

Vast Blackout Mystery Remains Dark As Ever

"It Could Happen Again," Expert Says Of Blackout

By PHILIP J. KEUPER
NEW YORK (AP)—U.S. government and utility officials searched for reasons Wednesday for modern technology's most monumental goof—a power blackout so big they felt it could never happen.

But as a hastily-created industry-government committee met in Washington, a frightening prospect remained. In the opinion of a utility spokesman, it could happen again.

"I'd have to say 'yes,'" said Charles Hopps of Consolidated Edison, one of the power companies whose power vanished.

With soaring demand for electricity power companies have joined in a vast nerve network, which includes almost every kind of power-generation system, from tiny municipal power plants to co-operatives, to private utility generators to big public systems such as the Niagara Power Project and the Tennessee Valley Authority.

The power blackout affected a huge area because its points were linked in the Canadian-American United States interconnection.

EMERGENCY FAILS
Exactly what happened and why is not clear. Nor is it clear why emergency provisions failed to work.

"We may never be able to pin it down," said chairman Joseph Swidler of the Federal Power Commission in Washington, as the government and the industry started to investigate the blackout.

The first breakdown—somewhere along the transmission network linking the northeastern U.S. utilities—tripped a system designed to bring in power from other points.

"This threw so much load on the remaining facilities of the combined electric companies in the northeast that they were unable to meet the demand the extra electric system collapsed," said Earl C. Forbes, chairman of Consolidated Edison, whose 7,000 kilowatts of rated capacity supply New York City's power.

Another system—roughly comparable in purpose to a household fuse—shut down power generators so they wouldn't be damaged.

Message Seen Final Warning
By GEOFFREY WHITEHEAD
LONDON (Reuters)—A message thought to contain Britain's final warning about a unilateral Rhodesian seizure of independence was sent by Prime Minister Wilson to his Rhodesian counterpart Wednesday.

Observers said the message probably amounted to a last warning that blame for any illegal seizure of independence by the white-ruled colony would rest solely with Rhodesia.

Restoring power meant isolating each blacked out power system so no outside electricity would bring surges that would result in new power failures.

Then power plants were re-started, linked into a local system, and the local system finally linked so the entire grid was working again.

Sabotage Hints Heard In Blackout Reaction
LONDON (AP)—"It was a Communist Chinese plot to sabotage the United Nations," said a man in Bogota, Colombia, Wednesday.

This hint of sabotage was apparent in world reaction to the astounding power blackout of the northeastern United States and southern Canada Tuesday evening.

The London Evening Standard's correspondent, Leo Armat, wrote from New York: "Americans, calm but fearful that an enemy attack might follow, are asking in their thousands today: 'Have the Communists decided on some form of attack on this country?'"

A Japanese businessman demanded: "Are you sure it isn't sabotage?"

Bogota's El Espectador, a Communist newspaper, said: "An incredible event which paralyzed such cities as New York and Boston seems impossible. Yet it happened."

The reversal of the flow automatically triggered devices in the affected areas of Ontario, removing from service about 3,000,000 kilowatts.

Electricity was restored to many Ontario points at 5:18 p.m. and the province's system was brought up almost to normal operating capacity when a second reversal of flow caused a breakdown again at 6:24 p.m.

Power again was restored to parts of Ontario but a third breakdown occurred at 7:24.

Vacancies In Cabinet Filled
OTTAWA (CP)—Prime Minister Pearson Wednesday named temporary replacements for two cabinet ministers defeated in last Monday's general election.

Going into the afternoon session of a cabinet meeting which began at 10 a.m., the prime minister told reporters Forestry Minister Sauve will be acting agriculture minister and Veterans Minister Thelset will be acting mines minister.

Agriculture Minister Hays lost his seat in Calgary South and Mines Minister MacNaught was defeated in the Prince Edward Island riding of Prince in Monday's voting.

Record Potato Crop Reported From U.S.
The first sign of a pessimistic outlook on the potato crop prospects is seen in a Canada department of agriculture news sheet. It says:

"Potato prices will decline seasonably as harvesting is completed, and with a record United States crop, prices will be substantially below last year throughout the season."

An analysis by F.W. Ward and Sons Ltd., produce analysts suggests that the Canadian potato crop this year is down by 2.8 million hundredweight with the 1965 crop estimate of 44.9 million hundredweight compared with the 47.7 million hundredweight in 1964.

The 10-year average production, the Ward bulletin states, is 41.3 million hundredweight, which is considerably below this year's production figures.

The Ward people suggest Idaho will have one of the finest quality crops in many years and shippers are reporting "a good volume."

In Maine, the Ward estimate suggests, the production will be considerably less than estimated. However, no one will know exactly until harvesting is completed.

Eisenhower To Remain In Hospital

FORT GORDON, Ga. (AP)—Former President Dwight D. Eisenhower had a return of his "chest discomfort" Wednesday and plans for his leaving hospital were cancelled for the time being.

Announcement of this development followed an earlier declaration by Eisenhower's doctors that he had suffered a mild attack of angina pectoris Monday night but was making a good recovery and should be all right in a couple of weeks.

Plans had been announced for him to leave Friday to continue his recuperation at Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington.

But Wednesday afternoon, the press officer at the Fort Gordon Hospital announced that: "While the general had a fine morning, this afternoon he had a return of his chest discomfort. Plans for his departure for Walter Reed have been held in abeyance."

For the moment there was no further elaboration.

French Support China

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—France spoke out for the first time in the United Nations Wednesday on behalf of seating Communist China and declared the long-standing dispute should be settled by simple majority vote.

Echoing the reasoning of President de Gaulle in establishing diplomatic ties with Peking last year, French Ambassador Roger Seydoux argued for Communist China's admission as a matter of justice, political realism and historical inevitability.

Without Peking's participation, Seydoux told the 117 country General Assembly on the third day of the China debate, there could be no solution to the vital issues of peace in South Asia and nuclear disarmament.

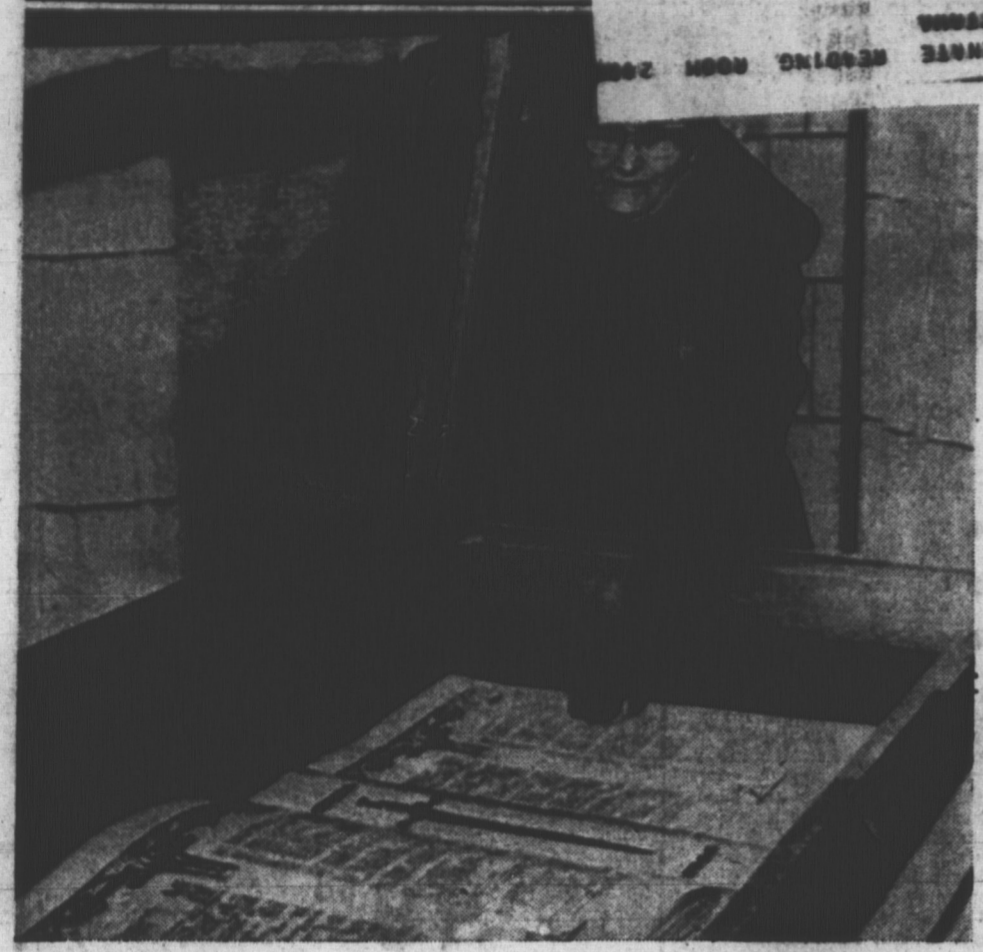
N.Y. Pacifist Dies Of Burns
NEW YORK (AP)—A young pacifist who made himself a human torch in front of the United Nations building to protest the war in Viet Nam died today in Bellevue Hospital.

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THESE ARE the areas in northeastern part of the country and Canada hit Tuesday by power blackouts. In New England, Maine never lost power. Massachusetts had the most extensive and most prolonged power failure of any of the New England states. Except for area of Claremont, New Hampshire communities reported only brief stoppages.



With few exceptions, Vermont communities were out for only about an hour. New York State, Connecticut, Rhode Island and parts of Canada were under a blanket of darkness. (AP Wirephoto Map)



MRS. Nora Wagner of Teeterville, Ont., who lost three sons during the Second World War, is this year's Silver Cross

Mother who will place a wreath at the base of the Cenotaph of the National War Memorial in Remembrance Day ceremonies in Ottawa today. Mrs.

Wagner is seen looking at the Book of Remembrance in the Memorial Chamber of the Centre Block at Parliament Hill. (CP Wirephoto)

Petite Widow From Ont. To Represent Motherhood

By ANN RUEBOTTOM
OTTAWA (CP)—A tiny, grey-haired widow will walk up to the National War Memorial shortly after 11 a.m. today and place a wreath bearing the words Motherhood Representative.

But 75-year-old Nora Wagner of Teeterville, Ont., will not be thinking of herself during the national Remembrance Day ceremony in Ottawa today. Mrs. Wagner is seen looking at the Book of Remembrance in the Memorial Chamber of the Centre Block at Parliament Hill.

will be thinking of the sons she lost in the Second World War. Two boys, Ivan, 28, and Harry, 30, were killed in northwest Europe while serving with the Royal Regiment of Artillery. Ivan was killed in July, 1944, and Harry one month later. The youngest Wagner boy, Bruce, a member of the Argyle Sutherland, was killed in January, 1945.

Moderate expansion in the silver fox industry was seen likely here last night following a day in which a New Brunswick breeder, Archie Neilson, Salisbury walked off with most of the top prizes in medium, light and extra light silvers.

Mr. Neilson had similar comment. He had tried 23 years ago to purchase an adequately sized fox, but without success at Moncton. He was seeking to make such a purchase on behalf of a man who had told him "price is no object; if I get what I want."

Another son, John, with whom Mrs. Wagner now lives, was unable to serve in the armed forces for medical reasons. Mrs. Wagner, wearing the three Silver Crosses she received when her sons died, visited the memorial chamber of the Peace Tower on Parliament Hill Wednesday.

In Medium Silvers Mr. Neilson had the best adult male and female and the best female pup; in light silvers he had all of the top prizes except the adult male; in extra light the New Brunswick man had the top adult male, the best pup male and pup females and he was top man in both the get of sire and in progeny.

The petite woman is still active, baking and sewing as a volunteer in some Simcoe County institutions. She said she feels she is "doing something for the boys" by taking part in today's ceremony.

Mrs. Wagner and her daughter, Mary, were shown the names of her boys written in gold in the Book of Remembrance.

A Hamilton, P.E.I. man, Lloyd K. Lockerby took the grand champion silver fox of the show with his champion adult male.

RESTS FOR OCCASION
Mrs. Wagner was a bit confused by the attention of all the photographers and reporters. But she said she had "rested up" for the occasion.

She and her daughter will be guests of the staff at luncheon today, and have tea with Governor-General and Mrs. Vanier before returning home.

Mr. Neilson had the reserve grand champion, the champion pup male and female and the reserve champion adult male.

STOCK IS LOW
So far as the resurgence of interest in fox production is concerned, it is necessarily limited by the small number of breeding stock available—approximately 165 foxes in P.E.I. and N.B., though there are other unregistered foxes in New Brunswick.

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One Charlottetown man, who showed when nearly 800 foxes were exhibited, said yesterday that the tops in that show would no compare with the lower quality foxes shown yesterday.

At Plevin of the Hudson's Bay Company, Montreal threw just a bit of cold water on today's animals.

What worries Mrs. Wagner on her first visit to the capital is that her suitcase got lost on the train and she has nothing black to wear for the ceremony.



Parkin Cass, Summerside, who is judging the live fox show here this week, is shown, second from the left,

at Wednesday night's annual dinner. Mink Judge W. MacFarlane, Montreal is at the left. The smiling gentleman to

the right of Mr. Cass is Clayton Mills, Kensington, president of the P.E.I. Fur Breeders Association, who presided.

All Plevin, Montreal, guest speaker at the dinner, is on the right of Mr. Mill. L.W. Hancock, Summerside is next.