

"Democracy means not I am as good as you are, but 'You are as good as I am.'"

10 PAGES

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CHARLOTTETOWN, CANADA, MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 1955

Covers

Prince Edward Island

Like The Dew

PRICE 5c

Wood Alcohol Blamed

47 Sailors From Carrier Poisoned

HALIFAX (CP)—A dozen weary naval doctors and teams of nurses Sunday night continued their round-the-clock efforts to aid 47 sailors who drank duplicating machine fluid at a party Friday night aboard the aircraft carrier Magnificent.

NO BLINDNESS REPORTED

Traditionally anyone drinking methyl alcohol went blind, if he lived.

However doctors at the hospital at Stadacona naval base here, where the men are being treated, said late Sunday there has been no cases of blindness. They said if there were none within 48 hours after the party, believed to have started about 10 p. m. Friday, there probably would be no loss of eyesight.

THE 12 naval doctors worked in consultation with Dr. D. H. Tompkins, a Halifax specialist in internal medicine. They fought the effects of the poisonous cocktails by injecting acids into the veins of the stricken sailors.

ISSUE STATEMENT

Sunday afternoon they issued the following statement: "Naval doctors said at 4:30 this afternoon that they are encouraged by the fact that the patients are showing some improvement, but it is, of course, still too early to say any more."

Naval sources said there was no apparent reason for the party, but it was reported that some of the sailors were under stoppage of leave and confined to ship.

DETAILS SCANTY

Details of the actual fling are scanty pending a ship's investigation to be made by officers of the Magnificent this morning.

Some reports said the concoction was prepared by dumping bottles of liquor into a big punch bowl. One of the bottles apparently was fluid used for erasing errors on stencils for duplicating machines.

The navy said most of the sailors apparently did not know what they were drinking. It was not known

whether the cocktails were contained in one mess or distributed about the ship.

ALL WATCHES KEPT

Two petty officers were involved but the rest of the victims were in the lower ratings.

All watches were kept Friday night and early Saturday. The first case was not reported until about 10 a. m. The first symptoms was drowsiness.

About 40 of the men were rounded up by early Saturday afternoon and the remaining seven came in following appeals broadcast by radio stations.

The 18,000-ton Magnificent returned to Halifax Dec. 4 from a 2 1/2 months training cruise to Vancouver.

Partial List Of Sailors On Carrier Poisoned

HALIFAX (CP)—Following is a partial list of sailors poisoned aboard the aircraft carrier Magnificent Friday night by drinking punch containing methyl alcohol.

Dangerously ill: S Douglas Brunkholder, Stouffville, Ont.; PO Maynard Johnson, Victoria; LS Fraser Way, Colchester, Ont.; AB Robert Murphy, Athens, Ont.; AB Raymond Barry, Duxbury, N. B.; AB Clarence Desjardins, Toronto; AB John Macdonald, Beaverton, Ont.

Seriously ill: OS Allan McKellar, Plaster Rock, N. B.; AB Francis Peppiatt, Kingston, Ont.; AB Roy Lombardie, Chatham, Ont.; AB Pierre Frechette, Quebec city; LS James Friar, Brown, Dartmouth, N. S.

In hospital: OS Robert Patterson, Montreal; LS Joseph Lees, Springhill, N. S.; AB Ronald A. Shames, Sudbury, Ont.; OS Allister Arnold, Grand Falls, Nfld.; OS Ian Hamilton, Fruitland, Ont.; OS Garnet Knight, Orillia, Ont.; AB John McIntosh, Smith Falls, Ont.; OS Murray Urquhart, Hamilton, Ont.; AB Ray Middleton, London, Ont.; AB Ronald Bawinheimer, Toronto; OS Ernest Mitro, Ottawa; AB John E. C. The identified as acting P.O. Edward Erich Nash of London, England, and another student, believed to be from France, whose name was withheld pending notification of next-of-kin.

EDMONTON (CP)—Six persons were killed Saturday in two RCAF plane crashes, one in Alberta and the other in Manitoba. A Mitchell bomber crashed 28 miles southwest of Edmonton after wings were damaged. It struck a ferry cable strung across the north Saskatchewan river. The three occupants were killed.

The RCAF here identified the men Saturday night as: FO Douglas Merrill Ward of Edmonton, the pilot; FO Richard Grant Officer of Vancouver, engineer, and FO John Kutyn of Edmonton, navigator.

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Seine Floods Thousands Of Acres In, Around Paris

PARIS, (AP)—The normally peaceful Seine bucked and tore at bridges and piers Sunday. It flooded tens of thousands of acres around this city.

In some places the water raced along two feet or more above street level, held in check by barricades of steel and concrete erected in past years and now being raised to meet still further increases in the river level expected today.

Paris' great buildings are not in danger but water has flooded into the Palace of Justice, in one tower

of which Queen Antoinette was imprisoned. A few bridges had to be closed to traffic.

The river rose about 10 inches during the night and was expected to go up another several inches by morning. It is already the highest water since 1924.

Streets of hundreds of villages and towns in France are full of water, for the flood is not confined to the Seine itself. There is high water on every major river system, from north to south. An estimated 200 factories, with a total of 50,000 workers, will not be able to open today because of flood conditions.

The Seine, which pours into the Atlantic, has spilled over its banks, spreading over thousands of acres of lowland and forcing thousands of villagers out of their homes. The Seine, which enters the Seine below Paris, has also overflowed its banks.

EVACUATE RESIDENTS

Police barred all persons from the Seine river banks near the Eiffel tower. There in many places the water is held back only by hastily erected brick and concrete barricades. Police, troops and various service corps have been called in to help move people and furniture from basement and ground floor apartments in this area.

Some parts of Paris downstream from the Eiffel are six feet or more below high water. If the Seine broke loose it would turn that section of the city into a lake.

A little island in the Seine downstream from Notre Dame went out of sight Saturday and the basement of the cathedral, itself an island, was flooded.

EISENHOWER WILL ASK TODAY FOR USE OF AMERICAN FORCES AT FORMOSA

Urges Hearing Be Postponed

OTTAWA, Jan. 23, (Special) — Support of Prince Edward Island Premier Matheson's stand on postponing the CNR hearing on discontinuance of the railway's passenger service in the Province is given by Neil A. Matheson, Liberal MP for Queen's.

Nfld. Employment Picture Brighter

ST. JOHN'S Nfld. (CP)—The national employment office here said Saturday the employment picture is brighter than it was this time last year.

Child Missing Near Yarmouth

YARMOUTH, N. S. (CP)—Some 500 volunteers Sunday searched the woods around nearby Little River for six-year-old Harold Newell, last seen Saturday in freezing weather.

Church At Milton, N. S. Destroyed

LIVERPOOL, N. S. (CP)—A wooden frame Baptist church at nearby Milton was destroyed by fire a few hours before the congregation was due to arrive Sunday morning.

Two Drowned In N. S. Lake

HALIFAX (CP)—Garvey Romans Jr., 21, pulled his father and uncle from a gaping hole in the ice of a nearby lake Sunday, then watched in helpless horror as his brother and a companion drowned in 47 feet of frigid water.

Halifax Man Near Victim

PHOENIX, Ariz. (AP)—Mrs. Patricia Jane Milavec, 22, Phoenix, also known as Patricia Jane McGinn, was in jail here Sunday for investigation of assault with a deadly weapon after a reported "double life" shooting.

Seek Sanctuary In So. Viet Nam

Ragged Refugees Flee Communists

By CORLEY SMITH

HAIPHONG, Indochina (Reuters)—Ragged refugees from Communist rule have fled to the south, seeking sanctuary in Communist-ruled South Viet Nam.

Like most of the 600,000 refugees who already have fled the Communist-dominated north, men and women massed at this northern evacuation port now are chiefly poor people—peasants, fishermen, coolies and small storekeepers.

Nearly all the refugees fled for two reasons: They were on the verge of starving and could not feed their families under stiff Communist taxes, and they detested their new Communist boss and the ceaseless campaign of brain-washing, forced labor and propaganda and brain-washing drove them to leave their villages and seek sanctuary in Communist-ruled South Viet Nam.

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14 Lose Lives In Express Wreck

SUTTON COLDFIELD, England (Reuters)—At least 14 persons were killed and more than 30 injured when an express train ran off the rails here Sunday. Six persons were still trapped in the wreckage Sunday night.

Churchill Sniffs Battle Over British Arms Program

LONDON, (AP)—Like an old war horse, Prime Minister Churchill Sunday sniffed the smoke of a new political battle arising from Britain's expensive and slow-moving defence program.

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WASHINGTON (AP) — President Eisenhower will ask Congress today for authority to use American armed forces in the defence of Formosa and its military approaches.

The wording of a resolution, prepared for introduction in House of Representatives and Senate following the president's request, is broad enough to cover:

1. The use of American warships and transports in evacuating the division of 12,000 or more Nationalist troops from the Red-menaced Tachen islands.

2. The use of American warships and planes, if the president should later decide this is necessary, in helping Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's forces defend the key approach islands of Quemoy and Matsu, which face the Communist harbors of Amoy and Fochow.

This in effect would set up two defence lines—one outer line of Nationalist-held islands including Quemoy and Matsu for which the United States might or might not fight, depending on conditions at the moment, and a primary inner line which the U. S. would be committed to defend under a treaty now awaiting Senate ratification.

LINE DRAWN IN 1950

The inner line runs roughly through the middle of the Formosa Strait. That is the line drawn by former president Truman back in June, 1950 when he assigned the U. S. 7th Fleet to prevent the Reds from seizing Formosa while the United States was engaged in Korea.

The outer defence line is that which runs through Nationalist-held islands on the western side of the Formosa Strait near the Red China coast.

The United States has never stated precisely whether it would help Chiang Kai-shek's troops defend any of these islands.

LET TACHENS GO

The administration decided about a week ago that the Tachens were not worth fighting for. Hence the need for urgent authority to evacuate Chiang's forces there and use them in strengthening the defences of Formosa.

line are the Quemoy and Matsu groups, which guard two invasion routes to Formosa.

If they ever come under massive Red attack the president might decide to use American forces in their defence, under the proposed

SOLDIERS BIDE FREE

THE HAGUE, The Netherlands (Reuters)—Defence Minister Cornelis Staf, who says of a national furor when he banned hitchhiking by soldiers six weeks ago, now has announced that servicemen will be provided with free transport when going home on leave.

Debate Resumes Today At Ottawa On Paris Treaties

OTTAWA, (CP)—Debate on the government's proposed legislative program has been interrupted twice during the first 11 days of the new session but is expected to end late this week or early next week.

The first interruption of the throne speech debate came when the government introduced legislation to widen supplementary unemployment insurance benefits for winter jobs to the level of regular benefits. The measure was approved after a debate lasting one full day.

The debate was interrupted a second time last Thursday to enable the House to discuss a government resolution urging ratification of the Paris agreements providing for the entry of a rearmend West Germany into the North Atlantic Treaty Organizations.

Debate on the West German question continued through Thursday and Friday and will be resumed Monday.

REPLY TUESDAY

Finance Minister Harris, government leader in the Commons, said he hopes the debate will conclude Monday so the House can return to its discussion of the legislative program outlined in the throne speech. However, he said

that if the debate ends Monday External Affairs Minister Pearson will not reply until Tuesday.

Ratification of the Paris agreements was supported by Liberal, Progressive Conservative and Social Credit party speakers and by CCF leader Goldsworthy. However, it was opposed by members of the CCF and one other member of the party, Alister Stewart, Winnipeg North, said he would abstain from voting.

The Progressive Conservative and CCF parties have proposed want-of-confidence motions criticizing the government's legislative program. Under the rules of the House the Social Credit party is precluded from presenting a similar motion.

SIX-POINT INDICTMENT

The Progressive Conservative motion is a six-point indictment of government policies. It charges the government has failed to act on retention and expansion of overseas markets, unemployment, tax relief, ending of government waste and extravagance, encouragement of natural resources industries and a federal-provincial contributory health insurance plan.

The CCF motion adds another charge that the government has deliberately to the depression-time policy of uncontrolled and unplanned private enterprise. It says the government has failed to undertake the economic planning necessary to cope with the serious problems now facing the Canadian people.

Lucky Chance Rouses Family

ST. CATHARINES, Ont. (CP)—Mr. and Mrs. Albert Brunner of nearby Louth were roused from bed early Saturday by fire engines screaming past their home.

The apparatus was enroute to a chimney fire at a boy scout camp. They started to return to bed, sniffed a smoke, heard crackling flames and discovered their home was on fire.

The three-room frame building was destroyed in a few minutes. The fire was started by an overheated coal stove.



TORONTO (CP)—Minimum and maximum temperatures:

Table with 3 columns: Location, Min, Max. Includes Dawson, Vancouver, Victoria, Edmonton, Calgary, Regina, Winnipeg, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec, Fredericton, St. John's, Moncton, Halifax, Charlottetown, Sydney, Yarmouth, St. John's.

HALIFAX (CP)—The weather office here says temperatures are reasonable, pressure is steady, and little change is expected today.

Forecasts:

Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick: Cloudy with a few clear intervals and a few snowflurries; little change in temperature; light winds. Low-high at Charlottetown 15 and 25, Moncton and Fredericton 10 and 25, Saint John 20 and 30, Edmundston five and 20, Campbellton 10 and 20.

Bay of Fundy: Light winds; variable cloudiness with a few light snowflurries; visibility 10 miles lowering in flurries to four miles; little change in temperature.

High tide today at Charlottetown at 11:47 a. m. and 10:50 p. m. Summerside tide eighteen minutes later than Charlottetown. Sun rises today at 7:42 a. m. and sets at 5:08 p. m.