

Commons Debate Held On Rivard Jail Break

Causeway Building Proposal Called Exciting By Minister

By MARIAN BRUCE
The proposal of Island Development Company for building a causeway to the mainland should be considered on its merits, Hon. Philip Matheson, minister of highways, said in the Legislature yesterday.

Mr. Matheson, speaking in the debate on the draft address, stressed the importance of the proposed causeway to the development of Island resources, but said it was "of no great concern" if it was built by a private company.

"I find it exciting that these people, who have such an important place in the construction field of the nation, saw fit to come here and survey the site for a causeway," he said. "I also find it exciting that they were pleased with what they saw, but more than anything, I am excited by the fact that they got financial backing from the money-lending institutions of the country."

"Anybody would not be doing service to his country if he did not consider this proposal on its merits," the minister said.

ment program was being carried out at a cost of slightly more than \$100,000 per mile. He said the project was in the experimental stage as yet, as methods used on the Borden-Charlottetown highway were different from those used anywhere else in Canada.

The road was stronger and wider than any other standard

Schurman Firm Gets Contract
CAPITAL BUREAU OF THE GUARDIAN
OTTAWA — A Summerside firm, Schurman Construction Ltd., has been awarded a contract by Defence Construction (1951) Limited, it was announced Wednesday by Industry Minister C.M. Drury.

The contract, in the amount of \$32,800, is for the construction of a sand storage building at Summerside. It is one of nine contracts for \$10,000 or more awarded by defence construction in the latter half of January. Total value of the contracts was \$465,223.

road in Canada, he said, and testing done on it indicated it was "very satisfactory."

Asked by Acting Opposition Leader Dr. Lorne Bonnell if the government planned to extend the all-weather highway to Montague, the minister replied that the cost of such an undertaking was "beyond the financial capabilities of the province."

He added that it was unfortunate previous governments had bypassed Montague when constructing the Trans-Canada Highway, and said the highway should have stretched "from one end of the province to the other."

Mr. Matheson said plan to modernize the highway system would likely meet with some opposition, as had the first railways and first paved roads in the province.

On embarking on such a program, the government must first have a freight rates structure guarantee, and "satisfactory arrangements with regard to the construction and future maintenance of such a road."

"This is not the job of the provincial government — it is (Continued on page 3 Col. 2)

POLICE OFFER EVERY HELP

DETROIT (CP) — The police department has pledged 12-year-old Timothy Simon its "full resources" in the effort to retrieve his stolen red bicycle.

With \$10 in snow-shedding money, Timothy appeared Tuesday at the auction of unclaimed bikes at the police headquarters gymnasium.

He got the red one on a bid of \$4. He bought a licence for \$1.

Timothy parked his bike at the rear of the gym, returned to the auction, and got another nice bike for \$2 for his sister, Kyle, 9.

In the interim a thief stole the red bike.

"I'd sure like to get that red one back. It was really neat," Timothy said, following assurance by police he'd get another bike.

Charges And Denials Heard In Chamber

OTTAWA (CP)—A snarling House of Commons plunged into a debate Wednesday over Lucien Rivard's escape from jail, as Opposition Leader Diefenbaker accused the Liberal government of laxity and carelessness, and in turn was accused of smear tactics.

The Commons set aside all other business for the day for an emergency debate on Rivard's escape. Within moments the chamber was engulfed in a series of sweeping condemnations, angry denials, personal accusations and desk-thumping support from backbench-cheering sections.

"Never before has a Canadian government shown so much solicitude for an ordinary, though not ordinary, an individual one," said the opposition leader.

"The events of the last few months reveal such a disregard of public morality by the government as to shock the public."

When Justice Minister Favreau got to his feet he said Mr. Diefenbaker had spread smears and innuendoes and had never given an indication of how the federal government was remiss in its responsibilities over the escape from Montreal's Bordeaux Jail.

DIDN'T INDICATE THEM
"At no moment did he even indicate what these responsibilities might have been."

In connection with the escape of the central figure in the Diefenbaker inquiry, he said: "Never has there been a federal responsibility whatsoever — legally or in fact."

Both Mr. Diefenbaker and Mr. Favreau were quick to praise Quebec Attorney-General Claude Wagner. Mr. Favreau said while the jail was a provincial responsibility, he wanted to make it clear—before smears made any such insinuation—he was making no suggestion Mr. Wagner in any way failed to discharge his responsibilities.

Earlier, Mr. Diefenbaker said Mr. Wagner "as a prosecutor and judge has shown Canadians what true administration of justice is." He hoped some would rub off on others.

For about an hour before Speaker Alan Macnaughton ruled Mr. Diefenbaker's adjournment motion in order, the House wrangled over whether there should be a full-dress debate on Rivard's escape. During the procedural argument, the comments ranged almost as widely as the subsequent discussion.

DEBATE NECESSARY
The opposition leader said such a debate was necessary because of the "great alarm in all parts of the country" caused by the present government's "lax and careless" administration of justice. While the escape was under provincial jurisdiction, there was a responsibility on the federal justice department. "He is their prisoner."

Canadians had a right to know what took place. Rivard, 49, had been fighting lawsuits by U.S. authorities to extradite him from Canada to face narcotics smuggling charges in Texas. He fled with another prisoner Tuesday night.

Mr. Diefenbaker's motion urged that inquiry be launched to go into how facts apparently from RCMP files came into the hands of Erik Nielsen (PC-Yukon), who first aired the bribe charges in the Commons. He would be interested in seeing whether there were "handouts" in other parts of the country as well as in Quebec.

Mr. Diefenbaker's motion urged that inquiry be launched to go into how facts apparently from RCMP files came into the hands of Erik Nielsen (PC-Yukon), who first aired the bribe charges in the Commons. He would be interested in seeing whether there were "handouts" in other parts of the country as well as in Quebec.

When Mr. Favreau rose to oppose the motion, he said it would be risky for the House to discuss the matter without all facts being known. He began relating his conversation with Mr. Wagner, when Mr. Diefenbaker accused the justice minister of trying to "abuse the rights of this House" by (Continued on page 5 Col. 2)

N.B. SCHOOL DESTROYED BY FIRE

Firemen battle a two-alarm fire which destroyed a major portion of a Roman Catholic elementary school Wednesday night in Lancaster, N.B. About 387 students attended classes in the wooden structure. The school was constructed 13 years ago and a wing added in 1960. A cleaning woman, only occupant of the building at the time, escaped unharmed. (CP Wirephoto)

TUESDAY SPEECH RECALLED

Retraction By Minister Is Called For In House

The Liberal opposition in the Legislature yesterday called on House Speaker Frank Myers to order a cabinet minister to retract a statement attributed to the minister or have the minister named and removed from the assembly chamber.

Relaxed Liquor Laws Criticized By Liberal

Criticism of the province's relaxed liquor laws was expressed yesterday in the Legislature by Robert Campbell (L-1st Prince).

Mr. Campbell was participating in the debate on the draft address.

He said the sale of liquor in the province was up; more patients were being treated at Riverside Hospital; 65 more drivers lost their licenses in 1964 than in 1963, and there was a steady increase in highway fatalities.

He said he took a stand against relaxation of liquor laws last year and "they told me I was a fanatic."

Two Sitings Slated Today

Two sittings of the Legislature are scheduled for today — at 2:30 and 8.

Yesterday, two bills were given second reading and two speakers took part in the draft address debate.

The bills were amendments to the Gasoline Tax Act and the Floral Emblem Act.

Taking part in the debate were Highways Minister Philip Matheson and Robert Campbell (L-1st Prince). Mr. Campbell will have the floor when the debate resumes.

Death Toll Revised To 27 In Explosion

MONTREAL (CP) — Police Wednesday revised their estimate of the death toll in Monday's LaSalle apartment-block explosion to 27.

Detectives Ramon Mousquet of the west-end suburb's police said 25 bodies have been positively identified. The body of a child and a part of another body remain unidentified, he said.

Police earlier reported 28 persons dead in the blast which levelled much of a 24-unit apartment house. It was Canada's worst disaster of 1965.

Two persons are listed as missing. They were Denise Beaudin, 13, and Warren McGinnis, 13 months, each the fourth victim of the same family.

Some 200 workers dug for two days to clear the wreckage of the three-storey brick structure demolished in the breakfast time blast.

The dead include 15 children, many of whom were preparing to leave for school.

Tragic reports continued to come from those concerned with the identification of victims, a task rendered difficult by the disfigurement of many bodies.

Police cautioned the final death toll may rise higher.

Twenty-nine persons were taken to hospital and some are in critical condition from injuries caused by the blast.

One such is Mrs. Walter Capko, 32, originally listed as dead after "possible identification" of a body by her brother-in-law. She was admitted to hospital under the name of another woman and two days elapsed before the mistake was discovered.

ALL-WEATHER ROADS

Referring to the difficulty of meeting federal-provincial cost sharing arrangements in construction of all-weather highways in the province, Mr. Matheson said the road improve-

Sympathy Expressed

Expressions of sympathy were extended by members of the Legislature yesterday to the family of Lewis A. Ross of Flat River, who died yesterday in the Prince Edward Island Hospital.

Mr. Ross was a brother of the Liberal member from 4th Queens, Stewart Ross. His death was brought to the attention of the Legislature by acting Opposition Leader Dr. Lorne Bonnell, and sympathy was also expressed by Premier Walter Shaw and Harold Smith (L-4th Queens).

The Speaker asked Mr. Farmer if his intention was to make such charges about the Liberal Party.

"The press says it," said Mr. Farmer.

"He said it was true himself," said Dr. Bonnell. "He must retract it."

"If I could," said Mr. Farmer, "I would. But the evidence is so strong and everyone is of the same opinion. It's all over the place—the situation in Ottawa is terrible."

"Let's be fair and reasonable," said George MacKay (L-4th Prince), "the attorney-general went too far. He used the word 'founded on corruption and syndicated crime.'"

PREMIER SHAW
Premier Walter R. Shaw said "there is no question in the world that the situation in Ottawa is bad." He pointed out that an inquiry is underway and suggested that the Legislature drop the matter at least until the results of the inquiry are made known.

"This is not proper procedure," said Mr. Farmer. "There is nothing to show what I said yesterday." He pointed out that the opposition had only the newspaper record to refer to. "In any case," he said, "the question is being debated all over the country."

One Conservative member suggested that the attorney-general's remarks were on the federal picture and did not refer to the provincial Liberal Party.

This suggestion seemed to satisfy Speaker Frank Myers who said "he cleared you honorable gentlemen—that's what we required."

INSIDE TODAY

- Births, deaths 3, 17
- Classified 16, 17
- Finance, markets 8
- Comics 13
- Sport 13
- Rural churches 9
- Women's 7
- Editorials 4
- Summerside 4
- Kings, Queens, City 2
- Prince County 2

Gas Tax Act Changes Aimed To Catch Outside Truckers

Approval in principle was given in the Legislature yesterday to a bill that will, in effect, require owners of inter-provincial transport trucks to pay the provincial gasoline tax on fuel equivalent to that needed to power the vehicle on island highways.

The bill, an amendment to the Gasoline Tax Act, was promoted by Attorney-General Alban Farmer who said the amendment was designed to collect the 18-cent per gallon tax from owners of transport trucks who are using island highways.

He said the transports could fill up on gasoline in other provinces, come into Prince Edward Island, and use the highway without paying any part of highway upkeep cost.

Mr. Farmer said that transport companies will be required to furnish statements showing the mileage covered by trucks and, if gasoline is not bought in this province, the companies will have to pay the tax related to the number of miles travelled on provincial highways.

The bill provides that where it is proved that an owner of a vehicle has not paid the provincial gasoline tax, the registrar of motor vehicles "shall refuse to issue a license to such purchaser or registration permit under the Highway Traffic Act for any motor vehicle owned by the purchaser or if any such license or permit has been issued, suspend the same."

POLICE PRESS SEARCH

Weird Tale Is Unfolded Of Rivard's Jail Break

MONTREAL (CP) — Police pressed their search for Lucien Rivard Wednesday as a weird tale was unfolded of how the alleged narcotics - conspirator engineered his escape from Bordeaux Jail.

The hunt for the 49-year-old Rivard, a central figure in the D'orion inquiry, encompassed three police forces, immigration officials and United States border guards. Also sought is a convict who escaped with him.

By late afternoon, however, the search had failed to turn up any definite lead into the whereabouts of Rivard and his companion-in-escape, Andre Durocher, a 28-year-old convicted armed robber.

"We've received plenty of reports and we've checked them all," said Inspector Jean Page of the Quebec Provincial Police.

"So far, however, none of them have turned up anything important."

SIX SUSPENDED
In Quebec City meanwhile, Attorney-General Claude Wagner announced in the provincial legislature that Antonio Pilon, assistant governor at Bordeaux, and six prison guards have been suspended until an investigation is completed into circumstances surrounding the escape, the first successful break from the 53-year-old prison since 1906.

The attorney-general went on to tell a jail-break story that featured:

—The use of a hose by Rivard and Durocher to slide down the final 25-foot prison wall to freedom outside. The hose had been obtained by Durocher to water the prison hockey rink—despite the fact

Assistant Gov., Six Wardens Are Suspended

QUEBEC (CP)—Quebec Attorney-General Claude Wagner announced Wednesday the assistant governor and six staff members at Montreal's Bordeaux jail have been suspended as a result of Tuesday night's escape by alleged narcotics conspirator Lucien Rivard.

Mr. Wagner told the provincial legislature the suspensions, effective immediately, will run until a full investigation is completed into the escape.

"Their case then will be studied to determine their individual roles and responsibilities and to decide if penalties should be imposed," the attorney-general said.

Those suspended are Assistant Governor Antonio Pilon, Sergeant Roger Besaire, sergeant chiefs - of - guards Charles Edmond Lapierre and Leopold Belanger, guard Roland Gaboury and another sergeant named Larue whose first name was not immediately available.

Armed Services Pay Increases Announced

OTTAWA (CP) — Pay raises ranging from four to 11 per cent for all ranks of the armed forces were announced by defence headquarters Wednesday.

They are retroactive to last Oct. 1 and will cost the treasury \$22,500,000 a year. They will be paid to 116,000 in the regular forces, and to reserve force personnel as well.

Ordinary seamen, privates and aircraftmen receive increases of 50 a year. For trained men of these ranks this means an increase of \$5 in their monthly basic pay of \$119.

At the top end of the scale, increases of \$1,500 a year were made for rear-admirals, major generals and air vice-marshal. They now will draw \$18,805 in base pay.

Not affected by the increases are special allowances paid to married men, those living away from barracks, men in risk jobs, and those drawing special trades pay.

WOODEN ESCAPE GUN

Quebec Attorney-General Claude Wagner said this wooden gun, covered with shoe polish, was used by Lucien Rivard and Andre Durocher to break from Bordeaux Jail in Montreal Tuesday evening. (CP Wirephoto)

Floral Emblem Is Designated In Amendment

Prince Edward Island's floral emblem, the Lady's Slipper, was passed down yesterday in the Legislature as "Cypripedium Acule."

At the request of the federal government, the province amended the Floral Emblem Act, through a bill promoted by Provincial Secretary J. David Stewart.

Mr. Stewart said the federal government plans to issue a stamp showing the emblem and wanted to be sure of the official name of the flower.

Wesland MacKay, clerk of the Legislature, at the request of Mr. Stewart explained to the House that there are three varieties of the flower in the province — the Snowy Lady's Slipper, the Moccasin Flower, and the Yellow Lady's Slipper. He said the Moccasin Flower is the most common and that is "Cypripedium Acule" — the exact floral emblem.

Rivard Is Probably Hiding In Montreal

TORONTO (CP) — Lucien Rivard is probably hiding out in Montreal under the noses of police, a former Royal Canadian Mounted Police sergeant who arrested him last June on a narcotics charge said Wednesday.

"I'm not surprised at all Rivard escaped—he's capable of almost anything," said Ronald Crevier, former head of the RCMP drug squad, Montreal detachment.

Rivard has money, influence and contacts, especially in the gang-infested east end of Montreal, said Mr. Crevier. It would not be difficult for Rivard to arrange a jail-break, he added.

There are few places in the world Rivard can flee to, he said. His best chance of staying free is to go underground in Montreal, said Mr. Crevier.

"People underestimate the Guy. He's smart and well-organized. One thing I know for sure—he'll meet his wife and take her with him when he goes."

Rivard is too smart to make a break out of the country right away, he said.

Mr. Crevier arrived at the anti-international airport about the time Rivard broke out of jail in Montreal Tuesday night. Mr. Crevier works as a private investigator for the same Montreal law firm as lawyer Pierre Lamontagne, a central figure in the D'orion inquiry.