

Prospects For Seal Hunt Appear Good In Province

ALBERTON BUREAU OF THE GUARDIAN

The outlook for an island-based seal hunt continues favorable and an influx of planes and helicopters is expected this weekend. Although information is difficult to obtain, indications are that sizable seal herds are located in the gulf within 20 minutes flying time from P.E.I. but hunters, who have expanded time and money locating seals are understandably reluctant to name their general location or even if a herd has been found.

An easterly wind yesterday was expected to bring the seals closer to the island but an ice-filled gulf has lessened chances that hunters might be able to walk out to the herd as was done in 1960.

Several sealing groups in Alberton and Tignish have been making almost daily aerial surveys and report landing conditions fairly good in the vicinity of the herd. As usual, weather is the deciding factor and anything could happen between now

and the opening date next Monday.

Hellyer Has Hat In Ring

OTTAWA (CP)—Defence Minister Hellyer, 42, is making it as plain as he can that he intends to run for the Liberal party leadership when Prime Minister Pearson steps down.

This is a sudden change in tactics for Mr. Hellyer. Until recently, he was prepared to play it cool and watch the leadership speculation range over Finance Minister Sharp, Trade Minister Winster, External Affairs Minister Martin, Immigration Minister Marchand and others, parts of the Maritimes, from

the Magdalen Islands and from far away as Montreal. Accommodation is expected to be taxed to capacity again this year and board and lodging for a large group of men continues to rise each season. In the course of their surveys hunters have landed on the Magdalen Islands where they were told board and lodging would be \$10 a day for hunters operating from that location. Added to the cost of chartering planes, hiring pilots, experienced hunters and accumulating gasoline and other supplies in the right location, the cost of lodging could be a major item should bad weather hold up flying while the ships fill the quota of 600,000 young seals.

Several planes are expected to be out today relocating the herd following strong winds yesterday.

Congress Approves War Bill

WASHINGTON (AP)—The United States Congress voted one-sided approval Tuesday night to a \$4,800,000,000 spending bill to reinforce the American arsenal in South Viet Nam.

As President Johnson aimed a new peace appeal at North Viet Nam, the great congressional debate over his Asian policy exploded into action on both sides of the capital.

First came an overwhelming vote in the House of Representatives for the spending authority Johnson sought to buy military supplies and weapons. Within two hours—and after two weeks of argument about the wisdom of Johnson's Asian stand—the Senate, too, had approved the measure.

In the Senate, forum for the bitter debate that began with the start of the new congressional session, only Senators Wayne Morse (Dem. Ore.) and Ernest B. Gruening (Dem. Alaska), voted against the money measure. The Senate vote was 83 to 2. In the House, the vote was 382 to 4.

Labor's 'Baby Budget' Stuns Tories In Britain

Liberal Leader Says Party Plans Fight For Medicare

Opposition Leader Alex Campbell said in the Legislature yesterday "we Liberals will fight most aggressively for universal medicare in Prince Edward Island."

Taking part in the draft address debate, Mr. Campbell noted that the Speech from the Throne forecast a medicare plan in the province designed mainly for recipients of social welfare.

He went on to say "apparently the present government does not act, refuses to act and is afraid to act until it knows where the opposition stands."

"We speak for medicare for everyone—a universal plan."

COMMENDS GOVERNMENT

Mr. Campbell commended the government for its announced plan to increase mothers' allow-

ances. He said, however, there is another area where the mothers' allowance should apply and that is where the father is unable to be the family breadwinner because of alcoholism. "I would like to see—mothers' allowances expanded to cover alcoholics' wives who get no money from their husbands."

Referring to agriculture, Mr. Campbell suggested that a look should be taken at the "problem of consumer credit and the rate of interest charged to people, particularly farmers." He suggested the government should "take steps" to see that farm machinery dealers are compelled to service and supply parts for the machinery they sell.

On the government's plan to consolidate school districts in the province, Mr. Campbell said

"the government should proceed carefully and with a pre-arranged plan as to how school areas will be consolidated. Many people wish to retain the one-room school. As the consolidation idea progresses, there will be certain people devoted to the idea and it may be promoted against the will of others. We call on the government to bring in a plan so we won't end up 200 or more consolidated schools than we should have."

TEACHERS' SALARIES

Mr. Campbell said he was glad to see that the government plans to raise teachers' salaries. This policy, he said, was advocated by the Liberal Party "and we are glad to see it implemented."

The opposition leader said (Continued on page 3, col. 4)



DEFIES CUSTOM

Franca Viola, 19, of Alcamo in western Sicily, refuses to be married to Filippo Melodia, 25, her captor who was jailed on charges of rapturing her. An old Sicilian tradition holds they should be wed. Because of it, her neighbours have ostracized her. Melodia and 14 accomplices are accused of kidnapping her and threatening her family at gunpoint. He is accused of rapturing her. Under Italian penal code, all charges would be wiped out if the couple were wed. (AP Wirephoto by Cable from Rome).

Royal Tour Nearing End

KINGSTON, Jamaica (Reuters)—The Queen and Prince Philip relaxed at sea Tuesday as they headed here on the royal yacht Britannia for the last visit of their Caribbean tour. They were due to land Thursday for a four-day stay.

Election Initiative Seized By Wilson

By HAROLD MORRISON

LONDON (CP)—The Labor government has seized the election campaign initiative with a baby budget announcing a £50,000,000 - a year (£150,000,000) mortgage tax to finance lower mortgage rates for more than 1,000,000 lower-paid Britons.

It coupled this with a momentous decision to switch British currency to the decimal system by February, 1971.

Stunning the opposition which accused him of stealing Tory ideas and of misjudgment and mismanaging the economy, James Callaghan, chancellor of the exchequer, also told the Commons Tuesday Britain had paid off a huge short-term debt while its gold and currency reserves were rising steadily.

Since last autumn, the government had repaid to the United States reserve bank a total of \$800,000,000 borrowed to keep the British pound sterling afloat. Britain still has to repay to the International Monetary Fund a total of \$2,700,000,000 in the 1967-70 period.

RESERVES CLIMB

But Callaghan said this repayment no longer is impossible since the reserves currently total about £1,303,000,000 (\$3,909,000,000) compared with £287,000,000 (\$2,481,000,000) when the pound was still in deep trouble at the end of 1964.

But Callaghan emphasized that Britain still is faced with great difficulties. Part of the increase in reserves reflected the government's sale of its commercial U.S. stock holdings. It had converted about £316,000,000 (\$948,000,000) worth, adding this amount to the reserves. It

still held about £180,000,000 (\$540,000,000) in American stocks.

Callaghan's major point was that the pound no longer is as vulnerable as it was after the October, 1964, general election when fears spread that sterling would have to be devalued.

With an obvious eye on the March 31 election, Callaghan announced legislation plans to cut mortgage interest rates for lower-paid Britons to 4 1/2 per cent from the current 6%. The government would pay the difference, meeting the cost by a tax on horse and greyhound racing, bingo, slot machines and casinos.

WOULD MEET COSTS

Gambling runs deep in British blood with total spending about £1,000,000,000 (\$3,000,000,000) a year. Some of the stakes, such as those on football pools, are already taxed. Callaghan estimated that extending taxes to other betting would give him an annual £25,000,000—enough to pay for the mortgage concession.

Opposition Leader Edward Heath tried to focus his attack on what he described as the government's failure to halt the country's price rises and to contain consumer pressure for goods. He maintained that if the Socialists had not made foolish statements about an increasing foreign trade deficit, the pound would not have been in trouble and the 1964-65 economic crisis would have been avoided.

But his speech lacked fire. His attack frequently was punctuated by Labor cries of "Cheer Up—Cheer Up."

Gov't Dealings With Ottawa Are Defended By Premier Shaw

Premier Walter R. Shaw, who began his address in the Throne Speech debate when the House sat last evening, commented on a criticism made by Alex Campbell, the leader of the opposition that the government lacked diplomacy in its dealings with the federal government, said, "I wonder how much diplomacy Premier Lesage used in the last three or four years when he has gone to Ottawa demanding funds from Mr. Pearson."

"I don't believe our approach to Ottawa should be one of subservience," said the Premier.

Mr. Shaw said, "the government is carrying on an exhaustive examination of the financial needs of this province. The provincial treasurer and his staff have been working for a long time building up our case to present to the federal government."

After a number of such verbal exchanges Mr. Shaw said, "perhaps we'd be better off without the two of them."

Mr. Shaw while speaking of the increase in revenue in the fishing industry during the past year was asked by Robert Campbell (L-1st Prince) when and how much financial assistance the fishermen of district eight would be getting. The intention of the government to provide the assistance was mentioned in the Throne Speech.

The Premier replied, "that details of the plan are yet to be worked out. It will only be a short time before the fishermen receive their funds."

On the question of civil servant salary increases Mr. Shaw pointed out that he and his ministers, who often worked all day and long into the night, received salaries about one third of some of the civil servants.

Mr. Shaw spoke for about an hour last evening and during his speech made many references to how much better off he felt these were when they had the Diefenbaker administration in Ottawa. This caused the Liberals to make many references from their side to the policies of the Pearson Government.

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Election Act Amendments Scheduled

An amendment, providing for changes in electoral boundaries in Kings County districts, will be made to the Election Act at the current session of the Legislature.

A bill, carrying the amendments and introduced by Dr. George Dewar, provincial secretary, was given first reading yesterday.

The Election Act, passed at the 1963 session, dissolved two seats in the Georgetown area and added two seats to the Charlottetown area.

About a dozen other bills, carrying amendments to existing acts, were given first reading yesterday. Some of these deal with the Crop Insurance Act, the Potato Crop Mortgage Act, the Treasury Act, the Mechanics' Lien Act, the Milk Protection Act, the Fire Protection Act, the Deposit Receipt Act and the act which provides assistance to establish young farmers in agriculture.

First reading was also given to a bill that will enable the province to enter an agreement with federal authorities of the Canada Pension Plan.

E. Germany Seeks UN Membership

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—East Germany applied Tuesday for membership in the United Nations. West Germany called it a propaganda move and most UN diplomats said the Communist regime's chances for gaining admission are virtually nonexistent.

The surprise application set off speculation as to why the Communists wanted to put the German question into the world spotlight now. One obvious suggestion was that they regard German unification as impossible.

Fisheries Minister Plans To Venture Out On Floes

OTTAWA (CP)—The Commons rocked with laughter Tuesday when Fisheries Minister Robichaud announced he will personally venture out on East-Coast ice floes next Monday to watch the opening of the seal hunting season.

After listing several measures being taken by his department to rule out inhumane slaughter of seals, the minister said he will join the sealers "out there on the ice."

Russell Keays (PC—Gaspe), saying tongue-in-cheek that he was concerned for the minister's safety, asked whether Mr. Robichaud plans to land on an ice floe by aircraft and how long he plans to stay there.

There was more laughter and the minister did not reply.

In an earlier reply to Opposition Leader Diefenbaker, Mr.

Robichaud said reports that seals are skinned alive have been grossly exaggerated in some newspapers. A documentary film on the sealing industry showed "absolutely false scenes."

He had no doubt some improper practices had occurred in past seasons but these were due to inexperienced sealers. He first said inhumane practices had occurred, then corrected this statement to "improper practices."

Mr. Robichaud said a fisheries inspector will accompany every vessel and plane engaged in sealing throughout the 1966 season to prevent cruel methods of slaughter. New regulations would apply.

Representatives of humane societies would be free to visit sealing operations on the spot, as they did last year.



NEW CREW OF GEMINI NINE

Astronauts Eugene A. Cernan (LEFT) and Thomas P. Stafford have been named the prime crew for the Gemini 9 mission after the deaths of Elliott See Jr., and Charles

A. Bassett II in crash of their T38 jet plane Monday. Stafford, an Air Force Lt. Col., and Cernan, a navy Lt. Cmdr., had been the backup crew of the flight scheduled for May. (AP Wirephoto)

QUERIED BY OPPOSITION

Minister Promises Statement On Review Of Winter Works

Dr. Hubert MacNeill, minister of welfare and labor, said in the Legislature yesterday a statement will be made shortly in regard to the federal government's decision to review winter works programs to see whether or not any funds had been misused.

He was replying to a question from Opposition Leader Alex Campbell who asked whether or not a check has been made on the program in this province.

"Will all records in connection with the program be tabbed?" Mr. Campbell asked.

"I don't know," said Dr. MacNeill.

Mr. Campbell asked Premier Walter R. Shaw whether or not this province had "earmarked a special project" for its participation in 1967 Centennial observations.

amount to this province was "a bone of contention here." He said it was claimed that the \$2,300,000 for the memorial building "gave us the necessary cultural atmosphere and was all the development that was necessary."

The premier added one province put its \$2,500,000 toward the construction of a new provincial building and "we have put one up without assistance."

MINISTER OBJECTS
Health Minister Henry Wedge took objection to a statement by Mr. Campbell Monday which Mr. Wedge claimed was a reference to "excessive construc-

ARDA Research Program Is Approved For Province

Agriculture Minister Andrew MacRae announced in the Legislature yesterday that an ARDA research program, involving a comprehensive rural development program for the province has been approved.

He said the program will cost \$206,000 over a two-year period and the federal government will pay two-thirds of the cost.

The study is to embrace all sections of the economy, including agriculture, fisheries, forestry, recreation and tourism, manpower training, land use, community services, public information and education.

Research consultants engaged by the province will be under the direction of a joint board com-

prised of provincial deputy ministers and officials of federal agencies concerned with rural development.

The whole program is to be co-ordinated with the more general planning work undertaken in the Atlantic region by the Atlantic Development Board.

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AIDS RETARDED

Dr. Jean Vanier talks to reporters at a press conference in Toronto Tuesday to boost the National Crusade for Canada's Mentally Retarded. Dr. Vanier, son of Governor-Gen-

eral Georges Vanier, has established a home in France for retarded children. He is taking care of 45 boys. He is in Canada on a three-week lecture tour and family visit. (CP Wirephoto)

Soviets Score Spectacular With Landing On Venus

MOSCOW (AP)—The Soviet Union added to its list of spectacular space firsts Tuesday by landing a one-ton satellite on Venus after a 3 1/2-month flight, the news agency Tass announced.

Never before has a man-made object been put down on the surface of any of the earth's sister planets.

A previous Venus shot, Venus II, passed by the cloud-shrouded planet at a distance of only 24,000 miles Sunday, sending back scientific data, Tass reported. It is headed for orbit around the sun.

The American Mariner II passed 21,648 miles from Venus Dec. 14, 1962. Mariner found the surface temperature was 800 degrees, enough to melt lead and too hot to let anything such as human life exist.

LAUNCHED NOV. 16
The satellite that hit Venus was Venus III, a 2,116-pound package of instruments that was launched Nov. 16. Tass said it

required a single course change Dec. 26 to target on Venus.

The official announcement said Venus III "delivered to the surface of Venus a pennant with the coat of arms (hammer and sickle) of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics."

The Soviet space program, after months of comparatively routine projects following the first walk in space by a cosmonaut—March 18 last, has been yielding spectacular results.

The Russians made history's first soft-landing on the moon Feb. 3. The small Luna EK spaceship sent back pictures taken from the lunar surface, another first.

DOGS IN SPACE
A week ago a Soviet spaceship was sent into the radiation belt surrounding the earth with two dogs on board. The dogs still are circling overhead with their biological reactions providing other data needed for further space adventures for man. The Russians launched another

satellite Tuesday, the 111th in the Cosmos series, with instruments to carry on space research.

Venus II weighed 2,129 pounds. Both Venus II and III far outweighed Mariner's 449 pounds, which meant they could carry more scientific instruments.

"The experiment conducted with these spaceships has made it possible to solve a number of absolutely new tasks of interplanetary flight and to obtain new scientific data," Tass said. But there were no specifics.

Radio contact with Venus III, which was maintained during almost all the flight, was lost as it approached the clouds and head of the planet. Apparently it crashed.

Tass said communication was lost during "the last stage" of the flight, but the satellite still could have sent back valuable data before crashing.

Venus ranges in distance 25,000,000 to 161,000,000 miles from the earth and the Soviet shots were timed for the nearest approach.

GAVE EXACT TIME
Tass said Venus III hit the planet at 9:56 a.m. Moscow time (1:56 a.m. EST) but did not explain how this could be determined so exactly with the satellite's radio silent.

As for Venus II, the agency said: "The station's flight at a planned distance from the planet without trajectory correction was insured only by its correct launching on an interplanetary trajectory."

This meant that Venus II was not bound for Venus but on a course that would take it close by.

Nikolai Barabashov, a Soviet astrophysicist, intimated he did not accept mariner's findings on Venus' temperature as final.

He said if the temperature is below about 200 degrees Fahrenheit it is possible to find vegetation developing.

"If the Venus temperatures are still lower and there are water reservoirs on it, there could well be the cradle of life there."

There was no immediate reaction to a charge by Sir Bernard Lovell, director of the Jodrell Bank Observatory in England, that the Soviet Union had "endangered the future biological assessment of Venus" by possible contamination from its satellite.

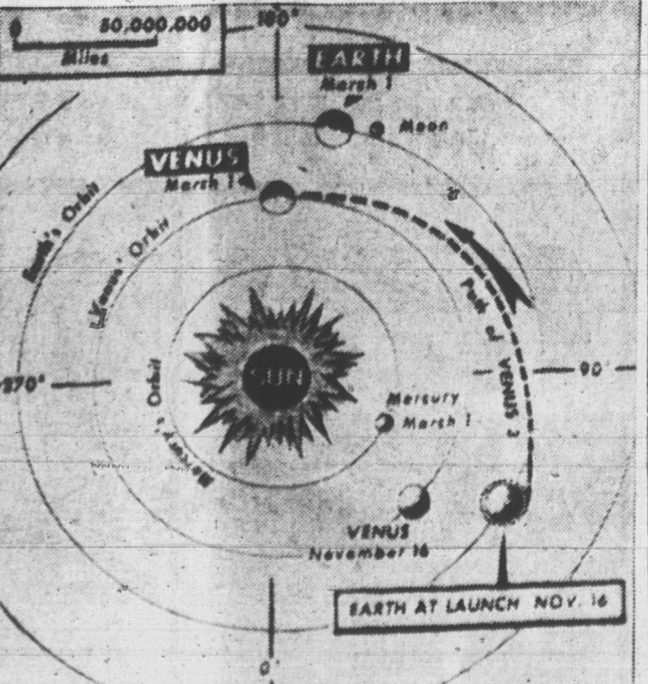


DIAGRAM SHOWS the orbit of the Venus 3, one-ton Soviet satellite, which landed on Venus after a three-month flight, according to Tass, Soviet news agency. The satellite, launched on Nov. 16, 1965, hit Venus at 9:56 a.m. Moscow time. Tuesday, Tass said. It required only one directional change on Dec. 26 to target on Venus.