

### Ch'town Revenue Increase Under Municipal Grants Act Before Parliament

OTTAWA (Special) — As a result of amendments to the Municipal Grants Act, given first reading Thursday in the House of Commons, revenue to the City of Charlottetown for 1956 may be increased anywhere from \$15,000 to \$20,000.

Until this year, federal grants to municipalities in lieu of taxes have been paid to cities and towns only when the value of federal property has been more than four per cent of the total assessment of the city concerned. By the amendments introduced by Finance Minister Harris, this four per cent ceiling has been dropped to two per cent. In addition, the federal grant will now be paid on 100 per cent of the municipal assessment instead of on only 75 per cent, which was the regulation since 1948.

For 1954, Charlottetown received a subsidy under the Municipal Grants Act of \$1,861. With the lowering of the ceiling to two per cent and upping of the assessment, it is roughly calculated by Finance Minister Harris' officials that the city will receive something like \$12,500. But this figure is based only on the 1954 assessment. Should the city's 1955 assessment take in a portion of the value of the new Federal Building now under construction, the total grant will be very considerably above the \$12,000 cited. It was explained to The Guard-

ian here that the exact amount to be received by Charlottetown under the act will depend on the practice of local assessment officials or the provisions of a provincial assessment act. In the Province of Ontario, a building is assessed progressively and even if incomplete, it can be assessed (Continued on Page 2 col. 8)

### 'Gratifying' Says Mayor Stewart

"As vice president of the Federation of Mayors and Municipalities, I am glad to see that after three years work by this group, a definite gain has been made in convincing the Federal Government that we have a grievance," said Mayor J. D. Stewart last night in commenting on the reported increase in civic revenue from Ottawa.

"It appears obvious that representatives from the municipalities should be included in the group meeting of Provincial and Federal officials at Ottawa in April, in view of this 'new look' towards the allocation of the tax dollar," the Mayor added. "The situation, he said, was very gratifying, representing a jump from under two thousand to \$20,000; but I believe the final adjustment may reach even \$30,000 when all avenues have been thoroughly explored and dealt with."

### Potato Traffic Continues At Good Volume For Season Reports Board Chairman

"Potato movement for the Province during the first 16 days of March remains at a good volume for the time of year. Five hundred and twenty-eight carloads have left the island during this period and brings the total for the 1954 season up to approximately 6,000,000 bushels," said Mr. D. A. MacDonald, chairman of the Prince Edward Island Potato Marketing Board last night. He estimated that there should be no more than 2,300 to 2,400 cars left for movement from the Province during the present season.

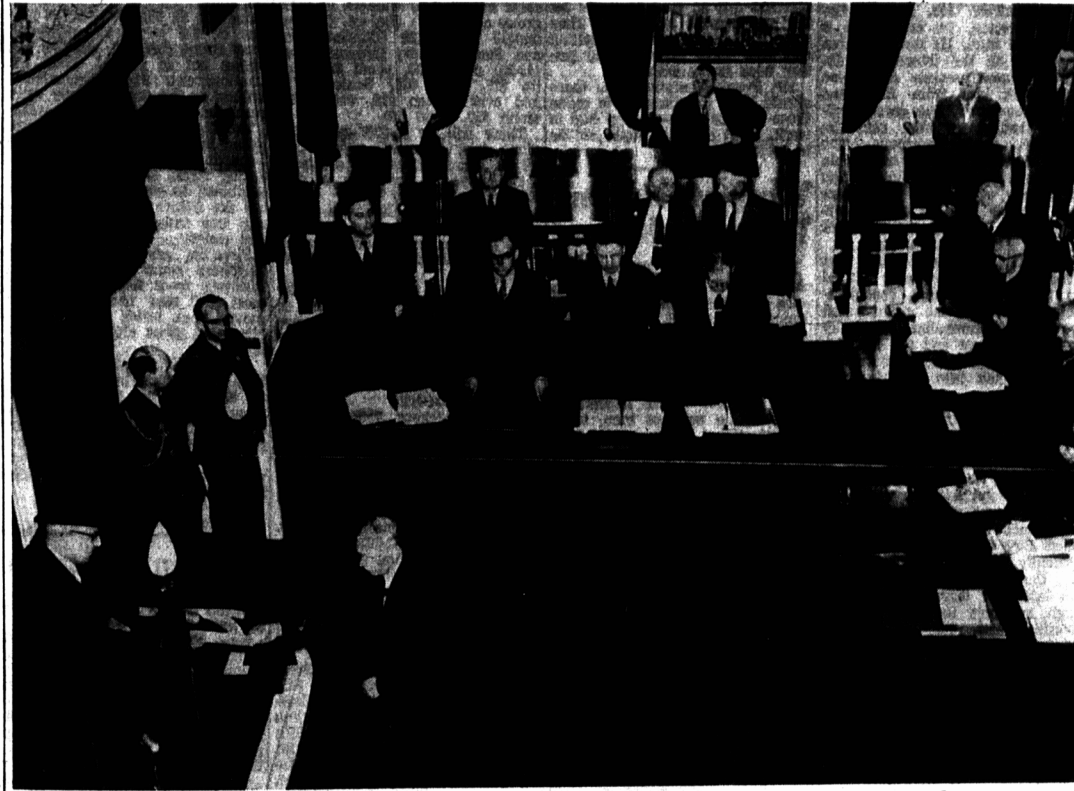
seed, all varieties, is commanding a substantial premium as is Green Mountain tablestock." Mr. MacDonald stated that U.S. potato stocks as of March 1 are estimated to be 62,265,000 bushels, of which 220,000 are in the State of Maine. This does not include potatoes saved for food, seed, livestock and expected seasonal shrinkage and waste. "The movement of Maine supplies," said Mr. MacDonald, "continues to be below normal and the potato trade are still doubtful of the future market trend, in view of the quantity and quality of Maine stocks. It is generally admitted that only for Maine the potato market would be really hot at the present time."

United States acreage intentions released yesterday show a slight increase for the whole country with Maine showing 98 per cent of 1954. "A far greater reduction of United States and particularly Maine acreage would be necessary to avoid the probability of surplus if production factors should be normal throughout the growing season," said Mr. MacDonald.

### Coming Events

- "Rummage Sale, Kirk Hall, Saturday 2 p. m.
- "Rummage Sale, Hearts Hall today, 2 p. m.
- "Crapaud rink tonight, regular skate 8 to 10.
- "Rummage Sale, Baptist Church Hall, 3 o'clock this afternoon.
- "Reserve Tuesday, 23 March rummage sale, Holy Name Hall.
- "Crokinole party Cross Roads school Tuesday, March 22, 8 p. m. Proceeds school plans.
- "Mount Stewart Legion will hold monthly meeting in Legion Home on Tuesday, March 22nd, at 8 p. m.
- "Cleaning Timothy Seed and grain daily, Elmer Macdonald, Crapaud.
- "Horse racing New Glasgow River this afternoon. Perfect ice. Classes for all horses. Don't miss this one.
- "Egg prices going up and chick sales way down in Canada. Order your chicks now. Dillon & Spillett Chick Hatchery.
- "Dance, West Royalty Hall Wednesday. Rolfe McKenzie's Orchestra. Canteen service. 9.30 to 12.30.
- "Hockey at North River rink tonight. North River girls vs. Central Royalty girls at 7:30. Cornwall Meteors vs. Freetown Aces at 8:30. Skate after.
- "See the Colored Lantern Slides shown in Millview Hall, by Mr. Gouge, 8 p. m. Monday, 21st. Proceeds for Millview Church.
- "Buying Monday and Tuesday, good young pigs over 35 lbs. Paying top market prices. Wellington McNeill & Son, Buntain & Bell's Wharf.
- "Showing at Mt. Stewart on Saturday night only this week. White Witch Doctor — starring Susan Hayward and Robert Mitchell.
- "A real honest to goodness Minstrel Show. That's what is in store for folks in and around Kensington on March 30th, when the Summerville Lions present their All Star Minstrel Show at the King George Hall.

# THREE MEN DIE IN BLIZZARD-TRAPPED CAR ON HIGHWAY IN NORTHERN NEW BRUNSWICK



At Closing Of The P.E.I. Legislature Yesterday  
His Honor, Lt. Governor Prowse (extreme left) is pictured as he presided at the closing of the Legislative Assembly yesterday. Members of the Government headed by Premier Matheson, along with a number of private members can be seen in the foreground.

### Eden May Take Over In April

LONDON (Reuters) — Prime Minister Churchill may retire and hand over his office to Foreign Secretary Eden early next month, reports circulating in parliamentary circles said early today. The reports indicated that, unless he changes his mind, the prime minister—who was 80 last November—will retire before his Easter holiday trip to Sicily about April 10. If he does, Eden will succeed him, probably combining the responsibilities of premiership with those of foreign secretary for a short time. The reports said Eden is expected to be installed before Britain's annual budget is announced to the House of Commons April 19.

### European Papers Bitter Over Yalta Revelations

LONDON (AP)—A recommendation that "Christians read their Bibles" was passed along to a group of preachers Friday, Dr. Robert Worth Frank, president of the McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago, told the National Council of Presbyterian Men that God enabled Daniel, hero of the lions' den episode of the scriptures, "to read aright the signs of the times and to put them in the divine perspective."

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### German Ratification Of Paris Treaties Completed

BONN (AP)—West Germany's Bundestag (Upper House) approved Friday the Paris treaties to arm 500,000 Germans on the side of the West. The vote was 29 to 9. It completed the parliamentary action required in Bonn. Also accepted was an agreement with France to Europeanize the coal-rich Saar valley. All the treaties now go to President Theodor Heuss for his signature. The Bundestag (Lower House) approved them Feb. 27. The president announced after a 90-minute conference with Chancellor Konrad Adenauer he will study the constitutional situation before signing. His office said early signing was not to be expected.

### Supplementary Estimates Are Tabled In Commons

OTTAWA (CP)—The federal government looks to record peacetime spending of \$4,867,794,000 for the fiscal year that ends March 31. Final supplementary estimates of \$53,994,000 tabled Friday in the Commons brought the 1954-55 figure to that total, exceeded only by the \$5,322,000,000 expenditure in the war year of 1943-44. The supplementaries are the cleanup of the government's annual spending program laid before the Commons. Friday's disclosed no new policies but added millions here and there to spending plans already under way. More than half the additional amount was taken up by \$23,785,000 to cover the 1954 deficit of the publicly-owned Canadian National Railways. It was the first disclosure of the total deficit, but it was understood the company had an operating surplus not large enough to cover its bond indebtedness. The top-heavy bond structure of the CNR was overhauled by Parliament in 1951, stalling down the company's annual liability stemming from its old government-dictated setup. Since then, it had nominal surpluses of \$142,000 in 1952 and \$244,000 in 1953.

### Rail Traffic Shows Drop

OTTAWA (CP)—Slumping rail traffic has brought the Canadian National Railways its first deficit in three years. Government estimates tabled Friday in the Commons show the publicly-owned railway—Canada's biggest corporate business—had a deficit of \$28,758,000 on 1954 operations. No details were given in the estimates, which merely sought a parliamentary appropriation to cover the total deficit, but it was understood the company had an operating surplus not large enough to cover its bond indebtedness. The top-heavy bond structure of the CNR was overhauled by Parliament in 1951, stalling down the company's annual liability stemming from its old government-dictated setup. Since then, it had nominal surpluses of \$142,000 in 1952 and \$244,000 in 1953.

### Large-Scale Army Thefts In B. C. Claimed

VANCOUVER (CP)—Brig. George Kitching, newly-appointed commander of the Canadian Army in British Columbia, said Friday there have been large-scale thefts in the command in the last 10 years. During a press conference, he said the thefts were committed by 11 various companies of the Royal Canadian Engineers stationed here and at Chilliwack, B. C., 65 miles east. Brig. Kitching said the company under command of Lt.-Col. G. H. McManus, 41, of Halifax, controls approximately \$14,000,000 in stores and buildings. He said he could not estimate the value of the equipment stolen during the decade. Brig. Kitching called the conference after a Vancouver newspaper, The Province, printed a report of the thefts in its late editions. He described the thefts as "a well-kept secret" and said joint army-RCMP investigations "would have been a complete fiasco" had the story broken three weeks ago when reporter Paddy Sherman first uncovered it. He declined to comment on reports that the thefts, dating back to 1945, involve "tens of thousands of dollars." However, he said more than 100 soldiers and civilians have been interviewed by investigators. No charges have been laid. The work company comprises 440 permanent soldiers and civilians and 300 casual personnel.

### Mother Wins First Prize For Textile Design

OTTAWA (CP)—Mrs. Ralph G. Young of Oakville, Ont., who first tried textile design a year ago, has won the \$500 first prize in a design competition for viscose drapery and upholstery fabrics. Name of the contest—winning mother of three children—was announced Friday by the National Industrial Design Council, which held the competition in co-operation with a Canadian manufacturer. A Dutch weaver who came to Canada 19 years ago, Mrs. Young, 38, of Queenston, near Niagara Falls, Ont., won the \$300 second prize for her hand-loomed viscose drapery design. An 18-year-old freshman at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg won third prize. It is worth \$200 to Marjorie J. Pollon, a native of Raymore, Sask. Mrs. Young, whose husband, Maj. Ralph G. Young, is a member of the Canada-Poland-India trade commission in Indochina, took first prize with a viscose print design. She has labored in silk and rayon for 25 years, her main interest until a year ago being in pottery and water-color painting. She studied art at central tech in Toronto and spent a year at the Royal College of Art in London.

### High School Dress Rules In Halifax Are Opposed

HALIFAX (CP)—Spirited opposition grew Friday to a school commissioners' directive forbidding high school girls to wear slacks and ordering the boys to wear shirts and jeans in favor of blazers and ties. Few persons in official capacities would comment but private citizens freely protested the ruling which the commissioners adopted at their last meeting. One highly-placed legal authority said he doubted if the decision could survive a court test because ordering "any particular kind of dress is one of those things that goes quite a distance." He said he knew of no provision in the Nova Scotia Education Act requiring public school students to conform in their dress at classes. SETS UP DRESS The regulation sets forth jackets or blazers, a shirt and tie for senior high school students, broadens the field to permit sweaters for junior high boys and forbids both junior and senior girls to wear slacks. Principal L. B. Hannon of Queen Elizabeth High school said he saw no harm in the decision "provided it doesn't cause any financial difficulty." O. R. Crowell, president of the Queen Elizabeth Home and School Association said he thought it was "desirable to encourage neatness and the most suitable type of costume for the schoolroom as for any other occasion." "But I am doubtful," he added, "of the wisdom of limiting the choice too narrowly and of making it compulsory, particularly as the specifications laid down may impose a financial burden on many."

### Parliament At A Glance

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OTTAWA (Special) — Finance Minister Harris tabled supplementary estimates boosting 1954-55 federal spending to a peacetime record of \$4,867,794,000. Agriculture Minister Gardiner announced the 58-cent-a-pound support price for butter will be continued until April 30, 1956. Trade Minister Howe announced an interim payment of seven cents a bushel to farmers on 1954 oats. The supplementary estimates showed the CNR had a deficit of \$28,758,000 on 1954 operations, first in three years. The Commons defeated 95 to 56 a CCF attempt to block a government bill increasing salaries of the board of grain commissioners. Monday The Commons will consider government business. The Senate is adjourned until Tuesday.

### Forty-Seven Bills Receive Lieut. Governor's Assent At Closing Of Legislature

The sixth session of the 47th General Assembly of Prince Edward Island was prorogued at noon yesterday by His Honor Lt. Governor T. W. L. Prowse who gave his assent to forty eight bills. Before proceeding to the Legislative Chamber, His Honor, accompanied by his aides Captain J. J. Connolly, V.R.D.; Lt.-Colonel A. W. Rogers, E.D., and Wing Commander Alan Macmillan, inspected a guard of Honour commanded by Captain W. B. Peters. An Act to Amend the Registry Act. An Act to Amend the Mechanics' Lien Act. An Act to Amend the Judicature Act. An Act to bring up to date the References to the Criminal Code in the Statutes of Prince Edward Island. An Act to Amend the Vital Statistics Act. An Act to Amend An Act to Incorporate the Legislative and Public Library and the Robert M.M. C.D. A salute fired from the Victoria Park driveway was in charge of Major M. E. Campbell. The House met at 10 o'clock yesterday morning and was busy taking care of last minute business up to 12.00 o'clock. The following is a list of the bills passed and assented to by His Honour during the session: An Act to Amend the Registry Act. An Act to Amend the Mechanics' Lien Act. An Act to Amend the Judicature Act. An Act to bring up to date the References to the Criminal Code in the Statutes of Prince Edward Island. An Act to Amend the Vital Statistics Act. An Act to Amend An Act to Incorporate the Legislative and Public Library and the Robert M.M. C.D. (Continued on Page 16 col. 3)

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### Continue Pressure On Textile Producers

MONTREAL (CP)—An increase in imports of woven synthetic fabrics from the United States indicates continuing pressure on Canadian textile producers, the Silk and Rayon Institute reported Friday. Figures for November, 1954, the latest available, showed 3,114,248 square yards were imported compared to 2,465,358 square yards the previous month.

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HALIFAX (CP)—The weather office here says a weak disturbance is moving rapidly eastward off the Nova Scotia coast. After it moves by, strong northwest winds will return to the district, favoring the current cold spell. Another disturbance is a favorable position for bringing snow to the Maritimes again Sunday. Forecasts: Prince Edward Island: Snow-furries and continuing cold; northwest winds 25; low-high at Charlottetown 17 and 25. Outlook for Sunday: Snow. New Brunswick: Sunny and continuing cold; northwest winds 25; Moncton 12 and 25, Fredericton and Saint John 15 and 25, Edmundston 10 and 20, Campbellton 5 and 20. Outlook for Sunday: Snow. High tide today at Charlottetown at 7.26 a. m. and 5.37 p. m. Summerside tide eighteen minutes later than Charlottetown. Sun rises today at 6.19 a. m. and sets at 6.24 p. m.



TORONTO (CP)—Minimum and maximum temperatures.

City	Min	Max
Dawson	6	20
Vancouver	37	47
Victoria	28	40
Edmonton	29	39
Regina	6	22
Winnipeg	6	18
Toronto	25	38
Ottawa	10	27
Montreal	17	28
Quebec	5	21
Fredericton	12	24
Saint John	13	26
Moncton	12	23
Charlottetown	13	23
Sydney	8	24
Yarmouth	23	30
St. John's	25	27