

Atmosphere Is Tense In Strikebound Town

SHERBROOKE, Que. (CP)—The atmosphere remained tense this week in nearby Magog where the Dominion Textile Company mill has been strikebound since Sept. 27.

Pickets continued to disregard a court injunction and prevented maintenance personnel from entering the mill, unheated since the strike started.

In Montreal, company and union negotiations continued but without reports of any progress. There have been no incidents along the picket lines, but merchants in Magog say the situation is tense and threatening. During the weekend, the com-

pany was sharply criticized by a priest in Sherbrooke and by the mayor of Magog.

Msgr. Ira Bourassa, former diocesan chaplain of Catholic unions in the Sherbrooke area, said in his Sunday sermon that the company is to blame for the strike.

"In the case of Magog we have a just strike," said Msgr. Bourassa. "The Dominion Textile Company, which for years has exploited its workers, has refused to accept the recommendations of a conciliation board, headed by an impartial judge."

Approximately 1,500 workers at the Magog mill went on strike Sept. 27 to support demands for higher wages. The strike action came after both the company and union had rejected a conciliation board report.

The National Catholic Textile Federation (CCCL), bargaining for workers in Sherbrooke, Magog, Drummondville and Montmorency, originally demanded a 30-cent hourly increase. It has since reduced its demands to 15 cents an hour retroactive to June, 1958, when the last contract expired, with an extra 10 cents an hour when the contract is signed. Only the Magog mill has gone on strike.

CLAIM DEPRESSION

The company has said it cannot increase wages because of depressed conditions of the Canadian textile industry. It said the average hourly wage in all four mills is \$1.28.

In a meeting Saturday with Magog businessmen, D. Archibald, secretary of the company, was quoted as saying that wages are not the main stumbling block in the negotiations. He said the unions are asking for some things which the company would never grant, even if the workers agreed to a reduction in pay. He did not elaborate.

Msgr. Bourassa referred to the court injunction obtained by the company and said it was anxious to "warm its machines at any cost, but it doesn't give a rap about its employees who are famished and cold."

Mayor Maurice Theroux criticized the company for saying in a statement Friday that law and order no longer exist in Magog. He reiterated his stand that municipal police will not interfere in the strike and that he will not appeal to the provincial police for help.

Mayor Theroux said it was regrettable that the company spread "defeatist publicity" about Magog, a city which had made numerous sacrifices to help it grow into an industrial giant.

Moon Ticket Seen Costly

LONDON (Reuters) — A roundtrip ticket to the moon would cost \$140,000 but the demand would probably be brisk, W. F. Hilton, a leading researcher for a British aircraft manufacturer, said Tuesday.

Italians, U.K. Discuss Plans

LONDON (AP) — Italian Premier Antonio Segni and Prime Minister Macmillan Tuesday met for two hours and discussed ways of preventing the division of Western Europe into two potentially antagonistic trading blocs.

British and Italian spokesmen told a press conference there was general agreement "on the desirability of seeing contacts established" between the six nations of the common market and the seven-country free trade area.

Italian Foreign Minister Giuseppe Pella and British Foreign Secretary Selwyn Lloyd, along with aides, took part in the discussions.

Segni and Pella flew in Tuesday morning for consultations aimed at co-ordinating the foreign policies of Italy and Britain.

Yank Has No New Proposals

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Eisenhower apparently will go to a Western summit conference without any new proposals for easing the deadlock with Russia or Berlin.

A review by the state department is understood to have failed to turn up any new concession which could be offered the Russians without endangering Berlin and West Germany's future.

In view of this, Eisenhower is reported to believe the allies must go no farther than the proposals they offered Russia six months ago to settle this problem. It was a year ago the Russians demanded that the Western powers get out of Berlin.

Eisenhower and his aides believe the American - British-

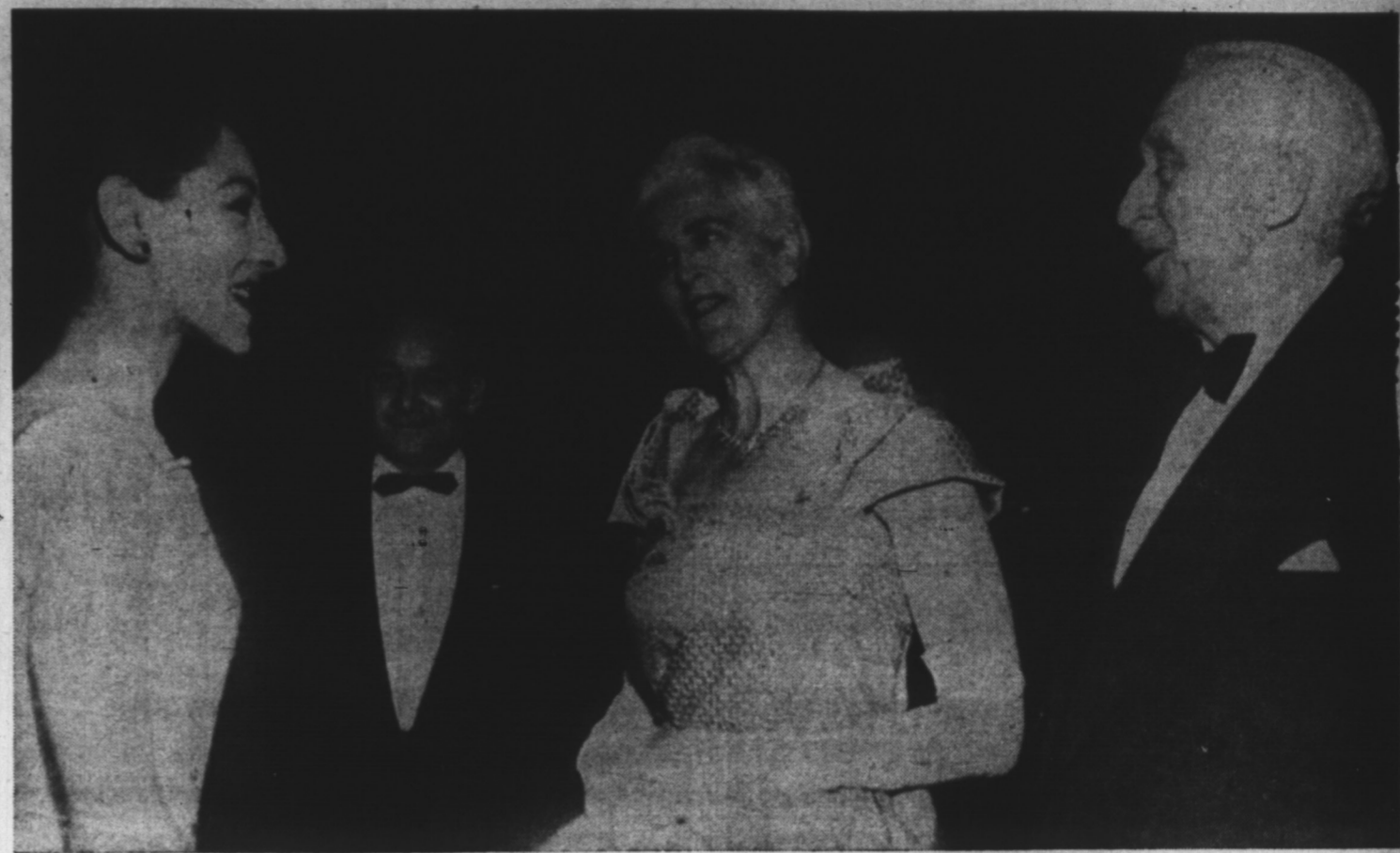
The Guardian

"Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dow"

SECOND SECTION

Charlottetown, Thurs., Dec. 3, 1959.

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VANIER TALK TO BALLET DIRECTOR

Governor-General Vanier and Mrs. Vanier talk with Celia Franca after watching the National Ballet of Canada.

let. Looking on is E.A. Goodman, of Toronto, president of the National Ballet Guild of Canada. (CP Wirephoto)

Farm Co-operatives Are Praised In Report

OTTAWA (CP) — Farm co-operatives have helped check the food price spread and should be encouraged to expand, a royal commission suggested.

As a means of doing this, the commission, which made a two-year study of the gap between farm and retail prices, proposed a federal law providing for incorporation of co-operatives as requested by the co-operative movement.

Dr. Andrew Stewart, commission chairman, told a press conference that through patronage dividends co-ops have brought greater returns to primary producers without pushing up retail

prices. This reduced the effective price spread.

He said they also claim they can eliminate some of the more costly services that have contributed to rising food costs.

NO SIGNIFICANT HELP

The commission stepped into the controversy over compulsory marketing boards, saying it does not believe these boards would lead to any significant reduction in price spreads.

But primary producers would have "an indisputable claim" to set up compulsory selling systems if it were shown no effective means exist in the food industries of passing along in lower prices to the consumer the gains from greater efficiency.

The commission report said that in 1951 co-ops did about 50 per cent of the assembling of grain and about 36 per cent of other commodities. They did about seven per cent of food processing and about two per cent of food retailing.

One of the factors of their participation in the food marketing system "is that the patronage dividends which are paid either to producers of food commodities or to consumers of food products alter the effective prices and the rebuy result in reduced price spreads."

Looking to the future, the report said it may be that returns from

farm production will be lower than in other parts of the economy. With little prospect of greater food consumption except from population increases, farm producer organizations might augment the income of the primary producer by providing some of the expanding services connected with food marketing.

In the past, returns from marketing food had been greater than those from food production.

The commission said the problem of the farmer is a difficult one and its recommendations were designed to bring about changes in price-making in the food marketing system which would benefit both consumers and primary producers.

FARMER'S SHARE DOWN

Between 1949 and 1958, farm prices "were practically unchanged." The farmer's share of the consumer dollar dropped from 59 per cent to 44 per cent. The returns both to labor and capital in farming were relatively low.

The belief that the trend towards fewer buyers resulted in lower prices to the farmer led many farmers to concentrate their selling through co-operatives and marketing boards.

The commission said it was unable to detect any reduction in the price spread where marketing boards have been in operation "which could conclusively be attributed to the operations of the boards."

Big Bomber Program Cut

WASHINGTON (AP)—The B-70 heavy bomber program, on which \$500,000,000 has been spent, was practically eliminated Tuesday by the air force.

Instead of going ahead with plans to build the big bomber as a replacement for the present B-52s, the air force said it is going to turn out only one or two test models of the B-70, which is designed to fly three times the speed of sound.

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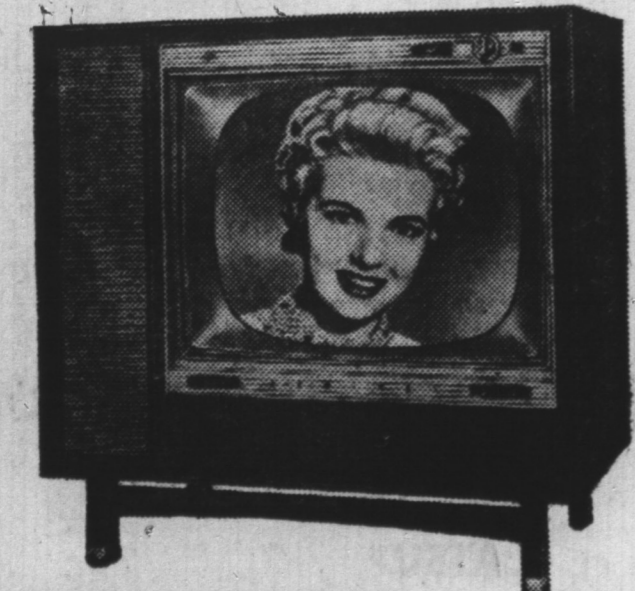
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