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The Guardian

"Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew"

WEATHER

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west winds 15 increasing in the afternoon
to northwest 20. Low-high 12 and 28.

VOL. LXXI NO. 282

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CHARLOTTETOWN, CANADA TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1958

14 PAGES

NOT MORE
THAN

FIVE CENTS

Hospital Insurance Possible Soon As Details Ironed Out

Facilities Are Sufficient, Report Of Survey Indicates

Prince Edward Island should be ready for the training of nursing assistants.

Dr. Bonnell stated "The report is quite comprehensive and will provide an excellent reference for the future in the field of hospital care."

"The suggestions for alterations in various departments of general hospitals should result in improved services to the patient and more effective utilization of the available facilities."

The survey was carried out by the Toronto firm as a project of the department of health on the recommendation of a citizens committee on hospital insurance. This committee was made up of representatives from the medical and nursing professions, hospitals, agriculture, labor, women's institutes, and government departments.

During the survey, a detailed investigation of the facilities available at all hospitals in the province, including the Provincial Sanatorium and the mental hospitals, was carried out. Consideration was also given to the educational program for hospital personnel as well as accommodation for the aged.

This study was carried out with a view to ascertaining the adequacy of existing facilities, not only for present needs, but for the provincial plan of hospital insurance which is about to be undertaken.

EXPAND CENTRE

In order to provide adequate rehabilitation services, the report recommends that the Rehabilitation Centre be expanded to 50 beds. This is to be supplemented by the establishment of departments of physical medicine in the larger hospitals.

It also makes various recommendations concerning the need for more qualified instructors in the schools of nursing, more teaching of students of the wards, more in-service educational programs for graduate nurses and the establishment of a central

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Province should be able to proceed with a hospital insurance program as soon as the organizational details can be set up. Some slight shortages of accommodation can be anticipated and the co-operation of the medical profession and the public will be essential to limit admissions at such times to the more urgent cases.

The modest expansion program in these recommendations should be proceeded with to offset the

(Continued on page 11 col. 4)

Search For Children Was Terrible Ordeal For Many

CHICAGO (AP)—To wait, to search and to hope.

For some frantic parents that was all there was to do. Their children were "unaccounted for" in the aftermath of the raging fire that sped through the Roman Catholic Our Lady of the Angels parochial elementary school Monday, taking 88 lives.

Some mothers waited in the chilling winds outside the blackened bulk of the school.

Others hurried to the hospitals on the northwest side where the dying and the injured were taken. Dozens of anxious relatives raced to the police station.

Still others made the dread trip to the morgue.

QUESTIONS CLASSMATE

At one hospital Mrs. Howard Anglim tried to question little Frances Panno, 10, a classmate of her son, Bobby, 10.

"Where was Bobby? Did he get out?"

Frances, her face so urged and slightly burned, could not help. "I don't know what to do," sobbed Mrs. Anglim. "I don't want to go to the morgue. I'm so afraid."

In front of the school Mrs. Pauline Baroni clutched a small quilted red jacket, brought from home to warm her daughter.

Trade Minister Denies Rumors

OTTAWA (CP)—Trade Minister Churchill said Monday he made no threats to resign during cabinet discussion of the 17-per cent freight rate boost.

Rumors have been flying that the Winnipeg lawyer threatened to quit if the cabinet approved the increase. The increase went through and Mr. Churchill is still in harness.

"I made no threats," he told a reporter.

Asked whether he approved of the cabinet's handling of the increase, he replied:

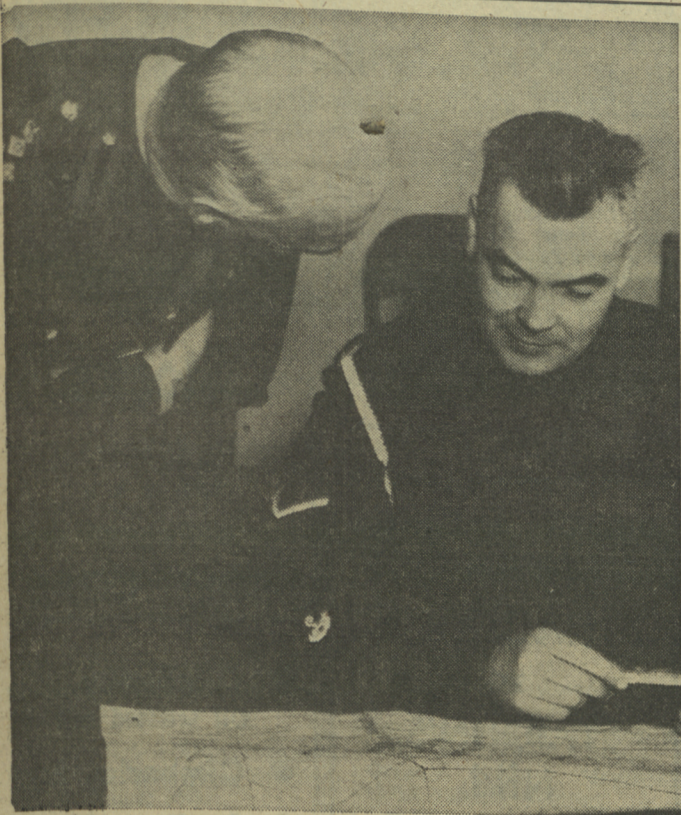
"I can't really make any comment on that."

Two Mayors Re-elected

OTTAWA (CP)—George Nelms Monday was re-elected mayor of Ottawa for a second two-year term.

He led from the start in the three-way mayoralty race and steadily piled up a growing margin over his two opponents, former controller Roy Donaldson and newcomer W. J. LeClair, an engineer.

Windsor, Ont. (CP)—Michael Patrick Monday night rolled up an overwhelming victory for his third two-year term as mayor. Unofficial figures for 247 of 251 polls gave him more than a 14,000-vote margin over his nearest rival.



PROBLEM IN MAPS

Lance Bombardier Lawrence Villard of Morell, answers queries on military map characteristics put to him by Brig. Cameron B. Ware, commander 1st Canadian Infantry Brigade Group, who was visiting units of his formation in Winnipeg. L-Bdr. Villard is stationed in that city with the 2nd Regiment, Royal Canadian Horse Artillery, and was part of a class receiving instruction on making the best use of military maps. (Canadian Army Photo)

Election "Not Far Off" Says Premier At Liberal Meeting

Premier A. W. Matheson admitted last evening that the next provincial election is "not far off". He said that this is one election "...the Liberal Party will attempt to win." The Premier did not enlarge on his statement. Speculation has been that an election might take place next year.

Premier Matheson was addressing the annual meeting of the 5th Queens Liberal Association held at the Clover Club.

The Premier went on to say that the election could be won if everyone worked together. "We see what others are doing and are cross enough to see that they won't do it in P.E.I."

The largely attended meeting heard short addresses by Hon. Alec MacIsaac, minister of welfare and labor; Hon. Eugene Cullen, minister of agriculture; Hon.

Gov.-General In Hospital

OTTAWA (CP)—Governor-General Massey rested quietly in a Montreal hospital Monday night after undergoing a minor operation.

Government House said Mr. Massey, 71, will return to Ottawa Friday where he will take things easy for about 10 days before resuming his round of business here and elsewhere in the country.

Sir Hubert Wilkins, Polar Explorer Dies

FRAMINGHAM, Mass. (AP)—Sir Hubert Wilkins, bearded, Australian-born scientist who won international fame by his polar exploits, was found dead Monday in his hotel room. He was up. Medical examiner Dr. Irving Weisenfeld said a coronary attack apparently caused death.

Sir Hubert had been cleaning his automobile Sunday. When found he was wearing an overcoat, and his hands were dirty—indicating he had collapsed on returning to his room.

The explorer had a farm in Pennsylvania and an apartment in New York but lived here to be near his work as a geographer and Arctic consultant for the quartermaster corps. His office was in adjacent Natick.

Informed in New York of his death, Lady Wilkins burst into tears. She left by train immediately for Framingham.

MANY POLAR SESSIONS

Sir Hubert spent five summers and portions of 26 winters in polar regions.

He made the first under-ice explorations by submarine in the Arctic area in 1931. He took the old U.S. Navy submarine Nautilus and a crew of retired navy volunteers on a trip that British experts termed suicidal.

The sub had a special ice-cutting saw but the exploration failed. The Nautilus reached

Spitzbergen after recurring breakdowns and lows.

His pioneering was not in vain. This year another Nautilus, an atomic-powered U.S. submarine, made an underwater polar crossing. Another atomic submarine, the Skate, also crossed the North Pole under water this year. Its crew, mindful of Wilkins' exploits, radioed him it was "deeply aware of the accuracy of your insight and vision."

Born on a sheep ranch, youngest of 13 children, Wilkins was knighted in 1928.

GREAT FLIGHT

His famous plane flight in that year—a 2,100-mile journey from Alaska to Europe across the polar ice cap—was hailed by others who previously reached the Pole by air as the greatest of all Arctic flights.

Sir Hubert acted as Arctic consultant for the quartermaster corps. On his last trip to the Antarctic, he brought back samples of volcanic rock and was concerned with developing shoes, tires, vehicles, clothing and other materials which would withstand wear.

Lady Wilkins, also Australian born, came to the U.S. at 17. She met Sir Hubert after studying opera in Italy. They flew the Atlantic in the dirigible Handenberg of their honeymoon.

But she never attempted to share the harsh life of exploration which her husband followed.

Nuclear Aircraft Program Unchanged In U.S., Reports

WASHINGTON (AP)—Defense Secretary Neil McElroy conceded Monday that Russia has a "slight lead" in the development of a nuclear-powered aircraft.

At the same time he said there will be no change in the U.S. approach to harnessing nuclear power to an airplane that can serve a definite military purpose.

The nuclear aircraft issue was brought to the fore by publication during the weekend of a report that Russia completed an atomic plane six months ago and have been flying it over Moscow for at least two months. The report, appearing in Aviation Week magazine, said the Russian craft was

military prototype and not just a flying test craft using a more conventional frame to carry atomic engines.

Monday a Moscow dispatch, delayed almost 18 hours in clearing through Soviet censorship, reported mysterious vapor trails have been sighted over the Russian capital recently. It mentioned speculation that they might be caused by a nuclear-powered airplane.

McElroy told reporters he was highly sceptical of the magazine report but he conceded the probability that the Russians may well beat the United States into the air with a nuclear-powered craft.

CHICAGO (AP)—A fire alarm rang 18 minutes before the scheduled dismissal bell Monday and sounded the death knell for 89 persons in Our Lady of the Angels grade school.

At least three of the dead were Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary who perished leading their charges through smoke-filled halls or calming them from panic.

Some 85 children were reported injured and in hospitals.

The suddenness with which the flames spread prompted Chicago's fire commissioner to suspect an arsonist may have touched off the fire, the third worst U.S. school disaster in the last 100 years.

HEARD NO EXPLOSION

Mrs. Barbara Glowacki, 29, who runs a candy store adjacent to the school on the north, told investigators she heard no explosion preceding the fire.

She said she saw smoke and

ran and got her daughter, Helena, 6, out of a smoke-filled first-floor classroom.

Fire investigators expressed interest in Mrs. Glowacki's story that just before she learned about the fire a man ran into her store and asked permission to use a telephone.

The man, according to Mrs. Glowacki, ran out quickly, calling out "the school is on fire," after

she said she had no public telephone.

Chicago schools have been targets of anonymous phone callers reporting bombs planted in buildings. Schools have been evacuated for hours and classes have been cancelled while firemen searched the premises.

Whether any such call had been made to Our Lady of the Angels could not be established.

'I Can't Stop Shaking' Little Boy Tells Doctor

CHICAGO (AP)—"I can't stop shaking."

Joseph Brocato, 11, said this to a doctor who stopped this afternoon to look at him in busy St. Anne's Hospital where victims of the fire at Our Lady of the Angels parochial school were brought.

"We heard it. We were emptying the wastebasket in the basement."

"It was a boom in the furnace room. And the janitor ran out."

"He shouted to us to get upstairs."

SEEK CLUES

A picked team of arson specialists from the detective bureau joined firemen in poking through the ruins for clues as to what turned the Roman Catholic grade school in a low-income neighborhood of the northwest side into a screaming inferno within minutes after the fire broke out at 2:42 p.m.

Seventy-one of the dead were laid out at the county morgue, many of them awaiting identification. Another 17 were distributed among seven hospitals.

"Where are our children?" pleaded weeping parents as bodies wrapped in blankets were laid on the concrete playcourt awaiting removal to the morgue.

Rev. William McManus, superintendent of schools for the Archdiocese of Chicago, said the school's enrollment is 1,700 and that 1,300 students were in the portion that burned.

Relatives and neighbors pushed against tight police lines for a glimpse of the little corpses, fearful they might recognize one as that of a loved one.

Priests who at first helped evacuate as many as the children as possible later stood at the doors of the doomed structure, administering extreme unction, last rite of the Catholic church, as grim-faced firemen carried out bodies.

The bodies were removed to the morgue and to hospitals.

"This could have been a touch-off," said Fire Commissioner Robert Quinn. Touch-off is the fireman's word for arson.

BODIES IN PLAYCOURT

In the playcourt where the bodies lay were piles of smoldering clothing and shoes torn off by children who jumped from the windows to escape death. Many were hurt in the jumps.

The fire virtually wiped out the eight-grade class housed in the northeast corner of the old wing of the building.

The school is U-shaped with a paved court between arms of the U. Rev. Joseph F. Cussen, pastor of the parish, said the building is 40 years old and that fifth, sixth and eighth grade children occupied the wing attacked by fire.

Most classrooms were on the upper two floors of the building; only a few were on the ground level.

BOY HEARS 'BOOM'

Quinn said there was no explosion and Father Cussen said the boiler room was undamaged but 11-year-old Joseph Brocato claimed there was "a boom in the furnace room."

"We heard it," he said. "Another boy and I were emptying the wastebasket in the basement."

"It was a boom in the furnace room and the janitor ran out. He shouted to us to get upstairs."

He and his companion obeyed. They were herded out of school to safety. But Joseph shook constantly and violently in fear of what might have happened to him.

He saw it happen to others.

Mrs. Mary Jolowietki who lives across the street from the school sobbed in gratitude that her boy escaped and in horror at what happened to the others.

"The kids were leaping out the windows," she cried. "And there they were—five or six sitting or laying on the ground. They were full of blood. It was awful."

Quinn, the fire commissioner, said there definitely was no boiler explosion and "it could have been a touch-off."

HEARTBREAKING SIGHT

Joseph and his companion—he didn't name the other boy—ran upstairs. They were herded out of the school. Later, his father brought him into the hospital because the shaking wouldn't stop. Joseph wasn't burned. He didn't

have to jump. He only saw the horror.

It was a heartbreaking sight as firemen carried victims down into the milling throng of youngsters and older people. Clothes were burned off of some of the charred bodies of boys and girls.

The trapped children were mostly seventh and eighth graders whose classrooms were on the second floor.

While ambulances and fire trucks jammed the street, and frantic mothers sought their children, Mrs. Mary Jolowietki stood weeping outside her house across the street from the school.

"I saw the kids come out of the school," she told a reporter. "My son, Ronald, was one of the first out." The boy was unburnt.

Again she sobbed.

"The kids on the second floor

were leaping out the windows. At least 10 jumped. This was after I went into the school. It was full of smoke. The smoke hit me and I came right back.

"And there they were—five or six sitting or lying on the ground. They were full of blood. It was awful."

RESCUED BY LADDER

Thomas Raymond, 12, who was trapped briefly in an eighth-grade classroom on the second floor, said he and several classmates were rescued by firemen who lifted a ladder to the window.

"We thought at first that the yells came from some kids playing in the corridor," he said. "Then, we heard someone shout, 'Fire! fire!'"

He said the fire bell rang, and his teacher said, "get up and get out fast."

MENTAL CASE OR IMPOSTER

QUEBEC (CP)—Charles-Edouard Cantin, deputy attorney-general for Quebec, said Monday a Canadian Mohawk Indian who claimed he killed three American hunters in the Gaspé wilderness in 1953 is either "a fraud, a mental case or an imposter."

The Indian, Francis Gilbert Thompson, 35, has told Miami police that he and a companion—and not the late Wilbert Coffin—were responsible for the murders. Coffin, a 43-year-old prospector, was hanged two years ago after protesting his innocence.

Mr. Cantin described Thompson's statements as "pure invention."

He said he had studied a summary of the answers made by the Indian to a list of questions his department airmailed to Miami police last week.

Mr. Cantin reviewed the questions and answers and said Thompson now appears to be placing the blame on a companion the Indian identified as Johnny Greene. Thompson's companion escaped when Thompson was picked up last week by Miami police.

But a Miami police officer was quoted by the Montreal Star as saying that he and an associate questioned Thompson three times and that the Indian repeated exactly the same story each time.

"If he learned of the case in a penitentiary then he rehearsed well," Det. James Mixix of the Miami force told the Star in a long distance telephone interview.

"Mixix said Miami police had asked for more information about the case from Quebec authorities so that Thompson could be given a lie detector test.

MANY DISCREPANCIES

Mr. Cantin said there were a good number of discrepancies between Thompson's account of the slayings and facts revealed in later investigations.

The deputy attorney-general said Thompson told Miami police he met Greene in Montreal after the Indian had served a three-month jail sentence for trespassing.

Thompson told Miami police the slayings took place 10 to 20 miles from the village of Gaspé while they occurred 60 to 70 miles away said Mr. Cantin.

Mr. Cantin said Thompson described the murder weapon as a .30-.30 calibre rifle but experts



FRANCIS GILBERT THOMPSON

said the fatal wounds were caused by bullets fired from a .303-calibre rifle.

Mr. Cantin said Thompson declared Greene got the money—about \$300.

Mr. Cantin said \$600 was believed stolen.

Three hunters were killed and the body of the eldest was found 10 miles from the bodies of the two younger men, Mr. Cantin said.

NONE TOUCHED BY KNIFE

In addition, medical testimony at the trial was that none of the bodies had been touched by a knife, Thompson said he and Greene cut up the bodies with the victims' hunting knives and then split the money they took from the bodies.

Thompson told Miami police that after the slayings he and Greene drove the jeep to the outskirts of Gaspé village and they were at a gas station they

heard a radio report of the account of the slayings.

Mr. Cantin said the bodies were not found for several months after the killings.

ASK FOR PRINTS, PHOTO

Mr. Cantin said his department asked Miami police three days ago for a picture of Thompson and his finger-prints but that these have not yet been received. These are essential, he said, if Thompson, a .303 calibre rifle, his movements, are to be checked further.

Commenting on reports that Thompson has consented to take a lie detector test in Miami, Mr. Cantin said the "best lie detector we can have is a question by a police officer or a lawyer."

Mr. Cantin says he doesn't feel Miami police can properly judge Thompson's statements because they have little or no knowledge of the crime or its setting.

15 Acres Harvested Yesterday

Four fields of oats, containing some 15 acres, were harvested yesterday at Winsloe. The weather was fine but the high temperature for the day was 20.

It took the cold wave to permit harvesting on fields, which had been too wet earlier to hold up equipment.

Howard Coles of Milton operated the combine for farmer James Good.

Harvesting began during the day and continued into the night in a race with a threatened snowfall. The yield was said to be good. The grain was not broken down too much, the combine operator reported, although it was "bent over".

Lobstermen Get Started

YARMOUTH, N.S. (CP)—Lobstermen began setting traps off Nova Scotia Monday.

Most fishermen were unable to take advantage of an early trapping period allowed them during the weekend because of high winds and storm seas.

The season opened on a 250-mile belt of coastal waters extending from Cole Harbor near Halifax around the southern tip of the province to Digby County on the Bay of Fundy.

Youths' Trial Set For Dec. 17

OTTAWA (CP)—Five teen-aged youths charged with the steak-knife slaying of 20-year-old Robert O'Leary were remanded Monday when they appeared before Magistrate Glenn Strick.

The magistrate set Dec. 17 for the start of their preliminary hearing.

Charged are James McDermott 17; John Drain, 19; William Post, 19; his brother James, 16; and Henri Dupuis, 19.

Some 50 teen-aged boys and girls crowded the courtroom but were ordered out to make room for police and witnesses.

O'Leary was found lying in a gutter after a gang fight here Nov. 23 touched off by a girl's taunt.

Woman Dies In Collision

SPRINGHILL, N.S. (CP)—A 35-year-old woman was killed and two persons injured in a car-truck collision at a highway intersection three miles west of here today.

Dead is Mrs. Douglas Mills of Oxford, N.S.

In hospital are Mrs. Mills' husband, operator of the car, and the driver of the truck, identified only as the son of Willard Smith of Springhill.

Mills' condition was not believed serious. Smith was reported suffering from shock.

Hanged Man's Brother Makes Comment on 'Confession'

YORK CENTRE, Que. (CP)—The brother of a prospector who was hanged for a 1953 murder in the Gaspé peninsula bush said Monday the name "Thompson" was familiar to him in connection with the case.

Donald Coffin said the name Thompson was on a list of names shown him by his brother's lawyer, Francois Gravel of Quebec City. Wilbert Coffin, 43, was convicted of the murder of one of three slain Pennsylvania bear hunters and hanged two years ago.

Francis Gilbert Thompson, 35, a Canadian Mohawk Indian, told Miami police Friday that he and Greene drove the jeep to the outskirts of Gaspé village and they were at a gas station they

heard a radio report of the account of the slayings.

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Donald Coffin said there was a

Thompson "on a list that was shown to me by the lawyer. He asked me if I knew any of the people on it."

Coffin said he thought the name Greene was also on the list.

In Quebec City Mr. Gravel said he had the name "Thompson" on a list which he remembers showing to Donald Coffin. He said the name Greene was not on the list.

Mr. Gravel said the list was drafted while he was preparing the defence case, but he did not elaborate.

The lawyer said he has two investigators working in Miami. He had received only a preliminary report from them and had no statement to make on the situation at present.

OTTAWA (CP)—George Nelms Monday was re-elected mayor of Ottawa for a second two-year term.

He led from the start in the three-way mayoralty race and steadily piled up a growing margin over his two opponents, former controller Roy Donaldson and newcomer W. J. LeClair, an engineer.

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