

Jail term to protect the young

A 42-year-old Quesnel man has been sentenced to 17 months in jail and two years probation for contributing to juvenile delinquency.

Joseph Kolodychuk pleaded guilty in provincial court Wednesday to a May, 1982, charge involving three girls aged eight, nine and 10 years.

Court was told Kolodychuk, who was drinking at the time, invited the children into his residence and offered them liquor, used suggestive language, showed them a collection of pornographic pictures and insisted one sit on his knee.

Upon leaving, the frightened girls complained to a neighbor who called police. Kolodychuk has been in protective custody here since his arrest.

Judge George Stewart, in passing sentence, said the accused came into the courtroom at an unfortunate time.

"The community and the whole province is concerned for the protection of the young... especially young girls," said Stewart.

"If I was to impose anything less than incarceration it would be appealed, but make no mistake... there are those who would like to see you sentenced to 10 years in jail for the protection of their children," said the judge.

Kolodychuk's previous criminal record included two previous similar offences.

Charlottes timber cut is reduced

SMITHERS, B.C. (CP) — Chief forester Bill Young says he has reduced significantly the annual allowable cut of timber in the Queen Charlotte Islands supply area.

In a news release today, Young said he set the annual cut at 450,000 cubic metres, compared with the previous limit of 1,074,000 cubic metres on the West Coast islands.

The timber supply area covers 517,000 hectares, about half the land area of the islands off the north coast.

Young said he set the new limit after studying a Forest Service analysis of the impact of possible rates of harvest and looking at public response to the analysis.

"Numerous submissions from a broad spectrum of the general public were received and considered," he said.

Man held for theft

A 20-year-old city man is in custody after a thief made off with about \$200 from the rear of the Royal Produce store on Fifth Avenue early today.

RCMP said the man fled on foot from the store and was apprehended shortly after by RCMP using a dog. He is scheduled to appear in provincial court today on a charge of theft under \$200.

Most of the money was recovered and no one was injured in the incident.



Arrival signalled

The stork arrived a day late, but its creators Lorraine Bayford, above, and her father Peter Whyman had to hold off until they knew which color to paint the sling in its beak. Bayford's sister and brother-in-law Wendy and Don Ramsay became the parents of a baby girl Monday and the stork alighted on their Carney Street roof Tuesday.

Citizen photo by Brock Gable

Strike hurting loggers

Today's picketing by 30,000 B.C. Government Employees Union members has effectively shut down one part of the forest industry: the supply of sealed logs to mills.

If the strike continues, the entire industry will be silenced.

No mill may use logs which have not been sealed to determine their stumpage value (royalty to be paid for wood cut on Crown land).

Scaling in the Central Interior involves weighing each load and sampling some loads for actual measurement of the wood volume.

Because scalers are

members of the BCGEU, scaling in B.C. has stopped for 24 hours.

Central Interior Logging Association has come out in favor of having scalers considered essential services and therefore not to be part of any BCGEU strike.

Bruce Strachan, Prince George South MLA, said today he favors such a move.

"It's something I would

strongly endorse," he said.

"Things are bad enough in the forest industry without having this (being hurt by another union's strike) being forced on them.

"Regrettably, it's the small guy who gets hurt."

He said the concept was that of Jack Kempf, Omineca MLA, but that he supported it.

Phillips visits city

Industry minister Don Phillips will be in town this evening to discuss the latest developments in the North-east Coal project.

The Chamber of Commerce, which is sponsoring

the dinner meeting at the Inn of the North, says everyone is welcome to attend.

Refreshments will be offered at 6 p.m. and the dinner begins at 6:30 p.m.

Mike Davison, government employee Relations chairman, said "I can understand their (industry's) feelings. It affects them severely."

But, he said, the union itself would have to be convinced the scalers should be withdrawn from pickets and active striking.

"I doubt the union would be very receptive to the idea."

He said for workers to be considered providing essential services, what they do must affect life, health or safety.

"If the ferry workers are not considered essential, I doubt very much if they'd rule scalers as such."

PRINCE GEORGE FOREST REGION

\$1 million cut ordered

by BOB ROWLANDS
Staff reporter

The provincial government has told the Prince George forest region to reduce its budget by about \$1 million, but no-one is being laid off for now, one of the forest service's managers says.

Gary Gurnsey, regional staff manager for finance and administration in Prince George, said cuts in the \$19.9 million budget include "drastic reductions" in pest management and the small business program.

"We're trying to find money in other areas to pay for these programs," he said.

As well, he said travel is being cut to the absolute minimum, expenditures on furniture are being cut and the forest service is not letting out contracts for work that can be deferred.

Small business co-ordinator John McClary said the

50-per-cent reduction in the program's budget could influence the number of sales that are held.

He indicated development work could be affected, including cruising, road work and preparing tendering documents.

Initially, people working on the pest-management program were concerned it would be shut down, but it hasn't been that bad so far, said regional protection officer Orval Gorley.

However, the staff doesn't know from day to day if further cutbacks will be made, he said.

Field crews try to determine areas that have been affected by spruce bark beetles by putting out probe lines, he said.

This work is still being done in places that are accessible by road, but cutbacks have been made in remote areas where helicopters are required, he said.

Bad month on ferries

VICTORIA (CP) — The B.C. Ferry Corp. will launch a full-scale internal inquiry into all its operations and procedures as a result of this month's ferry accidents, chairman Stuart Hodgson said Tuesday.

"We've had a bad month — we lost a ship, a dock and lots of revenue," said Hodgson.

"We've been burning the midnight oil a lot... People around here are still smiling but I can't tell if the smiles are fixed or forced."

He said the decision to hold the inquiry, made at a board meeting earlier this week, was sparked by the Aug. 25 grounding of one ferry and Sunday's damage to a dock caused by a second ferry.

The inquiry will include an "in-depth" look at the corporation's procedures, operational manuals and designated routes and is ex-

pected to take six weeks to two months.

It will be headed by board member Mike Young, chairman of the corporation's planning committee, and will be conducted independently of separate inquiries into this month's accidents, he said.

The first accident occurred when the Queen of Prince Rupert, carrying 330 passengers, ran aground in Gunboat Passage on near Bella Bella, about 500 kilometres north of Vancouver.

A Canadian Coast Guard inquiry is under way. The ferry corporation will then hold its own inquiry into the grounding.

Capt. Arnold Ryles said the mishap resulted from an "error of judgment." He also said it was his decision to use the narrow passage on the Prince Rupert run. The ferry is in dry dock at

Burrard Yarrows in North Vancouver. No damage estimate is available yet, a corporation spokesman said Tuesday.

Late Sunday the Queen of Surrey, with 457 passengers aboard, slammed into a Horseshoe Bay dock, causing damage that will not be repaired for several weeks.

Both accidents caused delays for passengers and a temporary revamping of ferry schedules.

Hodgson said the corporation board has also discussed money-saving measures, including cuts in ferry service this fall and the elimination of overtime for

ferry workers.

He plans to meet Transport Minister Alex Fraser next week with a set of proposals aimed at guiding the corporation through the next seven months.

The cash-tight corporation this year faced a multi-million-dollar reduction in its B.C. government grant and a further drop in revenues following the one-day shutdown of the ferries earlier this month during the government workers' six-day strike.

A Thought for Today
A good timber, like a good man, never grows with ease. — It needs a strong wind and storms to give it strength. — Anonymous

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THIRD AVENUE

Open-air market

A one-block section of downtown Prince George is being transformed into an open-air market Saturday to attract more people to the area.

So far, 26 booths have been rented on Third Avenue between Brunswick and Quebec Streets, said Monica Becott, president of the Town Centre Business Association.

Merchandise from downtown stores, fresh farm produce, woodwork and crafts will be sold, she said, adding there's still time for others to rent booths.

Tickets will be sold at half-price for a matinee performance of The Yearling at the Odeon Cinema.

The association is hoping to hire musicians for the day-long event and clowns will be there to color children's faces, she said.

"We're trying to create a fun atmosphere," Becott said.

"If it works, if people enjoy themselves, we might hold another open-air market next July or August."

Dates for the open-air market would be published in Tourism B.C.'s calendar of events, so travellers would make a point of stopping in Prince George on their vacation, she said.

These events have been quite successful in other towns and Becott said she is hoping for similar success here.

Stabbed man in hospital

A 22-year-old Summit Lake resident underwent surgery early today and is in satisfactory condition in hospital after a stabbing incident in a basement suite on Harper Street.

RCMP said Evan Plas-

way was stabbed about 3 a.m. today and was rushed to hospital where he was listed in critical condition for several hours.

A 63-year-old city resident has been charged with attempted murder.

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MOTHER'S REQUEST

No inquest into Ski's death

by BERNICE TRICK
Staff Reporter

A proposed inquest into the apparent suicide death of 10-year-old Allen Thompson has been cancelled at his mother's request.

Prince George coroner John Wolsey said the coroner's office will comply with Lorraine Thompson's wishes.

"We're not convinced an inquest into this type of death would serve any useful purpose. We're concerned with preventing deaths, but how can one prevent people from taking their own lives if they are determined to do so," said Wolsey.

Allen was found dead March 15, 1982 in the lunchroom of Quins-n Elementary School.

The autopsy report states death was caused by strangulation by hanging.

The boy's mother told The Citizen she made the request "because I want my son to rest in peace and any number of inquests won't bring him back from the grave."

"I've had enough of people telling me what I should do... sue the school... sue the principal... do this or that... but I don't want

anything from anyone." She said her information is that Allen — nicknamed Ski — was locked in the lunchroom as punishment for refusing to do his school assignments and while there hung himself from the doorknob with a narrow cord "resembling store string."

Lorraine, who once worked in a morgue, said she examined her son's body and found a one-quarter inch deep cut around his throat plus black and blue marks and welts on his upper arms.

"At first I was bitter towards school personnel... I even said they drove Ski to do this to himself but I've had to ask forgiveness of my Lord. My son's teacher and principal have suffered enough," she said.

When asked to describe Allen, Lorraine replied: "He was a Christian... a real little Bible-thumper who carried the New Testament with him everywhere. Other kids called him a Jesus-freak."

She said from age three he would pester her to read him the Bible and when he learned to read himself he studied it daily.

"He was intelligent but disliked school and

would put no effort into his work," she said.

A week before his death Lorraine found a printed note from Allen under her pillow but paid no heed and dismissed it as "just kid stuff."

She said the note requested cremation should he die "because he didn't want bugs to eat him."

She said another statement in the note was, "If they put me in that room one more time it will be the last. I hate that room."

"He signed the note with love and drew a happy face under his name," said Lorraine.

"Ski took his own life for his own reasons which I don't even know, but what I do know is his problems are over and he doesn't have to worry about things of this world anymore," she said.

Death and grief are not new to Lorraine who has lost five close relatives since 1974.

It started with her brother's death in a snow slide near Terrace in 1974. A few months later her 15-year-old son Gary was killed in an automobile accident.

A year later her 13-year-old son Ken died of alcohol poisoning "on a dare" and in 1981 her granfather died.

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