

WILL CONTINUE PRICE SUPPORT FOR FARM PRODUCTS

Report CNR Revenue In 1949 At Record High

British Atomic Scientists Condemn Use Of H-Bomb

LONDON, March 23 — (CP) — Outstanding members of the British Atomic Scientists Association have roundly condemned hydrogen bombs as instruments of war.

One of the scientists, whose views were disclosed today in the news bulletin of the Association, said he would refuse to work in development of the hydrogen bomb.

Dr. G. O. Jones of Oxford declared: "No one pretends that the development of hydrogen bombs can be anything but a war measure — no new peacetime blessings are promised to save the consciences of scientists and the public."

"And if I personally, am asked to help in developing a super-bomb, I shall say, 'No, I am sorry, it is too disgusting.'"

On the other hand, Professor Otto Frisch, who worked on the atomic bomb, said the world is safe from disintegration — at least — through any explosion by a hydrogen bomb. Frisch, Austrian-born and a naturalized British subject, said:

"I can reassure you there is no such danger. Neither air nor water, or any of the common rocks, could act as a nuclear explosive, even at the very highest temperature.

But the hydrogen bomb would be 'bad enough.'"

"A hundred square miles devastated is probably no exaggerated estimate."

Professor M. Born of the University of Edinburgh and Dr. F. C. Champion of King's College, London, both referred to the "prostitution" of science they said is involved in the manufacture of atomic weapons.

A woman physicist, Professor Kathleen Lonsdale of University College, London, opposed not only atomic weapons but military weapons of all kinds.

She contended that armaments have never brought security to any country, and "to suppose that security can be found in civil defence is not even a gamble; it is pure folly."

Dr. D. H. Wilkinson of Cambridge University gave this philosophical outlook:

"Our brightest hope is that the hydrogen bomb will very nearly but not quite work."

New Branch Manager



A banker of 28 years' experience, Mr. Edward M. Robinson, (above) who has been manager of The Bank of Nova Scotia's Floor and Spadina branch in Toronto for the past year, succeeds Mr. T. F. Mitchell as manager of the bank here. Mr. Robinson, who has been an assistant supervisor at the bank's general office, was born at Marysville, N.B., and joined the bank at Fredericton. During his career he served many years in the West Indies where he held the position of manager of the Ciudad Trujillo branch from 1940 to 1947.

To Demonstrate Against Consumer Sales Tax In N. B.

FREDERICTON, March 23 — (CP) — An outdoor public demonstration in protest of the consumer tax announced yesterday by Premier McNair will be staged in front of the Legislature Building here next Tuesday afternoon. This is believed to be the first occasion in the history of the 163-year-old Legislature that opposition to a bill has taken such a form.

The mass demonstration is being supported by the Fredericton Junior Chamber of Commerce, the Fredericton Retail Merchants' Association, the Fredericton Jewelers' Association, and various consumer groups and women's organizations.

It is planned to have several speakers voice the protests of the various groups against the tax legislation, it was stated here today.

To be known as "social services and education tax", the bill is expected to be introduced along with Hon. J. G. Boucher's first budget schedule as Provincial Secretary-Treasurer for next Wednesday afternoon. Unofficial circles say the bill will provide for a four per cent tax on retail. The rate has not been officially announced.

Roaring Fire At Alberta Oil Well

EDMONTON, March 23 — (CP) — A roaring gas fire that sent flames towering hundreds of feet today engulfed the drilling rig at Pacific Petroleum's Excelsior No. 2 well, 12 miles north of here. Three oil drillers suffered burns.

The injured are: Allan Holt, 25, Egremont, Alta.; John Allen, 24, Bon Accord, Alta.; and Norman Dease, 23, Leduc, Alta. Hospital authorities described their condition as fair.

Meanwhile, oil workers struggled to douse the giant torch.

The company's radio dispatcher said a spark flashed as a baller was being taken from the hole and touched off the fire.

Coming Events

- "Mail your Films to Garnham Photo Studio, Charlottetown.
- "Cornwall concert Tuesday, March 28th.
- "Bonshaw Hall tonight. Show 'Isle of Forgotten Sins.'
- "Crockinole Party, Uigg Orange Hall, Saturday, March 26th.
- "Rummage sale, Zion W. A. Group 5, Market Building, Saturday 7.30.
- "Don't miss 'The Younger Brothers' at MacDonald Bros. Theatre tonight. Loads of action plus Short.
- "Horse racing at Stanley, Saturday, March 25th. If not fine, Monday, March 27th.
- "Meadowbank Women's Institute Cake Sale at Rogers Hardware, Saturday, March 26th.
- "Receiving Hogs at Orpsud every Tuesday until noon. Let your hogs a day or two in advance. Bert J. Trowsdale.
- "Cleaning Seed Grain beginning March 27th. Mr. Stewart Grain Growers, operating at West Macleod's Farm.
- "Rummage Sale, Saturday, March 25th at P. M. Massey Hardware, 150 Kent Street. Sponsored by Mermad Women's Institute.

But Line Wound Up 42 Million Dollars In Red

OTTAWA, March 23 — (CP) — Canadian National Railways rolled up a record half billion dollars in earnings on its far-flung, 33,000-mile system in 1949, but on its books a \$42,000,000 deficit.

The annual report of the Government-operated line was tabled in the Commons today by Transport Minister Chevrier.

The multi-million dollar system's \$500,000,000 gross revenue last year was whittled to a deficit of \$42,043,026 when all debits were accounted for. In 1948 the deficit was \$33,532,741.

Burden that sent the C.N.R. in the red was the annual fixed charges of close to \$46,000,000 on obligations held by the public and the Government. Before making provision for that the system had a net operating surplus of \$4,057,907.

Drop In Traffic

The report disclosed that there was a five per cent drop in traffic during the year. This and the costs of taking over the Newfoundland railway and the "continued unbalance between railway rates and railway costs," were big contributors to the line's debit position on the books.

Aside from its financial statistics the report was one of bright prospects. Expansion, modernization and development were continuing and the line remained the Dominion's largest single employer with 111,000 on its \$311,000,000 annual payroll.

Modernization of the system included continued delivery of new diesel-electric locomotives — 149 already are in operation — extension to hotels and final work on the Montreal terminal which includes the international aviation building.

Steamships Report

Also tabled was the annual report of Canadian National (West Indies) Steamships, Limited. It showed an operating revenue of \$6,895,007 for its 10 vessels during

Labor Gov't Gets 48 Vote Majority

LONDON, March 23 — (Reuters) — The Government romped home tonight with a majority of 48 — highest of the new Parliament — in a vote on a minor food question.

The figures were 288 to 240. If all members are present and vote, the Government has a majority of only five.

This was the fourth vote of the present Parliament. The other three were votes of confidence on steel nationalization, housing and alleged government overspending. Then the majorities were 14, 19 and 25 respectively.

Tonight the Opposition criticized the stock-piling of food. They also objected to the fact that the Government had refused to disclose the amount of these stocks.

Australia Takes Action To Put Down Communism

CANBERRA, March 23 — (Reuters) — Australia today invoked far-reaching emergency powers including the right of immediate arrest, the banning of meetings and the death penalty for treason — to fight labor disorders and Communism.

Prime Minister Robert G. Menzies said the powers of the Emergency Crimes Act would be used against Communists, pending special legislation to be introduced soon to outlaw the Communist Party in Australia.

Faced with a steel and shipping-strike crisis, the country also proclaimed "a state of serious industrial disturbance."

The proclamation, issued by Governor-General W. V. McKell, said the situation was "prejudicial or threatening trade and commerce with other countries and among the states of Australia."

Menzies told a tense House of Representatives "we will deal with Communists here once and for all. We will carry the fight to the Communists."

The proclamation arose directly from a series of "rolling strikes" on the Brisbane waterfront, but the Government's new powers, which would be exercised "with

Newfoundland Fisheries Problems Are Discussed

OTTAWA, March 23 — (CP) — Prime Minister St. Laurent said tonight in the Commons he hopes the Government's efforts to solve the difficulties facing the Newfoundland codfish industry will bear fruit.

He made the statement in reply to Gordon Higgins (PC — St. John's East) before the Commons gave first reading to a bill giving permanent effect to the Government's fisheries prices support legislation.

Mr. Higgins said he read a report of a speech by Premier Smallwood of Newfoundland at a meeting of Newfoundland and fisheries officials with Mr. St. Laurent and other Federal representatives. Mr. Higgins said he gathered from the report that Mr. St. Laurent had stated the problems of the Newfoundland codfish industry were solved.

He asked Mr. St. Laurent if his interpretation was correct.

Mr. St. Laurent said he had not stated that the industry's problems were solved. He had told the Newfoundland delegation that the best efforts would be put forward to solve the problems. He had expressed the hope the efforts would bear fruit.

Mr. Higgins said he wished to urge the Fisheries Department to encourage the use of marine oil in the manufacture of margarine. Vegetable oils imported from the United States now were being used in margarine when marine oils could be used.

In view of the unemployment situation in Newfoundland and the Maritimes, there should be a greater use of marine oil. He recalled that large fleets customarily left Newfoundland each spring to participate in the seal hunt. This year only a few ships went out because there was no market for seal oil.

Greater use of marine oil would benefit fishermen.

J. W. Noseworthy (CCF — York South) also pressed for a greater use of marine oil. He asked for a statement from the Government on the matter.

J. Watson MacNaught (L — Prince), parliamentary assistant to Fisheries Minister Mayhew, said he understood that all the 1949 seal oil had been disposed of satisfactorily in recent weeks. It was still too early to say what will happen to the 1950 supply.

Stresses Rising Costs In Welfare Services

Mounting costs in the Department of Health and Welfare, for which \$2,508,232 is being budgeted in the 1951 estimates, are attributable chiefly to the welfare branch, Hon. A. W. Matheson told the Legislature yesterday in a speech bristling with figures of forecasts and expenditures.

"The health branch is a simple matter," the Minister said. "The cost is not great. It is the welfare branch which takes the money, and it is the welfare branch that is the headache."

Speaking in the Budget debate, he emphasized that by far the biggest increase in 1950 expenditure over estimates was for old age and blind pensions. This increase amounts to \$250,000. For total welfare services the excess over estimates is \$312,000. Savings effected in the health branch over estimates will bring the overall excess figure down to \$200,000.

The question of reducing the means test for old age pensions is being discussed in the Dominion Parliament, and in this connection Mr. Matheson offered the following observations:

It would mean in this Province an increase of \$70,000 if the age for the means test was reduced from seventy to sixty-five years. It would mean an increase of \$150,000 if the age was reduced from seventy to sixty years.

In the last fifteen years, pensioners in this Province have increased sevenfold. In the last ten years, the number has been doubled.

The maximum pension has increased 100 per cent in the last seven years, from \$20 a month to the present maximum of \$40.

Last year, the pension was increased

Mr. Cox Puts Foot Down On Road Requests

The seasonal closing of the highways to motor vehicle traffic, which went into effect yesterday, will be enforced in all cases, and Highways Minister H. H. Cox turned a deaf ear to suggestions to the contrary at yesterday afternoon's sitting of the Legislature.

"We can't make fish of one and flesh of another," he declared.

The question was raised by Mr. George Saville, Fifth King's, who asked the Minister if he could not work out some plan whereby, when the roads are frozen hard, they could not be opened in the forenoons to railway depots for the convenience of farmers and fishermen. "If the roads are closed to all kinds of traffic from now till the first of May it will make it very difficult for them to do business," he argued.

"We tried opening the roads till 10 o'clock in other years, and it didn't work," Hon. Mr. Cox replied. "They would go out and it would be 2 o'clock in the afternoon when they stopped. You can't give it to one section and not to another. Last year they got the privilege and they spoiled themselves. We are not going to open any of the roads as far as I am concerned."

Mr. R. R. Bell, 2nd, Queen's, cited the case of a merchant from Kingston whose truck broke down Monday night in Charlottetown. "and he was not even permitted to take it home." He cited another case of a man with five sons and one 1200 bushels of potatoes to move over a back road, which could not be made worse in any case. "Some discretion," Mr. Bell maintained, "should be used. There are dozens of police constables who could be out on the roads to check persons making improper use of road permits."

Mr. Bell said he appreciated the need of applying the rule strictly on improved highways, but on the back roads a little leniency would be done by hauling in cases of necessity.

Mr. Cox said the Kingston man referred to by Mr. Bell had come to him and had said he wanted to take back "a little load" from Charlottetown.

"So there you are," he added. "Last year it was a regular racket. We put the notice in the papers three or four days ago for farmers to get their products moved. Now the roads are closed and they will stay closed. There is a lot of work to do on them. They are in a worse condition at present than they have been for several years."

British Say 'Thank You' For Gifts Of Food

LONDON, March 23 — (Reuters) — Princess Elizabeth, Prime Minister Attlee and Opposition leader Winston Churchill stood together last night in London's historic Guildhall to say "thank you" to the Commonwealth and the United States for their gifts of food during the war.

To back up their thanks, they appealed for support of the £2,000,000 (\$6,200,000) national "thanksgiving" fund launched by the Lord Mayor of London to be used to construct a residential centre in London for Commonwealth and American students.

This centre will be Britain's expression of thanks for food parcels and other help now totalling \$80,000,000 sent by the peoples of the Commonwealth, and Americans.

Princess Elizabeth said: "It is in our power to take part in the creation of a monument in remembrance of the astonishing flood of generosity which will not be forgotten for many generations. 'When this centre is built, the children, grandchildren and descendants of those who gave so openly will have a home in which to live when they come here to London as students.'"

Commons Moves To Make Act Permanent

OTTAWA, March 23 — (CP) — The Government's decision to provide permanent floor prices for farm products was unanimously endorsed today in the Commons.

But Opposition members, while supporting extension of the legislation, advocated changes to provide greater stability for farmers. They criticized the Government's handling of the prices support legislation to date.

The debate was on a resolution to a bill giving permanent life to the Agriculture Prices Support Act, passed in 1944 and due to expire March 31. The bill establishes a \$200,000,000 revolving fund from which the government can draw to support farm products when prices drop below what is considered reasonable.

In sponsoring the legislation, Agriculture Minister Gardiner told how the act now is being used to support the price of butter. For about a year the Government has been buying butter stocks which producers cannot sell for approximately 58 1-2 cents a pound.

The money for the purchases is taken out of the revolving fund. Proceeds from the sale of butter to the trade are turned back to the fund. If losses are incurred they are made up out of the treasury.

Wins Quick Support

With farmer-members from various parts of the country holding the floor, the legislation won quick support. But men such as J. A. Ross (PC-Souris) and Hazen Argue (CCF-Assiniboia) felt that the legislation should contain a formula for fixing floor prices. They did not think the Minister of Agriculture alone should have the power to set the floor prices.

Robert Fair (SC-Battle River) and Victor Quelch (SC-Acadia) favored parity prices which would give farmers prices that bore some

Discusses Prices Support Act

OTTAWA, March 23 — (CP) — H. H. Hatfield (PC — Victoria-Carleton) said tonight in the Commons that the Government's agricultural prices support legislation has never worked the way Agriculture Minister Gardiner had explained it would work.

Speaking of a resolution to extend the legislation permanently, Mr. Hatfield said the Minister had stated in 1944 that a board would be established to step in and set floor prices when farm products fell below the cost of production.

Every time Maritime potato growers wanted a floor price under their product they had to send a delegation to Ottawa and ask for a support price.

Mr. Hatfield asked if it was true that Mr. Gardiner had told a Newfoundland co-operative that the Government would tell its members before planting time what they would get for their harvest that fall.

Mr. Gardiner interjected and said the Government could do that under the Co-Operative Act of 1939.

Mr. Hatfield said the act appeared to be a good one and a similar system should be made to apply under the Agricultural Prices Support Act. He knew of cases where potato growers had been forced to sell below the cost of production.

He did not know from one year to the next what they would receive for their crop.

70 HIGH PEAKS

In the Swiss Alps there are no fewer than 70 peaks with an altitude ranging from 10,000 feet to approximately 15,000 feet.

Arbitrary Assessment Case In PEI Discussed

OTTAWA, March 23 — (CP) — A Senate committee got the Government's No. 1 tax office on the witness stand today and threw everything at him from the financial problems of a Provincial Lieutenant-Governor to the curiosity of farmers about why tax investigators travel in pairs in rural areas.

Before Victor Scully, Deputy Minister for Taxation in the National Revenue Department, stepped down from his discussion of departmental estimates he had said these things:

1. He would be willing to look into the claim of Hon. J. A. Bernard, Prince Edward Island's Lieutenant-Governor, that the Department made an "arbitrary" assessment against his business firm 12 years ago and that there should be at least some relief in heavy interest payments.

2. From actual experience of bribe attempts and arguments about money handed over, it has been found advisable to send two tax investigators rather than one into rural areas. The Department wanted the evidence of two men in any arguments.

3. Some 80,000 Canadians have made application for refundable portions of compulsory savings deducted from their pay cheques in wartime. Cheques are going out at the rate of 1,500 a week but something like \$2,000,000 still remains unclaimed.

4. It's beyond the Department what became of the bulk of 30,000,000 of the widely-used "short" income tax forms issued last year. Less than a quarter were actually used.

5. The staff that handles taxation was cut from a record 11,941 in May, 1949, to 10,608 at the end of February and this trend will continue for at least two years unless government tax policy alters it.

6. The Department has brought its work up to date and won't return to the post-war conditions that made assessments come later than the year of the return.

Millions Unclaimed

The problems of the Lieutenant-Governor were raised by Senator J. P. McIntyre (L — Prince Edward Island). He said the Department had made an "arbitrary" ruling against the Bernard firm at a time when the firm had cleared off the tax levy but felt there might be some relief granted in heavy interest charges.

The committee chairman, Senator T. A. Crerar (L-Manitoba) suggested the case should be taken up personally with Mr. Scully and Mr. Scully agreed.

The case of the rural investigators was brought up by Senator Thomas Farquhar (L — Ontario). He said he had never been able to explain to farmers why they came in pairs. Mr. Scully said the system "arose from actual experience."

Sir Stafford Cripps Ill With Pneumonia

LONDON, March 23 — (AP) — The Treasury announced tonight that Sir Stafford Cripps, Chancellor of the Exchequer, has contracted bronchial infection following influenza and will be confined to his home for a few days.

Store Lotteries Illegal, On Way Out In Quebec

QUEBEC, March 23 — (CP) — A gentlemen's agreement and a warning from the Attorney-General's Department today promised to end lotteries operated on a major scale by Quebec City department stores.

One of them, the J. B. Laliberte store, which claims to have started the lotteries last November with a "Christmas Club", announced in a newspaper advertisement today it was stopping its "contest."

In the advertisement, the store indicated it had been warned against operating its lottery by the "civil authority."

The store said it hoped that "all others who followed our example in organizing these contests, will follow once more our example."

These lotteries are contrary to the Criminal Code, an official of the Attorney-General's Department said.

No charges will be pressed if the stores stop their operations after receiving warnings of the illegality of these operations, the official said.

Among the prizes offered by stores are cars; a house, a trip to Rome during the holy year celebrations and furs.

Here is the way the lottery operates:

A customer registers his name and address. With each purchase of \$1 or more he is entitled to one chance on the drawing; if he wins he is elected president of the "club." If he can answer a short quiz correctly he gets a car or whatever the prize is. Other lotteries operate along similar lines.

Officials from various merchant associations agreed that the practice is detrimental to small business men and that it is "unfair competition."

Gale Warnings; Storms In The U. S.

HALIFAX, March 23 — (CP) — Storm warnings were hoisted along the Atlantic coastline tonight as a late March storm—first of the traditional stormy month—lashed the Southwest Maritimes and threatened to spread to other parts of the three Provinces.

Small ships scurried for cover but none were reported in distress.

Heavy rainfall accompanied by gale force winds followed spring-like weather which had predominated for several days.

The Weather Office predicted strong winds with rain or snow during the night with gradual clearing in most areas tomorrow. Snowflurries were expected in Northern New Brunswick, but in other areas temperatures in the afternoon will jump back to normal. Winds will moderate.

At Halifax, planes were grounded and flying conditions were not expected to improve until morning.

Streets were slushy as the heavy rain worked away accumulated ice.

CHICAGO, March 23 — (AP) —

A sea-born storm moved up the Atlantic coast of the United States today, pouring snow and rain over most of New England and the North Atlantic states.

The coastal areas generally got rain. But farther inland, snow piled up over a wide area.

Schools closed in Elmira, N. Y., and in several upstate counties where the heavy fall brought danger from overloaded tree limbs.

The fall was heaviest in the mountain sections of New York and Pennsylvania, where it reached 25 inches at some points.

Parts of Maryland and West Virginia had up to six inches. Communications were crippled in large areas of Pennsylvania.

The storm whipped at the Maine coast, bringing a heavy rainfall expected to reach 1.5 inches. Portland schools were closed.

In New York City, a downpour raised the water level in depleted reservoirs and caused postponement of an artificial rain-making experiment.



TORONTO, March 23 — (CP) — Minimum and maximum temperatures: Victoria 39, 43; Edmonton 26, 40; Regina 31, 33; Winnipeg 22, 37; Toronto 33, 38; Ottawa 29, 33; Montreal 33, 35; Quebec 30, 41; Saint John 25, 44; Moncton 23, 46; Halifax 29, 36; Charlottetown 17, 37; Sydney 15, 35; Yarmouth 28, 31; St. John's 12, 39.

HALIFAX, March 23 — (CP) —

Official forecasts issued by the Dominion Public Weather Office at Halifax.

Synopsis:

Rain mixed with freezing rain spread to most of the Maritime Thursday. Winds reached gale force in the southwestern region. The storm causing this weather was centred near the mouth of the Bay of Fundy. It will move slowly northeast across Nova Scotia Friday. In the wake of the storm winds diminish as the rain ends.

Regional forecasts valid until midnight Friday:

Prince Edward Island: Freezing rain during the night. Friday intermittent rain with little change in temperature. East winds 35, gusts to 50. Low and high Friday at Charlottetown 31 and 35.

High tide today at 2:23 A. M. and 1:42 P. M.

Sun rises at 6:51 A. M. and sets at 6:25 P. M.

Summerside tide eighteen minutes later than Charlottetown.

BORDEN — TORMENTINE FERRY SERVICE WEEK DAYS

Lv. Borden	Lv. Cape Tormentine
9:10 A.M.	2:40 P.M.

SUNDAY SERVICE

Lv. Borden	Lv. Cape Tormentine
9:10 A.M.	10:35 A.M.