



Room to grow

Short of room with record numbers of students enrolled this year, the College of New Caledonia is rooting for swift completion of its new third floor. In the meantime, the college has turned to the school

district for classroom space. Completion of the third floor was delayed by the strike-lockout in the construction industry in August. The new labs and classroom were scheduled for completion by September.

Citizen photo by Brock Gable

'GRASSROOTS' SUPPORT LOST

Socreds lose pioneer backer

VANCOUVER (CP) — It hurt Florence-Marie Rice to quit the Social Credit party after being a member for 48 years.

But she couldn't take it any longer. The party, says the life member, had forgotten about the people who elected it.

From supporting the party in 1933 in Edmonton — where, at the age of 12, she sold candy at five cents a bag to help Socred pioneer Bill Aberhart — Rice became the private constituency secretary for Harvey Schroeder, now Premier Bill Bennett's agriculture minister, helping him get re-elected in one of the largest majorities in the 1975 B.C. election.

She held a number of posts in the Social Credit ranks including women's auxiliary president in Chilliwack and Kelowna, a member of the constituency executive, a fund raiser and canvasser.

She's still raising money, but now it's for the Western Canada Concept party. The WCC, feels Rice, will inherit the support of the grassroots that created and elected Social Credit.

Rice feels the Social Credit party, 30 years after it was first elected to government, has lost track of its voters. Now it's the WCC's turn, she says, pointing to the 25,000 Socreds who have allowed their party memberships to lapse since 1979.

Every day, Rice commutes from her Chilliwack home



Florence-Marie Rice has quit the Social Credit party to join the Western Canada Concept party.

in the Fraser Valley to the WCC office in Vancouver.

She simply returned her life membership to the party and those of her entire family. One membership was her mother's, who will be 83 Tuesday and who held the first Socred corn roast at Chilliwack in 1939.

"It was three years ago that I started questioning what was happening to Social Credit policy, programs and platform," says the younger Rice.

"There is nothing remaining with the original policies of Social Credit. In 1975, Social Credit was elected on the grounds that they would get rid of ICBC, but they didn't. They have allowed business in government, and they have no business being in. The private enterprise philosophy is being forgotten."

The Socreds, says Rice, have become "very friendly with the federal Liberals."

"He (Bennett) didn't bother to tell us if he signed the constitution, he would get the money for the pier and the coliseum and the coal field. The coliseum, the pier, it's a monument to Social Credit."

But Florence-Marie Rice is no separatist. All she wants is for Western Canada to have a say in the doings of government.

The WCC is supported by people who have been afraid of joining political parties in the past, she said, and by people who haven't felt the need for joining a party before.

Nanaimo crossing is a first

VANCOUVER (CP) — Two members of the Sea Shepherd environmental organization braved heavy seas this weekend to successfully complete a 27-hour, 56-kilometre swim from Nanaimo to Vancouver.

It was the first time anyone has swum between the two points. Others have swum the Strait of Georgia, but always the shorter 26-kilometre distance between Nanaimo and Sechart.

In July, Vancouver fireman John Platzner, 27, was pulled from the frigid waters of the strait after swimming about eight kilometres. Platzner, who suffered symptoms of hypothermia, attempted the swim in hopes of raising money for the burn unit at Vancouver General Hospital.

The weekend's successful swim by Sea Shepherd leader Paul Watson, 31, and crew member James Tate Landis, 19, was held to raise funds to fight the protest vessel to the Newfound-land seal hunt next March.

Watson and Landis left Nanaimo on a flood tide at 6 a.m. Saturday.

Twenty-seven hours later, they stepped ashore at Jericho Beach, where they were greeted by friends, relatives and the news media.

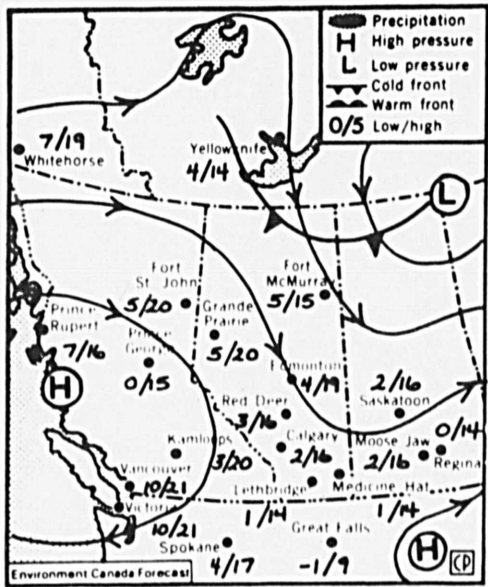
A third swimmer, 19-year-old John Miller of Seattle, also a crew member of the Sea Shepherd, dropped out during the swim after suffering severe leg cramps and was picked up by the escort boat.

Watson's and Landis' swim started in heavy seas and rain.

"We had eight-foot swells and small craft warnings," said Watson. "We used the tides to their maximum benefit, however. As soon as we got out into the strait, the flood tide (which runs north through the strait) carried us towards Hornby Island."

The danger arrived in the form of a ferry and a tug barge.

the weather



Synopsis

Chilcotin, Cariboo: Morning fog today. Otherwise mainly sunny. Highs 14 to 16. Tonight a few clouds. Lows near 0. Wednesday mainly sunny except morning fog patches. Probability of precipitation 10 per cent today and tonight, zero per cent Wednesday.

Central Interior: Today sunny with a few cloudy periods. Morning fog patches. Highs 14 to 16. Tonight a few clouds. Lows near 0. Wednesday mainly sunny except for morning fog patches. Probability of precipitation 10 per cent today and tonight, zero per cent Wednesday.

Thompson: Today sunny. Highs near 20. Tonight clear. Lows near 3. Wednesday sunny. Highs near 20. Probability of precipitation zero per cent today, tonight and Wednesday.

Okanagan: Today mainly sunny. Highs near 20. Tonight mostly clear. Risk of frost in low-lying areas. Lows near 3. Wednesday sunny. Highs near 20. Probability of precipitation 10 per cent today, near zero per cent tonight and Wednesday.

Columbia: Today mainly sunny. Highs 16 to 18. Tonight mostly clear. Lows near 4. Wednesday mainly

sunny. Highs near 18. Probability of precipitation 10 per cent today, near zero per cent tonight and Wednesday.

Temperatures

TORONTO (CP) — High-low temperatures and precipitation in millimetres for the previous 24 hours issued Tuesday by the weather office:	
Vancouver	18 7 000.0
Prince Rupert	16 6 000.0
Stewart	19 4 000.0
Terrace	20 7 000.0
Penticton	18 3 000.0
Kamloops	18 4 000.0
Williams Lake	15 9 000.0
Prince George	15 0 000.0
Mackenzie	16 1 000.0
Fort St. John	17 5 000.0
Fort Nelson	17 5 000.0
Whitehorse	18 10 000.0
Dawson City	16 -2 000.0
Yellowknife	9 5 000.0
Inuvik	15 0 000.0
Resolute Bay	22 -11 000.0
Eureka	7 -9 000.0
Alert	-7 -9 000.0
Cambridge Bay	22 -4 000.0
Calgary	9 4 000.0
Edmonton	10 -4 000.0
Lethbridge	6 3 000.0
Medicine Hat	15 0 000.0
Swift Current	7 3 000.0
Regina	9 5 000.0
Saskatoon	8 5 000.0
Prince Albert	9 4 000.0
North Battleford	9 -1 000.0
Winnipeg	17 6 000.0
Brandon	15 0 000.0
Churchill	19 1 000.0
The Pas	11 -2 000.0
Kenora	15 4 000.2
Thunder Bay	22 8 000.0
North Bay	28 18 015.8
Toronto	28 15 000.0
Ottawa	29 17 000.0
Montreal	28 15 000.0
Fredericton	28 14 000.0
Charlottetown	26 13 000.0
Halifax	21 15 000.0
St. John's	20 12 000.0
Seattle	16 7 000.0
Spokane	24 9 000.0
Portland	26 12 000.0
San Francisco	25 19 000.0
Los Angeles	29 17 000.0
Las Vegas	19 1 000.0
Reno	33 23 000.0
Phoenix	33 23 000.0
New York City	33 26 000.0
Miami	33 26 000.0

'Childhood of killer marked by violence'

VANCOUVER (CP) — An 18-year-old youth who admitted he killed two Fort St. John, B.C., residents set himself on fire as an infant and displayed periodic fits of violence and cruelty to people, B.C. Supreme Court was told Monday.

Darcy Sidoruk, 18, was well known to local police and had been in serious trouble several times with the law before the October, 1980 shooting of close family friend Yvonne Doucette and hitchhiker James Pitt, witnesses told Justice William Trainor during sentencing.

Each time the trial judge placed him on probation.

Sidoruk's criminal record detailed in court includes possession of a dangerous weapon, several thefts, breaking and entering, two common assault charges against a teacher and against a seven-year old, driving a skidoo through a group of school children, passing forged cheques and breach of probation order.

Sidoruk, whose childhood was one of neglect and physical and psychological abuse by his family, was the only student in Fort Nelson to be expelled from all the public schools. He was 14 at the time.

Dr. Stephen Golding, University of Illi-

nois psychiatrist, told Trainor that Sidoruk's violent outbursts can be partially explained by the trauma he experienced at age three. Sidoruk was playing with a table lighter and his pyjamas caught on fire.

Sidoruk's wounds became badly infected and, as a result he spent a considerable amount of his early childhood alone and anxious in a Winnipeg hospital. The psychological scars are still there Golding said.

Linda Tod, a Human Resources Ministry social worker, said Sidoruk's parents emotionally abandoned him by about age seven and placed him in the care of his sister, Wendy, who was nine at the time. She said the relationship between sister and brother turned into hate and physical attacks.

Another time he used an axe to chop off the head of a young dog left by a neighbor to freeze outside, she said.

The penalty for second degree murder is life in prison, with a mandatory 10 years before being eligible for probation. A trial judge has the discretion to recommend eligibility for parole any time after the accused has served 10 years.

CANADA COUNCIL

Top grant \$13,000

VANCOUVER (CP) — A New Westminster man has received \$13,000 from the Canada Council to write about social change in the latest round of council grants.

A Gibsons woman will share a \$10,000 grant to document the life of her sculptor grandfather and an Okanagan cultural society named after a train robber was given \$10,000 to stage a musical about leadership.

These were the largest of 15 grants awarded in B.C. by the Canada Council's Explorations programs in its latest competition. Of 552 applicants across the country, 90 were awarded grants totalling \$646,160.

The largest award went to Chris de-Bresson of New Westminster for a book about literacy and social change.

Anna Vaughan, a Gibsons sculptor, shares \$10,000 with Gibsons photographer Sue Winters to document the works of 91-year-old Canadian sculptor Dudley Carter.

With Winters, Vaughan will organize a travelling exhibition of photographs and analysis of Carter's work.

In Armstrong, at the northern end of the Okanagan valley, the Bill Miner Society for Cultural Advancement has been given \$10,000 towards the cost of mounting a musical cabaret-revue "on the subject of leadership."

Miner became notorious in B.C. for robbing two Canadian Pacific Railway trains in 1904 and 1906. He escaped from the penitentiary in New Westminster in 1907 and eventually died in jail in Georgia in 1913.

Other grants on the list include \$6,600 to Harold Ober of Vancouver for what the council describes as a "children's novel about urban Asian-Salish mythology of Vancouver."

Ober, 33, is a New Englander who has lived in Vancouver for 10 years and organizes historical walking tours of the city.

"I'm a freelance writer and this will be my first book," he said. "It's a novel that incorporates folk stories about Vancouver. My character is a self-styled Hans Christian Andersen who goes around telling stories and I'm thinking of a family book for all ages. It will incorporate the environment, pigeons, buildings, red-wing blackbirds and mountains."

B.C. Hydro layoffs will hit 250 people

VANCOUVER (CP) — B.C. Hydro will lay off 250 workers, including about 100 highly paid professional engineers, in the wake of budget cuts and a slowdown in new project planning, the Crown corporation announced Monday.

The corporation will meet with union representatives today to outline the effect of the cuts approved by the Hydro board on Monday.

The staff cuts will fall most heavily on Hydro's engineering group, which is responsible for planning and development of new generating and transmission projects.

The corporation told the Management and Professional Employees Society late last week that about 100 of the utility's 850 professional engineers — the bulk of whom are on average salaries ranging from \$40,500 to \$57,700 a year — are to be laid off from the engineering group.

In addition a similar number of clerical staff from the group will be given notice.

Another 50 workers in Hydro's electrical operations area — tradesmen, clerical staff and some engineers — will be affected immediately while union representatives have been warned that further layoffs may be coming before the end of the year.

It is expected an outline of the financial impacts of the budget cuts will be given to the B.C. Utilities Commission today when the hearing into Hydro's application for a 25 per cent rate increase over two years resumes after a summer recess.

Hydro had earlier indicated the recession is cutting into its current electricity sales and had dampened forecasts for future power needs as industrial customers delay or cancel expansion plans.

During the past 20 years of large-scale hydro development on the Columbia and

Peace Rivers, B.C. Hydro has become geared for growth and is the largest employer of engineers in the province.

However, virtual abandonment of the giant Hat Creek thermal project and the repeated deferment of major hydro developments like Site C on the Peace River because of slowing demand growth have reduced the planning and design needs of the utility.

Copper mine to be closed

VANCOUVER (CP) — Noranda Mines Ltd. will shut its Bell copper mine near Granisle in central B.C. for an indefinite period from Oct. 29, bringing to a halt all the company's mining operations in the area.

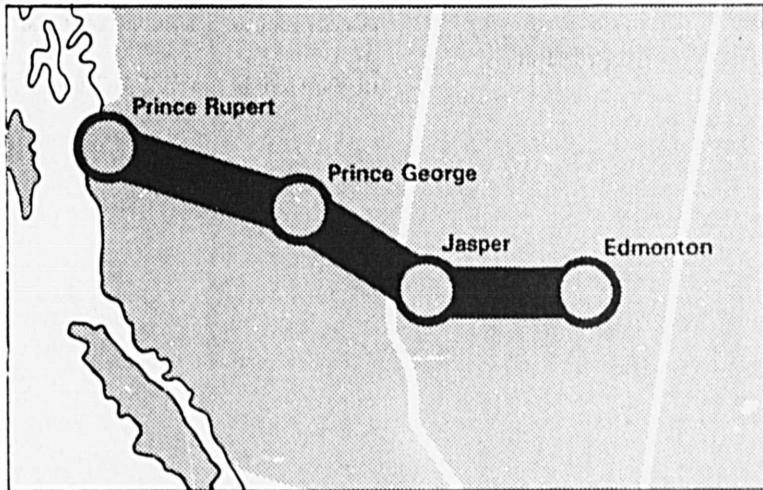
The 300 Bell workers were told they would be joining 300 colleagues from the adjacent Granisle mine on long-term layoff when they returned to work on Monday after a six-week summer shutdown.

The Granisle mine was closed for a year July 6.

Bill Allan, Noranda group vice-president in Vancouver, said there was no indication copper markets would improve enough before 1984 to affect the financial situation of the Bell mine. Operating losses had to be reduced to ensure the survival of the company for the future, he said.

Noranda has already cut back other parts of its B.C. mining operations. Its small Boss Mountain molybdenum mine in the Cariboo has been operating at 50 per cent capacity since spring, when 80 workers were laid off.

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