

Wishes, when realised, sometimes turn against those who have made them.

Europeans Battle Storms

30 'Copters On Mercy Missions

LONDON, (AP)—Britain's biggest airborne mercy mission sent 30 helicopters swirling over a desolate "white hell" in northern Scotland Wednesday, dropping food and medical aid for thousands of isolated villagers.

Europeans across the continent battle snowdrifts, floods and landslides caused by the last week's blizzards. Storms and floods took at least 20 lives, and piled up property damage running into the millions.

U.S. airmen in "Mae West" life-jackets pushed rubber rafts through chill floodwaters to rescue stranded Germans from homes in the Zell district. Sweden had a rash of hit-and-run accidents on roads reduced to ribbons between 12-foot snowbanks.

British air force transports joined navy helicopters and the 13,000-ton aircraft carrier Glory in Scotland's giant "Operation Snowdrop" by dusk Wednesday night they had dropped food for 34 villages, plus tons of hay for sheep and cattle.

CALLS FOUR IN

Helicopters brought out at least six sick persons from snowbound homes, among them two maternity cases and an 11-year-old boy with pneumonia.

Police at Wick, the nerve centre of the operation, said: "We are getting distress calls practically every minute from widely scattered areas—almost too many for the helicopters to cope with."

In Glasgow, headquarters of Care, the privately financed American aid group, sent nearly 200 28-pound food packages into the north's "front line."

A freak smog cloud brought central London a "false nightfall" for the second time this week. The cloud slowed traffic to a crawl. Birds roosted in Hyde park trees, then broke out into a chorus.

Tear Gas Brings Jail Rioters Under Control

EDMONTON (CP)—Tear gas brought a group of rioting prisoners under control Wednesday after they became trapped in the food store room of the provincial jail at Fort Saskatchewan, 20 miles northwest of Edmonton.

The store room was wrecked and set on fire by the prisoners who also smashed all the windows in the prison's kitchen. The disturbance was brought under control within a half hour.

Reporters, refused entry to the jail, were told by deputy warden Thomas Holt the riot lasted 30 minutes.

Federal Cabinet Cool To Plan

Urges Two Prices For Farm Products

OTTAWA (CP)—Joe Phelps, outspoken prairie farm union leader, Wednesday held what he described as a "rational" discussion with cabinet ministers on the merits of a two-price system for Canada's farm products. He said the ministers didn't favor it.

"The meeting was one of the best we ever had and we had a rational discussion on parity prices but I wouldn't want to leave the impression the ministers favored it," the vice-chairman of the 200,000-member Interprovincial Farm Union Council said.

His 11-man delegation met a cabinet group including Agriculture Minister Gardiner, Trade Minister Howe and Finance Minister Harris.

Later the council delegation members met with Liberal members of Parliament to discuss the plan again. The delegation will hold talks with opposition members today.

Foreign prices would be based on supply and demand, but exports would be covered by federal price supports. The difference between the foreign price and the support price would be made up to the farmer by federal subsidies. Mr. Phelps and his group said

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when the cloud lifted. The smoke made breathing difficult and revived memories of the 1952 smog that health authorities said was a contributing factor in the death of 4,000 people. But less than two miles from the city's murky centre an Italy-England soccer match was played out under the bright winter sun.

A slight thaw helped Scottish rescue efforts and improved road conditions. But Wednesday night the big freeze came back and all British roads were reported dangerous except in southern England.

There has been considerable speculation among citizens as to the mildness of the present winter and how it compares with those that have preceded it. Major D. F. Tierney of the Marine Section, Department of Transport reports that in 1949 the harbour froze up for the winter on the 26th of January; so that the weather will have to remain mild for almost another week before that record will be surpassed.

The Major keeps a log book for every day of the week and it shows that previous to that date in January 1949, the temperatures ranged from 40 to 4 degrees above zero but on the 26th when the thermometer took a drop to zero all harbour activity including the crossing of the Rocky Point ferry ceased.

His book shows that on Jan. 18, 1951 a fertilizer boat arrived in port and two days later a tanker discharged its cargo. In 1950 the ferry stopped running on the 18th of January and stopped on the same date in 1954. Another item in the log shows that there was a heavy thunder and lightning storm on January 13, 1950. There is a possibility that 1955 will exceed other years in mildness but there are a few days to go yet.

The 50-year-old crooner was under surgery for two hours and 15 minutes at St. John's hospital. Dr. Frederick C. Schulmberger told reporters he removed a stone and performed "certain reconstructive procedures" to prevent more stones from being formed. Crosby has previously had a kidney stone removed in 1951.

Word was received yesterday by the P. E. I. Potato Marketing Board that potato storage holdings in the United States as of January 1st, amount to 118,168,000 bushels.

The Railway filed its application for the hearing on December 29 last, at which time it intimated that it proposed to discontinue the operation of all scheduled local passenger train services

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"We take it therefore, that the way now is open for the government to take appropriate action without further delay."

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INDICATIONS SEEN BOSTON CONVICTS WILL SURRENDER WITHOUT BLOODSHED

Liner United States Has Rough Voyage

SOUTHAMPTON, Eng. (AP)—The liner United States arrived Wednesday 24 hours behind schedule and Capt. John Anderson said he had "one of the roughest crossings on the Atlantic I've ever known."

Anderson, who has spent 41 years at sea, said the 53,000-ton United States hove to for 16 hours last Friday and Saturday in a hurricane that whipped up waves 40 feet high.

Members of the City Council met yesterday morning with Mr. George Fraser of the Travel Bureau and Mr. Ernest Lord of the Island Motor Transport Ltd. to consider plans for the alterations in the Market Building for the convenience of the Bus company and the Travel Bureau.

A tentative plan submitted by Architect J. F. Toombs was approved in principle and the Council indicated that they were sufficiently interested for Mr. Toombs to draw up a more detailed plan and to authorize the calling of tenders. The proposed changes call for the acquisition of a little over half of the Market building floor space with the both offices to be situated in the west side of the building.

LIVERPOOL, Eng. (Reuters)—The Canadian Pacific liner Empress of France, with 160 passengers, has been delayed 24 hours by high seas and winds during her Atlantic crossing.

She was due at Liverpool from Saint John, N.B., today, but now is not scheduled to berth until Friday morning.

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Older Business Firms In City Honored At Banquet

125 business men were given a cordial welcome by W. C. MacLeod, president of the Charlottetown Retail Merchants' Association in his opening remarks at a banquet held in the Charlottetown hotel last night.

"Our purpose is to honour all our business firms which have been in business in our city for over fifty years as a Centennial event in which we are pleased to co-operate with the City and Centennial Committee," Mr. MacLeod said.

"All of us are aware of the tremendous contribution made by these firms to our city over half a century and tonight we thank them sincerely and wish them continued prosperity."

In proposing a toast to the honored guests, Mr. Ben Rogers, manager of the Bank of Montreal, referred to the record of more than forty firms in business here for more than fifty years. "Fifteen of these have functioned for over seventy five years and three have

been in business for a century or more—this is an enviable record," Mr. Rogers said. "It is not difficult to visualize the progress that has been made in the hundred years since Charlottetown was incorporated. The citizens of the Centennial year are proud of our city, our facilities for worship, education, health and recreation and the excellent way in which we live and work together in harmony."

Mr. Rogers touched on the debt of gratitude owed to those who down through the years have given of their time and services in leadership in the upbuilding of the city. "I believe our guests will enjoy a good measure of comfort in reflecting on the contribution they have made to the spiritual, business, professional and political life of the community," he said.

Mr. J. O. Hyndman in responding to the toast, described the difficulties with which the city and province were faced for many years (Continued on Page 5 col. 3)

from mid-April to mid-December, the services to be restored during the winter months. The existing through trains with connections through Charlottetown and the mainland would not be affected by the application and would continue to operate on a year-round basis.

Bus schedules of the Island Motor Transport were cited in the railway application to show that passenger highway services were available to all areas on the Island served by the railway.

Rising Unemployment Is Reported By Federal Gov't

OTTAWA, (CP)—Rising unemployment was reported Wednesday by the government, and labor leaders immediately demanded federal action to check it.

In its monthly report on jobs, the government issued these figures:

1. A bureau of statistics estimate—based on a sampling survey—that at Dec. 11 there were 247,000 Canadians without work and looking for jobs, up 33,000 from three weeks earlier and up 87,000 from the same time in 1953.

2. A report from National Employment Service that at Dec. 9 the number registered for jobs with that government agency was 362,878. This was an increase of 64,103 in three weeks, and was up 24,612 from the same time a year earlier.

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Says Ottawa Surrendered To Quebec Premier

OTTAWA, (CP)—The federal government's proposed solution to the Ottawa-Quebec tax dispute is a "complete surrender" to Premier Duplessis of Quebec, Hazen Argue said Wednesday in the commons.

Mr. Argue, CCF member for Assiniboia, was the first to comment in the Commons on the formula announced Monday by Prime Minister St. Laurent.

"It was a disservice to Canada," he said. "Mr. Argue said he was disappointed that the federal government had conceded the issue to Mr. Duplessis."

The rest of Canada would suffer from the policy because it showed the government denounced the principles set down at federal-provincial conferences shortly after the Second World War.

The proposals "are an almost unconditional surrender" to Mr. Duplessis, not only on the tax issue but to the premier's "ultra nationalist ideas" on education.

Fog Continues In Newfoundland

ST. JOHN'S, Nfld. (CP)—No relief from Newfoundland's 16-day fog was in sight Wednesday as weather forecasts predicted continued fog and drizzle.

The unseasonable damp spell clamped over the area Jan. 4 and since then only three commercial aircraft have landed at nearby Torbay airport.

Hundreds of waiting air passengers have left here by train and boat since the fog settled, and few are making air reservations until the weather shows signs of clearing.

Cruiser Quebec Off Bermuda

HALIFAX (CP)—The cruiser Quebec arrived off Bermuda Wednesday to land a seriously ill sailor who earlier in the day underwent emergency shipboard surgery.

The navy here said it had not yet received confirmation that the man had been taken ashore.

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Nautilus Trials Said Satisfactory

WASHINGTON (AP)—The navy said Wednesday initial trials of the Nautilus "have thus far been satisfactory" and the atomic-powered submarine may make her first dive today.

The Nautilus returned to Groton, Conn. Wednesday after 50 hours of surface trials.

The navy said the Nautilus will move into Long Island sound again today for further surface and submerged trials.

Sunspot Hits Communications

LONDON (Reuters)—Falling radio conditions played havoc with transatlantic communications Tuesday night and Wednesday.

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Supreme Court Judge Sees Jails In N. S. "Shocking"

HALIFAX, (CP)—A Nova Scotia Supreme Court justice said Tuesday the province's jails have degenerated into a "shocking" state that all but precludes the rehabilitation of prisoners.

Mr. Justice W. Lorimer Hall delivered the criticism while addressing the grand jury at the opening of the Supreme Court January term. His was the latest in a long series of attacks on the jail system over several years by members of the judiciary.

Mr. Justice Hall said the public should be made aware of conditions in the jails but he offered no method by which this might be brought about.

Premier Hicks declined to comment on the jurist's remarks. Attorney-General Malcolm A. Patterson could not be reached and John Arnot, secretary of the provincial John Howard Society for the rehabilitation of criminals, was out of the city.

SYSTEM WRONG

Mr. Justice Hall said the present system under which the counties finance the upkeep of jails is wrong. He said they should be the responsibility of the provincial and federal governments.

He also proposed that Nova Scotia build a prison farm. The New Brunswick government announced only last week that it plans to inaugurate such a system.

The judge said jail conditions "are rather shocking" and noted that the Halifax county prison is 100 years old and "obsolete."

"The idea of punishment has changed," he said. "People are more enlightened and would like to see the possibility for rehabilitation of young criminals."

LITTLE CHANCE

"There is little chance for that in Nova Scotia today."

"Municipalities cannot afford to finance jails and jails should be the responsibility of the federal and provincial governments."

He said he favored the prison farm system of confining criminals because "men sitting around talking and in idleness are not doing themselves any good."

"There should be segregation and opportunity for training. However, such action will never be taken until we have an aroused public opinion."

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