

**MAXIMS**  
OF A  
**MERE MAN**

He that teaches himself hath a fool for a master.

**THE GUARDIAN OF THE GULF**

The People's Paper Read by Everybody

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew

**MAXIMS**  
OF A  
**MERE MAN**

Questions are never indiscreet. Answers sometimes are.

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# THREAT OF PROVINCE-WIDE STRIKE LOOMS IN QUEBEC

## Maritimes Exempted In New Rates Scale

### Chinese Reds Cling To Two Captured Hills Despite Fierce Fighting

SEOUL, Dec. 12—(Saturday)—Chinese Communists seized the peaks of both Big and Little Nori Mountains on the turbulent western front late Friday. The Reds held grimly to both positions through a night of thunderous artillery duels lit by the flares of Allied planes.

It was the second straight day of savage battling with the South Korean 1st Division. Both sides swept back and forth across the shell-pitted outposts guarding one of the main invasion routes to Seoul.

Allied big guns smashed steadily at Communist positions. The Reds equalled Allied firepower—sometimes at the rate of 3,000 shells an hour—for short periods.

The Chinese surged to the top of the two positions northwest of Yonchon with an assault at dusk by 750 men, AP correspondent Mito Farnet reported. In all the Chinese have thrown 4,000 men into the fight for the two Noris. Allied planes were out in force. Fighter-bombers pounded Red po-

sitions, particularly along the western front, with heavy attacks for the second day. At least 170 close-support strikes were flown over the Nori battle sector and in Communist supporting areas.

### Mr. Reid Comments On Proposed New Freight Rate Schedule

The opinion that there was a possibility that the proposed new freight rates, "or perhaps even the whole plan," would not be put into effect was voiced yesterday by Mr. E. D. Reid. He was commenting on the announcement from Ottawa of the proposal by the Board of Transport Commissioners to provide for freight rate equalization.

Mr. Reid is the vice president for this Province on the Maritime Transportation Commission.

He thought that the Commission in announcing new rates were simply giving the railways a starting point for a basis of discussion. The new rates are to become effective January 1, 1954.

The local vice president of the Maritime Commission added that at the present time the only provinces favoring the scheme are those in Western Canada. He thought there would be strong objections from Central Canada.

(Continued on Page 15 Col. 1)

### Charged After 46 French Babies Die

BORDEAUX, France, Dec. 12—(AP)—French pharmacist Jacques Gazenave, director of a laboratory here, was charged with manslaughter today in connection with the death of 46 babies. The children all died of a skin ailment, allegedly brought on by use of a baby powder produced by the laboratory. Medical inspectors have reported finding traces of arsenic in the bodies of the children, and have been trying to round up all boxes of the powder in pharmacies.

### Denies Rumors 25th Brigade To Be Moved

HANNOVER, Germany, Dec. 12—(CP)—Defence Minister Claxton of Canada today denied rumors that the 25th Canadian Infantry Brigade will be moved from Korea to Europe.

He was replying to a reporter's question at a press conference today at conclusion of a one-day visit with the 27th Infantry Brigade, stationed here.

Claxton said there is a constant rotation of units of the 25th Brigade between Canada and Korea, but added there are no plans to bring the 25th here. He also denied that the 27th Brigade will be sent to Korea soon.

### Peiping Claims Manchuria Bombed

TOKYO, Dec. 12—(AP)—The Peiping radio said tonight U. S. planes crossed into Manchuria Dec. 8 and "rained bombs" on the city of Tatungku, 20 miles south of the big Manchurian air base at Antung. The broadcast asserted that 47 persons were "killed or wounded" and 243 homes were destroyed.

### British Labor Stung By Conservative Popularity

By Sidney Welland  
LONDON, Dec. 12—(Reuters)—The British Labor Party, stung by the increasing popularity of Winston Churchill's Conservatives, is moving to unite its right and left wings.

The party's policy-making executive board this week-end will draft a new foreign and domestic program on which Labor could fight the next general election.

The big problem is to work out a platform acceptable to both the right-wing moderates under Clement Attlee and the dissident, left-wing minority under Aneurin Bevan.

Bevan pulled out of the Labor cabinet 20 months ago, disagreeing with the official labor stand on rearmament and "free" health service payments.

At the party annual conference

### Transport Bd. Orders Equalized Freight Scale

OTTAWA, Dec. 12—(CP)—Canada's four eastern provinces were given a special exemption from today's Board of Transport Commissioners order laying the basis for a plan of freight rate equalization.

The board ordered the equalization scheme for all parts of Canada except the Maritimes and Newfoundland, halting at the Quebec-Maritimes border. This was done by direction of parliament.

Had equalization been extended to the Maritimes, the general level of rates for that area would have gone up. The over-all effect of equalization has been to depress Western rates and hoist those in the East—Ontario and Quebec only, under the board's restriction.

Another big exemption from equalization consisted of the low "Crow's Nest Pass" rates on Western grain going for export. These have been fixed by statute since 1927, and no change in them had been looked for.

However, there had been a major question as to how the board would interpret the clause protecting the Maritimes rates which parliament inserted in its 1951 equalization measure. The clause—written into the bill at the instance of the Maritimes governments—was in fairly general terms.

The board's interpretation of it was that:

1. Rates between points within the Maritimes will not be touched.
2. On traffic between the Maritimes and other parts of Canada, any changes resulting from equalization will apply only to that section of the haul west of the New Brunswick border.

Rates on this second type of traffic for many years have been calculated on the basis of normal charges for the non-Maritimes part of the haul plus a so-called "arbitrary"—lower than normal—between Montreal and the Maritimes point.

The board decided that the arbitrariness should remain untouched.

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### Strongly Worded Speech In Parliament By Mr. McLure

OTTAWA, Dec. 12—(Special)—In a strongly worded speech in the Commons today, W. Chester S. McLure, Conservative member for Queen's, called for improved ferry service between Wood Islands and Caribou, criticized Works Minister Fourrier and Transport Minister Chevrier for their indifference to Prince Edward Island's needs and sought emergency assistance for the North Rustico fisheries.

Members sat up in their seats as Mr. McLure lashed out at Yousuf Karsh, prominent Ottawa photographer for saying that the worst meal he had ever eaten was at the hotel where he had stayed in Charlottetown. There was no need of microphones in the chamber when the Queen's member thundered angrily.

"If and when this individual may perchance visit my Province again, with Maclean's Magazine in his teeth, he will be as welcome as a skunk in a nudist colony."

Mr. McLure told the House of the many letters of protest he had received over the Karsh statement and regretted he could not place them on the record because the language of some of them was not parliamentary. He said he was sorry the magazine did not send someone who knew the province "rather than go to a foreigner—who is now a doubtful Canadian." It was a case, he said, of discrimination against the best tourist ground to be found anywhere in Canada.

On the subject of fisheries, the Queen's member reminded the government that charity begins at home.

(Continued on Page 15 Col. 2)

### Mysterious Chest Complaint In London

LONDON, Dec. 12—(Reuters)—A mysterious chest complaint is affecting Londoners, apparently as an aftermath of the choking fog which smothered the metropolis for four days beginning last Friday. Scores of deaths have been blamed on the fog which aggravated the condition of bronchial sufferers. But the outbreak of chest complaints came after the murk had cleared. Hospitals have been swamped with hundreds of wheezing patients and extra beds have been set up to accommodate the rush.

### Christmas Tree Trade Is \$20 Million Industry

(By The Canadian Press)  
Sometime in the next 12 days, thousands of Canadians will turn woodmen-for-a-day. Others less ambitious will just pick up a telephone. But they're all after the same thing—a Christmas tree.

This traditional evergreen symbol of Yuletide cheer is one of the most sought-after items in the country at this time of year. While the old custom of a family expedition to the country for a tree will still have plenty of followers, a Canadian Press survey today shows, most of the trees

will be supplied by a \$20,000,000 industry which mass-produces trees the way Detroit makes automobiles.

However they're obtained, through a small operator or from a big jobber there's good news for the buyer. There is a plentiful supply at prices little changed from last year.

The average for a six-foot "family" tree is from \$2.50 to \$3 across the country. Other prices range from 75 cents for table-size seedlings to \$5 and up for 12-footers for outdoor display. One firm in Nova Scotia is putting out boxed spruce for table ornamentation.

Spruce and balsam will be the popular varieties, with the significant newcomer, Scotch Pine. This species is gaining fast on the favorites because of its needle-retaining qualities and the demand for spruce and balsam for lumber.

Marketing of trees still is an uncertain business, although efforts are being made to standardize methods. In many areas operators obtain orders a month ahead of time for delivery just before Christmas.

Many of the tree farms are in Southern Ontario, where light sandy soil favors rapid growth. In other provinces, major operators have formed a growers' association which supervises export, licenses dealers and determines prices.

Much of Canadian production is shipped to the United States. Last year Americans bought 9,500,000 Canadian trees for which they shelled out \$3,750,000. A sprinkling of trees was sent to Bermuda, Jamaica, Hawaii and other holiday centres.

The principal exporting provinces are New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia.

### Lively Commons Quarrel Breaks Out Over Trade

OTTAWA, Dec. 12—(CP)—A lively Commons quarrel broke out on the eve of Prime Minister St. Laurent's return from the Commonwealth economic conference.

Two British Columbians, E. D. Fulton (PC-Kamloops) and James Sinclair (L-Coast-Caplanho), scrapped at the conference.

Mr. Fulton contended that the reported success of the conference indicated it should have been called three years ago as his party urged. The success contrasted with cabinet statements that such a conference would serve no useful purpose.

Mr. Sinclair said he's willing to wait until Monday to hear Mr. St. Laurent's own report to the house but his interpretation of press reports is that other Commonwealth countries are coming around to Canada's way of thinking in the trade field.

The Commons also heard:

1. George Drew, Progressive Conservative leader, accuse the Defence Department of being in contempt of parliament because it has not fulfilled assurances of last spring that the Currie report on army handling of stores will be completed as quickly as possible.
2. Acting Prime Minister Howe indicated the government hopes this pre-Christmas session will end Wednesday.
3. Agriculture Minister Gardiner say the U. S. thinks Canada has done a good job in routing out foot-and-mouth disease and wants to resume normal trade in livestock, meat and other embargoed products.
4. Stanley Knowles (CCF-Winnipeg North Centre) urged the government to repeal a law by which recoveries are made from estates of deceased old age pensioners and by which those still alive are "hounded" for overpayments.

### St. Laurent Pleased With Conference

OTTAWA, Dec. 12—(CP)—Canadians got a broad hint from Prime Minister St. Laurent tonight that some sterling-area import restrictions against Canadian goods may be chopped away as a result of the Commonwealth prime ministers' conference.

Mr. St. Laurent, returning home from the two-week London talks, told reporters at suburban Rockcliffe Airport:

"The conference was very successful. It certainly was as favorable to Canadian interests as it was for other members of the commonwealth."

The Prime Minister appeared cheerful and optimistic as he stepped down from the big C-5 R. C. A. F. plane which took him and his aides across the Atlantic and back.

Asked specifically if removal of sterling area import restrictions could be expected and when, Mr. St. Laurent replied cautiously:

"Certainly all of us worked toward the objectives of wider trade and less restrictions, but how soon the objectives will commence to operate is difficult to forecast."

### Jackson And Suchan Denied New Trial

OTTAWA, Dec. 12—(CP)—A final attempt by Leonard Jackson and Steve Suchan to get a new trial ended today in failure.

The last remaining legal door was closed against the two convicted murderers in a 20-page judgment by Mr. Justice J. W. Estey, rejecting bids for review of their cases before the Supreme Court of Canada.

Members of the notorious Boyd Gang and listed by police last September as Canada's two most-wanted men, the thugs are scheduled to be hanged next Tuesday for the slaying of Toronto Sergeant-Detective Edmund Tong.

For two days the men's lawyers argued before Mr. Justice Estey that Jackson and Suchan had not received a fair trial; certain evidence had been introduced that should not have been admitted; that the trial judge had unjustly refused an adjournment and rejected requests for a summary of crown evidence before the trial began.

But after a week's consideration of the argument, Mr. Justice Estey disagreed.

### "Mad Dog" Killer Executed In Calif.

SAN QUENTIN, Calif., Dec. 12—(AP)—Badman William E. Cook was executed today at San Quentin Prison for the slaying of a Seattle man.

The sullen little "mad dog" killer, who two years ago kidnapped and killed an Illinois family of five, took the execution with the same disdainful calm that had marked his months in prison.

As guards strapped him to the execution chair in the gas chamber he tapped his fingers on the arm rests, then settled back.

The slight, 5-foot-4-inch dishwasher, now only 28, got his death sentence for the killing of Robert Dewey, Seattle salesman—just one of the six persons Cook boasted of slaying.

### Nancy Oakes To Wed

NASSAU, Bahamas, Dec. 12—(CP)—Lady Oakes announced today her daughter Nancy will be married to Baron Ernst Lyssard von Haynlingen Huene at St. Mary's Church here Dec. 29 by the Lord Bishop of Nassau.

Miss Oakes is the former wife of Count Alfred de Marigny who was acquitted several years ago on a charge of murdering her father, Sir Harry Oakes.

### Declares No Violence Aboard Israeli Ship

By JOHN MOSHER  
SAINT JOHN, N. B., Dec. 12—(CP)—A company executive who said he is flying to Halifax to clear up a modern sea mystery today said there was neither violence nor a dispute aboard the Israeli freighter Abraham Graetz.

David Brodie, vice president of M. Dizonoff and Co. Ltd. of New York, owners of the 5,688-ton ship, said, however, he believed there was a difference of opinion between the controversial Capt. Adam Graetz and some authorities "on topics of Maritime procedure."

He did not elaborate on this point in his telephone interview with the evening Times-Globe, which was asked not to disclose his whereabouts. He was last reported in Montreal where his plane was grounded en route to Halifax.

The freighter docked here today but reporters were unsuccessful in determining the background of a Tel Aviv newspaper story which said the 24-year-old skipper held a pistol to the radio operator's head and threatened to sink the ship unless his father was named to the Israeli cabinet.

Reporters were not allowed a-

## French March Out Military Might In Troubled Morocco

### Air Marshal Curtis Undergoes Operation



OTTAWA, Dec. 12—(CP)—Air Marshal W. A. Curtis, 59-year-old chief of the air staff, underwent an emergency abdominal operation yesterday at the RAF Hospital at Uxbridge, Eng., air force headquarters said today.

Air Marshal Curtis, retiring as chief of the air staff at the end of January, accompanied Defence Minister Claxton overseas last week to take part in the handing over ceremonies of the RCAF base at Gros Tenquin, France, to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

RCAF headquarters said the operations were performed by Air Commodore A. C. Dickson, consultant in surgery to the RAF. His condition was described as good and he was transferred to the Middlesex Hospital at London.

### Reject Move For Committee In Tunisian Dispute

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Dec. 12—(AP)—The United Nations political committee today defeated an Asian-Arab move to have a UN good offices committee intervene in the French-Tunisian dispute.

France was absent when the vote came on a resolution sponsored by 13 Asian and Arab countries. Britain and the United States led the opposition to the plan.

The vote on the key paragraph of the resolution was 25 in favor, 28 opposed and five abstentions. The defeated resolution called on France to resume negotiations with "true representatives" of the Tunisian people looking towards independence of that North African protectorate. It would have set up a UN commission to assist in the negotiations.

### Bandits Get \$5,200 In Quebec Holdup

OKA, Que., Dec. 12—(CP)—Two armed men today held up a branch of the Banque Provinciale du Canada here and escaped with \$5,200. Oka is about 30 miles west of Montreal.

Manager Francois Harbour said the two men walked in while he was waiting on another customer. One was described as being dark with a black mustache and the other blond. Both were English-speaking.

The darker man handed \$100 in exchange. When Harbour argued with the gunman, the other man jumped on top of his desk, pointed the gun at his stomach and fired. The gun was loaded with a blank cartridge and Harbour was unhurt.

While one man held Harbour at gun point, his partner took \$4,000 in bank funds, \$1,000 in municipal funds and \$200 belonging to the Bell Telephone Company branch. They escaped by automobile.

### Veteran Newswoman Dies

PARKSVILLE, B. C., Dec. 12—(CP)—Mrs. Maude E. McVickers, 84, one of the first women newspaper reporters in the United States, died Thursday at her home here. She started her career as a cub reporter in Toledo, Ohio, and after a colorful career during which she interviewed four U. S. Presidents, came to Canada in 1901, settling in Victoria.

### Official forecasts issued tonight by the Dominion Public Weather Office here and valid until midnight Saturday.

**10 MORE SHOPPING DAYS**

POVERTY IS AN INCONVENIENCE NOT A CRIME?

### High tide today at Charlottetown at 7:48 A. M. and 7:00 P. M.

High tide on the North Shore at 2:57 A. M. and 2:29 P. M.

Summerside tide eighteen minutes later than Charlottetown.

Sun rises today at 7:43 A. M. and sets at 4:32 P. M.

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