



PREMIER WALTER R. Shaw (RIGHT) and Alex Campbell, leader of the Liberal Opposition in the Provincial Legislature, exchange greetings Thursday as the House was prorogued. Lieutenant-Governor W.J. MacDonald arrived at the chamber shortly after 3 p.m. and gave assent to bills. Some 58 were passed. Of the 64 bills considered, two were defeated, three withdrawn and one died in committee.

'We'll All Be Back Next Year' Premier Says As House Closes

"We'll all be back again next year," was the shout of Premier Walter R. Shaw as the 1966 session of the Legislature closed Thursday.

There was no hint at the time of a May election from the premier. It was believed before Thursday that the government had made a final decision on an election and an announcement would be made at the closing of the session.

Many still believe that a spring election will come. The premier suggested Thursday that he will review, possibly on television, the activities of the session which just concluded and possibly that review will give a hint of the premier's thinking on an election.

DENIES CHARGES

During the business session, prior to the arrival of Lieutenant Governor W. J. MacDonald, Fisheries Minister Leo Rossiter rose on a question of privilege to "completely and emphatically deny" charges by Kings Liberal William Aarom Wednesday that Mr. Rossiter had forced the use of a particular engine in a boat before a loan was granted from the Fishermen's Loan Board.

Highways Minister Philip Matheson took the opportunity to announce that work will continue this spring and summer on the dismantling of the old Hillsboro Bridge, part of which still remains in Charlottetown Harbor.

Mr. Matheson also announced that it is expected that spring highway weight restrictions may be lifted by Monday.

Island Food Plants Importing B.C. Fish

A select standing committee of the Legislature has requested that the federal and provincial departments of fisheries "try to find ways to make fish caught off our shores suitable for packaging with our vegetables" in Island packing plants.

The committee on industries, resources, fisheries and transportation, under the chairmanship of Douglas McGowen (P.C.-3rd Kings) found that food packing plants in this province were bringing from British Columbia carloads of fish to be packaged with Island vegetables.

It was suggested that the imported fish has firmer flesh and for that reason stood the processing methods better than locally caught fish.

SEA FOODS NEEDS

The committee also suggested that the provincial department of fisheries find "some means to make available to restaurants and dining rooms fresh sea foods during our tourist season as tourists are constantly requesting these foods."

In the matter of safety, the committee recommended that regulations "pertaining to the safety of passengers on deep sea fishing trips be enforced, and further recommended that "there be sufficient regulations to protect both parties involved."

Regarding tourist accommodation, the committee said it felt "the down payment of 50 per cent for development loans is too high. It is felt that there should be regulations provided so the borrowers could negotiate a loan by having a genuine lesser amount."

FISHING AIDS

Suggesting that better benefits are provided today in the construction of fishing trawlers, the committee recommended that "50 per cent of insurance costs for wooden boats be absorbed annually by the Fishermen's Loan Board." It was also suggested that the present Fishermen's Loan Board Act is obsolete and recommended a new act be drawn up for consideration at the next session of the Legislature.

Another recommendation in the fisheries line was adequate training for present and prospective crews of dragners be provided.

On transportation, the committee felt that steps must be taken to speed up the movement of traffic during the tourist season at Wood Islands. More trips by present ferries or addition of more ferries was suggested.

The committee said regulations must be drawn up to authorize the use of studded tires on passenger cars and light trucks when highway traction can be a problem.

Churchill Week Being Observed

WASHINGTON (CP)—This is Sir Winston Churchill weekend here, with a series of tributes to the man who rated as the United States' favorite Briton of any age.

Dean Rusk, secretary of state, unveils today a nine-foot bronze statue of the late statesman-politician standing symbolically with one foot on U.S. soil and the other within the spacious bounds of the British Embassy.

Irish Troops Will Remain

UNITED NATIONS (Reuters)—Ireland changed its mind Friday about withdrawing its contingent of 518 men from the United Nations peace force in Cyprus and will replace them when they are due to leave April 18.

A UN spokesman said Cornelius Cremin, the chief delegate of Ireland, informed Secretary-General U. Thant of the decision. However, the secretary-general was not able to make the financial guarantees which the Irish government had sought.

Yank Civilians Are Evacuated

SAIGON (AP)—U.S. Navy craft evacuated U.S. civilians, off-duty military personnel and foreign nationals from the northern Viet Nam port city of Da Nang today in an emergency move—prompted by mounting political violence.

7 Persons Feared Dead In Luxury Liner Blaze

491 Persons Are Rescued

MIAMI, Fla. (CP)—Three persons were reported dead and four missing after fire swept the luxury liner Viking Princess Friday as the Norwegian-registered ship neared the end of a festive Caribbean cruise. Most of the 498 passengers and crew members were saved.

The mishap occurred in early-morning darkness as the White ship moved in gently rolling waters of the Windward Passage between Cuba and Haiti.

Most, if not all, of the 238 passengers were U.S. citizens. Tragedy struck as the \$16,000,000 ship was sailing back toward Miami on the final day of a seven-day cruise to the islands of Aruba and Curacao off the coast of Venezuela.

"All survivors are in good shape," a U.S. Coast Guard spokesman said.

THREE SHIPS IN RESCUE

He said the survivors and after bodies were picked up by the West German freighter Cap Norte, the Liberal freighter Navigator and the merchant vessel Chungking Victory.

Seven hours after the fire burst out of the ship's engine room, the Viking Princess was reported burning fiercely, a towering column of smoke marking the site of the disaster.

"The Viking Princess is burning violently amidships and the forward decks are buckling," Lieut. David Capay, a coast guard public information officer said.

"A boarding party from the cutter Cook Inlet searched the after end of the ship and we do not believe any survivors are left aboard."

"It apparently was an orderly abandonment of ship."

The 13 survivors picked up by the Chungking Victory, all crew members, later were transferred to the U.S. Navy destroyer Wilkinton.

TAKEN TO U.S. BASE

It and the other two rescue ships took the survivors to the U.S. Navy base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

They later were to be flown to Miami aboard charter planes. Among those rescued by the Chungking Victory was the Viking Princess' veteran captain, Otto Thorsen, 45, who left his home in Breivik Salt, Norway, at the age of 13 to take to the sea.

Even before the survivors reached dry land, the fire—second aboard a Miami-based cruise ship in five months—brought outcries from the U.S. Congress and National Maritime Union.

Said Representative Claude Pepper (Dem. Fla.) in Washington:

"If there is a loss of life, particularly a man of g. Americans upon this ship, it is imperative, I think, that we have a full-scale congressional investigation of the whole matter, of the competence of crews, and the safety standards observed by foreign flag vessels carrying American citizens on the high seas."

John Sheehan, business agent of the Maritime Union's Miami local, said all foreign-flag cruise ships operating out of south Florida ports would be picketed until they comply with U.S. safety standards.

"They are going to come up to our standards or we are going to drive them out of business," Sheehan said.

It was only about five months ago—Nov. 13, 1965—that the 38-year-old cruise ship Yarmouth Castle burned and sank between Miami and Nassau, Bahamas, with a loss of 90 lives, mostly passengers. Two Canadians were among those killed.

Rescue ships saved 370 persons from that holocaust, which set off a lengthy U.S. Coast Guard investigation and congressional hearings on the safety of cruise ships sailing from U.S. ports.

SAID CAPTAIN FAILED

The coast guard investigation concluded that the plain of the Yarmouth Castle, which flew the Panamanian flag, was negligent and failed to cope with the fire.

The Viking Princess, built in 1960, was of Norwegian registry and manned by a predominantly-Norwegian crew. It was rebuilt five years ago.

The first indication of trouble came at 1:44 a.m. EST, when the Viking Princess' radio operator began sending an "X X X"—noting an emergency.

The coast guard said it heard the signal intermittently for about nine minutes.

"But the first word of the nature of the emergency—a dread fire at sea—came from the Cap Norte several hours later and after a mixup in identification of the stricken vessel.

ALTERED IDENTITY

The coast guard first identified the burning ship as the Viking Princess, but later said it was the freighter Navigator.

Then the coast guard determined the fire actually was aboard the Princess. Difficulty in making radio communication with shipping in the area was blamed for the confusion.

Dispatched to the scene were the U.S. destroyers Wilkinton and Owens, destroyer escort Brumby, assault ship Raleigh and coast guard cutter Cook Inlet.

BOASTED POSHNESS

The Viking Princess boasted 100-per-cent air-conditioning, two outdoor tiled swimming pools, a 275-seat theatre and posh dining facilities.

It had a total of 228 cabins on five decks providing accommodations for a possible 627 passengers. Each cabin had a private bath.

The ship had a displacement of 17,600 tons, a length of 536 feet and a 64-foot beam. Its twin screws were driven by diesel engines.

The ship was operated by Flagship Line Agency, Inc., of New York and Miami, agent for Berge Sigval Bergesen of Oslo, Norway.

Causeway Schedule Outlined By Minister

OTTAWA—Public Works Minister George McElraith Friday issued details of the 1966 construction program for the Northumberland Strait crossing and at the same time reiterated the earlier announcement that the proposed completion date of the crossing is still late 1970.

Mr. McElraith said the project is a long-term project and a resolution passed unanimously last week by the Prince Edward Island Legislature, Mr. McElraith said the three major contracts for the crossing itself will be called in 1967.

ISLAND APPROACH

In the meantime, he said there will be uninterrupted efforts to build the P.E.I. approach to the proposed nine-mile crossing. Tenders for the four and a half mile approach road will be called in June following the completion of land acquisition and detailed plans and specifications.

"The road at the Prince Edward Island end of the crossing will be completed in late summer 1967 as a vital preliminary step to the construction of the main structure," the minister explained. "It will serve as a hauling route to the shoreline staging area."

Mr. McElraith said plans for the two-mile New Brunswick causeway approach will be completed in July with the call for tenders expected in August. This would permit the contractor to be on the site for work throughout the winter period.

At the same time, here will be no alteration in the existing schedule for the approach road begun last year on the new Brunswick side. The target date for completion of this remains August of this year.

The three major contracts that are involved in the main structure are: 1 — the substructure for the main bridge portion of the project approximately four miles long; 2 — the bridge superstructure of structural steel; 3 — the tunnel section and offshore tunnel portal to be constructed from the P.E.I. side.

Detailed plans and specifications for the main bridge area will not be completed until December-1966 and later for the tunnel-causeway section.

Prime Minister Pearson has written to Premier Shaw in reply to his letter of April, and the resulting of the legislature and outlined the details of the crossing time-table.

Charge Laid In Stabbing Of Islander

HAMILTON (CP)—Marjorie Meyers, 32, was charged with non-capital murder Thursday night in the stabbing death of David McLean, 27.

Police said the man was stabbed with a nine-inch knife which punctured his right shoulder and severed the aorta.

McLean was a son of Glen MacLean and the late Mrs. MacLean of St. Peter's, P.E.I. In addition to his father, two brothers, Robert in the RCMP and Harold, also residing outside the province, survive.

Services On Good Friday Held In Varied Weather

With Eastern churches marking the day by the Julian calendar and Western churches by the Gregorian calendar, their Eastern observances coincide every fifth year.

In British Columbia, fog and drizzle greeted church-goers in the Lower Mainland, but the rest of the province basked under sunny skies and temperatures in the high 50s. One person died in a traffic accident. For the second consecutive Good Friday, many residents of southern Manitoba spent the day sandbagging on dikes to protect against the rising flood waters of the Red River.

Snow fell over much of Manitoba and 1½ inches was recorded at Winnipeg. One person died in a bus-car collision near Portage la Prairie.

In Alberta and Saskatchewan, buses and trains were packed. Cloudy skies and temperatures in the mid 30s were reported in both provinces. One death was reported in Saskatchewan.

Cold, cloudy weather covered Ontario. Three persons died in a plane crash near Bothwell, 44 miles southwest of London, Ont.

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SNOW FALLS

A mixture of snow and rain fell over Quebec early Friday, but skies cleared later in the day. One person died on the highway.

Spring temperatures climbed to the mid-40s in the Maritimes and church-goers flocked to service under sunny skies. In New Brunswick, two persons died when struck by cars.

Plane Designer Dies At Age 82

BIRMINGHAM (Reuters)—Sir John Buchanan, 82, one of Britain's leading authorities on aircraft design, has died here, it was announced today.

A pioneer of high-speed flying, he was director-general of aircraft production under the late Lord Beaverbrook from 1941-43. Sir John, who died Tuesday, organized experimental work in the 1920s on aircraft that took part in the Schneider Trophy races.

Flax Official Expected Soon

Agriculture Minister Andrew MacRae said Thursday he expects a representative of a Glasgow, Scotland, firm interested in flax production to be in this province within the next two weeks.

Mr. MacRae said there are indications that a firm in Scotland is prepared to pay higher prices for some grades of flax than can be had from some Canadian firms.

OUT OF ORDER

though the town is dry, most residents have been evacuated. Meanwhile Greater Winnipeg Friday issued another call for volunteer dike workers. Primary dikes are being raised to 31.5 feet against a crest of 27.5 to 29.5 feet expected between April 16 and 24. The flooding Red River has already inundated thousands of acres of farmland.

Star-Gazing Satellite Is Launched

CAPE KENNEDY, Fla. (AP)—A star-gazing satellite packing 10 telescopes rocketed into space Friday and scientists hope it will open a new era in astronomy.

From its lofty position high above the earth, the Orbiting Astronomical Observatory was to study secrets of the stars and perhaps uncover clues to the origin of the universe.

The potential of OAO in expanding man's knowledge of the universe "makes it the greatest thing since Galileo poked his telescope toward the heavens," a space agency scientist said.

The launching had been delayed five times by technical and weather problems.

West Berliners Flock To East

BERLIN (AP)—Almost 80,000 West Berliners flocked through the Berlin Wall for Good Friday visits with relatives in the Eastern sector of the divided city.

The visits are possible under a new East-West wall pass agreement that began Thursday and runs through April 20. The peak in the Easter visits is expected Sunday and Monday.

KISS BRINGS YEAR IN JAIL

CHICAGO (AP)—It was a costly kiss.

Anthony Tomas, 21, and his wife, Anita, 19, appeared before Judge Herbert Friedlund Thursday to face a robbery charge. The case was continued and Mrs. Tomas was released on \$3,000 bond.

"I wonder if I could have permission to visit my wife?" asked Tomas, who had been in Cook County jail since Feb. 21.

"No, you cannot," said Judge Friedlund. "There are visiting privileges at the county jail. She can see you there."

Tomas quickly stepped to the left, kissed his wife, then turned and started to leave. Judge Friedlund called him back to the bench—kissing was the same as visiting.

"You are in contempt of court for that," said the judge.

Explained Tomas: "I was just carried away by my emotions. I didn't think kissing was the same as visiting."

"A year in the county jail for contempt," ruled the judge.

Rival Claims Being Made On Old French Treasure

By DON ANGUS

HALIFAX (CP)—Rival claims have been made on thousands of gold and silver coins taken from the 240-year-old hulk of a French frigate off the coast of Louisbourg, N.S.

Five Cape Breton men, represented by Robert P. MacDonald of Glace Bay, Thursday received an interim injunction from the Nova Scotia Supreme Court prohibiting the sale or disposition of the money until a full-scale court hearing is held April 22.

The action initiated by the 32-year-old Glace Bay machine shop manager and his group, the Orbit Association, hinges on the validity of provincial and federal permits to search for offshore treasure and the terms of a partnership agreement.

Meanwhile, one of the divers who recovered the coins said their value was only about \$10,000.

The looming court battle could be a prolonged affair.

CLAIM EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS

The Orbit group, comprising MacDonald, Ronald Blunsdon, Willard Dillon, Joseph Nearing and Hyman Goldberg claim their licence from the receiver of wrecks under the Canada Shipping Act gave them exclusive rights to seek the wreck of the French pay and supply ship Le Chameau.

Alex Storm, 29, of Louisbourg says his recovery of the coins from the vessel, which sank Aug. 26, 1725, with the loss of all 310 persons aboard, was authorized by a treasure trove licence granted by the Nova Scotia provincial secretary's department.

MacDonald says Storm entered into a partnership agreement with the five plaintiffs in 1961.

Four years later Storm wrote his partners he was terminating the agreement. He also said he had a provincial treasure trove licence and warned the others not to dive in the area.

If the court finds the partnership binding, Storm under the terms of the partnership would receive 20 per cent of the value of all treasure recovered and the others 16 per cent.

GUARANTEE MADE

However, Storm's arrangement with the province guaranteed the government 10 per cent and since Monday's revelation of the discovery last fall by Storm and skin divers David MacEachern and Harvey MacLeod, the provincial secretary's department has been pondering what share, if any, of the money it is entitled to.

Donald Kerr, lawyer for the Orbit Association, told the Supreme Court Thursday he is doubtful if the province has jurisdiction over treasure from offshore wrecks since the provincial Treasure Trove Act applies only to caches intentionally hidden.

Mr. Storm denied published reports attributing an estimate of \$700,000 to him.

Storm said in an interview.