

POWERFUL STEAM HAMMER AT WORK

A five-ton steam hammer with a striking force of 8,000 pounds makes short work of hammering steel sheet piling to the proper depth during construction of an extension to the railway wharf at Alberton South. The new work

which got underway last week, will have a length of 165 feet across the outer end face, 113 feet on the back face and a width of 21 feet, on the western side. The Eastern side will be

Strong, No Quarter Stand Is NATO's Berlin Decision

WASHINGTON (AP) — The 15 Atlantic Pact powers have put Russia on notice of their united determination to defend Western rights in Berlin as well as the rights of its 2,000,000 people.

At the end of a 10th anniversary meeting Saturday, they affirmed their readiness to negotiate an honorable settlement of German problems — provided it does not imperil free-world security.

Paul-Henri Spaak, NATO secretary-general, urged correspondents to proclaim this unity in unmistakable terms to keep Russia from a "totally dangerous miscalculation" that might spark a war.

Only "differences in shading and opinion," as he put it, remain among the Allies. He said any other impression is totally false.

"When the negotiations start with the Soviet the single front of the West will be there," he said.

TOOK HARDER POSITION
As the Western foreign ministers arranged to leave for home, there were signs that a tougher negotiating position had been hammered out under pressure from West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer's government.

A team of British, American, French and West German working experts will draft final proposals beginning April 13 in London. These will be reviewed by foreign ministers meeting in Paris or Geneva and offered to Russia at a Big Four foreign

ministers conference opening in Geneva May 11.

To meet Russia's demands for an end to four-power rule in Berlin, the Western Big Three are reported considering these offers:

1. New arrangements maintaining full Western access to West Berlin, but only if they are based on continuing Soviet recognition of Western Big Three rights to be there as wartime conquerors of Nazi Germany.

2. Creating a special commission which would bring East and West Germans together on a non-governmental level to increase economic, technical and cultural contacts between the two areas.

This would rule out formal recognition of the East German regime.

3. Discuss a special arms control zone in central Europe, including at least parts of East and West Germany; this would seek to limit troops and weapons but would be linked to progress in reunifying Germany.

OBJECT TO HARDENING
The shape of the Allied views clearly reflected West Germany's insistence that nothing be done which would remotely harden the East-West division of Germany.

The West Germans also insisted, informants said, that no arrangements should be con-

cluded which implied final recognition of Russia's right to give part of East Germany to Poland after the war. The Germans were reported ready to pledge avoidance of force in negotiating this territory.

The 700-word final communique said delegates expressed "full agreement on the broad lines of policy" to be followed in settling German issues. A key paragraph said:

"Whilst stating its desire to see outstanding problems solved by negotiation the council confirmed its unanimous determination to maintain the freedom of the people of West Berlin and the rights and obligations of the allied powers, as expressed in the council's declaration on Berlin on 18th December, 1945."

This would propose that Russia agree to allow UN observers or forces of some kind to guard the 110-mile-long access route from West Germany to Berlin.

Even though the Canadian proposal would maintain existing Allied rights, American, West German and French authorities were reported lukewarm to it.

Spaak told a windy press conference, however, that the Canadian plan certainly would be one of the new ideas to be weighed by the Allied diplomatic experts in drafting their final proposals.

Canada's idea was outlined by Defence Minister G. R. Pearkes. The proposal was an elaboration of the statement made in the House of Commons last month by Prime Minister Diefenbaker, who had called for "some significant role" for the United Nations in any East-West Berlin settlement.

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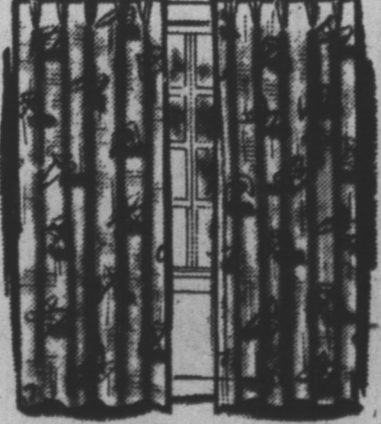
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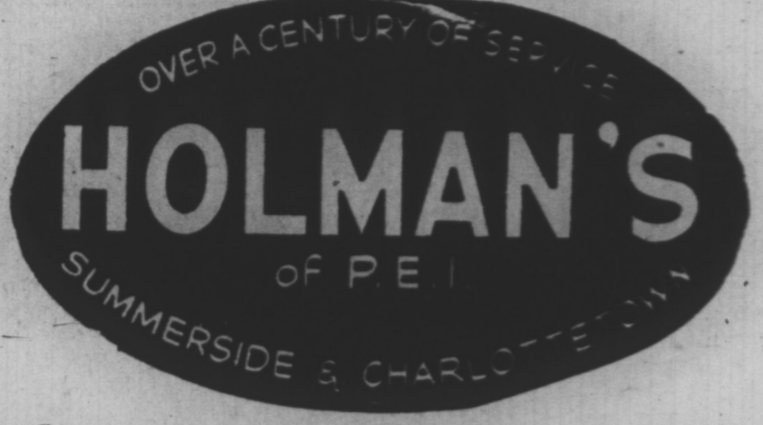
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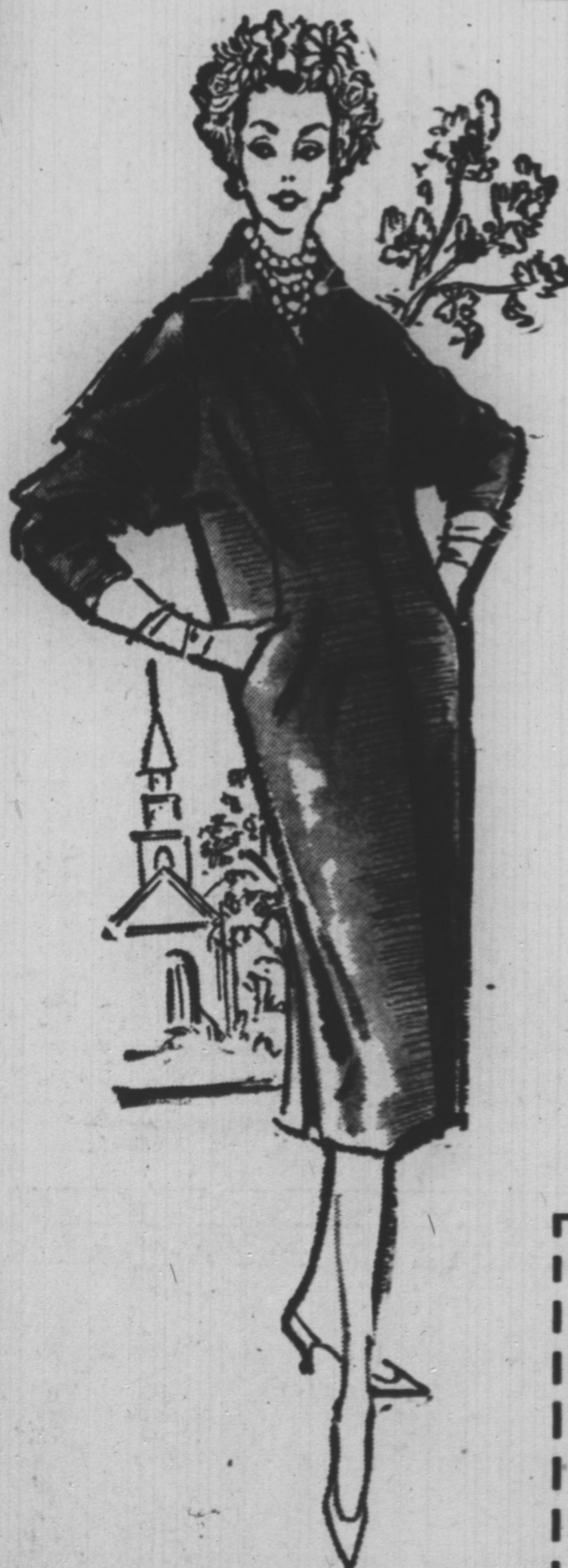
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