

PRIME MINISTER INTERVENES IN RAIL STRIKE CRISIS

Nation-Wide Civil Defence Measures Planned

Report Unions Plan New Offer To Canadian Carriers

MONTREAL, Aug. 25—(Friday)—(CP)—The Gazette says today in a newspaper story that Frank Hall, chairman of the negotiating committee of 15 International Unions involved in the Canada-wide railway strike, has discussed with Montreal strike committees a new offer to Canadian carriers.

The paper adds that Mr. Hall will present the Union demands with A. R. Mosher, head of the two Canadian Brotherhoods, involved in the wage-hour dispute of 124,000 non-operating rail employees, to Prime Minister St. Laurent in Ottawa tomorrow.

Union and railway officials have been summoned to Ottawa to discuss the strike with the Prime Minister.

The Gazette says that, following a meeting here behind closed doors, the new proposals were outlined by a committee member and were as follows:

1. A general hourly wage increase of five cents an hour for all employees, including hotel and express company workers. (Original demands of the Unions were seven cents for the International Unions and 10 cents for the Canadian Brotherhoods.)
2. The introduction of the 40-hour week, possibly on Sept. 1, 1951, although this date was also mentioned by the Unions at their final meeting with Mediator Dr. W. A. Mackintosh before negotiations broke off.
3. Union members are also willing to reconsider their demands for a one-cent cost-of-living bonus for every point the index may rise during the term of the contract, provided the companies will meet their demand for a two-year contract instead of the three-year agreement offered by the railways at the final meeting.

The story added that committee members said of Mr. St. Laurent's invitation to rail and union heads: "This is a good sign. It may mean



BROCKVILLE CITIZEN ENJOYS LIFE AT 108

Robert Reynolds of Brockville, Ont., who claims to be Canada's oldest citizen, recently celebrated his 108th birthday. He takes a short walk every day. As a boy he helped build Brockville's first waterworks system.

Sugar In Short Supply In Ottawa

OTTAWA, Aug. 24—(CP)—Sugar today appeared to be the first food to go into short supply in Ottawa because of the railway strike.

While housewives could still buy sugar in the stores, National Grocers, which supplies 387 Ottawa stores, said its stocks are exhausted.

Meanwhile, trucks were becoming as hard to find as mobile railway cars.

Some stores were trying to bring sugar to the city by truck. Oil tank trucks which haven't been rolling for a couple of years appeared today on the highways.

Saskatoon Orders Power Rationing

SASKATOON, Aug. 24—(CP)—Saskatoon today ordered rationing of electric power.

W. A. Friebe, city electrica engineer, announced that powerhouse switches would be pulled late today because voluntary power economies had effected a saving of only 25 per cent.

The Saskatoon plant, operated by the Saskatchewan Power Commission, had only seven days' fuel on hand when the rail strike began Tuesday.

It was estimated the fuel could be spun out for 14 days if power consumption were cut 50 per cent.

Truman Promises Early Action In U. S. Rail Strike

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24—(AP)—President Truman today hinted at bad faith in the sudden call for a country-wide railroad strike in the United States next Monday and promised an early statement on what the Government plans to do.

At his press conference, the President reflected irritation over the unheralded decision to strike. He declined, however, to give any clue whether he plans to seize the railroads, as the unions have repeatedly advocated. He said he would have to study the situation.

In view of the Korean war, seizure or some other Government intervention appeared inevitable.

Truman said the Unions' call for a coast-to-coast walkout on 131 lines came without warning and less than an hour after both sides in the dispute had assured him there would be no such strike.

The strike was announced Wednesday night by two big unions—the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen and the Order of Railway Conductors—about 45 minutes

Broad Details Of Master Plan Are Revealed

Realistic Training Will Touch Majority Of Canadian Homes.

By Douglas How
OTTAWA, Aug. 24—(CP)—Federal and Provincial representatives worked today on steps to implement a master plan for civil defence that will touch the majority of Canadian homes.

It will introduce realistic training such as civilian Canada has never known and divide the country into target areas and areas that would aid and succor their victims of disaster.

Its broad details have just been released.

The first Dominion-Provincial civil defence conference means that the move is on, first to train key civilian personnel, to assess the resources available in each community to set up more planning organizations.

Groundwork First

In time this will be widened into a trained body of civil defence workers who will number in the tens of thousands and be backed by many thousands more who will get basic instruction. Large-scale training, however, won't start for months—not until the groundwork is ready.

The background for this movement was given at the opening sessions of the conference today by Defence Minister Claxton and senior officials of the Defence and External Affairs Departments. These, they said, are weeks of great crisis which may well show whether Russia will touch off the Third World War.

Officials said, meanwhile, that the plan drawn up here and broadly approved by the Provinces will give every Canadian, man and woman, a chance to play a part in some phase of the organization that will be built up to cope with disasters, whether they be atomic or bacterial attacks or such works of nature as the Manitoba flood.

Civil defence is defined officially as "the method of controlling a disaster through the medium of existing Government organizations reinforced by volunteers who will be trained for specific tasks." The job of the Federal and Provincial Governments will be to co-ordinate and help the municipalities and help foot the bill.

Three Types of Area

The master plan divides the country into three types of area based on the likelihood of enemy attack. These are target, cushion and reception areas.

A target area is one which stands a good chance of being bombed. It might consist of a single municipality or of several. It might, as in the case of Windsor, Ont., be part of an international target area. In this category, the Government places such cities as Toronto, Hamilton, Montreal, Halifax and other major centres.

Each target area will be subdivided into sub-divisions, sectors, sub-sectors and warden posts. Each target area will have its controller. The area surrounding it will be known as the cushion area. This will include territory up to 50 miles away. The smaller municipalities in this area will be organized to give help and succor to the stricken target area. They will provide.

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Premier Hopes To See One Car Ferry Operating Today

British Commandos Head For Korea

PLYMOUTH, England, Aug. 24—(Reuters)—Veteran British Royal Marine Commandos, reckoned among the toughest fighters in the world, gathered here today ready to fly to Korea—in civvies.

The hand-picked, battle-hardened Second World War veterans will make their 12,000-mile journey to the fighting zone in office or sports clothes because their aircraft may have to refuel in non-British territory where uniforms wouldn't be welcome.

Their numbers, organizations and departure date are secret.

They now are being checked medically and fitted for uniforms they'll don in Korea.

Their commander is Lt.-Col. Douglas Burns Drysdale, lanky, 35-year-old permanent officer who led a wartime Commando unit in Burma.

Average age of the Korea-bound marines is 26. More than half are single and junior officers are mostly between 25 and 27.

Heavy Death Toll In 'Quake Area

SHILLONG, India, Aug. 24—(Reuters)—Planes flying over a 1,000-square-mile flood area, centre of last week's big earthquake, have sighted human corpses floating with elephant carcasses in the flood waters.

A Reuters correspondent said the stench of dead humans, cattle, fish and wild animals forced his plane to climb higher several times.

The flood followed earthquakes which blocked and diverted rain-swollen rivers in the Ganges-Brahmaputra basin last week. The floods are the worst in 50 years. Four new shocks rocked the area yesterday.

Indian transport planes today parachuted emergency food supplies to flood victims. Reports indicate a high death rate from disease among the 5,000,000 marooned persons.

Homeless peasants trying to escape the flood waters were said to be facing another menace—deadly snakes.

Heavy Communist Pressure Renewed North Of Taegu

TOKYO, Aug. 25—(Friday)—(AP)—Red Koreans reopened fighting north of Taegu with a heavy attack Thursday night and moved a division forward in the southern sector, about 40 road miles from the port city of Pusan.

In a stab on the other side of Korea from the battlefield, British naval forces made a commando raid on an island near the Red-held west coast port of Inchon and destroyed a supply dump and radio station. This daring raid was disclosed Friday by a U.S. Eighth Army spokesman.

AP correspondent, Jack MacBeth, said 1-2 Communist regiments—possibly 4,000 men—hit hard at the South Korean 8th Division in the north sector. At the same time, two Red companies were repulsed in a flank attack on the U.S. 27th (Wolfhound) Regiment.

The 27th is defending a straight stretch of road through a mountain corridor about 15 miles north of Taegu with South Koreans in the heights on its flanks. The new attacks resumed fighting which had subsided on Thursday after the Reds had failed in similar stabs on four previous days.

MacBeth's dispatch did not say what was the effect or outcome of the Red's heavy attack against the South Korean Sixth.

The 37th, while repulsing the left flank attack, also was under heavy mortar and artillery fire on the right flank.

OTTAWA, Aug. 24—(CP)—The railway tie-up has struck its first blow at Canada's defence program, halting the construction of four minesweepers being built for the navy.

To Meet With Railway, Union Chiefs Today

By John LeBlanc
OTTAWA, Aug. 24—(CP)—Prime Minister St. Laurent today launched a personal attempt to settle the general rail strike.

As members of Parliament sped to Ottawa with emergency strike-ending legislation, he unexpectedly arranged conferences with Railway and Union Chiefs here for tomorrow—fourth day of the crippling walkout of 124,000 union members.

This sudden shift from the Government's policy of non-intervention means the Prime Minister is throwing the weight of his office and personal prestige into an attempt to end the strike without recourse to drastic legislative measures.

With both groups of disputants accepting Mr. St. Laurent's invitation, he will talk separately with Union and Railway heads in his East Block office. Transport Minister Chevrier, in charge of Canadian National Railways, and Labor Minister Gregg will attend.

The first meeting, at 11 A.M. EDT, will be with Frank Hall.

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Mile Long Line Of Waiting Vehicles At Wood Islands Pier

With ninety cars and ten trucks still waiting at Wood Islands pier after the final 7 o'clock trip to Caribou, N. S., last evening, it will be impossible to handle any new traffic in trucks and cars arriving at the pier today. Only new traffic which can be accommodated today will be bus passengers.

Most of the passengers in the waiting vehicles last night bedded down where they were, to await this morning's resumption of service. However, they did not require to do so, as certification tags were handed out, insuring them their reservation in today's lineup.

From early morning yesterday the cars and trucks kept piling up, forming a line nearly one mile in length.

The great majority of cars were from the mainland, and many children were among the passengers. Red Cross personnel from Charlottetown were on hand, and did a good job in attending to emergency requirements.

Take 2 Mile Long
The situation reached its peak early yesterday when passenger cars which had been waiting several hours had to relinquish their places in line to allow trucks with perishable products aboard. Upon request of the ferry management, authority was granted to cancel priorities for trucks carrying such shipments as hogs, turkeys, potatoes and race horses.

The R.C.M.P. were on hand yesterday afternoon.

Mr. F. J. Storey, president of the recently appointed Economic Advisory Board, accompanied by Mr. B. Graham Rogers, director of transportation, and George Fraser, provincial public relations officer, were on hand yesterday and reported back at a Board meeting held last evening. The R.C.M.P. were also on hand to maintain order.

Yesterday's tieup would have been much more serious but for the excellent cooperation of the crews of the two ferries who worked all Wednesday, Wednesday night, and Thursday without sleep.

The first trip this morning will be at 5 o'clock.

"Mercy Train" To Operate Saturday

PORT ARTHUR, Aug. 24—(CP)—The mining town of Atklotkan, Ont., will get its "mercy train" of food and other emergency supplies Saturday.

G. R. Graham, superintendent of Port Arthur Division of the strike-bound Canadian National Railways, said the train will be loaded tomorrow and leave Saturday on its trip of about 100 miles to the southwest.

Controller For Ferry Traffic Recommended

Recommendation that a controller be appointed immediately for the Wood Islands ferry traffic was made at a meeting of the Economic Advisory Board last night, for submission to the Provincial Government this morning.

It was recommended that the controller be stationed in Charlottetown, with proper assistance, and that he be empowered to issue priority permits for trucks carrying perishable goods, and also reservations for car accommodations.

A request for the appointment of a controller was received by the Board yesterday from Mr. R. E. Mutch, president of Northumberland Ferries Ltd.

A committee of three members of the Board will be appointed to work with the controller in adjusting priorities and in facilitating traffic movement generally.

Products Listed

The Board recommended that the following commodities be considered perishable products: Eggs, butters, fresh and cured meats, live hogs, live stock and blueberries. Live hogs are to be included except when there is an acute shortage of space.

To rate priority as perishable products all shipments must be full truckloads.

On incoming traffic, priorities were recommended on fresh and frozen fish, dry ice, yeast, sugar, bread, biscuits, jute and such other articles as may be added.

The Board gave consideration to a survey by the Federation of Agriculture, in which concern was indicated with regard to the existing supply of livestock feed.

It was reported that the S. S. Wellington Kent, now in Montserrat, will be leaving for Charlottetown next week and there will be ample cargo space. It was suggested that the Board advise the Government to take whatever action is necessary to get twenty carloads of livestock feeds, if available, as quickly as possible.

The survey indicated that there were only thirty-six bags of sugar in the hands of wholesalers in Charlottetown, but that there was a fairly good supply distributed among retail merchants throughout the Province. Other commodities considered in good supply were canned milk, cereals, bread, soap, coal, jute bags, oil and gasoline.

An executive committee was appointed, comprising President Storey and Messrs. James Burden and Andrew Likely, to carry on as a continuing committee during the strike crisis. The government has offered to assist this committee with its departmental officials.

Youthful Masher Gets Into Trouble

DALLAS, Aug. 24—(AP)—A masher who had been phoning Dallas housewives for dates in recent weeks was in police custody today.

More than 25,000 men from a dozen countries—mostly infantrymen—are expected eventually to fight alongside American and South Korean divisions against the Communist North Korean invaders.

Fifty soldiers loaded signal equipment, kits and arms of the first battalion of the Middlesex Regiment and the 1st Battalion of

News In Brief

SASKATOON, Sask. Aug. 24—(CP)—The Canadian Federation of Mayors tonight decided to hold its 1951 convention at London, Ont. The 1952 conference will go to Calgary.

TOKYO, Aug. 25—(Friday)—(AP)—The Chinese Communists today demanded that the United Nations order withdrawal of all American forces from Formosa and announced the Red intention to "liberate" that island from the Nationalists.

FLORENCE, Italy, Aug. 24—(Reuters)—George Drew, Canadian Parliamentary Opposition leader, said today that a R. C. A. F. plane is being flown to Italy from Britain to get him back to Ottawa in time for the emergency reopening of Parliament Tuesday to discuss the Dominion-wide rail strike.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24—(CP)—A \$167,733,479 bill providing cash for 5,333 new Air Force planes and other equipment for the growing U. S. military machine was approved today by the House of Representatives appropriations committee.

NEW DELHI, Aug. 24—(AP)—Prime Minister Nehru told a press conference today he does not believe the Korean conflict will flare into a world war in the immediate future. At the outset of the Korean conflict, Nehru had said the chances of a world war were 50-50.

Doesn't Look For World War Outbreak

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TORONTO, Aug. 25—(CP)—Minimum and maximum temperatures: Vancouver 59, 71; Victoria 50, 66; Edmonton 49, 61; Regina 60, 65; Winnipeg 46, 63; Toronto 60, 65; Ottawa 55, 64; Quebec 63, 79; Saint John 50, —; Moncton 48, 62; Halifax 56, 73; Charlottetown 54, —; Sydney 56, 76; Yarmouth 52, 52.

HALIFAX, Aug. 24—(CP)—Official forecasts issued by the Dominion Public Weather Office in Halifax.

Synopsis—The weather was sunny and warm over most of the forecast regions today. Along the Atlantic and Bay of Fundy coasts the fog moved off shore in many localities during the day and will not move far inland tonight.

Cooler air, which has reached the northern regions, is not now expected to move any farther south, and the fine warm weather will continue Friday over most of the district.

Regional forecasts valid until midnight Friday.

Prince Edward Island—Friday sunny and continuing warm. Light showers. Low early Friday morning and high in the afternoon at Charlottetown 56 and 74.

High tide today at 7:50 A.M. and 9:54 P.M.
Sun rises at 5:26 A.M. and sets at 7:04 P.M.
Summer tide eighteen minutes later than Charlottetown.

FERRY SERVICE DAILY

Lv. Borden	Lv. Tormentum
6:10 A.M.	6:10 A.M.
10:35 A.M.	10:35 A.M.
1:00 P.M.	1:00 P.M.
2:40 P.M.	2:40 P.M.
4:30 P.M.	4:30 P.M.
7:30 P.M.	7:30 P.M.
9:00 P.M.	9:00 P.M.
10:30 P.M.	10:30 P.M.

WOOD ISLANDS - CARIBOU DAILY FERRY

Lv. Wood Islands	Lv. Caribou
7 A.M. & 11 A.M. & 1 P.M. & 5 P.M.	
7 A.M. & 9 A.M. & 11 A.M. & 1 P.M. & 5 P.M.	