

An over-fused electric circuit invites fire. Hundreds of thousands, perhaps even a million homes in Canada, may have the wrong fuse (costing less than a dime) in a fuse-holder.

This alarming conclusion develops from a survey of home inspection findings by fire department teams in representative cities. For example, the fire chiefs of eight communities in one metropolitan area with a population of over a million report that about one quarter of the homes inspected were found to be over-fused. Even more disturbing is the report from a municipality of 25,000 in the Eastern Townships—only 15 per cent of homes visited were found to be properly fused.

There being nearly 5,000,000 homes in the nation, a 25 per cent condition maintained across the board would make the pro-

ject 1,250,000. Utility and industry authorities consulted are in agreement with the estimate of the problem. They too, express concern over the end use of a small but vital safeguard.

"15" SERVES LAMPS

What is over-fusing? It is the use of a 20, 25 or 30 ampere plug fuse in an ordinary household branch circuit. Such a circuit is one serving lamps, radio, TV and other small appliances.

Why is the use of a 20, 25 or 30 ampere fuse in an ordinary circuit a fire hazard? Because it engenders a sense of false security. It does not "blow" when the "load" is dangerously increased. The wiring heats. Heat plus fuel plus oxygen means fire. If the wiring is concealed, fire may start in the wall, in minutes it may be out of control, perhaps tragically.

Because the fuse is the elec-

trical watchdog over-fusing is akin to muzzling the watchdog. On cutting out the safety valve. Says the Fire Chief of a large prairie city with 25,000 homes: "In most of the older homes where we found overloaded circuits, practically all were using 30 amp. fuses, and even pennies and tinfol behind the fuse!"

The fire service director of a Quebec city of 35,000 people reports that 80 per cent of their homes are over-fused.

About 20,000,000 fuses are made each year in Canada. Of these, 15,000,000 are 15s. The 5,000,000 of the 20, 25 and 30 ratings are designed for use with stoves, dryers, sump pumps, home workshops, water heaters and like special installations.

How often in a news report of a fire, sometimes involving loss of life, are we told that defective wiring may have been responsible.

Of course, there's another aspect. Maybe the wiring was installed to do more than it should, by being over-sized. If you still do not comprehend, call the Fire Chief, or an electrician, or the utility, or ask a knowledgeable neighbor and make sure that appliances and cords are in good shape.

Check your home right now to ensure that your fuses are in their proper holders.

For less than a dime, why gamble with fire?

"30 COSTS THE SAME!"

Still current and choice is the overheard remark by a house-

wife: "I buy 30 ampere electrical fuses because they are twice as long as the 15s and because they cost just the same." Another overheard remark by a housewife: "Fuses you buy today aren't as good as they used to be 10 years ago. They're less blowing."

To the first lady, as the fire fighter points out, the answer is that the "weaker (15) size" is probably the only safe one.

To the second, the answer is that her own stupidity is her problem. She is probably using many more appliances and connections than she did 10 years ago, on the same wiring.

Look at it from the standpoint of appliances available then and now: 1915-5; 1934-19; 1964-1960.

Challenges, Counter-Challenges Mark British Election Campaign

By DOUG MARSHALL

LONDON (CP)—The air was full of challenges and counter-challenges as Britain's smouldering election campaign began to crackle into life.

But as yet none of the issues the politicians are getting so heated about appear to have caught the public imagination. Both major party machines

seem to be deliberately holding themselves back, waiting for an all-out drive in the week before the Oct. 15 voting date.

Observers are asking it the most sophisticated and intellectual campaign Britain has ever had.

One sign of trouble for Labor had nothing to do with the campaign itself—renewal of a

strike in a key components factory that may seriously disrupt British car production.

Robert Carvel in The Evening Standard said that, among other runnings on the industrial front could produce a political backlash in favor of the Conservatives. Women otherwise uncommitted are believed to swing against Labor when strikes threaten the economy.



FIRE PREVENTION WEEK
OCTOBER 4-10

TO THE CITIZENS OF MONTAGUE:

Once again it is Fire Prevention Week, we ask for your cooperation in checking all fire hazards, fires, heating equipment, rubbish corners, or anything to prevent fires.

We also would like to advise you that in making fire calls there has been a change, you now phone the fire number, wait for an answer, give the address or place of fire before hanging up. We appreciate your co-operation in the past and look forward to a fire free year.

D. H. Coffin,
Fire Chief
MONTAGUE FIRE DEPT.



Opposing View Of Economy Top British Election Issue

LONDON (AP) — Opposing views of Britain's economic prospects has emerged as a top issue in the British election campaign.

A clash developed between Prime Minister Sir Alec Douglas-Home and his Conservative and the opposition Labor party led by Harold Wilson.

That would involve increased expenditure.

The high cost of housing remained a central issue. Maudling claimed Labor's plan to force down interest rates and provide cheaper mortgages would only force the price of houses higher by increasing the demand.

Wilson said before the topic of housing came up in the election, many Conservative leaders "wouldn't know the difference between a mortgage and the back end of a camel."

Douglas Home, in a swing through Nottinghamshire, emphasized the country's prosperity. He said most Britons enjoyed "good work and good wages" with ever-rising living standards. And he promised a program of expansion that would take education, housing, health and social security standards to record peaks.

Wilson said the government's own figures show a trade deficit running at the rate of about \$1,000,000,000 a year, meaning Britain now is spending that much more abroad than she is earning.

The Labor leader charged a Conservative electoral victory would bring economic crisis measures within six months, industrial stagnation and panic cuts in current plans for more schools, homes, hospitals and roads.

Up and down the land, candi-

dates for parliament faced the words of their duelling leaders. Britons will vote Oct. 15.

Chancellor of the Exchequer Reginald Maudling, directing Conservative propaganda efforts, told newspaper men:

"We are not pretending there are easy answers to difficult (economic) problems. This is a world abounding in opportunities as it is abounding in dangers."

But Maudling dismissed as nonsense Wilson's charge of critical dangers ahead. He suggested although "testing times" lie ahead all would be well if the nation achieves and maintains a growth rate of four per cent.

Prices of steel and property shares edged up on the London stock market, denoting higher hopes of a Conservative victory.

But the bookmaker firm of Ladbrooks still quoted Labor as 15-8 favorite to win. Gambling is legal in Britain and a spokesman reported more than \$300,000 has been staked so far on the election result.

Roadblocks Are Removed

NICOSIA (CP)—The Turkish-Cypriot irregulars have removed three unauthorized roadblocks on the Nicosia-Kyrenia highway at the request of the Canadian contingent of the United Nations peace-keeping force.

A UN spokesman said the removal of the roadblocks, erected Wednesday, was negotiated by Maj. Phil Plouffe of Quebec City, commander of A Company, 1st Battalion Royal 22nd Regiment, which patrols the southern foothills of the Kyrenia Mountains.

Meanwhile, a UN spokesman said talks are continuing here in an attempt to work out details of placing the Kyrenia highway under UN control.

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FIRE PREVENTION YOUR JOB TOO!

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

OCTOBER 4th to OCTOBER 10th

PREVENT FIRES **SAVE LIVES**

During Fire Prevention Week every citizen should take time out to inspect his home or property in regard to fire hazards. Those few moments spent in inspection of property and removing or correcting any existing fire hazard could possibly be the means of saving your property from destruction by fire or preventing the loss of life of a member of your family.

Fire records show that loss of life by fire occurs mostly in the home. The bureau of fire prevention of the City of Charlottetown request that every citizen play their part in carrying out fire inspection in their home, not only during fire prevention week but during the entire year.

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KEEP MATCHES FROM CHILDREN

THINK about FIRE ... wherever you are

SMOTHER A FRYPAN FIRE

H. H. Jewell
Fire Chief

L. R. Ranahan
Fire Inspector

FIRE SAFETY CHECK LIST:

- Check heating units for unsafe condition
- Check smoke pipes and chimneys
- Dispose of all rubbish and trash, oily and wax rags
- Clean up basement, attics, outbuildings, yards and dispose of unwanted materials.
- Do not store flammable liquids in unmarked or glass containers
- Keep matches and cigarette lighters out of the reach of young children
- Check for overloading and overfusing of electric circuits
- Check frayed wiring and electrical cords
- Have plenty of ash trays around the home
- HAVE A FAMILY ESCAPE PLAN.

CHARLOTTETOWN FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTETOWN