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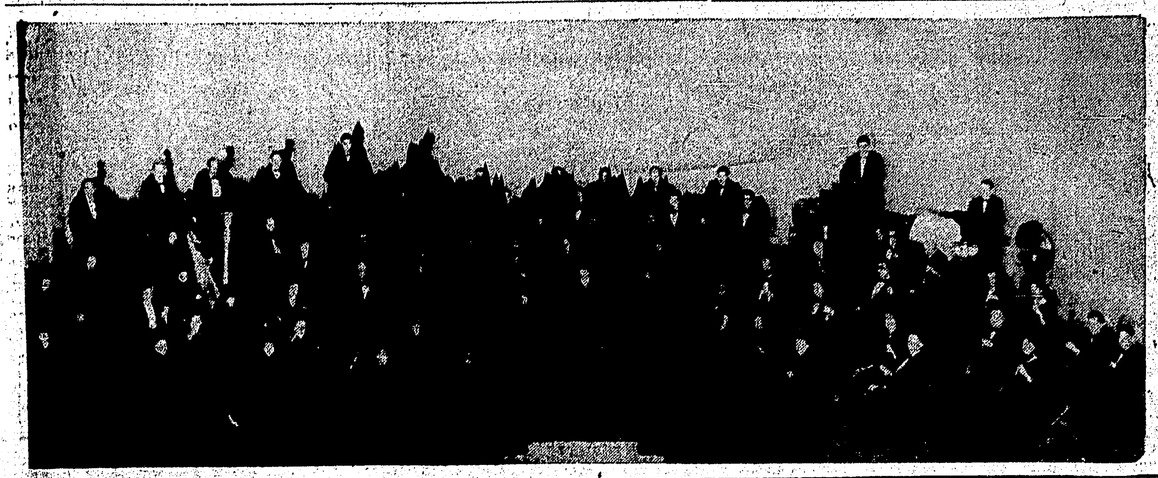
Prince Rupert Daily News

Published at Canada's Most Strategic Pacific Port — And Key to the Great Northwest

VOL. XLVII, No. 241 · Telephone 6767 · PRINCE RUPERT, B.C., MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1958 · Night Calls—Business 6768, Editorial 6769 · PRICE TEN CENTS



THE FLYING SYMPHONY—The Vancouver Symphony orchestra which is scheduled to include Prince Rupert in its flying tour of the north in 1959. The 68-to-70-piece orchestra plans to take to the air sometime in March and make flying stopovers in five north-central B.C. centres playing two children's concerts and one evening performance for the general public at each town. Last year the orchestra played to total audience of 92,000, including 46 concerts for children. Musical director and conductor Irwin Hoffman stands on the podium in centre.

B.C. awaits fresh storm as all Canada freezes up

Mercury nose-dives across continent

By The Canadian Press

Sub-zero cold gripped the vast stretch from the Rockies to Northern Quebec Sunday night and the warmest place in the country appeared to be British Columbia, having its own troubles with a 10-inch snowfall.

Meanwhile, the east coast was buffeted by gales reaching 60 miles an hour and scores of lobster traps were hurled ashore on southwestern Nova Scotia. Temperatures inland Sunday were in the 20s in Nova Scotia and below that in New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. All three provinces were promised drops in temperature and more snow.

It was the first measurable snowfall in the lower B.C. mainland since March last year and heavy drifting was reported in the Fraser Valley. Six inches fell at Nanaimo on Vancouver Island and from two to eight inches at Penticton. Princeton had 16 inches.

MORE SNOW

The Vancouver weather office said an additional four to five inches could be expected today from a fresh Pacific storm moving inland.

The overnight readings in Alberta and Saskatchewan ranged from 25 below to 10 below. Even today's general highs were forecast to stay between five below and zero. Early Sunday night it was 17 below at Saskatoon and six below at Calgary. Snow was expected in southern Alberta but the rest of the two provinces would be clear, the weather office at Edmonton said.

Winnipeg experienced an overnight reading of 25 below zero and the best the weather office could offer as today's high was 10 below. The clear, cold weather extended across Manitoba and into the Lakehead region of northwestern Ontario.

20-BELOW PROMISED

The Toronto weather office had the Northern Ontario rail town of White River down for an overnight temperature of 20 below zero. Toronto itself, south of the cold belt, shivered in an overnight reading of 15 above.

Ottawa's low hit five below and the weather office said temperatures were running about 10 degrees below normal for this time of year.

The mercury sank to two degrees above at Montreal during the night but was supposed to return to about 14 during the day. It was eight below at Chicoutimi during the night and zero at Quebec City, rapidly returning to normal after a weekend storm that dumped a foot of snow on the Old Citadel.

WOMAN AGED 72, DAUGHTER DIE AS FIRE THWARTS RESCUE BIDS

HAMMOND, B.C. (CP)—Two women were burned to death here Sunday when fire destroyed their home, 15 miles east of Vancouver.

Mrs. Edna Rhodes, 41, and her invalid mother, Mrs. Olive Daisy Betts, 72, were killed. Dan Rhodes, 67, said he attempted to rescue his screaming wife but the heat drove him back.

The fire, believed to have started in the basement of the home where kindling wood was stacked, was first noticed by Mr. Rhodes when he saw a ventilation shaft turn red hot. He dashed out to get help from neighbors, after telling his wife to phone for the fire department.

He said he then ran back to attempt to rescue the women, but was unable to enter the house. He said the house burst into flames and was destroyed in 15 minutes.

The intense heat thwarted other rescue attempts.

Firmen concentrated on preventing the fire from spreading to nearby houses. They had to drive three miles through deep snow to reach the burning house, then found a fire hydrant frozen.

The body of Mrs. Rhodes was recovered from the ruins. Police, firemen and neighbors were searching late Sunday for the second victim.

Second city blaze destroys suites

By BRIAN GOULD
Daily News Staff Writer

For the second successive weekend, Prince Rupert witnessed a vivid reminder of the fire hazards inherent in its old wooden buildings.

Damage was estimated at $8,000.

A three-storey rooming house owned by Mr. and Mrs. Bernard A. Petterson at 909 First Avenue West was gutted by fire Friday night.

Nobody was injured in the blaze, but a large amount of the occupants' furniture was destroyed by fire and water.

Firemen under Chief Earl W. Becker toiled for three hours to keep the blaze under control; some 24 regulars and auxiliaries stood in icy cold with the spray from the hoses freezing on their jackets and waterproofs.

It was impossible to save the rooming house once the blaze took a hold, but after a great battle they managed to stop it spreading to the adjoining Commercial Hotel.

Once again a large crowd gathered to watch the fight against the flames.

And once again car drivers disregarded public warnings about driving over water hoses.

"One day," predicted a fireman, "those people are going to cause an awful lot of damage."

Part of the hotel wall actually caught alight but constant spraying kept it under control.

Besides the firemen's efforts, two other factors prevented the hotel from disappearing in flames.

One was the lack of wind, which helped the previous Saturday night to destroy the Palmer Apartments.

The other was the fight waged by the co-partner of the hotel, Gilbert Gaudry, and three others: Stuart Malcolm, William Bressenham and Howard Nichols, one of the rooming house tenants.

They utilised all the hotel hoses and fire extinguishers to confine the blaze to the rooming house.

They took turns standing on the first floor ledge behind the hotel, risking serious injury in playing the hoses on to the rooming house. One slip on the icy ledge could have brought tragedy.

Firemen and RCMP opened all the hotel doors and warned everyone to be ready to leave if the blaze caught.

Furniture in the rooming house belonging to Howard Nichols and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth A. Nesbitt was carried outside, but some of it was damaged by fire and water.

More than a dozen people helped to remove the furniture.

Mr. and Mrs. Petterson, who live in a house behind the rooming house, said the fire department did a tremendous job in confining the blaze.

"They were there so fast, they were just wonderful," said Mrs. Petterson.

Mr. Nichols commented: "That fire department was really great. They worked like hell out there."

"The hotel had wonderful equipment too. I just can't say enough for them the way they went at it."

Said Mr. Petterson: "I just don't know what would have happened if there had been a breath of wind."

One other organization they praised too was the Salvation Army, which arrived with hot coffee within minutes.

The rooming house was insured against fire.

Vancouver symphony sent official bid

A night telegram (collect) has been sent to the Vancouver Symphony Society requesting that its orchestra include Prince Rupert in its itinerary during a tour of north central British Columbia in March, 1959.

The wire sent by a steering committee of J. R. Ayres, Morris Wayman, William Homenuk and Dr. L. M. Greene listed the 21 groups which have pledged support of the symphony concert and undertaken the "gross sale of tickets in the amount of $3,000."

The wire concluded with "We hope that our request will be favorably received by your society."

Now pledged to support the symphony concerts ticket sale are the Canadian Legion Branch 27, the IODE, District 52 School board, the Chamber of Commerce, the Kiwanis Club, the Lions club, the Rotary club, the Junior Chamber of Commerce, the Kin club, the Elks club, the Moose club, the Legion Ladies auxiliary, the Eagles club, the Knights of Columbus, the Polish Canadian association, the Chinese Association, the Shrine club, the Order of the Royal Purple, the Kinsmen club, the Miller Bay Recreation association, Local 708 of the Pulpworkers union and its Women's auxiliary, the International Union of Operating Engineers, the Sons of Norway, the Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society, the Elks Lodge, the Gyro club, the Rotary club, the Civic Centre association, the Prince Rupert Teachers association.

Ian H. Dobbin, manager of the Vancouver Symphony orchestra said two weeks ago that if the symphony visited the city it would play two children's con-

Counsel says defence not notified in case

Defence counsel in the trial of Joseph Benedict Gerand of Cassiar this morning told an RCMP constable that he failed to consider the defence in preparation of his case against the accused.

At the opening of County Court this morning before Judge W. A. Schultz, Gerand entered a plea of not guilty through counsel James L. King of Whitehorse on three charges of indecent assault upon a male.

In cross examination of RCMP constable D. H. Peterson Mr. King said "You didn't consider the defence at all in preparing your evidence."

When asked by Mr. King if he had notified the defence in regards to a trial the constable replied "Yes" he had notified Gerand and it was up to him to notify his counsel.

Gerand was held in jail for almost 10 months without a trial. He was jailed without bail January 18, 1958, released on bail March 15, re-arrested three days later and held in Prince George provincial jail until November 7 when he was released on his own recognizance by Judge W. C. Morrow of Prince George.

A 19-year-old Lower Post youth who is alleged to have been indecently assaulted by Gerand appeared on the witness stand only a short while after considerable argument arose between Mr. King and Crown prosecutor Frank S. Perry of Prince George.

Mr. King said that the Crown prosecutor's questions to the witness were leading.

Trial continued this afternoon.

Pioneer III falls back to earth

By FRED S. HOFFMAN

WASHINGTON (AP) — With a second space shot ahead, U.S. Army scientists set out today to correct troubles that thwarted their first effort to hurl a tiny package of instruments into orbit around the sun.

At the same time, they rated the experiment a success in measuring the depth of man-poisoning radiation around the earth.

The space-probe Pioneer III—first of two assigned to the army—met its flaming end over North Africa at 12:51 p.m. MST Sunday.

Fired aloft by a four-stage rocket early Saturday, the 13-pound cone reached an announced peak altitude of 66,654 miles before falling back and burning in the heat generated by atmospheric friction.

All told, it was 38 hours and six minutes in flight.

The army's Pioneer III didn't get as far into space as did the U.S. Air Force's best effort Oct. 11. Revised figures showed that air force's Pioneer I reached 17,300 miles. Two other air force moon rockets failed soon after takeoff from Cape Canaveral, Fla., also the site of the army launching.

Fire chief warns city

Residents were warned today by Fire Chief Earl Becker to take care when burning rubbish near dry grass during the current cold spell.

"The grass is tinder dry. All moisture is gone out of it," the chief said.

City firemen were called out at 2:30 a.m. Sunday to extinguish a grass fire at Tony's Drive-in, where a blaze was started when a rubbish fire "got away." It was quelled in short order.

DID YOU KNOW?

. . . That no person shall drive a motor-vehicle at such a slow speed as to impede or block the normal and reasonable movement of traffic, except when reduced speed is necessary for safe operation or in compliance with law. Where the driver of a motor-vehicle at such a slow speed a peace officer may require him to increase his speed.

Hospital patients lose vote

Patients in hospital do not have opportunity to vote in the civic elections according to the Municipal Act, it was learned today.

According to the Act it is impossible to set up polling booths in the hospital in just the same way is it is impossible to set up a polling booth in homes where persons are ill. Persons ill at home also lose the chance to vote by being indisposed.

If voters cannot get to the poll they cannot vote.

An advance poll will be held in the City Council Chambers tomorrow and Wednesday from 9 am. until 12 noon and from 2 p.m. until 7 p.m.

Voting hours for the civic elections Thursday at the Civic Centre are from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m.

The advance poll is for people registered voters who are prepared to sign a statement saying that they do not expect to be in the city on polling day.

B.C. leads in weekend death total

Road Safety week in Canada ended in 14 deaths during the weekend, an unusually low total.

British Columbia led the tabulations with five deaths—three in fire and two in traffic. Alberta an Ontario each had four; the former three highway fatalities and one fire victim, and the latter, in addition to the miscellaneous-category deaths, one in fire and one in traffic.

There was one fatality in Quebec—a death by fire.

The survey covered the period from 6 p.m. local time Friday to midnight Sunday.

Rupert firm still keen to provide canned TV

A Prince Rupert firm which wants to beat CBC to the punch in providing television for the city by using co-axial cable still thinks it should be allowed to go ahead.

In a statement today, A. L. Fletcher, head of A. Fletcher and Associates, says CBC cannot provide live television until 1965, and that his firm's method could provide television next year.

Quoting CBC Regional Supervisor Kenneth Caple, Mr. Fletcher says cities within 100 miles of the United States border would be given live television first, and it would take three or four years to do this.

"B.C. would require three main circuits: one from Victoria to service Vancouver Island, one for the coastline and one for the inland route.

"Circuits across Canada would total from 20 to 25 to service as far north as this city. Cost of transmitters and stopoff stations would be in the region of $120,000 each.

"To Prince Rupert would require 12 stations at a cost of $1,440,000 and for all of Canada as far north as this city would mean a cost of 28 to 35 million dollars."

Mr. Caple thought, said the statement, that Prince George could get live TV by 1962—but city residents there still allowed cabled TV to be installed last year.

The statement added that CBC and the Department of Transport had stated that the coastline route will not be approved.

Referring to micro-wave stations, Mr. Fletcher says: "These stations are owned by the telephone companies in Canada and they have stated it would be uneconomical to serve the north this way until the populations are at least doubled."

House bingo draws

Three more numbers were drawn today in the Elks Lodge House Bingo for the Crippled Children's hospital, bringing to nine the total now circled on the master-card at The Daily News editorial office.

Today's numbers are: **O-63; N-42 and O-65.**

Numbers previously drawn were: **O-62; N-43; I-28; B-6; B-3 and O-7.**

Fisherman C. Johnson dies suddenly

Funeral service for Charles Johnson, 59, of 520 Seventh Avenue West will be held from Ferguson Funeral Home tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock.

A well-known fisherman and logger, Mr. Johnson collapsed in Burke Grocery at 1:30 p.m. Saturday. He was rushed to hospital by city ambulance but died shortly after.

Born in Winnipeg, he had lived in Prince Rupert about 35 years.

He has no immediate family but is believed to have brothers and sisters in Winnipeg.

Interment will be at Fairview Cemetery.

An inquiry is being conducted by Coroner George J. Dawes.

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TWO MISHAPS WITHIN CITY IN NATIONAL SAFETY WEEK

Two accidents occurred in Prince Rupert during National Traffic Safety week, City detachment RCMP reported today.

Sgt. J. E. Ruttan, NCO in charge of the detachment, said no lives were lost and no property damaged to mar the city's record of 325 days without a fatality.

Two women, Mrs. Gertrude Mary Turner of 510 McBride Street and Mrs. Molly Olson of 515 Jeffrey Street were knocked down on Third Avenue by a car driven by John Ridley Watson of Port Edward on Monday night, December 1 and a car driven by Evald Sarap, of 937 Ambrose Avenue was involved in an accident at the intersection of Hays Cove Circle and Seventh Avenue East Sunday.

Sarap appeared before Magistrate E. T. Applewhaite in city police court this morning charged with impaired driving and was remanded without plea until December 16.

Watson was charged Tuesday with impaired driving and remanded until December 10.

[illegible] Deputy superintendent of motor vehicles is shown above presenting Mayor [illegible] J. Lester with a safety ward last Wednesday in recognition of the fatality-free year Prince Rupert enjoyed in 1957. The award is sponsored by the Canadian Highway Safety Conference and endorsed by the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police. With the start of National Safety week last Monday, Prince Rupert had 318 days without a fatality. —Staff photo.

Boy aged seven dies in furnace

NORTH VANCOUVER, B.C. (CP)—A seven-year-old boy tumbled through a hole into a white-hot furnace at a sawmill Sunday.

The boy went to the mill with Barney Knutsen, a boarder at his parents' home, and Knutsen's son, Larry. He apparently climbed to a steel platform atop the furnace when Knutsen left the boys for a short time and slipped through a hole at the top through which waste wood products are fed to the furnace.

City woman fined $15

Gertrude Pauline Armstrong, 1511 Graham Avenue, Prince Rupert, pleaded guilty before Magistrate E. T. Applewhaite at Port Edward Friday to driving on the wrong side of the highway.

She was fined $15 and costs, with seven days' jail in default of payment.

WEATHER

Northern areas clear and cold with cloudy periods overnight and clear and cold again Tuesday. Southern areas cloudy with snow flurries overnight. Winds easterly 15 reaching easterly 25 overnight and northeasterly 25 down mainland inlets. Low tonight and high Tuesday 25 and 32.

TIDES

Saturday, December 6, 1958
(Pacific Standard Time)

High	09:14	20.6 feet
	21:50	18.1 feet
Low	02:50	7.8 feet
	15:54	5.7 feet