

PREDICTS RETIREMENT AGE FOR NEW SENATE MEMBERS

Howe Optimistic Over Foreign Trade Outlook

US House Passes Foreign Aid Bill

OTTAWA, March 31—(CP)—The government tonight proclaimed Monday, June 5, as the day on which the King's birthday will be celebrated this year.

The royal proclamation was printed in the Canada Gazette.

The King's birthday normally is celebrated in June because of the proximity of Dec. 14—his actual birthday—to Christmas.

Local Harbour Ice Shows Signs Of Breaking Up

The Charlottetown Harbour ice is showing signs of breaking up and the Northumberland Strait from Charlottetown westward is navigable, reported Chief Officer Angus Brown last night following his aerial ice survey for the Department of Transport. He will be out again today on another of his daily flights which will be continued until the ice is cleared.

Although Chief Officer Brown reported that the harbor ice appeared thin in spots from the air, horses and sleighs were crossing frequently yesterday. Potatoes were being hauled from York Point and three sleighs one behind the other were sighted crossing to Rocky Point.

The steamer track from the St. Lawrence River is open to 25 miles south of Bird Rock and only 27 miles of ice remain to be broken through before the track is open to the sea. The track was open last year on April 5.

General ice conditions, he stated, were clearing well. With a southerly wind blowing the ice is grinding up so that most of it may now be termed slab ice. He reported a heavy quantity of ice out towards the sea.

Louisburg Harbor on Cape Breton Island is open and the Sable is breaking up the ice in Sydney Harbor. With a landward wind blowing from Sydney, the Chief Officer estimated that the industrial centre harbor will be navigable in a day or two.

A heavy ice drift is passing through the Strait of Canso which was giving the car ferry steamers a little trouble yesterday. Ice in the Eastern part of the Northumberland Strait is showing signs of breaking.

Chief Officer Brown sighted one sealer on his seven-hour, thousand-mile flight. The boat was heading towards Newfoundland.

Boy Finds Father Crushed By Logs

NORTH BAY, March 31—(CP)—A boy on his way home from school Thursday found the body of his father crushed beneath a sled-load of logs at Rutherglen, 20 miles east of here.

Elmo Smith, 43, was killed when his sled jack-knifed, throwing him onto the ground. The heavy load slipped from the sled and crashed down on him.

Coming Events

- Mail your Films to Garnham Photo Studio, Charlottetown.
- Rummage Sale Beta Sigma Phi, Market Building today, 3 P. M.
- Garden Seeds. Send for free catalogue. Arthur Vessey, York, P. E. I.
- Farmers now booking Clover Seeds. Rush order. McGowan & Boyle.
- Pantry Sale, Central Royalty Brownies, Rogers Hardware, Saturday, April 1st, 3 P. M.
- Booking orders for Timothy and Clover Seeds. Can supply booklets only. Order early. Clark's Feeds Service, Mt. Stewart.
- North River Rink tonight. Exhibition game. Milton Hornets vs. Glasgow Road Maple Leafs. Game time 8 o'clock. Skate after.
- The greatest animal star of all time is back. Don't miss "The return of Rin Tin Tin" at MacDonald Bros. Theatre tonight. A lovely show.
- Dance, Card Party, baby luncheon, snappy music. Corns Ban Hall, Easter Monday night, April 10th. Melody Boys Orchestra.

Gives Review In House Of Commons Speech

OTTAWA, March 31—(CP)—Trade Minister Howe today gave the Commons an optimistic picture of Canada's 1950 trading possibilities.

Launching a trade debate on his departmental estimates, he reported that he expects this country to better its position in the important United States market, though he conceded a possible drop in exports to the rest of the world, including the United Kingdom.

As a result of his recent trip to Europe, he was confident that continent soon would have free convertibility of exchange, a logical first step towards global convertibility. Europe was becoming less and less dependent of Marshall aid.

Opposition speakers said they hoped Mr. Howe's optimism would be fulfilled. Nonetheless, the Canadian people feared the loss of foreign markets and felt the Government should make some adjustments in its trading policies.

Participants in the debate included Arthur Ross (PC—Souris), Hazen Argue (CCF—Assiniboia) and John Diefenbaker (PC—Lake Centre).

Greetings to Nfld.

In the opening stages, party leaders extended greetings to Newfoundland on the first anniversary of its union with Canada as the 10th Canadian Province.

Mr. Ross suggested the Government keep in mind that the U.S. (Continued on Page 5 Col. 6)

New Sales Tax Bill Is Introduced In N. B. House

FREDERICTON, March 31—(CP)—The social services and education tax act bill, a sweeping measure for four per cent taxation of retail sales and some services, was introduced in the New Brunswick Legislature today by Hon. J. G. Boucher, provincial secretary-treasurer.

It immediately met opposition on first reading but passed this initial formal vote by a straight party vote of 38 to five in the Liberal-dominated Legislature.

Opposition leader Hugh Mackay and his four Progressive Conservative supporters voted against the reading.

Adjournment for an Easter recess to April 11 followed this afternoon's proceedings.

The consumer tax would apply to purchases of more than 10 cents. Numerous exemptions include food, rent, shelter, gasoline, fuel (including natural gas), certain farm and commercial fishing equipment, medicaments bought on prescription, electricity to power machinery for manufacturing or processing purposes, railway roll-

May Sell Ranch

CALGARY, March 31—(CP)—The Duke and Duchess of Windsor have reservations at a hotel (Paliser) here for a party of five for April 11. It was learned today.

The Duke is reported coming to Calgary in connection with the possible sale of his E. P. ranch about 65 miles southwest of here.

Officials of P. Burns Ranches, Ltd., trustees of the ranch, were not available for comment.

The ranch has been operated for years as a purebred stock farm but in recent years has not been used as a commercial proposition.

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Nfld. Observes First Anniversary Of Union

ST. JOHN'S, Nfld., March 31—(CP)—On the first anniversary of Newfoundland's union with Canada, Premier Smallwood today hit out at what he called "anti-confederate gibbering and recrimination."

Speaking in the Newfoundland Legislature he said that some people rarely fail to taunt confederation.

"They are the diehards," he said. "They are prepared to give confederation credit for nothing, but to look for blemishes in it and even invent blemishes. They will not be reconciled to confederation, not so long as they live."

"They wish for its failure, and there are some who will even welcome a depression so long as confederation gets the blame. They see nothing good in confederation and never will."

Mr. Smallwood said he was happy to know, however, that these people constituted only a trifling fraction of Newfoundland's population.

"They are cheerfully willing to give credit where credit is due, and they credit confederation with many good things indeed. They are watching confederation with a critical but non-the-less impartial eye; quick to give credit when it deserves credit, just as quick to condemn when they think condemnation proper," he said.

"Up to now they see very little to condemn," he said.

"Diehard anti-confederates" were attempting "to blame confederation for the degree of depression we find in Newfoundland today."

"This depression boiled down to: 'Iron ore has become difficult to sell, sulphur pulp has become difficult to sell, and salt cod fish has become difficult to sell.' The difficulties had been caused by the devastation of the pound, and were not only a Newfoundland problem but a world problem."

"What we are witnessing is a breakdown in trade between this side of the Atlantic and the other side," Mr. Smallwood said. "Only a jackass would blame that on confederation."

Heavy Snowfall Reported In N. S.

HALIFAX, March 31—(CP)—A belated March storm brewed in the Atlantic tonight, sending a heavy snowfall down on Nova Scotia and causing skies to be overcast in most other Maritime areas.

Intermittent snow was forecast for the three Provinces tomorrow. The Weather Office said the snowfall would average eight to 12 inches from Nova Scotia's western tip to Cape Breton.

The storm was 300 miles south of Halifax tonight and a ship in the area reported herself bucking 54-mile winds.

The storm was moving eastward and was expected to pass Sable Island, due east of Halifax, tomorrow morning.

No ships were reported in distress. Most small vessels made for port with the first warning.

Woman Sentenced To Die For Murder Of Daughter

RIMOUSKI, Que., March 31—(CP)—Mrs. Elsie Dube, 45-year-old mother of eight children, today was sentenced to be hanged July 7 for the shotgun slaying of her daughter Irene but a commutation of the death sentence to life imprisonment seemed possible.

She was found guilty yesterday by an all-male French-speaking jury of the April 5, 1949, murder of the 17-year-old girl described by witnesses as her "favorite" daughter. The Crown contended that she shot Irene in a "fit of jealousy."

The shooting occurred in the Dube's two-room cottage at Matane-Sur-Mer, 40 miles from here, climaxing a 24-hour drinking party. Witnesses said the mother was jealous because the six youths at the party passed up Mrs. Dube to dance with Irene and another daughter Anita, 35.

Although the death sentence is mandatory for murder, Crown Prosecutor Gerard Bizard made no mention of the penalty in his address to the jury.

There was no indication whether Mrs. Dube would appeal.

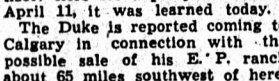
When Mr. Justice Wilfrid Edge pronounced the sentence on the third day of the trial there were no hysterics such as Mrs. Dube displayed Thursday night when she screamed "Irene, come and get your mother," just before the jury rendered its verdict.

She became pale but said nothing this morning.

Male guests at the drinking party who testified at the trial said the woman threatened Irene and upbraided her and Anita for "going out with boys without getting paid."

Taking the stand in her defence, Mrs. Dube testified that she remembered nothing of the shooting because she had had too much to drink and was tired. She said she had been married 24 years but that her husband left her seven years ago.

Jean-Marc Imbeault, 24, Mrs. Dube's nephew, testified he heard a shot and saw Irene slumped to the kitchen floor with a fatal wound in the abdomen. He did not see who fired the shot.



Duke of Windsor

Same Ruling May Apply Also To Judges

OTTAWA, March 31—(CP)—Senator Wishart Robertson today in the Senate predicted that future appointments to the Upper Chamber may carry a stipulation that the appointee must retire at a certain age.

The Government leader in the Senate said the same stipulation may be made in the case of appointments to the superior courts of the Provinces.

Under the constitution, senators and superior court judges are appointed for life. He did not say what retirement age might be adopted.

The Senate standing now is: Liberals 75; Progressive Conservatives 15; vacant 12; total 102.

Senator Robertson spoke in answer to a question put to him several days ago by Senator W. H. Dennis (PC—Nova Scotia) who asked whether the Senate was satisfied with the news coverage given the Upper Chamber.

Senator Robertson said he was more concerned with what the Senate should do than the headlines it might make in the newspapers.

He did not indicate the proposed retirement age, but it was learned later that it may be 75, the same age at which members of the Supreme Court of Canada retire.

It was learned that these proposals may be made at the next sitting of the Dominion-Provincial conference on the constitution. A date for the next sitting has not yet been set.

Will Be Retained

Looking into the Senate's future, he said he had not the "slightest doubt, that, in due course, changes may be made in our constitution."

"For example, consideration may be given to a compulsory retiring age for future appointees to the Senate as well as the superior courts of the Provinces."

This major change and possibly others "may well be considered by the responsible authorities."

But whatever changes are made, Senator Robertson believed that the Senate still will "continue indefinitely" to be a part of Canada's parliamentary institutions.

He recalled that it was originally constituted for the express purpose of protecting racial, religious and geographical minorities against possible action of a transient majority in the Commons.

"It is a tribute to the good sense and the spirit of fairness which has characterized all governments since confederation that it has not been necessary for the Senate to (Continued on Page 5 Col. 4)

Reports Large Movement Now Of Reefer Cars

Up to midnight last night 1,268 cars of potatoes and 160 cars of turnips were shipped from Prince Edward Island for the month of March, reports Mr. B. Graham Rogers, director of transportation, Provincial Department of Industry and Resources, who is also temporarily carrying on the work of the late Col. C. C. Thompson as manager of the Potato Promotion Committee. This makes a total movement for the month of 1,425 cars, the highest number ever ferried from the Province in the month of March and 450 cars higher than the same month a year ago.

Altogether for the crop season to date 5,974 cars of potatoes have been shipped from the Island. This large total is made up of 5,781 cars by rail and 2,991 cars by boat. At this date last year the total combined rail and water shipments were 6,917 cars.

The turnip movement has also been particularly heavy with a total for the crop season up to last night of 1,091 cars as compared with 978 cars for the same period last year.

In addition to the above at six o'clock last night there were 85 cars of potatoes and turnips loaded at stations ready to begin moving to the wharves.

Apr. shipments are expected to be heavy and the Railway is doing everything possible to facilitate the movement, Mr. Rogers reports.

Czechs Put 10 Catholic Clergymen On Trial

By Nathan Polowatzky

PRAGUE, March 31—(AP)—Czechoslovakia placed 10 Roman Catholic clergymen on trial today on charges of treason, anti-state activities and spying for a Vatican espionage service said to be linked with the United States.

The official Czechoslovak news agency said one of the group, Abbot Augustin Michalka of the Monastery of Nova Reva, pleaded guilty to all charges against him.

This is the largest known trial of Catholic clergymen in Czechoslovakia since the Communists came to power here in February, 1948.

The trial opened at the Prague state court amid these other developments:

1. The Government denounced its agreement with the Co-operative for American Remittances to Europe. Director Herbert Lass was told CARE must cease operations here by July 31. Three other international relief organizations had been ordered out previously.
2. United Press correspondent John R. Higgins drew an expulsion order. He was told to get out of the country by April 15. The charge was "unobjective reporting," the same as that made Wednesday against this correspondent, who must leave by April 8.
3. The Czech news agency gave details of the Prague trial.
4. The chief defendants were Abbot Michalka; Rev. Bohumil Vit Tajovskiy, both of the Monastery of Zely, Central Bohemia; and Rev. Frantisek Silhan, provincial (director) of the Order of Jesuits in Czechoslovakia.
5. The others were monks of various orders: Sylvester Bralio, who was a professor of theology at Olomouc University; Theodore Matilek, Adolf Kajpr, Frantisek Mikulas, Jan Bliesik, Josef Urban and Stanislav Bartak.

Truck Driver And Four Children Perish In Fire

PINE FALLS, Man., March 31—(CP)—A truck driver, his two small children and two girl baby-sitters died early today when fire razed a house three miles from town.

The victims were Stanley Waite, 33, who came here less than a year ago to work on a multi-million dollar power project; his son Ronald, 6, and daughter Gladys, three; and baby-sitters Maxine Simpson, 13, and Marilyn Fleet, 11.

Mrs. Waite was on a trip to Winnipeg 75 miles southwest of here when the fire broke out so savagely about midnight that neighbors could do nothing to save the victims. She was told of the tragedy early today at her Winnipeg hotel.

Because Mrs. Waite has planned a trip to Winnipeg and Waite was working at his job in the evening, it had been necessary to obtain baby-sitters to care for the two young Waite children. The baby-sitters had arranged to remain overnight in the Waite house, a frame building, and were believed to be in bed when the fire started.

Waite was understood to have come from Mafeking in Northern Manitoba near the Saskatchewan border.

Marilyn's mother, Mrs. Greta Fleet and her grandfather, Alex Fleet, the only eyewitnesses, watched helplessly as flames engulfed the house.

Cause of the fire is unknown.

Mr. Douglas Reports Only Six Settlements Made Re Federal Building Project

OTTAWA, March 31—(Special)—Disturbed over repeated delays in getting ahead with the proposed Federal building for Charlottetown, J. Lester Douglas, Liberal member for Queen's has assumed the role of mediator between property owners on the site and officials of the Public Works Department.

"I want the owners of property where the Federal Government is to build, to get fair prices for their property and compensation for the inconvenience of moving," Mr. Douglas told The Guardian today. "At the same time, I want to see the contracts let and the machinery on the job as soon as humanly possible."

"For some time past I've been in correspondence with some of the owners, and have talked the matter over several times with the Public Works Department's real estate adviser and senior supervising architect. I'm convinced the Federal Government is ready to pay a fair price for these properties, but I know it will not pay an excessive price. These things are all done according to regulations and on the recommendations of highly-experienced men in the real estate field. There are very definite limits in the acquisition of property beyond which the Dominion will not go."

Mr. Douglas said some six settlements had been made of a total of more than 20 claims, but that he was optimistic that other settlements would be reached. Failure to accept the government's offer, he explained, would mean that the owner would have to take his case before the Exchequer Court, of Canada which handles all suits or petitions against the Crown. Almost invariably, these court cases involve lengthy delays, and legal expenses are costly.

The Exchequer Court is a travelling court and in the event of there being a number of petitions filed by property owners on the Federal site, it might sit this summer at Charlottetown. The court however, is bound by the Exchequer Court Act and regulations and its record in property cases is not such that petitioners can expect bonanzas.

Mr. Douglas said that four residences on the site of the proposed building will be temporarily retained there to determine whether they can be of use to house government departments or branches at Charlottetown pending construction.

"I am told now" he said, "that there seems little prospect of calling for tenders until well on in the summer, but this is not good enough. I will keep pressing for fair settlements and an early start on construction."

Nfld. Boy Found Guilty Of Murder

ST. JOHN'S, Nfld., March 31—(CP)—Sixteen-year-old George Dwyer was convicted tonight of the Feb. 9 rifle murder of Patrick Burke, 25-year-old brother-in-law.

He was sentenced to an indefinite prison term and Chief Justice Sir Albert Walsh said he would bring the Supreme Court jury's recommendation of mercy to the authorities.

The jury deliberated 45 minutes after the Chief Justice delivered his charge.

Burke died of rifle wounds at Gander Airport while he and Dwyer were returning from a hunting trip.

Taking the stand in his own defence, Dwyer testified today he and Burke quarrelled over a bicycle owned by Burke. Dwyer had borrowed the bicycle on several occasions.

Dwyer, described as a crack shot during the trial, said he fired at Burke "to frighten him, or wound him. I didn't care which."

Under British criminal law the death penalty can not be imposed on a defendant under 16 years of age.

Siamese Twins Make Good Progress

TOFIELD, Alta., March 31—(CP)—Brenda and Beverly Townshend, Siamese twin girls, now weigh 20 pounds and are "in fine health," Dr. W. H. Freebury said today.

The children, joined at the abdomen in front, weighed nine pounds, 12 ounces at birth Nov. 17. A surgical attempt to separate them is scheduled for some time in May.



TORONTO, March 31—(CP)—Minimum and maximum temperatures: Victoria 37, 46; Edmonton 20, 40; Regina 27, 35; Winnipeg 26, 36; Toronto 28, 46; Ottawa 18, 35; Montreal 22, 40; Quebec 20, 40; Saint John 20, 40; Moncton 19, 41; Halifax 21, 42; Charlottetown 23, 36; Sydney 25, 37; Yarmouth 28, 39.

HALIFAX, March 31—(CP)—

Official forecasts issued by the Dominion Public Weather Office at Halifax.

A vigorous storm had formed 300 miles south of Nova Scotia and snow was falling over most of the Province tonight. In New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, skies were overcast.

The storm centre is expected to pass near Sable Island Saturday morning and continue northeastward. From eight to 12 inches of snow are forecast to fall along the south coast of Nova Scotia from Liverpool to Sydney, while farther north there will be lesser amounts. The northern boundary of the snowfall will be through Northern New Brunswick.

Regional forecasts valid until midnight Saturday with an outlook for Sunday.

Prince Edward Island: Intermittent snow, ending late Saturday afternoon. Cold, Saturday north winds east 20. Low early Saturday morning and high in the afternoon at Charlottetown 24 and 33. Outlook for Sunday—Cloudy.

High tide today at 9:46 A. M. and 9:47 P. M.
Sun rises at 5:56 A. M. and sets at 6:35 P. M.
Summer tide eighteen minutes later than Charlottetown.

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