

LIBERAL BLAMES UNION LEADERS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT

Russia Refuses To Move Army From Austria

Postal, Customs Employees In Ch'town And S'side To Go On 40-Hour Week

OTTAWA, (CP)—Mail handlers and carriers, customs and immigration officers and operating staffs of other government departments in 180 communities will start a five-day, 40-hour week April 1. At present they work 44 hours.

The list of communities was announced Tuesday in the Commons by Finance Minister Abbott.

He said the change is being made in communities where the 40-hour week is the prevailing practice in private employment. However, operating staffs of all departments will be granted the short week wherever it is in effect for clerical employees.

Clerical employees were granted the 40-hour week in certain communities last fall.

Special Exceptions

Mr. Abbott said, however, that the 40-hour week will not be put into effect for federal employees in hospitals and other health stations, fire protection services, penitentiaries, security and watchman services, farms, fish hatcheries, national parks and historic sites, light houses and heating plants.

Mr. Abbott said that the civil service commission will make a continuous study to determine if additional communities should be put on the shorter work week. Communities which would qualify were those where more than 50 per cent of the industries or office workers were on the five-day 40-hour week.

The list of communities announced included:

Newfoundland: Wabana; Corner Brook; Gander; Grand Falls; St. John's.

Nova Scotia: Glace Bay; Halifax-Dartmouth; Inverness; New Glasgow; New Waterford; North Sydney; Pictou; Springhill; Stellarton; Sydney Mines; Sydney-Point Edward; Trenton; Truro.

Prince Edward Island: Charlottetown; Summerside; New Brunswick: Bathurst; Campbellton; Chatham; Edmundston; Fredericton; Moncton; Newcastle; Sackville; Saint John-Lancaster; St. Stephen; Woodstock.

Western Powers Turn Down New Suggestion Urges Gov't Guarantee Small Loans To Fishermen

By DANIEL DE LUCE
 BERLIN, (AP)—Russia refused again Tuesday night to free Austria from Red troops in an independence treaty but offered to talk in 1955 about military withdrawal.

The Western powers, together with Austria, turned down Foreign Minister Molotov's new suggestion. But the Big Four foreign ministers' conference agreed to devote another session Thursday—adjournment day—to the Austrian issue.

Foreign Secretary Eden, State Secretary Dulles and Foreign Minister Bidault attacked the Molotov amendment as making no real difference to his original occupation proposal. This would leave troops of the four powers in Austria as long as Germany is divided between the East and West.

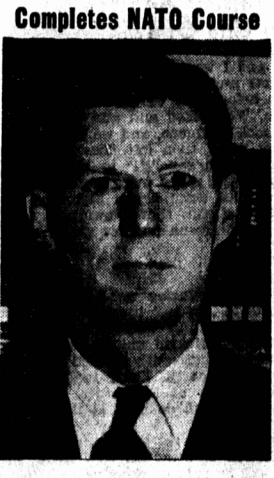
Attributing his military demands of Austria to the anti-Soviet threat he sees in the European Defence community with West German troops, Molotov lashed back at the Allied ministers.

"It seems to us that if this EDC treaty is not ratified in 1954 it will go into the ash heap and we are not sorry about that."

Postpone Withdrawal

Molotov demanded that the West sanction Russia's continued occupation of Austria in these words: "In connection with the delay in the conclusion of a peace treaty with Germany, the governments of the United States, United Kingdom and France and the Soviet Union shall have the right, after the coming into force of the treaty with Austria, to postpone temporarily the withdrawal of their troops."

(Continued on Page 5 col. 4)



Mr. Ian R. Stirling (above) formerly of the city and now of the Department of Citizenship and Immigration, Ottawa, this month completed 4th Course of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Defense College. The course is usually taken only by high ranking service personnel, but some civilians are accepted. The latter are generally top ranking personnel designed for important posts with the N.A.T.O. organization. Among the subjects studied are the makeup of N.A.T.O., the Soviet bloc and general economic problems. The courses in the Defense College are of six months duration. Mr. Stirling is expected to return to Canada this month. He was one of five Canadians attending the session in Paris.

Completes NATO Course

OTTAWA, (CP)—A New Brunswick Liberal suggested Tuesday the government should guarantee small bank loans to fishermen who need the money for repairs to their boats.

A. Wesley Stuart, (Charlottetown), made the recommendation after saying that the situation of primary producers — such as farmers and fishermen — had been neglected during Commons debate on mounting industrial unemployment.

He said incomes of fishermen — like those of other primary producers — had been dropping in the last three or four years and needed some help to get ready for what is expected to be a good fishing season.

They needed help in the next two or three months. Fishermen were not looking for a "gift" or a "handout." They paid their bills when they had the money.

Guaranteed Loans

He recommended the government set up a system whereby small loans by banks would be guaranteed. Fishermen did not need large loans, because their needs were not great.

Government help had been given to other primary producers. Western farmers, for example, had received \$65,000,000 from the government some years ago.

He had read that overproduction was the cause of unemployment. That was "the greatest fairy tale ever told." Canada had a huge surplus of wheat, yet 70 per cent of the world's population was underfed. There never was overproduction of any goods.

The problem was one of distribution — the price tag was too high. While industrial wages rose steadily in the last few years, incomes of primary producers had steadily decreased.

Sharp Differences

Sharp differences in United States and Canadian prices for the same articles, a subsidy to the Canadian industry. An automatic washer-dryer recently was advertised in Detroit at \$69. The same day in Windsor, Detroit's Canadian neighbor city, the article was advertised at \$69.

He wondered when the people of Canada would "rebel" against high price tags. Thousands of Canadians wanted cars, television sets and radio sets, but the price tag said "No."

When prices in Canada are brought in line with those in the United States, he added, there will be less unemployment in Canada.

Commons Debate On Unemployment Is Continued

OTTAWA, (CP)—The head of Canada's leading group of mortgage lenders said Tuesday the government's mortgage insurance scheme provides no complete protection to the lender.

In fact, the housing legislation involves "real and substantial additional risks" without compensating returns to the men who put up the money for mortgages.

J. T. Bryden, president of the Dominion Mortgage and Investments Association, told the Commons banking committee that when the word "insured" is used in connection with the legislation, it might be assumed that there is no risk involved.

"This is not the case under this bill. As it stands, there can be virtually no instance where the mortgage claim in the event of trouble can be satisfied without loss to the lender where the insurance offered is relied upon."

Reduce Coverage

Mr. Bryden underwent day-long committee examination as the legislation, to insure mortgages, permit banks to enter the lending field, reduce down payments and extend time to pay, went into its second week of committee scrutiny.

Further witnesses, representing co-operative unions, the Bank of Canada and chartered banks, will appear later before the committee.

Mr. Bryden, representing an association that includes in its membership 24 life insurance, 15 trust and seven loan companies, said increasing the loan ceiling and withdrawal of the government's Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation from the lending field will reduce the amount of homes which can be financed by his group.

The association's membership was sincerely interested in solving Canada's housing shortage. They

(Continued on Page 13 col. 3)

Mortgage Lenders Critical Of Housing Legislation

OTTAWA, (CP)—The head of Canada's leading group of mortgage lenders said Tuesday the government's mortgage insurance scheme provides no complete protection to the lender.

In fact, the housing legislation involves "real and substantial additional risks" without compensating returns to the men who put up the money for mortgages.

J. T. Bryden, president of the Dominion Mortgage and Investments Association, told the Commons banking committee that when the word "insured" is used in connection with the legislation, it might be assumed that there is no risk involved.

"This is not the case under this bill. As it stands, there can be virtually no instance where the mortgage claim in the event of trouble can be satisfied without loss to the lender where the insurance offered is relied upon."

Reduce Coverage

Mr. Bryden underwent day-long committee examination as the legislation, to insure mortgages, permit banks to enter the lending field, reduce down payments and extend time to pay, went into its second week of committee scrutiny.

Further witnesses, representing co-operative unions, the Bank of Canada and chartered banks, will appear later before the committee.

Mr. Bryden, representing an association that includes in its membership 24 life insurance, 15 trust and seven loan companies, said increasing the loan ceiling and withdrawal of the government's Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation from the lending field will reduce the amount of homes which can be financed by his group.

The association's membership was sincerely interested in solving Canada's housing shortage. They

(Continued on Page 13 col. 3)

Russia's Trade Offers Seen Propaganda Move

By Harold Morrison
 (Canadian Press Staff Writer)
 OTTAWA, (CP)—Some federal officials suspect that Russia's latest gestures toward trade negotiations are propaganda moves designed to break a Western economic blockade. However, trade department officials say the government has decided to consider all Soviet trade overtures as genuine until proved otherwise.

That was the initial reaction Tuesday to the Soviet embassy announcement that a special attaché will be posted to the embassy in an attempt to stimulate trade between Canada and Russia.

So far there have been no official trade talks between the two countries, but D. S. Chuvahin, new Soviet ambassador, told newspapermen Monday night that Russia is ready "right now" to start negotiations for trade involving ships, textiles and many other commodities.

However, suspicions were aroused after it became known that a few hours before the press conference, two well-known west coast left-wing unionists, William Stewart and Ed White, called on Fisheries Minister Sinclair. They are members of the Shipyard General Workers Federation of British Columbia (COL).

They were reported to have demanded federal subsidies for Canada's merchant marine. Federal experts noted that ambassador Chuvahin mentioned desiring Canadian ships.

French Seize Offensive In Indo-China

HANOI, Indo-China, (AP)—French Union forces today seized the offensive in northwestern Indo-China. Troops 4,000 to 5,000 strong broke out of Dien Bien Phu in attacks on three Vietminh "elite" divisions long threatening that embattled fortress.

The French claimed the Communists-led rebels suffered heavy, uncounted losses. They described their own as "appreciable."

Union troops, knocked out many rebel gun emplacements in the surrounding hills and forced the Vietminh to withdraw nine miles or more from Dien Bien Phu. They captured two rebel hill positions in fierce hand-to-hand combat.

Dien Bien Phu is the last French stronghold in the Thai country 180 miles west of Hanoi.

"My aim is to destroy the enemy," Gen. Rene Cogny, French commander in northern Indo-China, declared.

Queen Shows Love of Children At Canberra

CANBERRA, (CP)—The Queen thrilled thousands of persons in this Australian capital Tuesday with two acts showing her love of children.

First she halted the royal tour for a full minute at a spot where mothers with babies and children under five were waiting to see herself and the Duke of Edinburgh.

Then, at a gathering of 16,000 schoolchildren, she spent 11 minutes of the planned five minutes driving among children who had missed part of her address to them when the amplifying system broke down.

The unscheduled halt occurred when the Queen and the Duke were returning to Government House after inspecting the Australian war memorial.

The stop was so unexpected that escorting motor-cycles and the leading car went on at a steady 25 miles an hour after the Queen had ordered her car stopped at a play centre. Mothers and children swarmed around the royal car while the Queen and the Duke talked to them.

Diamond Brooch

The Queen's first engagement was to preside over the federal executive council. Her day ended with a banquet at Parliament House. In between times she unveiled Australia's national war memorial to the United States, paid tribute to Australia's own war memorial, received homage from the schoolchildren, and heard addresses from the president of

(Continued on Page 5 col. 3)

Questions By Mr. Kickham Re Federal Payments

OTTAWA, Feb. 16, (Special)—Details of Federal government payments to the Province of Prince Edward Island under agreements and statutory legislation are being sought by J. J. Kickham, Liberal Member for Kings, in a series of questions inscribed today on the House of Commons order paper.

In his questions which will be answered by different government departments in the course of the next two weeks, Mr. Kickham asks:

1. How much money was paid by the Federal Government to the Province of Prince Edward Island in connection with the Federal-Provincial tax rental agreements each year since the coming into force of the agreements?
2. How much money did the Province of Prince Edward Island receive each year since 1946 in connection with the social security program, including old age pensions, family allowances, blind pensions and so forth?
3. How much did the Province of Prince Edward Island receive by way of assistance in law construction, repairs and equipment to hospitals in each year since 1946, including all federal public health grants?

Mr. Kickham intimated privately that thanks to the friendly understanding existing between the Provincial Government of P.E.I. and the Federal Government, the Province has done very well in the matter of federal subsidies and assistance. He feels, however, that the precise amounts of federal grants from the departments of finance, national health and welfare and others, should be a matter of public record.

St. Laurant Arrives At Bahrein In Persian Gulf

(By WILLIAM STEWART)
 (Canadian Press Staff Writer)
 BAHRAIN, (CP)—Prime Minister St. Laurant arrived to spend the night in this Persian Gulf principality before embarking on the Asian portion of this world tour today.

Bahrein, an island off the north-east coast of Arabia, was roughly the half-way point in the Canadian Prime Minister's flight from Rome to his next port of call, the Pakistani capital of Karachi.

Sheikh Issa Ibn Salman Alkhalifa, eldest son of Bahrein's ruler, greeted the Prime Minister at the airport at 9:24 p. m. on his arrival after an uneventful flight from Rome, where he spent three days crisscrossed with official functions and meetings with government leaders.

Premier Mario Scelba accompanied his Canadian guest to Rome's airport on his departure Tuesday morning.

At Karachi, meanwhile, preparations went ahead for the visit of the St. Laurant party. The Canadian Prime Minister is to spend two days in Karachi and then will fly over 2,000 miles of Pakistani territory with stops at Peshawar and historic Khyber pass, meeting the tribal chiefs of the country's mountainous northwest frontier.

President of St. F.X. To Retire March 31

ANTIGONISH, N. S., (CP)—Magr. P. J. Nicholson, president of St. Francis Xavier University for the last nine years, announced Tuesday night he would retire March 31 and be succeeded by Rev. H. J. Somers, vice-president.

Magr. Nicholson, an outstanding educationist, physicist and Gaelic scholar, said he has been appointed pastor of St. Joseph's parish in Sydney.

He gave no reason for his resignation, but the presidential term is generally considered a six-year job.

Police Quickly Quell Riots In Italian Strikes

ROME, (AP)—Communists on strike rioted in Italy Tuesday but were quickly subdued in rough encounters with police ordered into action by the new government.

The demonstrations—obviously aimed at harassing the fledgling regime of Premier Mario Scelba—left one man dead, scores injured and more than 500 in jail.

Although the red-bosomed strike was centred in Rome, the sharp rioting was in Milan where Communists claimed club-wielding police killed a 55-year-old worker taking part in an unauthorized demonstration.

Police said the victim had a weak heart and presumably died of a heart attack. The interior ministry in Rome supported this claim.

The strike in Rome was a 24-hour protest for higher wages marked by some minor violence. The situation dramatized the major problems of Scelba's week-old regime—communism and pay hike demands.

B. C. Revenues At Record High

VICTORIA, (CP)—British Columbia government revenues reached a record high of \$161,765,532 in the fiscal year ending March 31, 1953. It was disclosed in public accounts tabled at the opening of the legislature Tuesday.

General expenditures were \$153,400,000, leaving a surplus of \$8,365,532.

Retired Sackville Industrialist Dies

SACKVILLE, N. B., (CP)—Charles W. Fawcett, 80, retired industrialist, died in hospital here Tuesday. His father founded the Fawcett Foundry, and the younger Fawcett was general manager when the company was amalgamated with Enamel and Heating Products Limited 30 years ago.

Mr. Fawcett served two terms as mayor of Sackville. He and his sister established Fawcett Memorial Hall at Mount Allison University in memory of their father.

Propose Salary Boost For British Parliamentarians

LONDON, (Reuters)—An all-party committee proposed Tuesday that the salaries of British members of Parliament should be increased by 50 per cent to £1,000 a year.

In a report to Parliament, the committee recommended also that a pension plan should be introduced for present and future members. The committee said expenses incurred by most of the 625 members of Parliament showed their present payment of £1,000 annually does not enable them to keep themselves and their families in reasonable circumstances.

But it opposed any tax relief concessions that would put members of Parliament into a different category from other citizens.

The report—produced by the select committee on members' expenses—said that since members' salaries were last reviewed in 1946 the pound had fallen in value to the point where the former purchasing power of £1,000 was now represented by £1,448.

The committee recommended that members who retire after 10 but under 15 years' service should receive a pension of £350 a year, and those with 15 years' service or more £500 a year.

Canada's MPs and senators recently voted themselves a 100-per-cent increase from \$4,000 to \$8,000 a year, plus \$2,000 in tax-free expenses, dating back to the start of the present session last fall.

Largest Oil Tanker Launched In Britain

WALLSEND, England, (Reuters)—The 33,000-ton tanker, largest ever built in Britain, was launched Tuesday by the Duchess of Kent and named World Harmony. The vessel will join the tanker fleet operated by independent Greek shipowner Stavros S. Niarchos. Her oil capacity is 11,500,000 gallons.

Syd Kennedy Awarded Bursary

HALIFAX, (CP)—S. R. (Syd) Kennedy, the CBC's Maritime program director, has been awarded an Imperial Relations Trust bursary for study in Britain with the British Broadcasting Corporation. The CBC announced Tuesday Mr. Kennedy will fly to London Feb. 25 for a three-month BBC staff training and television course.

Bandit Dressed As Cop Escapes With \$11,000

TORONTO, (CP)—A man dressed as a policeman grabbed a brief-case containing almost \$11,000 from a woman clerk and escaped.

Witnesses to the theft Tuesday on a busy street in suburban Etobicoke said the man fled in a car.

The man entered a Prudential Insurance Company branch office in Etobicoke—apparently in response to the manager's routine call to police for an officer to call the previous day's receipts to a bank across the street.

Manager Fred Daniels said he chatted with the man, who was dressed in police uniform, and that he had no reason to believe he had not been sent from nearby Swansea station.

The man was polite and spoke with a marked English accent. "I didn't know him by sight,"

Roman Catholic Church Destroyed

ST. BRUNO DE LAC ST. JEAN, Que. (CP)—Fire destroyed the 54-year-old Roman Catholic church in this small community, about 30 miles northwest of Chicoutimi, Tuesday. Sacred vessels and some church ornaments were saved.

Excavations have traced the Indian village civilization of India back for at least 4,000 years.

U. K. Gov't Spokesman Talks On Russian Trade

LONDON, (Reuters)—British manufacturers will be permitted to export up to \$200,000,000 (\$500,000,000) worth of goods to Russia provided they get the orders, a government spokesman said in the House of Commons Tuesday.

He said this represented approximately half the value of commodities listed by Russia on a schedule presented recently to a group of British manufacturers and businessmen visiting Moscow.

The remaining \$400,000,000 worth of commodities sought by Russia comes on the list of "strategic" goods, banned from export to Communist countries.

Derick Heathcoat-Amory, minister of state at the board of trade, emphasizing that his estimate was "very rough," said his immediate chief, the president of the board, would be "greatly interested" in the Soviet proposals.

Answering Labor member Harold Wilson, Heathcoat-Amory said: "We are very much looking forward to meeting these business men on their return and discussing their experiences with them."

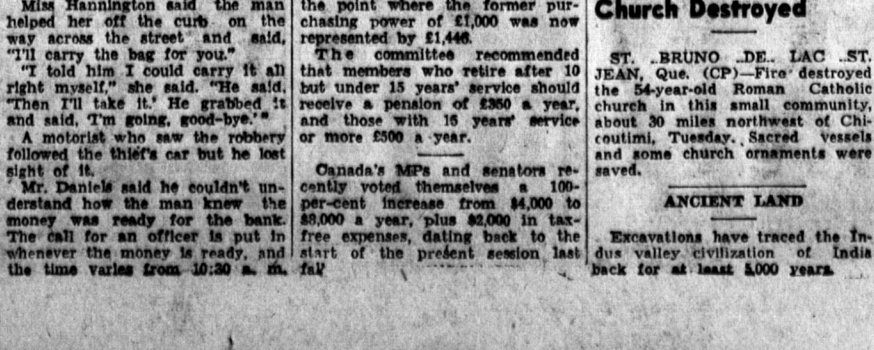
"It seems to have been a most useful visit."

Wilson suggested that the present strategic list should be examined to make sure that, while it had complete control of a goods of military value, it was pruned of those which could be safely supplied.

Coming Events

- "Jamboree" Afton Hall, tomorrow night.
- "Don't forget carnival Friday night, Feb. 19, in North River rink."
- "Hockey at North River rink tonight, Cornwall Meteors vs. Covehead Flyers, in second semi-final game. Game time 8:30. Skate after.
- "Annual Box Social, Bingo, Dance, St. James Church—Town Hall, Georgetown, Wednesday, February 24th. If stormy, Thursday.
- "The annual meeting of New Wiltshire Scouting Chapter will be held at King William Lodge, Kensington, Wednesday, February 17th, at 8 p. m."
- "Hog bowls, cattle bowls, stanchion, line powder for livestock. Disinfectants, roost paints, cod liver oil. At your One Stop Farm Supply Centre, Kensington Feed Service.

Flat Feet NEVER WON A FAIR DANCER



Regional Forecasts

- Prince Edward Island, Eastern N. B. Counties, Lower St. John River Valley: Snow; little change in temperature; light winds increasing during morning to east 15. Low-high at Charlottetown, Moncton and Fredericton 25 and 36, Saint John 30 and 32.
- Upper St. John River Valley, Bay of Chaleur: Cloudy and colder; light winds; low-high at Edmundston and Campbellton 30 and 28.
- Bay of Fundy: East winds increasing during morning to east 20 and shifting in evening to north 20; snow; visibility 10 miles lowering in snow to about one mile; temperatures near 30.
- High tide today at Charlottetown at 11:09 a. m. and 10:45 p. m.
- Summerside tide: eighteen minutes later than Charlottetown.
- Sun rises today at 7:11 a. m. and sets at 5:43 p. m.