

Hard are the ways of truth, and
rough to walk.

Most men admire virtue who fol-
low not her lore.

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew

Morning Daily Founded 1887.
The Guardian, Three Cents

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NEW FINANCIAL DEAL PROPOSED FOR C. N. RAILWAY

Canada Invites Allies To Send Officers Here

Children's Protection Bill Under Discussion

Parliament Now Getting Ready For Work On Estimates

OTTAWA, March 17 (Special)—With the month-long debate on the debate on the Throne Speech concluded, Parliament is now setting its teeth into parliamentary estimates, establishing committees and getting a start on the 1950 program of legislation.

Not only the Commons but this year the Senate as well, will review main and supplementary estimates with a view of limiting Federal expenditure when and where possible.

Defence estimates came under review in the House today, prepared by an overall statement by Defence Minister Claxton explaining why he was asking for \$425 million for 1950 defence purposes plus \$194 million in deferred obligations, an unprecedented amount for Canada in peacetime.

Other departments of government are getting their estimates before the Commons this month prior to introduction of the budget.

Bulk of the questioning on estimates concerning Prince Edward Island will be shouldered by W. Chester S. McLure, Progressive Conservative member for Queen's who is preparing a series of questions on public moneys to be spent in the Island province.

Mr. McLure will press investigation into outlays by the Department of Transport, Public Works and Postmaster-General in particular.

Committee Activities

Committees of the Commons which will soon be in action are public accounts, external affairs, government-owned railways and shipping, old age security, and radio broadcasting. Both J. Lester Douglas, Liberal member for Queen's and Mrs. McLure are members of the railway committee which is the largest of the Commons.

In the Senate, renewed protests are being voiced over the amount of time which senators are forced to spend on divorce cases. While

Coming Events

- **Mail your Films to Garnhum Photo Studio, Charlottetown.
- **Notice, sawdust at Milton Mills 50c sleigh load. We deliver by the truck load.
- **Notice — Crushing grain every day except Tuesdays. Percy Howatt.
- **Crapaud Hall, Monday, March 20th, at 8 P. M. Community Film Night. Everybody welcome.
- **Rummage Sale, Trinity Junior W. A. Group 7, Market Building, Saturday, at 6 o'clock.
- **For St. Patrick's entertainment see "Road to Rio" at MacDonald Bros. Theatre tonight, starring Hope, Crosby and Lamour.
- **National Film Board presents films, South Milton School, March 21st, 8 P. M. Sale of candy and lunch.
- **North River rink tonight, exhibition game, Douglas Mohawks vs. North River Tigers. Game time 7:30. Skate after.
- **Wiltshire married men vs. Hampshire married men, Wiltshire rink tonight, Skating after. Canten service.
- **Summerfield Hall, Tuesday, March 21st. One act plays. "A Ghostly Evening", "Green Paint". Sponsored by Springfield W. I.
- **Crockinole Hall, March 21st, Marshfield Hall, Admission 50c adults. Children 25c Lunch included Proceeds for Institute
- **Send your Drama Festival entries to Mrs. Ray McLeod, Sec'y, Drama Festival Association, Graham's Road, P. E. I. Closing date March 31st.
- **Hunter River rink tonight, doubleheader, Wiltshire, Miracles vs. Hunter River Shur-Gains. Girls game, Wiltshire Miracles vs. Hunter River Shur-Gain Sisters. Game starts 8 o'clock.
- **See the Mr. and Mrs. Club of Summerside present their variety show at the Masonic Hall, Hunter River, Wednesday, March 22. Sponsored by the Women's Institute, Admission 50 and 25 cents.

Would Train 250 Men Under Atlantic Treaty

OTTAWA, March 17 (CP)—Canada has invited the 11 North Atlantic Treaty Allies to send a total of 250 ground and air officers to be trained in this country, Defence Minister Claxton announced today.

He told the Commons, in launching debate on a record defence budget for the next fiscal year, that 150 of the men would be from ground forces and 100 from the air forces of the various countries.

It indicated Canada's first big step in treaty participation other than what she is doing internally and revived memories of the wartime British Commonwealth Air Training Scheme which produced 131,000 aircrew.

The Minister said: "The arrangements do not contemplate any payments between countries... later a reverse operation may be worked out whereby Canadian personnel would be training in other countries on a similar basis. This arrangement will be combined with the existing reciprocal arrangements we have with the United Kingdom, United States and France."

"...the training in Canada of 250 officers from a number of different countries would represent a big program in training staffs, personnel and establishments compared with any similar peacetime arrangements. Training together would be an exercise in practical co-operation of the particular kind for which we are well qualified by experience and in which we have a proud record of achievement."

The members of the treaty include the U. S., U.K., France, Belgium, Holland, Luxembourg, Portugal, Italy, Iceland, Norway and Denmark. It is expected that most of the officers would come from Britain and the Western European countries.

Mr. Claxton said one of the purposes of his December trip to Europe was to look into the question of officer training "and to see if there was a way in which the considerable facilities we have in Canada could be utilized for the treaty organization in general."

He had asked the various defence ministers and the replies "led me to recommend to my colleagues that we should make the offer."

"I was struck with the fact that almost all recognized it would have a very considerable psychological force in bringing home to us all the unity of purpose and the necessity for working together that we all must have if the full strength of the North Atlantic powers is to be fully developed."

Quebec Lottery Bill Introduced

QUEBEC, March 17 (CP)—Premier Duplessis' long-awaited bill to establish a state lottery in Quebec Province for health and education purposes was introduced today in the Legislature.

The bill is entitled "An Act to Promote Diffusion of Education and the Protection of Health" and to this end authorizes formation of a committee to organize a lottery.

APRIL HULL

The earliest observation of a celebration akin to April Fool's Day was by the early Hindus, who had a festival of spring between March 25 and April 1 and called it the feast of Hull.

ment said party, Soviet and agricultural organizations in "a number of regions, territories and republics in 1949" failed to make the best use of existing facilities for the further development of agriculture. In addition, collective farms, machine and tractor stations and state farms failed in "fulfillment" of the tasks for yields of grain and industrial crops, particularly for wheat and for the production of cotton in districts of non-irrigated cotton cultivation, and also for the extension of the fodder base.

City Budgets For \$1,495 Deficit & No Tax Increases

The City Council budgeted for an estimated deficit of \$1,495,52 last night as Councillor L. E. Prowse, M.D., Chairman of Finance made his first presentation of the estimates at a special meeting in the City Hall.

The estimate of the expenditures for the year came to \$498,608.02 and the revenue to \$497,112.50.

Following are the details of expenditure by departments: Extraordinary, \$321,629.01; street lighting, \$12,636.00; advertising, \$500.00; City Government, \$12,862.00; Assessing and collecting, \$3,880.40; health, \$3,600.00; miscellaneous, \$600.00; city hall, \$5,875.00; squares, \$2,490.00; Government bond, \$275.00; Victoria Park, \$1,770.00; library, \$4,390.00; east end bath houses, \$630.00; dump, \$1,500.00; market and scales, \$9,725.00; Police Department, \$35,822.03; police court, \$4,712.50; street department, \$55,486.00; fire department, \$9,705.08; civic election, \$3,000.00; workmen's compensation, \$2,500.00. Total — \$498,608.02.

Revenue:—Real, 266,620.25; personal, 115,547.25; poll, 16,895.00; license, 5,000.00; police court and dog tax, 6,000.00; market rents, 6,400.00; market tolls, 550.00; market scales, 1,200.00; interest on taxes, 2,500.00; commissioners sewers and water supply 32,000.00; grants, fire, 1,300.00; grants, library 900.00; Dominion-Provincial agreement, 18,000.00; per capita, 22,200.00; street and sidewalk, 2,000.00; total \$497,112.50.

In passing the estimates Councillor O'Donnell suggested that the Mayor's allotment should be raised from \$325 to \$1,000. Mayor MacDonald stated that this could not be done this year but that it might be done in time for another Mayor.

Councillor Johnstone said it should be raised for both the Mayor and Councillors, not this year but for the next council. "I am not speaking for myself," he said, "as I do not intend to be in the next council."

Councillor Johnstone also

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Donald Gordon Has Plan To Lift Line Out of Red

OTTAWA, March 17 (CP)—A new financial deal for the debt-burdened Canadian National Railway, pointed at lifting the government-owned line out of the red, was proposed by its new chief today to the Royal Commission on Transportation.

The \$1,000,000,000 readjustment in the C.N.R.'s corporate set-up was advocated by Donald Gordon, who was called in from the deputy governorship of the Bank of Canada to become chairman and president of the national line at the start of this year.

It involved savings estimated unofficially at something over \$30,000,000 a year for the company, and also the use of any future C.N.R. surpluses to create a fund that would be used in part to hold down freight rates.

Mr. Gordon called on the commission to recommend that the government take \$760,000,000 worth of its obligations out of the interest-bearing class and also set up a \$300,000,000 credit from which the company could draw to retire other interest-bearing securities or pay for capital additions.

Net effect on the Federal Treasury—which now absorbs C.N.R. surpluses and pays off its deficits—would not be particularly changed by the plan, except that in the long run there probably would be a saving through the lowering of interest paid on securities held by the public.

Major short-term effect would be that the Canadian National's books, with its fixed-interest debt structure scaled down to that comparable with other railroads, would reflect more closely the results of its operations. Laden with old historical debts, the C.N.R. has been faced with interest payments of around \$60,000,000 for a starter each year with the result that it has a traditional history of deficits.

First proposal of Mr. Gordon for cutting down this amount was that the \$760,000,000 of interest-bearing obligations held by the Federal Government should be transformed into equity capital, which does not bear interest. That would slice \$21,800,000 off the amount payable from annual revenue, on the basis

(Continued on Page 15 Col. 6)

Trade Board Asked To Re-submit Resolution On Civic Fire Hazard

A Trade Board resolution stressing the need of stricter fire hazard regulations, forwarded to the City Council on Jan. 14 last and published in The Guardian on Feb. 17, hasn't yet come to the attention of the City Council officially and no trace of the letter could be found when the subject was raised at last night's Council meeting by Coun. E. W. Johnstone.

Speaking during the passing of the Fire Department estimates, Coun. Johnstone referred to this letter which urged that the civic by-laws be amended by giving the building inspector authority to invoke the National Exit Code for the City, or, as an alternative, to have regulations drawn up under this Code. In view of the lack of civic regulations on this point the Council was asked to give it prompt and earnest consideration in the interests of better fire protection.

Coun. Johnstone expressed surprise that this letter had not yet been read to the Council, or the subject discussed in any way.

He noted that it had been published in The Guardian and that editorial attention had been drawn to the fact that the letter had predated the disastrous fire at the Sporting Club.

Mayor MacDonald asked the secretary of the Board of Trade, Mr. Walter Gaudet, who was in attendance at last night's meeting when the letter had been mailed, and Mr. Gaudet replied on Jan. 14, and that it had been sent to the City Clerk.

The latter said that he did not recall receiving the letter, and after looking through the files stated that it had not been placed on file.

Coun. Johnstone said the Board of Trade considered the communication an urgent one, as the Provincial Fire Marshal has no authority to go into the city and make inspections.

Mr. K. M. Martin, City Recorder, explained that this was not quite the case but that the law was peculiar in that the Marshal had authority but did not

(Continued on Page 5 Col. 5)

Is Critical Of Civilian Atomic Defence In U. S.

British Labor Member Dies

LONDON, March 17 (CP)—Adam S. McKinlay, a Labor Party member of the House of Commons, died of a heart attack today at his home in Dumbartonshire, Scotland. He was 64.

His death cut to five the over-all majority of the Attlee Government in the House elected Feb. 23. It will force the first by-election of the new session of Parliament.

Loss Of Markets To The Maritimes Cited In Senate

OTTAWA, March 17 (CP)—An "unfortunate situation" is developing in the Maritimes and in Newfoundland because of the "partial loss of world markets," Senator W. H. Dennis (PC—Nova Scotia) said today.

"In these provinces," Senator Dennis said, during continued debate in the Senate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne, "the famous apple industry is being paid to tear up their trees."

The Canadian market for Nova Scotia coal, he added, "due to heavy importations by our railways and other industries of coal from the United States, has been gravely threatened."

"In some cases in the past miners have been laid off and soup kitchens set up to feed them."

One of the "heaviest blows" to the port of Halifax and the rest of Nova Scotia was the loss of "our valuable and important market in the West Indies, to which a great deal of our fish and other products were formerly exported."

Today, there were ships "lying idle in our magnificent harbors," and these were the harbors from which, in wartime, "thousands of Canadian soldiers, airmen and naval personnel embarked to play their parts in saving the empire."

In Prince Edward Island, the Islanders were facing a situation where surpluses of potatoes are accumulating at a time when potatoes also are in surplus in the United States, Canada's biggest potato market.

In New Brunswick, the "total collapse of the pit-prop market" was a "real calamity for the province."

"Loss of lumber markets overseas, have, in general, had a crippling effect on the economy of the Maritimes."

"Newfoundland, so I am informed, is today extremely concerned over the loss of markets for fish in the West Indies, Britain and elsewhere, and one of its pulp mills has been obliged to close."

Minister Queried Re "Eskimo" Operations

Lack of details as to the financial operations of the M.V. Eskimo in the report tabled in the Legislature recently by Hon. Eugene Cullen, Minister of Industry and Resources, was noted by Mr. D. L. Matheson when the House opened yesterday morning.

The report, Mr. Matheson noted, is for the period June 10 to Dec. 31, 1949 and is signed by C. P. Russell, general shipping manager for the F. I. Industrial Corporation, operating under the Industrial Corporation Act of 1949, over which the Minister of Industry and Resources exercised control.

The report states that "no detailed report on the financial side of the operation is given here as it is difficult to foretell what the eventual position will be at the end of the first year of operation."

He wished to know whether the Minister had ascertained the financial position of the company.

Hon. Mr. Cullen: "Approximately."

Mr. Matheson pointed out that in the Act it is provided that the company "shall establish and maintain an accounting system satisfactory to the Minister." Had this obligation been carried out, he asked.

Hon. Mr. Cullen: "Yes."

Mr. Matheson: "It is further stipulated in the Act that the com-

pany shall render to the Minister detailed statements of its receipts and expenditures at such times and for such periods as he may specify. May I ask if this has been done?"

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N. B. Considers Beet Industry

FREDERICTON, March 17 (CP)—Possible establishment of a sugar beet industry in New Brunswick was discussed today by the Legislature's agriculture committee. It decided to appoint a sub-committee to study the matter.

G. W. Perry (PC—Carleton) said there was need of a cash crop to replace part of the Province's potato industry. He had studied the sugar beet industry in Ontario and had grown sugar beets experimentally on his own farm.

Agriculture Minister Taylor said government-level talks on the matter had been held with Prince Edward Island officials. The marshland area in process of reclamation, and the potato-growing areas of the St. John River valley might be used for beet production. Sugar beets required rich soil, and the problem would be to get enough of this.

E. M. Taylor, provincial director of field husbandry, said sugar beets could be grown in New Brunswick but one big difficulty would be the obtaining of cheap labor. He understood that labor, including displaced persons, had been imported into the sugar beet areas of Ontario.

FLYING SAUCER

PRINCE RUPERT, B. C., March 17 (CP)—Described as a "flying saucer," a strange cylindrical object soared over Prince Rupert harbor yesterday. Witnesses said it drifted leisurely in over the woods of Digby Island, across the harbor, at about 600 feet altitude and then gained momentum.

(Continued on Page 5 Col. 5)

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(Continued on Page 5 Col. 5)

Shortcomings In USSR Farm Program Criticized

LONDON, March 17 (Reuters)—Shortcomings in some areas of the Russian farm production program in 1949 were criticized today by the Soviet Government.

The Moscow radio broadcast a statement issued by the Council of Ministers and the central committee of the Soviet Communist Party, assailing party and agricultural authorities in certain regions for not ensuring fulfillment of grain and tractor deliveries in 1949.

However, the statement said the gross harvest of grain crops totalled 7,600,000 poods (one pood equals about 36 pounds). This exceeded the level of 1940, the last full year before Russia entered the Second World War and nearly reached the amounts laid down for 1950 in the five-year plan. The statement added that the cotton, flax, sunflower and potato harvests also exceeded pre-war levels.

The announcement mentioned achievements in restoration and development of cattle breeding. It also laid down a program for 1950 spring sowing.

On the critical side, the state-

ment said party, Soviet and agricultural organizations in "a number of regions, territories and republics in 1949" failed to make the best use of existing facilities for the further development of agriculture. In addition, collective farms, machine and tractor stations and state farms failed in "fulfillment" of the tasks for yields of grain and industrial crops, particularly for wheat and for the production of cotton in districts of non-irrigated cotton cultivation, and also for the extension of the fodder base.

The statement made these additional criticisms:

1. In some regions, particularly Tambov, Kursk, Orel, Bryansk and Molotov, and in the Byelo-Russian Republic, the Party, Soviet and agricultural organizations organized poorly and slowly their production estimates for 1950.

2. Collective farms in many regions were short of seed because they paid insufficient attention to the growing of their own selected seed in seed plots; the deficiency had to be made up from state resources.

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