

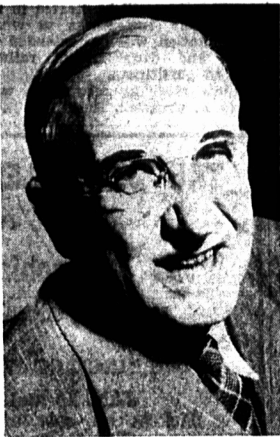
Eight Killed In North Sask. Crash

PRINCE ALBERT, Sask. (CP)—A converted military aircraft carried eight persons to their deaths Thursday when it flipped over and burned in landing at a far northern Saskatchewan trading outpost.

The twin-engine Anson plane, a late model of a type used extensively in Canada during the Second World War to train RCAF air crews, was operated by Saskatchewan Government Airways. The crash ended nearly 5,000,000 fatality-free miles logged by the government corporation, set up in 1947 to open the north country.

Seek Missing U. S. Navy Ducks

BEAUFORT, N. C. (AP) — All available ships in this area searched rough water Thursday night for two missing United States navy ducks and an undetermined number of men thrown into the sea.



Cabinet Post?

James N. Allan, 60-year-old Progressive Conservative member of the Ontario legislature for Haldimand-Norfolk, is reported to be possible successor to Highways Minister Doucett. Mr. Allan was first elected to the legislature in 1951.

Trade Crisis Talks With U.S. Moderately Successful

By WILLIAM HARCOURT Canadian Press Staff Writer WASHINGTON (CP)—The high-level meeting between the United States and Canada to avert a possible trade crisis was moderately successful, it was disclosed Thursday night.

At least we understand each other, Trade Minister C.D. Howe told reporters before he returned to Ottawa with his fellow Canadian delegates, External Affairs Minister Pearson and Finance Minister Harris.

But I see great difficulties, Howe added. There will be a general agreement on Tariffs and Trade, but it will be a tough row to hoe.

Concern over the 37 - country GATT brought the Canadians here. Canada believes the United States attitude on changing certain GATT provisions would weaken the agreement and endanger the economy of many member countries.

RECONCILE CURBS At the GATT review session now going on at Geneva, the U.S. has tried to reconcile the agreement's trade principles with American curbs on imports, particularly of agricultural goods.

Thursday's meeting is understood to have dwelt particularly on section 22 of the U.S. Agricultural Adjustments Act, which requires protection subsidized by the government. It expressly forbids the signing of any international agreement violating this provision.

Many GATT members regard section 22 as a violation of GATT

and object to American efforts to reconcile the two.

While Thursday's meeting produced no more than formal communication, said a cordial discussion had taken place, there were grounds for belief that the United States will adopt a less rigid attitude on import curbs.

The U.S. now restricts imports on grain and dairy products, restrictions which interfere with Canadian prosperity and export trade.

SPENDS ON U.S. Britain's attitude toward relaxation of her own import curbs, imposed because of pound-dollar exchange difficulties, depends largely on what the United States decides to do.

Canada, whose exports provide about 25 per cent of her national earnings, is deeply concerned with bringing about Anglo - American agreement on the eventual overall reduction of trade barriers.

The American side at Thursday's meeting included State Secretary Dulles; Treasury Secretary Humphrey; Agriculture Undersecretary True D. Morse; Clarence Randall, special adviser to President Eisenhower, and other top U.S. officials.

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THREATENED BRITISH RAILWAY STRIKE CALLED OFF AS AGREEMENT REACHED

Warships To Be Refitted In Maritimes

HALIFAX (CP)—The navy announced Thursday that four more warships are being detached from service for refits at shipyards in the Maritimes.

The frigates Prestonian and Toronto will sail for Saint John, N.B. Monday for an annual face-lifting. The two vessels returned to Halifax recently from an extensive training cruise to the Mediterranean.

The minesweeper Wallaceburg is already enroute to Pictou where she will enter drydock. The minesweeper New Liskeard will be refitted at Liverpool, N.S.

The 18,000-ton aircraft carrier Magnificent currently is undergoing a refit at Halifax shipyards. The destroyers Halda and Micmac are about to return to service at the naval dockyard here and the auxiliary vessel Sackville is being refurbished at Lunenburg, N.S.

Sheriff Appointed For Prince County

Mr. Alfred Gordon, of Summerside, has been appointed High Sheriff of Prince County. The announcement was made by Premier A. W. Matheson following a meeting of the Executive Council yesterday.

The appointment was made to fill the vacancy caused by the death of John Hubert Hall on December 22.

Mr. Gordon, who is 52 years of age, has been acting deputy sheriff since last October and in conjunction with his position has been giving driving examinations to applicants for motor vehicle licenses.

Previous to his appointment as acting deputy sheriff, he was employed with Corney Brothers in Summerside, following five years of war service with the R.C.A.F.

A native of Alberton, Mr. Gordon has made his home in Summerside since 1942. He owned and operated the Alberton Electric Light plant from 1927 to 1951, when it was purchased by the Maritime Electric Company.

He is married and has two daughters, Jean in Fredericton, N.B. and Peggy, a student at Horton Academy, Wolfville, N.S.

Parliament Opens This Afternoon

OTTAWA (CP)—Parliament Hill bustled with renewed life Thursday in anticipation of the opening today of the new parliamentary session.

Members of the Progressive Conservative and CCF parties held private meetings to discuss strategy for a busy session expected to last into mid-summer.

Five of the 51 Progressive Conservative members were absent including Opposition leader Drew, recovering from meningitis. He will miss the opening ceremony for the first time since he became party leader in 1948.

It was the second caucus in two days for the 23-member CCF group. Social Credit members, with 14 of the Commons' 265 seats, will meet a few hours before today's opening at 2 p.m. EST.

The 172-member Liberal caucus is not expected to meet until next week.

ONE VACANCY

The only Commons vacancy was caused by the death Nov. 11 of Robert Fair, Social Credit member for Battle River-Camrose.

Meanwhile, preparations went ahead for the opening ceremony in the Senate chamber in which Governor-General Massey will read the speech from the Throne outlining the government's legislative program.

However, the red-carpeted chamber was cluttered with equipment and workmen making final preparations for the first television broadcast of the ceremony.

The main debate will start Monday, with the first speaker Hon. Earl Rowe, acting Opposition leader. His speech is expected to end with a non-confidence motion against the government.

Prime Minister St. Laurent will reply and speeches by CCF leader Coldwell and Social Credit leader Low will follow.

TWO IMMEDIATE ITEMS Apart from the throne speech debate, the Commons is expected to deal with two immediate items of business.

First is the proposed ratification of the Paris agreements providing for rearmament of West Germany and admittance to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

The other will be a government bill to increase supplementary unemployment insurance benefits for winter jobs.

The government has said it also will propose changes in the House's rules of procedure to speed proceedings. It is understood one move under government study involves sending estimates of government spending for the 1955-56 year to a special committee for detailed study.

Other possible changes, including a reduction in the length of speeches to 30 from 40 minutes, likely will meet strong objections from opposition members.

His remarks were contained in a text made available to the press before the luncheon.

NOT UNLIKE CANADA He said the plan put forward by the Covenant movement is "not unlike the provincial parliaments in Canada" but the parliament it suggests for Scotland would in many respects have fewer powers than are vested in Canadian provincial governments.

Home rule advocates contended, Continued on Page 5 Col. 2

VICTORIA (CP)—The Victoria Daily Times says the destroyer Crusader will be transferred from Esquimalt to Halifax.

The paper says official announcement is expected shortly that she will be replaced by the Preston class frigate Sussexvale, which will join the newly-formed 2nd Canadian Escort Squadron.

Stresses Moderate View On Scottish Home Rule

TORONTO (CP)—Roy H. Thomson said Thursday the more Scotland is given control over her own administration, the less will be the pressure for additional political power.

Mr. Thomson, Canadian-born chairman of the Scotman Publications Limited of Edinburgh, addressed the Empire Club of Canada on "Scottish home rule."

He said two main bodies advocate some form of Scottish home rule—the Scottish National party, which seeks complete independence from England, and the Scottish National Covenant movement, which proposes to keep the framework of the United Kingdom but to give Scotland a parliament which would legislate for Scottish affairs.

Mr. Thomson also is president of Thomson Newspapers, which owns daily and weekly newspapers and radio and television interests in Canada and the United States as well as publishing the weekly Canada Review in Britain.

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Signs Contract

William Sage, 30, of London, Ont. has signed a long-term motion picture contract with MGM in Hollywood. In nine years of professional credits, Sage has acted in summer stock, repertory, with radio companies, New York stage, motion pictures and television. In his first Hollywood motion picture role he portrayed the part of the cold-blooded shot-gun killer in "Dragnet."

(CP Photo)

Town Wavers On Bingo Ban

WESTVILLE, N. S. (CP)—The town council wavered Wednesday in its determination to stamp out bingo parties when lawyers testified they didn't think a municipal ban would hold water.

This Pictou county coal town of 4,500 has split about evenly over the council's adoption in December by a 3 to 2 vote of a measure outlawing sponsored bingo effective New Year's Day.

Councillor Alfred Matheson gave notice Wednesday he would move at the next council meeting that the ban be rescinded.

CSL COMMODORE RETIRES TORONTO (CP)—Captain Selby Patterson, commodore of the 60-ship fleet of Canada Steamship Lines, announced his retirement Thursday after half a century of Great Lakes service. He holds the distinction of carrying the largest grain and iron cargoes ever taken through the Welland canal.

There had been head-shaking doubt among old fishermen when news of the peril spread. But the loved ones never gave up hope.

Mrs. Levi Warren, whose husband was the mate of the Student Prince, said brokenly: "It is too good to be true. Then she smiled through the tears: 'You know, my hopes had sunk very low this morning.'"

John Hardiman and his wife, both in their 70s, sat quietly throughout the day, side by side. Two of their sons have died at sea, one by enemy action during the Second World War. A third was aboard the Student Prince II.

"We prayed that he would be spared," they explained simply.

PLAN JANUARY CHRISTMAS The homes of all the rescued men are still gay with Christmas trees and tinsel. Presents lay unopened on nearly a dozen living-room floors.

They knew their voyage to the West Indies would mean they would spend Dec. 25 at Jamaica. So all planned celebrations in January.

Capt. Harry Thomassen's wife was pouring coffee at the morning breakfast table when the news reached the Thomassen home. The pot dropped with a crash from her nerveless fingers.

Her husband had advised her only the night before over the Prince's radio phone that he hoped to make port by Friday.

PREPARED FOR WORST "As the news got worse, I began to give up hope and by noon I was prepared for the worst," she said. "The good news was almost unbelievable and I thank God."

Thomassen has spent more than 40 of his 56 years at sea and has survived several shipwrecks. A German submarine shelled and sank one of his commands, the Robert and Max, in the Mediterranean in 1943 and the skipper and his men took to the boats.

He is a Salvation Army bandmaster when he is ashore. The Student Prince II was regarded by some old hands as a jinxed ship because of a series of mishaps that befell her earlier in her career. She was launched 10 years ago.

There were a few more breathless moments as the lifeboat, swinging free, crashed against the side of the Queen. The men still in it piled lifejackets and other items or the gunwales to cushion the shock.

Finally, the lifeboat, too, was secured.

The Queen of Bermuda then resumed her voyage. When we last saw the Student Prince it was abandoned but still afloat, some smouldering flares marking the position.

Says N. B. Oyster Disease Misnamed

LONDON (Reuters) — Railway union leaders decided Thursday night after a tense three-hour meeting to call off a national railway strike scheduled to start Sunday midnight.

After a day of negotiation with the government and the British Transport Commission, which operates the state-owned railways, the executive of the National Union of Railwaymen said it had been given certain promises during the discussions and added:

"We are of the opinion that the assurances create a satisfactory basis for immediate negotiation and speedy settlement."

"In the circumstances we recommend that the strike notices be withdrawn," the statement added.

KEPT IN SUSPENSE The leaders of the 400,000-strong NUR kept the issue in suspense until half an hour before midnight. During the three hours the 24-member executive met, the question of whether to call off the strike was hotly debated.

In the end the decision was carried by a substantial majority. Prime Minister Churchill was immediately told. He had cancelled arrangements to leave London and sat waiting at 10 Downing Street all evening for the news that would tell whether or not Britain's life was to be thrown into chaos.

MAPPED PLANS Industrial and business firms, meanwhile, had busily mapped emergency plans for continuing their operations if the paralyzing walkout had materialized.

The union and management representatives negotiated for nearly four hours amidst a near-crisis atmosphere over the 18-month wage dispute.

Jim Campbell, secretary of the 400,000-strong NUR had hurried from the special meeting to report back to the union executive on a "peace plan" suggested by Labor Minister Sir Walter Monckton, and on the commission's reaction to it.

NO "CASH PROPOSALS" He said at the time that there had been no specific "cash proposals" made at the session.

Monckton had sought desperately to avoid what would have been the second major tie-up of important British transport facilities in three months.

All disrupted British imports and exports and halted some industrial production. A drawn-out rail strike experts say, would have even more disastrous effects.

The union has been demanding raises of from eight to 10 shillings

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BEER SALE DOWN

WELLINGTON, England (CP)—The British Legion clubhouse in this Surrey town may be closed unless members drink more beer. The bar ran up a deficit of £130 last year.

There is no such a disease in oysters as "Malpeque disease" said Mr. H. R. Found, who is in charge of oyster culture at the Dominion Biological Station at Eilerisle, P.E.I. Mr. Found was commenting yesterday on a Canadian Press report which emanated from New-castle, N.B., in which an official of the Department of Fisheries at Ottawa was quoted as making reference to the prevalence of "Malpeque disease" in the waters of the Kent County area of New Brunswick.

"We have been aware for a number of years of oyster mortality in the Kent County waters," said Mr. Found, "and on April 14th last year a quarantine was put on that area."

"We do not know the cause of the disease nor do we know whether the trouble which is now being experienced in that area is the same or has any relation to that suffered in Prince Edward Island in 1914-1918.

At that time a disease was observed and considerable mortality experienced among Island oysters but, by an active research program, it was found possible to breed oysters that were immune to the disease. Ever since that immunity was established Island oysters have been entirely disease free.

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TORONTO (CP)—Minimum and maximum temperatures:

Table with 3 columns: Location, Min., Max. Dawson 25b 1b Vancouver 36 39 Victoria 38 41 Edmonton 13 32 Regina 4b 21 Winnipeg 3b 16 Toronto 30 33 Ottawa 14 23 Montreal 13 24 Quebec 8 24 Fredericton 18 33 St. John 27 33 Moncton 28 33 Halifax 31 38 Charlottetown 31 38 Sydney 32 38 Yarmouth 32 38 St. Johns 34 38

HALIFAX (CP)—The Dominion weather office says not much change is forecast for Friday but the colder air will spread slowly over the western regions.

Forecast: Eastern N. B. counties, lower St. John river valley; Occasional rain and drizzle changing in the morning to occasional snow; not much change in temperature; light winds increasing in the morning to northwest 15. Low-high at Charlottetown 33 and 38.

Prince Edward Island: Overcast with occasional drizzle and rain; little change in temperature; light winds increasing in the morning to northeast 15. Low-high at Charlottetown 33 and 38.

High tide today at Charlottetown at 10:05 a. m. and 9:14 p. m. Sun rises this morning at 7:50 a. m. and sets at 4:45 p. m.

Coming Events

- Dance in Millview Hall every Friday night. Regular Saturday night Dance, St. Peter's Hall, Messer's Orchestra. Auction and Dance, Vernon Hall, January 10th. Meeting of Vernon Driving Club at home of Dennis Dochertie Saturday, Jan. 8, 8 o'clock. Long Creek Hall, Rovers Hockey Dance, Refreshments, Friday, January 7th. Crapaud District Lodge, meets in Prince Arthur Lodge Rooms Crapaud, on January 11th, at 2 p. m. K. of C. Players present "Quiet Honey Moon", (St. Mary's Hall, Souris, afternoon and evening, January 7th. Dance at Murray River Warehouse Saturday night. Dancing from 9 till 12. Dance at Long Creek postponed until Saturday, Jan. 8. Canteen service in aid of the Rovers hockey team. Showing at Mt. Stewart Friday and Saturday nights—"The Naked Spur"—a good Technicolor Western Drama. Shur-Gain Amateur Cavalcade in Belfast Hall, Tuesday, January 11th. Sponsored by Point Prim W. I. Please send entries before January 8th to Mrs. William MacRae, Point Prim. Attention Morell and Vicinity. Columbia Pictures presents Judy Holiday in "It Should Happen to You." It's Smart! Tart! Terrific! "She becomes a sensation overnight. Must have been quite a night!" In Born yesterday she got two mink coats. This time she gets everything! Don't miss this show, it's really good. Tonight Friday only. Two shows—7 and 9 p. m.

Island Hogs Scored New Quality Record In 1954

By Harold W. Clay Senior Livestock Fieldman

Again, in spite of dire forecasts to the contrary, the Canadian swine industry has experienced a year of profitable returns. In late 1953 and early 1954, our farmers

were advised that, Canadian hog production in 1954 would show a heavy increase in volume and consequently suffer a serious and early decline in price. Market reports for the past year now show that there were too many cries "Wolfe, Wolfe."

This expected increase was supposed to come largely from the Western Provinces. Alberta was credited with a promised 30 per cent increase. The following figures emphasize the inaccuracy of these forecasts:

Alberta: 1953—1,349,950; 1954—1,355,287. Western Canada: 1953—2,087,173; 1954—2,074,000. All Canada: 1953—4,785,470; 1954—4,783,385. This covers 1954 up to December 11th.

Continued on Page 5 Col 3

Liner Backtracks To Save 10 Eyewitness Story Of Ocean Rescue

(Moses Berman, Associated Press reporter, was aboard the Bermuda which rescued the crew of the sinking fishing vessel Student Prince II. This is his account of the rescue.)

By MOSES BERMAN ABOARD THE QUEEN OF BER-MUDA (AP) — The gay luxury liner, Queen of Bermuda backtracked 150 angry ocean miles Thursday to take 10 hapless fishermen from their foundering craft in mid-Atlantic.

All told the rescue operation took about 90 minutes, but they were breathtaking ones both for the rescuers and those rescued.

The 10 who were saved, all from Newfoundland, comprised the Student Prince's entire complement. They were exhausted by their ordeal, but only one had suffered injury. He is Samuel Butler of Grand Banks whose right ankle was fractured.

DELICATE OPERATION