

Foreign News Services Are Examined By India

NEW DELHI (Reuters) — Dr. V. K. Mehta, Indian information and broadcasting minister, said today government policy on the operation of foreign news services in India is being re-examined with the double object of ensuring satisfactory arrangement for the availability of foreign news from many sources for our papers and at the same time protecting the legitimate interests of Indian agencies so that they can develop well.

In a statement to the Lower House of Parliament, he said that circumstances for which no one could be blamed had led to "a temporary monopoly" of Reuters as a foreign news source.

The government did not feel that such a monopoly should be allowed to continue and during the interim period individual newspapers would be allowed to enter into agreements with any foreign agency for the reception of foreign news "on certain conditions."

ALLOWED TO CONTINUE

On this basis the Times of India, which had an agreement with The Associated Press, had been permitted to continue its agreement for another six months.

Keskar recalled that in 1956 the government had decided that special communication facilities should be granted only to those foreign agencies which had an arrangement with an Indian news agency for distribution of their news within India.

"In taking this decision, the government had no intention of trying to shut out particular foreign news agencies or foreign news material," he said. "The main object of the restriction was to allow Indian news agencies to develop and become equal to other foreign news agencies."

TWO FUNCTIONING

Keskar said that when the 1956 decision was taken, there were two main news agencies functioning—the Press Trust of India and the United Press of India.

"Unfortunately, the United Press of India closed down for financial reasons. The Press Trust of India has an agreement with one foreign agency—Reuters of London—for reception and distribution of foreign news in the country. The closure of the United Press of India led to a temporary monopoly of Reuters as a foreign news source for which none can be blamed.

"But the government felt that such monopoly, whatever the reasons, should not be allowed to continue, more especially when it became apparent that the setting up of another Indian news agency which would subscribe to some other foreign agency might be a long way off.

In the meantime, the government would allow individual newspapers to enter into agreements with foreign agencies.

(A Reuters spokesman said that the agency had never sought a monopoly position in India and the operative contract with the Press Trust of India had been at the choice of that agency following competitive negotiations from the other world news agencies.)

... to his work in Toronto, Ont., after spending a two weeks visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alvin MacLean, Milo. He was accompanied by Mr. Charles Harris, Knutsford, and Mr. Claire Campbell, Coleman.

Mr. Samuel Shaw left Wednesday morning for Montreal, en route to Seven Islands, after spending a couple of weeks visiting his wife and family, Cape Wolfe.

A croquette party was held at Cape Wolfe Hall, Thursday evening. Prizes were won by Mrs. Ivan Collicutt, and Mr. Wayne MacWilliams and Mrs. Edward Cooke. The next croquette party will be in aid of the Community Hospital. Lunch followed.

Mrs. Neil MacKay, Coleman was a recent visitor to Summerside.

Miss Audrey MacPhee, Coleman spent the week-end in Summerside, guest of her friend, Miss Eleanor MacEwen.

Mr. Heath Costain who is attending Prince of Wales College spent holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Costain, Cape Wolfe.

The O'Leary Baptist Young Peoples Society met in the church parlour Wednesday evening, April 22nd. Interesting Bible questions were asked by Archie MacLeod and Perley MacNeill. Meeting closed with hymn "Evening Prayer," and Mizpah benediction.

The regular meeting of the Brae C. W. L. Parish Council was held at the home of Mrs. John MacKinnon. Next meeting is to be held at the home of Mrs. Emmett Greenan.

TALLEST TOTEM

Canada's tallest totem pole, 127 feet high, stands in Victoria's beautiful Beacon Hill Park.

MISCOUCHE

A retreat was recently held in the Miscouche Convent for the high school boys of the parish. Fr. Eric Robin preached at this retreat.

Friends of Bernard Gallant of Miscouche will be sorry to learn that he recently left for Halifax where he entered Campbell Hospital for surgery.

The Miscouche Home and School Association held their monthly meeting on Thursday evening in the Convent Auditorium. Fr. Eric Robin was guest

speaker. The attendance shield was won by Grade I.

Mrs. Arsene Poirier recently arrived at her home in Miscouche after spending the winter months in New Brunswick.

The little friends of Tony Poirier, son of Mr. and Mrs. Emmanuel Poirier, Miscouche, will be sorry to know he entered the Prince County Hospital where he will receive treatment.

Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Doucotte of Halifax, are spending their vacation in Miscouche at the home

of Mrs. Doucotte's parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Perry.

Sympathy is extended to the relatives of the late Fred Gaudet. Mr. Gaudet passed away in the U.S.A. recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben W. DesRoches, Miscouche, and sons Donnie and Aubrey were visitors to Bloomfield over the weekend.

Cyrus Poirier passed away at his home in New Brunswick recently. Sympathy is extended to his relatives of St. Nicholas. D.M.

O'LEARY

Gifts dedicated at the Easter Service in O'Leary United Church were Hymn books for the choir, given by a friend of the congregation; Desk, Bookcase and Communion Cloths by Glen Elder in memory of his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. James MacLean, Elder; A Baptismal Bowl by Laurie Bridges Ferguson in memory of his mother, Mabel Locke Bridges and sister Eunice; Guest Book in memory of Miss Minnie Murray by Miss Frances Jane Metherell and Mrs. Roy MacEachern; Book of Remembrance, in memory of William M. Stewart, by his wife, Irma and sisters, Jean Lapp and Margaret Eile and Elizabeth Saunders.

Mr. Sheldon MacLean returned

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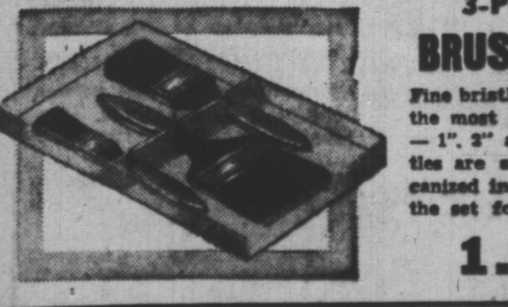
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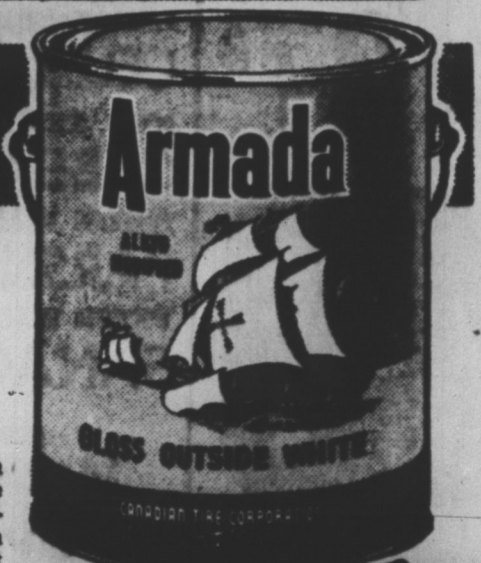
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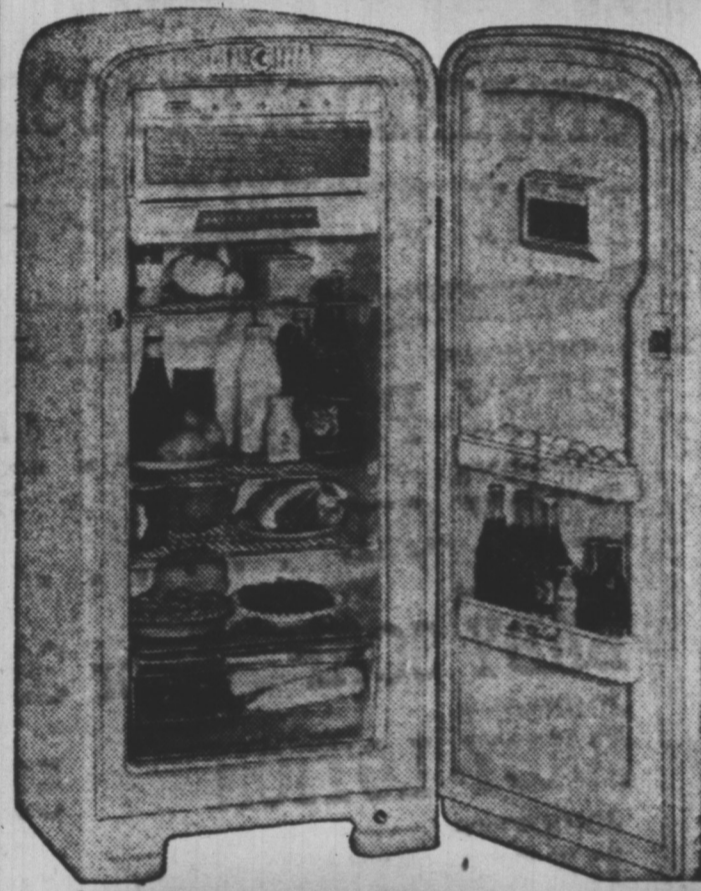
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