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Cloudy with little change in temperature; light winds. Low-high at Charlottetown 28 and 38.

"Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew"

CHARLOTTETOWN, CANADA FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 1957

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WINDS UP DEBATE

Claims Maritimes Failed To Meet P.M.'s Challenge

"We are losing our case in the Maritimes by default," said William Acorn, Liberal, First Minister, speaking on the Draft Address yesterday.

The Opposition amendment charging the Government with indifference and inertia in its presentation of Island claims at Ottawa was defeated by a vote of 24 to 3.

Mr. Acorn said nothing had been done regarding Prime Minister St. Laurent's challenge to come up with some Maritime proposal at which time he would consider giving aid to such a project.

NEED FIVE MILLION

He felt the Island in order to get its just share was entitled to five million dollars more from the Federal Government.

Comparing the Maritime economic situation to that of the rest of Canada, Mr. Acorn referred to a recent newspaper editorial in which it was stated that Prince

N. B. Legislators Get Pay Boost

FREDERICTON (CP) — New Brunswick legislators Thursday voted themselves a \$100 pay boost raising the total individual remuneration to \$3,600.

Previously they received a \$2,500 sessional indemnity plus \$1,100 for expenses and \$500 for contingencies.

School Visits Planned By Education Committee

A visit to city educational institutions this morning will be the first task of the recently appointed Select Standing Committee of the Legislature on Education.

The committee under the chairmanship of Frederic A. Large Q.C. held its first meeting yesterday morning to discuss matters of procedure.

Considerable variance of opinion was expressed as to how wide were the powers of the Committee with Messrs. Morley Bell and Harvey Douglas expressing the feeling that they should be confined to the terms of the resolution which was presented to the Legislature.

At that point Premier Matheson, an ex officio member of the Committee, said the members were free to examine the subject in whatever manner they pleased and if they wished to visit various schools to see for themselves what facilities were available and what conditions of teaching actually were then it was so much the better.

PLEDGES CO-OPERATION He also promised the members complete co-operation of the Government from supplying stenographic aid to the committee to withholding prorogation of the Legislature if necessary to enable it to complete its work and file a report.

The latter point arose when a member asked how long they were to continue being meetings, Dr. L.G. Dewar quoted from Beauchamp's "Parliamentary Rules and Forms" a passage which stated that no committee may sit after prorogation.

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Edward Island was spending 14.6 per cent of its total revenue for debt charges; New Brunswick 18.6 and Nova Scotia 14.1 while the average in Canada was only 6.9 of its total revenue.

The editorial went on to say that Newfoundland at the time of Confederation had \$66,000,000 of its \$72,000,000 lifted by the Federal Government and at the same time was allowed to keep a \$45,000,000 war surplus.

STRENGTHEN CLAIMS

"It is the duty of every member of the Legislature to bring forth as many suggestions as possible to our Premier so that he along with other Maritime premiers may have his hand strengthened when the next claim is presented at Ottawa," said Mr. Acorn.

The Souris member noted that the Atlantic Province Premiers were in complete agreement on the need for better roads, a causeway and reduced freight rates.

Mr. Acorn noted that a current press report revealed that the Canadian National Railway had finished 1956 with a \$22,000,000 surplus and that the Railway was budgeting for a \$7,000,000 surplus for this year.

EAT MORE FISH

"Now is the time to advocate increased consumption of fish," said Mr. Acorn who noted that out of a population of 16,000,000 Canada consumes only 13-14 lbs. of fish per capita.

Suggests Larger 2-Man Farm Is Most Economical

"Farms in the Maritime Provinces are entirely too small to be economically organized. I suggest that the ideal set-up for a 2-man farm is a two-man farm of two to three hundred acres," said Mr. R.C. Parent, superintendent of the Charlottetown Experimental Farm.

Mr. Parent, in an address delivered to the 69th annual meeting of the Central Farmers Institute held in the Clover Club yesterday afternoon.

Mr. Hudson Lowther, president of the Institute presided. Mr. J. Lincoln Dewar acted as secretary. After disposal of the minutes of the previous meeting, the president named the following committees: Resolutions, R.A. Proffitt, Freetown; Earl Inga, M. Herbert, and Frank Jardine, Wilmot Valley; Nominations, Cyril MacFarlane, Fernwood; Gregory McInnis, Tignish; Neil MacNeil, Little Sands.

Mr. Parent noted that other reports indicated a reluctance to branch out or go into provinces by means of capital expenditure, adding "in the more enterprising areas farmers were not afraid of debt."

"I believe," said Mr. Parent, "that a lot of our trouble stems from the fact that many farmers do not make a proper business arrangement with their sons. Don't wait until it is time for him to get married. It should be done when they are young."

According to this report Canadian agriculture is forecast to undergo a number of significant changes in the next 25 years, Mr. Parent said. The Federal agricultural

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Referring to the report of the Gordon Commission, Mr. Parent declared that it was prepared by a "group of very expert gentlemen" and reflected the material they had received in briefs.

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WILLIAM ACORN, M.L.A.

in storage in large quantities, there was very little hope of seeing an advance in price.

"If we were to raise the consumption of fish by 5-4 pounds per person it would eliminate all the stocks in storage and if this were accomplished it would be one of the greatest shots in the arm of the Maritimes has ever had," said Mr. Acorn.

To accomplish this greater consumption of fish, Mr. Acorn suggested that Ottawa use the Government owned Canadian Broadcasting Commission to put on a saturation program from coast to coast emphasizing the value of fish from a number of selected recipes for tasty fish dishes.

100 PER CENT PROTEIN

Mr. Acorn said fish was almost 100 per cent protein and in comparison to other foods was far cheaper. On the basis of five pounds he said eggs would cost \$1.98; poultry \$1.32; meat \$1.06 and fish 38 cents.

"If the price could be raised two cents per pound," said Mr. Acorn, "at present production in the province is about 100,000 tons."

Two Are Killed In Collision

CHESTER, N.S. (CP)—A head-on collision of two cars at nearby East Chester Thursday night killed two persons and sent two others to hospital with critical injuries.

Dead are Derrach Terry Thomas and Mrs. Roland Frank, both of Halifax. Reported seriously hurt in hospital at Halifax are Vera Legary of Halifax and Holden Stevens of East Chester.

The collision occurred at a curve on Highway 3, the main south shore route between Halifax and Yarmouth.

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Farm Bloc In U. S. House Gets Setback

WASHINGTON (AP) — House farm leaders sought Thursday to reunify the once invincible "farm bloc" after defeat of efforts to enact new subsidies for growers of corn and other feed grains.

The House of Representatives, dividing along political and sectional lines, dealt a virtually unprecedented setback Wednesday to moves to channel farm subsidies into both the surplus-glutted midwest corn belt and other areas.

Every proposed subsidy program was rejected as the House ignored administration requests for relief to corn growers as well as rival Democratic proposals to expand payments to include all producers of livestock feed grains.

CITY MEN GANG UP

Ganging up on all proposals to increase present farm subsidy payments were big city members whose constituents are grocery store customers.

Republicans so far have stood fast for limited aid to the corn belt. Democrats just as adamantly have stood for a "last chance" compromise to enlarge farm subsidies to benefit cotton, rice, tobacco and wheat farmers who have diverted their acreage to feed grain crops.

The result of the Wednesday vote was no legislation to meet what President Eisenhower has termed "emergency" needs of the corn belt for new laws to stabilize commercial corn prices and end price-depressing corn glut.

With the planting season at hand, it is unlikely any legislation passed at this session can now influence this year's plantings.

By JOHN LEBLANC Canadian Press Staff Writer OTTAWA (CP) — The federal government Thursday night laded out a miscellaneous helping of light tax cuts and higher social benefit payments while holding basic tax levels unchanged in its pre-election budget.

Finance Minister Harris' tax-setting document had something in greater or lesser degree for just about everyone from the recipients of family allowances to the old age pensioners, and not omitting the bubble gum set.

While he left unchanged the rates of personal and corporation income taxes—the treasury's big money items—he gave taxpayers a break on deductions for super-annuation payments and whittled away at several other taxes, all to the tune of about one per cent of his total revenue.

The budget also boosted the universal old age pension for those over 70 by \$6 a month to \$46. It provided the same increase as a maximum for those getting needy assistance in the 65-69 age bracket and for the blind and disabled, and jacked up war pensions and allowances for "burned-out" war veterans.

MAKES CAUTIOUS FORECAST The higher benefit payments were estimated by the government to add up to a maximum of \$93,000,000 for the fiscal year that starts April 1 and for \$133,000,000 a year later. The new baby payments start Sept. 1, and the others July 1, so they will be only partly effective this year.

The tax reductions were estimated to be worth \$55,000,000 in the coming fiscal year and \$128,000,000 a year later.

With these changes, Mr. Harris made a cautious forecast of a budget surplus of \$152,000,000, predicting revenues almost un-

changed from that of the year that ends March 31. His revenue estimate was \$5,170,000,000 against expenditures of \$5,018,000,000, the former an all-time high and the latter a peacetime record.

GROCERIES TAX OFF The budget announced that the government will boost by about \$2,000,000 a year the treasury subsidy on the movement of Maritimes freight and will assist Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in the development of power plants in that area.

Sales tax of 10 per cent on a variety of groceries—including tea, coffee and cocoa—was removed immediately.

The special excise tax of 10 per cent on soft drinks, candy, chocolate, confectionery and chewing gum is repealed immediately.

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Harris Announces Moves To Aid Atlantic Provinces

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Higher Old Age Pensions And Family Allowances

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