If It's Good For The Island
The Guardian Is For It

The Guardian

"Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew"

WEATHER
Sunny, little change in temperature; northwest winds 15. Low-high 35 and 58.

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THE FRESHLY red-carpeted foyer of the newly completed Memorial Theatre was the scene in Charlottetown last night of the Dominion Drama Festival opening. Men in tails and women in evening gowns matched the resplendent new theatre. Host for the evening was Dr. Frank MacKinnon, centre, president of the Fathers of Confederation Memorial Foundation, who himself could be called "father of Memorial Center." With him are Alan Holman, P.E.I. Centennial committee, Charlottetown, and Mrs. Samuel Hersenhoren, Toronto, member of the DDF executive.

Reds Push Offensive In N. Laos

By ANTOINE YARED

VIENTIANE (AP) — Pro-Communist Pathet Lao forces pushed an all-out offensive Monday to seize sole control of the Plaine des Jarres region and, with it, northern Laos. The neutralist army was thrown into retreat.

Thousands of Pathet Lao troops, striking at dawn behind a 24-hour artillery pounding, advanced on a front several miles wide on the eastern fringe of the strategic plain, a barren plateau 110 miles northeast of Vientiane.

Moving out into the wooded hills, Pathet Lao forces overran the communist post of neutralist Gen. Kong Le at Muong Phanh, six miles east of the Plaine, and drove neutralist defenders off Phou Khene, hill seven miles to the northeast. There was no word on casualties.

Kong Le, a wiry little ex-paratrooper, retreated northward just before the mountain village of Muong Phanh fell to the Communists after heavy fighting.

Western military observers, who flew to the battle zone to evacuate wounded and women and children, said Kong Le's new hilltop command post at Ban Khong a few miles southwest of Muong Phanh was also under attack. They said it was being evacuated and its fall was only a matter of hours.

PARADE IMPRESSIVE

Soviet Union Visit Called Fascinating

An excellent view of the May Day Parade in Red Square in Moscow was one of the highlights of two weeks spent in Russia, as recalled last night by Provincial Secretary J. David Stewart.

He was one of about 40 prominent Canadian businessmen who visited several of Russia's largest cities and toured some of the outlying areas.

Mr. Stewart said the Canadians had a good stand to view the parade, "which is unusual as it is hard for people from Western nations to get tickets."

He said he was "tremendously impressed with the immensity of the parade. It took from 10 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. to pass the reviewing stand. One of the parade's hands was made up of 1,500 pieces." Mr. Stewart added that Moscow's Red Square is equivalent in size to about two blocks in downtown Charlottetown.

MET MIKOYAN

The group was unable to meet Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev, who was in Egypt but did meet the "number-two" man in Russia, Anastas Mikoyan. "we had a question and answer period with him." said Mr. Stewart, "and he appeared to be a very acute and intent politician."

Mr. Stewart called his tour "fascinating and one of the most fantastic I have been on." He said that while it is difficult to see in 14 days a true picture of a land of 220,000,000 people, "Russia appeared to be a land of tremendous contrasts."

As an example, he said "emphasis is placed on cleanliness in city streets but sanitary facilities in hotels leave much to be desired. Hotels are not up to our standards."

Russians still line up at stores for food. While stores are open regular hours, food goes on sale just at certain times of the day.

"Housing is a tremendous problem in Russia," said Mr. Stewart, "with the average

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Apologies Tendered PM Over Reception At Legion

HON. J.D. STEWART

PRINCE PHILIP HAS PROBLEMS

WINDSOR, England (AP)— Prince Philip had his problems Monday—and his wife was watching.

It happened in the Royal Windsor Horse Show cup final for polo teams between the prince's Windsor Park squad and Friar Park.

The Queen was there to present the cup to the winning team.

The prince left the field at the end of the first chukker with a broken stick. In the third chukker he departed twice — once with a broken stirrup and yet again with a broken stick. This time he threw down the broken stick in anger.

But he managed to score a goal and his team won 4½-4 on the strength of a handicap Windsor started with a ½-goal handicap in its favor.

But the Queen presented the cup to the prince with a smile and the big crowd was delighted.

Speech On Flag Stirs Up Furor

By STEWART MacLEOD

WINNIPEG (CP)—Apologies poured out to a word-weary Prime Minister Pearson Monday following Sunday night's rowdy reception when he took his flag campaign into the enemy's camp and was given a vicious verbal shelling.

The Dominion Command of the Royal Canadian Legion, whose members shouted the prime minister into a temporary submission on the flag question, made it clear Monday that it regretted—and was embarrassed by every interjection that was fired at the prime minister.

"I feel so badly about this," said Judge C. C. Sparking, the Legion's Dominion president. "We are so very, very sorry it happened. We thought we had everything under control, but some members let their feelings run wild."

Mr. Parson battled with his hecklers at the opening ceremonies of the legion's annual convention when he placed the flag issue firmly before about 1,900 delegates and their wives and said he "most sincerely" believed Canada should have a distinctive new flag with a maple-leaf design.

At the first mention of a new flag, the tension-filled theatre let loose a yelling endorsation of the Red Ensign, and from then on Mr. Pearson was edging through a minefield, his words igniting one blast of reaction after another.

TOLD TO DROP DEAD

"Drop dead," he was told. "God bless John Diefenbaker," he heard. "Shut up," "kick him out." He doggedly delivered his prepared text, jutting his jaw into the microphones so his words would carry over the noise below.

"I believe most sincerely it is time now for Canadians to unfurl a flag that is truly distinctive and truly national in character; as Canadan as the maple leaf which should be its dominant design; a flag easily identifiable as Canada's; a flag which cannot be mistaken for the emblem of any other country; a flag of the future which honors also the past; Canada's own and only Canada's."

Would such a change mean any disrespect for the Union Jack? he asked. And before he could reply himself, he was drowned out by cries of "yes, yes, yes."

Judge Sparling had to come to his aid on two occasions to try to restore order.

Mr. Pearson made it clear during his speech he didn't intend to hold a referendum on the issue as frequently requested by the legion.

While Mr. Pearson didn't suggest any particular design, he made it clear the maple leaf

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Kamloops Theatre Group Praised For Performance

Before last night's performance, first of the 1964 Dominion Drama Festival, Tom Kerr, director of the play Chips With Everything, said that difficulties encountered by the group were "almost insurmountable."

Right up until the curtain opened for the starting ceremonies, workmen, stage crew and cleaning women were busy backstage trying to put the theatre in order. Not once before the actual performance were the players able to conduct a complete rehearsal on the stage they were about to use. Lighting equipment was installed barely in time. And the Kamloops PTA Theatre Wing had come the exhausting way across the continent from British Columbia to start the Festival off on its first night.

PRAISE BY ADJUDICATOR

Everyone backstage feared the worst.

Except the young actors themselves. When it was all over, adjudicator Philip Hope-Wallace summed the performance up: "Let's not dice words. They (the cast) have done extremely well."

His words were greeted with an ovation, for the audience throughout the evening had shown its feeling at times quite overwhelmingly.

There were small technical errors in the performance, but Mr. Hope-Wallace said, "these thing are not important. They were bound to happen here at this first night." What was important, he went on to say, was that the young company, mostly highschoolers, managed to bring across at least 75% of the moral of the play.

DIFFICULT PLAY

Playwright Arnold Wesker had written what the adjudicator called a "hot potato," a very difficult play, and a very

(Continued on Page 3 Col. 3)

New Memorial Theatre Is Officially Opened

Barely ready for its premiere, Memorial Theatre last night opened its doors to an audience both distinguished and colorful.

On stage for the opening ceremonies the red-tuniced band of the P.E.I. Regiment sat playing. The moment had arrived.

With a flourish from the Land, Dr. Frank MacKinnon, almost solely responsible for the creation and reality of the new theatre, stepped forward from behind the dark curtains and began to address the large audience.

"I welcome you all," he said. "Tonight is a double premiere, first of this beautiful building, and also of the Dominion Drama Festival. It is only fitting that tonight the first group to perform on this stage, and the play to open is from the farthest province."

He spoke, too, in French for a few minutes, and then switched back to English to finish.

Then, far up in the balcony, came the sound of the official piper. Premier Walter Shaw with his wife and Lieutenant-Governor W. J. MacDonald with his wife took their front row balcony seats.

The band played the Maple Leaf Forever and the last bars of the Queen, and departed.

The show was on.

THEATRE JOB NEAR MIRACLE

To some observers, it was almost a miracle the Memorial Theatre was completed for last night's opening production of the Dominion Drama Festival.

Sceptics had expressed the opinion frequently the deadline could not be met but an extra push on the part of the builders accomplished the job on time. Finishing touches were being given almost as the audience was arriving for last night's performance.

Comments such as "impressive, marvellous, breathtaking," were heard from members of the audience, both those viewing the interior for the first time and from others who had only comparatively recently seen it in a partially- completed state.

PREMIER SHAW GIVES VIEWS

Danger To Confederation Seen From Another Area

Confederation is in serious danger of breaking up if Canada is established as 10 separate states without regard for an evenly distributed economic status, Premier Walter Shaw said Saturday night.

He was not disturbed by the possibility of disintegration through bicultural or bilingual differences as he recalled this province once was in the same position with half its people speaking Gaelic.

The Premier was addressing the closing dinner of the Canadian Managing Editors Conference at the Charlottetown Hotel and his remarks were made as he advised "Let the Press Look Eastward" and perhaps see for itself some of the inequities under which the province where Confederation was begun has had to labor.

SOUNDING BOARD

Using the editors conference as a sounding board for a better understanding of the financial problems of The Island, Premier Shaw said it got the lowest percentage per capita of all special grants. He opposed concentration of wealth in the larger provinces while others were weakened and said this was not the "vision of the Founding Fathers." They were not laying down inflexible rules, just trying to make provision for adjustments to even matters.

Noting larger provinces were 'opting out' of shared cost programs so greater wealth would go there the Premier said he saw difficulties ahead in the proposed pension plan. He said a grave situation was shaping up on the economic level and wise policies were needed to prevent disaster. He stated his belief in the necessity of a strong central government capable of recognizing claims of the provinces on the basis of fiscal need.

EXPORT OF BRAINS

Again telling of the export of Island 'brains' at a heavy cost to the province due to the expense of first providing the young people leaving with an education, the Premier said to the editors "we annually give to Canada $30,000,000 worth of educated human beings; in return we get from Canada only $15,000,000 — in other words we are making a free gift to

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Speculation Rife In Sask.

REGINA (CP) — Premier Woodrow Lloyd visits L. Hanbridge today, perhaps to start the constitutional process of ending his CCF government's 20-year reign in Saskatchewan.

Mr. Lloyd declined to specify the reason for his visit, giving rise to speculation rather than submit the government's resignation he would advise the lieutenant - governor the CCF party intends to remain in power until recounts are completed in some constituencies in the April 22 general election, the final count of ballots last week by returning officers confirmed the Liberal party's victory by the same election-night total of 33 seats to the CCF's 25. But some seats were won by slim margins, raising the possibility of recounts.

The final standing showed one Progressive Conservative member. Thirty members are needed to control the 59-seat legislature.

Premier Lloyd also meets today with Liberal Leader Ross Thatcher, who would be premier in a Liberal government. Mr. Thatcher said he did not know why Mr. Lloyd requested the meeting.

28 Horses Lost In Fire

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Fire raced through 13 wooden barns at Miles Park Race Track Monday, causing the death of at least 28 thoroughbred horses.

General Manager Horace Wade said 23 horses died in the barns and five others were so seriously injured they had to oe destroyed.

He estimated damage to the barns at $150,000. No figure was available on the value of the dead animals.

At one time about 250 horses were running loose on the grounds. Some got out of the track area and galloped down nearby streets and highways.

Grooms turned the horses out of their stalls a barn or two ahead of the spreading flames.

Wade said after surveying the damage there probably would be no postponement in the 52-day summer meeting scheduled to start Friday.

Cuban Reds Have Jitters

MIAMI, Fla. (AP) — Indications more exile raids will be launched against Cuba mounted Monday as refugees arriving here told of troop movements on the island.

Invasion jitters have made the Communists desperate," said Ramon Espino, one of 48 fugitives from Cuba arriving by small boats during the weekend.

Espino, from Cardenas in Matanzas province, east of Havana, added:

"We saw continuous streams of trucks filled with troops on the highways, apparently en route to the coasts and mountains. Also tanks and cannon."

Most Canadians Loaf On Holiday

By THE CANADIAN PRESS

The weather was fine for loafing or vigorous demonstrating over most of the three-day Victoria Day holiday weekend.

Most Canadians loafed. In Montreal, however, about 150 youths marched along the streets Monday from Lafontaine Park to Place Ville Marie, waving flags.

The group marched off from the park after a demonstration in front of a statue of Dollard des Ormeaux, a 17th - century figure who stopped an Indian attack aimed at Montreal.

The demonstrators served notice earlier they planned to demonstrate. They said they felt Victoria Day should be renamed "Dollard Day."

Traffic across Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia was heavy Friday night and Saturday but tapered off Sunday and Monday.

British Columbia was an exception to the fine weather with an odd mixture of sun and showers maintaining temperatures that gave the province its coolest May weekend ever. Temperatures were below 60 degrees throughout th province all weekend.

Pleasant, sunny weather ranging between 60 and 80 degrees Monday kept holiday spirits high in Saskatchewan and Alberta.

In Quebec, sunny skies drew large crowds to such well-known outdoor centres as the Plains of Abraham and Dufferin Terrace overlooking the St. Lawrence River.

The weather in Ontario was still a little cool for mass swimming or beach parties but was fine for opening cottages, or visiting. Sunny skies favored most of the province Monday, marred only by cloud and showers in Northern Ontario.

Anglers were out in force across the country but in the Maritimes Victoria Day is the traditional day for a start on the sport and fine weather brought them out in droves. Highways were jammed with fishermen going to and coming from their favorite spots.

Lord Russell Marks Birthday

LONDON (AP) — Congratulatory messages from all parts of the world poured into the Welsh home of Earl Russell Monday on her 92nd birthday.

The philosopher and pacifist rebel, better known as Bertrand Russell, spent the day reading and writing as usual, said his secretary. Friends and relatives called at his home at Plas Penrhyn with gifts.

Space Probe Alters Course

LONDON (Reuters) — The Soviet Union's space station Zond-I has changed course and speed for a second time in response to radio orders from earth, Tass news agency reported Monday.

It said the signals changing the direction of the satellite and increasing the speed by about 50 yards a second were sent last Thursday when it was about 8,000,000 miles from earth.

Information from the satellite, launched towards an unannounced target from an orbiting plaiform April 2, is still being received, Tass said.

In Washington, a U.S. space official said last month Zond-I was fired "at the right time for a Venus launch" and was apparently heading toward Venus.

It would take a spacecraft about four months to travel to the planet, he said.

Pearson Likes Flag With Leaves, Bars

WINNIPEG (CP) — Prime Minister Pearson indicated Monday the design he favors for a Canadian flag is a white background, with three red maple leaves and vertical blue bars on each side.

This design, and another similar flag without blue bars, were shown at a press conference attended by Mr. Pearson. He said these two were being considered "along with about 300 others," but there were indications they were the two most favored.

The prime minister said that while no decision has been made on the design, and the question hadn't been discussed with his cabinet yet, he thought the people "should have the chance of looking at them."

He said both flags were "very impressive designs," and at another point he said he had a hankering for the blue edged flag.

BARS NOT CORRECT

However, he understood that the blue bars were not correct from a heraldic point of view. He didn't say how important this might be in reaching a decision.

The prime minister also indicated that legislation on the proposed new flag would soon be introduced in Parliament. He used the expression "days or weeks" in a reference to the legislation.

John R. Matheson, Liberal Member of Parliament for Leeds and an expert on heraldry, said later that he favored the flag without the blue bars because if the motto "from sea to sea" was to be depicted, it should not be done with vertical bars. He would deplore this break from proper heraldry.

No one person was responsible for designing either of the flags. Mr. Matheson said they resulted from many ideas and contributions. They were drawn on paper and pasted on cardboard backing for use at the press conference.

LEAVES USED IN 1868

Mr. Pearson said until he studied the question he would have no idea how deep the three red maple leaves go into Canadian history. They had been used as early as 1868 and have been used in many official emblems and badges.

When the legislation is introduced in Parliament, Mr. Pearson said members of his party will be told they can vote as they wish without affecting their status within the party. However, he said it would be a government bill, not a private member's bill, and he indicated it would not be formally declared a free vote.

But he felt there would be no lack of support from his own party's benches. "We're not going to have any trouble in the Liberal party on that," he said.

The prime minister suggested the legislation on the flag may not involve the normal process of resolution stage, and first, second and third readings before royal assent. There was no precedent for the parliamentary process of adopting a new flag.

The press conference was

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VISITORS RECEIVE ISLAND TRAY

Magnus and Margita Junedahl of Sweeden attended the annual convention of the Atlantic Region Y's Men held over the Victoria Day weekend at the YMCA in Charlottetown. During their visit they were presented with a tray with the map of P.E.I. embossed on it by local president Glen Kennedy. Shown above during the presentation are, from left to right: Mr. Kennedy and Mr. and Mrs. Junedahl. Mr. and Mrs. Junedahl are part of the Y's Men's international goodwill exchange program.

(See story on page 9)

Speech Was Desecration Ontario Delegate Says

WINNIPEG (CP)—An Ontario delegate at the Royal Canadian Legion convention Monday termed Prime Minister Pearson's Sunday night speech to the convention "a desecration of a semi-religious ceremony."

George Loughlin of St. Catharines said the speech was a clear case of "political opportunism" by Mr. Pearson.

The prime minister told the convention his government favored a new flag of a maple leaf design rather than the Red Ensign which the legion advocates as the national emblem.

Mr. Loughlin said Mr. Pearson should have reserved what was a political speech for the business sessions of the convention where delegates would have had the opportunity to answer.

Mr. Loughlin made his claim on the convention floor after rising on a point of privilege He amplified his remarks later to reporters.

Mr. Loughlin also ticked off Judge C. C. Sparling of Winnipeg, the legion president who was at the head table, for saying earlier Mr. Pearson had exhibited courage in addressing the legion delegates on the controversial flag issue.

Mr. Loughlin said that it did not require courage for Mr. Pearson who had faced many hostile audiences before in his career.

The opening day of the legion convention, Mr. Loughlin said, was something of a religious nature because the delegates at that time honor their fallen comrades. It was on this occasion Mr. Pearson spoke.

Mr. Loughlin said he did not condone the boos and catcalls that greeted Mr. Pearson when he spoke on the flag, but at the same time Mr. Pearson "had no right to bring up the question of the flag knowing the volatile nature of the subject matter."