

Tribute paid to J. V. Fisher

Province Victoria Bureau
VICTORIA — Premier Bennett and Opposition leader Strachan Thursday joined in paying tribute to former B.C. deputy finance minister J. V. Fisher, who died Wednesday in a Victoria nursing home.



J. V. FISHER

Bennett said Fisher, 76, had been a "great public servant." "His long record of service to the people, from a young man and through to the deputy minister of finance, and then as B.C. agent-general in London, is an example to all young British Columbians who might think of entering the service of the people of this province," said Bennett.

"He has been a great public servant and a great assistant to me when I became premier in 1952. The sympathy of Mrs. Bennett and myself goes to Mrs. Fisher and the family." Said Strachan: "I am very sorry to hear of the death of Dr. Fisher. He was a remarkable civil servant with a very, very wide knowledge of the province. When he was deputy minister of finance, I had many talks with him and he helped me understand the finances of the province. He was a fine man." Fisher was born in Florence, Italy, of a Scottish father and a French mother. He was orphaned at 12. He attended Geneva College, Heidelberg University, and the London School of Economics, where he earned his Ph.D.

He came to Canada on a visit to Victoria in 1912. In the first World War, Fisher served with the Seventh Battalion B.C. Regiment, later the First B.C. Regiment. He was a victim of the first German gas attack, at Ypres, in 1915.

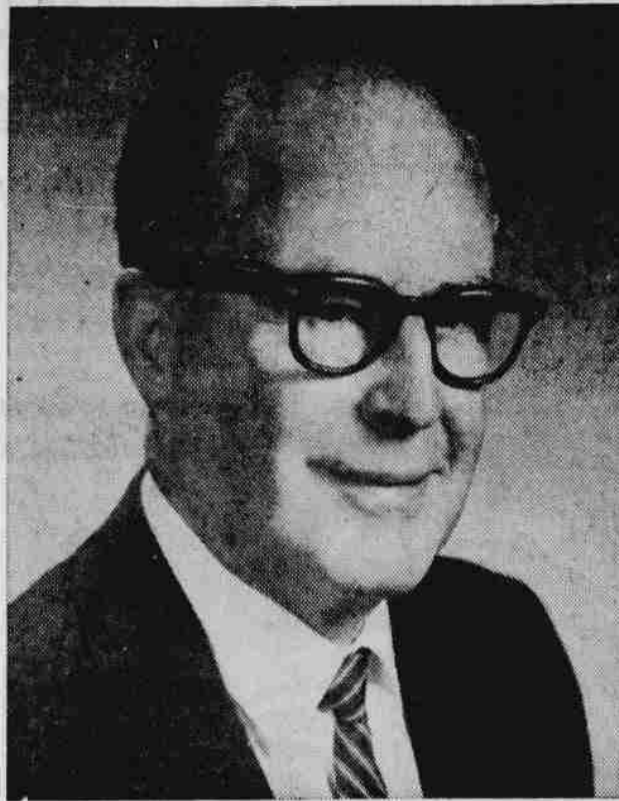
He was later injured by high explosives, so seriously that he was not expected to live. His death was reported in Canada. He met and married Mrs. Fisher in England in 1917 while recovering. They returned to

Victoria in 1918, when Fisher joined the provincial government service as statistician and court registrar at Vernon.

He worked his way up in the finance department, becoming deputy minister in 1935. He served in that post until 1959, when he was appointed economic adviser to the government for a two-year term.

He became B.C. agent-general in England in 1961, retiring to Victoria after three years in that post.

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Both were centenarians Sarah Marshall dies after Sarah Marshall

Special to The Province

VICTORIA—For several years, this city had two centenarians named Sarah Marshall. They lived a few blocks away from each other and had done for decades, but they never met. Last year, the "young" Sarah Marshall died, seven weeks before her 102nd birthday. Now the older Sarah Marshall has died, just over three weeks before her 108th birthday on Dec. 27. Funeral will be held today for Mrs. Marshall, who until a year ago still insisted on climbing stairs instead of using an elevator at the Salvation Army's Matson Lodge, where she lived. Brigadier W. C. Bonner said she made the climb about noon every day "just to prove she was still alive and kicking."

"And until recently she still wrote to her 'kid' brother in England," Bonner said. "He's only in his 90s." She wrote him until her eyes got too weak. Both Sarah Marshalls had in common a powerful determination not to think of themselves as old. The younger one remarked on her 100th birthday: "I just hate to think I'm getting old."

The older one was still making it to the lodge's dining room nearly every day—outdoing many of the lodge's other 140 senior citizens, all of them younger than Mrs. Marshall.

Thieves smash hole in store

Thieves took \$9,000 worth of clothing from a Robson Street ladies' wear store after smashing through the wall of the store. Police said thieves used a sledge-hammer, two crow bars and a tire iron to smash through the plywood sheeting of a building under construction next to Brigitte Mode Ltd. Ladies' Wear, 1017 Robson. Then, said police, the thieves smashed through the wall of the ladies' wear store.

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