



13 PERSONS LEFT HOMELESS

Thirteen people were left homeless in Wellington yesterday morning when fire gutted the residence seen burning above. Firemen with pumper trucks from the R.C.A.F. station and the Summerside Fire Department played a major part in assisting local firemen in preventing the fire from spreading through a large section of the village which was directly in the path of a strong breeze. Sparks from the fire ignited shingles on the roof of the Co-op store but were extinguished before much damage was done. The fire originated about 9 a. m. in a section of the house occupied by Edward Ferguson. Other residents left homeless by the fire were Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Richards and their five children, and Mr. and Mrs. Abel Arsenault and three children. The house was located on a corner of the intersection in the center of the village, diagonally across the street from the large store of Arsenault and Gaudet.

## IN THE WAKE OF A GOVERNMENT SPLIT

# Iceland Asks Withdrawal Of Yanks From Country

Undesirable  
But Not  
Unexpected

HEAVY DAMAGE

## Grain Warehouse Blast Takes At Least 4 Lives

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — Officials of the United States Wednesday described the Icelandic Parliament's resolution calling for withdrawal of American troops from Iceland as "an undesirable but not wholly unexpected development."

Under terms of the bilateral agreement, pursuant to the North Atlantic Treaty, the United States has stationed troops at a strategic air base at Keflavik since 1951.

Western diplomatic circles were agreed that the NATO lifeline across the North Atlantic would be stripped of some of its best protective mechanism if the Keflavik base ceased to operate.

If Iceland's leaders decide to press ahead on the matter, they will have to comply with existing arrangements to give the NATO Council six months notice to consider a request for withdrawal of NATO forces. Then the United States would be entitled to another 12 months notice to carry out any decision arising from a conference between NATO officials and Icelandic representatives.

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A bomb-like explosion demolished a big grain warehouse in the busy 30th and Market street area of Philadelphia Wednesday, spreading damage elsewhere and took the lives of at least four persons.

Police also said an undetermined number of persons were injured, including 14 night class students at the Drexel Institute of Technology. The institute is one of several major educational, governmental and business institutions within five blocks of the scene of the blast.

The explosion, attributed by some fire department officials to heavy accumulation of dust in a grain elevator, started fires which roared through the shell of the granary and threatened to spread to neighboring buildings.

Within 20 hours after the mid-evening blast, which jolted not only the great sprawling city itself but suburban sections as well, the situation became something of a city-wide emergency.

Police Commissioner Thomas A. Gibbons, who said his department had received scores of distress calls from all parts of the city, sent more than 500 policemen to the scene.

WATCH FOR LOOTERS

One of his lieutenants said a large force was needed to protect people from danger, to assist the firemen, to direct traffic away from the areas of peril and to guard against looting.

Mayor Richardson Dilworth went to the scene from a meeting with city commissioners.

The Red Cross put several units in the field and a fleet of ambulances was dispatched from Camden, N.J., across the Delaware river.

Some of the heaviest damage was suffered by The Philadelphia Bulletin in its new building, which was occupied only last Memorial Day.

The explosion cast tons of debris onto the large landscaped, brightly lit plaza of The Bulletin, left the lighting system there a tangled wreck and blasted down the ceiling of the main reception lobby and parts of ceiling elsewhere in the building.

where in the building.

In neighboring places first aid was applied to persons cut by glass, burned by flying embers, or struck by whirling bits of wood or stone.

At the University of Pennsylvania hospital, which along with the Penn campus itself, lies less than five blocks from the scene of the explosion, emergency dressing stations were set up to treat those with minor injuries.

FLAMES RAGE ON

The flames continued to rage inside the shell of a warehouse, but shortly after 10 p.m., A.S.T. firemen were winning control over the blaze outside. Several officials said it was their opinion that the explosion was caused by heavy accumulation of dust in a grain elevator.

First survivors were taken to University hospital and Philadelphia General hospital.

The explosion, felt all over the city, attracted throngs of shoppers from the department store area some 15 blocks away. Wednesday night is shopping night in Philadelphia, when stores are open until 9 p.m.

It also was graduation night for a class of 250 police recruits. They were preparing to accept their diplomas at city hall when shaken by the blast.

The ceremonies were canceled and all were sent to the scene.

All Atlantic  
Pact Forces  
Are Included

REYKJAVIK (Reuters) — Parliament called for the withdrawal of American troops from Iceland Wednesday in the wake of a government split over the stationing of foreign forces in the country.

A resolution demanded the withdrawal of all Atlantic Pact forces from the country, which was a founder member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. U.S. airmen are the only foreign forces in Iceland.

The first American Air Force contingent moved into the air base at Keflavik, 35 miles from here, in 1951, the same day as the announcement of a treaty between the United States and Iceland permitting American servicemen to be stationed here.

The treaty with the U.S. was concluded at the request of the Icelandic government and with the prior consent of all members of the Icelandic Parliament, except the Communists who were not consulted.

Differences over the stationing of foreign troops led to the resignation of Prime Minister Olafur Thors Tuesday following a split in which the Progressive party left the government coalition.

The Progressives, who had formed the coalition with Thors' Independence party, supported the withdrawal resolution along with the Social Democrats, the left-wing and isolationist National Defence party and the Communists.

THORS WILL STAY

Despite Thors' resignation, the present cabinet will remain in office until the June 24 elections as a caretaker government.

In a foreign policy debate before the althing (legislature) Tuesday night, the Progressives and Social Democrats urged revision of the 1951 treaty, while the Independence party counselled consultation with the Atlantic Pact Council first. The Communists backed the unconditional withdrawal of all foreign troops.

Foreign Minister Kristinn Gudmundsson, a member of the Progressive party, said he was seeking the withdrawal of Atlantic Pact forces because of the easing of international tension following last year's Summit conference at Geneva.

Missile warfare, he said, had sharply reduced the importance of Iceland as a base. Furthermore, he said, foreign troops would not be able to save Iceland from harm if war broke out.

## City Budget Shows No Tax Changes, Debt Increased

An increase of \$250,000 in 1955 has now brought the net debt of the City to \$3,766,848.21, with heavy capital expenditure anticipated in the near future, Council Edwin Johnstone, Chairman of the Finance Committee, last night informed the City Council in his budget address. With the prospects in view, the financial situation of Charlottetown calls for full serious consideration.

At the meeting which was held at City Hall with His Worship Mayor J.D. Stewart presiding and all councillors present, Councillor Johnstone, urged the council to budget for capital as well as for ordinary expenditures to enable the City to end the present year without any increase in the City debt. "Unless Charlottetown in common with other municipalities receives a larger share of the tax dollars from the senior Govern-

## Fierce Spring Storm Lashes Midwest U.S.

CHICAGO (AP)—A fierce spring storm lashed the midwestern United States Wednesday, smothering crops in the great plains with dust and casting sleet, freezing rain, snow and ice on the northern states.

Winds of 30 to 60 m.p.h. raged from Kansas northward into the Dakotas, Minnesota, the Great Lakes, Wisconsin and Michigan.

Sections of the midwest were virtually paralyzed. Near-blizzard winds felled utility lines and deep-cloaked trees. Ice, slush and deep snow closed many highways.

At least 10 Wisconsin communities were cut off by bad weather. Other towns were isolated in Minnesota and the Dakotas.

There was untold damage to crops in six states of the great plains from Cheyenne, Wyo., to Waco, Tex. Winds diminished in the region and dust settled on greening wheat fields as the storm centre moved on toward the Canadian border.

## Opposition Motion Defeated In Dying Moments Of Session

A motion by the Opposition Leader to have the proposed budget of \$12,495,533 reduced by \$50,000 was defeated when only the Leader and his two followers voted for it.

When the motion was made by Mr. Bell, the Premier asked him, "Do you want us not to pay the \$50,000 to School Unit No. 17?"

Mr. Bell had argued previously that the item of \$50,000 had no right to be under Capital and Extraordinary expenditure. He accused the Government of giving the \$50,000 away to some of their friends and said "You took the money away from these people now you have to ante up and give it back to them."

Hon. Mr. MacDonald had started to say he was sorry that the

## Five Children Burned In Ontario Fire

CASSELLMAN, Ont., (CP)—Five of the six children of Mr. and Mrs. Alcide Quesnel were killed Wednesday night when fire destroyed their farm home near this village, about 35 miles southeast of Ottawa.

Oldest of the victims was five. The youngest were five-month-old twins. The sixth child—a three-year-old boy—was with his mother at the nearby barn when the fire broke out. Mrs. Quesnel returned to the two-storey home but was too late to save the other children.

The father was away at the time. Neighbors pitched in to fight the blaze but were unable to save the dwelling.

Their deaths raises to 46 the fire-death toll in the Ottawa area since last Nov. 17. Thirty-one of the victims were children, 23 of them under five years of age.

The victims were identified as Helene, 5, Jean-Guy, 4, Claude, 2, and Francois and Françoise, five-month-old boy-and-girl twins.

Gerald, 3, is the only survivor of the family's six children.

Cause of the blaze, believed to have started on the second floor, was not known. The children are believed to have been upstairs at the time.

MOTHER GRIEF-STRIKEN

Their bodies were taken to a Casselman funeral home.

The mother, stricken with grief, was taken to her father's home at nearby Plantagenet, Ont.

Dr. Rodrigue Marchand of Casselman treated the 20-year-old mother for shock on the scene.

The children's 25-year-old father returned from a general store at nearby St. Isidore, Ont., where he works, to find his home burnt to the ground.

## Wage Rates And Job Evaluation Bother Council

At last night's Council meeting a number of resolutions brought in by the Chairman of the Street Committee, Councillor P.R. McCormac, caused heated discussion. The resolution covering the job evaluation and adjustments of wage rates for employees of the department, brought comment from the Finance Chairman as to the effect which it may have on the proposed estimates, outlined earlier in the evening, as would the proposal to have a number of casual employees reclassified to permanent status.

The resolution requesting the pensioning of two employees of the department was, strongly criticized, in that those concerned were being placed on retirement with practically no warning.

The subject which caused the greatest stir was the proposal by Councillor McCormac to have a certain person appointed or hired for the position of City Barn Supervisor. Councillor MacDonald strongly opposed the resolution claiming that it was unfair to appoint a man to a \$2,700 position of responsibility without advertising for applications whereby a more suitable man might be obtained.

After considerable discussion Mayor Stewart requested that the meeting close to give all members an opportunity to study the proposals of the Street Department. He called a special meeting for Tuesday evening at seven p.m. with the hope that the councillors would be in a frame of mind that would enable them to come to an amicable agreement.

## Coming Events

- Dance Vernon Hall, Monday, April 2nd.
- Showing at Mt. Stewart on Saturday only this week - The Purple Plain.
- "Gay Nineties" in Cornwall Hall tonight. Admission 50 cents. Sale of candy.
- March 30 being Good Friday our factory will be closed - Crapaud Creamery Co.
- Fanningbrook variety concert in Mt. Stewart Memorial Hall, April 2nd. Dan after.
- Our stores will be closed Good Friday. Waddell Bros., Parker Canfield, Crapaud.
- Easter dance South Rustico hall Tuesday night, Rollie MacKenzie's Orchestra.
- Our store will be closed Friday afternoon and Easter Monday. Vernon River Co-op.
- Dance, St. Peter's Bay. Holy Name Hall. Easter Monday 9.30 - 12.30. Burns Orchestra.
- East Royalty and Union Road rate payers meeting at school Thursday March 29th. 8 p.m.
- Variety concert St. Charles Hall, Monday, April 2nd. Dance after Sponsored by Women's Institute.
- Hockey at North River rink tonight. Cornwall vs. Winslow 7:30; Hampshire vs. Milton 8:45. Skate after.
- Sterling S. Ings' Store, Cherry Valley Easter beef in today. Choice quality, fed by Mr. Ivan Docherty.
- Crapaud rink tonight. Cape Traverse Bantams vs. Abbie Bantams. Provincial playoff game. 8 p.m. sharp. Skate after.
- March 30th being Good Friday our cream hauler, Sandy MacNeil will collect cream over Cornwall route on Saturday. Crapaud Creamery.
- Attention - Morell and vicinity. No show at Morell this week. Showing Easter Monday April 2nd M.G.M. presents "Never Let Me Go," starring "Clark Gable" and "Gene Tierney". He's terrific in his new action adventure romance. A real good show, 7 and 9.15 p.m.
- Tomorrow being Good Friday, the next issue of The Guardian will be Saturday, March 31.

## Three Ships Now Head For Montreal

MONTREAL (CP)—Three transatlantic ships now nearing the Newfoundland coast will open Montreal's 1956 navigation season.

Leading the race is the Manchester Regiment, followed closely by the German ship Pseidon and the Norwegian ship Organ County.

The traditional gold-headed cane will be presented to the captain of the first ocean-going ship to reach Montreal.

The regiment's sister ship, Manchester Spinner set the season-opening record March 30, 1954. The closest race took place April 31, 1952, when the Manchester Merchant beat the Norwegian ship Thorsgaard by 20 minutes.

## JOINS ROYAL SOCIETY

LONDON (CP)—Dr. George Salt, formerly of Calgary and an authority on tropical insects, has been elected a fellow of the Royal Society. The 52-year-old scientist described the election as "a great honor" and paid a special tribute to his former teachers in Calgary for their "outstanding encouragement and assistance." A lecturer in zoology at King's College, Cambridge, Dr. Salt has carried out extensive pest control research in Cuba, South America and Africa.

## Marketing Legislation Gets Lengthy Discussion In House

An Act respecting the Marketing of Agricultural products patterned after the Alberta Marketing Act was given second reading in the Legislature yesterday. Hon. Eugene Cullen promoted the bill. Mr. Morley Bell was chairman while the House was in committee.

Mr. Cullen said the principal difference between the new and the old act was that the Provincial Marketing Board was done away with. He said the practice of having a Provincial Board was not considered necessary unless there were several producer marketing boards in the Province.

"Then it would be right and proper to have a provincial board which could oversee the actions of all boards," he said.

Dr. Dewar: "Was there any particular reason for picking the Alberta Act?"

Mr. Cullen: "The Alberta Act is the newest and I believe they took the good points from all the other Acts of the Provinces."

Dr. Dewar: "Has the authority of the Alberta Act ever been challenged in the courts?"

Mr. Cullen: "No, their act was passed only last Fall."

Dr. Dewar: "I understand the acts of some of the other provinces have stood up in court."

## Inter-Com Saves Flock of Sheep

FALMOUTH, Me. (AP)—Sheep bleating over a barn-house inter-communication system sounded a fire alarm here which saved nearly all of a flock of 94.

The inter-com was installed primarily to notify farmer Ernest W. Hawkes and his wife when ewes were giving birth to lambs during the night. "Ordinarily, we only hear the mother talking to her new-born," said Mrs. Hawkes after Tuesday's fire. "This time, it sounded like the whole flock was aroused about something."

The couple found two pens ablaze, apparently from a dislodged infra-red lamp intended to warm little lambs. One ewe perished and one was burned. The couple put out the fire.

## Bell Critical Of Amendment To Trustee Act

Strong opposition was voiced by Mr. R.R. Bell yesterday to the passing of an Act to amend the Trustee Act, which received second reading in the House after members of the Legislature had heard presentations from several members of the Bar Association in a closed session.

Mr. Bell said "This is very serious legislation. There is too much legislation passing in this House with which only a small percentage of the members are conversant."

"It is not only serious legislation but it is drastic and it has been introduced to the House only a couple of days ago. It would be difficult enough for a legal mind to understand the conditions set forth but it is not right to ask a layman to vote on the bill with so little time for study."

Mr. Bell said he was not speaking as a party leader but stated again that he was not in favor of the legislation. He referred to the case of a woman who in 1936 made a will and said the Legislature was being asked to change the terms of the will. "What's the use of making a will or of making a contract if the Legislature is going to change it?" he asked.

The bill was introduced by Premier Matheson who stated he had no remarks to make on the bill except to note that he was just as firmly convinced that unless there is proper guidance and supervision that the purposes for which it is set up would be useless."

He said the foundation of these organizations must be sound. "Last year there were some people in this Province who lost money under the terms of this Act and we must take care of the difficulties created by the set up," said the Premier.

## Closer Supervision Sought In Co-operative Amendment

"I had hoped that as a result of some of the difficulties which arose last year that an entirely new Co-operative act would come before this House," said Premier Matheson discussing an amendment to the Co-operative Associations Act in the Legislature Tuesday.

The Premier said co-operatives had prospered to the point where there was no control. I am firmly convinced that the idea of co-operatives is a good one but I am just as firmly convinced that unless there is proper guidance and supervision that the purposes for which it is set up would be useless."

He said the foundation of these organizations must be sound. "Last year there were some people in this Province who lost money under the terms of this Act and we must take care of the difficulties created by the set up," said the Premier.

A PLACE IN THE ECONOMY

"There is a place in the economy of this Province for co-operatives. But there is no place, unless we have people who are willing to run the organizations with the same interest they would take in their own business. We have had instances of persons disregarding the good of the co-operative to make personal gain for themselves, this cannot be—we will have to have closer supervision," he said.

The Bill provides for the appointment of a supervisor who will exercise the powers and perform such duties as are outlined in the Act and until such person is designated the Registrar shall have such powers and duties.

The Association may sue or be sued and may contract or be contracted with. It shall have the power to draw, make, accept, endorse, discount, execute and issue promissory notes, bills of exchange, bills of lading, warrants and other negotiable or transferrable instruments.

R. R. Bell: "Is there any supervisor at the present time?"

Premier: "Nobody."

A BLACK EYE

Mr. Bell said the Co-ops had recently received a black eye, "and I am not so sure that the Province didn't suffer a black eye also."



TORONTO, (CP) — Temperatures issued by the public weather office:

	Night	Day
Vancouver	39	44
Victoria	43	49
Regina	13	20
Winnipeg	22	28
Toronto	26	34
Ottawa	16	32
Montreal	18	32
Quebec	11	35
Fredericton	17	35
Saint John	17	35
Moncton	15	35
Halifax	23	36
Charlottetown	13	25
Sydney	12	27
St. John's	21	28

HALIFAX (CP) — The weather office here says a ridge of high pressure will move across the Maritimes today with continuing fine weather. A new disturbance developing in the eastern United States is likely to bring rain and snow on Good Friday.

Northern Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island: Clear with a few cloudy intervals; little change in temperature; northwest winds 15, becoming light by evening. Low high at New Glasgow 10 and 35. Charlottetown 15 and 32.

Friday: Cloudy, occasional snow and rain?

High tide today at Charlottetown at 0:45 a.m. and 12:50 p.m. Sun rising today at 6:00 a.m. as sets at 6:37 p.m.