WEATHER: Cloudy today and Friday with few showers overnight. Low tonight 38; high Friday 55.

CLOUDY

The Vancouver Sun

TODAY'S TIDES: High 2:05 a.m. 13.0 feet; low 7:13 a.m. 11.1 feet; high 10:14 a.m. 11.6 feet; low 6:57 p.m. 3.5 feet.

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For and Against Coalition at Liberal Conference

ANTI-COALITION STRATEGY is discussed by Arthur Laing, president of B.C. Liberal Association, at right, and Ron Howard, Association secretary, before they step into conference hall to urge Liberals to "go it alone." Anti-Coalitionist faction concede they have a minority, but will "plug" for single transferable vote whether or not anti-Coalition move is beaten.

COALITION SUPPORTERS. Premier Byron Johnson, at right, and K. G. MacKenzie, delegate from New Westminster, will be in the middle of the fray this afternoon in Hotel Vancouver when B.C. Liberals consider the future of the Liberal-Progressive Conservative alliance. Pro-Coalitionists expect 500 delegates to support the parties' union.

Big Liberal Vote for Coalition Predicted

SPEECH 'SABOTAGED' AT LIBERAL PARLEY

A coveralled Hotel Vancouver electrician who puffed like a locomotive at a serious moment in a Liberal convention speech today brought chuckles and a jocular cry of "sabotage" from delegates.

The electrician was trying to get a stage microphone working as Liberal secretary Ronald Howard read delegates a message from president Arthur Laing in the hotel ballroom.

"Who, then, have we to fear?" cried Howard.

"Phuff, phuff," went the electrician, blowing into the suddenly live mike.

Johnson Assured Of Strong Support

Overwhelming support for Premier Byron Johnson's proposal that the B.C. Liberal Party should continue in coalition with the Progressive Conservatives in British Columbia is expected today.

This forecast came as the Liberal Party opened its special convention in Hotel Vancouver Ballroom.

Premier Johnson was scheduled to [illegible] later today.

He is speaking in the same hall where the party 16 months ago named him as provincial leader, and thereby thrust him into premiership of the province.

There was a tense atmosphere as the 600-odd delegates assembled this morning for the preliminary session. Pamphlets were handed out from the Young Liberal Association and others urging the adoption of the single transferable voting system, so that Liberals and Conservatives could make separate appeals to the public.

While the main decision of the convention on the Coalition issue is not expected until later today or tomorrow, the supporters of Coalition claim they have a large majority of the delegates on their side.

It appeared that the main bone of contention will be the terms of the Coalition resolution.

Anti-Coalitionists are insisting that it be tied in with an instruction to the government to bring the single transferable vote into force when the Legislature meets again.

MAYOR OPENS SESSIONS

This was highlighted this morning by Secretary Ron Howard, who stressed in his report that both at the 1947 convention and the provincial executive meeting in December, the party had urged adoption of the single transferable voting system as a means of getting a truer expression of opinion from the public.

The convention was formerly opened at 11:30 a.m. by Mayor Charles Thompson with greetings from the City of Vancouver.

Mayor Thompson was cracked: "I hope you won't look too closely at our roads, and if you find your car behind a few, your car, just consider it one of our little jokes."

GETS AN OVATION

Premier Johnson was greeted by prolonged handclapping when he ascended the platform with the other Liberal members of the provincial cabinet: Attorney-General Gordon Wismer, Provincial Secretary George Pearson, Lands Minister E. T. Kenney, Education Minister H. T. Straith, and Agriculture Minister Frank Putnam.

As delegates filed into the ballroom for the convention, they were handed mimeographed copies of a newspaper editorial praising the single transferable vote.

Howard also read the report delivered by President Arthur

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See "Liberals"

Dalskog Must Pay Or Face Jail Term

Court Gives Him Three Hours To Produce $130,000 IWA Fund

Communist trade union leader Ernie Dalskog today was given until 3:30 p.m. to pay $130,000 IWA strike fund money into the hands of the Supreme Court in Vancouver.

The three-hour time limit was set at 12:30 noon by Mr. Justice Manson, to give Dalskog a chance to escape a possible jail term for contempt of court.

Mr. Justice Manson had granted a writ of attachment for $130,000 on Dalskog, applied for by the IWA, but said he would delay signing it until 3:30 p.m.

Counsel for Dalskog, former B.C. president of the IWA who is now vice-president of the breakaway Communist-led Woodworkers' Industrial Union, said he did not think Dalskog would pay the money.

STILL HAS MONEY

Affidavits in the IWA move to arrest and detain Dalskog charged that Dalskog cashed a $130,000 cheque in a Vancouver bank three days before he helped organize the split in the IWA, and was still in possession of the money.

Earlier in the hearing Mr. Justice Manson suggested he would delay decision in the case until 2 p.m. if Dalskog's solicitor, J. S Burton, would try to get Dalskog to pay the $130,000 to the receiver.

Burton said he had advised Dalskog of the consequences of his actions, but "I don't think he intends to obey the court order."

JUDGE SURPRISED

"If he refuses to accept the advice of counsel, you can't do anything about it," Mr. Justice Manson said: "The writ will go."

His Lordship said he was rather surprised that anyone should decline to accept the advice of his counsel.

"If this defiance persists I will have to consider all remedies available to the plaintiff," he said.

Pointing out the $130,000 would be "quite safe" in the hands of the court receiver, Mr. Justice Manson added:

"Surely some of Dalskog's friends can persuade him not to put himself any more in contempt of court."

PRISONER TO BE JAILED

Burton said he was sure Dalskog would make himself available if His Lordship would leave the case "a day or two."

"Not a day or two," said Mr. Justice Manson, "but I will stand this down until 3:30."

Dealing with the period when

Please Turn to Page Three
See "Dalskog"

WILL BE REPLACED

Seaboard Queen Doesn't Sail; 10 of New Crew Change Minds

SS Seaboard Queen was anchored today in Royal Roads, near Victoria, her departure for Britain delayed by split among her new Seafarers' International Union crew.

Violence threatened Wednesday at Ogden Point Docks, Victoria, when the SIU crew was sent to replace the striking 30-man Canadian Seamen's Union crew which had been ordered off Seaboard Queen by a court injunction. Police patrolled the docks, but no violence resulted.

20 WILL REMAIN

After the ship had sailed 10 or 12 miles, she was brought to a halt in Royal Roads, when part of the new SIU crew decided they didn't want to make the voyage.

An SIU officer in Vancouver said today that of the 30 SIU men sent to man the ship, more than 20 are staying with her. Replacements for the others are being obtained in Victoria, he added.

The ship's agents here said it was hoped the ship could sail again this afternoon.

THREAT OF VIOLENCE

Hottest "incident" on the west coast to date, the threat of violence Wednesday highlighted the national fight between the two maritime unions, which started when eastern Canadian shipowners signed new contracts with the SIU, and the CSU which had held agreements struck on all east coast ships.

The CSU's strike went into its seventh day today, and Eric Atkins, an official of that union, said in Halifax 31 ships are now tied up—11 in Halifax, three at Saint John, two in Vancouver, two at Louisburg, N.S., and the remainder in British, French, Australian and Cuban ports.

OTHER SHIPS NOT LOADED

Vancouver's waterfront, meanwhile, with SS Riverside and SS Seaside strikebound, was quiet.

Neither of these two ships is loaded.

Longshoremen have issued no statement on whether or not they will cross Riverside and Seaside picket lines.

Seaboard Queen was fully loaded and ready to sail, when picket effort ordered removing her CSU crew was issued. Victoria police subsequently ordered the displaced CSU crew off Ogden Point Docks, which is Canadian National Railways' property.

CSU LEADER ARRESTED

Similar court action to remove CSU crews from the Riverside and Seaside here is a possibility.

The SIU official here said his office has received no instructions yet to supply SIU crews for the Riverside and Seaside.

Some of the SIU men sent to man Seaboard Queen are from Vancouver, the remainder from the union's Victoria hiring hall.

Meanwhile, Edward Bird, agent for the CSU at Saint John, was reported arrested today by the RCMP, on a warrant charging him with assault and causing actual bodily harm.

The latest phase from an affray Tuesday at McAdam, N.B., between SIU members and an unidentified party of men from Saint John.

Several men were injured and required hospital aid.

UN Orders Debate on Red Trials

LAKE SUCCESS, April 7—(CP) — The United Nations steering committee beat down bitter Russian protests today and ordered wide-open General Assembly debate on the Communist prosecution of churchmen behind the Iron Curtain.

The Russians thus suffered a sharp defeat in their first major clash with the Western Powers at this spring session of the Assembly which opened Tuesday.

The test was on a joint Australian - Bolivian proposal that the Assembly act on the trials of Josef Cardinal Mindszenty in Hungary and 15 Protestant clergymen in Bulgaria. The vote was 11 to 2, with Iran abstaining. Russia and Poland cast the negative votes.

The United States suggested Wednesday that the trials be considered by the assembly as violations of the Hungarian and Bulgarian peace treaties, but the United States agreed before the vote to support the joint Australian-Bolivian proposal.

Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Zakob A. Malik insisted that Hungary and Bulgaria had acted properly in the trials and demanded that the UN keep hands off.

The steering committee recommended that the question go first to the Assembly's 58-nation political committee No. 2.

The decision may be challenged on the floor of the assembly itself but in view of one-sided vote there appeared little chance of a reversal.

The steering committee meets again Friday morning. The first business then is to decide whether to recommend assembly debate on the Dutch-Indonesian conflict.

3-Storey Fall Kills Fireman

A Vancouver fireman was fatally injured during fire drill today when he fell 29 feet from the third storey of No. 2 Hall on Seymour Street.

M. McPhatter, 30, of 554 West Twenty-second, was climbing a vertical fire escape ladder at the rear of the Seymour Street Hall at 10:30 a.m. when he fell.

He struck the edge of a safety net hung beneath the drill ladder, and fell to the pavement on his back.

This morning's drill involved sliding down a rope into the net's path from five storeys up.

McPhatter had been a fireman for three years. He is married and has no children.

Kingsway Ambulance took him to Vancouver General Hospital, where he died of multiple fractures and head injuries.

(Death scene pictured on Page 3.)

44 Drowned In Cloudburst

BAGHDAD, April 7—(BUP)—Forty-four persons, most of them school girls, were drowned and 94 others were missing in a cloudburst which deluged the town of Telkief in North Iraq today.

The certain casualties were 42 young schoolgirls, one boy and one man. Most of the children were caught near their school in a low-lying part of the town. They were overwhelmed by the torrent before they could reach high ground.

Store Blaze

Heavy water and smoke damage was caused when fire swept through the New Deal Furniture Store, 1469 West Broadway, Wednesday.

Poll Tax Killed; Last Year for Levy

This is the last year Vancouver will collect poll tax.

Five of eight aldermen Wednesday voted unanimously to stop collecting the controversial levy as of 1950.

This year's collections will be made "in full," however, and by this time next year the city may have a new "School Tax" to replace the $5 head levy.

TAX STUDIED

The special committee made a study of the tax situation after aldermen split over repeal of poll tax in January. The group's recommendations will go to finance committee on April 19.

The school tax is one of three alternate revenue producers to be studied by Comptroller Frank Jones and City Solicitor Russell K. Baker on instructions from Wednesday's meeting.

Under the School Act a levy can be made against all adults who do not pay property tax to the city. The proceeds, however, must go to schools.

Amount of the special tax is not specified but $10 is suggested, collectable from men and women alike.

The officials will also investigate possibility of the city asking the provincial government to up the city's 3 percent sales tax share to one-half. Present share is one-third or 1 percent.

PROPERTY TAX

Other suggested sources of revenue to replace the $200,000 now coming in from poll tax are personal property taxation, similar to that levied in some American cities, and higher business taxation.

The five aldermen on the special committee were Ald. Archie F. Proctor, chairman; Aldermen Laura Jamieson, R. K. Gervin, Halford D. Wilson and George C. Miller.

They agreed unanimously that the poll tax as now collected is "unfair and inequitable."

Pork Due to Follow Beef In Price Rise

Beef prices have risen by more than two cents a pound in the past two weeks and pork is expected to jump by a larger amount shortly.

Vancouver packers and dealers report the price of live hogs and cattle in Calgary, source of most of the city's meat, has been strengthening and may move even higher.

Pork may rise 3 or 4 cents a pound after Easter.

Butter is selling from 60 to 63 cents a pound in Vancouver stores and dealers don't expect much change.

Prices, wholesalers' buying price is 57½ cents a pound, which is the government support level.

Prices of meats and other commodities during the past year are all up, except butter.

Freight Trains Collide Head-On

WOODSTOCK, Ont., April 7—(CP) — A head-on collision between two Canadian National Railways freight trains just east of the Woodstock station at 1:30 a.m. Wednesday caused injuries to several trainmen, severe damage to both engines, and blockaded the main line with scattered boxcars.

Clouds, Rain Forecast

Two more overcast days are hanging over Vancouver with a sprinkle of showers overnight.

Temperature will rise to 60 today, the weatherman forecasts, but will drop to a cooler 55 degrees Friday.

Low readings will remain in the mid-30's.

Elsewhere in the province, an active Pacific storm, which brought strong southerly winds and rain to northern coastal areas is now moving slowly inland and will cause increasing cloudiness.

Like to become an OVFC? See Page 21.

OMINECA MOVE FOR COALITION

Special to The Vancouver Sun

VANDERHOOF, April 7.—Plan to form a Liberal-Coalition party throughout Omineca district drew largest turnout in local history to meeting Wednesday night of Vanderhoof and District Coalition.

Meeting, second of the newly-formed association, approved bylaws drafted last week and endorsed a resolution authorizing direct action in assisting organization work throughout the riding.

'OPEN BALLOT'

Coalition Vote Will Be Secret

The contentious question of the Liberals continuing in Coalition will be thrown to the convention without any specific recommendation from the convention's resolution committee.

In its report this morning, the committee said that the matter was of such importance that it should be put to a secret vote of the convention.

The committee suggested that the vote be taken on a resolution couched in the following terms:

"Be it resolved that this convention considers the interests of the people of this province can best be served at this time by the maintenance of the Coalition of the Liberal and Progressive Conservative parties in the government of British Columbia, but that the Liberal Party should maintain and expand its organization and identity, and is fully conscious of the imminent danger of the voters having only one alternative to Socialism."

10 Japanese Get Fishing Licenses

Fishing licenses have been issued to 10 Japanese-Canadians since April 1 lifting of the ban on British Columbia coast licenses.

Nine of the licenses were issued in Vancouver, and the tenth in New Westminster, local Fisheries Department offices report.

Granting of the licenses indicates return of at least some Japanese-Canadians to live on this coast. At the same time, it indicates no mass rush of these people to re-enter the fishing industry.

Some of the license applicants were born in Japan, the rest in Canada. All must prove they are British subjects, either by birth or naturalization, before obtaining the right to fish B.C.'s coast. Having established that, they pay the customary $1 per license.

Some of the Japanese-Canadians obtained more than one license. Separate permits are required for each specific fishery, as for cod fishing, salmon fishing, etc.

Ice Cream Richer Soon

OTTAWA, April 7.—Creamier and better ice cream cones for the kids was news out of Parliament today.

Gordon Fraser (PC, Peterboro, Ont.) asked whether the government is prepared to lift restrictions on the butterfat content of ice cream, which is now restricted to 10.3 percent as the maximum.

Agriculture Minister James Gardiner said a recommendation concerning this was being made. When Mr. Fraser asked if this meant butterfat restrictions would be lifted, Mr. Gardiner replied: "I hope so."

Bomb-Shy Landlord Ruins Light Meter

EDMONTON, April 7—(CP)—A "bomb shy" Edmonton hotel owner just about scared the daylights out of the Edmonton police force today. He also cost the city electric light department one voltage checking meter.

Early today, a guest at the Banff Hotel on Jasper Avenue roused proprietor Morris Gottfriend. Excitedly, he said a bomb was ticking away in the hall.

Proprietor Gottfriend rushed down the hall and found a small metal box plugged into the electrical system.

When he heard the box ticking ominously, Gottfriend took no chances.

He dipped it away from the wall and tossed it out a window.

Then he ran as fast as he could to the police station two blocks away.

The police demolition squad raced to the hotel with sirens screaming only to find the "bomb" was an electric light clockwork meter used to check electrical systems in Edmonton buildings.

Electric light officials ghoulishly reported that tossing the meter out the window "did it little good."

Its value: $30.

LIKE ANYONE ELSE, at the age of 19 weeks, little Prince Charlie is far more interested in his toy bunny than the camera which made these formal portraits of the little fellow at Buckingham Palace this week.

CHRISTENED Charles Philip Arthur George of Edinburgh, the son of Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip is just plain "Bonnie Prince Charlie" to the British press and public.

PLAYFUL PRINCE was born November 14 last year and he's rapidly becoming a big boy. He weighed 16 pounds and two ounces when these pictures were taken. He has fair hair and blue eyes. (AP Wirephotos.)