

Doukhor Problem Is Being Solved By Friendly Firmness

By DAVID ROWNTREE
Canadian Press Staff Writer
NEW DENVER, B. C. (CP)—
Spotlights outline buildings and
armed guards patrol grounds at
schools in the Kootenay district
of British Columbia every night.
In the past, school buildings
and railways tracks have been
burned and bombed in this south-
east area of the province by the
Sons of Freedom, radical Douk-
hobors.

The guards and lights are
needed so that the school prop-
erties can be covered by fire in-
surance.

The schools are prime targets
for the Freedomites who claim
children are taught militarism in
Canada's educational systems.
Some refuse to allow their
children to attend.

SCHOOL EXPERIMENT
Unsuccessful in 30 years of at-
tempts to resolve the Doukhor
problem or curb the troublesome
Freedomites the government now
is taking children from the rad-
ical group and sending them to a
former sanatorium in this commu-
nity, 66 miles from Nelson.

There now are 98 children at
the dormitory run by the educa-
tion department. They are kept
there until they are 15 years old.
They go to school with another
100 Canadian children from the
village and surrounding area.

John Clarkson, principal of both
the new Denver elementary
school and dormitory, says the
youngsters settle down quickly.

"Often we get children who say
I'd always wondered why my
father wouldn't let me go to
school," he said.

"Some of these kids are 12 and
13 when they're brought in and
they can't read or write. Most of
them are smart and keen to
learn. We have two in high school
now that are doing very well, and
another three should be ready
soon."

Most of the children are in reg-
ular grades but those brought to
school for the first time at 12 or
13 are given specialized instruc-
tion. The object is to get them
through up to four grades in a
year.

SHY WITH STRANGERS
Although most of the Freedom-
ite pupils were shy to talk to a
stranger on short notice, those
who did said they liked the
school.

Mr. Clarkson says there is no
discrimination. New Denver
school also has Japanese - Cana-
dian children and many recent
European immigrants.

At their dormitory, Japanese
books prepare vegetarian meats
to conform with Doukhor cus-
tom.

The children have a gym-
nasium, movies twice and some-
times three times a week, and
mountain-ringed Slocan Lake at
their doorstep. Last summer all
88 children learned to swim, went
on picnics and hikes, and the
baseball team performed with

fair success in the Slocan Valley
Pony League. Ice hockey is the
favorite winter sport.

All their clothes are provided
by the government. There is no
provision for pocket money. Most
parents seem to provide ample
spending money and children not
so fortunate are encouraged to
earn it by doing extra work in
addition to the weekly cleaning
chores.

Emmett Gulley, a member of
the American Society of Friends
service committee, adviser on
Doukhor affairs in Nelson, says
the cost of looking after the chil-
dren amounts to more than \$7 a
day each—more than \$250,000 a
year.

CONCERTED EFFORT
In New Denver, most of the vil-
lagers look upon the experiment
as a concerted effort to solve the
Freedomite problem, school in-
spector Nelson Allen said.

The biggest opposition comes
understandably from the dehard
Freedomites themselves.

However, Mr. Allen reports that
since the government's "get-
tough" policy was introduced
more than two years ago, a num-
ber of Freedomite parents braved
threats of intimidation and volun-
tarily sent their children to school
rather than have them taken
away.

Even in Krestova, capital of the
Sons, an hour's drive from Nel-
son, 20 children are at school.

The Sons of Freedom have pro-
tested frequently through official

channels and except last summer
when a group of about 25 women
tried to strip Mr. Gulley—who
they claimed was responsible for
taking the children away—they
have not used violence.

QUIETER ATTITUDE
How far has the go-to-school
program succeeded?

A year ago groups of Freedom-
ites were reported fasting while
"waiting for the word of God."

In the past, the "word" had been
to burn schools, dynamite railway
bridges and tracks, and parade
in the nude.

But in the last six years they
have been quieter in comparison
to the years of greatest violence
between 1947 and 1950.

Mr. Gulley, who came to Nel-
son at the request of the federal
and provincial governments, be-
lieves the problem may be
cleared up "much faster than we
think" if a firm, friendly and fair
policy on education is followed for
several years.

School officials such as Mr.
Clarkson and Mr. Allen say that
when the program has been going
a few years and children can be
brought to the school at a younger
age for a longer period, the pos-
sibilities of breaking down the
Freedomites' power will be bet-
ter.

Mr. Gulley says the evidence
points to the children becoming
less fanatical. They will realize,
he says, that what their par-
ents told them about school was
wrong.

Eisenhower & Macmillan Exchange Friendly Notes

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP)—President
Eisenhower today made public an
exchange of messages with Prime
Minister Macmillan of Britain
pledging continued personal friend-
ship and obviously aimed at bol-
stering Anglo-American unity.

The exchange with Macmillan,
who last week succeeded Sir An-
thony Eden, was released in Tuc-
son shortly before the president
left on a further tour of drought-
damaged areas of the southwest.

"I send my warmest congratu-
lations to you on becoming prime
minister of the United Kingdom,"
Eisenhower told Macmillan, with
whom he became well acquainted
during the Second World War.

"Your distinguished career is
well known on this side of the At-
lantic and has earned our wide-
spread respect."

"My own warm admiration
stems, as you know, from our as-
sociation in North Africa and
through the succeeding years. For
me that association has been as
agreeable as it has been produc-
tive."

NO MEETING MENTIONED
Neither Eisenhower nor Macmil-
lan, in his reply, made any men-

tion of the possibility of a face-
to-face meeting.

Eisenhower said:
"I feel confident that you will
bring to your new task the same
vision, determination and sym-
pathetic understanding you have
shown in the past. For myself and
the people of the United States, let
me wish you every success in car-
rying out the great responsibilities
which now devolve upon you as
prime minister."

Eisenhower's note was addressed
to "Dear Harold". Macmillan's
salutation in reply was to "My
dear friend."

The prime minister eabled the
president:

"Thank you for your kind mes-
sage. I, too, have warm and vivid
memories of the time we worked
together in North Africa and our
association since then."

"You know how much impor-
tance I attach to the friendship
between the peoples of Britain and
the United States, not least be-
cause of my own personal links
with your country. I look forward
to working with you once again
to further this friendship. With all
good wishes."

Canada Reduces Butter Surplus

OTTAWA (CP)—Canada re-
duced her butter surplus in 1956
as production dropped and con-
sumption increased.

Federal officials estimated
Tuesday that when the current
butter season ends next April, the
federal stockpile will be down
about 10,000,000 pounds to about
40,000,000 from last year's 50,000,
000.

Creamery butter production in
the calendar year 1956 declined by
five per cent to 31,672,000 pounds
from 31,871,000 in 1955, the bu-
reau of statistics reported.

In December, output dropped by
22 per cent to 11,016,000 from
148,000 in the previous year, it
was the third consecutive monthly
production decline.

Britain Slashes Reserve Forces

LONDON (Reuters)—Britain
Tuesday night announced slashing
cuts in her army navy and air
force reserves.

The heaviest cut was made in
the RAF which will disband most
of its reserve units including 20
fighter squadrons, air observation
posts, some ground forces and
nine of 30 fighter control and
radar operating units.

The air ministry said this will
mean a saving of more than \$10,
000,000 a year.

At the same time the war of-
fice said that about 120,000 draftees
who have finished their two
years of service will not be called
up this year for part-time reserve
training.

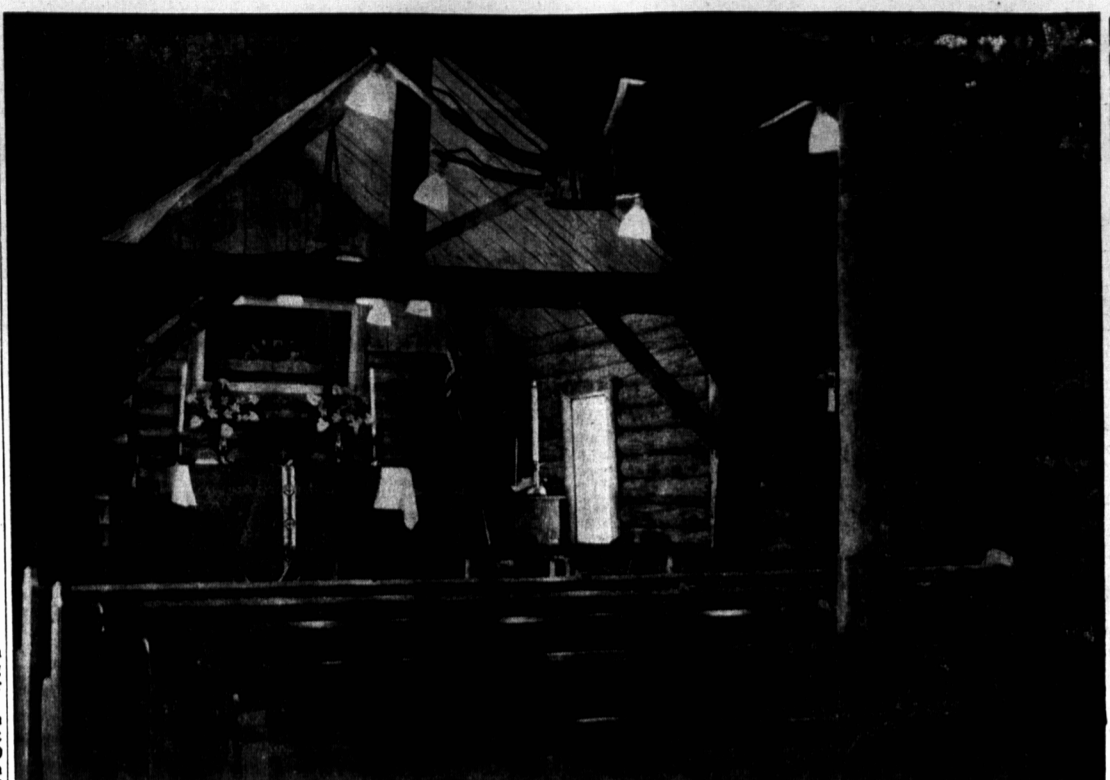
Fuel In Aroostook County Said Short

BANGOR, Me. (AP)—Efforts
were made Wednesday to spur
fuel shipments to North-
eastern Maine's sparsely populated
Aroostook county which has been
stricken with its worst cold spell
in nearly 15 years.

The Maine Central Railroad
said it had received an emer-
gency request for extra tankers
from the Webber Oil Company of
Bangor, a major supplier. The
carrier said the fuel firm had re-
quested 30 cars immediately and
that the tankers were being di-
verted from other runs to avert
a fuel shortage.

An oil company official, Walter
McKay, said the supply is still
ahead of demand and that though
"no one is cold," the situation is
"fairly critical."

CALABOGUE, Ont. (CP)—Fire
early Thursday destroyed the
newly built Plymetals Limited
veneer plant which was soon to
provide jobs for about 60 persons
in this village. No one was injured
in the blaze. Calabogie is about
60 miles west of Ottawa. Loss was
estimated at \$150,000.



THE INTERIOR OF PINE TREE LINE CHAPEL

Log Cabin Chapel Was Built By Pine Tree Line Volunteers

Set in the 20th century surround-
ings of a Pine Tree Line radar
station in northern Quebec is a
humble log cabin. Only a small
sign hanging over the door in-
dicates that it is a chapel.

Built by the airmen, airwomen
and civilians who man this air
defence post, it was to serve as
a temporary measure while the
design of permanent chapels was
being decided upon. The log cabin
church serves over 400 civilian
and RCAF personnel and their
dependents.

The chapel is the product of in-
genuity and hard work that be-
gan in the fall of 1954. The Church
Committees had been searching
for some solution to the accom-
modation problem. Religious ser-
vices had been held in the station
theatre. This did not appeal to any-
Christmas season approaching.

Wing Commander C. C. Under-
hill, the commanding officer,
sparked the idea when he suggested
that perhaps some use could be
made of the tall spruce trees
so plentiful in the area. They were
found to be ideal for log cabin
building.

PITCHED IN
A call for volunteers brought a
gratifying response. It was a far-
cry from their normal duties but
radar technicians, cooks and
housewives adjusted well to the
job. All able bodies on the camp
pitched in to cut and peel the logs

and skid them to the road. Others
worked under the guidance of staff
carpenters in the actual building
and interior decorating.

The site of the chapel is cen-
trally located to the married quar-
ters and the barracks overlooking
the bay of a small lake which lies
within the station boundaries.

When the final touches were ad-
ded the chapel contained few mod-
ern fixtures. The pews were im-
ported from "civilization." So was
the small organ. But the Commu-
nion rail, Sanctuary and lighting
fixtures are all products of the
forest. Short stumps with long pro-
truding branches were peeled and
polished to make two chandeliers.

The central heating system does
not exactly blend with the rustic
decor but in the north where win-
ter comes early, nobody com-
plains.

The floor is covered with a
plastic carpet which efficiently
resists the melting snow in win-
ter and the grinding sands from
unpaved streets in summer.

USED BY ALL
Just in time for Christmas 1954
the chapel was opened for wor-
ship by both Roman Catholics and
Protestants in their separate ser-
vices. Since then it has played an
active part in the lives of the sta-
tion personnel. There has been 39
baptisms, 9 weddings and 21 con-
firmations, and happily, no fun-
erals. While Roman Catholic re-

ligious education is carried out in
the separate station school, the
Protestant Sunday School main-
tains an average membership of
from 60 to 75.

The Protestant chaplain who al-
ternates between this and another
Pine Tree station is Flight Lieu-
tenant Ezekiel Martin, a native
of Newfoundland. He is a gradu-
ate of Mount Allison University
in Sackville, N.B., and St. An-
drews Theological College in Sask-
atoon. An ardent outdoorsman, the
Reverend Martin has served in
the Yukon during his five years in
the RCAF and enjoys life on the
frontier.

A 27-year old curate of the parish
neighbouring the radar bases

takes charge of the Roman Cath-
olic services. The Reverend Jean-
Guy Mercure accepted a Reserve
commission with the rank of
Flight Lieutenant in order to serve
as the station's RC padre. He is a
graduate of his hometown college
in Amos, Quebec, and of St. Paul's
Seminary in Ottawa.

Now, more than two years after
the first service, the way
seems clear for the construction
of permanent modern chapels; one
for the Roman Catholics and the
other for the Protestants.

Although the "church in the
Wildwood" has become too small
for the congregation, those whose
pioneer spirit created it will be
sorry to see it go.

Hot Debate Expected Over N.S. Financial Situation

By DAL WARRINGTON
Canadian Press Staff Writer
HALIFAX (CP)—Nova Scotia's
new Progressive Conservative Pre-
mier Robert L. Stanfield and Lib-
eral ex-premier Henry D. Hicks
are waging a running battle over
the state of the provincial treas-
ury.

The controversy shows signs of
becoming a subject of hot debate
at the first session of the newly-
elected legislature which opens
Feb. 27.

Premier Stanfield threw the first
stone. He issued a statement Fri-
day saying the province faces a

prospective deficit of more than
\$3,500,000 this year. He blamed ex-
cessive spending by the Hicks ad-
ministration before the govern-
ment changed hands Nov. 20. The
Liberals were defeated in an Octo-
ber election after 23 years in of-
fice.

LIBERAL REPLY
Opposition Leader Hicks replied
in a statement Sunday that no
such deficit was in sight" when
the Liberals left office. He said
Mr. Stanfield ignored the growing
revenues of the province.

The premier came back Mon-
day night with another statement

As for the election cost, Mr.
Hicks said Mr. Stanfield should
be well satisfied with this expendi-
ture. In any case the premier
knew it is not Nova Scotia prac-
tice to budget for elections in ad-
vance.

He accused the new premier of
"hypocrisy" and "half-truths."

Mr. Stanfield mentioned "bad
debts" in the mines department
that could increase the deficit still
further. He said the deficit "ought
not to have been and could have
been avoided."

"There is no indication that re-
venues will exceed the estimates
by enough to cover more than a
fraction of the prospective defi-
cit," the premier said.

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