



THE VARIOUS members of the Maritime Executive of the Island Boards of Trade together with the Maritime President and Executive Director of the Board met with Premier Matheson and members of the Government to present the policy declarations of the Board passed at the annual meeting last September. Seated left to right are A.T. Parks, Moncton, executive director; Hon. J. George MacKay, Minister of Highways; Premier Matheson, A. I. Barrow, Halifax, president of the Maritime Board; Clyde R. MacLagan, president of the Summer-side Board; Standing: Frank Bry-an, Alberton; Lt. Col. Frank Storey, Charlottetown, Allister MacLeod, Charlottetown, William Hayward, Charlottetown, John Mungall, Summerside. Guardian Photo

TO COST \$3,000,000

Hillsboro Bridge Gets Go Ahead From Federal Gov't

Will Require Two Years For Approaches

"Complete agreement on the final details of the plans of the Hillsboro Bridge have been reached between provincial and federal officials," said Hon. J. George MacKay, Minister of Highways yesterday. Mr. MacKay's announcement came following the return of Mr. R. G. White, Deputy Minister of Highways who recently conferred with the Trans-Canada Highway staff at Ottawa. Accompanying Mr. White on his Ottawa interview was Mr. O. J. McCulloch, Montreal, consulting engineer for the Prince Edward Island Government. Mr. White reports that the tenders for the approaches will be called within the next two months and work will begin immediately afterwards. Mr. McCulloch will supervise the whole structure of the bridge.

SHORTER SPAN

Ninety per cent of the cost of the \$3,000,000 structure will be borne by the Federal Government. While the overall length of the new structure will be 100 feet longer than the present one (4,500 ft.), the steel span will be only 872 feet compared to the existing spans with an overall length of 2,500 ft. The new bridge will differ from the old one in that the roadway will be on top of the trusses and for this reason will be somewhat higher above the water. The roadway will have a clear width of 24 feet between curbs. This is the standard TCH width. There will be two five foot sidewalks on either side.

STEEL SHORTAGE

Mr. White states that at the present-time steel is in extremely short supply. Most steel mills will not accept orders for 1957 delivery. "It is hoped however to call tenders as early as possible with the expectation that the situation may ease somewhat or falling that, steel may be had early in 1958," he said. The bridge will be lighted for its entire length. Power and tele-phonics underneath the bridge. There will be three separate tenders called... one for the approaches, one for the foundations and one for the bridge super structure. The foundations consist of four piers and two abutments.

LOCAL SANDSTONE

The fill will be of local sandstone, protected wherever necessary by riprap. Because the fill will have to be hauled in off-road equipment, construction roads will have to be built from both pits, one on the Norwood Road and the other at Kinlock. It is expected that the three million tons of fill required. The foundations are to be of steel sheet piling enclosing a group of steel H piles encased in concrete. An interesting feature of this form of construction is that all the work is done from the surface. The concrete dams are never watered. The concrete is placed from the top by the intrusion method. This means the concrete aggregate (sand and stone) is placed first. The cement is later pumped down through pipes put in position during the placing of the aggregate. This method is in common use in bridge construction.

QUESTION ANSWERED

OTTAWA (Special) — Answers to questions asked by Neil A. Matheson, Liberal, M.P. for Queens on the Hillsboro Bridge Tuesday afternoon. The bridge and causeway spanning the river will cost an estimated \$3,000,000. Because the bridge is an integral part of the Trans-Canada Highway and as the result of Provincial-Federal negotiations, it is learned here that the Dominion Government will pay 90 per cent of this cost. Tenders for the causeway will be called by the government of P.E.I. because it comes under the Trans-Canada Agreement. Specifications are now being prepared for the causeway portion for which tenders will be invited by April of this year. The bridge design is expected to be ready also by April. The type of bridge used will be a continuous steel deck truss of five spans, totalling 800 feet, resting on concrete piers and abutments. The approach to the bridge section from both ends will be causeway. Steel for the bridge is expected by the latter part of 1957 or early in 1958.

ELECTION FOR MANTONA

WINNIPEG (CP) — There will be an election "soon" in Manitoba. That much, and only that much, Premier D. L. Cameron made definite Monday night in the legislature.



DR. FRANK MacKINNON, R. J. RANKIN, PREMIER MATHESON, O. N. MANN

APEC President Outlines Program For Coming Year

"We must press for the immediate implementation of the recommendations of the Gordon Commission in regard to Transportation, not only in regard to freight rates but to service and facilities as well," said Mr. R.J. Rankin, president of the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council, speaking at a joint meeting of the Islands Boards of Trade in Charlottetown last night. Mr. Rankin said, "If we settle for a mere investigation it will not be enough. The problem goes much deeper than this." Referring to the subvention arrangement for Maritime coal, he said, "We must press for prompt government action. This would mean cheaper coal within the area making it competitive with oil thus reducing the cost of generating electrical power and in turn assisting in industrial expansion."

WRONG IMPRESSION

Speaking of the suggestion in the Gordon report regarding the evacuation of Maritime residents, Mr. Rankin said the impression given the Canadian public by the newspaper reports was erroneous. He said the report did not, as suggested, recommend the mass evacuation of people from the Maritime Provinces but suggested that if it should turn out that there is not the necessary combination of resources in sufficient quantities to permit a substantial rise in the living standards in the Atlantic region generous assistance should be given to those people who wish to move to other parts of Canada. Mr. Rankin noted that in the case of the McGregor Mine closing at Stellarton, it would not be unlikely that a number of unemployed miners would be looking for work elsewhere and what would be more logical for them to seek work in some hard rock mine of Ontario. "In making such a move, I think it would be only right for the Government to come to the assistance of these people and I (Continued on page 5, col. 2)

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. (CP)

Behind it all are two major factors: the big-power rivalry between the United States and Russia in which the oil resources of the Middle East are becoming more and more vital; and the local Arab-Jewish rivalry which, though centuries old, has in the last decade reached its peak through the establishment of the Israeli state. The combination of these two leads to speculation that the best the UN chief will be able to accomplish will be to keep matters in the negotiating stage. Tim is pressing, with the Egyptians saying their patience is exhausted and Israel holding to her demands for guarantees that the UN will protect her from Egyptian aggression if she withdraws.

CLAIM RIGHTS FORFEITED

Mr. Thomas asked adjournment of regular House business to discuss the case of the Indians, members of the Samson Indian band on the Hobbema reservation. The question was one of hereditary treatment of 118 human beings. His move was the latest of a number of Commons references to the case, which developed when 50 Hobbema Indians petitioned the citizenship department for disfranchisement of the 118 as Treaty Indians. The petitioners claimed that the 118 had forfeited their Indian rights because their ancestors had accepted script payments made to Metis or half-breeds at the time of the 1870s Riel rebellion. The government's Indian registrar upheld the claim and ordered the 118 to leave the reserve within three months. Mr. McCrimmon said Tuesday, however, that as the case is going to the courts the original Treaty Indian status of the 118 is returned pending a court decision. They will stay on the reserve and get their monthly oil-royalty payments, amounting to about \$20 a month, until a court decision is made.

Nfld. To Enter Hospital Plan

OTTAWA (CP) — Newfoundland has agreed to enter the national hospital insurance scheme proposed by the federal government. Health Minister Martin announced Tuesday. His brief announcement, in reply to a Commons question from Stanley Knowles (CCF-Winnipeg North Centre), brings to four the number of provinces that have accepted the plan. British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan had earlier accepted it. Mr. Martin also said arrangements are being made for immediate resumption of discussions with Ontario. The federal offer is contingent upon a majority of provinces representing a majority of Canada's population accepting it. Newfoundland's decision means only two more provinces must enter to bring the plan into operation. But one of these must be either Ontario or Quebec, since most of the Canadian population is in those provinces.

Poison Gas Seeps From Sealed Mine

STELLARTON, N.S. (CP) — Poison gas seeped from a sealed off coal mine Tuesday shortly after miners blocked the pit in an effort to quell a serious subterranean fire that may result in the mine's abandonment. Soon after the gas began seeping from the MacGregor mine officials warned the 30-odd families living in nearby Evansville to be careful of a shifting wind that could blow gas their way. Several families left their homes. The gas was reported easing off late Tuesday and winds were still carrying it away from homes in the area. A fire deep in the Acadia Coal Company's mine forced its 300 miners to leave their jobs last week and Dosco coal chief Harold Gordon said the pit may be abandoned if conditions do not improve immediately. Tuesday the mine was sealed in an effort to smother the fire below. Officials said the danger of an explosion exists for 24 hours after the sealing. They said an explosion would not likely spread damage beyond the mine workings.

Ice Curtails Service To Nfld.

ST. JOHN'S, Nfld. (CP) — The CNR said Tuesday that because of severe ice conditions, the steamship service between Newfoundland and Nova Scotia will be operated tri-weekly instead of daily until the situation improves. Passenger service will be maintained by the steamships Burgeo and Bonavista, between Port aux Basques, Nfld., and Louisbourg, N.S., while ice conditions prevent the usual service to North Sydney. The ships will sail from Port aux Basques at 10:00 p.m. Wednesday, Friday and Sunday and from Louisbourg at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, Monday and Wednesday. Bus service is being provided by the CNR from Louisbourg to Sydney.

GRACE RECEIVES BAKERS

MONTE CARLO (AP) — Grace Kelly made her first official appearance Tuesday since the birth of her daughter, Princess Caroline. She joined her husband, Prince Rainier of Monaco, in receiving a delegation of Dutch bakers in the Monacan palace's "court of honor." The bakers brought the royal couple a special raisin bread from their town of Uithuizen.

Hopes Council In Operation March 31

OTTAWA (CP) — Hope was expressed Tuesday by Prime Minister St. Laurent that the proposed Canada Council will be in operation by March 31. He voiced this in the Commons during debate on a government resolution proposing establishment of the council, which would be armed with \$100,000,000 in federal funds to advance Canadian culture.

COLORFUL HISTORY

Florence, the city where Dante was born, was the capital of Italy from 1865 to 1871.

Blast Wrecks Area In Reno

RENO, Nev. (AP) — Three explosions from a leaky gas line, followed by a four-hour fire, Tuesday destroyed a business block and the Elks Club in Reno, killed at least two persons and injured about 40. Ten business establishments were wiped out and glass from shattered windows littered a wide area. All gas lines in the downtown area were quickly shut off. Twelve square blocks, including the 18-story Mapes Hotel and the Masonic Temple, were evacuated for fear of further explosions from pockets of the artificial gas.

FIND TWO BODIES

Although witnesses told of seeing bodies in the street with "many" dead, only two bodies had been found by nightfall, five hours after the blast. They were the bodies of Mrs. John Dupratt, about 60, member of a socially prominent Reno family who was walking along the street at the scene, and Frank Spina, part owner of a cobbler shop in the destroyed block. Spina's crushed body was found under a wrecked car at the curb. Fire chief Carl Evans said more bodies might be found when it was possible to search the hot ruins of the five destroyed buildings. Tuesday night state adjutant-general James A. May and a National Guard contingent took over the abandoned 273-ton coaster Robert Linbrick have been washed ashore on the western coast of Scotland. The new 10,000-ton liner Ayrshire was back in her moorings after winds blew the big ship across the Greenock, Scotland harbor dock. The Turkish freighter Sadiolu, 7,000 tons, was in tow off Plymouth Sound after drifting dangerously toward a breakwater. The Holderness, 969-ton British vessel, also was out of danger after drifting off the northern Irish coast.

Fine Weather Returns After 4 Killed, Ship Lost In Storm

LONDON (AP) — Early spring-like weather returned to most of the British Isles Tuesday night after hurricane winds killed at least four men and sank one ship. Winds of 110 miles an hour struck Monday night and caused property damage of nearly £1,000,000. Gales still whipped the extreme north of Scotland, however, and again held back all air and sea attempts to carry relief supplies to the small western Shetlands Isle of Foula, where the 60 inhabitants, mostly rugged crofters or shepherders, have been storm-bound for 46 days. ISLAND FOOD SHORT A radio telephone message from the island's postmaster said: "We have only a little flour and oats left. There is no feeding stuffs for hens. We need our cattle for milk. We cannot kill any sheep as they are carrying lambs." Two men were killed in Ireland. One was a sailor struck on dry land by a sheet of corrugated iron, the other a Dubliner blown into the River Liffey. Two seamen from

DISCUSS POLICY DECLARATIONS

Board Reaffirms Support Of PEI Causeway Project

The Maritime Provinces Board of Trade told Premier A.W. Matheson and Members of his Cabinet yesterday that the organization believed the construction of a causeway between P.E.I. and N.B. could be of value not only to the economy of P.E.I. but to the Atlantic Provinces in general. Headed by president A. Irvine Barrow, Halifax, and vice-president F.J. Storey, Ch'Town, directors of the M.P.B.T. met with the Premier and ministers to discuss policy declarations of the organization which reflects the views of the 105 member Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce throughout the four Atlantic Provinces. The statement relative to the Causeway formed part of an M.P.B.T. resolution on this subject and was one of fourteen points covered during the meeting. The Board advised that the Federal Government had been made aware of the group's feelings regarding the value of a causeway and had urged construction if surveys now taking place proved the project to be economically feasible.

FERRY SERVICES

The M.P.B.T. has recommended to the Government of Canada that they give a guarantee to the Atlantic Provinces in the event of future strikes by railways, that ferry services be maintained and if such is not possible that operation of such ferry service be placed in the hands of the Department of Transport. "We have reasons to believe," it was stated, "that this recommendation has received the serious consideration of the Federal Government for despite the recent shutdown of C.P.R. services, the ferry between Saint John, N.B. and Digby, N.S. was still maintained." It was noted that in the past, because of railway strike action,

WARNING CUT TOLE

A brief warning apparently explained the relatively small casualty list. The blasts occurred at 1:03 p.m. PST. The Elks Club and the three-story Gray - Reid department store, next to the club, burst into flames. After four hours the Elks building and the stores across the street lay in ruins. The department store still was burning with danger of a wall collapsing into the street. The main gas valve, beneath the Maples Hotel, was shut off. Frank Tracy, Sierra Pacific Power Company manager, set all available crews to testing for possible low-lying pockets of gas. Sgt. John R. Paget, of the air defence filter centre, said he heard the first explosion and looked out the window just as the second blast went off.

POWER LINES DOWN

On land the cleanup had begun of fallen trees, smashed rooftops, wrecked power lines and blown-over chimneys and buildings. In Glasgow alone more than 22 persons were taken to hospitals after high winds blew over parts of apartment buildings. Firemen with high ladders rescued trapped people in upper floors. Parts of Dublin were without electricity and the Irish radio went off the air for several hours due to power failures.

Province of Prince Edward Island was shut off from the mainland by the curtailment of rail, passenger and truck traffic.

TRADE AND INDUSTRY

In the matter of trade and industry representation outside of Canada, Mr. Storey who read the M.P.B.T. brief stated that the (Continued on page 3, col. 3)

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HUNGARIANS BARRED

VIENNA (AP) — The Austrian government Tuesday barred for an indefinite time the appearance of Hungarian artists and athletes in this country to prevent incidents with refugees.

Unemployment Payments For Fishermen Next Jan.

OTTAWA (CP) — Canada's commercial fishermen will be able to start drawing unemployment insurance next Jan. 1, Labor Minister Gregg announced Tuesday. The plan devised by unemployment insurance commission experts after months of study will apply to every type of commercial fishermen in all parts of Canada. It will be compulsory, upon the fishermen, the employers who pay their wages and the men who buy their catch if the fishermen are not wage-earners. The scheme affecting about 50,000 persons was outlined briefly in the Commons by Mr. Gregg. It was approved by cabinet last week after officials worked out the fishermen under insurance protection. However, he gave the House such points as these: 1. Fishermen qualifying for benefits during the Jan. 1-April 15 period will be able to collect them for a minimum of 10 weeks. This is the same as regularly-insured workers get as a minimum for the seasonal benefits. 2. In general the rates of contributions and benefits will be the same as applying to all other seasonal workers. 3. Provision will be made for "integrating" fishing contributions with those made by fishermen working in normally-insured employment when they are not at the fishery. PLAN SPECIAL STAMPS Mr. Gregg described the Jan. 1-April 15 period as "the time of year when most fishermen are unemployed." This was the reason for restricting benefit payments to this period. He sketched out the plan and said he would go into details when

Unemployment Payments For Fishermen Next Jan.

his annual departmental spending estimates came up later. Meanwhile, it was learned that some of the aspects of the scheme include maximum benefit rates of \$30 a week for unemployed fishermen with dependents and \$23 a week for single persons. These are identical with those paid to beneficiaries in other callings. Contributions by fishermen and employers or fish buyers regarded as employers will be roughly the maximum 60-cents-a-week contribution from each. The fish buyer with the fish scheme retaining the same as for other occupations, in doing the bookkeeping. They will have to act as employer also will be a special fisherman type stamp for insurance books. NEED IS PAYMENTS It will take 15 weekly "fishing" contributions to qualify an applicant for fishermen's benefits. Normally, these have to be deducted weekly from other workers, but a week's leeway will be allowed in the case of seafarers late getting into port. Informants said also it has not yet been settled how the integration of fishing and non-fishing contributions mentioned by Mr. Gregg will be worked out. However, it was indicated that persons basically regarded as fishermen would not be able to qualify for benefits during the fishing season, regardless of their contributions in other occupations. But present plans are to work out a system to let them qualify for benefits in the winter with the insurance fund while they are in help of payments made into the off-season occupations such as lumber-

Report Saurel Freed From Ice

OTTAWA (CP) — The transport department's icebreaker Saurel, trapped in ice off the Newfoundland west coast for 10 days, was freed Monday, the department said. The Saurel was released by the department's ferry ship William Carson, which left Halifax last Saturday on emergency orders and reached the Saurel Monday afternoon. The Saurel had taken over supply missions which the Canadian National Railways' coastal-supply ships Stone and Codroy had been unable to complete to the isolated Newfoundland villages of Flowers Cove, West Modeste and St. Anthony. The icebreaker, which had been on duty at St. John's, met the ships at Port aux Basques and there took on the villages' supplies. In backing the heavy ice the Saurel got herself trapped and for eight days awaited a change of wind to ease the ice-packing. But last Friday the department received a radio message from the captain saying: The department, the CNR, the RCAF, the Royal Canadian Navy and the mines' department's hydrographic surveys all collaborated in speeding the William Carson, followed hard by the Hydrographic survey ship Baffin, to the Saurel's aid. The department said the Carson freed the Saurel Monday afternoon and transferred to her 35 tons of fresh water for her boilers. The two ships proceeded under way Tuesday but are reported to have halted temporarily for winds to clear ice formations on their course.

Dr. Munroe Elected North Sydney Mayor

NORTH SYDNEY, N.S. (CP) — Dr. J. S. Munroe was elected mayor of this Cape Breton town Tuesday. He succeeds Albert V. Forbes who died in December. The physician defeated ex-councillor Stanley Cleary 2,114 to 967.