

Delayed-Action Fuse Feared For Canada In British Strike

By THE CANADIAN PRESS
There's a delayed-action fuse on the British shipping strike as far as Canada is concerned. Immediate effects are not significant, but business spokesmen agree a long tieup would hit sharply at Canadian trade and port activities. At this early stage any forecasts are clouded by uncertainties, a Cross-Canada Survey by The Canadian Press indicates. A major, unknown quantity is how much cargo can be diverted from British to other shipping

in the event of a protracted tieup. It's very difficult to assess the situation yet but if it goes on for any length of time, it will become quite serious both from the import and export standpoints," said John L. Bonus of Toronto, general manager of the British-Canadian Trade Association.

SEES DIFFICULTIES
Norman Vickery of Toronto, general manager of the Canadian Importers Association, forecast a "very detrimental effect" on trade in a long-

run strike. He looked for particular difficulties in industrial supply lines coming from Britain. Canadian plants won't stay idle for lack of supplies and will look for them elsewhere," he said. One of the biggest United Kingdom concerns—British Motor Corp. of Canada—plans to use air freight if it runs short of automobile parts. "I don't think a month would bother us but if the strike goes on, we'll pay air-freight premiums rather than leave customers in the air," Canadian Vice-President Donald Pocock said. In Canadian ports, passenger business has been hit. Cunard so far has cancelled two sailings to Montreal—but effects have not yet shown up seriously on freight traffic. A spokesman in Montreal for

the British shipping line Furness-Withy, one of the world's largest, said it is not cancelling any ships yet and won't start worrying for a while. Frank H. Willis, manager of the Hamilton shipping company, agents for most British ships docking there, said the walkout has already cut out some business his company was expecting though he could not estimate the amount. Halifax and Saint John, N.B., now in the slack summer season when most Atlantic shipping goes to the big inland ports, foresaw no significant effects. In Vancouver, a National Harbors board spokesman said any repercussions would not be felt in that West-Coast port for a month to six weeks. In any case, only a small percentage of the 60 major shipping lines using Vancouver are British.

Federal Inquiry Okays Plan To Move Air Overhaul Base

By BEN WARD
OTTAWA (CP)—A four-year campaign by the Manitoba government to prevent closure of the Air Canada overhaul base at Winnipeg hit a major snag Thursday when a federal inquiry report endorsed the airline's decision to pull out in 1973. The 1,000-employee base now handles overhaul work on Air

Canada's 39 Viscount turboprops. The Viscounts are to go out of service in the next few years as the publicly-owned airline moves to all-jet operation. Air Canada jets are overhauled at Dorval, outside Montreal.

The report by inquiry Commissioner Don A. Thompson, a Winnipeg lawyer, rejected economic Manitoba arguments that the new DC-9 jets should be handled by the Winnipeg base. But it also came up with a suggestion that future owners of the Viscounts could keep the big overhaul operation going for some time after Air Canada's scheduled withdrawal. Mr. Thompson's plan would involve the establishment by Air Canada of a subsidiary company to run the base. As other airlines acquired the surplus Viscounts they would be obliged

to take shares in this company and guarantee it future overhaul work.

FAVORS PLAN
Transport Minister Pickersgill, who tabled the Thompson report in the Commons, told a press conference later the plan will be encouraged by the government. One of Mr. Thompson's suggestions was that Air Canada offer its Viscounts to Canadian carriers before seeking foreign buyers. Mr. Pickersgill said he had already taken this matter up with other cabinet ministers, adding: "We are going to ask Air Canada not to dispose of any Viscounts without prior consultation with the department of transport."

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This might mean Air Canada accepting a lower price for its surplus planes. But if such a step would better serve the national interest this should be done. Mr. Pickersgill also said he cannot believe that the big overhaul base will ever be scrapped. Developments in regional air traffic should ensure continued use of the facilities. The report suggested that Air Canada should sell its Viscounts in Canada without profit.

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STILL NEED PHONE GIRL?
VANCOUVER (CP)—The demand for telephone operators in the West is increasing despite new automatic switching. British Columbia has recruited 65 new operators every month in 1966 and the need is growing. **PREFERS HIGHER RIDE**
JOAN Macfarlane, 18, was judged this year's Cloverdale rodeo queen for her personality, looks and horsemanship. But she is more keen on flying and hopes to get her licence in June.

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LIBERAL

Gas Pocket Is Found In England

By HAROLD MORRISON
LONDON (CP)—A rich pocket of natural gas, first major discovery on British land, is reported by the subsidiary of a big Canadian company after three years of determined drilling on the Yorkshire moors.

The discovery, announced Thursday by Home Oil of Canada Ltd., hit the headlines in British newspapers and perked up British spirits, somewhat depressed by the seamen's strike and the lack of other buoyant news at home.

Some initial tests by Home Oil indicate its Yorkshire find—near the little village of Lockton seven miles west of the Scarborough resort community—may produce gas at the rate of up to 10,000,000 cubic feet a day, roughly about one per cent of Britain's needs. **ABANDONING WELLS**
The company is abandoning

five other wells in that region but is considering tapping new wells in the hope of further discoveries. It has leased almost 1,000,000 acres from British Petroleum, which has a half-interest in the Lockton well.

A Home Oil company official said the full extent of the Lockton find may be known next month when all tests are finally completed.

First signs of gas at the Lockton well were signalled April 24 but initial tests were inconclusive.

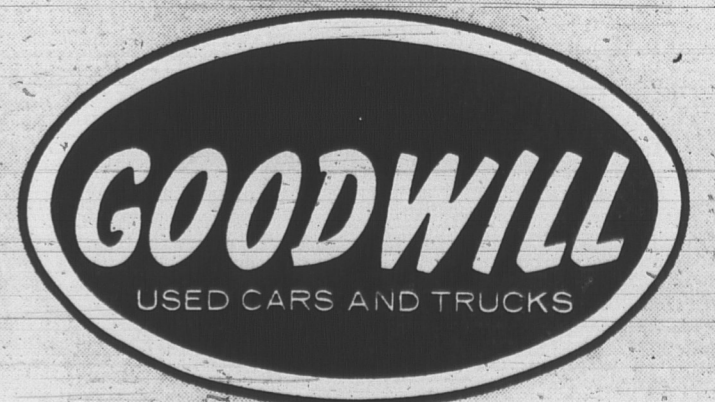


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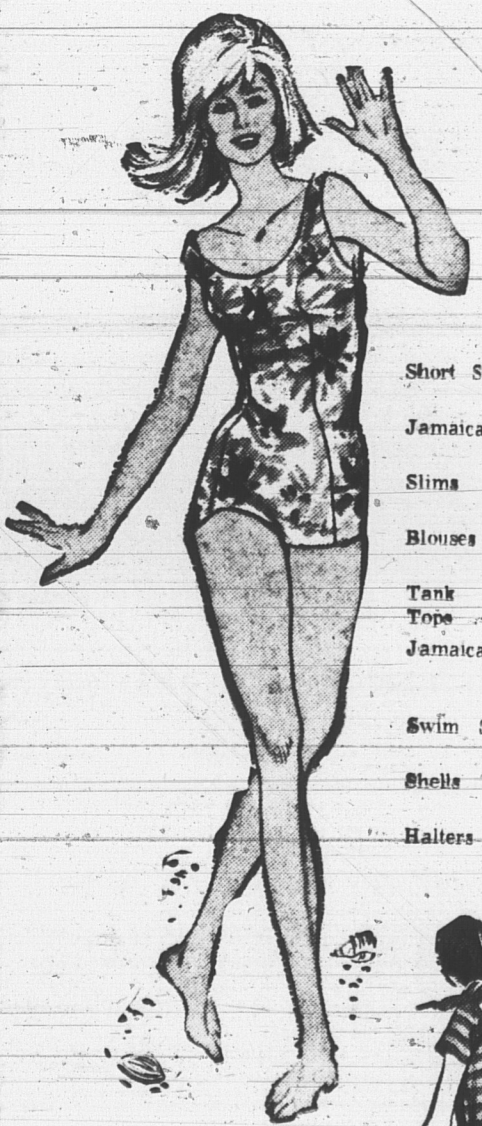
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