. (CP)—A cheering, waving crowd stood in the chill early morning at this big airport today and gave Princess Margaret a hearty Newfoundland sendoff on her journey home to London from a Caribbean tour.

PARIS (AP) — Middle - roader Rene Pleven will seek parliament's confirmation as 25th postwar premier of France on Friday.

A BIG WHEEL in transportation, Mrs. Ida May "Ikey" Adams points to the sign painted on her 10-wheeler truck in Herrin, Ill. "Ikey" has been driving a 10-wheeler for the past 17 years and operates a trucking company with her husband, Gleen. She says the U.S. needs more women truck drivers, because the gals are better at the wheel than men.

SUPPORT OF PARENTS URGED

## Two Air Cadets awarded trophies, others lauded at annual inspection

Two members of Prince Rupert Air Cadet Squadron 559 were honored last night and presented with trophies for their proficiency and diligence when the squadron's annual inspection was staged in front of the provincial court house before a small crowd of spectators.

Making the inspection was Wing Commander J. V. Watts, DSO, DFC and Bar who later presented Cadet Cpl. Raymond McIntyre with a plaque for being the most outstanding cadet of the year.

He told Cpl. McIntyre, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cherrill McIntyre that he showed notable ability and expressed the hope that he would stay with the squadron.

Also honored was **Cadet James Milton Almgren**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Almgren, 247 First Avenue East, who was presented with a trophy for being the best first year cadet. Presenting the trophy was president of Canadian Legion Branch 27 Robert Sim.

Wing Cmdr. Watts, commanding officer of Communications and Air Sea Rescue Squadron 121, Sea Island, told the cadets that through the co-operation of HMCS Chatham reserve division, C. D. Bruce, president of the local sponsoring committee and members of the committee itself, the squadron now had the finest facilities in British Columbia.

He said that the squadron had showed a marked improvement over last year and congratulated the squadron's officers and the cadets on their showing at the inspection.

"I hope that you are going to stay with the squadron because through its benefits, through the benefit of better discipline, a better community will result from your worthwhile efforts."

He also urged that parents of the boys and residents of the city work harder to provide facilities for the movement.

John F. Magor, one of the charter members of the squadron's sponsoring committee and here to represent the president of the Air Cadet League of Canada deplored the lack of parents attending the inspection.

He urged the cadets to encourage their fathers and mothers to take an interest in their sons' work and said that "next year perhaps the inspection would be even more impressive."

Mr. Magor praised the naval reserve for providing the air cadets with space for facilities and lauded the sponsoring committee for "its hard work."

"However, the main support for the squadron comes from the hearts of the boys. They must know what the squadron, what the movement stands for or they cannot do their best. If they do come to understand all the Air Cadet movement in Canada stands for then they will be able to put on an even greater show next year."

Also congratulating the cadets and expressing the hope that they would some day win top marks in British Columbia was former president of the sponsoring committee John Laurie.

Members of the reviewing party which watched the boys drill and march past were:

Wing Cmdr. Watts; Flt. Lt. H. E. Carling, air cadet liaison officer, WO McCracken, training NCO; Mr. Magor, V. R. Clerihue, secretary of the Air Cadet League; B. O. Mayne, chairman of No. 4 Wing of Air Cadets; Mayor P. J. Lester; Legion president Robert Sim; Lt. Cmdr. E. W. K. McLeod, commanding officer of HMCS Chatham; Lt G. P. Woodside, executive officer of Capt. Cook Sea Cadets; Lt. Kenneth Harris, commanding officer of the Royal Canadian Army cadets; Flt. Lt. Douglas Hague, commanding officer of Squadron 559 Air Cadets; FO Keith DeWitt, adjutant of the Air Cadets; and supply officer of the Air Cadets Flt. Officer H. Beam; C. D. Bruce president and members of the Air Cadet sponsoring committee.

Following the inspection a reception was held at the squadron's new headquarters in HMCS Chatham where members of the Women's auxiliary to the squadron were hostesses.

## Builders get ultimatum

Alleged slackness on part of a Prince Rupert construction firm in fulfilling a contract for two new classrooms at Port Edward School resulted in an ultimatum to the company being issued by District 52 School Board last night.

The board will give Quality Builders until May 31 to finish work on the rooms. In default the job will be awarded to another firm and the cost be deducted from Quality Builders' deposit cheque, still in possession of the board.

School Board decided on this course of action after board secretary Mrs. M. M. Ropor said no work had been done on the rooms "for a couple of months."

## RCMP, provincial police pushing robbery probe

MONTREAL (CP) — The RCMP has joined police forces of two provinces in investigating one of Canada's biggest robberies—the week-end theft of at least $3,750,000 in bonds and $15,000 in cash from the Brockville Trust and Savings Company.

The stolen bonds include at least $2,240,000 in bearer bonds, company officials said. The rest of the loot was made up of registered, non - negotiable securities.

One Montreal report speculated that the total stolen could be as high as $7,500,000, but there was no substantiation by police.

SIMILAR METHOD

The RCMP's interest in the case stems from the $1,789,000 theft of bearer bonds last January from La Caisse Nationale d'Economie, the banking subsidiary of La Societe Nationale de Fiducie, a Montreal trust company.

A recent raid on a Montreal apartment house in connection with that safecracking turned up heroin valued $1,500,000 on the underworld market in addition to $73,000 of the stolen bonds. Federal officers accompanied city safe squad detectives on the raid.

In connection with the Brockville robbery, Superintendent Edward Brakefield-Moore of the RCMP announced Tuesday that his men were "working closely with Montreal and Brockville police forces as well as the Ontario provincial police."

"The modus operandi of the Brockville robbery is similar to that used by thieves in the Caisse Nationale d'Economie theft," said the superintendent.

SUSPECT FIVE INVOLVED

Meanwhile a man arrested by a Montreal police constable in connection with the Brockville theft was taken to the Ontario city Tuesday night for court arraignment "either Thursday or Friday," a Montreal police official said.

He was identified as Rene Martin, 31, of Montreal, arrested here Monday following an automobile chase. A key found in his car led police to recover about $1,500,000 in negotiable and non-negotiable bonds from a Montreal railway station locker.

Speculation was that at least five persons, including a woman, staged the burglary. Ontario provincial police were reported on the trail of a suspected man in Toronto and a woman in Hamilton.

The burglary was carried out by a gang with an estimated $600 worth of equipment, including three big tanks for acetylene torches and a high-speed drill used to cut into the trust company's vault.

## Main repaired

Sixth Avenue east water main which blew open late yesterday was being replaced today, Mayor P. J. Lester said this afternoon. He said the six-inch wooden stave pipe was being replaced by a steel main.

## Favor "town"

FORT ST. JOHN, B.C. (CP)—Fort St. John voters in a plebiscite Monday voted 90.2 per cent in favor of changing the community to a town from a village.

## G. F. Dunn heads chamber

VANCOUVER (CP)—G. F. (Pat) Dunn of Victoria was elected Monday as president of the B.C. Chamber of Commerce at its annual meeting. He succeeds J. V. Rogers of Trail.

Regional directors include Walter Burns of Prince George and Orme G. Stuart, Prince Rupert, representing Central B.C. Among those who automatically become directors are James S. Burns, Prince Rupert, Duncan K. Kerr, Terrace, and Alex Bowie, Prince George.

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## DAILY NEWS COLUMNIST TAKES EXCEPTION TO BERTON'S VIEW

There is no reason for Prince Rupert to cry the blues, says G. E. Mortimore, Daily News and Victoria Colonist writer in his column "All Aboard" on Page 2 today. Mr. Mortimore, writing of the city says the "town will have its day."

The former RCAF veteran and writer on The Daily Colonist for the past 15 years, was in Prince Rupert for six days while on a tour of British Columbia gathering data for a series on B.C. Indians. He arrived last Wednesday after visiting Lytton, Williams Lake, Prince George, Hazelton, Burns Lake, and many other points. He left by B.C. Airlines plane yesterday for several days on the Queen Charlottes.

It is hoped that when the series on B.C.'s Native Indians appears in The Colonist arrangements can be made to publish it in The Daily News.

## Commonwealth dead honored before Queen

LONDON (Reuters)—The new high altar of St. Paul's Cathedral—a memorial to the Commonwealth and Empire dead of both world wars—was consecrated today in the presence of the Queen and Prince Philip.

Officers and cadets from 17 Commonwealth countries lined the cathedral steps as the royal couple arrived to a fanfare of trumpets.

The new marble altar replaces one wrecked by a German bomb in 1940. It was paid for by subscriptions from more than 100,000 Britons and is the only memorial in Britain to the dead of the Commonwealth and Empire overseas in both world wars. They numbered at least 336,000, including almost 100,000 Canadians.

## Federal government action to avert rail strike sought by union chiefs

MONTREAL (CP)—Central government action to avert next Sunday's threatened strike of 3,000 CPR firemen will be sought today by Canadian union chiefs in a conference with Prime Minister Diefenbaker.

The Ottawa meeting is expected to be an 11th-hour bid by the unions to delay—perhaps for two years—a CPR decision to drop firemen from its yard and freight service.

The conference with Mr. Diefenbaker and Labor Minister Starr was expected after a full day of union consultations here, highlighted by:

1. A top-level meeting of 40 Canadian labor leaders—most of them representing railway unions. The meeting produced an expression of sympathy for the firemen's position and a "desire to do everything possible to assist them."

2. Inconclusive back-room talks in a midtown hotel on the diesel issue among key union chiefs and CPR President N. R. Crump.

3. Finally, announcement that the long-standing dispute would be placed before Mr. Diefenbaker and Mr. Starr at 11 a.m. today.

JODOIN LEAD GROUP

President Claude Jodoin of the 1,000-000-member Canadian Labor Congress, who summoned the union officials to Tuesday's consultations, leads the special group to Ottawa.

With him will be W. E. Gamble, Canadian vice-president of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen (CLC), two top union executives, Frank H. Hall and William Smith, as will other labor movement officials.

They are expected to press Mr. Diefenbaker to persuade the CPR to defer its removal plan for diesel firemen—set to start next Sunday—until the question has been settled on United States railroads.

## WEATHER—

Scattered showers today and Thursday. Not much cange in temperature. Winds southeasterly 20 Thursday evening. Low tonight and high Thursday at Prince Rupert 44 and 54.

## TIDES—

Thursday, May 8, 1958
(Pacific Standard Time)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| High | 4:25 | 20.0 feet |
| | 17:30 | 18.1 feet |
| Low | 11:06 | 4.0 feet |
| | 23:22 | 8.6 feet |