

# Elm Tree Bug Causing Many Headaches In London

LONDON, (Reuters) — A little bug called "scolytus destructor" has brought death from Dutch elm disease to more than 1,000 of London's beautiful elm trees and a headache to the minister of works.

When the bug—known in Canada as elm bark beetle—gets to work burrowing away at the roots of an elm, a branch of a tree that has stood the test of time for nearly 200 years is likely suddenly to drop lifeless to the ground.

Worse still, the whole tree may suddenly crash to death because it has been blown by a slight breeze.

The elms of London's famous royal parks have crushed to death more people than all other trees put together. Because of this, the minister of works, Sir David Eccles, last year decided it was time he sent out his men to ax them down.

**PEOPLE OPPOSE AXING**

But although the nation had been alarmed at the deaths of three men in a London bus and a little boy on whom elm trees were crushed, people raised their hands in horror because the trees were to be slaughtered. And this gave the minister of works as big headache.

But he stuck to his guns—or his ax—and down came 50 per cent of the elms that shade Kensington Gardens, "Broad Walk" and "Rotten Row," Hyde Park's ancient beauties.

Because the fatal Dutch elm disease, which cannot always be detected in time even by experts, spreads so quickly, there was almost a mass slaughter of the 200-year-old trees.

Sir David had to answer questions in the House of Commons about his tree-losing. Deputations were sent to him and appeals made to the Queen.

Sir David told the House: "I know I am unpopular but I must go on with the job for safety's sake."

A special advisory committee was set up to keep the minister informed on the condition of trees in London's royal parks. Regular surveys now are carried out on the 157,000,000 cubic feet of elm trees that form one-fifth of Britain's hedgerows and parkland timber.

As the ministry ax-men fight the insidious little bug, the disease appears to be lessening, but this may only be a temporary recovery.

Any moment the insect may get

to work like wildfire and more of Britain's ancient elms may dry up and drop dead as the fungus brought by the beetle blocks their sap ducts with a gum-like toxin.

Some trees have been killed off within a year by the disease but others have more resistance.

In some cases too the tree has been saved by lopping off the affected branch. But when the bug gets at the roots few can be saved. The tree is affected until it crashes.

**EXPERTS BAFFLED**

For the last 20 years chemistry and forestry experts on both sides of the Atlantic have been baffled by the disease, which came to Britain in 1919 from Holland after ravaging the trees of France, Germany and Belgium.

It spread to North America in the early 1930s through veneered timber sent from Holland. American elms are said to be even more English ones.

Before the Second World War American experts suggested an anti-toxin injection to stifle the disease, but in Britain this failed and the ministry returned to "surgical" methods.

## Suggests Colombo-Style Aid To New Federation

OTTAWA, (CP)—Prime Minister, Garfield Todd Tuesday suggested the Commonwealth provide Colombo-style aid to the new federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

The Southern Rhodesian prime minister told a press conference that aid similar to that given south and southeast Asia under the Colombo plan would help the African federation raise native living standards and prevent possible Mau Mau terrorism spreading there from Kenya colony.

Mr. Todd arrived in Ottawa Monday for a four-day visit to the capital and "Chalk River, Ont., atomic energy plant."

"The African people have awakened," he said. "However, we are finding it difficult to provide them with the services they require and which they are demanding in no uncertain terms."

**COMMONWEALTH TROUBLE**

He said activities of Mau Mau terrorists in Kenya, should be a matter of Commonwealth concern.

## Modesty Seen Cause of Death

LONDON, (Reuters) — A "very modest" 34-year-old secretary tripped, fell into the Thames and was drowned—because she was too proper to lift her skirt, a coroner's court was told here Tuesday.

The drowning occurred after Miss Gladys Margaret Hook tried to step from a yacht gangway into a dingy and lost her footing.

Asked if he could account for the accident, Frederick D. Gosling, company director and part owner of the yacht, told the court: "Her skirt may have restricted her movements. She was a modest girl. Rather than lift her skirt, she would allow it to get in her way."

A verdict of accidental death was recorded.

## Report On Salk Program In N. S.

HALIFAX, (CP)—Of the 3,400 Nova Scotia children who have received injections of the Salk polio vaccine, only one has shown symptoms of polio.

Dr. Allan R. Morton, chief commissioner of health for the city, said Monday that this one child was in hospital for only a few days and did not suffer paralysis.

## N. S. Blueberry Work Gratifying

YARMOUTH, N. S., (CP)—The Nova Scotia agriculture department, trying to boost blueberry growing in the province, has just completed a two-year experiment on a six-acre plot at nearby East Kempsville.

The result was gratifying. The plot yielded five tons of berries, enough to make 8,000 quarts. At the current retail price of 30 cents a quart, that totals \$3,120.

The land was cleared of brush and burned in 1954 and this year, as soon as the berries started to turn blue, the area was dusted.

This was repeated three times, and just before harvest time they were tested and found maggot-free.

R. H. (Bob) Burgess, provincial forester, said the experiment was designed to show local farmers and other lot owners that blueberries could be a profitable crop with little effort.

## CLIMATE VARIES

Venezuela has four climatic zones: tropical, moderate, cool and cold.

Some shocking things had happened because "it is easy to throw up your hands but another thing to take responsibility."

The British government said it did not have sufficient funds to provide the new federation with assistance similar to the Colombo Plan. However, Canada and other Commonwealth members had enormous funds.

He said he believes Britain has a responsibility to put forward some plan of assistance in which other Commonwealth members could participate.

Mr. Todd said Southern Rhodesia's attempts to raise native living standards are impeded by lack of funds. At present loans were being floated for agriculture and housing schemes.

**NO RADICAL TROUBLE**

He said he is confident Southern Rhodesia will not experience racial trouble. There had been no loss of life in Southern Rhodesia in racial riots since 1936.

However, Mr. Todd said he is not so confident that there will be no racial trouble in Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland. He noted there had been racial problems recently in Nyasaland.

There was no color bar in Southern Rhodesia in the political field. However, Africans were not permitted to vote unless they met certain educational and living standards.

There were no Africans in the legislature but there was no law to prevent natives being elected.

Some of the nurses, together with the almoner (the hospital official who assesses how much should be charged for treatment) and Mrs. Fischbater, escaped to a nearby hut where they barricaded the door and windows.

For six hours, with the aid of the Almoner's revolver, the small group managed to hold off continued attacks.

Only two bullets remained in the chamber of the revolver when a foreign legion patrol finally came to the rescue.

## Horror Of Massacre In Morocco Told

OUED ZEM, Morocco (Reuters)—European survivors of a massacre still mirroring the horror of Saturday's Moroccan massacre in this town, Tuesday told how Arabs had hacked patients lying in their hospital beds.

And they related how a little group of women and one male hospital official held off repeated attacks by rioters with the aid of one revolver.

The head of the hospital, a Dr. Fischbater, had spent most of Friday night in the operating theatre fighting for the life of a little boy. When all danger had passed, the doctor went to his house across the street to catch a few hours of sleep.

## SHOT BY RIOTERS

In the morning, as he left the house, he was met by a frenzied mob of demonstrators. Three shots rang out and the doctor fell.

The Moroccan stole into his body with stones, sticks and kicks before leaving it lying in the road and storming the hospital.

Terror-stricken patients—men, women and children—were slain with axes.

The little boy, still bandaged from his operation, was slashed to death and his body set on fire.

A woman and her three children who had sought refuge in the hospital from the mobs in the streets were murdered among the overturned beds and smashed hospital equipment.

## HELP OFF ATTACKS

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IN GERMANY

Lieut. John Gauthier of Charlottetown, Leif, looks over a time-up job on one of the motors of the Mobile Laundry Unit during summer training exercises held near many. (National Defence Photo).

## Air Force Officer Goes To Defence Dept. Post

OTTAWA, (CP)—A second senior air force officer has been appointed to a high defence department post.

He is 53-year-old Air Commodore C. Frederick Johns, whose appointment as assistant deputy minister in charge of construction, engineering and properties was approved June 22 by Defence Minister Campney.

An official said no announcement was made at the appointment was an "internal matter."

However, an informant said that such an announcement coming shortly after the appointment of Air Marshal Frank R. Miller, 47, as deputy minister might have led

to charges that the department was being brought under air force control. It also was understood that a press release had been prepared by the air force but never distributed.

At Marshal Miller succeeded C. I. (Bud) Drury, former army brigadier who returned to private business. He became a civilian when his appointment, announced June 8, was effective Aug. 15.

Air Commodore Johns was elevated to assistant deputy minister from executive assistant to the deputy minister. He will continue to carry out his previous duties directing construction, engineering and properties but, with increased authority.

He is in charge of the defence department's vast tri-service construction program. He recently completed supervision of army and air force construction projects in France and Germany.

## Large Barns Lost In Lightning Fire

CENTREVILLE, N. B., (CP)—Lightning during a heavy electrical storm Monday night touched off a fire that destroyed two large barns, five young cattle and valuable equipment.

The fire destroyed the barns on the farm of Mr. and Mrs. Blair Reid near here with the loss estimated at up to \$10,000.

He joined the air force in February, 1940, and was discharged in November, 1945. He rejoined in October, 1950, to assist in a major construction program begun after the outbreak of the Korean war.

He directed the construction of Canadian air force bases at Gros Tonquin, Marville, Zwickbrucken and Baden-Sollingen, and the 1st Brigade army base at Soest, Germany. He also is directing construction of the new army camp at Gagetown, N. B.

His appointment brings to four the number of assistant deputy ministers in the defence department. He is the only one with a military rank. He will continue to receive his air commodore salary of \$827 a month.

# India's Ambassador Draws Apology For Segregation Error At Texas Airport

WASHINGTON (AP)—India's federal government for operation of the airport contains a ban so deftly at a Texas airport restaurant that he actually thought he was being given preferred treatment, Tuesday became the surprise recipient of apologies from the U. S. government and sundry others.

When ambassador Gaganvihari Lalubhai Mehta and his secretary, B. A. Rajagopalan, appeared in the public dining room of Houston's international airport Monday, Mrs. Mary Alley, restaurant supervisor, thought they were Negroes.

She asked them to move to a small private dining room in such polite tones that they thought they were getting de luxe treatment reserved for important visitors.

## Longshoremen's Strike In N. Y.

NEW YORK (AP)—Denial of an ex-con's work permit blew up Tuesday into a wildcat longshoremen's strike that tied up ships all along the Hudson river waterfront.

Fourteen vessels, including the huge Queen Mary, were affected by the 4,200 striking pier workers.

While the walkout was set off by the plight of John (Mickey) McLoughlin, it apparently was aimed at the New York - New Jersey waterfront commission.

The commission, whose job it is to police the piers of the vast port of New York, had cancelled McLoughlin's temporary work permit because of a criminal record.

## Find New Copper Mine In Chile

NEW YORK (AP)—The Wall Street Journal said Tuesday that the Anaconda company had discovered a new mine in Chile which may rank among the great copper mines of the world.

The mine, the Indio Muerto, is located about 20 miles northeast of Anaconda's Potrerillos mine at an elevation of 10,000 feet. The Wall Street Journal said in a dispatch from Butte, Mont. It added that diamond drilling has begun to determine the deposits.

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# Says Causes Of Alcoholism Not Yet Uncovered

EDMONTON (CP)—Physiological research has not yet uncovered any of the causes of alcoholism, says Dr. Leon A. Greenbert, professor of physiology at Yale University.

Dr. Greenbert, addressing the second Alberta Conference on Alcohol Studies Monday, said: "Our studies into glandular defects and nutritional deficiencies in relation to alcoholism have uncovered no causes—merely the effects of alcoholism."

Dr. Greenbert drew an analogy between alcoholism and typhoid fever. There were three steps in overcoming typhoid and the same three steps must be followed in combating alcoholism. He said the steps were: definition of the problem—understanding it; discovery of the means to solve the problem, and thirdly, application of the means.

## Psychological Effects

A. W. Fraser, director of treatment for the Alcoholism Foundation of Alberta, discussed the psychological effects of alcohol. He said the effects of alcohol on an individual varies with their physical and social condition. He discussed results of various tests using small amounts of alcohol under controlled conditions, and said about 1 1/2 ounces of alcohol leads to "a fever flow of superficial ideas but an impoverishment of basic thought."

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## Four New U.S. Atomic Subs To Be Built

WASHINGTON (AP)—The navy Tuesday designated the shipyards where four new atomic-powered submarines will be constructed.

Two of them will be built at the Groton, Conn., yards of General Dynamics Corp., builders of the first atomic submarine, the Nautilus.

One of the two will be another nuclear submarine designated to attack enemy surface shipping. The other will be a radar picket submarine.

One nuclear submarine will be built at the Mare Island, Calif., shipyard, which will also build a guided missile submarine, not atomic powered.

The fourth nuclear sub was assigned to the Portsmouth, N. H., naval shipyard which will also build an attack submarine designed to combat other submarines but not atomic powered.

In all, eight atomic subs have now been authorized and approved for. The Nautilus now is in operation; the Sea Wolf was launched at Groton July 21; the keel for a yet unnamed craft was laid at Groton the same day; and another, yet unnamed, which has not been assigned to any yard.

## Law Catches Up With Car Thief

NEWMARKET, Ont., (CP)—Clarence Williams, 28, of Toronto stole a car and drove it to work every day for weeks—passing the service station from which it was taken.

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