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# HEAVY FIRE LOSS AT WELLINGTON



CHARLOTTETOWN'S new Mayor, Edwin C. Johnstone (left), is presented with the Bible at a ceremony conducted at City Hall yesterday afternoon. The presentation is made by His Lordship, Mr. Justice George J. Tweedy of the Supreme Court of Prince Edward Island. Guardian Photo

## PAY CHANGES FORECAST

## Newly Elected Mayor And Council Take Office

Immediate action to bring all civic departments in line with respect to rates of pay was forecast by newly-elected Mayor Edwin C. Johnstone in his maiden speech to the new City Council yesterday afternoon.

Mayor Johnstone recalled that though the former Council had seen fit to raise the pay of the police department and certain members of the city's administrative staff, many civic employees had not received an increase in their remuneration for many years.

The new Mayor suggested that the newly-appointed Finance Committee ask the various city departments to submit to them recommendations covering a reasonable pay scale for all personnel coming within the jurisdiction of each.

These submissions would form the basis of any future adjustments the Council might consider, adding that he hoped that pay adjustments could be made without increasing the present tax rate.

The new Chief Magistrate also forecast a change in status for those civic employees now classed as temporary, who, nonetheless had been in the City's employ for many years. Mayor Johnstone thought it unfair that pension rights should be denied to such employees.

Other civic business brought to the attention of the new Council at yesterday's initial meeting included complaints regarding the dumping of garbage on Fowling wharf referred to Council by Councillor Haslam, and strong criticism of afternoon meetings introduced by Councillor O'Neill.

The first complaint was passed to the Police Committee for appropriate action, and in regard to the second matter, Mayor Johnstone assured the Council that afternoon meetings would be called only in the case of an extreme emergency.

**TAKE OFFICIAL OATHS**

Prior to the first official meeting of the Council the Mayor, two of the three Commissioners of Sewers and Water Supply and the eight City Councillors vic-

torious in Wednesday's election took the required oaths of office in a ceremony conducted in the City Council Chambers.

Mayor Johnstone was sworn in by His Lordship, Mr. Justice George J. Tweedy of the provincial Supreme Court. In turn Mayor Johnstone then swore in the members of the City Water Commission and the eight Councillors.

Oaths of office were taken in the following order: Commissioners H. R. Bevan, and E. E. Clawson, and Councillors Gaudet, O'Neill, Haslam, Baker, Foster, Hyndman, Boyles and Gormley.

Following the swearing in ceremony, Council assembled to choose the usual standing committees. The following appointments resulted, committee chairman being named first in every case:

**COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

Finance: A. Walthen Gaudet, Gerald R. Foster, and Earle C. Baker.

Streets: Francis G. O'Neill A. (Continued on page 2 Col. 3)

## Three Major Issues Is Pearson's Election View

ESPAÑOLA, Ont. (CP) — Liberal leader Lester B. Pearson Thursday urged voters to decide whether he or Prime Minister John Diefenbaker can do more to preserve peace.

Mr. Pearson told constituents in this little Northern Ontario town of 4,500 there are at least three major issues in this election fight — trade, unemployment and peace.

The 60-year-old party leader, unanimously acclaimed as Liberal standard bearer in his home riding of Algoma East, said it will be up to the electorate to decide which party and which leadership "can make the most effective contribution for Canada in the search for peace and security at this time."

The man who helped resolve the 1956 Suez crisis said he wanted to make clear that other leaders had the same objectives, to preserve peace. It would be up to the voters to decide whether they would be as effective as the Liberals.

Mr. Pearson, who represented Algoma East since 1948, opened his campaign at his nominating meeting before some 300 party delegates. It was here the Progressive Conservatives picked Basil Scully, 41-year-old Sudbury, Ont., television announcer, to oppose him.

Mr. Pearson said reports showed the Liberal spirit was high and there was confidence of victory but the party had to work hard to "deserve" to win.

Then he plunged into an attack on the Conservatives trade and employment policies and in the manner in which Mr. Diefenbaker dissolved Parliament Feb. 1.

Mr. Pearson said Mr. Diefenbaker claimed at Winnipeg Wednesday he had done his best to avoid this winter election but in fact the Conservatives were "begging" to be defeated in the Commons so an election could be called.

Mr. Diefenbaker would have to take responsibility for this election, called at a time when Canada was faced with "serious" unemployment problems. Now the Conservative cabinet could not deal with unemployment because ministers would be on the hustings until the March 31 vote.

**DOUBTS OBSTRUCTION**

The Conservative leader stated the election was necessary because the opposition obstructed the minority government. Yet, said Mr. Pearson, Mr. Diefenbaker maintained the Conservatives brought in a lot of new measures in their eight months in office. How could they have done this if there had been obstruction?

When Mr. Diefenbaker dissolved Parliament Feb. 1 he made a political speech without giving the opposition a chance to reply. This was "strange" for the leader of a party which had made much of its desire to preserve the supremacy of Parliament.

Mr. Pearson said he did not want to exaggerate the size of Canada's economic slowdown. There would have been unemployment in this winter no matter which government was in power but the Conservatives had created more "very uncertain touch" in trade. Mr. Diefenbaker, in his proposal to switch 15 per cent of Canada's imports from the United States to Britain had, in effect, told the Americans Canada would take \$620,000,000 worth of annual trade away from them.

**NOT GOOD BUSINESS**

It was not good business to tell one customer that \$620,000,000 worth of trade was to be handed to another, Canada would have trade troubles with the U.S. anyway. Now the prospect was for "more trouble."

Britain had made an offer of free trade with Canada but the Conservatives had given the proposal a "shocked silent" greeting. They should have given the offer detailed and sympathetic consideration as the Liberals proposed to do. On that score alone, the Conservatives should be "condemned."

## Fishing Boat Lost In Storm

HALIFAX (CP) — Snow lashed the Atlantic coast Thursday and continued into the night.

The 42-foot fishing boat Saint Pierre ran onto the rocks at Port Morien, N.S., about six miles from Glace Bay and was reported a total loss.

Capt. Peter Fiset of Cheticamp, N.S., said he lost his way in the snow while looking for the entrance to Glace Bay harbor. He and three crew members got ashore in a dory. He said the wind reached 55 miles an hour.

## Auto Workers In U. K. Are Hit By Strike

BIRMINGHAM, England (Reuters) — A strike by 300 key men threw 8,000 other automotive employees out of work Thursday.

The labor trouble also threatened the jobs of 40,000 more men employed by the British Motor Corporation.

The dispute began Tuesday when the 300 men stopped making axle parts and walked out of a BMC plant here in protest against the employment of one member of a small breakaway union.

As supplies of axle parts dwindled, the 8,000 other men were sent home from their jobs in plants here and at Cowley, Oxford. Work for Thursday night also was cancelled.

## Firemen's Talks Are Adjourned

MONTREAL (CP) — Negotiations aimed at settling a long-standing dispute between the CPR and the Firemen's Brotherhood over the use of helpers on diesel engines were adjourned Thursday—still at the exploratory stage.

The talks will resume today when representatives of the 3,000-member Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen (CLC) are expected to state their case.

## New P. R. O. Is Named By APEC

HALIFAX (CP) — The Atlantic Provinces Economic Council Thursday announced the appointment of C. Bruce Cochran as public relations officer.

He succeeds C. A. Patterson, who leaves APEC at the end of the month to become public relations manager for the Dominion Steel and Coal Corporation in Montreal.

Mr. Cochran is a native of Mahone Bay, N.S. He was once a reporter for the Halifax Herald and former chief administration officer for the Defence Research Board in Halifax. For the last 18 months he has been staff assistant in the personnel department of Simpson-Sears Limited in Toronto.

## DISEASE HITS CATTLE

BRISTOL (Reuters) — About 10,000 cats, pigs and sheep have been slaughtered in southwest England in the last seven weeks because of foot and mouth disease.

## Rapidly Moving Storm Blocks Roads In Province

The winter's first major storm dumped six inches of snow on the ground, and winds that gusted to more than forty miles per hour whipped it into drifts that brought highway traffic to a dead stop, and sent snow plows scurrying back to their base until the storm subsided.

In the Western part of the province a serious fire at Wellington brought an R. C. A. F. snow plow and a fire truck out to battle a track through the drifts to help control a blaze that otherwise threatened to wipe out a major part of the village.

The Trans Canada Highway was so heavy early in the night that the Guardian-Patriot panel truck took two and one-half hours to make the trip from Summerside to Charlottetown, where it arrived about 8 o'clock. The driver reported very difficult travelling due to a combination of heavy roads and poor visibility caused by the drifting snow.

**PLOWS CALLED IN**

From the office of the highway plow dispatcher here last night it was learned that all plows had been called in early in the night because the operators reported that the cuttings were filling in behind them as fast as the plows went through, because of the heavy winds.

It was stated, however, that the plows would be out at 6:30 a. m. if the storm had subsided sufficiently to make plowing feasible.

**CHANGES TO RAIN**

At one a. m. the Radio Range station here said the snow had changed to rain and added that the wind was subsiding slightly. It was blowing about 25 miles per hour then with gusts to 35 mph. Between 10 and 11 p. m. it had been blowing considerably

## Weather Forecaster Is Taken By Surprise As Storm Swoops

HALIFAX (CP) — A storm that took the weather office by surprise dumped up to 10 inches of snow on the Maritimes Thursday.

The forecasters had predicted a sunny day.

The first real snowfall of the winter for most of southern Nova Scotia hit Yarmouth, N.S., at 5 a. m. and reached Halifax three hours later. Traffic was slowed but all main highways were reported passable though dangerous in places.

As the storm intensified, a heavy snowfall warning was issued in mid-morning for Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. The weatherman predicted at least four inches, and possibly 18 inches, for the entire area.

Most of the Maritimes had passed the minimum Thursday night and snow was still falling in most places. Liverpool reported 10 inches, the most in the Maritimes. The snow turned to freezing rain

## Possible Plane Was Not Warned

MONTREAL (CP) — A baby-faced young naval pilot Thursday told of jockeying his single-engine plane through the violent storm belt facing the captain of the Maritime Central Airways DC-4 which crashed with a loss of 79 lives last Aug. 11.

Lieut. Georges Lacroix, 21, of St. Georges de Beauce, Que., member of the Royal Canadian Naval Reserve, said that at 2:20 p. m. EDT that day—around the time the DC-4 is presumed to have plunged into a bog 15 miles southwest of Quebec City — he was about 25 miles southwest of Anclenne - Lorette Airport, near the city.

He dropped to 500 feet, he told a three-man board of inquiry, and took the Harvard trainer aircraft through the "squall line."

He said he struck his head against the top of the cockpit in severe turbulence, then buckled himself down although he still was rattled from side to side.

Jockeying his engine by throttle control, he struck clearer air about five miles away from the airport, he said.

The lieutenant was one of five pilots—three from Trans-Canada Air Lines and the fourth a part-time flyer—who told the public inquiry of weather conditions before, during and after the MCA DC-4 is presumed to have come down.

**BEHIND SCHEDULE**

It last reported to Quebec City at 2:11 p. m. EDT with nothing amiss, inbound from London, England, for Toronto. It had refuelled at Iceland and was about a half-hour behind schedule, witnesses have said, on the trip to Montreal for refuelling.

At the start of the inquiry's sixth day, meteorologist Harold Hutchon of Montreal said the pilot may not have been aware of the thunderstorm belt between Quebec City and Montreal. The first Quebec City station report was after the plane had passed and two weather reports given the plane by Goose Bay, Labrador, did not contain any information about the subsequent storm development.

## Heavy Snow In Maine

BOSTON (AP) — An unexpected storm dumped heavy snow on sections of Maine Thursday before heading for Nova Scotia.

The storm left 12 inches on Greenville, making the total accumulation on the ground 32 inches. Some other sections of New England received a light dusting.

The storm, originating in the South, moved north, northeastward and missed five of the six New England states as it howled over Georges Banks just east of Cape Cod.

## Local Nurse Is Appointed To Committee

OTTAWA (CP) — The Canadian Nurses Association executive Thursday approved establishment of in-service education for provincial executive secretaries.

The 35-member body began a three-day meeting here Thursday with CNA president Tenna Hunter of Vancouver as chairman.

Pearl Stiver, CNA general secretary, said the week-long institute to be held in Toronto in September, will be geared to the needs of nurses working as executive secretaries for provincial nursing associations.

At present, there is no post-graduate nurse education course which covers the type of administrative work done by provincial secretaries, she said.

The institute program will be conducted by the University of Toronto school of nursing.

The executive also approved adoption of a new CNA crest.

Margaret Kerr of Montreal, editor of the CNA journal, The Canadian Nurse, reported that the publication's circulation has increased to 40,000 copies from 5,500 14 years ago.

The executive also approved appointment of a French-speaking editor for the journal, as a first step to the possible publication of both English and French editions. At present, the journal carries articles in both languages in one edition.

The meeting also appointed a resolutions committee composed of Ruth Ross of Charlottetown, P.E.I., as chairman, with Helen Carpenter of Toronto and Sister Mary Laurentia of Moose Jaw, Sask., as members.

The committee is to present resolutions at final executive sessions Saturday.

## PRESENTATIONS TO SCOUTERS

John Richard, Scoutmaster of the regular meeting of the Charlottetown Scouters Club on Wednesday evening, The Wood Badge is awarded to Scouters who complete successfully, the three parts of the training scheme. The first part is a correspondence course; the second is a course in camp dealing with outdoor activities in the programme; the third is six months of practical application of the principles learned in the first two parts with a Scout Troop or Wolf Cub Pack.

## Five Buildings Destroyed; Bucket Brigade Formed

A fire which burned out of control for more than two hours last night destroyed five buildings in Wellington, a village some 14 miles west of Summerside.

Damage was unofficially estimated at from \$75,000 to \$100,000.

Burned were:

- The Co-op store.
- The Co-op restaurant.
- Three warehouses owned by general merchants Arsenault and Gaudet and crammed with merchandise.
- Damaged was a small warehouse owned by the Co-op. This building apparently caught fire but the blaze was extinguished by strenuous efforts of local fire fighters.

**WIRES BURNED OFF**

The blaze broke out about 9:45 at the height of a raging snowstorm. Early in the outbreak telephone wires were burned off, cutting the area off from telephone communication with the area to the east.

Only communication with the village from Summerside was via a Canadian National Railway line.

The Royal Canadian Air Force Station at Summerside sent aid. A snowplow, crash truck and fire pumper were reported to have made the nine-mile trip over difficult roads. They arrived at 12:10 but by that time the outbreak was virtually under control.

**BUCKET BRIGADES**

It was reported that bucket brigades were formed and that others used shovels to throw snow on threatened buildings.

At one time the residence of Postmaster Wilfred Arsenault was considered in grave danger.

The outbreak was discovered about 9:45 by Ralph Arsenault. It was said to have originated in the Co-op restaurant. In a short time the high wind had fanned the flames into an inferno and other buildings were

## C. N. R. Pensions Are Reorganized

MONTREAL (CP) — J. L. Toole, comptroller of Canadian National Railways, announced Thursday night the CNR's pension department has been reorganized to include jurisdiction over welfare plans.

Mr. Toole also announced three new appointments:

- G. P. Hamilton, a native of Carlo, N.B., becomes superintendent of pensions and welfare plans;
- J. W. Dickson, assistant superintendent of welfare plans, and G. H. Barrett, assistant superintendent of pensions.

**WANT TOKYO ARMS**

TOKYO (Reuters) — The Japanese foreign office said Thursday it was "carefully considering" a request from Saudi Arabia for arms and military equipment.

## PM Greeted At Whistle Stops

SASKATOON (CP) — Prime Minister Diefenbaker whistle-stopped his way into central Saskatchewan Thursday, elbow-deep in youngsters several times on the second day of his campaign for re-election of the Progressive Conservative government.

From breakfast until his late-afternoon arrival here for a speech, the prime minister was kept busy popping out of his railway car to shake hands with groups of people gathered at station stops.

The crowds were predominantly of children, stamping their feet partly for warmth and partly from excitement at the novelty of being let out of school to see the prime minister.

"This is wonderful," Mr. Diefenbaker said over and over as he patted children on the shoulder and shook hands with their elders.

The largest crowd was about 300 in mid-afternoon at Humboldt.

**RECALLED LAW DAYS**

Mr. Diefenbaker, who first came to prominence as a Saskatchewan lawyer, reminisced that the town was the site of his first jury trial in 1919, soon after he opened practice at Wakaw, some 60 miles north of there.

It was a shotgun slaying — he described it as a man being shot

## CCF Leader Hits At Old Parties

OTTAWA (CP) — CCF Leader M. J. Coldwell Thursday accused the Progressive Conservative and Liberal parties of entering into "insincere and hypocritical competition of large-scale tax reductions."

He made the charge in a statement issued shortly before he left Ottawa by train for Western Canada on the first leg of a cross-country election campaign. He will open his campaign Saturday at a nominating convention in Rosetown, Sask., in his constituency of Rosetown-Biggar.

Mr. Coldwell said the CCF party is in favor of tax reductions and advocates them for Canadians in the lower income groups. However, "we think that the people of Canada will treat with the contempt it deserves the Liberal and Conservative attempt to buy their votes with extravagant promises of over-all tax reductions."

The CCF leader attached to his statement the national election program of the party approved in Toronto in January by the CCF national council.

"This program makes it clear that the CCF is not entering into the insincere and hypocritical competition of large-scale tax reductions into which the Liberal and Conservative parties have entered," he said.

"Canadians will all remember the Conservative promise to reduce taxation by \$500,000,000 during the election campaign in 1957. The Conservative failure to fulfil that promise is government pro-wait, a delusion and a snare it was."

"The same judgment can be made of the Liberal promises to reduce taxation."

The CCF was not pretending that its program would cost nothing. It was not trying to fool the Canadian people.

