

# Doctors Issue Warning Against Arbitrary Move

VANCOUVER (CP) — The leaders of Canada's medical profession Friday warned the government against arbitrary imposition of a medical insurance plan on doctors.

They cautioned against situations that could lead to a "withdrawal of services" such as happened in Saskatchewan three years ago or to an exodus of doctors from the country. They said any medicare plan must be preceded by doctor-government talks.

The warnings were the strongest reaction of members of the executive of the Canadian Medical Association at a press conference called to discuss the report of the royal commission into health services. Obviously surprised that the report contained a medicare recommendation — as late as Thursday night CMA officers speculated privately that it would not be included — the executive was reluctant to comment on the basis of press reports.

They said the report will be studied during the weekend and further comment could be expected next week during the association's annual meeting here.

order of priorities. Needed first were improvements in personnel, education and research; institutional facilities and special services and government should not pay the full cost of medicare.

Several doctors said that the report contained many things recommended by the association. They said it contained nothing opposing principles previously stated by the CMA. But it did not contain a statement that a doctor would be free to practice privately under a medicare plan, a long-standing demand by the CMA.

Dr. Victor Goldblom of Montreal, chairman of the CMA's committee on economics, said all of Canada must be happy with a medicare plan. It would be unfortunate if the government acted without discussion with the doctors.

By CAROL COLE STRATFORD (CP)—Theatre critics and capacity audiences agree the 12th annual opening of the Stratford Shakespearean festival this week has been one of the most successful in its history.

A glittering first-night crowd, a cross-section of government, business and arts dignitaries, was headed into the theatre by a fanfare of trumpets, the boom of a cannon and the toll-

ing of a bell to watch the opening production of Richard II, directed by William Burge of the Bristol Old Vic in England.

The audience expressed delight at the opulent production and the performance of William Hutt as Richard. It was Mr. Hutt's first title role in a long Stratford career, and critics from across Canada and the United States were almost unanimous in hailing his performance great.

PLAYS TO ALTERNATE These three plays will now alternate in matinee and evening performances until July 27 when the Restoration comedy The Country Wife by Wycherley, will open the second phase of the season.

While Richard had been tedious in spots and the Molliere had been good fun, this was clearly Shakespeare played at its best by a finely-knit company. These three plays will now alternate in matinee and evening performances until July 27 when the Restoration comedy The Country Wife by Wycherley, will open the second phase of the season.

# Rail Abandonment in West Put Under Immediate Ban

OTTAWA (CP) — A government freeze was clamped Friday on all railway abandonment proposals in Western Canada until Parliament deals with legislation to streamline Canada's big railways.

Transport Minister Pickersgill promised before the Commons railway committee no branch line closures will be allowed on the Prairies until the MacPherson legislation has been disposed of by Parliament.

His pledge comes on top of a voluntary freeze on Western abandonments by the railways themselves — an agreement hammered out with the previous Conservative government.

In effect, Mr. Pickersgill served notice the cabinet would block any decision by the federal board of transport commissioners approving branch line closures on the Prairies.

This is the only power in the hands of the cabinet — short of changing existing laws to prevent the transport commissioners from studying applications by the railways to abandon branch lines that are losing money.

The minister made his promise after a meeting with the executives of B.C. Railways, B.C. and Hayden will also be held throughout the entire season which ends Oct. 3.

as after CNR President Donald Gordon disclosed the public-ownership railway has filed 10 applications to abandon a 2,300 miles of branch lines in Canada. Of this total, 2,200 miles of track was on the Prairie and mountain regions of the railway.

The CNR placed the applications before the federal board to indicate the extent of its low-density lines that were candidates for abandonment. But it agreed — along with the privately-owned CP — to let the applications lie in abeyance until the MacPherson legislation is considered by Parliament.

Mr. Pickersgill told the committee the government does not intend to allow abandonment of 2,000 miles of CNR track in any less than 15 years.

COLOGNE (AP)—A fifth child died of burns Friday as a result of a maniac's flamethrower attack on a Roman Catholic elementary school a week ago. This brought the tragedy's overall death toll to seven, Renate Fuchler, 9, was the latest victim. Twelve other children remain in critical condition.

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FATHER'S DAY KISS FOR 'PERFECT' FATHER

Barbara Bunning 12, has a kiss for her father, Philadelphia pitcher Jim Bunning who hurled perfect game against New York Mets in first set of doubleheader at

New York's Shea Stadium, Sunday. Looking on is Bunning's wife, Mary, The 32-year-old righthander was the first pitcher to perform the feat in regular season play

since 1922. His daughter, eldest of seven children, came in from Cherry Hill, N.J., to watch the game. (AP Wire Photo)

# Shakespeare Festival Said Most Successful

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