

Democrats At Helm

Congress Opens Session Today

WASHINGTON (AP)—The 84th Congress gets under way at noon (EST) today with Democrats taking over the reins and Republicans soft-pedalling differences in reorganizing themselves as the minority party.

In a pre-session meeting Tuesday, Republican senators unanimously chose Senator William F. Knowland of California as their floor leader. No opposition developed in the wake of Knowland's public differences on foreign policy with the Eisenhower administration.

Democrats picked, also unanimously, Sam Rayburn of Texas to be speaker of the House and John W. McCormack of Massachusetts to be majority leader. Democratic senators were called into session to elect Sen. Lyndon Johnson of Texas majority leader. Republican house members scheduled a meeting later to name Joseph W. Martin, Jr., of Massachusetts, who was speaker in the 83rd Congress, minority leader.

NO BASIC DIFFERENCES

Looking ahead, Senator Walter George (Dem.-Ga.) predicted Democrats will have no basic disagreements with President Eisenhower over foreign, national defence and world trade policies in the new Congress.

At the White House, Eisenhower and his advisers were plotting into final form the 45-minute State of the Union address which the president will deliver to a joint session Thursday.

Robbery Charge

HALIFAX (CP)—Police said Tuesday a charge of robbery with violence will be laid against naval rating Frederick G. Taylor of Saint John, N.B., who is accused of striking a naval surgeon.

Taylor entered no plea to an ordinary theft charge when he appeared in police court here Tuesday morning. He was remanded until Jan. 10 and detective inspector James Baker said the more serious count will be substituted in the meantime.

Police said Taylor struck Surgeon-Lieut. James Cook a blow in the face while riding in Cook's car along a Halifax street. The car went out of control and hit a tree and Dr. Cook wound up in hospital.

The doctor told police when he regained consciousness that his wallet had been taken.

Hammar skjold Nears End Of Long Journey To Peiping

HONG KONG (Reuters)—Dag Hammarskjold neared the end of his long journey to Peiping Tuesday night, as he stopped over in the central Chinese city of Hankow before the final flight to the Communist capital.

The United Nations secretary-general, en route to discuss the case of 11 imprisoned U. S. airmen with Premier Chou En-lai, arrived in Hankow Tuesday afternoon from Canton.

Hammarskjold and his party of six will fly the last 600 miles of their long trip today.

It was thought at first that Hammarskjold would complete his trip across China from Canton to Peiping Tuesday. A Communist news agency report gave no explanation of why the party stopped short of its final destination.

LITTLE PUBLICITY

The Communist radio and press have given little publicity to Hammarskjold's mission, while continuing in the last few days their propaganda barrage against the alleged American "spies." Hammarskjold has been authorized by the United Nations General Assembly to seek the release of the 11 American airmen shot down during the Korean War and all other Korean War prisoners still held by the Communists.

On his historic journey from New York, the Swedish diplomat expert stopped over in Britain, France and India for consultations with prominent statesmen. In New Delhi, he had a 2-1/2 hour talk with Prime Minister Nehru, who was reported to have urged him to try to "keep the door open" between Peiping and the United Nations.

Chou had discouraged Hammarskjold's mission in advance, notifying the United Nations it had no right to interfere in the case of the 11 imprisoned airmen.

Coming Events

*Dance in Millview Hall every Friday night.

*Dance Mount Stewart Memorial Hall Thursday, Burns Orchestra.

*Long Creek Hall, Rovers Hockey Dance, Refreshments, Friday, January 7th.

*Dundas Y. P. U. Variety Concert, Annandale Hall, January 5th, at 8.30.

*Dance, Mount Ryan Hall, Wednesday, January 5th, Don Messer's Orchestra.

*Community Bingo at Morell tonight. Twenty cash prizes. Also Jackpot \$25.00.

*Meeting of Vernon Driving Club at home of Dennis Docherty Saturday, Jan. 8, 8 o'clock.

*Dance, West Royalty Hall, Wednesday, Rolfe Mackenzie's Orchestra, Canteen Service, 9.30 to 12.30.

*K. of C. Players present "Quiet Honeymoon," St. Mary's Hall, Souris, afternoon and evening, Jan. 5.

*Come to Marshfield Variety Concert in Stanhope-Covehead Community Hall, on Wednesday, January 5th, 8.15 p. m. If not fine, Thursday, Sale of lunches, Sponsored by Young Adult Group.

Informed sources said the presidential message will contain few surprises. They said, however, Eisenhower will stress a new defence concept calling for manpower cuts in the armed forces, balanced by new weapons and closer links with U. S. allies.

No Announcement Following Long Cabinet Meeting

OTTAWA (CP)—The cabinet met Tuesday for four hours to polish its legislative program for the session of Parliament opening Friday.

There were no announcements at the close of the meeting, last scheduled full meeting of the ministers before they face the Commons.

Prime Minister St. Laurent sent word to reporters after the sitting that he had nothing to make public. Earlier, the only information he gave out was that the agenda contained proposals for renewing federal subsidies to Canada's gold mines.

Mistakes Furnace For Washing Machine

VANCOUVER (CP)—Mrs. Joan Kennon of North Vancouver mistook the furnace for the washing machine.

The mistake cost her an armful of laundry and earned her the title of "Muddlehead Champion of 1954," annual award of the British Columbia Humor Society, a two-year-old organization comprising about 100 members.

In her winning story Mrs. Kennon related: "...Laugh? But I could have cried...after realizing I had thrown clothing, and pillow slips into the furnace instead of the washing machine."

SAILOR INJURED

SUSSEX, N. B. (CP)—John Neale, 18, of Kingston, Ont., and based at HMCS Stadacona in Halifax, suffered a broken arm Tuesday when a car skidded on icy pavement and went into a ditch near Sussex. He was transferred to the military hospital at Lancaster. The driver, Duncan Bell of Saint John, escaped with hand cuts.

German Woman Author Of Diplomatic Storm Is Ill

BONN (Reuters)—Mrs. Daisy Schlitter, one-time German beauty queen who raised a diplomatic scandal in Britain by a slip of the tongue, is "genuinely ill," her doctor said at a Bad Godesberg hospital Tuesday night.

Mrs. Schlitter's faux pas at a London Christmas party forced her husband, Oskar, to return to Bonn. She collapsed when she arrived in Bonn. But her condition is not "diplomatic illness," her doctor said. She is "genuinely ill," and her heart is being examined.

The Schlitters made headlines in Britain after the former movie star stood in for her charge d'affaires husband and made a speech in which she called Britain "an enemy country."

After somebody at the embassy party leaked the story to reporters, West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer recalled Schlitter from Britain. Foreign office sources here said Tuesday she definitely will not be sent back to his London post.

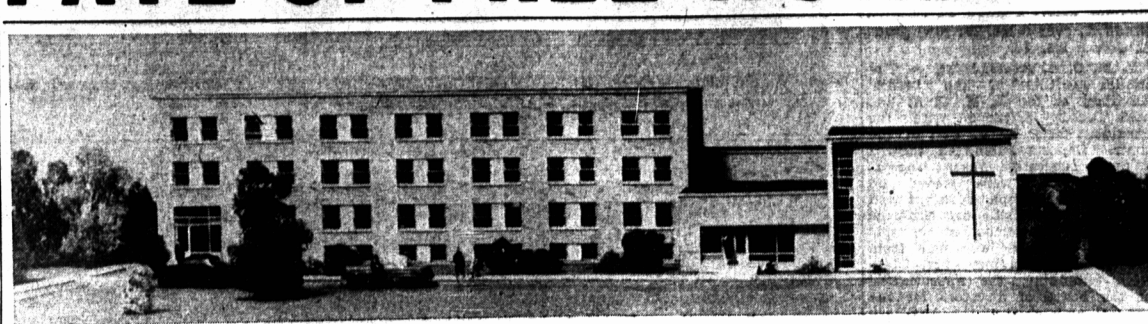
OFFERED RESIGNATION

The diplomat has offered his resignation, but it was understood here that nothing will be done about it until the international storm blows over.

In Britain, newspaper editors took a philosophical view of the affair.

The Conservative Daily Sketch says that "every husband with a talkative wife who takes her to

CANADA-U.S. DISCUSSIONS MAY DECIDE FATE OF FREE WORLD TRADE TREATY



Proposed New Monastery Building

Pictured above is the architect's model of the proposed monastery of the Sisters of the Precious Blood to be erected in Charlottetown next summer. It is understood that tenders will be called at an early date in order to have the building started by May 1. The last Monastery designed and built for this Order was in Manchester, N. H. some years ago.

The building will be divided into three distinct units; the cloister, the public entry and the chapel, and is designed to reflect the simplicity of the life of the Sisters who live therein. A simple bearing wall structure is indicated with modesty in window design, and an expression of freedom is seen in the design of the entrance into the public areas, which include the chapel and bursar's office, in contrast to the modesty of the cloister.

The exterior of the chapel reflects the contemporary towards church design. Traditionally stained glass windows played a more or less decorative role in the exterior appearance and interior beauty of churches. Today the abstract approach to color results not only in atmosphere and beauty, but also serves as a point of accent for aesthetic design.

The planning of such a building, demanding segregation of the cloistered sisters from the public, posed some unusual difficulties. For example a common altar is used both by the sisters and the public for Mass and other services. This necessitates obscuring the sisters from the view of the public by means of a lowered partition, which is a series of vertical slats in front of the sister's chapel, so designed as to have their focal point on the altar. The structure was designed by A. J. Hennessey, a senior student in the Architectural School at the University of Manitoba, in Winnipeg. Mr. Hennessey, who won an award last year from the Atlas Asbestos Company of Canada, in a design competition, was employed during the summer months in the Architectural department of M. F. Schurman Co. Limited, in Summerside. He designed the triangular glass gables and contributed to the overall plan of the recently completed church at Hope River.

OTTAWA (CP)—Canada has decided to launch a last-ditch appeal to the United States to support a reduction of import restrictions and thus prevent a possible collapse of the Free World's trade pact, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Trade Minister Howe, accompanied by External Affairs Minister Pearson and Finance Minister Harris, will fly to Washington Thursday to place the appeal before U. S. State Secretary Dulles, Treasury Secretary Humphrey and Agricultural Secretary Benson.

A brief announcement by the external affairs department gave no details other than that discussions will centre on several problems arising out of the Geneva conference to revise and tighten GATT. However, it is understood that on the Washington talks may hinge the fate not only of the Geneva negotiations but possibly the future of the 37-country pact set up seven years ago to boost world trade by a network of tariff cuts and agreements among countries to abide by fair trade rules.

Mr. Howe, on his recent return from the first phase, told a press conference that negotiations were going badly. He could not rule out the possibility that GATT might collapse.

While in Washington, the Canadian ministers also will attempt to find out the chances for passage in Congress this year of President Eisenhower's proposal to reduce tariffs by 15 per cent during a three-year period.

With the Democrats in control of the new Congress, there has been speculation that the Republican president may find it easier to obtain congressional approval of tariff reductions.

Tariff reductions reached under GATT run until mid-1955.

PLUG LOOP HOLES

Member countries at Geneva are attempting to reach agreement on plugging GATT loopholes to reduce escape clauses under which countries could breach their tariff agreements and to get countries to reduce the use of import restrictions.

The U. S. it is understood, supports a reduction of imports but only in a way that does not affect her own restriction policies. She wants countries to reduce the use of curbs imposed because of dollar and other exchange shortages. That would affect Britain and most of the sterling area.

But she wants to increase rather than reduce the powers of countries to impose curbs when they have internal production surplus problems. Because of heavy surpluses, the U. S. has imposed import restrictions on grains and dairy products, Canada and some other countries have charged that these curbs are breaches of U. S. agreements under GATT. The U. S. has shown no indications that she will reduce them.

HEADED FOR DEADLOCK

Thus the Geneva negotiations appear headed for a deadlock unless attempts to get the U. S. to change attitude and policy are successful.

The Geneva negotiations have reached the second phase; actual consideration of proposed amendments to GATT. The first phase held in November and December

Chatham Child Killed By Car

CHATHAM, N. B. (CP)—Four-year-old Frances Russell was killed Tuesday afternoon when struck by a car near her home at Chatham Head. The car was driven by Allen Harding of Tabusintac. No immediate decision was made regarding an inquest.

Five Years For Theft And Fraud

TORONTO (CP)—Naiffe M. Stephen, 43, described in court by a crown counsel as "a past master at the art of corruption and fraud," was sentenced to five years in penitentiary Tuesday.

He pleaded guilty to 14 of 48 charges of theft and fraud involving a total of \$38,386.

Police said Stephen was involved in such fictitious deals as: Selling fly-catching equipment to the Dominion government to keep civil services offices free of flies—at a supposed price of \$8 to \$10 a fly-catcher.

Cashing \$50,000 of Second World War victory bonds which Stephen said he could lay his hands on in Nova Scotia;

"Facilitating" a government permit for 300 tons of scarce steel; Shipping a truckload of nickel to Cleveland, Ohio.

HALIFAX (CP)—The tiny fishing vessel Jed-Bec-M captured Tuesday off the southwest coast of Nova Scotia and the air force here reported one of the two men aboard perished in the sea.

Search and rescue officials said the victim was an employee of Elias Smith, the owner of the boat, who reached shore safely.

The Jed-Bec-M was smashed to pieces on the rocks of Seal Island. The dead man's name is being withheld until his family has been notified.

The Labor party's Daily Herald says: "It is some test of diplomacy to keep a woman quiet."

The West German government announced that Mrs. Schlitter simply got nervous and mixed up her words. What she really meant to say, the statement said, is that Germans had to be careful in foreign countries where the horrors of the Second World War are not forgotten.

Butter and cheese producers feel that they are getting far

Police Probing Woodsman's Death

WOLFVILLE, N. S. (CP)—The RCMP searched a nearby woodland Tuesday for an explanation of how a Melanson district woodsman came to die of savage head injuries while out chopping logs.

A son despatched by his worried mother found John Reid late Monday lying fatally injured and unconscious on a road. He died en route to hospital.

Coroner H. C. Lindsay empanelled a jury but adjourned the inquest until Jan. 11 so that police could dig deeper into the mystery.

Winter Count Has Surprises

By THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada's bird watchers this year discovered welcome invaders in British Columbia and Newfoundland and social parasites in Nova Scotia.

The annual winter bird count officials in Vancouver and Newfoundland murmuring with concern over increased numbers of European starlings, a shiny black bird slightly smaller than a robin, first introduced into southern Ontario in 1890.

At Halifax, a flock of 78 cowbirds was counted. These members of the blackbird family derive their name from staying in the vicinity of domestic cattle. They are common in Canada during the

Plan To Boost Scallop Industry

OTTAWA (CP)—Fisheries N.S. Scientists there called in naval divers to make underwater observations. The divers confirmed the scientists' belief that the drags used to catch the scallops actually collect only a small proportion of the bivalves in their path.

The board now plans experiments with new designs of drags. Reports on efforts to revive dory fishing for the salt cod trade said men have deserted the oared dories for more comfortable berths aboard modern trawlers and draggers.

These scoop fish from the ocean floor in cone-shaped nets and bring the catch quickly to port for the more lucrative fresh fish trade.

Scientists tried small motorized craft equipped with mechanical winches to replace the old dory in which fishermen spent long hours handling lines by hand. Four 23-foot powered boats were built and placed on moveable cradles aboard a schooner for a trial run.

However, difficulty was experienced with the equipment used to lift the boats off and on the schooner's deck, particularly in rough weather. The scientists decided improvements are required before the new method can be recommended.

Prior to these finds the main commercial scallop fishery was in the Bay of Fundy around Digby.

To Protest Importation Of New Zealand Cheese

OTTAWA, Jan. 4—(Special)—Members of the Commons represent riding where dairy farming is a leading industry will be heard from in the forthcoming session, it is confidently forecast here today.

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U. S. Unveils Jet Seaplane

WASHINGTON (AP)—The U. S. Navy Tuesday unveiled "the world's first multi-jet-seaplane," the Martin XP6M-1 Seamaster.

The plane, powered by four jet engines, is as big as a commercial airliner and the first large seaplane capable of matching the performance of large land-based jet aircraft. It can operate from waterways virtually anywhere in the world.

Although performance details are secret, it has a speed of more than 600 miles-an-hour; cruises above 40,000 feet, and can carry a load of 30,000 pounds.

Jess W. Sweetser, Martin vice-president of sales, said the craft has not yet been flown, but will enter the flight testing stage this spring.

Fire Sweeps Two New York Piers

NEW YORK (AP)—A roaring fire swept two Erie Railroad piers along the Hudson river on Manhattan's lower west side late Tuesday. Twenty employees fled for their lives from the blaze which was declared under control 50 minutes after it broke out at 4:10 p. m.

Two firemen were injured. More than 100 men fought the savage fire as it crackled through the upper part of two three-storey piers that jut 750 feet into the river. There was no estimate of damage.

Great balls of smoke exploded from the piers. A west wind drove the smoke across lower Manhattan in a sky-darkening curtain.

FIREMEN IN MASKS

Firemen worked in masks to check the flames. Fireboats moved from the river to play water on the ton on the piers. Nine coast guard vessels lent a hand when it appeared for a time that the wind-driven blaze might menace a long stretch of waterfront.

Five alarms were sounded. That is only one less than the maximum summons for New York fire fighting equipment. More than 80 pieces of apparatus responded.

Motor traffic on the busy, west side highway was slowed to a crawl—and halted for a while—where the elevated roadway fronts the burning piers.

The fire apparently began on pier 20, near a fruit auctioning room. It burst through the roof and swept along a connecting building to pier 21. The two piers are between Duane and Chambers streets.

Blizzards Hammer Europe For Fourth Straight Day

LONDON (Reuters)—Driving blizzards Tuesday hammered most of western Europe for the fourth straight day piling up snowdrifts, cutting communications, staggering transportation and isolating outlying villages.

One of the hardest hit areas was southern England where the heaviest snow since 1947—over the six-inch mark—fell during the day and into the night. In

the western part of England roads were blocked, wires down and drifts up to 12 feet were reported in some places.

Several villages were isolated in the southeastern coastal region and Dartmoor prison was cut off. More than half the country's roads were reported blocked by drifting snow.

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London had a four-inch crown of white over its dark, grimy buildings. Down below in the streets traffic crawled along in slush, slides, jams, snapped tempers and horn-blowing.

The snow moved in after swirling across Europe for three days. In hard-hit France, huge drifts were reported in many areas and the snow kept coming down.

Twelve persons were killed on slippery Paris streets.

Brussels airport closed shop as falling sleet turned runways into treacherous icy sheets.

In West Germany, four hobsleds were injured at the famed Bavarian resort of Garmisch when their sled went out of control in a bend of the Olympic racing track.

FOREIGN INFUX

Newfoundland reported an influx of birds from the continent including robins, evening grosbeaks and starlings. More than half of the Halifax count was herring gulls.

In Vancouver, the count of sea-fowl, usually conducted from aircraft, was held up by bad weather.

SPOT 65 SPECIES

Toronto area topped the last spotting 65 species in the 20th annual count in the section. Montreal reported 41 species, Ottawa 34, Newfoundland 26, and Halifax 31. Individual bird counts ranged from 19,394 at Toronto to about

Four Children Burn To Death

NORTH BATTLEFORD, Sask. (CP)—RCMP said today four children are believed to have died in a fire which destroyed their home Monday night at the isolated northern settlement of Green Lake, 100 miles north of here.

One child escaped when the home of Mrs. Cecile Ross, a widow, caught fire. Reports reaching here said Mrs. Cecile Ross was not at home when the fire broke out.

Presumed dead are Murray, 11; Lillian, 9; Patsy, 6; and William, 4. Thirteen-year-old Jackie Ross is in Meadow Lake Hospital, 25 miles from Green Lake, suffering severe burns.

Details of the fire were lacking. RCMP have sent an officer to investigate.

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