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City brief to cabinet asserts grants not gauged to living cost in district

SYLVIA BELLIS, is the Junior Chamber of Commerce standard bearer in the Port Day Queen contest which will have its climax Friday night in HMCS Chatham drill hall when Miss Prince Rupert is chosen from 11 shapely city girls. The judging for the Port Day Queen title will take place prior to the Youth Dance and the public is invited to witness the crowning of the girl who will represent the city at the Pacific National Exhibition. Vancouver-born Miss Bellis, a former Booth Memorial High school student and now a telegrapher at the Canadian National Telegraphs, is 21 years old, is 5 feet 5 inches tall, weighs 122 pounds, has brown hair and brown eyes and lists bowling as her favorite sport. She says her hobby is collecting earrings. She hopes to marry a millionaire.
—Photo by Chandler's Studio.

40 floats entered in Port Day parade

More than 40 floats have already entered the Grand Parade on Port Day, August 2, it was announced today by Arthur Murray, chairman of the centennial celebrations committee.

The parade features a precision marching unit from Ketchikan, four district bands, and representations from Terrace and Kitimat, Mr. Murray said.

Another highlight will be a "dragon dance" staged by the Chinese community and expected to stretch for the length of half a street block.

Contributions by Natives to the Centennial Parade, climaxing a week of festivities to celebrate British Columbia's 100th birthday in Prince Rupert, include a float depicting tribal dances.

The parade is to start at 10 a.m. east of McRae Motors Limited garage, will then proceed on Second Avenue turning onto Eighth Street, and continuing down third avenue to the court house where judging will take place.

DRILL TEAM DISPLAY

The civic centennial band will go on to the Canadian National Railways dock where the centennial girls' drill team will stage a display during the Port Day luncheon on the dock.

The four bands marching in the parade are the pipe band of the 120th Independent Field Battery, the civic band and bands from Aiyansh and Port Simpson.

During Port Day boat races, the tug "Comet" will be stationed in the harbor for visiting dignitaries.

INFORMATION PROVIDED

Mr. Murray said the Centennial Committee has set up an information booth at the entrance of the Besner Block which will supply out-of-town visitors and residents of Prince Rupert with all information regarding the centennial week. The booth, in charge of Robert McKay, will also supply visitors' ribbons and decorations.

A telephone with the number 5201 has been installed for the booth.

Anyone interested in entering a float in the parade should call this number before Wednesday night, Mr. Murray said.

Council turns thumbs on opening tomorrow

Prince Rupert store employees will have two days off this week.

A proposed bylaw providing for lifting of tomorrow's usual Wednesday closure in view of the fact that Saturday has been declared a Civic holiday failed to find introduction at city council last night.

Alderman A. Donald Ritchie opposed the proposition on the grounds that it "wouldn't be fair to employees."

As none of the council members offered to introduce the bylaw, it was dropped and the status quo will be maintained.

In another matter regarding the civic holiday, the council invited Columbia Cellulose Company to join the city in celebrating Potlatch Day.

"We certainly would like to see every man and woman from Watson Island in the city Saturday," Mayor Peter J. Lester said.

"However, legally we cannot and don't intend to force the company to shut down for the celebrations."

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Bolton fund surpasses $350 mark

The Larry Bolton family fund, instituted to aid the orphans of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Laurie Bolton who drowned last month in the harbor, was boosted by more than $70 yesterday. The fund now stands at $350.70.

Largest contribution yet was made yesterday as the Little League Baseball association donated $61.70 from league game proceeds.

Two donations of $5 each were received yesterday by the Prince Rupert Daily News and by the Royal Bank of Canada respectively. All contributions may be mailed or delivered to either The Daily News or the Royal Bank.

The SS Kostis, freighter sailing under Monrobian registry, will leave for the United Kingdom tomorrow afternoon with a cargo of 9,500 long tons of No. 1 and No. 2 feed barley, loaded at the Government grain elevator.

The Kostis arrived here July 23 from Japan.

Six trips weekly for Alaska ferry

Special to The Daily News

KETCHIKAN—Six-days-per-week ferry service linking Prince Rupert with Alaska is advocated in an official report under study by the U.S. Bureau of Public Roads and the Territorial Department.

The detailed report, released yesterday by the Alaska Highway and Public Works Department, proposes operation of two vessels between Prince Rupert and Juneau, with way stops, on three round trips each every seven days, plus a connecting run by a sister ship between Tee Harbour, north of Juneau, and Haines and Skagway.

Target date is 1960, according to a Ketchikan Daily News report quoting Ketchikan city manager Robert Sharp.

Stops between Prince Rupert and Juneau would be Ketchikan, Wrangell, Petersburg, it is suggested in the report prepared by W. C. Gilman and Company of New York.

The ferries envisioned are large, fast ships, 320 feet long, 60 feet wide, with four vehicle lanes, and a speed of 15 to 16 knots, or better than 17 miles per hour.

Each ferry would accommodate 300 passengers and 60 automobiles.

The ferries would be run on a year-round basis, the survey said. The 376-mile route from Prince Rupert to Juneau would take 23½ hours, including 30 minutes at each intermediate stop, three hours in Prince Rupert and six hours in Juneau.

Gilman and Co. assert that the operation is feasible from the financial standpoint. They estimate that $16,500,000 bond issue would finance construction of ships and terminals, and that the bonds would be paid off in 40 years. Except for the first few years when an additional subsidy totalling about $2,000,000 would be required, the operation would be self-supporting.

Proposed rates from Prince Rupert to Ketchikan are: $6 for passengers, $45 for cars and driver, $56 for trucks 20 to 40 feet, and $68 for trucks 40 to 60 feet.

From Ketchikan to Haines, passengers would pay $19.50, car and driver $151.50, trucks 20 to 40 feet $196, and trucks 40 to 60 feet $225.

Pioneers' tickets good for two

Each complimentary ticket sent out to city pioneers for Thursday's Pioneers' Banquet as part of Centennial celebrations entitles the holder to bring one companion, Centennial Committee chairman Dr. R. G. Large said today.

Dr. Large said that by mistake pioneers had been sent only ticket each.

Flight time to Vancouver now 4 hours

Effective August 1, the Canadian Pacific Airlines flight to Vancouver via Sandspit will take a little under four hours, B.E. Anderson, CPA agent here announced today.

Mr. Anderson said the Prince Rupert, Sandspit to Vancouver flight, with 40-passenger Convairs now used in a direct flight from Sandspit to Vancouver, will leave here at 9:35 a.m. and arrive in Vancouver at 1:30 p.m.

For flights via Terrace, the bus leaves here Mondays to Saturdays at 8:30 a.m. The plane leaves Terrace at 12:45 p.m. and arrives in Vancouver at 3:15.

On Sundays the bus leaves here for Terrace at 10 a.m. The plane leaves Terrace at 2 p.m. and after stops at Smithers and Prince George arrives in Vancouver at 6 p.m.

Strike deadline set

VICTORIA (CP) Strike deadline of Aug. 9 was set today by B.C.'s salmon fishermen in a dispute over fish price offers with the B.C. Fisheries Association.

United Fishermen and Allied Workers Union secretary Homer Stevens said in Vancouver the date was only tentative, "and could be changed any time."

He said further talks with the association were set for Friday. "There is no indication of a settlement at the moment.

JACK [illegible] professional skin diver, will attempt to catch a live octo[illegible] the waters off the Canadian National Railway Dock on Port Day, August 2. Mr. McLean said he will not use any fishing tackle or gear. He will use only his hands. He has caught several octopi in various waters, including some as big as 32 feet outstretched. Mr. McLean is at present organizing a skin diving school in Prince Rupert for adults and children. He was one of the divers involved in diving operations after the collapse of the Second Narrows Bridge in Vancouver.

PREMIER W. A. C. BENNETT is shown above being welcomed to the city by Mayor Peter J. Lester yesterday at the Canadian Pacific Airlines depot at Seal Cove. Premier Bennett arrived here yesterday with seven cabinet ministers from Victoria.
—Staff Photo.

Salaries not considered in new hospital budget

The provincial government's budget for Prince Rupert General Hospital has been described by hospital board chairman R. G. Moore as "just, but not allowing for salary increases granted this year."

Mr. Moore made the comment after the board accepted the budget at its monthly meeting Friday night.

Finance committee chairman J. D. McRae said the hospital faced a possible deficit of up to $23,000 by yearend.

ONE YEAR BEHIND

"Though otherwise just, the budget is lagging one year behind in allowance for salaries," Mr. Moore said.

"However," Mr. Moore added, "we hope we will receive adjustments later in the year as we always have in the past."

Commenting on Mr. McRae's report that the hospital's half-year deficit was boosted to $17,000 by a $7,000 loss in June, administrator Edward Knight attributed the sudden rise mainly to holiday pay for the staff.

In a review on the rest of the budget year, Mr. Knight said the monthly deficit would probably decrease, but he could "see no hope for any surplus."

Two main reason were given for the present deficit.

The first one, Mr. McRae said, was the wage boost granted the staff in negotiations this year, the second one arose out of an agreement signed several years ago providing free coffee twice a day to all employees.

"This practice, which is not a general one in B.C.'s hospitals, is costing us about $4,000 a year," Mr. McRae said.

In his monthly administration report, Mr. Knight said that in June the hospital for the first time was able to provide 111 beds. There were 2,715 patient days in June, the equivalent of 81.5 per cent of the capacity.

In personnel matters, the board welcomed Mrs. Pearon, who hired to fill the newly created position of Medical Records Librarian.

Council endorses Gustafson

Against objection by Mayor Peter J. Lester, City Council has decided to retain Carl Gustafson as absolute head of the city works department.

Council turned down six applications for the advertised position of city engineer in favor of hiring an assistant to Mr. Gustafson.

Mr. Gustafson told council last night he already had come to a preference as to the choice among the 60 applicants.

Mayor Lester told council that he wanted to repeat his objection, voiced previously when the Committee of the Whole decided on how to fill the position, and added:

"I certainly hope this works out satisfactorily."

The city last month advertized both jobs, that of city engineer with complete control over the works department, and that of assistant superintendent of works.

There were six applicants for the engineer's job and 60 applications for the position of Mr. Gustafson's assistant.

At that time, Mayor Lester stated the council would prefer an engineer.

One of Mr. Gustafson's first jobs after his endorsation by council will be to review reports on sewer and water supply systems to ascertain priority of work.

VOTERS TO DECIDE

Mr. Gustafson and City Clerk-Comptroller R. W. Long will submit the findings to council in time to arrange for the necessary bylaws to be voted on at the municipal elections in December. Bylaws will be prepared by a committee consisting of Alderman R. G. Large (chairman), and aldermen T. Norton Youngs and Kay Smith.

In September, Mr. Gustafson will attend the annual convention of the municipal engineers' division of the Association of Professional Engineers of B.C. in Prince George. From there, Mr. Gustafson will go to Edmonton to investigate possible purchase of equipment.

Halibutter refuses high bid

A Vancouver Halibut vessel returned to her home port this morning after refusing a bid on the Prince Rupert halibut exchange.

The "Ocean Pride" was offered prices 21.0 cents for medium, 21.7 cents for large and 14 cents for chicken size halibut for her 40,000 pound catch by British Columbia Packers.

Halibut sold on the exchange this morning was 45,000 pounds by the "W8" to British Columbia Packers for prices of 21.0 cents for medium, 22 cents for large and 14 cents for chicken size fish.

Wage differences said not considered

Municipal-provincial financial arrangements can be improved, particularly where this city is concerned, if each system of grants is given further study and the effect of such grants on individual municipalities kept in mind and local conditions recognized, Prince Rupert City Council told the British Columbia cabinet in a brief presented this morning.

Under the present system inequalities exist when viewed in comparison with other B.C. municipalities, the brief stated.

Presenting the brief to Premier W. A. C. Bennett and 10 members of his cabinet were Mayor Peter J. Lester and City Clerk-Comptroller R. W. Long.

WRONG FORMULA

The brief said that under the various formulae for granting municipal assistance, in most cases the system of grants is baser on certain costs which are arrived at by using provincial averages.

"It is with this principle that the City of Prince Rupert considers it has a valid argument," the brief stated.

The city claimed, on behalf of the ordinary taxpayer, and not the municipal corporation, that the Provincial Home Owner grant was not fair to the taxpayer in Prince Rupert.

"This grant was first instituted in 1957, and was we understood, basically computed to pay the taxes represented by the first $1,000 of improvements assessment for each home-owner in the province.

"At that time at the average tax rate for the province amounted to $28 but this $28 was not the equivalent of the first $1,000 assessment in Prince Rupert.

SHOULD BE SAME

"Based on the Prince Rupert tax rate this grant would have been $33.75 and this year should be $37.75.

"This then is an example of the inequalities as between taxpayers of the province because obviously the $28 grant to a taxpayer in Prince Rupert does not amount to the same portion of his total taxes as it does to a taxpayer in the lower cost area.

The brief said that by adjusting the home-owner grant to relate it to the actual taxes on the first $1,000 of improvements assessments the grant would have the same effect on every home owner in the province, in direct relation to his actual local taxes.

The city claimed that local government grants are another example of these inequalities.

The brief told the cabinet that these grants are made on a per capita basis and again do not take into consideration the higher costs involved in areas such as Prince Rupert.

"The grants do not recognize the various necessary differences in wage rates as between municipalities, and where for instance the local government grant may be the equivalent of a given length of road construction in one municipality it may result in considerable difference in high cost areas such as Prince Rupert."

AGREE ON WELFARE

The city agreed that the recently announced system of social welfare cost sharing to be changed on September 1, had long been supported by the city, and would have the "very desirable effect of relieving the municipalities of considerable administrative costs and also would equalize costs between municipalities.

"We submit," the brief concluded, "that this action on the part of your government is ample proof that provincial-municipal financial arrangements can be improved."

Labor Council urges unemployment relief

While the responsibility of providing full employment to all Canadians rests with the federal government there are a number of projects within the jurisdiction of the Provincial government which if undertaken would alleviate the unemployment situation in this area, the Prince Rupert Labor Council told the provincial cabinet in a brief this morning.

Labor Council delegates who met Premier Bennett and the cabinet this morning were J. S. Black, for Carpenters and Joiners Local 1735; James Foreman of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 344 and E. P. O'Neal, secretary treasurer of the Labor Council.

The Labor Council brief maintained that more men could be put to work if the provincial government would speed work on Highway 16 and the Port Edward-Cassiar cannery road.

"Then entire highway to Terrace has over the years taken a large toll of lives. There have been many serious accidents," the brief said.

The brief stressed that from Galloway Rapids bridge to Kitwanga was probably one of the most hazardous stretches of highway in Canada.

INSURANCE HIGHEST

It said the large number of automobile accidents on this highway bears this out as does the fact that automobile insurance in this district is not only the highest in British Columbia but the highest in Canada.

"It would appear most desirable and appropriate to immediately start a program of removing these hazards and black-topping this highway thus providing a decent road for the people of this area and at the same time providing jobs for many who are now unemployed.

SPEED NECESSARY

"We recommend that this project be undertaken as soon as possible," the brief stated.

The Labor Council said the Cassiar cannery road project was started by the Department of Highways two years ago and at the present time about only a mile of the road is comppleted.

"If present progress is main-

(Continued on page 5)
See — LABOR COUNCIL

Post Office cuts service August 2

Prince Rupert Post Office staff will observe the civic holiday declared for August 2, assistant postmaster Douglas Kerr announced today.

Mr. Kerr said that there will be no letter carrier delivery and wicket service except for money order business which will be open from 8 a.m. to 12 noon.

All mail will be sorted and dispatched as usual.

WEATHER—

A few fog patches. A little cooler. Winds light. Low tonight and high tomorrow 53 and 67.

TIDES—

Wednesday, July 30, 1958
(Pacific Standard Time)

High	00:41	21.4 feet
	13:30	10.6 feet
Low	07:15	2.1 feet
	19:24	6.0 feet