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MONTREAL POLICE BELIEVE SECOND SLASHER ACTIVE

Russia Stalls Conference On China Issue

Blizzard Dumps 8 Inches Snow On Southern Ontario

By THE CANADIAN PRESS

A blizzard which dumped eight inches of snow on southern Ontario continued to lash the province Wednesday night. Western Canada counted its 25th death from a 15-day cold spell while warm winds in British Columbia threatened to bring floods to coastal centres from melting mountain snows.

Only Quebec and the Maritimes got off lightly. These areas had some light snow and rain.

Snow fell continuously for almost 24 hours in southern Ontario Wednesday, forming drifts up to two feet deep in the season's heaviest snowstorm. Though the province's whole road-clearing force was at work some secondary roads were impassable Wednesday night and the province's highways department urged motorists to stay home.

Urban traffic jams miles long formed in many areas when cars got stuck on icy hills. Thousands of persons were late for work and late getting home again.

The storm, severest of the winter struck the province from Sarnia to the Quebec border and north to Huntsville 160 miles north of Toronto.

The Dominion Weather Office said southern Ontario's storm probably would end at midnight. Light snow is forecast for Thursday.

Train Derailed

Snow was blamed for derailment of a C.P.R. locomotive and baggage car at Waterdown, near Hamilton. A passenger car behind stayed on

the tracks. No one was hurt.

In Caledon township 30 miles west of Toronto, road-clearing crews gave up a losing battle. An official said:

"The snow is blowing in faster than we can plow it out."

Toronto police put an emergency ban on parking on all city streets to let ploughs and trucks get the snow away. Heavily-laden branches fell from trees, causing some power cut-offs.

Lacombe, Alta. Benjamin Browner, 66, died of frostbite, 25th victim of bone-chilling temperatures in the western provinces since Arctic air first spread over them little more than three weeks ago.

Fear Floods

Residents of British Columbia feared that floods would result from forecast mild weather which would melt snow piled eight feet deep in drifts in some mountain areas. The situation looked particularly bad in the Fraser valley and at New Westminster.

At Edmonton and Vancouver, more than a score of positions have been treated for frostbite in recent days. Many persons have been hurt in Vancouver in falls on icy streets.

In British Columbia more than 100,000 pupils went back to school after a two-day holiday enforced by impassable roads. Milk and bread deliveries to homes were resumed.

At Winnipeg temperatures near zero-highest in days—were recorded Wednesday. That was the warmest it got to on the Prairies.

Molotov Refuses To Accept "No" From Allies

By DANIEL DE LUCE

BERLIN. (AP)—Russia stalled the Berlin conference Wednesday from taking up the German peace problem and fought to compel the Western powers to recognize Red China as an equal.

Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov refused to accept an Allied "No" to a Big-Five parley in May or June with the Chinese Communists on world disarmament.

He countered with an 80-minute speech repeating his big-Five proposal in detail and conjuring up a prospect of settlements in Asia from such a talk.

Foreign Secretary Eden, chairman for the day, said Peiping should first prove its sincerity for world peace by enabling the Korean political conference to get started.

If the German and Austrian questions were solved here, Eden said, the Big Four would be better situated to look at other questions.

State Secretary Dulles said the conference here should not "fritter away time in discussing whether or how to set up a new conference" but should get started on discussing the unification of Germany and granting Austria independence.

He emphasized these two problems are the whole purpose of the Big Four meeting here. If they are solved "then, and then only, can we stand before the world as capable of assuming other and heavier tasks."

Supporting Vietnam

France's Georges Bidault said the Big-Five parley would serve no good as long as Peiping was "indirectly supporting" the Vietnam rebels in Indo-China.

Bidault added, however, that if the facts and situation of the Red Chinese rulers were to change, a Big-Five meeting might ultimately be considered.

Western arguments for taking up the German settlement without further delay had no effect on Molotov. Although he had waived at the outset of Wednesday's session the right to speak again on Peiping's behalf, he launched into a prepared address as soon as the three Western foreign ministers had finished.

Molotov hinted that the French might get a settlement of the war in Indo-China by playing ball.

(Continued on page 15, col. 3)

Boy Burned To Death In Fire Near Dartmouth

DARTMOUTH, N. S. (OP)—A five-year-old boy burned to death when fire destroyed his home at nearby South Woodside, RCMP reported Wednesday night.

The body of James Nickerson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Percy Nickerson, was recovered from the embers less than an hour after the fire started, about 6:30 p.m. A.S.T.

William Sheppard, a neighbor, said that Mr. Nickerson told him the fire started when one of his sons dropped a match in a paint can while playing in his bedroom.

Mrs. Nickerson, about 35, first noticed the flames, he said, and ran upstairs to get her 20-month old son, Weldon. Then she jumped out the window with the baby in her arms.

She received a few bruises in the fall but was otherwise unharmed. Mr. Nickerson received minor burns about the hands and arms.

Two other children, George, 12, and Laddie, 11, escaped without injury.

It was at first reported by neighbors that several homes were on fire. The flaming house on a hilltop, lighting up dozens of rooftops apparently gave the illusion of several homes in flames.

Declares Fire Sale Of Farm Surpluses No Help To Underfed Countries

LONDON, Ont. (CP)—Canada's minister of external affairs said Wednesday that "fire-sale" methods of marketing "massive United States surpluses" of farm products are not in the interests of the under-fed people of the world.

Lester B. Pearson told the annual meeting of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture: "Movement of massive United States surpluses through give-away programs or through sales at cut prices... are almost bound to effect ordinary exports directly or indirectly."

It was not in the interest of needy countries to have surpluses "distributed in a manner which will disorganize markets and thus reduce production elsewhere."

He said the United States commodity credit corporation now has on hand about \$5,000,000,000 worth of farm produce. It was not surprising that so much attention was being concentrated "by others than Americans" on future agriculture policies of the United States.

Not The Road

High prices are not the road to real and lasting prosperity for farmers, he said.

"Except from the most shortsighted point of view, it is not in the interest of the farmer in either exporting or importing countries to produce at prices—often supported by government consumption and involve subsidies which cannot be sustained indefinitely."

He said experiments used in some countries to meet temporary problems "should not divert attention from or postpone action on the more fundamental problem of encouraging normal exports, particularly to the food-deficient areas of the world through a healthy expansion of international trade in all directions."

Through the joint United States-Canadian committee on trade and economic affairs and other meetings, Mr. Pearson hoped "that effective international co-operation will be secured."

Earthquake Rocks Southern California

BAKERSFIELD, Calif. (AP)—A rumbling earthquake rocked much of southern California Wednesday but there were no reports of damage.

The shock—some said it felt like a series of tremors—lasted about 15 seconds.

NEW LISKEARD, Ont. (CP)—If crows in Northern Ontario at this time of year are a sign of early spring, there's plenty of evidence. Local bank manager A. S. Meisner reported sighting more than 100 crows flying a few miles north of here.

Report New Incident Of Damage On R. N. Carrier

By ARCH MACKENZIE

CANADIAN PRESS Staff Writer

LONDON, (CP)—Another incident in a rash of "minor malicious damage" cases aboard Royal Navy aircraft carriers was announced Wednesday to a nation concerned at the state of the Senior Service.

Authorities said that a rating has been detained in connection with the breaking of a gauge glass on the 13,000-ton carrier Ocean.

The incident, classed as "minor malicious damage in no way retarding the efficiency of the ship," was similar to those reported recently aboard the carriers Warrior, Indomitable, Indefatigable and Eagle, the destroyer Barfield and the depot vessel Montclare. In some cases, there was more than one incident.

"They all seem to have sprung from disgruntled personnel" an admiralty spokesman said Wednesday. "Most of the damage was cleaned up in 15 minutes."

The outbreak is to be discussed in Parliament next week, when the admiralty will be asked to make a statement.

A stoker-mechanic was sentenced Saturday to 15 months' detention for breaking gauge glasses aboard the Eagle. The sentence, departing from the orthodox, may stop the outbreak.

The rating will still be in the navy when he finishes his sentence, contrary to past custom. His sentence will be added to the time he had yet to serve in the navy.

"The motto has been—break a few gauges and you're on civvy street," said a senior officer. "This sentence may stamp out the rot."

So far, the admiralty had made no statement as to why the incidents have occurred, other than to say that Room 1001—the special investigation department guarding against sabotage, fire-bugs, the thief and the spy—has checked each one.

There were evidently no indications of sabotage.

The navy itself came in for some of the blame Wednesday in an article in the Daily Sketch titled: "What's Wrong with the Navy?" It said the Senior Service may be living in the past.

"It hates to relinquish old ideas, old habits, old traditions," said the newspaper, arguing that the salty spit-and-polish imposed by centuries of seafaring fall on a different type of sailor these days.

"The old A. B. is being replaced by the technician, who requires discipline of a very different type." The newspaper also said that the navy has fallen down in providing living accommodation for the men, who may grow resentful in port when they compare their lot with the luxuries afforded officers.

(Continued on page 15, col. 1)

Latest Assaults Bring Total Number To 10

MONTREAL, (CP)—Three more women Wednesday night reported being attacked with razors on Montreal streets and police said a second razor-sadist has assaulted seven women since last Friday.

All Wednesday night's attacks were reported within an hour at the peak of the busy rush-hour traffic. Police said it would be impossible for one man to have been responsible for all three.

The new incidents occurred only three hours after 15-year-old Marjelle Boudin reported she had suffered a four-inch cut on her leg while riding north on a bus near St. Denis and Beaubien streets.

One woman was cut while boarding a street car on St. Catharine St., one of the city's busiest traffic arteries. She was admitted to hospital but her name and the extent of her injuries were not immediately revealed.

A half hour later another woman was attacked.

(Continued on page 15 col. 5)

Call Ford Wage Offer "Insult"

WINDSOR, Ont. (CP)—Local 200, United Automobile Workers' Union CIO-CCL said Wednesday the four-cent wage increase offered by Ford of Canada was "an insulting ultimatum" and turned the offer down.

The company Tuesday offered a four-cent increase if the union would agree to extend the present contract, due to expire Feb. 19, to June 1, 1955. The proposal was made to the union negotiating committee after it was outlined to workers in a letter.

A union statement rejected the offer and protested "the company's attempt to by-pass the legal bargaining agent of the workers by entering negotiations-by-mail with its employees."

When negotiations began the union asked a 30-cent wage increase, three additional paid holidays, wider insurance and other benefits. Wallace H. Clark, Ford vice-president in charge of public relations, said the company could not now, or in the foreseeable future, accede to these demands.

Will Ask Conciliation

Mr. Clark said the union demands totalled 30 cents an hour plus 27 cents in fringe benefits and would boost cost of Ford passenger cars by \$210 and trucks by \$190.

The union said Ontario law requires 30 days bargaining which will not be up until Feb. 7. It said Local 200 will insist on the completion of the bargaining table in an attempt to find mutual grounds on at least some of the problems.

"Then, what we cannot work out with management," he said, "we just have to take to a conciliation board," the statement said.

U. S. Begins Probe Of Advancing Coffee Prices

WASHINGTON, (AP)—The federal trade commission, with the approval of President Eisenhower, announced Wednesday it will discover why the price of coffee in the United States has jumped so high.

It promises to see whether laws have been violated in the recent sharp rises, and then will publish its findings.

Coffee is over \$1 a pound at retail stores and it costs 15 cents a cup in some restaurants.

President Eisenhower told his press conference Wednesday that the federal trade commission began looking into the situation Jan. 13 and has already found enough to justify a full investigation.

Commission chairman Edward F. Howrey, said the commission has reason to believe "the recent substantial increase in the price of coffee may have resulted from unfair methods of competition and monopolistic practices." He also said the increase "may be due in part to speculative activity."

The Colombian ambassador, Eduardo Zuleta Angel, said Wednesday the investigation will show the coffee price climb "came about as the result of perfectly clear, natural and legitimate reasons."

He blamed a short crop in Brazil as an immediate reason, but said the real cause lay in wartime price ceilings which he said discouraged production in Latin America.

The Senate agriculture committee has said plans to re-consider a proposal made three years ago by Senator Guy Gillette (Dem. Iowa) to put coffee trading in the U.S. under supervision of the government's commodity exchange authorities.

Sparked Discussion On Ontario Potato Marketing

OTTAWA, Jan. 27—(Special)—Donald A. MacDonald, chairman of Prince Edward Island Potato Marketing Board, sparked a discussion of potato marketing yesterday at the annual convention of the Soil and Crop Improvement Association of Ontario held in Toronto. Mr. MacDonald told the gathering the history of potato marketing in Prince Edward Island and how the plan is working out.

The day was designated as "potato day" by the Association and views on potato marketing were voiced by growers in many parts of Ontario. In general they urged the speedy setting-up of a province-wide potato marketing association. The proposed organization, they suggested, should work in conjunction with potato growers of Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick.

Watson Porter of London, Ont., was chairman at the panel discussion and said that the present price levels of potatoes was ruinous to the Ontario growers. What is needed, he said, is an arrangement for orderly marketing which would assure a fair price to the consumer as well as to the grower. Potatoes, the chairman said, are selling today at prices far below the producers' costs.

While declining to be quoted personally, members of the Commons from Prince Edward Island said they did not believe a co-operative potato marketing association in Ontario would be detrimental to the interests of potato-growers of the Maritime Provinces. They pointed out that growing of potatoes is not a specialized industry in Ontario as it is in the Island Province and that the Ontario consumer in many centres prefers P.E.I. and N.B. potatoes to those locally grown. Until quality standards in potato-growing are established in Ontario, they felt, Maritime potatoes would continue to hold a favored position in the large Ontario potato marketing centres.

Girl Driver To Pay \$10,261 In Damages

LONDON, Ont. (CP)—Held responsible for a car accident, in which a child was pinned against a house and a baby lying in a carriage was killed, Miss Luba Spurdza was ordered by a Supreme Court jury Wednesday to pay damages totalling \$10,261.23. Miss Spurdza was driver of the car and was being sued by the injured child, Eleanor Jean, nine, and William Topham, father of the girl and baby.

Second British Protest To Spain

MADRID, (Reuters)—Britain has protested to Spain for the second time in five days against damage done to British property in student demonstrations against Queen Elizabeth's scheduled visit to Gibraltar next May.

The protest, handed to the Spanish foreign ministry Wednesday by the British embassy, cited damage to the Bank of London and South America here, and to the British consulate-general in Barcelona and vice-consulates at Havana and Malaga.

Spain has not yet replied to the first British protest, delivered last Friday.

Students Wednesday continued demonstrations in Madrid and Co-cuna.



Seeks Information On Potato Product Imports

OTTAWA, Jan. 27—(Special)—Imports of potato products into Canada in the past four years is the subject of an enquiry being made by J. Angus MacLean, Conservative member for Queens. A close study of the tariff structure as related to potatoes and their by-products has indicated to the Queens member that possibly Canada is importing products of a nature she can produce cheaply and effectively herself.

Mr. MacLean's question as directed today to the Ministers of Trade and Commerce and National Revenue, reads as follows:

"What has been the total amount of the imports into Canada for each of the last four years of the following items:

- "1. Potato starch and potato flour, (tariff item 39, (1).
- "2. Starch and all preparations having the quality of starch, (tariff item 39 (2).
- "3. Dextrine and combinations and preparations of starch and dextrine, (tariff item 39 (3).
- "4. Combinations and preparations of starch and dextrine with admixture of foreign material, (tariff item 39 (4).
- "5. Potatoes as defined in tariff item 83 A.
- "6. Dried or dehydrated potatoes as defined in tariff item 83 B.
- "7. Vegetables pickled or preserved in salt, brine, oil, or in any other manner including frozen French-fried potatoes and potato chips as defined in tariff item 80 B.
- "8. Glucose as defined in tariff item 180.
- "9. Mucilage and adhesive paste

"9. Vegetable glue as defined in tariff item 232.

"10. Cereal or starch products as defined in tariff item 232 E.

"11. Mucilage and adhesive paste as defined in tariff item 232 F."

Total volume of imports of these commodities together with their annual value, Mr. MacLean said, will give a clear idea of the amount of business Canada is losing through these imports.

Potato products and their many by-products was the subject of extensive study over the years on the part of the late H. H. Hatfield, former Conservative member for Victoria-Carleton. Mr. Hatfield believed that there was a future for further Canadian development of this field and in his own plants had carried out numerous experiments. In some of the experiments, the cost factor ruled out manufacture but in others the outlook was promising.

Cotton Mill Closed At Marysville, N.B.

MONTREAL, (CP)—A Canadian Cottons Ltd., mill at Marysville, N. B. has been closed for an indefinite period, president L. C. Bonnycaiste announced here Wednesday.

In a statement, Mr. Bonnycaiste said difficulty in meeting United States competition under the present tariff system made the move necessary.

The mill employed 550 persons, working recently on a part-time basis only. Its output was mainly colored goods sold to the clothing industry.

Coming Events

- **Dance in Millview Hall, Friday.
- **Crokinole Party in Wheatley River Hall, Friday night.
- **Warner Brothers Show, Fred-erickton, January 29th.
- **Carnival in Souris Bank, Wednesday, February 3rd. Cash prizes. Judging at 9 p. m. Skate after.
- **Show, Morell Hall, Friday. "Francis Goes to the Races." Don't miss this excellent horse picture.
- **South Shore Musical Festival meeting, Wednesday, February 1, Tryon Consolidated School. Initiates please see that representatives attend.
- **The annual meeting of the Wiltshire Dairying Co. Ltd., will be held in North Wiltshire Hall on Monday, February 8th, at 3 p. m. Nelson Hatherley, Secretary.
- **A meeting of the Stanley Racing Club will be held in the Casino Hall, on Friday, January 29th, at 8.00 o'clock. Gavin Bur-royne, Secretary.

Commons Hears New Plea For Soldier Settlements

OTTAWA, (CP)—The Commons Wednesday rejected an opposition attempt to cancel \$293,000 owed by 299 First World War veterans who settled on farms more than 20 years ago. About 25,000 veterans took up farming in 1919 under the Soldier Settlement Act.

Members defeated by 113 to 75 a motion asking the government to consider writing off the debt still owed by the 299 veterans.

Robert Fair (SC—Battle River-Camrose), sponsor of the motion, said:

"These farmers are still hoping that before they die they will get clear title to their homes."

A retired Alberta farmer, he has campaigned since 1937 for a better deal for the soldier settlers. He has been a Commons member since 1938.

Social Credit, Progressive Conservative and CCF members voted for the proposal, which was op-

\$250,000 Fire In Belleville, Ont.

BELLEVILLE, Ont. (CP)—A \$250,000 fire Wednesday night destroyed a downtown block occupied by an appliance store and a fish and chip shop and made 10 families in upstairs apartments homeless.

A northeast gale and below-freezing temperatures hampered firemen, who said two hours after the fire started that they expected to confine it to the ruined three-story block.

Fire officials blamed the outbreak on an oil stove explosion in the fish and chip shop. All the families made their way to the snowy streets without difficulty. No one was injured.

M. P.'S To Be Better Paid Than Professional Men

OTTAWA, (CP)—The proposed new rate of indemnities for members of Parliament will make their annual take higher than the average for lawyers who averaged a higher income in 1951 than in any other profession.

The Commons Tuesday night approved introduction of a government measure to double seasonal indemnities to \$8,000. Besides this, MPs receive \$2,000 tax free for expenses, giving them a total of \$10,000—one fifth of it non-taxable.

Most MPs also have other jobs. In 1951, lawyers were, on the average, the highest-paid profession in Canada with annual income of \$10,214, all of it taxable. Doctors and surgeons ranked second with \$9,975, consulting engineers and architects third with \$9,628, accountants fourth with \$8,171 and dentists fifth with \$8,287.

However, many executives in Canada receive a much higher income than professional persons or MPs.

TORONTO, (CP)—Minimum and maximum temperatures:

	Min.	Max.
Dawson	55	
Vancouver	31	36
Victoria	35	42
Edmonton	27	13
Calgary	20	15
Regina	16	12
Winnipeg	20	1
Toronto	23	24
Ottawa	16	13
Montreal	16	16
Quebec	16	16
Saint John	24	35
Moncton	25	31
Halifax	28	43
Charlottetown	28	39
Sydney	28	35
Yarmouth	27	
St. John's	20	35

HALIFAX, (CP)—The Dominion public weather office here says colder air pushing into the Maritimes will cause the ice pellets and freezing rain to change to snow in southern Nova Scotia Thursday morning. The snow is expected to end in Prince Edward Island and southern New Brunswick Thursday evening, but will continue all day in Nova Scotia. Another 4 to 6 inches of snow is indicated for all the southern regions.

Regional forecasts:

Prince Edward Island, eastern N. B. counties, lower St. John river valley: Snow ending in evening, then cloudy; colder with northwest winds 20. Low-high at Moncton, Fredericton and Saint John and Charlottetown 15 and 10. Upper St. John river valley, Bay of Chaleur: Cloudy with a few clear intervals; colder with north-east winds 15.

Low - high at Edmundston and Campbellton zero and 10 above.

Bay of Fundy: Northeast winds 25; snow; visibility variable 1-2 to two miles; colder.

High tide today at Charlottetown at 4.54 a. m. and 4.15 p. m. (Sun rises today at 7.35 a. m. and sets at 5.15 p. m.)