provincial

The Citizen Monday, November 7, 1983-8

Blackman ruled insane weather

Synopsis

Prince George, Chilcotin Cariboo: Today cloudy with sunny periods. A few showers of rain or snow. Snowshowers over ridges. Highs 3 to 6. Tonight a few snowshowers. Lows zero to -3. Tuesday sunny with cloudy periods. Highs near 6. Probability of precipitation 30 per cent today and tonight and 10 Tuesday.

Bulkley Valley-The Lakes: Today mostly cloudy. Occasional showers of rain or snow. Highs 2 to 5. Tonight a few clouds. Lows zero to -3. Tuesday mostly sunny. Highs near 8. Probability of precipitation 50 per cent today, 20 tonight and zero Tuesday.

Thompson, Okanagan: Today cloudy periods with a few rain showers. Snowshowers over ridges. Highs 9 to 11. Tonight a few showers except snowshowers ridges. Gradual clearing overnight. Lows zero to 2. Tuesday mostly sunny. Highs 11 to 13. Probability of precipitation 30 per cent today and to-

night and zero Tuesday. Columbia, Kootenay: Today mostly cloudy. A few rain showers except snowshowers ridges. Highs 5 to 7. Tonight a few showers except snowshowers ridges. Lows zero to 2. Tuesday cloudy with sunny periods. Highs near 8. Probability of precipitation 30 per cent today and tonight and 10 Tuesday.

Parsnip: Today mostly cloudy. A few showers of rain or snow. Highs 1 to 4. Tonight cloudy with a few snowshowers. Lows -2 to -5. Tuesday cloudy with sunny periods. Highs near 4. Probability of precipitation 50 per cent today, 40 tonight and 20 Tuesday.

Greater Victoria, Greater Vancouver: Today cloudy with showers this morning becoming less frequent this afternoon and highs 9 to 11. Tonight gradual clearing with lows 3 to 5. Tuesday mainly sunny with highs 11 to 13. Probability of precipitation 80 per cent today, 20 tonight and zero Tuesday.

Lower Fraser Valley:

NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C. (CP) — A B.C. Supreme Court jury has found Bruce Alfred Blackman not guilty by reason of insanity in the slayings of six members of his family at their Coquitlam, B.C. home last January.

The jurors took 40 minutes Friday to conclude that Blackman was incapable of understanding the nature of his actions or knowing it was wrong when he shot and bludgeoned his parents, one brother, two sisters, and a brother-in-law.

During the first-degree murder trial the court heard of Blackman's psychotic, tortured mind. He believed he was possessed and felt he had to prevent the end of the world by killing his family.

Because of the unusual nature of the case, the Crown and defence set aside the adversarial system and both put up the defence of insanity.

Blackman was ordered kept in strict custody at the forensic psychiatric institute in Coquitlam where he'll remain at the pleasure of the lieutenant-governor.

Blackman, 23, smiled when the verdict was handed down.

Mr. Justice Lloyd McKenzie said in an address to the jury before their deliberations that Blackman suffered a grave mental disturbance that caused his "totally outrageous actions."

The case was described by defence lawyer Richard Levenson as "a bizarre tragedy."

The victims of the slayings were Blackman's

father, Richard, 50, mother Irene, 49, younger brother Rick, 16, sisters Roberta Davies, 28, and Karen Rhodes, 25, and brother-in-law John Davies, 39.

In testimony earlier Friday, Dr. Philip Adilman, a psychiatrist, testified that Blackman was incapable of appreciating the nature of his actions.

Adilman, who treated Blackman after the killings, said the young man suffered from a severe disease of the mind and was given anti-psychotic medication.

Adilman also offered details of Blackman's Bible-based delusions, including a belief that he had to kill his family to save the world.

Also testifying on Blackman's mental state Friday were Dr. Derek Eaves and Dr. Roy O'Shaughnessy, both psychiatrists.

The latter played to the court a videotape of an interview he had with Blackman on Feb. 17.

During the 30-minute taped interview, Blackman attempted to explain his theories about the world coming to an end. He also complained about "this stupid possession" which made him give up the millwright course he had started in Nelson two days before the killings.

Blackman said that shortly after he arrived in the southeastern B.C. community, an inner voice told him to return to Coquitlam immediately and kill his family.

Columbian hangs on

NEW WESTMIN-STER, B.C. (CP) — Op-eration of the 122-yearold New Westminster Columbian will continue for a week while negotiations continue on the fate of the daily newspaper's parent company. The Columbian Co.

Ltd., which publishes The Columbian and five suburban weekly newspapers, as well as operating a commercial press, was formally declared bankrupt in a B.C. Supreme Court action three weeks ago.

"In view of the existence of certain negotiations which are hoped may result in a solution to the problems facing The Columbian, the inspectors have decided to continue the operation of all divisions for the time being," bankruptcy trustee Don Selman, of Peat Marwick Ltd., said

LEADERLESS PARTY 'MPs eye B.C. Tories'

BURNABY, B.C. (CP) - More than one federal Progressive Conservative MP is interested in seeking the leadership of the party's provincial wing, provincial president Jim McNeil said Sunday.

The provincial party has not had a leader since August, 1982, when Brian Westwood was forced to resign after it was learned he favored an alignment with the separatist Western Canada Concept. But McNeil says the party probably won't hold a leadership convention until late 1984.

"More than one (federal MP) has indicated interest in the position,' the newly-elected president NcNeil said in an interview after the last session of the Conservative's annual three-day convention. He said a leadership convention should not be held until after the federal election in the hopes that an MP might run. He would not identify the MPs

who were interested.

Long-time B.C. Conservative, John Green, told the session that the par-

ty must have a credible, high-profile leader if it is to break the polarization that now grips B.C. politics. "There are six highly capable peo-

ple (from B.C.) in the shadow cabinet now," Green said. "But it's high-ly unlikely that after the election, when the positions are dealt out with representation from Ontario and Quebec taken care of, that we'll have more than three people in the federal cabinet."

"To hold a leadership election before the next federal election would be very destructive," he said, calling on the 125 provincial delegates at the convention to elect an interim leader instead.

But his motion was turned down as provincial Tories chose to emphasize rebuilding their tattered party which is almost \$20,000 in debt and has been going downhill since 1979 when it lost its last seat in the provincial legislature.

Many delegates supported the need for a leader to speak for the party.

Canadä

CANADA SAVINGS BONDS

Today cloudy with showers becoming less frequent this afternoon. Chance of a thundershower late this afternoon with highs 9 to 11. Tonight isolated showers with lows 2 to 5. Tuesday. mainly sunny with highs near 13. Probability of precipitation 80 per cent today, 30 tonight and zero Tuesday.

Temperatures

(CP) - High-low temperatures and precipitation in millimetres for the previous 24 hours issued Monday by the weather office:

7 000.2 5 000.4 6 028.2 5 004.0 0 000.0

3 000.2 1 000.0

-1 001.2 2 003.8

Vancouver	11	7 009.4
Victoria	12	7 000.2
Comox	10	5 000.4
Port Hardy	8	6 028.2
Prince Rupert	9	5 004.0
Stewart	6	0 000.0
Геггасе	5	3 000.2
Penticton	12	1 000.0
Kamloops	12	1 000.0
Castlegar		Misg
Castlegar Cranbrook	10	-1 001.2
Revelstoke	9	2 003.8
Blue River		Misg
Puntzi Mountain		Misg
Williams Lake	7	-2 000.0
Prince George	7	-3 000.0
Mackenzie	10	-1 003.6
Fort St. John	0	-4 000.0
Fort Nelson	-5	-10 000.2
Jease Lake	-2	-7 000.0
Peace River	2	-5 000.0
Whitehorse	-	Misg
Dawson City	-7	-20 000.0
Yellowknife	-2	-7 002.2
nuvik	-13	-19 000.0
Resolute Bay	-20	-29 000.0 -43 000.0
Eureka	-39	
Alert Bau	12	Misg
Cambridge Bay Calgary	-12 13	-26 000.0 -6 000.0
	13	-2 000.0
Edmonton	15	2 000.0
ethbridge	16	0 000.4
Medicine Hat	15	0 002.4
wift Current	13	3 001.4
Regina	10	0 002.2
askatoon	8	1 005.0
Prince Albert forth Battleford	5	-1 000.0
	10	3 000.0
Vinnipeg	9	4 001.0
Brandon	1	-2 001.6
hurchill he Pas	6	1 003.2
(enora	6	1 000.0
hunder Bay	13	-4 000.0
forth Bay	6	1 000.0
oronto	7	5 000.4
ttawa	3	2 000.6
fontreal	4	2 000.0
redericton	8	3016.5
redericton harlottetown	16	6 020.2
lalifax	16	7 027.3
t. John's, Nfld.	9	6 000.0
eattle		Misg
pokane	10	2 010.9
ortland	13	7 000.8
an Francisco	22	11 000.0
an Francisco os Angeles as Vegas	22	16 000.0
as Vegas	25	13 000.0
eno	21	10 000.0
hoenix	29	17 000.0
ew York City	10	6 000.0
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