

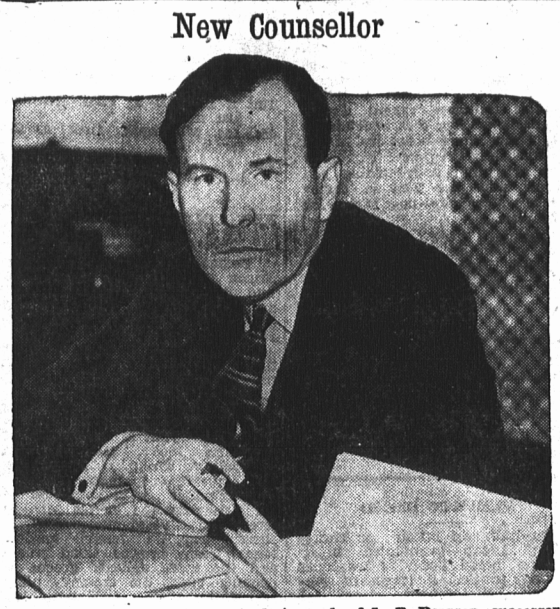
# DEMANDS COMMONS PROBE BREXEN CONTRACT

## BRITAIN AND FRANCE AGREE ON ACTION

### WILL RESIST ANY THREAT BY FASCISTS

Present United Front In Protection Of Interests In The Mediterranean.

BY J. C. STARK  
Associated Press Staff Writer  
LONDON, Jan. 26 (CP)—  
France announced agreement with Great Britain today on "necessary" steps to keep Italy from  
insurgent Spain as a stepping  
stone to Mediterranean  
supremacy while Premier Mus-  
solini was proclaiming the fall of  
Barcelona as "another chapter of  
the new Europe we are creating."  
Voicing official fears in both  
France and Britain at the im-  
plications of the insurgent con-  
quest of Barcelona, the French  
Foreign Minister, Georges Bonnet,  
warned the chamber of de-  
puties in Paris that the French-  
Italian dispute over colonial ter-  
ritory soon may become "a ques-  
tion of force."  
He declared France has the  
solid support of Britain in resist-  
ing Italian claims for part of the  
French colonial empire. The  
chamber voted its confidence in  
the government's foreign policy  
of refusing concessions to Italy.  
Backing up Bonnet's announce-  
ment, Premier Daladier told de-  
puties of his own Radical-Socialist  
party.



This is the most recent photograph of L. B. Pearson, successor to Lt.-Col. George F. Vanier, Canada's new Minister of Finance, in the post of Secretary of the Office of the High Commissioner for Canada in Great Britain. Mr. Pearson has the rank of Counsellor.

### Every Political Creed Represented At Bennett Banquet

SAINT JOHN, N. B., Jan. 26—  
(CP)—Citizens prominent in the  
life of Province and Dominion  
gathered here tonight to bid fare-  
well to a distinguished son of New  
Brunswick, Rt. Hon. R. B. Ben-  
nett, who sails from Saint John  
on the liner Montclare early to-  
morrow afternoon to take up resi-  
dence in England.  
The former Prime Minister of  
Canada and Conservative Leader  
was guest of honor at a hotel ban-  
quet tendered under auspices of  
the Saint John Board of Trade.  
About 300 persons attended.  
R. B. Brennan, Vice-President of  
the Board, presided at the non-  
political gathering. Fisheries Minister  
Michaela represented the Dominion  
Government. Most of the guests  
were from Mr. Bennett's native  
province while others came from  
various points in the Maritimes,  
Quebec and Ontario. Captain  
Renald V. Bennett, of Sackville,  
N. B., the honored guest's bro-  
ther, was present.

Will Visit Halifax  
Before Finally Leaving Canadian  
shores Mr. Bennett will stop  
briefly Saturday at Halifax, where  
the Board of Governors of Dal-  
housie University, his alma mater,  
will tender him luncheon aboard  
the liner.

No Lack of Unity  
There had been friction in Can-  
ada but it did not mean lack of uni-  
ty, Mr. Bennett said. The stock in the  
Maritime Provinces, he was sure  
the people of this area would con-  
tribute further to the upbuilding  
of the Dominion. Leaders in all  
walks of life in Canada and the  
United States as well had come  
from the Maritimes.

Lieutenant-Governor Murray Mc-  
Lennan proposed the toast to Mr.  
Bennett and mentioned that the  
gatherings included all political  
creeds, Mr. Bennett was outstand-  
ing in every path he trod, said his  
honour.

Mr. Bennett had earned rest,  
and a great field of usefulness re-  
mained to him.  
The Lieutenant-Governor briefly  
sketched the career of the for-  
mer Prime Minister.  
Mr. Bennett had been the first  
native born of New Brunswick to  
reach the high office of Prime  
Minister. His participation in so  
many humanitarian interests  
could not be forgotten.  
Mr. Bennett was still a young  
man and had retained his vigor  
and intellect and insight, but even  
he had his limitations.  
The next speaker, New Brun-  
swick Premier Dymally, wished the  
guest of honor God-speed.  
Mr. Dymally made reference to  
New Brunswick's contribution of  
men and women who helped to  
win the war.

(Continued on page 7, Col 4)

Trade Board Pays Tribute To Mr. Bennett

The Charlottetown Board of  
Trade despatched a telegram to  
Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett at Saint  
John, N. B., yesterday, signed by  
Secretary W. L. Higgins, convey-  
ing regrets that the former Prime  
Minister was leaving Canada.  
The message read: "The Char-  
lottetown Board of Trade learns with  
deepest regret of your intended  
departure from your native land  
to take up residence in the mother  
country. Our people fully appre-  
ciate the sacrifices you have made  
in order to render such valuable  
service to Canada and take this  
opportunity to wish you many  
years of health and happiness in  
your new home."

### INSURGENTS PUSH BEYOND BARCELONA

Encounter Little Resistance — Population Greets Victorious Franco Forces.

HENDAYE, France, Jan. 26—(AP)—  
Barcelona fell to General Franco's  
Spanish, Moorish and Italian troops  
today—the greatest victory in the  
long insurgent campaign.  
The insurgents met slight re-  
sistance in the erstwhile Govern-  
ment capital. A small covering  
force had been left to defend the  
retreat of the Government Army  
protecting the last unconquered  
fourth of Catalonia.  
Down the palm-lined boulevards  
of the Mediterranean port metropo-  
lis the victorious insurgents marched  
and rode—thousands of white-  
robed Moroccans, the mountain  
fighters of Morocco, and Italian  
fighters of the Litoro Division. They  
carried out a precise plan of occupa-  
tion, some singing "La Marcha de  
Granaderos," others shouting Fran-  
co's name.

Cheer Victors  
Many among Barcelona's war-  
weary population of nearly 1,500,000  
persons cheered the insurgent  
columns, gunners on the semi-cir-  
cular siege line on inland side  
of Barcelona had cut off retreat  
during the two days the insurgents  
manoeuvred to penetrate the city.  
Peace of the northeastern Catalun-  
ian zone the Government had  
chosen to defend. Franco's armies  
bombed Hendaye, some 60 miles  
northwest of Barcelona, new seat  
of several of the Government min-  
istries removed when the insurgents  
laid the siege to Barcelona.

"Famine" Ended  
As pictured by insurgent dis-  
patches reaching the French bor-  
der, the occupation of Barcelona  
had a companion highlight in the  
distribution of the stores of food  
which had been transferred in the  
wake of the offensive across Catalun-  
ia. Barcelona had been on war  
rations for months.  
But the occupation of the city  
brought little pause in the offensive  
which Franco started across Catalun-  
ia from a line about 80 miles in-  
land Dec. 23. The General sent the  
bulk of his forces in pursuit of the  
Government troops.

An insurgent broadcast announc-  
ed tonight that Franco's troops  
occupied Sabadell and Tarrasa on  
the Barcelona-Manresa highway,  
Barcelona and Tarrasa four miles  
farther west.

Withdraw Northward  
Almost all of the Government's  
300,000-man Catalan Army has  
been withdrawn northward to the  
Pyrenees.

(Continued on page 7, Col 2)

### Eight Survivors Of Nova Scotia Vessel Landed In France

(C. P. by Guardian's Special Wire)  
DUNKERQUE, France, Jan. 26—  
Eight survivors of the Nova  
Scotia auxiliary schooner St.  
Clair Theriault arrived at Dun-  
kerque today aboard the British  
steamer Hertford, which picked  
them up in the Gulf of Gascony.  
The St. Clair Theriault, which  
left Ireland Jan. 4, almost im-  
mediately ran into a terrific storm.  
The night of Jan. 23 its three  
masts were uprooted and its sails  
swept away. Then the deck's  
superstructure was wrenched loose  
and the ship lost its rudder.  
The foundering vessel drifted  
helplessly into the Gascon Gulf,  
where it was sighted by the Her-  
tford. The latter ship, after trying  
for a day and night to draw near  
the stricken craft, finally suc-  
ceeded in rescuing the eight men.  
The schooner was set afire lest  
she become a menace to naviga-  
tion.  
Survivors were found to be in  
good condition and will be sent  
to England by the British Consul  
here.

(Continued on page 7, Col 4)

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lottetown Board of Trade learns with  
deepest regret of your intended  
departure from your native land  
to take up residence in the mother  
country. Our people fully appre-  
ciate the sacrifices you have made  
in order to render such valuable  
service to Canada and take this  
opportunity to wish you many  
years of health and happiness in  
your new home."

### News Service Head



J. A. McNeil, Managing Editor  
of the Montreal Gazette, recently  
appointed General Manager of  
Canadian Press. The appoint-  
ment of Mr. McNeil was unani-  
mously approved by the board of  
directors of the C.P., following the  
retirement of Mr. B. Atvesay,  
whose resignation takes effect June  
30 next, and Mr. McNeil takes up  
his new duties on July 1.

### ROME HAILS VICTORY AN ITALIAN ONE

Duce Wildly Cheered By Crowds Shouting "Tunisia" And "Corsica."

(A. P. by Guardian's Special Wire)  
ROME, Jan. 26—Premier Mus-  
solini tonight hailed the fall of  
Barcelona as a defeat for Fran-  
co's enemies and evoked shouts  
of "Tunisia" and "Corsica" from  
a boisterous crowd of 50,000  
people gathered in the Piazza  
del Palazzo Venezia balcony as  
the crowd, standing in a driving  
rain, called him back repeatedly  
after he spoke briefly. Each time  
he bowed and waved a salute  
for French territory raised Nov.  
30 in the Chamber of Deputies.  
The calls for Tunisia, French  
North African protectorate, and  
Corsica, French island in the  
Mediterranean, continued in steady  
chant for some minutes after his  
address.

Lauds Fascists  
In his brief speech he said—  
"The shouting of your fully  
legitimate exultation joins with  
that of every Spanish city now  
completely liberated from the in-  
famy of the Reds and that of any  
Bolsheviks of the world."  
"The splendid victory of Bar-  
celona is another chapter in the  
new Europe we are creating."  
"The magnificent troops of  
General Franco and our intrepid  
legionnaires not only defeated the  
Government of (Premier Juan)  
Negrin but many others of our  
enemies are biting the dust at this  
moment."

"The slogan of the Reds (Span-  
ish Government) was 'Our Coun-  
try!' (they shall not pass) we  
passed and I say to you that we  
will pass!"  
Newspapers, stimulating the  
fervor with special editions, drew  
France into the orbit of the cele-  
brations by picturing the Spanish  
insurgent victory as a major de-  
feat for French policy and a fur-  
ther weakening of France's posi-  
tion in Europe.

Meanwhile there were contin-  
ued reports of the summoning of  
additional reserve officers for  
special military training and it  
was rumored that some of the  
60,000 members of the class of  
1901 called to the colors yester-  
day would receive training in  
Libya, North Africa.

### ELECTED MAYOR OF SACKVILLE

SACKVILLE, N. B., Jan. 26—(CP)—  
Boyce W. Atkinson, was elected  
mayor of Sackville today with a  
majority of 100 votes over Dr. A. C.  
Cuthbertson in a contest in which  
139 votes were cast. Dr. Cuthbert-  
son had publicly asked voters to  
disregard his nomination when he  
found it impossible to withdraw.

### GRIM RESCUE WORK PUSHED IN QUAKE AREA

Reports Indicate Death Toll Anywhere Between Four And 12 Thousand.

(A. P. by Guardian's Special Wire)  
SANTIAGO, Jan. 26—Inability  
to remove hundreds of bodies  
from the debris of earthquake-  
shattered cities raised a new  
threat of disease today in South  
central Chile where rescue work-  
ers strove to aid survivors of the  
disaster which spread death and  
destruction Tuesday night.  
Estimates of the dead ranged  
from an admittedly incomplete  
toll of 4,000 to as high as 12,000.  
By train, plane and boat doc-  
tors and nurses rushed to the  
stricken areas with food and medi-  
cal supplies to alleviate the suffer-  
ings of survivors while rescue  
workers dug through great masses  
of debris.

Centre of Disaster  
Hardest hit was the Concepcion-  
Chillan district, 250 miles south of  
Santiago.  
In Chillan alone between 3,000  
and 4,000 persons were said to  
have been killed, 500 of them  
when a theatre collapsed. A phy-  
sician who flew over the city said  
he saw only five houses standing in  
the 144 blocks, and other towns  
of the city of 40,000 inhabitants.  
Concepcion was said to be "60  
per cent" destroyed. Aviators who  
flew over the city agreed with re-  
ports 2,000 had been killed there.  
Radio reports said "perfect order  
and discipline" were being main-  
tained in the face of disaster.

Tremendous Damage  
Incomplete information filter-  
ing through by radio, plane and  
from refugees said tremendous  
damage had been wrought in  
Talca, Cauquimue, San Carlos,  
Parral, Quiriquine, and other towns  
of the rich agricultural area.  
Hundreds of motor cars and  
other vehicles were streaming  
north bearing injured and re-  
fugees fleeing the earthquake  
zone.

With martial law in effect,  
authorities arrested anyone but  
doctors, nurses and other relief  
workers to go beyond Linares, 50  
miles north of Chillan. Workers  
hastily repaired damaged railway  
lines, but it was believed no  
travel could not be resumed for  
at least six days.

A Pan-American-Grace plane  
was dispatched to Santiago to  
take President Pedro Aguirre  
Cerdea on a survey flight from  
devastated Chillan to Concepcion  
and return to Santiago before  
returning to Santiago.

During the day other planes  
reached Chillan and Concepcion  
with food and medical supplies.  
The battleship Latorre left  
Valparaiso with doctors, nurses  
and large stores of relief supplies  
aboard.

### Company President Killed In Plunge Down Elevator Shaft

(A. P. by Guardian's Special Wire)  
NEW YORK, Jan. 26—Martin  
Wortmann, 59, president of Lud-  
wig Baumann and Company,  
operator of chain furniture stores,  
was killed today when he plunged  
11 stories through an elevator  
shaft in the company's Fifth  
Avenue office.  
Store officials said Wortmann  
was standing in front of an open  
door of the freight elevator shaft  
when he fell.  
His screams of "help! help!"  
brought employees on the main  
floor rushing to the elevator.  
He was lying when they reach-  
ed him. He was removed to a hos-  
pital and died a half hour later.  
Wortmann was making his cus-  
tomary round of inspection of the  
store alone.

### Lightship "Jinxed"

YARMOUTH, N. S., Jan. 26—  
(CP)—Old salts here began today  
to believe the Larcher lightship  
was "jinxed" and also that misfor-  
tune always strikes three times in  
a row.  
First, typhoid sent seven members  
of the crew to hospital where one  
died. When a relief crew tried to  
take her to sea, a leaky intake sea  
injection valve was discovered, bro-  
ken in the engine room. Finally,  
workmen attempting to refloat her at  
Meteghan slip where she was taken  
for repairs, were thwarted when  
rollers broke and wedged her on the  
slip way.  
She may be launched on the next  
high tides—probably next week.

### C. C. F. Member Denounces Rank Patronage Deal

Government Wilts Under Blistering Indictment Based On Davis Commission Report.

(By C. R. Blackburn, Canadian Press Staff Writer)  
OTTAWA, Jan. 26—(C. P.)—Climaxing the most  
biting denunciation a Government department has been dealt  
this session, C. Grant MacNeil (CCF Vancouver North)  
today demanded a House of Commons inquiry into the  
facts cited in the Davis report on the Bren gun contract  
and reorganization of the National Defence Department.  
Applauded by all parties in the opposition group and  
speaking before a thin attendance of Government support-  
ers, the young Vancouver war veteran predicted in the  
House the Bren gun contract would "yet prove the most  
humiliating experience" in the career of Defence Minister  
Mackenzie.  
"It was one of the rankest and most bare-faced politi-  
cal patronage deals ever foisted upon a long-suffering  
public," he declared.

The Minister was not in his  
seat but Hugh Plaxton (Lib. Tor-  
onto-Greenwood) who was men-  
tioned in evidence as the Royal  
Commission probe of the Bren  
contract by Mr. Justice H. H.  
Davis, was present.

### Canadians Enroute Home From Spain

LONDON, Jan. 26—(CP Cable)  
—There are "four or five" street-  
car cases among the 292 Cana-  
dians enroute home from serv-  
ice with the armies of Government  
Spain, A. A. MacLeod of Sydney  
Miner, N. S., said tonight.  
MacLeod, president of the Cana-  
dian League for Peace and  
Democracy, with headquarters in  
Toronto, said the party is due at  
Newhaven, England, tomorrow  
morning and will proceed directly  
to Liverpool.

There was no chance that the  
178 Canadians still "somewhere in  
northern Catalonia" could reach  
Liverpool before the Duchess  
said, and may have to be put in  
ships hospital on the Canadian  
Liner Duchess of Richmond  
which will take them to  
Canada, probably sailing tomorrow  
night from Liverpool.

"Apparently the trifling sum of  
\$300,000 entrusted to the Gen-  
eral Staff had gone with the wind.  
No one can understand where the  
money is going. The sums voted  
even in the last three years, ap-  
proximately \$90,000,000, should  
have made evident some effective  
measures of coastal defence."  
"Must we conclude the clue to  
the mystery is to be found in the  
recent judicial inquiry into the  
Bren machine gun contract? One  
contract out of many was sub-  
jected to a searching inquiry and  
the most amazing circumstances  
have been disclosed."

"A Privileged Ring"  
"We have good cause to ask if  
the additional millions requested  
from Parliament are actually for  
the defence of Canada or for the  
defence of the profits of a privileged  
ring of armament contractors."  
"We now discover departmental  
officials have shown the most  
arrogant disregard of policies en-  
unciated in Parliament. It now  
rests with Parliament to deter-  
mine whether or not there has  
been a gross betrayal of public  
trust."

The report of Mr. Justice Davis  
had laid the evidence before  
Parliament to decide.  
Mr. MacNeil reviewed the testi-  
mony which disclosed the manner  
in which Major J. E. Hart, head-  
quarters of John Inglis Co., of Toronto,  
had been assisted by the depart-  
ment in obtaining a British War  
Office order of 5,000 guns to com-  
plement the Canadian order for  
7,000.

Should Give Reasons  
"It was a gutted guarantee  
of certain profits for one favored  
contractor," Mr. MacNeil de-  
clared. "In the light of the evidence  
the House should hear from the  
Minister the reasons why he did  
not call for competitive bids."  
Mr. MacNeil said Hugh Plaxton  
had written the Prime Minister  
stating a group of his friends had  
a plant equipped to make munitions.  
The Deputy Minister of De-  
fence, Major-General L. B. La-  
Fleche had represented to the

(Continued on page 7, Col 4)

### Is Sentenced To Dorchester

ANDOVER, N. E., Jan. 26—  
Gerald Stovos of Grand Falls, con-  
victed at a speedy trial here be-  
fore Judge M. L. Hayward of the  
court of Sessions, four pen and pen-  
cils sets and a razor from the  
store of Isaac Dalfen, Grand Falls,  
was sentenced to two years in Dor-  
chester Penitentiary. Similar sen-  
tences were imposed upon Albert  
Parent and Lewis Parent of the  
Parish of Drummond for the theft  
of a hog carcass worth \$40 from  
the storehouse of Cyril Theriault  
at Drummond, Loc. in the Stroll  
case was valued at \$350.



METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE  
TORONTO, Jan. 26 (CP)—Mini-  
mum and maximum temperatures:

Dawson	22B 161B
Edmonton	32 14
Regina	12 8
Winnipeg	12 20
Toronto	9B 9
Ottawa	20B 43
Montreal	14B 43
Quebec	12B 4
Saint John	2 10
Halifax	10 19
Charlottetown	9 8

Maritime East: Fresh northwesterly  
to west winds; partly cloudy and  
decidedly cold; probably snow-  
flurries.  
High—side this afternoon at 2.44  
and tomorrow morning at 3.21.  
Sun sets this afternoon at 5 and  
rises tomorrow morning at 7.25.  
First quarter moon Jan. 28, 11  
a. m.  
Summerside tide eighteen min-  
utes later than Charlottetown.

THE CAR FERRY SAILINGS  
Leave Borden 9.45 a. m. 1 p. m.  
Tormentine 11 a. m. 3.05 p. m.