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## QUEBEC HOSPITAL IS RAZED BY FLAMES

### BRITISH FLEET MASSES AT GIBRALTAR

### Over Thousand Men Patients Removed Safely

#### WILL COMBINE WITH FRENCH IN MANOEUVRES

#### Joint War Games Emphasize Anglo-French Defence Collaboration In Mediterranean.

LONDON, Feb. 16 (AP)—Ninety-two warships of the Home and Mediterranean Fleets of the Royal Navy were assembling today at Gibraltar for manoeuvres starting next Wednesday in conjunction with the Mediterranean war games of some 20 French craft.

Diplomatic quarters said the combined naval forces would keep an eye out for any Italian moves against Tunisia and Corsica, French Mediterranean possessions against which the Italian press and public have advanced claims.

The combination of the British Home and Mediterranean Fleets for manoeuvres on the eastern side of the Gibraltar gateway of the Mediterranean, is expected to represent a new manifestation of the British policy of defence collaboration with France.

The spring manoeuvres of the British Fleet were held on the Atlantic side of Gibraltar in the last two years.

Except for two battleships and four submarines from the French Atlantic Fleet, France's man-of-war ships were those of the Mediterranean Fleet. They remained within easy sailing distance of Gibraltar, between that British base and Oran, Algeria.

Great Britain is considering establishment of an Empire Army in Palestine which could



Above may show how Island of Hainan, seized by Japanese who occupied principal city of Hainan, serves as gateway to coast of French Indo-China, controls vital British trade routes. Island is only 700 miles from Philippines.

### Britain Seeks Peace In Spain

#### President Of Government Spain Supports Efforts. To End Long Civil War.

PARIS, Feb. 16 (AP)—The British Government was reported today in circles close to the President of Government Spain, Manuel Azana, to have taken the lead in attempting to end the long civil war.

Azana was said to be supporting efforts of Prime Minister Chamberlain of Great Britain, as was the French Premier, Edouard Daladier. Spanish Government officials with Azana at the Spanish Embassy where his Foreign Minister, Julio Alvarez Del Vayo, was reported attempting to state of the former's resignation as President, said Mr. Chamberlain personally was directing the British peace efforts through representatives at Burgos.

#### Previous Efforts Failed

Previous efforts to effect peace collapsed after the insurgent occupation of Catalonia because General Franco refused to meet with Azana at the Spanish Government leaders whom insurgents accuse of "high crimes."

Azana who refused Alvarez Del Vayo's plea to return to Madrid where Franco relations were conducted with sincerity evident in both Spanish camps, Mr. Chamberlain's proposals as a basis for peace could "be greatly simplified."

#### Basils Of Talks

Mr. Chamberlain was understood to have instructed his representatives at Burgos to open conversations with General Franco on a basis of three points—closely approximating those made by Negrin at the last meeting of the Spanish Cortes (Parliament).

### World News In Brief

SHANGHAI, Feb. 17 (Friday)—(AP)—Reports filtering through from Japanese-held Hankow, 265 miles up the Yangtze River, told today of a tense situation created by a Japanese embargo on food for the French defence force in the French concession.

VATICAN CITY, Feb. 16 (AP)—Germany's Ambassador to the Holy See conveyed to 40 cardinals today the desire of the diplomatic corps for a Pope who would light the way of a changing world through "temperance and fearful anxiety."

LONDON, Feb. 16 (CP Cable)—The Labor Party's motion of censure against the Government for its policy in dealing with the unemployment situation was defeated in the House of Commons tonight by a vote of 344 to 146.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16 (AP)—Wayne C. Taylor resigned from a Senate Treasury post today because, it was reliably reported he felt the United States should not take sides in world rivalries between totalitarian powers and other countries.

GEORGETOWN, British Guiana, Feb. 16 (CP Cable)—Three striking sugar workers were killed and eight wounded today on the Leona plantation in the Demerara district of this British colony in the northeast of South America when police were forced to fire as rioting broke out. Twenty policemen received minor injuries.

ANTIGONISH, N. S., Feb. 16 (CP)—Representatives of university students in the Maritime Provinces today adopted a report of his foreign policy committee saying that "all major issues Canadian foreign policy should be to act in accordance with that of Great Britain." More than 70 delegates conferred here for the last three days.

### MARKETING OF FARM PRODUCE IS DISCUSSED

#### Agricultural Experts Of Five Eastern Provinces Seek Co-operation On Problems.

MONTREAL, Feb. 16 (CP)—Agricultural experts from Canada's five eastern provinces will meet here next month to consider marketing problems, H. H. Hannam, President of the Ontario Chamber of Agriculture, announced today after a "friendly discussion" among representatives of Maritime, Quebec and Ontario Governments.

The object is to assemble and appraise all the facts connected with the marketing of farm products," Hannam said. "Particular attention will be paid to those products of which there is an exportable surplus. It was felt the marketing difficulties which producers now are up against cannot be solved by any one province acting alone.

#### Co-operation Necessary

"Therefore a measure of co-operation is necessary if farmers are to be assured of prices which will give them a reasonable reward for their work. The disastrously low prices which the farmers have been receiving are of serious concern not only to the farmers themselves but to Canada as a whole.

"It is hoped that out of this conference will come information which will enable producers and governments to agree upon a unified course of action, and in that way find a solution not possible otherwise."

Agriculture Minister Bona Dus-sault of Quebec, who presided today reported the gathering was designated as a "preliminary step to organize agriculture affairs in our provinces."

"We wish to discuss better co-operation in the marketing of our products," he said, "and organize the field in quantity and quality of products needed at home and abroad."

"It is our intention to see that the work done along these lines in one province will not be nullified by the work in another province. Without planning any new legislation or anything like that, we want to find out how we can help one another."

#### Move On Capital

PERPIGNAN, France, Feb. 16 (AP)—General Franco was reported tonight to have assigned three of his best divisions—including two of Italian—directly to the task of assaulting the main strongholds of Government Spain.

Insurgent dispatches said Franco's fourth infantry division had been sent to the Madrid front and the blackshirt, Littorio and 23rd of March divisions toward Valencia for a coastal drive in an insurgent campaign to wipe out the Government's resistance in the last one-fourth of Spain it holds.

In all, seven of Franco's best army corps were reported moving toward the Government's Madrid-Valencia-Alicante triangle from conquered Catalonia. The insurgents left only a few divisions to guard the French-Spanish frontier in the northeast.

For the fifth successive day Madrid again the Government capital was under severe bombardment. While the press and public in the besieged city solemnly commemorated the third anniversary of the Popular Front election victory—which led ultimately to civil war—heavy insurgent batteries poured more than 1,000 shells into the city. The mercury there to 58 degrees last night when an electrical storm also swept the valley.

The temperature in Halifax dropped from 45 in the day to 18 tonight. Elsewhere throughout the Province the cold weather was welcomed as a means of ending a wave of colds and mild attacks of influenza.

Sickness had increased in recent foggy weather.

Snow fell lightly on Prince Edward Island after an early morning rain. The temperature fell from 38 degrees to 18.

### Says Ireland Could Not Remain Neutral If Britain At War

DUBLIN, Feb. 16 (CP Havana)—Eire could not remain neutral in a war between Great Britain and another stately Prime Minister Eamon de Valera told the Daily tonight.

He said that if war should break out, it would be essential to Eire's economy to continue to export cattle and other products to England. This, he added, would lead antagonistic states to regard Eire as a combatant and part of their campaign would be to prevent Irish food supplies from reaching England.

The statement came after several deputies had asked that the Government quit bluffing and admit that "Ireland's real defence is the British Navy" during Daily debate of new budget estimates for national defence.

"We in Ireland, if we had a un-

(Continued on page 9, Col 2)

### FARM PROBLEM DISCUSSED AT BOARD MEETING

"The man who can adapt himself to circumstances has been and always will be successful," Mr. E. L. Eaton, Superintendent of Illustration Stations in this Province declared as he summed up his address on "farm re-habilitation before the Charlottetown Board of Trade last night."

Mr. Eaton, who has charge of the 14 Dominion Illustration Stations scattered over Prince Edward Island divided his talk into two sections dealing first, and particularly, with the efforts of the stations to re-habilitate the impoverished soils on farms here. He also dealt briefly with the re-habilitation of the farmer. It was "just as hopeless to try to make better farmers out of men who had no natural inclination that way as was to try to make a man save a soul that didn't want to be saved," Mr. Eaton declared. On the other hand really good men who were definitely to the people might still get financial assistance in establishing themselves on the soil.

#### Less "Price Spread" Would Help

If the economic system could be balanced a little better narrow the spread between what the farmer had to sell and what he had to buy it would promote a spirit of optimism in farming communities which would do much to assist in the work of re-habilitation, Mr. W. R. Shaw, Deputy Minister of Agriculture here today.

"Newspapers and dictators cannot exist in the same country," he said, "economic freedom and dictators cannot exist in the same country. Therefore, freedom for every one of you."

The newspapers of today at times take sides in controversial subjects, but on basic principles they are united, Col. McCormick said.

"They respond to constructive legislation and to foolish legislation just as other industries do. But they are unanimously against the grosser forms of economic fallacy," he asserted.

"For this reason, they must be against a dictator like Mussolini, a bloodier dictator like Hitler, or a fiend in human form like Stalin."

### Was Native Of This Province

HALIFAX, Feb. 16 (CP)—Friends in Halifax learned today of the death of Mrs. Elizabeth Gordon Winfield, wife of J. H. Winfield of Halifax, president and managing director of Maritime Telephone and Telegraph Company, Limited. Mrs. Winfield died in Norfolk, Virginia, while accompanying her husband on a trip to Florida.

She was the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Peter Gordon Fraser, of Charlottetown, J. Wesley Fraser of Edmonton, Alta., is a brother.

### Dr. C. T. Wilson Dies At Portland

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 16 (AP)—Dr. Clarence True Wilson, 66, internationally known professor, and Methodist Church Trustee, died today. He had been ill for three weeks of uremic poisoning, complicated by a heart attack.

### PREPARATIONS PROCEED Apace FOR BIG EVENT

#### Tentative Program Is Outlined For Celebration Here In July.

A tentative program for the celebration of the 75th anniversary of the meeting of the Fathers of Confederation here was drawn up yesterday, Mr. Justice A. E. Arsenault presided in the absence of Premier Thane A. Campbell, at present in Ottawa.

Members of the various committees strove to compose a program that would be balanced regarding the historic and speaking side of the celebration as compared with the amusements.

On Sunday, July 16, the tentative program calls for a church parade and special church services throughout the province with reference being made to the historic meeting.

#### Will Unveil Plaque

Monday, the following day, plaques commemorating the meeting of the statesmen here in 1864, will be unveiled. Invitations will be sent to the Governor-General, the Prime Minister and his cabinet, and the Lieutenant-Governor and Premiers of the Provinces to attend the ceremony. Other events planned for the day feature parades, band-concerts and fireworks.

Tuesday will see more than 700 firemen representing units from various points in the Maritime Provinces on parade. Aquatic sports and yacht races, including ship's boat races between crews of the various war vessels that will be in port for the week, will be staged. Main event of the evening will be the firemen's ball.

#### Golf Course Opening

On Wednesday the new "Anne of Green Gables" golf course at the National Park on the other side of the Province will be opened officially. During the afternoon the firemen will stage a tournament while the evening will

(Continued on page 9, Col 2)

### Free Press Said Guard Against Dictatorships

MONTREAL, Feb. 16 (CP)—Newspapers are unanimously against the grosser forms of economic fallacy, and for this reason a newspaper in the true sense of the word must be opposed to all types of dictatorships, Col. Robert McCormick, publisher of the Chicago Tribune, told the Canadian Forestry Association at their annual meeting here today.

"Newspapers and dictators cannot exist in the same country," he said, "economic freedom and dictators cannot exist in the same country. Therefore, freedom for every one of you."

The newspapers of today at times take sides in controversial subjects, but on basic principles they are united, Col. McCormick said.

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"For this reason, they must be against a dictator like Mussolini, a bloodier dictator like Hitler, or a fiend in human form like Stalin."

### Government To Discontinue Bonusing Wheat Growers

OTTAWA, Feb. 16 (CP)—Announcement of the discontinuance of the minimum price method of bonusing wheat growers of the Prairie Provinces in the coming crop year, starting next Aug. 1, was made by Agriculture Minister Gardiner in the House of Commons tonight.

The present minimum price of 80 cents a bushel basis No. 1 northern at Port William will cost the Dominion Treasury during the present crop year around \$48,000,000 the Minister estimated.

"Realizing that the present legislation does not offer a solution for our marketing problems," the Minister said, "and, given the pro-

### Firemen Powerless To Halt Drives Of Flames Concentrate On Saving Adjoining Buildings.

QUEBEC, Feb. 16 (CP)—Hundreds of incurably insane patients in the blazing St. Michel L'Archange Hospital were evacuated from the huge asylum tonight as fire raged for 14 hours in the men's section but into the main building of the institution.

After 1,800 men patients had been removed to safety during the day, another 700 men and women were led out of their quarters tonight, some struggling with policemen and guards and a few in strait-jackets. Only 300 remained unmoved in the asylum, one of North America's largest.

#### Origin Of Fire

The fire was believed to have originated in one of the men's recreation halls on an upper floor of the large block. Though firemen were rushed immediately to the hospital, the second largest of its kind in the province, they were powerless to halt the drive of the flames.

But even before they had set up three powerful pumps and turned more than 12 streams of water on the blazing structure, evacuation of several hundred patients and many sick in the infirmary had begun.

In less than a half-hour the wing was vacant except for hospital attendants, grey nuns who operate the institution under direction of provincial authorities, and nurses who took charge of removing furniture, valuables and even electric fixtures from all the rooms.

### Fire Destroys Lachute Church

LACHUTE, Que., Feb. 16 (CP)—Fire of undetermined origin today destroyed the Lachute United Church despite efforts of firemen who fought the blaze for several hours in sub-zero temperatures. Value of the property was estimated between \$30,000 and \$40,000.

The blaze spread rapidly through the 40-year-old church and a short time later the roof collapsed, leaving only the four walls standing. Firemen said the fire broke out in the vicinity of the furnace in the rear of the basement. No one was injured.

#### RAILWAY REVENUE DECREASE

MONTREAL, Feb. 16 (CP)—Decrease of \$29,536 was shown today in Canadian National Railway gross earnings of \$3,185,937 for the week ended Feb. 14, compared with \$3,215,473 the corresponding week a year ago.

#### All Accounted For

Hospital authorities said a check-up immediately after the wing's evacuation revealed every patient accounted for.

The only death which occurred during the fire came from natural causes. An aged patient who had lain in sick-bed for weeks in the men's section was found dead when orderlies came to carry him away.

Other sick in the infirmary first were transported from their quarters to the northern wing. Later the fire continued unabated they were moved by ambulance to nearby Hospice Dufrost.

Soon after the block had been cleared out, fire doors in hallways leading from it to the other hospital buildings were clamped shut while the firemen sought to corner the flames.

#### Wind Spread Fire

They blamed the strong wind blowing in through smashed windows for the advance of the fire hour after hour along from the eastern side of the wing where it broke out towards the women's quarters.

The firemen were able to halt spread of the flames northward and maximum temperatures—

(Continued on page 9, Col 4)



(Canadian Press)

TORONTO, Feb. 16—Minimum and maximum temperatures:—

Dawson	10B 8
Vancouver	22 42
Edmonton	3 32
Regina	16B 20
Winnipeg	18B 6
Toronto	7B 16
Ottawa	14B 29
Montreal	8B 20
Quebec	8B 2
Saint John	8 26
Halifax	16 42
Charlottetown	12 40

#### FORECAST

Maritime East: Decreasing winds, mostly westerly; fair and cold.

High tide this morning at 10:03 and tonight at 11:22.

Sun sets this afternoon at 5:20 and rises tomorrow morning at 6:58.

New moon Feb. 19, 4:28 a. m.

Summerside tide eighteen minutes later than Charlottetown.

THE CAR FERRY SAILINGS

Leave Bordun 9:45 a. m. 1 p. m. Tomorrow 11 a. m. 5:55 p. m.

### Quality Counts Most

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