

If all the world should feed on
pulses and wear but frisco, the All
Giver would be unthanked and un-
praised.

The People's Paper Read by Everybody

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew

Herein lies the office of a magis-
trate, his honour, virtue, merit,
and chief praise he bears for the
public weal.

Morning Daily Founded 1897
The Guardian, Three Cents

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ATLEE GOV'T TO CARRY ON DESPITE DEFEAT IN COMMONS

Higher Old Age Pensions Debated At Ottawa

PEI "Oyster Night" At Knockers' Club, Ottawa

OTTAWA, March 30—(Special)—Their inexperience at opening shellfish compensated for by boundless enthusiasm, upwards of 200 prominent members of Ottawa's public and business life battled with a consignment of 3,000 Malpeque oysters here last night leaving nothing but empty shells on long paper-covered tables.

It was at a special meeting of the Knockers' Club of Ottawa, held to glorify and popularize the oysters of Prince Edward Island. Aprons adorned with pictures of oysters, fish and pigs' tails were handed to guests at the door with order to "fall to and enjoy."

Among the many special guests at P. E. I. "oyster night" were Opposition Leader Drew, C.C.F. Leader Caldwell, Social Credit Leader Low, Ottawa Mayor Ed Bourque and members of his City Council.

The Prince Edward Island contingent to the House of Commons, J. Watson MacNaught, M.P. for Prince, W. Chester S. McClure, Conservative, and J. Lester Douglas, Liberal members for Queen's, and T. J. Kichham, M.P. for Kings were cheered on their entry to the banquet hall. Prime Minister St. Laurent sent his regrets due to a prior engagement of long standing.

Only casually except the oysters was the president of an Ottawa firm who nearly severed his left thumb when trying to pry open an oyster with a sharp pocket-knife. He was administered first-aid in the form of a bandage and a dozen oysters opened by his more highly-skilled colleagues.

B. C. Legislature Prorogued Yesterday

VICTORIA, B. C., March 30—(CP)—The first session of British Columbia's 22nd Legislature was prorogued today after a busy seven weeks.

Main bills passed by the 48-member House provide for merging of the Provincial Police force with the R. C. M. P.; changes in the Hospital Insurance Act giving the Cabinet wider powers, and a reduction in the amusement tax from 25 to 17-1/2 per cent.

Coming Events

- *Card Party and Dance, Tracade Hall, Monday, April 10th.
- *Mail your Films to Garnham Photo Studio, Charlottetown.
- *Crockinole Party in Ugg Orange Hall, Saturday, April 1st.
- *Crockinole Party at Millview Hall, Friday, March 31st.
- *Farmers now booking Clover Seeds. Rush order. McGuigan & Boyle.
- *Pantry Sale, Central Royalty Brownies, Rogers Hardware, Saturday, April 1st, 3 P. M.
- *North River Rink tonight, special sale. Come early and enjoy a good evening. Skating 8-10.
- *Don't miss Mayfield Variety Concert in New Glasgow Hall, Thursday, April 6th. Sponsored by New Glasgow Rink.
- *Receiving Hogs at Crapaud every Tuesday until noon. List your hogs a day or two in advance. Bert J. Trowsdale.
- *Come to the L. O. B. A. Ham and Sausage Supper, Orange Hall, Jordan, Tuesday, April 4th, from 8 to 9 P. M.
- *The greatest animal star of all time is back. Don't miss "The Return of King Tin" at MacDonald Bros. Tonight. A lovely show.
- *Notice to Farmers. Now is the time to order your ground lime and cedar posts for Spring delivery. We also have Mill Feed on hand at all times. Booth Newton, West-Overland, Phone 7-23, Crapaud.
- *Near Leith Sweeney when the Women's Institute present their two one-act plays in the Hunter River Masonic Hall Friday evening, March 31st. Also Hunter River male chorus, folk dancing and other specialties.

Pleads Guilty In Grounding Of U.S.S. Missouri



NORFOLK, Va., March 30—(AP)—The former commanding officer of the battleship Missouri pleaded guilty today to neglect of duty in the grounding of the vessel in a painful ordeal of self-accusation before a United States Navy general court-martial.

"My orders put the ship aground," said Capt. William D. Brown, (above) brushing aside the technicalities of a full defence.

Then, in measured tones, the handsome, greying 47-year-old officer read to the court a statement of the shock and anguish that was his lot after the giant ship struck a shoal in Chesapeake Bay Jan. 17.

The trial was over in 90 minutes. The court of four admirals and three captains deliberated for three hours and reached their verdict. It will go first to Rear Admiral Allen E. Smith, commander of the Atlantic Fleet, who ordered courts-martial for Brown and two other top officers on the Missouri; to the Navy Judge Advocate-General in Washington, and finally to the secretary of the Navy. Any of them may reduce the recommendations of the court, but none may increase any punishment the verdict calls for.

Surplus U. S. Spuds Arrive In Israel

TEL AVIV, March 30—(AP)—Surplus American potatoes have arrived in Israel for Passover. A large consignment purchased in the United States was unloaded at the port of Haifa this week.

RESCUES DAUGHTER

CORNWALL, Ont., March 30—(CP)—Mrs. Henry Brousseau, of East Cornwall today was credited with rescuing her four-year-old daughter, from drowning in a fast-flowing creek. Eye-witnesses said Mrs. Brousseau snatched the child from five feet of water yesterday after the girl fell and was swept under a bridge.

Convicted Arsonist Says He Started Hospital Fire

PHILADELPHIA, March 30—(AP)—A 26-year-old convicted arsonist, committed to the Belle Vista Sanatorium for mental treatment, admitted today he set the fire that last night suffocated nine fellow inmates.

Suggest \$60 Monthly Without Means Test

OTTAWA, March 30—(CP)—Ralph Maybank, Parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Mines, told the Commons today Canada's old-age pensions must be "made adequate" and the means test "must go."

He was one of a number of speakers at the Commons continuing to debate the Government's proposal to establish a parliamentary committee on "old-age security."

Mr. Maybank, Liberal member for Winnipeg South Centre, spoke as a private member.

The debate brought from Ross Thatcher (CCF—Moose Jaw) the statement that implementation of his own party's full old-age pension program would cost around \$800,000,000 a year, "a staggering burden on a (Federal) budget already bursting at the seams."

From J. H. Rooney (L—Toronto St. Paul's) came an appeal for a pension of \$60 a month at 60 for all Canadians without a means test to open jobs for the young.

The basic pension now is \$40, of which 75 per cent is contributed by Ottawa, 25 per cent by the Province. Some Provinces add to the total.

J. Henry (L—Toronto Rosedale) said the means test—the investigation the aged have to undergo to prove their need of a pension—should be abolished. It was childish and discouraged thrift.

John Diefenbaker (PC—Lake Centre) said that before the committee meets Health Minister Martin should announce a pension plan for the next 15 years. Then the committee could call in representatives of labor and industry to correlate their plans with the national plan.

He asked assurances that the committee will be able to vote on the question of abolition of the means test. Otherwise, he said, the committee would simply be an effort by the Government to postpone and procrastinate on the problem.

Victor Quehel (SC—Acadia) said the basic old-age pension should be at least \$50 a month and payable at 65 instead of 70. The means test should be eliminated.

Mr. Maybank said the committee was one step in the evolution of social security. Some people in Canada and elsewhere were carrying on propaganda against the welfare state. The committee "can spread the facts insofar as that propaganda is inaccurate or false."

U. S. Firm Boosts Truck Tire Prices

DETROIT, March 30—(AP)—The United States Rubber Company today announced an increase in truck tire prices, averaging five per cent. The increase is effective April 5. An increase in the cost of component parts was given as the reason for the price hike.

TO APPEAL DEATH SENTENCE

SUDBURY, Ont., March 30—(CP)—An appeal against the death sentence imposed on Adelard Latour, 49, for the Sept. 12 knife slaying of 23-year-old Mrs. Cecile Rainville, will be launched, Latour's counsel said today. Latour was sentenced to be hanged May 16. J. N. Lacourciere said the appeal will be based on general grounds. He will not press for acquittal, but will ask that the charge be reduced to manslaughter or that a new trial be ordered.

ACCIDENTS SOAR

Traffic accidents nearly tripled in Ontario between 1946 and 1949—there were 13,468 the first year and 38,000 in 1949.

Leon Blum First Socialist Premier Of France Dies

By CARL HARTMAN

PARIS, March 30—(CP)—Leon Blum, a militant socialist who was thrice Premier of France, died today of a heart attack at home. He was 77.

The first Socialist and the first Jew to become Premier of France, Blum was active in the government almost to the end.

Blum had been in failing health for more than a year, but he attended a party with newspaper and political colleagues Wednesday night. Friends said he seemed strong and in good spirits.

Blum, a poet and dramatic critic turned politician, fathered France's first "Popular Front" government, with the support of the Communists, in 1936. But, as the party's senior statesman, he approved the end of the 11-year alliance when Socialist Premier Paul Ramadier threw the Reds out of the French Cabinet in 1947.

Blum was credited with bringing to France the 40-hour week for workers, paid vacations, social security and collective bargaining. He took political leadership of his country for the first time in June, 1936.

Blum's term lasted more than a year—a long time in a turbulent period when French cabinets succeeded one another within months, sometimes weeks.

His second cabinet, in 1938, lasted only a month. There was a whisper among some Frenchmen: "Rather Hitler than Blum."

He formed his last government in

Prorogation Yesterday Of Local Legislature

U. S. Searches For Unidentified Sub

SAN FRANCISCO, March 30—(AP)—The United States Navy sent planes and a destroyer today to hunt an unidentified submarine reported off the Southern California coast.

Vice-Admiral George D. Murray, commanding the Western Sea Frontier, said the sub was sighted by a navy patrol plane yesterday and by a fishing vessel today.

Ray Carpenter, skipper of the fishing boat, placed the undersea craft at about five miles off the coast outside Trinidad harbor near Bureka.

The Navy plane sighted it yesterday at 2 p. m. roughly 40 miles off Cape Mendocino, the Navy said. The pilot reported he saw the periscope.

Two By-elections On Monday, May 15

OTTAWA, March 30—(CP)—Federal by-elections to fill the two vacant seats of Hamilton West and Toronto Broadview will be held Monday, May 15. It was announced today.

The Toronto-Broadview constituency was made vacant by the death of T. L. Church, a Progressive Conservative, just before opening of the present session of Parliament.

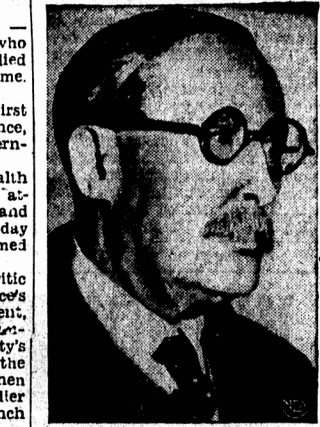
The vacancy in Hamilton West resulted from the appointment of former Mines Minister Gibson to the Ontario Supreme Court.

No dates were announced for two other impending by-elections—Montreal Cartier, left vacant by the recent death of Liberal Maurice Herit, and Annapolis Kings in Nova Scotia, the riding in which election of Liberal member Angus Elderkin was recently declared void.

Pressing standing in the Commons: Liberals 187; Progressive Conservative 40; C.C.F. 13; Social Credit 10; Independent 5; Independent Liberal 3; vacant 4; total 262.

The three major parties have nominated these candidates in the two constituencies: Toronto Broadview—Liberal, Miss Ruth Radford; Progressive Conservative, George H. Hess; C. C. F., Prof. George Grube.

Hamilton West—Liberal, E. F. Laxier; Progressive Conservative, Mrs. Ellen Fairclough; C. C. F., Alfred Colquhoun.



The late Leon Blum

1946, to close out the post-war French provisional government and help install the French Fourth Republic. In a time of rapid inflation, he performed the feat of cutting all prices by 10 per cent. His job ended automatically when the new regime came in with the year 1947.

He was nominated for a fourth term as Premier in 1946, but failed to get confirmation from the National Assembly.

Blum took no part in the government immediately before the war.

Prorogation Yesterday Of Local Legislature

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Montreal Man Sentenced To Hang July 14

MONTREAL, March 30—(CP)—Gaston Avon, 31-year-old restaurant keeper who called himself "a victim of hopeless love," today was sentenced to be hanged July 14 after a Court of King's Bench jury found him guilty of the murder of his young wife.

Crown witnesses at his four-day trial said he fatally shot his 26-year-old wife last Oct. 1 after they had been separated since July.

Witnesses said he cruised about town in a taxi for two days, drinking from bottles beside him in the back seat. When he saw his wife on the street, he leapt from the cab and fired three shots into her face.

The jury deliberated 20 minutes. In a shaking voice, Avon told the judge: "I want to thank my lawyer, Alexander Chevalier, for his work on my behalf. I have never been very lucky in my life but I have carried my cross and will carry it to the end."

"I have been the victim of a hopeless love for my wife. It and the love I have had for my child carried me too far. I accept the sentence you are about to give me."

After hearing the sentence, Avon blew a kiss to the crowd in the courtroom, saying: "Goodbye, my child, goodbye, all of you. Good luck."

His counsel, who had tried unsuccessfully to plead insanity for Avon, said the verdict would be appealed.

Prime Minister Annoyed At Labor Absentees

LONDON, March 30—(CP)—Prime Minister Attlee told the House of Commons today that his Labor Government will "carry on" despite its surprise parliamentary defeat.

He said he does not regard Wednesday night's vote against the government as one of censure, because it obviously was not "a great occasion."

Both Labor and Conservatives treated the government's defeat on a motion of adjournment in a light vein. The vote was 283 to 257.

The government meanwhile received its first defeat of this session in the House of Lords tonight, by a vote of 29 to 14. But decisions of the lords do not affect the government's life.

The overpowering by-Conservative opposition voted down an amendment offered by a Labor peer to give national uniforms to wear national uniforms when employed by a local government.

The matter of the government's defeat on the adjournment motion was brought up by Conservative leader Winston Churchill, Churchhill, with a straight face, asked if Attlee had any statement "upon the parliamentary occurrence last night."

"Last night was obviously not a major occasion," Attlee replied. "It was a vote on the adjournment and, under those conditions, certainly I do not intend to regard that as a vote of censure."

"The Government, on any occasion if that should be done, are prepared to meet it; but as conditions are, the government propose to carry on."

It was reported that the government is expected to ask for a new vote of confidence, possibly in a week or 10 days. Defeat on such a motion could mean defeat of the Labor government and a new general election.

Obviously chagrined at the absence of 53 Labor members which caused the government's first defeat in the new parliament, Attlee praised the efficiency of the opposition in rounding up maximum support.

With a majority of only three in the House, the government whips undoubtedly will be called on to tighten discipline among Labor members.

Herbert Morrison, deputy prime minister, gave the House the news today that the House will adjourn at noon next Thursday for an Easter recess until Tuesday, April 18.

In his speech today, Attlee went on to say: "It was quite obvious that, in the conditions obtaining in the present House, there always was the possibility of the government being defeated on a particular division."

"The government is in the position that it has to be constantly on the watch all the time. Its members have to be there."

Churchill responded: "We express our obligation to the Prime Minister for having taken so much trouble upon a matter raised by the Opposition."

Attlee's announcement to the House came after the situation had been discussed at a cabinet meeting.

The Labor Party also instructed all its members to check in with the whips when they report at the House. They will not be allowed out of the building without permission from the whips.

The whips themselves conducted a post-mortem and found 21 Labor members were guilty of "unexplained" absences.

Jacques Cartier made his first voyage to Canada in 1534 and claimed the land in the name of the King of France.

Police Announce Hull Murder Case Is Solved

HULL, Que., March 30—(CP)—John Ralph Hooper, 25, of Ottawa, one of four men detained as material witnesses in the hand-to-hand slaying of Gertrude Marion Davis, tonight was ordered held on a coroner's warrant.

The order was issued by Coroner Dr. Gerald Brisson of Hull a few minutes before he opened a formal inquest into the death of the attractive, 25-year-old Ottawa girl whose nude body was found in a Bridge Street rooming house in downtown Hull yesterday.

Hooper and the three other material witnesses did not appear at today's brief inquest hearing, which was adjourned until tomorrow night after the body had been identified.

Report Heavy Fire Loss In Ontario And Quebec Cities

Ferry Service Delegation At Federal Capital

OTTAWA, March 30—(Special)—A delegation from Northumberland Ferries Limited is now in Ottawa discussing financial arrangements for operation of the ferry system this year with Transport Minister Chevrier and officials of the Canadian Maritime Commission. Today, it was reported that negotiations are proceeding satisfactorily.

Last evening the delegation, consisting of Major Arthur Peake and Dougald MacKinnon, M.L.A. and their wives and Lucas Allan, were guests at the parliamentary restaurant here of J. Lester Douglas, Liberal member for Queen's, T. J. Kichham, M.P. for Prince, Senator J. P. McIntyre and Senator George Barbour.

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ACCIDENTS COSTLY

Properly damaged in Ontario motor vehicle accidents in 1949 was equal to the value of 4,000 new cars.

Shippers Wire McLure To Claim Luncheon Bet

Mr. McLure, M.P., has earned his "luncheon bet" with C. N. R. President Donald Gordon on the refer car issue and the P. E. I. Potato and Turnip Marketing Association have wired him to this effect and urged him to make use of collecting it, Col. G. E. Full, president of the Association, said at a meeting of the Charlottetown Board of Trade last night.

(The Queen's County Conservative member has been maintaining for the past three weeks that there is a refrigerator car shortage in Prince Edward Island and first Transport Minister Chevrier and now Mr. Gordon have been making claims to the contrary.

Mr. Gordon recently bet Mr. McLure that he would blow him to a luncheon if he could prove his case.)

Col. Full said the situation has eased somewhat, although shippers are still working under a severe liability owing to car shortages.

He made his remarks following a talk by Mr. B. Graham Rogers, of the Provincial Department of Industry and Resources, on whose assurance the Transport Minister had reportedly based his claim that the situation here was satisfactory.

Last night's meeting was attended by members of the Kensington and Charlottetown Junior Chambers of Commerce, Trade Board President Frank Curtis presided. Other matters dealt with included the Margarine Act, the Wood Islands ferry service, and accommodation for the Canadian Legion convention which will probably be held here in June.

Refer Situation

Col. Full said it was conceded that the C.N.R. are working under a difficulty as they have only about 3,500 refer cars in Canada, while they handle 60 per cent of the country's rail trade. The C.P.R., he explained, have more cars and handle only 40 per cent of the rail traffic.

(Continued on Page 5 Col. 5)

BELLEVILLE, Ont., March 30—(CP)—Fire that threatened to wipe out an entire business block was still raging here late tonight despite a three-hour battle by firemen to bring it under control.

Shortly before midnight, the blaze had gutted four business establishments, driven tenants from several apartments and filled a hotel with smoke.

Damage already was estimated to be at least \$100,000.

MONTREAL, March 30—(CP)—Six families fled tonight when a three-alarm fire of undetermined origin raged through their second-story flats on downtown St. Catherine Street.

Shortly after the blaze broke out at 11 p.m. AST, all available police officers were ordered to the area to help reroute traffic and hold back throngs of onlookers. Patrons of a night-club next door to the flats were evacuated as a precautionary measure.

JOLIETTE, Que., March 30—(CP)—At least five buildings were destroyed today by fire that raged through the main street of St. Zenon, some 40 miles north of here.

There were no immediate reports of casualties. Of the five buildings destroyed, three were stores and two private dwellings.

Moncton Girl Student Killed By Bus

MONCTON, N. B., March 30—(CP)—Ruth Lewis, 19-year-old student at the Moncton Business College, was killed in front of her home today when she was run over by a bus. She had just left the bus and apparently stepped in front of the vehicle.



TORONTO, March 30—(CP)—Minimum and maximum temperatures: Victoria 38, 49; Edmonton 23, 37; Regina 12, 33; Winnipeg 15, 38; Toronto 20, 37; Ottawa 14, 31; Montreal 21, 33; Quebec 21, 35; Saint John 35, 40; Moncton 35, 43; Halifax 32, 45; Charlottetown 37, 44; Sydney 31, 45; Yarmouth 40, 40; St. John's, —, 53.

HALIFAX, March 30—(CP)—Official forecasts issued by the Dominion Public Weather Office in Halifax.

The area of bad weather moved northeastward away from the Maritimes Thursday and skies were clear in many localities. There was a general fall of temperatures, with maximum values about 15 degrees lower than on Wednesday. In Northern New Brunswick and Eastern Quebec temperatures remained below the freezing point during the day.

Friday's weather will be fine but cold in most regions, with milder temperatures indicated for Saturday.

Regional forecasts valid until midnight Friday.

Prince Edward Island: Variable cloudiness with widely scattered snowflurries clearing Friday evening. Colder. West winds 20 becoming light Friday evening. Low early Friday morning and high in the afternoon at Charlottetown 20 and 35.

High tide today at 9:06 A. M. and 8:41 P. M. Sun rises at 5:57 A. M. and sets at 6:37 P. M.

Summerside tide eighteen minutes later than Charlottetown.

BORDEN—TORMENTINE FERRY SERVICE WEEK DAYS Lv. Borden Lv. Cape Tormentine 9:10 A.M. 2:40 P.M. SUNDAY SERVICE Lv. Borden Lv. Cape Tormentine 9:10 A.M. 10:35 A.M.