



F. M. CANNON HEADS AGRICULTURAL COUNCIL

The newly elected officers and members of the Executive of the Prince Edward Island Agricultural Council are left to right, front row: G.C. Warren, past president; S.C. Wright, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and executive member; F.M. Cannon, President; H. Ayres, L.C. Callbeck, R.B. MacLaren, J.W.G. Nicholson, committee chairman. Missing from the picture are C.K. Clay, Lorne Ramsay, Wendell Profit. (see story on Page 2).

Guardian Photo

"Great Progress" In Health Plan

OTTAWA (CP) — Health Minister Martin said Wednesday "great progress" towards a hospital insurance scheme was made in conferences between himself and Premier Frost of Ontario this week.

"Undoubtedly as the result of our meetings," he said in the Commons, "clarifications have arisen and great progress has been made."

The Ontario and federal governments have not been seeing eye-to-eye on some points in their respective proposals for a hospital insurance scheme. Premier Frost and Mr. Martin met in Toronto this week.

Mr. Martin said the federal government is not backing away from proposals it made a year ago to the provinces, which call for Parliament's treasury financing half the cost of initial stages of a national hospital insurance plan. A proviso is that a majority of Canada's population participate. To date four provinces have accepted the federal plan—British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Newfoundland.

NEW U.S. ENVOY

CANBERRA (Reuters) — Appointment of William Joseph Sebold as United States ambassador to Australia is expected to be announced soon, reports here Wednesday night said. Sebold, 58, is a career diplomat who heads the Far Eastern branch of the U.S. state department. Ambassador Douglas Moffat, 74, died in Sydney last September.

Israel Delays Her Decision On Aqaba Gulf and Gaza Strip

JERUSALEM (AP)—Israel put off any momentous decision on the Aqaba Gulf and Gaza Strip issues Wednesday. Instead, she asked for clarification of the United States position on those barriers to Middle East peace.

The Israeli foreign ministry sought further information on details it considered vague in a plan State Secretary Dulles presented Monday to get Israeli troops out of the last of the territory they seized last fall.

Premier David Ben-Gurion's cabinet postponed for 24 hours a scheduled meeting to consider the proposal. But Ben-Gurion has already mulled over at least some phases with his foreign affairs advisers.

To promote the troop withdrawal demanded by UN resolutions, Dulles conditionally offered U.S. support for free navigation in the Gulf of Aqaba, long closed to the Israelis by Egyptian guns, and for a UN force of some kind to see to it that the Gulf is not used again for Arab raids on Israel.

13 Known Dead In Rest Home Fire At Council Bluffs, Iowa

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Iowa (AP) — Fire slashed through a 71-year-old hilltop rest home in Council Bluffs Wednesday leaving 13 known dead and sending 14 of the 30 patients to hospitals.

Firemen found the 13th body in the rubble of the three-story frame structure more than three hours after the first alarm was sounded. They continued to search the rubble for bodies. It was not known how many employees had been in the home when the fire broke out.

The flames struck about 1 p.m. while employees were in the dining room and in less than an hour nothing but a shell remained of the frame building in the morningside addition, one of the most scenic spots in this river front city, across the Missouri River from Omaha.

Six Injured In \$750,000 Moncton Warehouse Fire

MONCTON, N.B. (CP) — Five firemen and a policeman suffered burns or injuries in a warehouse fire here Wednesday and fire chief Murray McKie estimated damage at up to \$750,000.

The three-alarm fire gutted a warehouse at the Victory Industrial Centre. Owned by Wallace Warehouse and Cartage Limited, the large concrete building—also containing offices—was occupied by Firestone Tire and Rubber Company and Colgate-Palmolive Limited.

Burned by intense heat shortly after arriving at the scene were firemen Harry Stollies, A. J. Atkinson, Gerald Thompson and Lester Power. They received outpatient treatment and were released from hospital.

Fireman Don Jewett and Constable Douglas Turner were knocked unconscious by falling rubble. Turner, who was not wearing a helmet, suffered the most serious injuries. The condition of both men was reported fair Wednesday night.

STOCK LOSSES HEAVY

Cause of the fire was unknown but it apparently started in the northwest corner of the one-story building where the furnace had been situated. The blaze burned until dusk.

The loss included \$150,000 worth of tires, 300 television sets, two railway carloads of refrigerators and other appliances, and stock of the soap company.

Jewett and Turner were injured when parts of the south wall collapsed. Smoke and flames at times lanced more than 100 feet into the clear, cold air. Chief McKie said the fire may have burned for some time before it was noticed.

S. C. Spokesman Sees Canada Council Form of State Culture

OTTAWA (CP) — A Social Credit spokesman opposed the planned Canada Council Wednesday as a vehicle for "state culture."

"We see in this a method for promoting state culture," said George McLeod (SC—Okanagan—Revelstoke).

The Social Credit party was concerned over Prime Minister St. Laurent's use of the words "spiritual development" and "intellectual world brotherhood" in connection with the council.

Mr. McLeod said those words would worry many Canadians who have strong religious beliefs and who oppose many of the "state cultures now rampant in the world."

OTHERS IN FAVOR

He was the only opposition party spokesman to oppose the Canada Council as the Commons debated a bill to set up the culture promoting organization with a \$100,000 federal grant.

Half of the grant will be invested with the income going to support the arts, humanities and social sciences through such means as scholarships and grants. The other half will be used to help build and equip new university buildings.

Although both Opposition Leader Diefenbaker and CCF Leader Coldwell expressed support of the council, Mr. Diefenbaker said there will be inadequate control by Parliament over its operations.

The Progressive Conservative leader said provision for an annual report to Parliament by the council will be "merely a formality."

TIME NOT RIPE

Mr. Coldwell said an annual report to Parliament by the council may not be sufficient in providing adequate control by the Commons. But there were several existing ways for members to question the council's activities.

He said he hopes that some day there will be a cultural centre in each provincial capital, possibly drawing material from the National Gallery, and a natural cultural centre which would be a focus for drama, music, opera and the like.

Much had already been done to promote a distinctly Canadian culture, especially by the CBC.

Mr. McLeod, however, said the Social Credit party feels that, in view of other needs, the time has not arrived to spend \$100,000,000 on culture.

But if the government was determined to spend the money for that purpose, why not distribute it among organizations already doing a good job in promoting the arts.

Find Body Of Missing Writer

GUILDFORD, Conn. (AP)—The nude body of missing magazine writer George Sessions Perry was found in a small stream Wednesday by a steel salesman checking construction on the \$5,000,000 Connecticut turnpike here.

The 46-year-old Perry, a long-time arthritis sufferer, had been missing from his home here since Dec. 13 when he left home to search for a missing cocker spaniel.

Perry's body, discovered by Edward Lambert of Troy, N.Y., was identified by assistant police chief George Heindl, of nearby Madison, himself a magazine writer and a long-time friend of Perry.

Heindl and Madison police chief Jacob Rickert said that it appears that Perry took his own life.

Perry, who gained fame through his Cities of America series in the Saturday Evening Post, disappeared while his wife was away from home for dental attention.

Perry had been a war correspondent for New Yorker magazine and the Saturday Evening Post.

With Viola Brothers Shore, he wrote a movie, The Arkansas Traveler, and his prize-winning book Hold Autumn in Your Hand was later adapted into a movie titled The Southerner.

DEFENDS DUPLESSIS

Mr. McLeod referred to the opposition by Premier Duplessis of Quebec to federal grants to universities. Mr. Duplessis might be looking into the future more than Parliament appeared to be doing now.

"Perhaps he sees in this policy the culmination of all his fears. He may be a smarter man than many of us have thought."

The more requests there were for aid from the federal government, the more the central government would control the purposes for which the money was spent.

PIONEER VESSEL

The world's first ocean-going motor vessel the Selandia was launched in Denmark in 1912.

U.S. Ports In Grip Of Strike

NEW YORK (AP)—The second dock strike in three months held a tight grip Wednesday on U.S. Atlantic ports from Maine to Virginia. Mile upon mile of busy waterfront subsided to almost ghost-like silence.

The International Longshoremen's Association (I.L.A.) said its renewed contract strike was 100 per cent effective among its 45,000 dockers. No one disputed the estimate.

Peace talks were not broken off. But they lacked the optimistic zip of Tuesday's pre-strike negotiations.

NO RECORDS BROKEN James F. Finnegan, national director of federal mediation, remarked: "Things are rocking along satisfactorily but no speed records are being broken."

The strike got under way with the expiration Tuesday night of an 90-day Taft-Hartley injunction that interrupted last November's waterfront strike.

Latest word from Washington was that the government has no present plans to intervene in the strike, as it did in November.

Forty-five ships were caught in New York harbor, already partially crippled by a stubborn tugboat strike, now in its 13th day. Others, inbound, sought strike-free havens elsewhere.

Arrangements were made to dock the world's largest liner, the Queen Elizabeth, at Halifax, if need be, and bring her passengers into New York by train. Her sister ship, the Queen Mary, docked at Halifax during a previous strike.

CARGO SHIPS CRIPPLED

Some passenger liners continued to arrive here. Not only did they have to dock without tugs, but supervisory personnel had to unload passenger baggage. Cruise ships were expected to get away without much difficulty.

At the complete mercy of the strike, however, were cargo vessels. It is longshoremen, with slings and nets, who unload and reload such ships.

A freight embargo was placed on most of the Atlantic coast to prevent a pileup of railroad cars. However, the post office department made arrangements to handle mail with navy personnel if necessary.

SUPER-BOMB STATEMENT

In his reference to Britain's super-bomb, Sandys said: "Furthermore, we have now almost completed the development of the first British megaton bomb."

"In the present state of the world, we cannot believe that any British government would feel it right to throw away, at this stage, all that has been accomplished in this field."

"In the absence of any international agreement of disarmament we have to deal with the situation as it is today."

Several leaders in the Labor party have protested against the plan to explode Britain's first hydrogen bomb in the Pacific. Japan has asked that the tests be suspended.

Last July Sir Anthony Eden, then prime minister, said Britain's first H-bomb would be tested during the first half of 1957.

There has been no official statement of the explosive power of the British bombs which soon are to be tested, but unofficial estimates place them in the three megaton range, or equal to 3,000,000 tons of TNT.

The last H-bomb dropped by the United States was officially described as having an explosive power "of several million tons of TNT."

For purposes of comparison, the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima in the Second World War was equivalent to 20,000 tons of TNT.

BOMB DATA EXPECTED

His announcement on the hydrogen bomb had been generally expected as Britain is well advanced on plans for testing such a weapon in the Christmas island area of the Pacific sometime after March 1.

Sandys said Britain would not give a fair share of the burden of defending Western Europe but added: "We are at present considering what should be the size of the forces which we can reasonably maintain on the Continent."

"Before making any changes there will be the fullest consultation with our partners in NATO and the Western European Union."

LABOR CHANCES GOOD

And because North Lewisham is primarily a residential rather than an industrial area, Labor candidate Niall MacDermot 45 given at least an even chance of winning the riding from the Conservative party, which has held the seat since it was established only a slim 3,236-vote majority in 1950.

STEEL TARIFF OVERHAUL COMPLETED

Potato Tariff Changes May Be Revealed With Budget

Sandys Reports H-Bomb Now "Almost Completed"

Year-Round Protection Is Sought On Imports From U.S.

U.S. Ports In Grip Of Strike

Observes 106th Birthday Today

Announce CF-105 All-Weather Jet Fighter To Fly This Year

Egyptians Cold To U.S. Suggestion For Withdrawal

Fruit Dealers Elect Officers

Storms Damage Magnificent And Delay Voyage To Halifax

Mt. A. Debaters In Unanimous Win

BUDDHIST STATE

OTTAWA (CP) — The biggest overhaul of Canada's steel tariffs in 50 years, one requiring a year-long investigation, now has been completed by the tariff board, it was learned Wednesday.

Its recommendations outlined in a 300-page document likely will be made public at the time of the 1957-58 budget to be laid down perhaps towards the end of March.

Along with the report will be one dealing with revisions of duties on imports of steel pipe and tubes.

All told, about 130 individual steel products are reported to be affected by recommendations in the two investigations. Negotiations with perhaps a dozen countries may be required to implement them.

Officials predicted that many of the revisions—incorporating both increases and decreases in existing rates—may be in effect by January, 1958.

BARGAIN UNDER GATT

International bargaining on the proposals is planned for the next meeting of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade at Geneva next fall. At that time the member countries will negotiate an extension of current pacts, which expire at the year-end.

Canadian officials meanwhile are continuing direct negotiations with the United States to increase protection for Canadian potato growers. That bargaining also may be completed in time for announcement in the budget.

The steel inquiry followed an appeal by Canada's basic-steel industry for increased protection against imports so that the Canadian industry might be encouraged to expand to meet the Canadian economy's increasing needs.

Requests of the steel producers, if granted, would just about double present duties on imported steel. There is no indication that the board has agreed with all the requests. Some informants suggest that the recommended increases and decreases may be balanced so that there would be no great over-all tariff rise.

SEEK SPUD PROTECTION

The potato negotiations result from Canadian growers' appeals for greater protection against American potatoes now enter Canada duty-free except for a six-week period during June - July when the rate is 37½ cents a hundredweight. The U.S. tariff on Canadian potatoes is 75 cents a hundredweight except for an annual 3,500,000-bushel quota on which the rate is reduced by one-half.

Canada is seeking to extend the Canadian rate of 37½ cents to cover year-round imports. The U.S. is asking for some concession for the move, perhaps by eliminating the cut-price quota on imports from Canada, or Canadian tariff reductions on some other product.

American public hearings on the Canadian request are to open March 6. Negotiations may be completed within a week or so after the hearings.

PETROLIA, Ont. (CP) — The grand old lady of Lambton County who was born 106 years before the American Civil War, will celebrate her 106th birthday today.

She is Mrs. J. W. Ford, born Mary Fryor in Penzance, Cornwall, England in 1851.

Mrs. Fryor spent her early childhood in England and it was there that she met her husband, James W. Ford. Mr. Ford emigrated to Canada first. In 1872, five years after Confederation, Mrs. Ford emigrated to this country to join him.

Her husband died in 1899 and Mrs. Ford has lived with her daughters.

Still hale and hearty she sits in her chair and receives her many visitors daily. She attributes her long life to sensible eating and moderation in all things. Even today she admits "that a little bit of what you fancy does you good."

CAIRO (AP) — Egyptian officials Wednesday attacked the U.S. offer to support Israel's right to send ships through the Gulf of Aqaba in exchange for an Israeli withdrawal from Egyptian territory.

They also denounced State Secretary Dulles' suggestion for UN troops when Israel forces pull out.

After more than 24 hours' silence, government sources opened up against the suggestions as "an American attempt to settle the Palestine problem to Israel's benefit."

Two Egyptian statements were issued. The first, from information director Abdel Kader Hatem, charged that "countries which support Israeli demands are trying to reward Israeli aggression."

Hatem did not specifically mention the U.S. but later another official source singled out the Dulles plan as "obvious favoritism to Israel with the aim of settling the Palestine problem to Israel's benefit."

Egyptian newspapers also were generally critical of the U.S. offer to Israel, calling it a move to reward aggression.

MT. A. DEBATERS IN UNANIMOUS WIN

SACKVILLE, N.B. (CP)—Mount Allison University debaters won a unanimous decision over St. Thomas College of Chatham, N.B. Tuesday, defeating a resolution that "Premier Duplessis is justified in refusing federal grants to Quebec universities."

Jim Van Vleet, Mount Royal, Que., and Bill Bishop of Brookville, N.B., upheld the negative for Mount A. Peter McKee, Bonaventure, N.B., and Everett Sullivan, Fredericton, debated for St. Thomas.

The Magnificent, which last month carried troops and supplies to Canada's United Nations Emergency Force component in the Middle East, is returning with a cargo of more than 50 Sabre jet aircraft she picked up in Glasgow.

Many of the aircraft are lashed to her flight deck, the navy says, and have been exposed to the salt water and spray from 40-foot seas, lashed by 30-knot winds. Some seas towered to 60 feet and some winds gusted to 85 knots.

Flight-deck crew have patrolled the aircraft around the clock, checking the planes' lashings.

The carrier has been battling "probably the worst storm of the winter in the North Atlantic," the navy said, and "has taken a beating."

"Boats have been damaged, several early floats and some weather-deck fittings have been washed away. Salt water from the heavy seas has penetrated some compartments, causing minor damage to stores and temporary discomfort to personnel."

A sea-sickness of the damage would have to await calmer weather.

The Maggie's arrival in Halifax would depend on the storm. The original date was Friday, but the latest now is sometime during the weekend.