

WOULD OFFSET WAGE BOOST

Railways Will Ask For General Freight Rate Hike

OTTAWA (CP)—An application for a general increase in freight rates will be made this week to the board of transport commissioners by Canadian railways to offset wage boosts to 150,000 non-operating employees.

K. D. M. Spence, CPR counsel, made the announcement Tuesday at a board hearing of a railway application seeking a six-per-cent increase in western lumber rates.

Mr. Spence did not specify the amount of the general increase, saying only that it will be "for x per cent."

However, the railways estimate that the wage boosts, plus fringe benefits, will total \$80,000 annually, if extended to all railway employees. The amount to be received by non-operating workers is estimated at \$60,000 a year.

DECIDE LUMBER CASE Mr. Spence was asked by Chief Justice John Kearney whether the lumber case could be resolved in a general revenue case which, he understood was imminent.

The chief commissioner suggested that the lumber matter could be decided at that time.

Mr. Spence said an application will be filed with the board this week by the railways for a general rate increase. The application would state an increase was necessary to enable the railways to pay for age boosts recommended in the April 13 majority report of a federal conciliation board.

The last general freight rate increase—a boost of seven per cent—was received by the railways in March, 1953. This followed a nine-per-cent increase effective Jan. 1, 1953.

The railways and the non-operating unions both have accepted the majority report of the conciliation board. The report proposes a two-year contract under which the employees would receive an 11-per-cent wage increase spread over the next 14 months.

UNION DEMANDS Current average wage for the non-operating group, covering many categories, is \$1.46 an hour. The unions had sought an 18-per-cent boost plus an eight-cent-an-hour contribution by the companies to a health and welfare plan in a one-year contract. This would have cost the railways about \$70,000,000 a year.

Coming Events

- Dance Fortune Hall every Friday night.
Dance Forest Hill, Wednesday night, May 16th.
Pantry sale, Holman's, Friday afternoon, Milton A.Y.P.A.
Dance in Iona East School, Monday, May 21st. Good music.
Dance Cardross School, Friday, May 18. Websters orchestra.
Dance Grandview Hall Thursday, May 17.
Dance, Belfast Hall, Saturday, May 19th. Point Prim Women's Institute.
Regular weekly dance St. Mary's Hall, Souris, Wednesday. Cliff Peters orchestra.
Weekly dance, Fort Augustus Hall every Wednesday night. Burkes Orchestra.
Film show in Brookfield Hall Thursday, May 17.
Farmers — cleaning timothy daily. MacGuigan and Boyle, Hunter River, P.E.I.
For best results book your clover seeds with us. MacGuigan & Boyle, Hunter River.
Card party and box social Dunstaffnage school Saturday, May 19. Admission free.
Dance West Royalty Hall, Wednesday. Rollie McKenzie's Orchestra. Canteen service, 9.30 to 12.30.
Wellington players present "Maid of Money" in Kelly's Cross Hall, Thursday, May 17th. Curtain 8.30.
Don't miss a very special entertainment tonight, Music, drama, dancing and songs in Victoria Hall.
Dance Cardigan Legion Hall Thursday, May 17. Websters orchestra. P.A. system and canteen service.
See the Shur-Gain Stars at North Rustico Hall, Thursday night 8 o'clock; also final presentation of prizes.
See "You Can't Beat The Irish" presented by Borden Players in Lot 65 Hall Wednesday, May 18. Dance after.
Crapaud District Scarlet Chapter to meet in Lorne Lodge, May 18th, at 8 p.m. All members please attend.
Irishtown variety concert in French River Hall Wednesday, May 16th. Proceeds in aid of St. Thomas Church.
Wheatley River Drama Festival play in Covehead-Stanhope Community Hall, tonight, 8:30. New Glasgow, May 18.
Attention Farmers — Timothy and clover seeds in stock. Get your requirements now. P. L. Morris, Shur-Gain Feed Service, Kinkora, Charlottetown and Summerside.

HEAVY DEATH TOLL

R.C.A.F. Jet Crashes Into Convent At Orleans, Ont.



98 TODAY

OTTAWA (CP)—Fifty-three persons died or were listed missing after a flaming jet fighter exploded Tuesday night into a convent at the Riverside community of Orleans, about seven miles east of here.

Fifty-one nuns, some recovering in the Ville St. Louis convent from operations, were reported dead or missing. One priest's body was recovered and another died about three hours after the crash in a hospital in the capital.

An RCAF jet fighter was seen in the area before the flaming plane rammed the three-storey brick building on the banks of the Ottawa river. A tremendous explosion followed the crash and the structure was demolished.

Mrs. Maria Flora, operator of a restaurant near the convent, said the plane swooped over her home and restaurant in flames and crashed into the three-storey convent near the second floor. There was a big explosion.

"They never had a chance," she said. "Surviving members of the convent were taken by car to their order's mother house on Sussex street in Ottawa."

One of the nuns was sent to St. Louis de Montfort Hospital at Eastview, Ont., with a back injury. Several others were reported in serious condition in Ottawa General Hospital.

The nuns all were in bed when the accident occurred. They had retired at 8 o'clock.

RAMMED CHAPEL The jet aircraft rammed through the chapel adjoining the convent before hitting the main building.

Firemen from RCAF Rockcliffe air station, Ottawa and Eastview were called. The convent is in Hiawatha Park in Gloucester county about 2 1/2 miles west of Orleans.

Vern Ahyart, Lorne Barber and John Crete were among the first neighbors to reach the scene. They pulled away the body of a priest who had jumped from the second floor, his clothing aflame.

The priest was dead. Mr. Ahyart said the screens on the windows of the convent hampered escape or rescue. He said he smashed into one screen and helped pull out two of the nuns. "I can still hear the screams of the nuns," he said two hours later.

The brick building was demolished. Value of the building, used as a convalescent hospital for the nuns, was estimated at about \$1,000,000.

There were about 20 nuns recuperating in the convent from operations. The building stood alone on the riverbank about two miles from Orleans. The plane hit it squarely.

Mrs. Marie Flora, who operates a small restaurant within sight of the convent, said the fighter swooped over her home in flames. "They never had a chance," she said.

An RCAF official arrived on the scene shortly after the crash. General ambulance and fire units were called. The cars of those attracted to the scene by radio reports and residents of Orleans.

Island Grandmother Sees Children Through College Then Graduates Herself!

(Special to the Guardian) SACKVILLE, N.B., May 15th—John Herbert Gillis, farmer, of Flat River, P.E.I., and his wife, the former Annie Laura Martin of Valleyfield, P.E.I., hoped that all their three children would become well educated.

When Mrs. Gillis' husband died, her son, Bert, was 13 and her daughter, Janet, 9. He attended Prince of Wales College and then for two years Mount Allison University. He is now working in the field of industrial chemistry in Toronto.

The same year he opened an office at St. Peter's Bay, and after 68 years of toil, Doctor Roddie is still working out of the same office, with no apparent intention of retiring.

In 1953 Pope XII honoured Dr. MacDonald in bestowing upon him the order of Knight of St. Gregory.

Mrs. Gillis is joining the staff of Brookfield Rural High School near Truro, N.S.

News Flashes

- SENTENCED TO DIE DENVER, (AP)—John Gilbert Graham, 24, was sentenced today to die the week of Aug. 26 for the bombing of an airliner which exploded near Longmont, Colo., last Nov. 1 killing 44 persons.
MONEY FOR QUODDY WASHINGTON, (AP)—President Eisenhower Tuesday asked Congress for \$335,000 to start a survey to determine the cost and economic feasibility of plans to produce electric power from the tidal waters of Passamaquoddy bay.
FESTIVAL AT EDMONTON SHERBROOKE, Que., (CP)—The 1957 Dominion Drama Festival finals will be held in Edmonton, it was decided Tuesday.
300 SAIL ON LINER MONTREAL, (CP)—The Canadian Pacific Steamship liner Empress of Scotland sailed for Liverpool Tuesday with more than 300 passengers aboard.
TOW DISABLED VESSEL HALIFAX, (CP)—RCFA search and rescue said Tuesday the disabled fishing vessel Sarah Morison is being towed to Glace Bay, N.S. by the fisheries department vessel Cygnas after floating helplessly for a day about 20 miles northeast of St. Paul's island.
TALKS BOG DOWN MONTREAL, (CP)—Negotiations to end a Great Lakes shipping strike went on the rocks temporarily Tuesday when union representatives staged a walk-out.
WILDLIFE CONVENTION SHELDIA, N.B., (CP)—The two-day annual convention of the Maritime Wildlife Federation will open here May 26, president A.J. Hicks of Moncton, announced Tuesday.
TIBET IN REVOLT KALIMPONG, India (AP)—A Tibetan monk told newspapermen Tuesday eastern Tibet is in open rebellion against the ruling Chinese Communists.
WAR ON CIVILIANS NICOSIA, Cyprus, (Reuters)—Fears mounted here Tuesday that Cyprus terrorists may be extending their anti-British "war" to British civilians after two shooting attacks in 24 hours.
RHEE RE-ELECTED SEOUL, (AP)—Sungnam Rhee today won his third term as president of South Korea on the basis of incomplete but conclusive returns from the presidential election.

Independence For Singapore Talks Collapse

LONDON, (CP)—Negotiations for Singapore's independence within the Commonwealth ended in failure Tuesday and the crown colony's chief minister, David Marshall, said he was going home to resign.

In Singapore, some residents were reported fearful that violence comparable to what is happening in Cyprus might follow the failure of the London talks.

"This is a great victory for communism," said Marshall at a press conference after inability to agree on responsibility for the Asian bastion.

Closure Action Is Applied To End Stage In Pipeline Debate

OTTAWA (CP)—Opening debate in the Commons pipeline battle sped Tuesday towards a sudden end after a solid Liberal majority backed a government move forcing the quick vote on the first stage of its pipeline legislation.

A vote of 122 to 73—Liberals against the rest of the Commons—carried Trade Minister Howie's motion of closure in the second day of debate on the resolution for a huge treasury loan to the cross-Canada natural gas pipeline.

Use of the powerful closure device, last employed here in 1923, forces a vote on the resolution by 1 a.m. Wednesday—three hours beyond normal adjournment time of the sitting. Its adoption was greeted by opposition cries of "shame" and "the gullotine."

REPORT SPLIT SEEN The ensuing debate split wide open the policy difference between the Progressive Conservative party, which opposes the pipeline proposal, and party member Carl Nickle, Calgary South.

Mr. Nickle accused his party of putting political expediency ahead of the best interests of Canada.

When he rose to speak Howard Green, Vancouver Quadra, in effect disowned Mr. Nickle as one of the party's speakers under the unofficial system of the parties taking turns in the shortened debate.

At issue is the government resolution to lend Trans-Canada Pipe Lines Ltd. up to \$80,000,000 to cover 90 per cent of the cost of building the Prairie section of the 2,200-mile line this year. Also involved is federal-Ontario financing of the \$118,000,000 northern section under a crown company which would lease that portion to Trans-Canada.

The resolution precedes introduction of a government bill to implement that plan. The government deadline for its passage is June 7. In the face of bitter Conservative and CCF opposition, it appears closure will be employed at least three more times if the measure is to be passed in time.

STRESSES NEED FOR CAUTION Pearson Sees Soviet Arms Cut Hitting NATO Unity

OTTAWA, (CP)—The announced Russian arms reduction is designed to remove western fears and thus weaken NATO unity, External Affairs Minister Pearson said Tuesday.

He said that even before the U.S.S.R. announced that it will cut its armed forces by 1,200,000 men there was some evidence that new Soviet tactics were weakening NATO unity.

But he tossed out the possibility that the Soviet Union's so-called soft approach may exhibit a genuine desire by the Kremlin to reach a better understanding with the West.

Testifying before the Commons external affairs committee, Mr. Pearson said NATO for several months after this Paris meeting will be studying the significance of the new Russian approach to the West there must be no relaxation of the alliance's military strength. This was still of prime importance.

NATO's military strength was unlikely to be increased beyond current levels, particularly with many countries trying to raise their living standards.

TEMPERATURE TO NATO Russia's announced intention to reduce its armed forces was a serious security in the Southeast Asian bastion.

He didn't believe any definite conclusions could be reached now on the Russian move. Soviet policy on manpower could be flexible. Men could be called into the Russian forces or discharged at will.

However, any move to reduce arms and men under arms should be welcomed by all. Most of the committee's questions dealt with the recent North Atlantic Council meeting at which Mr. Pearson, Foreign Minister Lange of Norway and Foreign Minister Martelli of Italy were appointed a committee to recommend methods for strengthening NATO in non-military fields.

"If we don't do something in the non-military field we'll have a hard time to keep NATO going at all," Mr. Pearson said.

Annual Inspection of Ch'town Sea Cadet Corps Carried Out The annual inspection of the Charlottetown Sea Cadet Corps, R. C. S. C. C. was carried out last evening by Commodore H. L. Quinn, D. S. C. C. D., Chief of Staff to the Flag Officer Atlantic Coast.

In his remarks to the cadets at the conclusion of the inspection, he said he was very much impressed with what he had seen and congratulated them on their appearance, marching and bearing. Commodore Quinn said that having been associated with the Naval Reserve for a number of years he could well appreciate the amount of work that goes into building a good corps.

The inspection opened with a review of the corps lined up on King Square, they then march via Kent, Queen and Grafton Streets to the saluting base in front of the War Memorial returning to Queen Charlotte via Prince Street. The Commodore then inspected the leaders under various phases of instruction.

Accompanying him were Lieut. Karry Myers, C. D., assistant Area Officer Sea Cadets, President of the Naval League, Charles Hogan, Summerside, Secretary Gordon Kelly, Lieut. Roy Boates Commanding Officer, Summerside Corps and Lieut. Jack Smallwood, Commanding Officer, R. C. S. C. C. Kent.

The Summerside Sea Cadet Band attended in a body under the command of Sub. Lieut. Gabriel Chaisson, Summerside. Parade commander was Sub. Lieut. Harry Thompson, Lieut. of the local corps, Officer of the Guard, Midshipman Dewar MacAusland, Divisional Officer, Sub. Lieut. Charles Downe. At evening quarters the Commodore presented Able Cadets Eugene Hayes; Raymond Gannum; Harry James; Boyd Wilson and William MacKenzie with their certificates and insignia promoting them to leading cadets.

After the completion of the inspection the Charlottetown Branch of the Naval Officers Association entertained the Commodore at a reception on board H. M. C. S. Queen Charlotte.

CAPITAL TERRITORY Australia's capital at Canberra has a federal territory of 910 square miles

CLOSE BOOKS ON LETTER Governor To See Festival

OTTAWA, (CP)—Governor General Massey will keep his appointment with the Dominion Drama Festival Saturday, closing vice-regal books on the affair of the festival letter and a distillery.

Government House authorities said Tuesday that Mr. Massey will attend the final play of the national theatrical competition at Sherbrooke, Que., Saturday and that his patronage of the festival will be continued.

What apparently brought this decision was the second letter of festival President David J. Ong, expressing concern over the first one he sent urging support of Calvert Distillers Ltd., a festival sponsor.

"The executive committee and I agree," the Toronto lawyer said in his second letter. "It is not in our function to promote the sale of any commercial product."

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