

Plebiscite To Determine School Unit No. 1 Issue

That a plebiscite will be held at an early date to determine the future of School Unit No. 1 was announced in the Legislature yesterday by Hon. Keith Clark, Minister of Education. The Minister made the statement in the course of his speech in the Draft Address.

The questions which will be asked on the ballot will be: 1. Do you want School Unit Number One broken up? Yes... No... Second question: If the Unit is continued, money may be voted: (a) As at present by the Trustees with the approval of the Minister of Education OR (b) By annual or special school meetings as provided elsewhere in the Act. Do you wish restoration of annual or special school meetings for the Unit District? Yes... No... In summing up his reasons for making this move, the Minister said:

"The system of the larger unit of school administration has found great favour elsewhere, not only in this nation, but in the United States of America as well. In this province legislation was enacted to provide for uniform valuations in certain school districts in 1948 and subsequently further legislation provided for the setting up of larger units of school administration in 1949. What is now known as School Unit No. 1 was formed on December 9th of the same year.

"It was hoped that this Unit would serve as a beginning of the larger unit system in this province and that other districts would follow with the advantages to education which have been found."

Continued on Page 15, Col 5

NINE DEAD, 12 INJURED WHEN FIRE SWEEPS SECTION OF MONTREAL APARTMENT BLOCK

White Paper Is Tabled

UK Air Defence Said Effective

By DAVE MASON
LONDON (AP)—Britain has "an effective air defence against what any potential enemy is at present able to bring against us," the government said in a white paper Wednesday night.

The RAF striking force to parry raiders at night was described as "better than anyone else in the world."

The white paper, issued following sharp Labor criticism of Britain's military aircraft program, said:

"The view that the services are equipped with obsolete aircraft dating from the last war is totally incorrect."

Drew Expected Back Today In Commons Seat

OTTAWA (CP)—George Drew, declaring himself fit, said Wednesday he is going back today to his Commons job of opposition leader and expects to be on hand every day from now on.

The 60-year-old chief of the Progressive Conservative party, out of action since meningitis hit him last Nov. 11, said to reporters:

"I feel as good as I look—a little better, I guess."

"But he said he expects to take things somewhat easy in the Commons for a while."

Home On Edward Street Is Guttered By Fire Last Night

Mrs. George S. MacLeod, an aged lady living alone at 62 Edward Street was rendered temporarily homeless when a fire which started at 7.15 last evening caused her hurried removal and completely gutted her residence. Some of the furniture was saved.

Mrs. MacLeod, who is hard of hearing, was not conscious of the fire until much headway had been gained, and then ran into difficulties in dialling the Fire Hall. The operator at central put the call through for her after slight delay, just as a neighbour put in a similar call.

Mrs. MacLeod was carried from the burning building by Windsor Brehaut and Earle Stewart in a dozed condition and suffering from shock. She was taken to the Brehaut home next door and shortly afterward was waited upon by Mr. Gordon MacDonald and Mrs. Evelyn Cadmore representing the Red Cross with an offer of any immediate assistance required. Further overtures will be made this morning by the Red Cross in this respect.

Later Mrs. MacLeod accepted the kind offer of Mr. and Mrs. Sutherland MacLean to accept the hospitality of their home until arrangements could be made for her future.

MONTREAL, (CP)—Nine persons died Wednesday night and a dozen or more injured in a fire that raged through the upper floors of the four-storey, 52-apartment Salaberry apartments on Sherbrooke street east.

Firemen gave the death toll more than three hours after the outbreak.

They said their search of the building, with the fire then well under control, had established the count at nine and they thought no more bodies would be found.

At least nine of the injured were taken to hospitals. Most of them were hurled from upper floors or in attempting to slide down knotted bed sheets and blankets.

Morgue officials said four bodies had been brought there. Two were women and one a man. The sex of the fourth had not been established.

There was no immediate identification of any of the dead.

The nine injured were taken to nearby hospitals. There were reports that others had been less seriously hurt and treated in nearby buildings.

Some of the injured were hurt in leaps from the third and fourth floors of the four-storey building. Others fell when knotted bed sheets parted as the apartment dwellers tried to slide to safety from the 54-apartment building.

All the injured were taken to hospitals. Their condition was not known immediately.

SLIDE TO SAFETY

Many of the residents of the building escaped by knotting bed sheets together and sliding to the ground.

Crowds in the street shortly after the fire broke out said they could hear trapped persons screaming frantically.

Roland Mongrain, who lives opposite the apartment building, said he saw a woman fall from the third floor, and about the same time firelight carried an aged woman to the street.

As the dead were brought out, last rites were given by the fire department chaplain.

Scottish Recluse Dies; Has Fortune In Canada

EDINBURGH (AP)—The dark lady of Cammo will never claim the fortune in cash she left lying idle in Canadian banks for 10 years.

She is dead.

And in death she attracted the spotlight she shunned in life.

Five banks shared through Canada drew attention to her Wednesday by publicly announcing plans for transferring the inactive cash—\$270,000—to the Bank of Canada for safe-keeping until she wanted it.

Inquiries disclosed Mrs. Margaret L. Maitland-Tennent, 95, was buried two weeks ago in secret beneath the lawn of her Cammo House mansion, four miles from here, where she had lived as a recluse for 35 years.

DEVELOP NEW TYPES

The report said Britain was "developing new types of bombers, fighters and naval aircraft to deal with the expected future armament of any potential enemy."

The newest RAF fighter, equipped with four 30-millimetre cannon, can deliver 10 times as much high explosive as a second as the Russian MIG fighter, the white paper said.

The MIG came into prominence during the Korean War when it was used by Communist Chinese and North Korean pilots.

Some opposition critics had singled out the Hunter jet fighter plane which was found to stallout when its guns were fired.

The white paper referred to "serious development troubles" in the Hunter, but said work is proceeding on the plane and that it compares favorably "with any fighter in the world."

Voices Strong Criticism Of Railway Application

"We are dealing with the transportation facilities of a Province, regardless of what the management of the Canadian National Railways call us," said Hon. B. Earle MacDonald, Minister of Health and Welfare, in commenting on the C.N.R. application before the Board of Transport Commissioners for an order to authorize the discontinuance of the present local railway passenger service on its Island division for eight months of the year.

A former employee of the Railway, Mr. MacDonald expressed strong opposition to the application in the course of his remarks on the Draft Address. "We are," he maintained, "still one of the ten Provinces of Canada and want to be treated as such. We are not dealing with the facilities of a branch line of some other province. The railway was built and is supposed to be maintained as a service for the public in peace and war."

What "passenger service," Mr. MacDonald asked, did the railway application refer to? "Because the applicants admit in substance of its application that the present local railway passenger service on this Division is performed entirely by mixed trains carrying freight, in effect the passenger service on the Island Division, for the past 25 years has been nothing more than a passenger coach or at times two, on the rear of a freight train. Yet people who travelled on the trains were forced to pay the same fare rate in this Province as they do in other provinces of Canada and us with the slow freight travel speed. Why Continued on Page 5 Col 1

Interest On N.H.A. Loans Cut Slightly

OTTAWA, (CP)—Maximum interest rate on insured "loans" granted under the National Housing Act will be reduced to 5 1/2 per cent from 5 3/4, effective today.

Works Minister Winters told the Commons Wednesday that the reduction also will apply to other types of loans under the act.

He said the reduced interest rates will apply only to loan applications approved from this morning on. The drop was in keeping with lower long-term interest rates on government securities.

JUMPED TO STREET

One of the injured was a 64-year-old woman, identified as Mrs. Alfred Desjardins. She was said to have jumped four stories to the street.

Others reported injured were: Denise Brouillard, 18; Jean Dupart, 26; Mrs. Walter Brouillard, 30; and Mrs. Walter Bonin, 38.

The three alarm fire brought nearby 50 pieces of equipment and 350 firemen from 22 stations. Extra details of police were called out.

The building is near the centre of the city and on one of the busiest east-west thoroughfares near St. Denis street. It is an old residential area.

Parliament At A Glance

By THE CANADIAN PRESS
Wednesday
Works Minister Winters announced maximum interest rate on insured loans under NHA will be reduced to 5 1/2 per cent, effective today.

H. W. Hurdidge (CCF—Kootenay West) urged a dominion-provincial conference on resources conservation.

Resources Minister Leasge rejected the proposal, saying the provinces must initiate such a conference.

Mervyn Johnson (CCF—Kindersley) accused Agriculture Minister Gardiner of "looking and procrastinating" in "delaying" the South Saskatchewan dam.

Senator Walter Aseltine said premature forecasts of bumper western crops hurt sales of Canadian wheat abroad.

The Commons continues debate on immigration. The Senate resumes the throne speech debate.

Fur Prices Firm, Bidding Active At Edmonton

EDMONTON, (CP)—Fur prices were firm and sales good as a result of active bidding at the mid-winter sale of Edmonton Fur Auction Sales Ltd. Wednesday.

Buyers showed some interest in lynx pelts for the first time in years. About 800 pelts were offered and a top price of \$19.25 was bid. Large and medium pelts brought \$12 to \$15.

The price range for large and large dark marten pelts was \$30 to \$37, highest in two years. Extra large and large light brought \$14 to \$20.

Total of 110,000 squirrel skins were offered and lots averaged 70 cents with a few selected pelts bringing 90 cents to \$1.

Extra large and large muskrat brought \$1.50 to \$1.76 and damaged and early caught 60 to 65 cents. A total of 6,000 skins were offered.

Extra large and large wild mink sold for \$34 to \$40 and mediums and smalls went for \$21 to \$30.

Cold, Exposure Caused Death of Small Boy

MONTREAL (CP)—Cold and exposure caused the death of 2 1/2-year-old Richard Guibeau, an autopsy report stated Wednesday, and the end came officially to the tragedy that brought hundreds of neighbors out in a search for the boy.

The autopsy report was made by Dr. Rosario Fontaine, provincial medic-legal expert. The inquest will be held today. Police said a 24-year-old man has been freed of suspicion in Richard's death.

The youngster's body was found in snowy wastes on the northern outskirts of the city Tuesday, more than 21 hours after he had disappeared from the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Guibeau.

New Comet Fleet Planned

LONDON (Reuters)—The government announced Wednesday that Britain plans to go ahead with production of a new Comet jet fleet for its airlines. The Comets will be improved, stronger and safer versions of the pioneer first models which will be scrapped.

Plans for putting the Comets, the world's first commercially operated jet airliners, into the air again were disclosed in the House of Commons by the minister of transport and civil aviation, John Boyd-Carpenter.

He predicted that the results of investigations into two crashes last year which took 66 lives and resulted in the Comets being grounded will "enable the Comet to be strengthened and made safe for future operations."

Sub Sighted Off Florida

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP)—Two coast guardsmen Wednesday reported sighting an unidentified submarine off Fort Pierce, Fla., but navy planes searching the area failed to find it.

Capt. C. L. Murphy, public information officer at the Key West naval base, said eastern sea frontier headquarters in New York indicated that if the object was a submarine, it was not an American one.

The coast guard station at Fort Pierce said two men in a 40-foot boat approached close to the object and reported "it was definitely a submarine."

Rubinstein Death Said Bungled Kidnap Attempt

By ARTHUR EVERETT
NEW YORK (AP)—Multi-millionaire Serge Rubinstein's sensational murder was bungled underworld kidnap plot, the district attorney's office said Wednesday. The killers were reported as good as named.

However, assistant district attorney Alexander Herman said no immediate arrests are in sight. He told reporters:

"It now looks like an underworld job, commonly known as a snatch... a kidnap for ransom that went wrong."

A thin, pint-sized limousine-for-hire driver, Herman Scholz, 50, may have provided the key to unlock the most baffling New York murder mystery in a decade. He, himself, was like a figure out of a wild paperback whodunit.

He said he hatched a kidnap-for-ransom plan a year or two ago, with the 46-year-old Rubinstein as his target. He shared his plans with unidentified mobsters. They were believed to have carried it off without him, although he may have been an advance finger man.

Scholz was held in \$25,000 bond as a material witness after Herman said in court:

"We feel his life could be in jeopardy from the underworld."

The Russian-born Rubinstein was strangled Jan. 27 in the ornate bedroom of his Fifth avenue mansion. A butler found his pyjama-clad body trussed with cord from a venetian blind and gagged with extra-wide adhesive tape.

Similar cord and tape were found in Scholz's home in Queens, detectives said.

Rubinstein's colorful life as a 44-year-old tycoon was detailed in a book published last year.

Continued on Page 2 Col 5

Defends City School Board From Extravagance Charge

Strong criticism of a City Council member who made a statement at the last meeting of the Council, was heard from Dr. W. J. P. MacMillan when he rose to speak on the Draft Address in the Legislature yesterday afternoon.

He was referring, he said, to the press of February 15 where one of the Council members was quoted as saying "he had very little faith in the City School Board in view of the Board's outrageous expenditure in the past."

"I have been on the School Board for many years," said Dr. MacMillan and the only thing for which the School Board should be criticized would be for not spending enough money. As a member of the Board of Trustees, I take my full responsibility in the building of the Queen Charlotte High School. It was badly needed and it is now a credit to the City."

The speaker took exception to a "press release," as he termed it, which led citizens to believe that the whole increase in taxation was due to the building of the new school. "I would like for some of these fellows who are criticizing the Board to show me a place where the School Board gets less of the tax dollar than in Charlottetown," he added.

"Some many say that the cost of education is high," said Dr. MacMillan.

Potato Farmer Fatally Injured

WOODSTOCK, N.B. (CP)—A 68-year-old potato farmer, Samuel Lee McGuire, was killed instantly Tuesday at Lower Wakefield, seven miles north of Woodstock, when pinned between a parked truck and a skidding car.

The driver of the truck had stopped to render aid to the operator of another truck which had overturned on slippery pavement.

Mr. McGuire was standing near the parked truck and was fatally injured when an oncoming car skidded into it.

Seized Romanian Legation Is Surrendered

By LYNN HEINZLERING
BERN, Switzerland (AP)—Three militant Romanian anti-Communist abandoned a dramatic occupation of the Romanian legation late Wednesday under threat of being blasted out. Sleepy-eyed and unshaven, they surrendered quietly to Swiss authorities.

Helmed police, troops and tank officers were on hand to stage an assault across the snow-covered grounds as the three, between 27 and 35 years old, hoisted their pistols and were hustled away in a Swiss patrol wagon to Bern's prison.

The handsome two-storey stone structure they seized from their Communist homeland's diplomats Monday night as a blow against communism reverted to charge d'affaires Emeric Stoffel and his staff. Torn up Communist propaganda literature littered the floors. Otherwise, police said, the damage from the 42-hour occupation was slight.

Continued on Page 2 Col 4

Airlift Work Assigned To Maritime Central Airways

A mammoth air-lift to take materials into the Arctic for the construction of the eastern section of the Dewline, (DEW, distant early warning), which is to be the furthest north of three radar lines designed for the defence of the North American continent, has been assigned Maritime Central Airways.

The materials and supplies will be flown into northern distribution points. New large aircraft have been purchased, some of which are four-motored British Yorks. The assignment will take two or three years to accomplish.

The movement of supplies and equipment awaits the completion of an aerial survey which is to start in a week or two.

The construction of the three lines of which Dewline is one, will require work in a country about which very little is known, that is inhabited only by Eskimos and where the normal mode of travel is by dog sled.

When questioned regarding this air-lift contract announcement recently made in Toronto, officials of the Maritime Central Airways here declined to comment.

Coming Events

- *Card party Central Royalty hall tonight, 8:30.
- *Auction, dance and pie social, Vernon Hall, Feb. 17th.
- *Crockinole party, New London school, Friday evening, Feb. 18.
- *Dance St. Andrew's Hall, Mt. Stewart Thursday, Feb. 17, 7:00.
- *Unloading car of coal at Millon Station, Norris Kilson.
- *Dance Thursday evening, South Rustico Hall, Rollie McKenzie Orchestra.
- *Don't forget Auction and Dance in Millview Hall, Friday, February 18th, at 8 o'clock. Millview Women's Institute.
- *13 bags 40% Hog Concentrate clearing at \$4.50. See R. M. A. Grocery Specials in this issue. W. I. Bowman.
- *Just arrived, Carload ground barley and oats; also barley oats, wheat, feed molasses, fish meal. Priced to move. R. L. Dickson, New Glasgow.
- *Skating Craupud rink tonight, 7:30. School sports Friday night, 7:30. Also hockey between Craupud Bantams and Charlottetown Bantams. Skating Friday afternoon 3 to 5.
- *Hockey North River rink tonight, Millon school team vs. Windsor school team at 7 o'clock. Millon Hornets vs. Parkdale at 8:30 sharp. Skate after, Carnival Feb. 18.

Speech Leaves Question In Air

Dulles Rejects Islands' Surrender

(By William Harcourt, Canadian Press Staff Writer)
NEW YORK, (CP)—State Secretary Dulles Wednesday night opposed surrender to Red China of those coastal islands still held by Nationalist China forces.

While the United States was not committed to defend them, Dulles implied that the U.S. would fight for the islands should Red China try to take them as a stepping stone to Formosa.

In a prepared address, which has been billed in advance as the answer to the question whether the U.S. would or would not defend the coastal islands of Quemoy and Matsu, Dulles did not mention either by name and left the question still clouded.

"It has been suggested that Nationalist China should surrender to the Chinese Communists the coastal positions which the Communists need to stage their announced attack on Formosa," Dulles said.

"It is doubtful that this would serve either the cause of peace or the cause of freedom."

Speech Leaves Question In Air

Speech Leaves Question In Air

He reviewed the events leading to the mutual defence treaty between the U.S. and Nationalist China on the protection of Formosa and the Pescadores.

While the United States "is firmly committed to the defence" of Formosa and the Pescadores, Dulles said, "it is not our policy to defend the coastal islands of Quemoy and Matsu, which are not committed to the defence of Formosa and the Pescadores."

Dulles' address, delivered to a dinner of the Foreign Policy Association, was in line with the U.S. policy of "keeping the enemy guessing."

He said:

"It is hardly to be expected that the Chinese Communists will renounce their ambitions. However, might they not renounce their efforts to realise their goals by force?"

He also touched on the recent shakeup among the rulers of Russia.

The upheaval which put Marshal Nikolai Bulganin in the premier's role was "an elemental personal struggle for power," he might also reflect a "basic policy difference" between the Russian Communist party and the Soviet government.

The distinction between the party and the government should be kept in mind.

"The time may come—I believe it will come—when Russians of stature will patriotically put first their national security and the welfare of their people. They will be unwilling to have that security and that welfare subordinated to the worldwide ambitions of international communism."

"Then there might be re-activated the historic friendship between our countries and our peoples."

Rescued Airmen Loses Right Leg

WINNIPEG (CP)—A sad postscript was added Wednesday to a dramatic northern rescue.

Capt. Thomas L. Pittman, 34-year-old United States Air Force officer found alive Tuesday in a snowdrift three days after a strato-jet bomber exploded 35,000 feet over northern Saskatchewan, had the lower part of his right leg amputated.

The leg was smashed in the blast. He parachuted to safety and landed on the broken limb. Doctors said the officer was in "surprisingly good condition."

To Ask Boost In Tariffs On Fruits And Vegetables

OTTAWA (CP)—The Canadian Horticultural Council will ask the federal government to boost tariffs on fruit and vegetables, particularly potatoes.

A resolution passed at the council's annual meeting Wednesday said that a "complete overhaul" of the tariff was necessary to combat the "unfair and unreasonable" competition from United States producers.

Growers said American producers harvest their fruit and vegetable crops earlier than Canadian producers, and flood Canadian markets with "left over" produce when Canadian producers are beginning their harvest.

Delegates said that under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade about 60 per cent of annual imports of fruit and vegetables enter Canada duty free. Potato growers were protected by a tariff of one-third of a cent a pound for only six weeks of the year.

Dulles Rejects Islands' Surrender

Dulles Rejects Islands' Surrender

U.S. forces helped Nationalist China evacuate the Tachen Islands, that this "created favorable conditions" for the drive to liberate Formosa.

"Thus the Chinese Communists have linked the coastal positions to the defence of Formosa. Accordingly we shall be alert to subsequent Chinese Communist actions, rejecting for ourselves any initiative of warlike deeds."

KEEP FOE GUESSING

Dulles' address, delivered to a dinner of the Foreign Policy Association, was in line with the U.S. policy of "keeping the enemy guessing."

He said:

"It is hardly to be expected that the Chinese Communists will renounce their ambitions. However, might they not renounce their efforts to realise their goals by force?"

He also touched on the recent

Dulles Rejects Islands' Surrender

Dulles Rejects Islands' Surrender

U.S. forces helped Nationalist China evacuate the Tachen Islands, that this "created favorable conditions" for the drive to liberate Formosa.

"Thus the Chinese Communists have linked the coastal positions to the defence of Formosa. Accordingly we shall be alert to subsequent Chinese Communist actions, rejecting for ourselves any initiative of warlike deeds."

KEEP FOE GUESSING

Dulles' address, delivered to a dinner of the Foreign Policy Association, was in line with the U.S. policy of "keeping the enemy guessing."

He said:

"It is hardly to be expected that the Chinese Communists will renounce their ambitions. However, might they not renounce their efforts to realise their goals by force?"

He also touched on the recent

Rescued Airmen Loses Right Leg

Rescued Airmen Loses Right Leg

WINNIPEG (CP)—A sad postscript was added Wednesday to a dramatic northern rescue.

Capt. Thomas L. Pittman, 34-year-old United States Air Force officer found alive Tuesday in a snowdrift three days after a strato-jet bomber exploded 35,000 feet over northern Saskatchewan, had the lower part of his right leg amputated.

The leg was smashed in the blast. He parachuted to safety and landed on the broken limb. Doctors said the officer was in "surprisingly good condition."



TORONTO (CP)—Minimum and maximum temperatures:

	Min.	Max.
Dawson	24b	15b
Vancouver	37	44
Edmonton	25	35
Calgary	21	46
Saskatoon	19	37
Regina	8	32
Winnipeg	12	29
Toronto	27	34
Ottawa	2	28
Montreal	14	27
Quebec	10	23
Fredericton	5	34
Saint John	20	30
Moncton	17	28
Charlottetown	17	25
Sydney	14	29
Yarmouth	24	32
St. John's	10	25

HALIFAX (CP)—The Dominion weather office here says a disturbance near Lake Ontario is moving eastward and is forecast to bring snow to southern Nova Scotia Thursday afternoon or evening. Fine weather is forecast for the remainder of the district.

Regional forecasts:

Prince Edward Island, eastern N.B. counties: Variable clouds; little change in temperature; northeast winds 15. Low-high at Charlottetown 20 and 27, Moncton 18 and 27.

St. John river valleys, Bay of Chaleur: Variable cloudiness; little change in temperature; easterly winds 15. Low-high at Fredericton 18 and 27, Saint John 20 and 27, Edmundton 10 and 25, Campbellton 10 and 25.

High tide today at Charlottetown at 7:07 a.m. and 5:15 p.m. Summerside tide eighteen minutes later than Charlottetown.

Sun rises today at 7:12 a.m. and sets at 5:43 p.m.