

Holdup Averted In Federal Bldg. Work

OTTAWA, (Special) — A threatened extensive delay and work stoppage on the new Federal Building at Charlottetown has been averted following a consultation between the Anglin-Norcross firm, general contractors for the building, and E. A. Gardner, chief engineer of the Department of Public Works.

Threat of a construction holdup came as a result of the excavation and foundation work on the building being finished ahead of schedule. It was learned Thursday from the office of Maj. Gen. H. A. Young, Deputy Minister of the Works Department. When the contractor was asked to go ahead with the structural steel work, it was found that the required quantity of steel, cut to specifications, was not immediately available.

Anxious to get ahead with the work before the cold sets in, engineers of the Anglin-Norcross firm came to Ottawa to discuss the dilemma with Architect Gardner. Plans of the building were carefully checked and technical modifications suggested. The modifications have been accepted and work on the steel superstructure will begin at a much earlier date than was thought possible some weeks ago.

As a result of the conference, the department now confidently expects the construction work to proceed without lay-offs except those which might be caused by weather. (Continued on Page 2 col. 8)

Heavy Earthquake Rocks Nevada; Damage Slight

RENO, Nev., (AP) — The third and heaviest earthquake since July 1952 rocked Nevada and rumbled into four other western states early Thursday. It caused only minor structural damage.

The severe quake centred its focus in the sparsely-populated desert about 70 miles northeast of the gambling town. Light aftershocks jiggled western Nevada through the day.

Its rolling waves shook the length of California and Nevada and also reached into Idaho, Oregon and Utah. Shocks were felt from San Diego to Boise, 800 miles apart; and San Francisco to Salt Lake City, 700 miles.

The first sharp tremor came in Reno at 8:07 a. m. PST and two to three minutes later at more distant points.

NO CASUALTIES It was so severe that some recording instruments were knocked out. San Diego seismologist Fred Robinson said the east-west component of his seismograph was displaced and he was amazed to learn there were no reports of casualties. The state capitol building at Carson City, 30 miles south of Reno, apparently had the most structural damage. Big chunks of ornamental frieze crashed down from the ceiling of the assembly chamber in the 87-year-old building. Dozens of small cracks opened in the walls. Some oddities also were reported: a door, jammed tight for many years at the capitol building, suddenly swung open, and \$3,000 worth of liquor stock at a store at Frenchman Station, far from the quake centre, toppled over.

Coming Events

- Victoria Christmas concert, Dec. 22.
Card Party, Clinton Hall, December 17th.
Unloading car of Royal Feed at Milton today. Edison Mutch.
Christmas concert, Vernon Hall, Dec. 20.
New Dominion Christmas Concert in Afton Hall, December 18th.
Long River School Concert, December 21st.
Regular Saturday night Dance, St. Peter's Hall, Measer's Orchestra.
South Melville Christmas Concert, Tuesday, December 21st.
Park Corner Concert, December 22nd, instead of December 23rd.
Christmas Concert, South Granville School, December 20th.
Kelly's Cross Christmas Concert, Wednesday, December 22nd, time 8:15. Dance after.
York Point School Concert, North River Hall, December 20th.
Christmas Concert, Victoria Cross School, Tuesday, December 21st.
Southport school concert, Friday, Dec. 17, Spring Park Hall.
Reserve Wednesday, Dec. 22 for Eldon Christmas concert in Belfast hall, Curtain 8 o'clock.
Dunstaffnage School, December 17th, at 7:45 p. m., public meeting sponsored by Millicove Calf Club. Prizes, sale of candy.
Come to the Carleton Siding School Concert in Auditorium, December 22nd. Admission 40c and 25c.
A directors meeting of the North River Community Club will be held in the North River Hall, Friday, Dec. 17 at 8 p. m. Special A. C. MacEachern, secretary.
Attention hog producers in Elmira, North Lake, East Point, South Lake, Kingsboro and East Baltic. Mr. Gordon Robertson will be loading hogs at Elmira for Canada Packers Ltd., every Monday beginning Dec. 13th. Please note this change from Tuesday.
Our Stores will be open each evening beginning December 20th, until Christmas and closed Monday, December 21st. We will be closed every night except Saturday, beginning January 3rd, 1955, until further notice. Waddell Bros. and Parker Canfield, Crapaud.
Shur-Gain Amateur Cavalcade in Belfast Hall, Tuesday, January 11th. Sponsored by Point Prim W. I. Please send entries before January 10th to Mrs. William MacRae, Point Prim.
Attention Morell and Vicinity. The romantic adventure of the year. Walt Disney's story of "Robin Hood." An all live action picture. Starring Richard Todd and Joan Rice. You'll feel its excitement. Robin Hood will rob you of your cares—reward you with Kings ransom in adventure. Showing at Morell tonight only. Show time 7 and 9 p. m.

CANADIAN PLAN FOR ATLANTIC UNITY PRESENTED TO NATO COUNCIL AT PARIS

Live Mine Gives Fishermen Nightmare Voyage To Port

CESANATIOO, Italy, (Reuters) — more than 600 pounds of high explosives—enough to tear a hole in a battleship. An Italian fishing boat with a crew of seven crept into port here Thursday after a nightmare journey with a live magnetic mine on board. The fishermen pulled the mine aboard in their nets Wednesday night and it slipped into the hold with their haul of fish. Ciro Zoffoli, skipper of the fishing boat, said: "We were afraid to touch it. So we left it among the fish. But the heavy seas rolled the mine from one side of the hold to the other. Every time we heard it clang against the sides of the hold we held our breath." But the boat entered Cesanatioo harbor safely, and two army experts neutralized the mine. The crew then heard that it contained

Northern N. Y. Has 10-Inch Snowfall

MALONE, N.Y. (AP)—Northern New York shivered under a blanket of snow as deep as 10 inches in places Thursday. Power failures and plugged roads caused at least 22 schools to close. Canton, about 18 miles south of the St. Lawrence river, was without electricity, and St. Lawrence University shut down, sending its students home early for the Christmas vacation.

Anglican Bishop of Kootenay Dies

CRANBROOK, B. C. (CP)—Right Rev. Frederick Patrick Clark, bishop of the Anglican diocese of Kootenay, died suddenly here Thursday. Bishop Clark, 45, whose home was in Nelson, B. C., was making Christmas visits to East Kootenay parishes in his diocese. He died after suddenly taking ill at Christ church rectory.

Reveal Results Of X-ray Examination Of The Pope

VATICAN CITY (AP) — X-ray plates show the Pope is suffering from a hernia of the esophagus—"small importance"—as well as gastritis, his personal physician said Thursday night. This means there is an abnormal bulge in the tube which carries food from the throat to the stomach and that the stomach is inflamed. Dr. Riccardo Galeazzi-Lisi told of the results of an exhaustive study of 36 plates used in the first x-ray examination of the 78-year-old head of the Roman Catholic Church, conducted in the Pope's Vatican apartment, Thursday morning. Fears that he had an ulcer were set at rest. And the idea of immediate surgery might be needed was ruled out. Additional x-rays of the lower intestinal tract were made in the late afternoon. Doctors said they showed nothing abnormal.

Strangler Makes New Appearance

TORONTO (CP) — An elusive night-time strangler terrorized Toronto women Thursday following reports of two attacks in the last two days. Extra police were ordered out for street patrol. Special escorts were organized for women working nights. Detectives questioned loiterers and issued a plea for quick reports on all suspicious-looking persons. An expectant mother and a youthful mother of four were the latest reported attacked. Both escaped unhurt.

Clear Debris Below Library

Workmen clear debris left by the collapse of the main floor of the Parliament Library. This picture shows the basement below the library where the floor fell after a masonry arch gave way. Six workmen were injured, one seriously. (CP Photo).

French Told To Kill Arms Deal

MOSCOW (AP)—In a blunt note to the French, the Kremlin threatened Thursday to cancel the French-Soviet mutual aid pact if Paris ratifies the agreements to arm West Germany. It said France would bear full responsibility in this event. The French National Assembly begins debate on ratification Monday.

Kremlin Issues Blunt Warning

By RICHARD KASISCHKE PARIS, (CP)—A Canadian design for an Atlantic pact, stressing groceries as well as guns, and tariffs instead of military targets, was placed before top NATO officials. Toronto-born Roy Thomson, whose newspaper interests span the Atlantic, presented the document, styled "a declaration of Atlantic unity," in a ceremony at NATO headquarters. Greek Foreign Minister Stephanos Stephanopoulos, chairman of the council of ministers, and Lord Ismay, NATO secretary-general, accepted the five-point declaration on NATO's behalf.

Urges Closer Atlantic Unity

By PATRICK NICHOLSON PARIS, France — The appalling ignorance of the public about the economic advantages of the NATO alliance is attributable to the inaction of newspaper publishers and editors, Roy Thomson told a press conference here Thursday night. He pleaded for more effective integration of the Atlantic community along the lines recently advocated by Prime Minister St. Laurent. This publisher of newspapers in Canada, the States and Great Britain, which he has himself consistently supported this Canadian vision in international co-operation, was introduced by Lord Ismay as his guest at the press conference.

Port Strike Threatens N. Y.

NEW YORK (AP)—The International Longshoremen's Association Ind., whose membership recently turned down a proposed work contract, announced Thursday it is again contemplating a strike in the port of New York. The independent union's wage scale committee issued a statement saying it was leaving it to the discretion of the international president when negotiations are to be called off and a strike called.

Shifts Made In Montreal Police Force; One Surprise

MONTREAL (CP)—Two shifts, one a surprise and the other a formally, occurred in the Montreal police force Thursday as the executive committee studied the department. Wilfrid Bourdon, assistant director of police and chief of detectives suddenly resigned and his decision was promptly accepted by the committee. There had been no hint of the resignation of Bourdon, a veteran of nearly 32 years on the force. The committee, just as promptly gave official blessing to Patrice (Pax) Plante as an assistant director of police. Plante is returning to the post from which he was bounced six years ago for "insubordination" by Police Director J. Albert Langlois, currently on leave of absence.

Epidemic Of Measles In Nfld.

ST. JOHN'S, Nfld., (CP) — An epidemic of measles is sweeping across Newfoundland and unless there is a quick change, hundreds of children will eat their Christmas dinner in bed. The number of reported cases jumped to 804 Thursday but health officials say this isn't a true picture. They estimate between one-third and one-sixth of the cases are reported so the actual number of cases probably is more than 3,000. The epidemic is confined mainly to larger communities and preschool age children. It has been gaining momentum for the last month and there is no sign of it abating. Four children have died from measles since the epidemic began, but health officials say most other cases are mild.

Veteran Of Korea Killed

CAMP BORDEN, Ont. (CP) — Lieut. M. F. Goldie of the Royal Canadian Regiment, a veteran of the Korean War, was killed instantly Thursday when a mortar bomb exploded prematurely at his army base. He was instructing an officer - candidate group at the time. A sergeant instructor was wounded. His name was withheld pending notification of next of kin. Lieut. Goldie, a little more than two years ago, was mentioned in dispatches for his part in an action at Korea's Little Gibraltar. Goldie, originally from Pembroke, Ont., participated in his company's Oct. 23, 1952 recapture of a Little Gibraltar spur which the Chinese sniped off after laying down a pounding artillery barrage which disorganized the defences.

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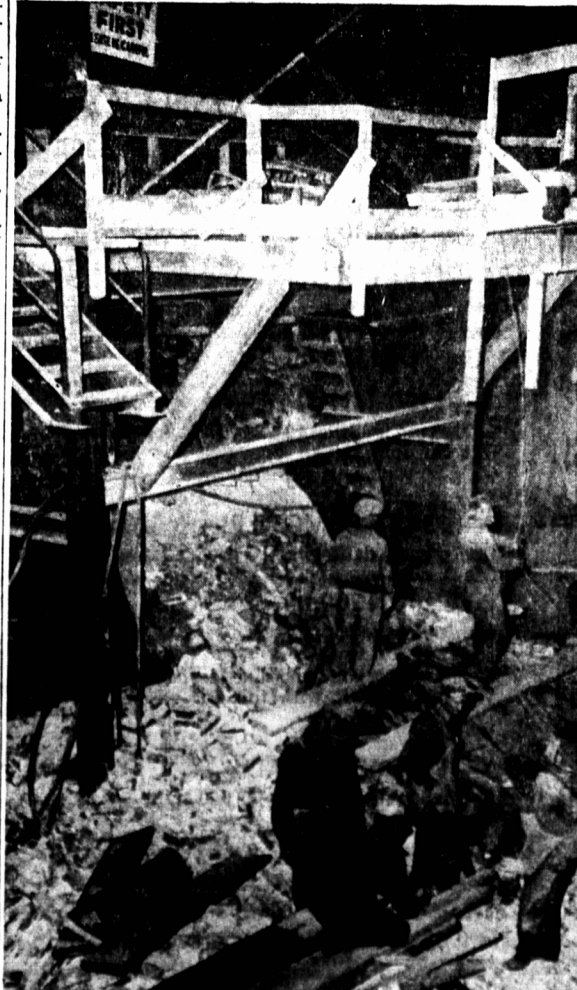
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6 MORE SHOPPING DAYS AN XMAS GIFT BOUGHT IS WORTH TWO STILL ON THE COUNTER? Illustration of a person with a shopping bag.

Table with 2 columns: Location and Minimum and maximum temperatures. Locations include Dawson, Vancouver, Victoria, Edmonton, Calgary, Regina, Winnipeg, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec, Fredericton, St. John, Moncton, Halifax, Charlottetown, Sydney, Yarmouth, St. Johns.

TORONTO (CP)—Minimum and maximum temperatures: Dawson 14, 22; Vancouver 35, 44; Victoria 37, 44; Edmonton 21, 47; Calgary 27, 48; Regina 25, 32; Winnipeg 23, 28; Toronto 26, 33; Ottawa 25, 25; Montreal 29, 30; Quebec 30, 28; Fredericton 32, 37; St. John 38, 41; Moncton 40, 42; Halifax 40, 43; Charlottetown 39, 43; Sydney 42, 42; Yarmouth 42, 44; St. Johns 37, 58. HALIFAX (CP)—The Dominion public weather office here says a disturbance centred in the Gulf of St. Lawrence is moving away from the district. Colder and drier air is moving in from the northwest. Snowflurries are occurring in most of the district, but there will be gradual clearing from the west as the air becomes drier. Regional forecasts: Prince Edward Island: Cloudy with a few snowflurries clearing in afternoon; much colder; northwest winds 15. Low-high at Charlottetown 25 and 30. Bay of Chaleur and New Brunswick: Scattered snowflurries, clearing during morning; colder; northwest winds 15 becoming light by evening. Low-high at Moncton 20 and 30, Fredericton and Saint John 15 and 35, Edmundston and Campbellton 10 and 30. High tide today at Charlottetown at 3:42 a. m. and 4:29 p. m. Sun rises today at 7:46 a. m. and sets at 4:32 p. m.