

Truck Operators To Discuss Their Problems At Amherst

AMHERST, N.S.—(Special)—The 8th annual meeting of the Maritime Motor Transport Association at Amherst, N.S. on Friday and Saturday, April 11 and 12 will be organized to give Maritime truck operators an opportunity to attack the many problems facing the industry, according to M. M. T. A. President, Keith MacKinnon of Charlottetown, P. E. I.

For thirty hours the truck operators will confer in business sessions, panel discussions and committee meetings. Speakers from various sections of the Maritimes Quebec, Ontario and the State of Maine will address meetings from Friday morning to Saturday evening. Entertainment will be provided for the ladies on Friday evening and following the adjournment of the annual meeting last Saturday afternoon all will join in a series of events including a reception, banquet, stage show and dance.

On Friday evening separate meetings will be held by the operators engaged in furniture moving, freight hauling and international transportation. Committee meetings will also be held during the evening.

Motor Carrier legislation and regulations will be the opening topic on Saturday morning with government officials on hand to take part in the discussion. Matters to be discussed will include weight regulations, Sunday trucking Bills of Lading, C.O.D. Funds Insurance, Tariff Schedules and DUMP TRUCKS.

On Saturday morning at 10 o'clock a separate meeting will be held by those engaged in hauling gravel, fill, pulp and lumber with the view to organizing a Dump Truck Division within the Maritime Association. Private fleet operators will also meet at 10 o'clock on Saturday with a view to organizing a Private Fleet Division within M.M.T.A.

Resolutions forthcoming from the various sections of the trucking industry and from the general meeting will be presented on Saturday afternoon prior to the annual election of officers scheduled for 4 o'clock. The annual meeting will adjourn following the election of officers and a Board of Directors meeting will be convened.

The entertainment program of the convention will begin at 6.00 p.m. with the President's Reception in the Chignecto Lounge. A banquet will be held at 6.45 p.m. followed by a stage-show. The annual President's Ball will begin in the ballroom at 9.30 p.m.

Discusses Work On H-Power

WASHINGTON (AP)—U. S. Navy scientists seeking ways to harness the H-bomb reaction for power production have been able to make gases travel at nearly 500,000 miles an hour.

Dr. Alan C. Kolb of the naval research laboratory said Friday the research method involves exposing the gases momentarily to electrical power equivalent to that produced by 1,000 big power stations.

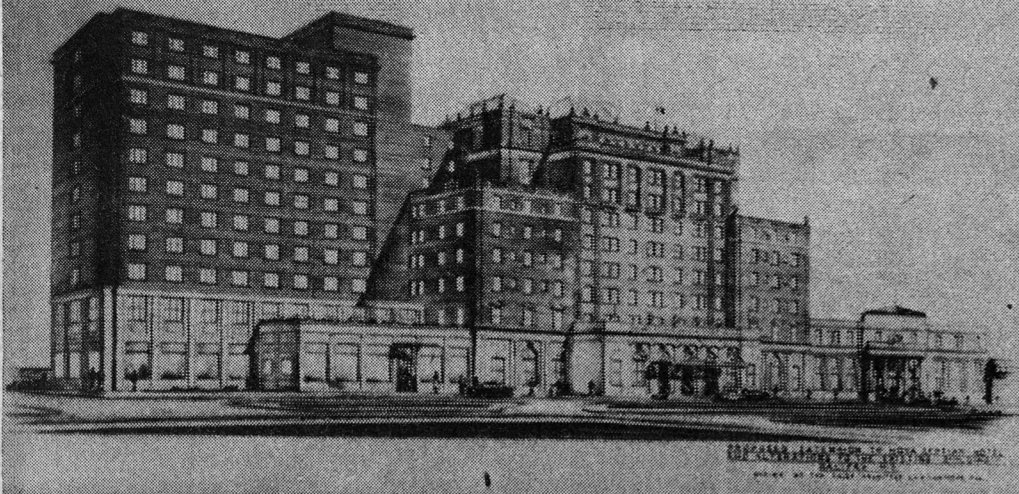
He discussed the research in a report prepared for a meeting of the Optical Society of America.

Kolb said the techniques were used in producing indicated temperatures "in excess of 1,000,000 degrees for significant times."

He offered no figures on just how high the navy believes it has gone on the temperature scale. Various scientists have said that temperatures of many millions of degrees would be necessary to promote fusion of hydrogen atoms for release of nuclear energy.

LAUDS KHRUSHCHEV

BELGRADE (AP)—President Tito Friday congratulated Nikita Khrushchev on his ascendancy to the premiership of Soviet Russia. "I congratulate you sincerely on your election as premier of the Soviet Union's government and along with best wishes to you personally I am sending my warm wishes to the people of the Soviet Union," Tito said in a cable.



BUILD ON TO N.S. HOTEL

The Nova Scotia Hotel of the Halifax, Nova Scotia, as it will appear when the new \$4,000,000 ten-storey addition is completed, the new wings has been designed by the CNR's chief architect to blend as much as possible with the present structure and will more than double the hotel's present accommodation. Plans are now in their final stage and the CNR will soon be in a position to call tenders for the excavation and foundations. (CNR Photo)

Consumer Seen Perking Up, May End Recession

By FORBES RHUDE
Canadian Press Business Editor

The consumer—who was almost unanimously awarded a medal for holding the 1954 economic dip in check—seems to be perking up again and, before the year is out, may earn another medal.

Various known by such other names as the customer, the buyer Mr. and Mrs. Householder, this consumer adopted somewhat of a cautious mood last year—or perhaps became choosy as he threaded his way among high prices.

Even at that, however, Canadian retail sales in 1957 did increase by 2.5 per cent from 1956—or to an estimated \$14,654,288,000—but with the late year showing declining tendencies.

This year, however, looks considerably better.

RETAIL SALES UP

January figures show an increase in retail sales of nearly six per cent over January last year to a total of \$1,091,304,000, and the more favorable trend seems to have continued.

Now, across Canada, merchants are watching with considerable optimism for the persuasive coming of warmer weather.

Ira G. Needles, president of B. F. Goodrich Canada Ltd., commenting on the situation in a recent address, said:

"The time is ripe for a consumer break-through. Money deposited in Canadian savings accounts has reached the highest total ever. What the market

needs is confidence.

The most striking recent demonstration of what public confidence and buying can do, was given in 1954.

At that time, many things pointed downwards and, if consumers had turned cautious, the dip might have become a really serious one.

However, people didn't seem to catch on to the idea that their post-war prosperity was being threatened and went on buying as though no recession was knocking at the door.

EXPLOSIVE FORCE

This is not to say that the current recession is not a more serious one than that of 1954, nor that public confidence by itself can keep the economy working at a high level.

After all, there are such things as foreign markets for our products; and there is our increased capacity to produce.

But the mood of people is a force which it is almost impossible to assess.

Probably it is reasonable to say, however, that the determination of people to maintain and increase their standards of living is one of the most dynamic of forces.

Add to that the rate of population increase and the force is explosive.

Canada still seems to be a long way from having a self-contained economy, but, with the great increase in population since the war and, accordingly, in our own

powers of consumption, we are much nearer it than we used to be.

Witchdoctor Is Held For Murder

IRA, Portuguese East Africa (CP)—A witchdoctor, intercepted head in hand, is awaiting trial on a charge he murdered his nine-year-old nephew to make magic that would improve a client's fishing fortunes.

Authorities said the native was caught while taking the boy's head to a "superior" witchdoctor for consultation.

The murder charge was laid after the boy's body was found buried near the witchdoctor's hut in a riverside village.

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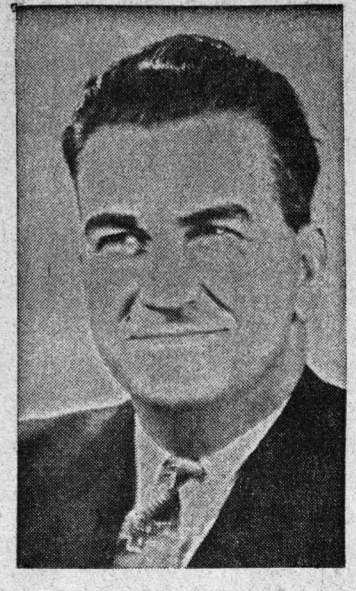
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