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The Guardian

Sunny becoming cloudy in the evening; milder; light winds increasing to southwest 15. Low-high Ch'town 15 and 32.

"Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew"

CHARLOTTETOWN, CANADA WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1957

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12 PAGES



SNOWBOUND SUNNYSIDE YESTERDAY

HEAVY JOB AHEAD

Early Start Made Today On Road Clearance Effort

The Department of Highways will dispatch every available piece of snowblowing equipment this morning to clear island roads from a 17 inch snowfall which fell early yesterday morning and continued to be whipped into huge drifts by a m.p.h. North East gale which at times reached a velocity of 66 miles per hour.

Plows were working during the night on the Trans-Canada Highway between Charlottetown, Borden and Summerside and it is expected that travelling will be satisfactory on these roads very early in the morning. Cross roads will be opened in order of their importance.

TODAYS FORECAST
The forecast for today is for sunny skies, light winds, changing to south in the evening with more snow.

Citizens awoke yesterday morning to find themselves snowbound by one of the most severe storms to strike the Province for some time.

The storm, which did not gain its full momentum until after most people had retired, left Charlottetown looking out on a raging blizzard when they arose in the morning. All classes in the city schools and at Prince of Wales College were promptly cancelled.

Store clerks and office workers, unable to secure taxis had to remain at home. As a matter of fact until about ten o'clock in the morning there was little or no sign of life on the streets.

NO MILK, OR MAIL
Milk dealers throughout the city who are almost 100 per cent mechanized found they were unable to serve their customers until the afternoon and evening.

Mail delivery had to be called off because of difficult traveling for the letter carriers. The only exception to the paralyzing effect of the storm were the Guardian newsmen who only a little behind schedule reported for duty and covered their routes as usual.

Due to the high winds city plows were unable to keep the streets cleared with the exception of those to the hospitals until the afternoon when the storm abated somewhat. Those who were able to get their cars out of snowfilled

garages found a parking problem when they took the vehicles to the centre of the City.

HIGHWAYS BLOCKED
Highway traffic throughout the province came to a complete standstill. Departmental plows were at standby for emergency only. It was doubtful last night whether much could be accomplished due to the high winds which continued to sweep across the Province.

All Canadian National Trains completed their schedules, although some were delayed slightly. The M.V. Abegweit did not leave Borden for the morning trip at 7:00 o'clock. No C.N.R. freight trucks left Charlottetown yesterday so that areas receiving mail

through this medium were not served.

SNOW SHOVELLERS
About 40 snow shovellers reported for work at the CNR station yesterday and every available means of removing snow from around the railway yard is being used.

Maritime Central Airways were obliged to cancel all flights to and from the Province.

The Maritime Electric Company reported circuit breaks on the Souris and Montague lines but the trouble was remedied during the night. The Island Telephone Company reported only one break on the Montague line which was quickly restored.

Season's Worst Blizzard Hits Maritimes With Solid Blow

HALIFAX (CP) — Winter held the Maritimes in a paralyzing Tuesday night. Northerly gales sent temperatures tumbling as the coastal provinces struggled to reopen highways and communications lines after the season's worst blizzard.

Food and fuel shortages were reported in some areas because of roads blocked by mountainous drifts. Schools were closed and meetings cancelled when a snowfall of up to 16 inches piled into drifts before a gale that reached a peak of 75 miles an hour on Cape Breton Island.

In the Annapolis Valley, where railroad transportation has been stopped by the CPR firemen's strike, the storm halted road shipments of fuel from CNR rail points. Trucking of apples to ships loading at Halifax also was stopped.

Southern Nova Scotia was cut off from New Brunswick when drifts blocked Highway No. 2 near Truro. Traffic to Cape Breton Island also was stalled.

The Dutch freighter Prins Willem IV reported engine trouble in the Atlantic 120 miles east of Halifax but said immediate assistance was not needed. Winds of

50 miles an hour churned the ocean in that area.

ESCAPE DEATH
Two persons escaped death by jumping into a snowbank after a car stalled on a railroad crossing near Halifax during the blizzard.

Roger Vincent dragged seven-year-old Jo-Ann Bates from the car just before a freight train crashed into it.

Milk shortages were reported in the Amherst area, where snow-blocked roads halted dairy deliveries.

The Cumberland County Council postponed its annual meeting because councillors couldn't reach the county offices in Amherst.

By nightfall most of Prince Edward Island was buried under 16 inches of fresh snow. All main highways were blocked as drifts piled up again as soon as plows had passed.

The highways department said late Tuesday many Nova Scotia highways were still impassable. Plows in some cases had given up the job until drifting stopped.

Bus services and airline schedules were dumped a soggy mixture of rain and snow in Eastern Nova Scotia and blew dry, drifting snow across northern areas of that province and Eastern New Brunswick. Northern New Brunswick had fine weather Tuesday.

Moncton got a 16-inch snowfall. The drifts that piled high in the streets halted all vehicles most of the day. Buses stopped trying to battle through. Schools were closed and some night workers stayed in their offices until morning.

SYDNEY HARD-HIT
Sydney with 11 inches of snow also was hard hit. Wet snow that hung thick on overhead wires knocked out street lights and brought traffic almost to a standstill. The wind reached 75 miles an hour in gusts.

Saint John, N.B., and Halifax pulled out from under the wintry blast early Tuesday after plows cleared the streets of a lighter fall than recorded in other centres. Saint John had six inches, Halifax three.

No deaths were reported as a result of the storm which came up from New England after it dropped eight inches of snow on Boston.

A Dartmouth, N.S. taxi driver was cut and bruised when his cab collided with a snowplow but he did not go to hospital.

Telegraph circuits between Sydney and the Nova Scotia mainland failed early in the storm. The steel city's sole telegraph connection was a single roundabout circuit via St. John's, Nfld.

Route 2, the main highway connecting Halifax with Moncton and all New Brunswick was blocked on a 10-mile stretch west of Truro.

Borden Statue Is Unveiled

OTTAWA (CP)—The statue of Sir Robert Borden, Conservative prime minister who led Canada through the First World War and into its own place in world councils, was unveiled on Parliament Hill Tuesday.

Henry Borden, Toronto lawyer and nephew of the Nova Scotia-born leader, pulled the cord which released the flags draping the bronze figure.

The statue, designed by Frances Loring of Toronto, shows a stern-faced Borden in a frock coat, carrying a sheaf of papers to indicate his role at the Versailles peace conference where Canada first took its position as an autonomous member of the British Commonwealth.

Quiet Talks On Suez Are Taking Place

OTTAWA (CP)—Plans for a government legislative program that may boost federal outlays in the next fiscal year by some \$130,000,000 were unfolded before the new session of Parliament Tuesday.

But while the traditional throne speech at the opening emphasized international events and the need in Canada for aid in culture, schooling and municipalities, there was no more than a passing reference to the cross-country CPR strike crippling segments of the Canadian economy.

Stanley Knowles (CFF—Winnipeg; North Centre) assailed during final C.O.M.N. ceremonies whether Prime Minister St. Laurent planned to make a statement or provide for discussion of the strike.

Mr. St. Laurent merely replied that he thought it "extremely apt" that the issue will be dealt with during debate on the throne speech which Governor-General Massey had delivered earlier at Parliament's opening.

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. (CP) Behind-the-scenes talks on the future of the Suez Canal occupied diplomats at the United Nations Tuesday as corridor conversations took precedence over the workaday grind of General Assembly committees.

As Israel was reported seeking assurances of free navigation—once the strategic waterway is cleared—as a primary condition for further withdrawals from the Sinai Peninsula, a British delegation spokesman told reporters that his country would be prepared to resume negotiations with Egypt on the basis of the Suez talks where they were left off last October.

Israel's foreign minister, Mrs. Golda Meir, presented her government's views in closed-door conversations with Western and Commonwealth diplomats Monday, it was understood, and continued talks with Latin-American delegates.

Israel is said to be seeking additional assurances of free navigation in the Gulf of Aqaba, south of the canal, and also guarantees of no new buildup of Egyptian military strength in the Sinai area.

Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld meanwhile was reported pressing Israel to comply with the General Assembly resolution approved last November calling for an Israeli military withdrawal behind the 1949 armistice lines.

SUPPORT STAFF
United States officials gave support to this stand. American spokesmen both here and in Washington reaffirmed that the U.S. wants "complete freedom of transit" in the canal when it is reopened.

Reports reaching here Tuesday on the progress of the canal clearance were that 13 ships, which had been stranded for more than two months, had begun passing out of Port Said into the Mediterranean from the northern entrance. The Israeli withdrawal meanwhile was reported halted at El Arish, an Egyptian base in the Sinai.

Reports from Washington that Britain and France would agree to resumption of negotiations on an "indirect" basis, with Hammarskjöld as intermediary, were not confirmed by the British spokesman here.

Only 26 More Years To Go

WINNIPEG (CP) — John Lorenzo has come a year closer toward fulfilling a prediction made by his grandmother just before she died.

Monday was John's birthday, his 104th. Now he has only 26 more years to go to make his grandmother's forecast come true. She predicted when he was a boy in the Ukraine that he would live 130 years.

Mr. Lorenzo is still going strong at St. Joseph's Home for the Aged, where he lives. He retired as a construction worker some 30 years ago.

DULLES IS CONFIDENT

WASHINGTON (AP)—One critical congressman booted a secret meeting on the Eisenhower Middle East manifesto Tuesday. But State Secretary Dulles expressed swift enactment of the president's policy.

"I'm hopeful it will be approved by Congress this month," Dulles said after a closed door hearing of the House of Representatives foreign affairs committee.

The president is asking for standby authority to use U.S. troops in the Middle East in case of open Communist aggression. He also proposes to pour more dollars into the Mideast economy.

Some democrats were talking of a "downside" Dulles and Eisenhower's appeals for promptness.

One of them, representative Wayne Hays of Ohio, stalked out of the hearing, denouncing the secrecy surrounding Dulles' testimony.

"I don't think the state department and Mr. Dulles should be able to tell the American people that everything is lovely in public, and then go behind closed doors and tell what grave dangers there are," Hays said.

In the Senate, yet to start hearings, Senator Richard Russell (Dem. Ga.), told reporters: "I for one am not going to be stampeded into action on this."

Representative Albert Thomas (Dem. Tex.), a ranking member of the House appropriations committee, also objected to speedy action.

Dulles, who testified at an open hearing Monday, said he believed the closed session was necessary.

"If it had been open," he said, "we would not have been able to tell the committee some of the things we did because they would have involved the security of the United States."

Representative Omar Burleson (DEM. Tex.), a committee member,

agreed that the secret hearing was necessary.

"I don't think there is much that can be accomplished in an open session on a matter of this kind," he said.

MAY IMPOSE LIMIT
Hays said some Republicans were thinking about offering a two year limitation on the Middle East resolution.

Dulles' 4½ hours of public testimony Monday was followed with the executive session on national security points. Committee chairman Thomas Gordon (Dem. Ill.) considered it too touchy to discuss in the open.

These included such questions as: Did the United States have enough troops available to back up its offer to oppose, on request from the victim, any overt Red army included in the area? What economic aid projects are contemplated?

BABY BORN ON PLANE

HONOLULU (AP)—A Honolulu doctor radioed instructions to two stewardesses Monday night as a boy was born aboard a Transocean Air Lines plane en route to Honolulu from Oakland, Calif. Mrs. Lillian Palen of Honolulu and the baby, about 1½ months premature, were taken to hospital on arrival here and were reported resting comfortably.

Increases Price Of Newsprint

MONTREAL (CP) — Consolidated Paper Corporation Tuesday announced an increase of \$4 a ton in the price of its newsprint, effective March 1. A similar increase was announced Jan. 2 by the Abitibi Power and Paper Company.

The increase will boost the price of newsprint in New York to \$134 from \$130 a ton.

The announcement indicated that a pattern set in previous years may again be followed. In the past an increase by one major producer, has been followed by others.

Million Dollar Loss In Huge Refinery Blaze At Montreal

MONTREAL (CP) — Blast-splashed flames roared into the sky from the centre of Montreal's petroleum refining district Tuesday, feeding on thousands of gallons of gasoline and oil.

No one was killed in the spectacular blaze that swept through tanks spread over 10 acres of the 320-acre property of Shell Oil Company of Canada.

One 50-gallon barrel tank still burned Tuesday night while experts strove to blanket the blaze with foamite. Water is useless in battling such a fire, officials said.

Refineries of five oil companies stretch side by side in Montreal East, a comparatively sparsely settled district. Some householders fled their homes in the area after the first of a series of blasts in the pre-dawn darkness.

One man said he led his wife and five children away when "the frost on my windows began to melt."

Unofficial estimates here placed loss "in the millions." W. M. V. Ash, president of Shell, said in his Toronto office that damage amounted to more than \$1,000,000.

MAY BURN 24 HOURS
Fire-fighters — company-trained experts in handling oil flames—said the one tank still burning could well continue for 24 hours. They were trying to fix a "down-drip" of foamite on the top of the big tank.

Company officials said six tanks with a capacity of 30,000 barrels each and four with a capacity of 25,000 barrels each, had been destroyed. They counted only the big tanks, and observed said smaller ones also had burned.

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Ottawa Cool To Eisenhower Plan

OTTAWA (CP)—The Canadian government is cool to President Eisenhower's military and economic aid plan for the Middle East, informants said Tuesday.

The Ottawa view is that the new American scheme to fill the power vacuum in the Middle East will have an unsettling rather than stabilizing influence at this time, partly because it mentions the possible use of armed force in an area where there has been recent military intervention.

The Canadian government had hoped that the Middle East situation would be permitted to simmer down more and that if any plan for a settlement were cracked it would be made through the United Nations.

Most observers agreed, however, that it would be going too far to say that Canada implied any criticism of the United States in the throne speech read Tuesday at the opening of Parliament.

The speech, read by Governor-General Massey, said in part: "Recent events have confirmed my ministers' belief in the importance of seeking solutions to international problems through the United Nations and of upholding by all practical and constructive means the principles of the United Nations charter."

MUST STAY STRONG
"My ministers also believe, however, that while making every effort to achieve these long-term goals, the Western nations must remain strong and united in their defenses and in their diplomacy in order that aggressive action against them will be prevented and international tension can be lessened."

Some observers said that this statement reaffirms strong Canadian backing for the UN but that it also means that the government believes it still must put its main trust in defence in the North Atlantic Treaty Organizations.

The speech, nearly half of which was devoted to world affairs, said: "My ministers remain strongly convinced of the need to maintain the North Atlantic Treaty as the keystone of the defence of the Western nations."

An "encouraging advance" was being made in development of NATO in the military and non-military fields.

The government pledged to "contribute effectively" to achievement of a lasting settlement of Middle East problems but the speech did not say how the administration proposes to do this. It may be formulating a plan for presentation to the UN.

SEES NEED FOR UNITY
The speech twice referred to the need to maintain Commonwealth unity. At the last session of Parliament, in late November, External Affairs Minister Pearson said British military intervention in Egypt nearly resulted in the dissolution of the Commonwealth.

The speech said the recent visits to Canada of the prime ministers of India and Ceylon "have been conducive to a renewed strengthening" of Commonwealth bonds.

Report Yemeni Raids On Aden

ADEN (Reuters)—British authorities announced Tuesday that Yemen has built forts along the frontier and is firing on two villages inside this British protectorate.

Unofficial sources said the Arab Red Sea kingdom has ordered a partial mobilization along the frontier. There is no confirmation here that Yemen has ordered a general mobilization.

Tuesday's announcement said that women and children have been killed in attacks coming from the Quatabah district of Yemen. It said the continuing attacks centre on the Aden villages of Sahn Al Ardaf and Sahn Al Nagdi.

Many persons in Quantabah "wish to make peace with their brothers" across the border but are unable to because Yemeni troops are billeted in their houses, the announcement said.

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Storm, Severe Cold On Prairies

EDMONTON (CP) — A storm blew over Manitoba Tuesday after leaving Alberta and Saskatchewan frozen in severe cold.

The weatherman at Edmonton said the severe cold will remain for at least a couple of days.

The cold was felt most in northern Alberta and northeastern British Columbia overnight. Fort St. John, B.C., reported 28 below, one degree warmer than Cold Lake in northeastern Alberta.

Temperatures recorded early Tuesday included Edmonton and Calgary -18; Medicine Hat -14; Saskatoon -17; Prince Albert -21; Regina -14; Moose Jaw -12.

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