



JOEY HAS BEST STORY

Premier Smallwood of Newfoundland wears a broad smile during his brief meeting Tuesday with Queen Elizabeth at Gander, Nfld. The queen rested at Gander during a refueling stop. Mr. Smallwood said he greeted the queen with a rip in his trousers — he noticed it too late to change. The Queen and Prince Philip landed later in Barbados, to be greeted by warm sun and 70 degree temperature. It was a cold, blustery day at Gander. (CP Wirephoto)

Jordan Holding Key Today To UN Viet Nam Decision

UNITED NATIONS (CP) — United Nations Security Council Jordan held the key today that could unlock the door to a Viet Nam.

Buster Keaton Dies Of Cancer

HOLLYWOOD (AP) — Buster Keaton, 70, the poker-faced comic whose studies in exquisite frustration amused two generations of movie audiences, died of lung cancer Tuesday.



FAMILIAR POSE

Keaton was a giant on the golden age of silent-screen comedy whose stars included Charlie Chaplin, Harold Lloyd, Ben Turpin, Harry Langdon, Laurel and Hardy. All are dead or inactive as performers. Keaton continued pursuing his comic trade until he fell ill three months ago.

The end came Tuesday morning at the suburban Woodland Hills home he had bought with returns from his film biography in 1956, with Donald O'Connor in the Keaton role.

With Keaton when he died was his wife, Eleanor, a tall blonde dancer he married in 1940, when he was 44 and she was 21.

In his final years, Keaton had reached the solvency that eluded him through most of his long career. He had earned millions of dollars, but divorce and extravagance wiped out his fortune. In 1934 he was bankrupt, with debts of \$303,832.

Two previous marriages ended in divorce. His first wife was silent film star Natalie Talmadge, who bore him two sons, Joseph and Robert. Keaton also was married briefly to Mae Scribbins.

Joseph Frank Keaton was born in Piqua, Kans., Oct. 4, 1895, into a family of circus and vaudeville acrobats. He was thrown 'ween his father and uncles with such seeming peril that he acquired his name, Buster.

Bulging, Fatty Arbuckle saw film possibilities in the young comic and in 1917, induced Keaton to try his luck in films. The luck was good.

Soon Keaton was featured in his own two-reelers, then in features such as Sherlock Holmes Jr., Go West, The Cameraman, Parlor, Bedroom and Bath, The Passionate Plumber.

The Keaton character never changed. He always wore the shapeless suit, the flat felt hat. Always his face appeared as if curved from granite.

As those of many of his contemporaries (exception: Laurel and Hardy), Keaton's vogue did

not survive the talkie era. MGM, where he had made many of his notable films, kept him on a retainer as a gag man for newer comics, principally Red Skelton. Later, Keaton decided to return to performing. He climbed back to prominence after playing second-rate night clubs and small-town theatres.

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P.E.I.'s Medicare Policy Hinges On Tax Action

Four Provinces Join Medicare

OTTAWA (CP)—No province rejected a national medical care insurance plan but only four were ready after a federal-provincial conference Tuesday to join a federally-sponsored program to start July 1, 1967.

Health Minister MacEachen maintained at a press conference he was encouraged that there were no outright refusals from Ontario, British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

Equally encouraging, he said, were definite yes replies from Newfoundland, New Brunswick and Saskatchewan. He said he concludes Quebec favors a national plan since it has endorsed the conditions Ottawa attaches to paying half the cost.

The next step will be a report by Mr. MacEachen to the federal cabinet and possibly referring of the whole matter to a conference of premiers and Prime Minister Pearson in June.

The federal government probably will be making a decision whether to proceed now with federal legislation without awaiting further acceptances after Mr. MacEachen reports to the cabinet.

MENTIONS LATER DATE

Ontario's health minister, Matthew Dymond said a later starting date than July 1, 1967, would be helpful. He cited difficulties in adjusting the federal plan involving medical manpower, provincial priorities for spending on education and labor agreements in force with health care as a big fringe benefit.

The federal-provincial representatives spent most of the final conference session on medical care after reaching agreement on allocation of the proposed \$500,000,000 federal fund to expand medical, dental and nursing training and research facilities.

They agreed a major portion of the fund—about \$300,000,000—will be distributed on a per-capita basis. In addition to this allocation, the Atlantic provinces will get \$25,000,000 to meet their

greater need for expanding health resources.

The rest of the fund—about \$175,000,000 won't be allocated until after an exchange of correspondence with the provinces. A committee set up at the last conference suggested this sum be allocated when the provinces' needs are more clearly defined by an advisory committee.

A second major point of the conference was Mr. MacEachen's announcement that the federal government will extend for an extra two years to March 31, 1970, hospital construction grants.

Quebec Health Minister Kierans advised the conference his province wants to opt out of the construction grants for the extended period, taking an alternative financial payment to be defined by the federal-provincial tax structure committee.

SNOW BURIES QUEBEC CITY

QUEBEC (CP)—It's been a big year for snow in Quebec City and the white stuff is everywhere — even adorning the front-page nameplate of one of the community's daily newspapers.

L'Action rounded out the stormy month of January and launched into February by printing its nameplate with snow represented as piled up on top and in every typographical cranny.

Off to one side was the usual but reserved for the weather forecast. And, as usual, the forecast involved more snow.

There were 63.4 inches of snow here in January, more than for any January since 1943. The month's last three days brought 29.4 inches, and the winter so far has seen 146.6 inches fall, compared with the average of 120 for the period.

\$55,000 Lost On Ferry Plans

CAPITAL BUREAU OF THE GUARDIAN

OTTAWA — Some \$55,000 was wasted in naval architect's fees on the design of the new ice breaking ferry for the Northumberland Strait and Newfoundland service, Auditor General A.M. Henderson said in his annual report tabled in the Commons Tuesday.

He said that in September 1963 the department of transport entered into a contract with a firm of naval architects for plans and specifications for the ferry at a fixed fee of \$156,000. Six months later it became evident that allowance would have to be made for all car weights contemplated in the original planning if the vessel was to be properly stabilized.

"When this decision was communicated to them the architects placed a value of \$102,000 on the work they had already done," Mr. Henderson said. "They estimated that they would be able to use work to the value of \$47,000 in the revised planning, and that the balance of \$55,000 represented the cost of planning work to be abandoned. They were reimbursed in full by the department."

The treasury board had pointed out that the need for the design changes might have been avoided had the department engineers taken the precaution to

verify their information regarding freight car weights with the CNR before starting the basic design. The board directed that procedures be developed for the verification of basic data to avoid similar situations in the future.

"The board pointed out that it would seem improbable that the planning and implementation of modifications to the design and construction of freight cars took place entirely between August 1963 when the basic plans for the new ferry were developed and February 1964 when the new weight data was provided to the department by the CNR," Mr. Henderson noted.



HEDDA HOPPER

PNEUMONIA BLAMED

Actress-Columnist Hedda Hopper Dies

HOLLYWOOD (AP) — Hedda Hopper, whose movie gossip column was as flamboyant as her hats, died in hospital Tuesday of double pneumonia with heart complications.

The death of the 75-year-old actress-writer was announced by actor William Hopper, her only child, who plays detective Paul Drake on the Perry Mason television show.

Miss Hopper entered hospital Sunday.

Her column appeared in newspapers in the United States and Canada.

Born Elda Furry on a farm near Hildesburg, Pa., one of nine children of Quaker parents, she got the name Hedda from her only husband, De Wolfe Hopper, a theatrical giant at the turn of the century.

She was 23, a beautiful chorus girl in New York, when she became the sixth wife of Hopper, then 55. They were divorced in 1922.

She came to Hollywood where her good looks and regal bearing made her successful at playing society women in silent and talking movies.

"Half the time, I was playing mother to actors older than I," she said. Then during the depression, movie jobs got scarce and she turned to real estate to supplement her income and support her son.

She got into the column business in 1936 after a newspaper

syndicate asked a publicity man for a recommendation.

"Why not try Hedda Hopper?" the man said. "She knows more of what is going on in this town than anyone I know."

Hedda soon became a real threat to Loretta Parsons' throne as gossip queen of the town. As had Louella, she had a radio show too.

"Louella had the town in her hand when I came on the scene, so I had to be aggressive and sometimes brutal," Hedda recalled.

A long feud developed between Hedda and Louella, but they periodically made up. Her trademark was her hats . . . a new one for every occasion. She loved them, all kinds, always wore them in public. After a time, designers began sending hats to her.

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Limited Plan Being Studied

CAPITAL BUREAU OF THE GUARDIAN

OTTAWA — P.E.I. will have to await the report of the federal-provincial tax structure committee before any decision can be made on a universal medical care program for the province, P.E.I. Health Minister Henry Wedge said here Tuesday.

Interviewed at the conclusion of the two-day health ministers' conference, Mr. Wedge said that the committee is supposed to bring down its report by June 1 of this year.

"I hope it will supply the answers to the Island's financial problems. If a better deal is worked out for P.E.I. in terms of tax revenue it is possible we could then consider medicare," Mr. Wedge said.

However he expressed disappointment that the federal government had again turned down a request from the provinces to include mental health and tuberculosis patients under the hospital insurance plan.

"If this had been done it would have meant a saving of between \$600,000 and \$700,000 a year to P.E.I. and this would have brought us a big step closer to full medicare," Mr. Wedge pointed out.

LIMITED PLAY

He said that in the meantime the province is studying a limited medical plan which would take care of the needs of the old age pensioners, disabled persons and other recipients of various types of provincial assistance. This plan if put into effect would cover about 12 per cent of the Island's population.

"I am hoping for a report on this plan soon as it is among the aged and disabled people that the greatest need lies for health services," Mr. Wedge said. "The province can pick up the bill for this much and it would be a start and get us into the medical care field. The broader universal medicare plan could then come later."

GOOD CONFERENCE

Mr. Wedge said the conference was generally a good one and the provinces had won some

concessions from the federal government and had been given a clearer explanation of the federal intentions. He said three provinces had indicated their interest in entering the medicare plan while the others such as P.E.I. wanted more time to study the matter and see what changes in tax revenues would be proposed before committing themselves.

He said that under the proposed division of the federal \$500 million health resources fund P.E.I. would get some share both on a per capita basis and as a result of a special \$25 million grant to the Atlantic area. But he explained that because P.E.I. had limited facilities for training health personnel that most of the money would be channelled into those facilities which already existed for medical and nursing training.

He said the Atlantic Province health ministers would hold a meeting in a few weeks to decide on the allocation of the money that will be available to the region. He said there probably was not enough population on the Island or in the Atlantic area to warrant the duplication of such facilities as the medical and dental school at Dalhousie University. However, he said P.E.I. had laboratory facilities where it trained its own lab technicians and this would qualify for some financial aid.

DISAPPOINTED
He said the federal government had not increased the hospital construction grants from the present figure of \$2,000 a bed.

"P.E.I. has used up all its allotment for this purpose but the government has agreed to extend the grants for another two years until 1970 at the same rate," Mr. Wedge explained. "We had hoped for a boost as the cost of providing hospital beds is now some \$20,000 to \$25,000 a bed. But the continuation of the grants for another two years will be making a study to determine which areas are most in need of hospital expansion."

Northern N.Y. State Buried Under Drifts

OSWEGO, N.Y. (AP)—

Whole counties of northern New York state lay buried Tuesday under drifts up to 30 feet deep after one of the worst snow storms on record. Oswego, on the southeastern shore of Lake Ontario, reported 102 inches on the ground.

Industry shut down. Schools and stores closed. Some newspapers went unpublished, others couldn't deliver editions. A shortage of milk and bread threat-

ened. Streets were impassable to fire trucks, cars and buses.

The snow, which struck during the weekend and was driven by winds gusting at 60 miles an hour, diminished to flurries Tuesday. But the U.S. weather bureau said a new storm might dump another two to four inches in the stricken area today.

The streets of Syracuse, which has a population of 216,000, were drifted in some places 10 to 15 feet deep. Onondaga County executive John Mulroy declared an emergency and called for state and federal help.

In Albany, the New York state Senate promised financial assistance for communities hardest hit by the storm. (Continued on page 3, col. 3)

Medicine Hat Family Pickets Legislature

EDMONTON (CP)—A Medicine Hat family began picketing the legislative building Tuesday and said they will remain until they die, if necessary.

Paul Belinsky, his wife and four children began picketing at 11 a.m. in seven-degree temperatures. The children range from six to 14.

They are asking for \$200,000, "which your sheriff and court took from us . . . as well as payment for the health you took from us."

Their demands, printed on large placards, are addressed to Premier E. C. Manning.

Mr. Belinsky said in an interview his troubles began in 1958 after he had been refused a charter for his Good Samaritan Welfare Society, which he said was to aid the poor in Canada and around the world.

southern Alberta, and has taken machinery, household effects and all his belongings.

WON'T LEAVE
"We will die here," Mrs. Belinsky said. "We won't go from here until we get what is coming to us."

Mr. Belinsky said he was put in jail twice and spent three months in a mental hospital "and all the time I was innocent."

There have been several attempts on his life and the steering mechanism on his car was tampered with, he charged.

The Belinskys said they have written to the premier, the federal government and the Queen. They also have written 4,000 letters to Canadian churches, they said.

The six-page letter, of which they carried copies Tuesday, says a police magistrate listed 64 criminal accusations against Mr. Belinsky without his knowledge.

Collision Kills 17

MIAMI, Fla. (AP)—A diesel engine and a farm workers' bus collided Tuesday night south of Miami, and at least 17 persons were killed, the sheriff's office said. Fourteen were injured.

The ancient bus was wrapped around the front of the engine after the crash.

Police used acetylene torches and a wrecker to pry pieces of the bus off the engine.

As the sections of the bus were ripped off, the torches were used to cut seats out, so rescue workers could get to other bodies.



TRAINS COLLIDE AT STEWIACKE

Two trains were only slightly injured when two freight trains collided on the CNR's main line Tuesday at

Stewiacke, N.S., 40 miles north of Halifax. Two diesel units of one train were piled under several of the 16 freight cars

in a gully and railway traffic was delayed more than 10 hours. An eastbound train was struck by a westbound one

while moving into a siding. Later passengers trains were able to squeeze through the debris. (CP Wirephoto)



DO IT NOW

Parliament At A Glance

BY THE CANADIAN PRESS

TUESDAY, Feb. 1, 1966

The Commons opened a two-day supply debate, the avenue for a series of complaints from opposition MPs.

Defence Minister Heller said the U.S. defence department has no intention of buying the F-5, already chosen for the RCAF.

External Affairs Minister Martin and David Lewis (NDP—York South) clashed over the U.S. involvement in Viet Nam.

Creditiste Leader Casault said Quebec is using winter works payments from Ottawa for other than municipal purposes.

Auditor-General Maxwell Henderson filed his annual report questioning a series of public expenditures.

Only four of the 10 provinces indicated at the federal-provincial health conference they are ready to accept Ottawa's medicare plan.