



AT THE HEIGHT OF THE BLAZE

Fire roars through the roof of the Market Building early this morning as City firemen fight a losing battle. The blaze broke through the roof about 1 a.m., an hour and a half after the alarm was sounded. Shortly after this picture was taken the peaks of both the east and west ends collapsed. Fireman Claude Field was injured in the fall of masonry from the east end. He was taken to hospital said to be suffering from injuries to his lower back.

Ch'town Market Building Destroyed By Fire Today

Cabinet Cancels Increases In Railway, Phone Rates

OTTAWA (CP) — The federal government Tuesday cancelled increases in railway and telephone rates recently authorized by the board of transport commissioners.

The cabinet action covered a 3.8 per cent hike in railway freight rates and a three-per-cent boost for Bell Telephone Company of Canada in local and long distance phone charges in Ontario and Quebec.

The cabinet, however, ruled against eight provinces who had asked that a four-per-cent freight rate increase, put into effect Jan. 1, 1957, also be cancelled.

The announcement also said the government has decided to direct the transport board in future to disregard payments into tax equalization reserve funds as expenses in determining rates.

A statement from Prime Minister Diefenbaker's office said this was done "because of the uncertainty as to whether and when such reserves will need to be drawn down for the payment of taxes in future years and the inequity of imposing upon rate payers at this time the full cost of this distance and uncertain contingency."

The prime minister's statement said, however, that the cabinet "decided that the level of freight rates that went into effect at that time, and is now in effect, was justified on other grounds including the length of time it had been in effect before the petition was made" two weeks ago.

The cabinet has suspended the increases until May 1 pending the appeals.

As far as freight rate experts here could recall, this was the first time since 1918 that a general rate increase had been suspended pending an appeal to the cabinet. There have been various appeals to the cabinet and to the supreme court of Canada, but none in which a board-authorized increase was held up pending judgment.

Of 59 appeals to the cabinet against transport board decisions since the board was set up in 1904, the cabinet has allowed only three before Tuesday. The last was in the early 1920s when the cabinet overruled a board decision on Crownsnest Pass grain rates. However, in 14 cases the cabinet has referred appeals back to the board with instructions to alter its decision in part—the last such case being on a 21-per-cent rate increase in 1948.

The Lord Selkirk draws 11 feet of water and the water over the bar at the present time is only twelve feet. With this situation in existence, it was thought inadvisable to risk navigation.

Northumberland Ferries Limited state that the M. V. Dunning will go on the run as scheduled on the first day of May and should the delay in getting the Selkirk into operation be longer than anticipated, the Prince of Wales will be pressed into service.

It has been explained that during a season of heavy ice, sand does not accumulate at the Harbour mouth but this year the absence of ice allowed about three feet to pile up.

The Federal Department of Public Works in Charlottetown discovered the small sand bar about ten days ago and on their advice, the ferry will be tied up until the underwater obstruction has been removed by a Department Dredge.

District Engineer Clive Currie said yesterday the work of removing the sand bar will take only a couple of days and at the most, the ferry should go into operation within a week after its scheduled starting time.

MONCTON, (CP) — Howard Mann, executive manager of the Maritimes Transportation Commission, Tuesday night welcomed the government's decision to refuse a 3.6 per cent freight rate to Canadian railroads.

"The decision means much to the Atlantic Provinces where, as in the west, rail transportation costs are so important because they are practically inescapable."

"The railways and ourselves had a fair and thorough hearing before the cabinet. Both sides were able to state their case fully and the decision has gone in our favor."

MONCTON (CP) — A meeting of the seventy-eight member board of directors of the Atlantic Provinces' Economic Council was held in Moncton Tuesday.

Nelson Mann, executive manager of the council, said the Industrial Development Bank, loan boards of governments, banks, trust companies and the credit unions have "caught the new feeling of confidence in the Maritimes."

He said they are working in a manner which "expresses a new feeling of concern and understanding towards the economic needs of the Maritime region and the many individual needs of the people living in the Maritime Provinces."

The board of directors met in conjunction with the Atlantic Food Show and Convention which has been in progress in Moncton during the past two days.

Spectacular Blaze Broke Out At 11:30 In Basement

Fire spread through the Charlottetown Market Building last night and at time of going to press, it appeared that the prominent landmark in the centre of the City was doomed.

Built in the early part of the present century, the market building was of sandstone construction. Within recent years it was completely remodelled to contain the P. E. I. Travel Bureau, The Island Motor Transport Bus Terminal as well as Civic Centre. In the eastern end of the building were Roop's Meat Market, the public market stalls and an egg candling station as well as the City fish market.

The upper part of the building consisted mainly of the Empire formerly the Old Strand Theatre used in late years by Little Theatre Groups.

The fire was discovered by employees of the C.N.R. Telegraph Office who noticed smoke coming from the basement windows about 11:20. Firemen were on the job immediately but were hampered in their efforts because of the small openings afforded by the basement windows and by the dense clouds of smoke which completely enveloped the lower part of the building.

Every available piece of equipment was brought into service by the Fire Department but as time went by it became apparent that they were fighting a losing battle.

At one a. m. flames broke through the roof and the illumination there from could be seen all over the city. A strong south westerly wind continued to blow and for a time the old Post Office Building and the Public Library were in immediate danger.

As the fire continued to rage out of control, firemen turned their efforts to protecting the adjacent buildings.

Little could be learned as to the amount of insurance coverage carried by the City which owns the building but Councillor Bill Boyles who is chairman of the public property committee ventured "the opinion 'it is not enough.'"

The Travel Bureau is reported to have had a large supply of Literature in stock and the loss to this Department of the Government will be great, especially at this time of year.

The loss to the Bus Terminal will be in its temporary displacement and in office equipment.

the amount of insurance coverage carried by the City which owns the building but Councillor Bill Boyles who is chairman of the public property committee ventured "the opinion 'it is not enough.'"

The Travel Bureau is reported to have had a large supply of Literature in stock and the loss to this Department of the Government will be great, especially at this time of year.

The loss to the Bus Terminal will be in its temporary displacement and in office equipment.

the amount of insurance coverage carried by the City which owns the building but Councillor Bill Boyles who is chairman of the public property committee ventured "the opinion 'it is not enough.'"

The Travel Bureau is reported to have had a large supply of Literature in stock and the loss to this Department of the Government will be great, especially at this time of year.

The loss to the Bus Terminal will be in its temporary displacement and in office equipment.

the amount of insurance coverage carried by the City which owns the building but Councillor Bill Boyles who is chairman of the public property committee ventured "the opinion 'it is not enough.'"

The Travel Bureau is reported to have had a large supply of Literature in stock and the loss to this Department of the Government will be great, especially at this time of year.

The loss to the Bus Terminal will be in its temporary displacement and in office equipment.

the amount of insurance coverage carried by the City which owns the building but Councillor Bill Boyles who is chairman of the public property committee ventured "the opinion 'it is not enough.'"

The Travel Bureau is reported to have had a large supply of Literature in stock and the loss to this Department of the Government will be great, especially at this time of year.

The loss to the Bus Terminal will be in its temporary displacement and in office equipment.

the amount of insurance coverage carried by the City which owns the building but Councillor Bill Boyles who is chairman of the public property committee ventured "the opinion 'it is not enough.'"

The Travel Bureau is reported to have had a large supply of Literature in stock and the loss to this Department of the Government will be great, especially at this time of year.

The loss to the Bus Terminal will be in its temporary displacement and in office equipment.

the amount of insurance coverage carried by the City which owns the building but Councillor Bill Boyles who is chairman of the public property committee ventured "the opinion 'it is not enough.'"

The Travel Bureau is reported to have had a large supply of Literature in stock and the loss to this Department of the Government will be great, especially at this time of year.

The loss to the Bus Terminal will be in its temporary displacement and in office equipment.

Separate Talks In Moscow Is Big 3 Decision

PARIS (Reuters) — The Moscow ambassadors of the Western big three will hold separate talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko rather than accept "the principle of parity" in East-West negotiations, a French foreign ministry spokesman said Tuesday.

Britain, the United States and France had objected to the time-consuming separate negotiations which the Soviet Union insisted on in preparing for East-West summit talks.

Russia last Saturday insisted either on separate talks or an enlarged conference, suggesting the addition of Poland and Czechoslovakia for a round-table preparatory conference.

The French spokesman said the Western powers are not hostile to other powers attending.

"But we will never admit parity," he said.

Veteran R. N. Admiral Dies

LONDON (Reuters) — Admiral Sir Sydney Robert Fremantle, third oldest admiral in the Royal Navy, died here Tuesday aged 90.

His great-grandfather fought with Lord Horatio Nelson at the Battle of Trafalgar.

Sir Sydney entered the navy in 1881 and for some time was a fellow midshipman with the late King George V. He retired in 1923.

The navy's oldest admiral is Sir Dudley de Chair, 93.

Music Festival Classes Begin

Flashing multi-colored tartans and ballet skirts and the colorful costumes of square dance teams contrasted sharply with the sober black and white minstrel costumes of the youthful tap dancers, as the first section of the 13th edition of Prince Edward Island's annual Musical Festival swung into action yesterday.

Thirteen of the dance classes scheduled for this week were completed in three sessions, the first commencing at the auditorium of Birchwood High School at 9:00 a.m. and the last session at Prince of Wales College shortly before midnight.

Highest mark earned in the day's competitions went to the Junior Square Dance team representing the local Y.M.C.A. for their performance in Class 234A, restricted to competitors 12 years old and under, the "Y" entry was awarded a mark of 95. Other groups placing in the night session competition were St. Vincent's Orphanage, Groupe B, second, with a mark of 91, and the Celtic Square Dancers of Charlottetown, third, with a mark of 88.

All classes were adjudicated by Mrs. Roger Fink of Halifax, Nova Scotia.

BEST SEEN Speaking of Class 234A, Mrs. Fink said that for this age group, they were the best she had seen in Canada.

Square dance groups must be careful not to crowd themselves on the stage, she said. They should observe "good spacing" and center themselves properly in the stage area. They should exhibit a happy, carefree spirit, and not be "over-anxious."

Tap dancers performing in pairs of groups should pay particular attention to their "timing", the adjudicator said.

"When one of a group or a (Continued on page 2 Col. 4)

Big Traffic Jam In Halifax

HALIFAX (CP) — Thousands of motorists tangled in one of Halifax's worst traffic jams during the evening rush hour Monday. The snarl resulted from closing of the Kempt Road exit to the city by an overpass construction job.

Drivers trying to get home over detour routes blocked streets in the northwest end of town. Some said they were an hour travelling a distance they normally do in 15 minutes.

Police said things will be tough until the overpass is completed in about five months.

Strike Faces C. P. R. Within Two Weeks, Union Says

MONTREAL (CP) — The firemen's union Tuesday threatened a nation-wide strike of the Canadian Pacific Railway "within two weeks" over the long-standing diesel-firemen dispute.

The threat came after CPR president N. R. Crump said flatly the railway will start removing firemen from diesel engines in yard and freight services May 11, as previously announced.

The 9,000-member union claimed it would get full support from other railway unions if a strike is ordered, crippling the railway from coast to coast as it did for nine days in January, 1957.

The union's threat—cushioned only by the possibility of further negotiations with the CPR on the problem—was made after a 95-minute private meeting between Mr. Crump and H. E. Gilbert of Cleveland, international president of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen (CLC).

At a press conference later, Mr. Crump also claimed loyalty from other railway unions if a strike is called.

CONTINUE TO OPERATE "The Canadian Pacific will continue to operate the railway if the heads of the firemen's union order another strike," he said.

Decision Is Welcomed

MONCTON, (CP) — Howard Mann, executive manager of the Maritimes Transportation Commission, Tuesday night welcomed the government's decision to refuse a 3.6 per cent freight rate to Canadian railroads.

"The decision means much to the Atlantic Provinces where, as in the west, rail transportation costs are so important because they are practically inescapable."

"The railways and ourselves had a fair and thorough hearing before the cabinet. Both sides were able to state their case fully and the decision has gone in our favor."

Says Maritimers Resent Low Cattle But High Beef Prices

FREDERICTON (CP) — Maritimers resent the fact that they get less for their cattle and yet have to pay more for their beef than do Canadians living in the central provinces, spokesmen for Atlantic co-operatives said Tuesday.

Roy Grant, assistant manager of Maritime Co-operative Services Limited, told the royal commission on price spreads there is an "unfair price spread" being maintained "between this area and Upper Canada."

Atlantic livestock producers found that when they shipped cattle to the packers they received less payment than did central Canadian farmers shipping to plants there. Yet Atlantic consumers were charged more for beef than those in central provinces.

For example, last January a pound of sirloin steak cost 97 cents at Halifax and \$1 at St. John's, Nfld., but only 89 cents at Montreal and Winnipeg.

RAISES QUALITY QUESTION Commission member Malcolm Drummond to Guelph, Ont., questioned whether the quality of livestock produced in the Maritimes had anything to do with the situation.

"The price is still low here on equal grades," Mr. Grant said. The Maritimes produced only about one-half of its livestock needs. The remainder had to be imported from other areas.

RAISES QUALITY QUESTION

Commission member Malcolm Drummond to Guelph, Ont., questioned whether the quality of livestock produced in the Maritimes had anything to do with the situation.

"The price is still low here on equal grades," Mr. Grant said. The Maritimes produced only about one-half of its livestock needs. The remainder had to be imported from other areas.

Mr. Grant said he is sure that if the co-operatives could get

HAVE MOST DOCTORS

LONDON (AP) — Moscow Radio said Tuesday the Soviet Union now leads the world in total number of doctors and the ratio of medical men to the rest of the population. The broadcast said the U.S.S.R. had 346,000 doctors at the end of 1957, or 17 per 10,000 of population.

Selkirk Sailing Is Delayed By Wood Islands Sand Bar

Sand which has accumulated during the winter at the entrance to Wood Island Harbour will prevent the new ferry, Lord Selkirk from going on the run as scheduled on the first of May.

The Lord Selkirk draws 11 feet of water and the water over the bar at the present time is only twelve feet. With this situation in existence, it was thought inadvisable to risk navigation.

Northumberland Ferries Limited state that the M. V. Dunning will go on the run as scheduled on the first day of May and should the delay in getting the Selkirk into operation be longer than anticipated, the Prince of Wales will be pressed into service.

It has been explained that during a season of heavy ice, sand does not accumulate at the Harbour mouth but this year the absence of ice allowed about three feet to pile up.

RUSSIA REJECTS INSPECTION PLAN

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. (CP) — Russia Tuesday rejected a United States proposal for mutual inspection of the Arctic regions as a "diversionary measure," and called instead for consideration of such "urgent problems" at a summit conference rather than within the United Nations.

An attempt by neutral Sweden to bring the two opposing sides

RUSSIA REJECTS INSPECTION PLAN

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. (CP) — Russia Tuesday rejected a United States proposal for mutual inspection of the Arctic regions as a "diversionary measure," and called instead for consideration of such "urgent problems" at a summit conference rather than within the United Nations.

An attempt by neutral Sweden to bring the two opposing sides

APEC DIRECTORS HOLD MEETING

MONCTON (CP) — A meeting of the seventy-eight member board of directors of the Atlantic Provinces' Economic Council was held in Moncton Tuesday.

Nelson Mann, executive manager of the council, said the Industrial Development Bank, loan boards of governments, banks, trust companies and the credit unions have "caught the new feeling of confidence in the Maritimes."

He said they are working in a manner which "expresses a new feeling of concern and understanding towards the economic needs of the Maritime region and the many individual needs of the people living in the Maritime Provinces."

The board of directors met in conjunction with the Atlantic Food Show and Convention which has been in progress in Moncton during the past two days.

Dr. Andrew Stewart of Edmonton, Alberta, chairman of the Royal Commission on Price Spreads of Food Products along with the seven other members of the Commission arrived in Charlottetown last evening. They will begin hearings in the City Council Chambers this morning at 10 o'clock. Seen left to right, are: Howard MacKichan, Halifax; Romeo Martin, Montreal; Cleve Kidd, Toronto; Mrs. Dorothy Walton, Toronto; Dr. Andrew Stewart, Dr. W. M. Drummond, Guelph, Ont.; Bernard Courvet, Montreal, Dr. J. A. Dawson, Ottawa. Dr. Dawson is of Island parentage. He is on leave from the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa to serve as Secretary of the Commission. Hearings of the Commission have already been held in all provinces except Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland. Only two briefs will be heard by the Commission in Charlottetown. The Federation of Agriculture Brief will be presented by the President, Colin Waugh, Wilmot Valley. The second brief will be that of the P. E. I. Co-operative Union, presented by Donald A. MacDonald, President. At 12:30 today Dr. Stewart and the members of the Commission will be guests of the Prince Edward Island Government at a luncheon to be held at the Charlottetown Hotel. Next stop will be Halifax and then on to St. John's, Newfoundland.

Dr. Andrew Stewart of Edmonton, Alberta, chairman of the Royal Commission on Price Spreads of Food Products along with the seven other members of the Commission arrived in Charlottetown last evening. They will begin hearings in the City Council Chambers this morning at 10 o'clock. Seen left to right, are: Howard MacKichan, Halifax; Romeo Martin, Montreal; Cleve Kidd, Toronto; Mrs. Dorothy Walton, Toronto; Dr. Andrew Stewart, Dr. W. M. Drummond, Guelph, Ont.; Bernard Courvet, Montreal, Dr. J. A. Dawson, Ottawa. Dr. Dawson is of Island parentage. He is on leave from the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa to serve as Secretary of the Commission. Hearings of the Commission have already been held in all provinces except Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland. Only two briefs will be heard by the Commission in Charlottetown. The Federation of Agriculture Brief will be presented by the President, Colin Waugh, Wilmot Valley. The second brief will be that of the P. E. I. Co-operative Union, presented by Donald A. MacDonald, President. At 12:30 today Dr. Stewart and the members of the Commission will be guests of the Prince Edward Island Government at a luncheon to be held at the Charlottetown Hotel. Next stop will be Halifax and then on to St. John's, Newfoundland.

CELTIC SQUARE DANCERS LAST NIGHT



Placing third with a mark of 83 in Class 234A, were the Celtic Square Dancers, a young double foursome from Charlottetown. Shown on stage in costume are: Murray, Keith Coffin, Heather Burke and Tommy Burke. The 12 team competition was adjudicated during the evening session of yesterday's Musical Festival competitions held at Prince of Wales College auditorium.

Placing third with a mark of 83 in Class 234A, were the Celtic Square Dancers, a young double foursome from Charlottetown. Shown on stage in costume are: Murray, Keith Coffin, Heather Burke and Tommy Burke. The 12 team competition was adjudicated during the evening session of yesterday's Musical Festival competitions held at Prince of Wales College auditorium.

Placing third with a mark of 83 in Class 234A, were the Celtic Square Dancers, a young double foursome from Charlottetown. Shown on stage in costume are: Murray, Keith Coffin, Heather Burke and Tommy Burke. The 12 team competition was adjudicated during the evening session of yesterday's Musical Festival competitions held at Prince of Wales College auditorium.