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WEEK'S EVENTS IN REVIEW

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT: His Excellency, the Governor General, today opened the fourth session of Canada's twentieth Parliament. In brief, the Speech from the Throne states that:

Parliament will be asked to approve the multilateral trade agreements concluded at Geneva.

Parliamentary approval will be sought of temporary measures already adopted to conserve Canada's reserves of U.S. dollars.

In effort to further world recovery, Canada will continue, as far as possible, to apply the principle of mutual assistance. Further assistance must, however, take into account exchange difficulties.

Continuance in force of certain orders and regulations covered by the Continuation of Transitional Measures Act (which terminates December 31) will be sought.

Officials in departments of government most immediately concerned have been asked to keep under constant supervision conditions of production and supply which tend to raise the level of consumer prices.

In view of prices fixed for the 1948-49 crop year in the wheat agreement with the U.K., Parliament will be asked to consider a measure for an increase in the initial payment to producers.

Parliament will be asked to consider plans for a low rental housing project for veterans.

A measure similar to the one introduced in Parliament last session to provide more effective machinery for adjustment of differences between employers and employed will be submitted.

Steps are being continued to coordinate organization and administration of the three armed services. A measure to consolidate all statutes relative to defence will be submitted.

Measures to which the attention of Parliament will be directed include Bills to revise the Income Tax Law, the Dominion Elections Act and the Canada Shipping Act. Bills relating to veterans will also be submitted.

The Government intends to recommend re-appointment of the Select Joint Committees on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and on the revision of the Indian Act.

Lengthy discussions between a delegation from the National Convention of Newfoundland and a Committee of members of the Government have been held to explore the possibility of finding a mutually acceptable basis for the union of Newfoundland with Canada. The Government has announced terms which it believes to be a fair and equitable basis for union should the people of Newfoundland desire to enter into Confederation.

The marriage of H.R.H. the Princess Elizabeth has been the occasion of widespread rejoicing. To Her Royal Highness and to H.R.H., the Duke

LIFE EXPECTANCY RISES

COMPARATIVE TABLES: The expectation of life in Canada increased by nearly three years for males and over four years for females during the period 1931 to 1941, according to life tables compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics on the basis of 1941 census population figures and mortality of 1940-42. At birth, males have in prospect 62.96 years of future life as compared with 60 years in 1931, and females 66.30 years compared with 62.10.

Lengthening of the expected life span is common to all regions and both sexes, as indicated by the table which follows:

	1941		1931	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Canada.....	62.96	66.30	60.00	62.10
Maritime.....				
Provinces.....	61.69	64.63	60.20	61.91
Quebec.....	60.18	63.07	56.19	57.80
Ontario.....	64.55	68.43	61.30	63.92
Prairie.....				
Provinces.....	65.43	68.19	63.47	65.49
British Columbia.....	63.65	68.96	62.15	65.34

At the age of ten, the average Canadian girl may expect to live another 61.08 years, or 2.36 more than was the expectancy at the same age in 1931. Among the males ten years of age, there were 58.70 years in prospect compared with 57.96 in 1931, an extension of 0.74 years.

At 20 years of age, the average Canadian woman has 51.76 years of future life in prospect compared with 49.76 in 1931, an extension of two years. Among the men, at that age, the longevity period in 1941 was 49.57 years as compared with 49.05 in 1931. On reaching her 30th year, the average woman might expect to live 42.81 years as compared with 41.38 in 1931, and the average man, 40.73 years compared with 40.55.

Life expectancy for women at 40 years of age averaged out at 33.99 years as compared with 33.02 in 1931, whereas the average 40-year-old man had 31.87 years in prospect compared with 31.98. At 50 years of age, the prospective life span for women average 25.46 years, and for men, 23.49 years. In 1931, the average for women at 50 years was 24.79 years and for men, 23.72 years.

In her 60th year the average Canadian woman had 17.62 years of life ahead, whereas in 1931 the average was 17.15 years. Among the men at 60 years of age, the life expectancy period was 16.06 years in 1941 being down slightly from the 1931 figure of 16.29 years. At 70 years of age, the average woman could expect to live 10.93 years as compared with 10.63 in 1931, and the average man, 9.94 years as compared with 10.06 in 1931.

Canadian figures compare favourably with those of other countries. Taking the white population of the United States only, the expectation of life for 1939 to 1941, was lower

than Canada's for males and only one year longer for females. The only countries in a list of 18 which exceeded Canada's 1940-42 figures are New Zealand, Australia and Sweden, the latter by a negligible amount for males only. The expectations in Central European countries are mostly about 55, e.g., Austria, 1930-33, 54.5 years; Belgium, 1928-32, 56.0 years. In contrast, the differences with less advanced countries are more marked. The expectation of life in India, for example, is 26.9 years for males and 26.6 years for females. In Mexico it is 32.4 years for males and 34.1 years for females. The figures for other countries of Asia and Latin America are of a similar order.

NORTHERN MAGNETIC OBSERVATORY: The Mines, Forests and Scientific Services Branch of the Department of Mines and Resources, today announced plans for the operation by the Dominion Observatory of a temporary magnetic observatory at Baker Lake in the District of Keewatin, Northwest Territories.

EDUCATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION AIDED

\$200,000 CONTRIBUTION: The Secretary of State for External Affairs announced Nov. 29 that the Canadian Council for Reconstruction through UNESCO has been established to carry out a nation-wide appeal for necessary supplies for the educational reconstruction of war-devastated countries in Europe and Asia. The Government has decided to make a contribution of \$200,000 from the Post-UNRRA Relief Appropriation to be used by the Council for the purchase in Canada, of supplies for the educational, scientific and cultural reconstruction of these areas.

At the first session of the General Conference of UNESCO held in Paris in November 1946, consideration was given to the need for educational, scientific and cultural reconstruction in areas of Europe and Asia devastated by war. The Conference adopted a Resolution which called for the organization of a worldwide voluntary appeal for essential materials and supplies to the value of at least \$100,000,000.

In accordance with the resolution, the Department of External Affairs asked the United Nations in Canada to convene a meeting of voluntary organizations to consider what could be done in Canada in response to the UNESCO Appeal. As a result of this initiative, a meeting was held in Toronto on July 29th of this year at which more than 60 Canadian Voluntary Organizations interested in educational, scientific and cultural rehabilitation, made plans for the establishment of the Canadian Council for Reconstruction through UNESCO.

The Council which now has established offices in Ottawa will shortly announce detailed plans for the forthcoming national campaign. William M. Birks of Montreal is

Chairman of the Advisory Board of CCRU and C.E. Pickering of Ottawa will act as Chairman of the Campaign Operating Committee.

The Chairman of the Canadian Council for Reconstruction through UNESCO is Major Vincent Price, K.C., of Toronto, and the Vice-Chairman is Senator Thomas Vien, of Montreal. C.F. Fraser, of Halifax and Ottawa, is Chairman of the Executive Committee which includes the following:

- W.T. Burke, Executive Secretary, Canadian Legion, B.E.S.L.
- E.J. Carlyle, Secretary and Executive Director, Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy.
- Gordon Campbell, International Student Service.
- Dr. C.N. Crutchfield, Canadian Teachers' Federation.
- Dr. N.A.M. MacKenzie, President, University of British Columbia.
- Mrs. Ryland H. New, National President, I.O.D.E.
- Dr. W.P. Percival, President, Canadian Federation of Home and School.
- Dr. F.A. Sexton, President, Nova Scotia Technical College.
- F.K. Stewart, Executive Secretary, Canadian Education Association.
- Miss Freda F. Waldon, Chief Librarian, Hamilton Public Library.
- Miss Elizabeth Wyn Wood, Chairman, International Relations Committee, Canadian Arts Council.

INDIAN COMMUNITY FARMS: The 1,500-acre community farm operated by the Muscowpetung Indian Band near Regina, Saskatchewan, under direction of field officers of the Indian Affairs Branch, Department of Mines and Resources, is an excellent example of the results of a phase of Indian administration which is receiving increasing attention.

On Muscowpetung and several other Indian reserves in Saskatchewan the Indians are taking a great interest in these community farms, which are financed entirely from band funds and whose proceeds are returned to these funds for distribution to the Band membership.

One thousand acres of the Muscowpetung farm were seeded to rye this autumn at a cost of \$5,000, and the remaining 500 acres will be seeded to spring grains, probably wheat.

The Muscowpetung farm was started in 1937 when the Indian Band Council, in behalf of the 200 members of the band, submitted to the Indian Agent a request that their land be put into productive use. Although several lean years were experienced the farm is firmly established today, and provides concrete proof of what can be done by Indians in an agricultural line.

The farm work is done entirely by the Indians themselves, under the supervision of the Indian Affairs Branch, and the individual Indians benefit in several ways. They receive wages for their work on the farm, they part-

icipate in the proceeds through an increase in the band funds, and they learn the most modern methods of farming from well-qualified supervisors. Finally, they put these methods to good use on their own individual farms, produce of which is sold through the Indian agent, who turns the proceeds over to the Indian farm-owners. Thirty-eight members of the Muscowpetung Band own farms, with 1,800 acres being under private cultivation.

Indian Affairs Branch officials speak highly of the co-operative attitude of the Muscowpetung Band Council, whose Chief - John Gambler - is a strong supporter of the community farm idea. Chief Gambler was one of the Indian chiefs who addressed the recent Parliamentary Committee on Indian Affairs.

In the Pelly Agency at Kamsack, near the Saskatchewan-Manitoba boundary, 1,000 acres are being farmed on a community basis, and in addition some 6,000 acres are under cultivation by eighty individual Indian farm-owners. A further 1,000 acres are under community cultivation in the Battleford Agency, and other community projects of comparable extent are being carried on in the Duck Lake and Touchwood Agencies.

SOFTWOOD LUMBER CONTROL: The existing system of control governing the export of softwood lumber produced in Ontario, Quebec and the Maritimes, and which has been in effect during the year 1947, will be continued during 1948, but with changes having far reaching effects for the producers, wholesalers and exporters in those areas, it is announced by the Minister of Reconstruction and Supply, Mr. Howe.

In releasing the Government's 1948 export policy for softwood lumber produced in Eastern Canada, Mr. Howe said:

The free export quotas authorized a year ago totalled 290 million feet of softwood lumber for shipment during 1947, the largest portion of which was for shipment to the United Kingdom. However, because of the severity of the dollar shortage in the United Kingdom, and consequent delay in receiving orders from that country for softwood lumber, provision is now made in the 1948 programme for the free export of an overall quantity of 290 million feet of softwood lumber to any country with which trading is allowed under Canadian laws.

Under this provision an exporter may ship to all markets a total amount not exceeding his original 1947 free export quota allocation. In addition to these free export quotas, further quantities of lumber can be exported through export credits earned by shipments into the domestic market. It is hoped that under this new arrangement efforts will be made by exporters to obtain payment for their lumber in United States dollars, thus assisting our current campaign in building up our own dollar shortage.

When reports of softwood production in Eastern Canada for 1948 are available, an increase in the overall free export quota will be considered.

SECOND U.N. ASSEMBLY CONCLUDES

PALESTINE PARTITION APPROVED: The second regular session of the U.N. General Assembly concluded Nov. 29 after the partition plan for Palestine had been approved by 33 votes to 13 with ten abstentions and one absentee.

The necessary two-thirds majority of those present and voting was secured. Canada, as in the ad hoc Committee, voted for partition.

By countries, the vote was:

For partition (33): Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, White Russia, Canada, Costa Rica, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, France, Guatemala, Haiti, Iceland, Liberia, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Sweden, Ukraine, South Africa, Soviet Russia, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela.

Against partition (13): Afghanistan, Cuba, Egypt, Greece, India, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey, and Yemen.

Abstaining (10): Argentina, Chile, China, Colombia, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Honduras, Mexico, Britain, Yugoslavia.

Absent (1): Siam.

THE PARTITION PLAN

Under the partition plan, independent Jewish and Arab states are to be established in Palestine not later than Oct. 1. Britain is to withdraw from Palestine by August 1, giving up her mandate before then. A United Nations commission, consisting of Bolivia, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Panama and the Philippines, will supervise the transition from British administration to government by the independent Jewish and Arab states.

The six Arab states represented in the Assembly walked out of the auditorium in protest against the vote for partition. They charged that the U.N. Charter had been murdered.

Before the Assembly divided, Camille Chamoun (Lebanon) submitted six principles which, he declared, could serve as a basis for an eventual middle-of-the-way solution, namely:

1. An independent federal state to be established in Palestine not later than August 1, 1948.
2. The government of this state to be composed of a federal government and of governments for the Arab and Jewish cantons.
3. The boundaries of the cantons to be determined in such a way as to include as small Arab and Jewish minorities as possible in each of the respective cantons.
4. The population of Palestine to elect, by direct universal suffrage, a constituent assembly which would draft the constitution of the federal state of Palestine. The sections of the population of Palestine would be represented in the consti-

tuent assembly in proportion to their numbers.

5. In determining the functions of the federal government and of the governments of the cantons as well as the relationship between the federal and cantonal governments, the constituent assembly would derive its main inspiration from the constitution of the United States.
6. The future constitution of Palestine would provide, among other things, for the protection of the holy places and for freedom of worship.

Andrei Gromyko (USSR) said the Lebanon proposal did not produce anything new, susceptible of changing the situation at all. Federal government for Palestine, Mr. Gromyko added, was discussed during the early stages of the proceedings and, at that time the Arabs had refused even to consider it.

In a Press interview subsequent to the vote, Justice Minister Ilsley said the Canadian Government still considered the partition plan the best of four "unattractive alternatives". He had stated this previously before the Assembly.

If a constructive proposal had been made for conciliation between the Jews and Arabs we would have voted for further adjournment, he added.

But no good reason was advanced in this last meeting for departure from the decision we so painfully and laboriously arrived at.

Several delegations felt as we did. We didn't come here this afternoon with our minds made up. We looked for substantial grounds for an agreed settlement but it didn't come.

SECOND ASSEMBLY IN REVIEW: In the 75 days of the session, which was convened September 16, the Second Assembly adopted 93 resolutions, representing action on an agenda of 66 items there were 49 plenary meetings and 445 meetings of Committees and Sub-Committees. More than 1,200 hours were spent in these meetings.

Simultaneous interpretation is estimated to have saved about 1,000 hours of meeting time.

Keen public interest in the Assembly was evidenced by 72,000 confirmed reservations for seats at the meetings. In addition, some 12,000 reservations had to be cancelled because of the cancellation of meetings, and about 30,000 people came to the buildings at Flushing Meadows and Lake Success without reservations to tour the buildings and listen to the proceedings through the loudspeaker in the Economic and Social Council Chamber. Thousands more applied unsuccessfully for seats.

An average of 124 news correspondents covered the proceedings daily, according to records of the U.N. Press office. Representatives of 211 foreign and 138 United States publications were accredited. Upwards of 200,000 words of news copy were filed daily from

Lake Success and Flushing by these correspondents to newspapers throughout the world.

RADIO NETWORK FOR PEACE

The United Nations radio division broadcast the actual proceedings of 116 plenary sessions and Committee meetings by shortwave to countries throughout the world. In addition, news, interviews and extracts of the proceedings were broadcast daily by shortwave in 13 languages. American listener interest in the Assembly led to the development of a voluntary "network for peace" comprising more than 100 U.S. stations which used a special daily programme, "the U.N. today" on Mondays through Fridays during the Assembly.

Seventy radio correspondents from 17 countries broadcast regularly direct from Lake Success and Flushing.

Working a 24-hour shift, the documents division produced upwards of 5,000 documents pertaining directly to the work of the Assembly. These included the texts of resolutions, amendments, reports, verbatim transcripts, and so on.

Representing the 57 member nations were 254 delegates with 724 alternates, advisors and other staff. The United Nations transportation service arranged transport to New York for 520 people and made hotel reservations for 1,150, including some wives and children.

The largest delegation was that of the United States, with 63 members. Other large delegations were China, with 61; France, with 55; United Kingdom, with 52; and the U.S.S.R., with 23. Smallest delegation was that of Paraguay, with 3 members.

As its final major action, the Assembly, by a vote of 33 to 13, with 10 abstentions, adopted the plan for the partition of Palestine into independent Jewish and Arab states. A United Nations Commission will supervise the transition from British administration to government by the new states.

SPECIAL COMMISSIONS NAMED

The Assembly named two Special Commissions to deal with troublesome situations in widely separated parts of the world. One, the Special Committee to observe compliance of Greece, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Albania with recommendations of the Assembly, is already in Athens, enroute to Salonika where it will maintain headquarters. The other, the United Nations temporary Commission to facilitate and expedite the election of a national government in Korea, is expected to leave about the first of the New Year.

To consider matters concerning international peace and security, the promotion of international cooperation in the political field and the peaceful adjustment of situations likely to impair the general welfare or friendly relations among nations, the Assembly created an Interim Committee which will function between the close of this session and the opening of the next. This Committee will hold

its first meeting within six weeks of the close of the session.

Other significant actions taken at the session included:

A unanimous condemnation of "war-mongering" propaganda and a request that all member nations take appropriate steps to encourage the dissemination of peace promoting information.

Another resolution urged the member nations to study ways of preventing the spread of slanderous statements detrimental to good relations between nations. A third resolution called upon member nations to undertake the teaching of U.N. purposes and principles in their schools.

The next session of the Assembly, in accordance with a decision taken at this session, will be held in Europe in September 1948, in a city to be chosen by the Secretary General and a Special Committee of nine member nations.

Two new member states -- Yemen and Pakistan -- were admitted to membership in the organization bringing the total of U.N. members to 57. The Assembly also called upon the Security Council to reconsider the applications of six other states -- Eire, Italy, Portugal, Finland, Austria and Transjordan -- which had failed to receive Security Council's recommendation.

The Assembly approved a budget of \$34,825,195 for the work of the organization in 1948 and adopted a proposal for \$65,000,000 loan from United States government for construction of the new headquarters building in Manhattan.

Previous meetings of the General Assembly were:

- 1) The first session (first part), London, January 10 to February 14, 1946;
- 2) The first session (second part), New York, October 23 to December 16, 1946.
- 3) The special session on Palestine, New York, April 28 to May 15, 1947 (U.N. Press Division).

ENLISTMENT AGE LOWERED TO 17: Seventeen-year-olds will now be accepted for enlistment in the Canadian Army, it was learned in Ottawa this week. Until now, minimum enlistment for both the Army and the Air Force has been 18 years. The Navy has always accepted recruits of 17½ years.

Between the wars the Canadian Army did enlist youths under 18 years but such recruits were paid only at "boy's" rates of pay and not as regular soldiers. Seventeen-year-olds now enrolling in either the Army or Air Force will be paid at full rates and be afforded every privilege granted seasoned soldiers.

AIR TRAINING FOR NAVAL OFFICERS: Air Training Courses with the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force successfully completed, seven officers of the Royal Canadian Navy have returned to Canada and are now on leave, prior to taking up new appointments with the R.C.N.

Because requirements for pilots in the R.C.N. came at a time when the Canadian services were in a state of reorganization, training was provided in the United Kingdom, where facilities were readily made available.

They commenced their flying training in England in February, 1946, and after a year with the R.A.F. at Perth and Church Lawford they received their wings. Courses with the Royal Navy, including operational flying training, instrument flying and deck landing training, followed, fitting the Canadian officers for aircraft carrier pilots duties and flying under all conditions. They completed their courses in October and returned to Canada in November.

The officers are: Lieutenants (P) Robert A. Shimmin of Vancouver, B.C.; John B. Young of Vancouver; Hugh C. Walls of Vancouver and Winnipeg; Robert W.J. Cocks of Victoria, B.C.; Michael A. Considine of Duncan, B.C.; William J. Spencer of Seaforth and Trenton, Ont.; and Edmund G. Gigg of North Bay, Ont.

COMMANDS NEW DESTROYER: In a recent shuffle of East Coast Naval Officers, Canada's latest Tribal class destroyer Athabaskan, now nearing completion in Halifax shipyards, will receive its first commanding officer and two other ships of the Royal Canadian Navy will change commanding officers.

In command of Canada's new Tribal class destroyer, Athabaskan, will be Lieutenant Commander James Sinclair Davis, R.C.N., of Oakville, Ont., who relinquished his appointment as Staff Officer, Ships in Reserve, to Lieutenant Commander Breen Phillip Young, of Halifax, N.S. This appointment of SOSR also carries with it command of the reserve depot ship H.M.C.S. Iroquois. Taking over the captaincy of H.M.C.S. New Liskeard, Lieutenant Commander Young's former ship, will be Lieutenant Ian Bernard Buchannan Morrow, R.C.N., of Halifax, N.S.

SPECIAL PAY FOR WEATHER SHIP: While their ship is at sea north of 50 degrees North latitude, the 77 officers and men manning the Royal Canadian Navy's weather ship, St. Stephen, will receive a special allowance in pay, Naval Service Headquarters announce. This allowance is in line with the special compensation paid by the Army and Air Force to their personnel stationed in isolated, northern outposts.

The allowance is \$31.67 a month for each man, irrespective of rank or rating. The basic idea of this special pay is to provide some concrete return to the naval crew of St. Stephen while they maintain their lonely vigil at the entrance to Davis Strait.

H.M.C.S. St. Stephen sailed from Halifax, N.S., for her station in Davis Strait, midway between the southern tip of Greenland and Labrador, on November 22. It is expected that this naval frigate will be on weather station

duties for 21 days duration at a time. Positioned as she is in the path of the freezing Labrador current, every effort is being made to alleviate the strain on the ship's company. This added boost to the seamen's pay cheque will be welcome to the men of the St. Stephen.

OMINOUS PORTENTS IN EUROPE

PRIME MINISTER'S STATEMENT: Prime Minister Mackenzie King arrived at Hoboken, N.J. from Europe, December 2. In a statement to the Press, he said the cloud of uncertainty over Europe had of late become charged with ominous portents. There can be no doubt, he added, that the situation in Europe has become much more serious than most people have begun to realize.

The Prime Minister's statement follows: When I arrive in Ottawa on Thursday, it will be exactly five weeks from the day I left. In that time, I will have visited no less than five countries: United States, France, Belgium, Holland and the United Kingdom--in all of which I have had the privilege of meeting with many of those who are best informed on public affairs; but the views of all of whom were necessarily expressed with considerable caution and reserve.

As I travelled by ship, both to and from the United Kingdom, the actual time possible for studying conditions was reduced almost to a period of three weeks. However, the exceptional nature of the opportunities afforded to meet with leading personages in the several countries was such as to make possible the gaining of more in the way of informed opinion in that short time, than would have been feasible under other circumstances.

The purpose of my trip was, of course, to be present as the representative of Canada at the marriage of Her Royal Highness the Princess Elizabeth to Lieut. Philip Mountbatten, the present Duke of Edinburgh. To accounts of this historic event, one could add nothing of significance to what is already familiar to readers of the press.

A WELCOME INTERLUDE

I might perhaps, in a purely personal way, say that I believe the marriage to be one of the happiest possible, so far as the Royal couple are concerned, and an exceedingly fortunate marriage in its relation to the nations of the British Commonwealth.

There can be no doubt that the Royal wedding with its notes of joy and color afforded to the people of the United Kingdom a welcome interlude in a long period of monotony and austerity. For a day at least, it looked as if domestic happiness and national rejoicing was once more the lot of a people who have suffered heroically though terribly over many years. The wedding celebrations seemed almost prophetic of a new dawn about to break at last.

With this thought in mind, and having also

in mind the spirit of the British people as I witnessed it in the course of that eventful week, I could, as I said on leaving Britain, have gone on my way rejoicing at the prospect of all being well in the end, had that promise of a brighter day not been over-shadowed by the cloud of uncertainty which has been hovering over Europe for some time past, and which, of late, has become charged with ominous portents.

There can be no doubt that the situation in Europe has become much more serious than most people have begun to realize.

WORLD-WIDE UNREST

The condition of the world today is such that the incipient civil strife in France, in Italy and in Palestine and other countries that might be named, may be said to be but symptomatic of an unrest which is world-wide; and which, unless the greatest caution and wisdom is exercised, may sooner or later menace anew the well-being of mankind. I am, I trust, not an alarmist, but I have seen hidden forces menace the security of nations in the recent past, and have been more or less behind the scenes ever since. In too many directions the parallels between conditions as they were some years ago, and as we know them today, are becoming all too apparent.

It is, I believe, not too much to say that the present meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers in London is of greater importance to the world than the combined conferences and meetings which have been held since the termination of hostilities. If it becomes apparent at the meetings of the council that on the part of all the powers there represented goodwill rather than ill-will is to be the path along which the problems before the council are to be solved, all will be well. If, however, the contrary should be the case, and more in the way of frustration be experienced, I believe it is difficult to say to what pass matters might come at any moment.

It is clear that, in her present distress, Western Europe is looking to America with a hope only second to that which she manifested during the years of war. The immediate aid already largely assured under the Marshall Plan may enable her peoples to face again the hardships of another winter. The promise of continued assistance toward recovery will help to serve the larger need. Without aid, however, such have conditions become that the people may despair. The impression above all which one gains, at this time, is that this is indeed one world, and that if nations are to save themselves from the appalling consequences of continuous discontent, their salvation will only be found in the salvation of other nations. The hope for the world of today lies in closer and more effective co-operation among all free nations to ensure preservation of freedom itself.

CHILDREN'S EMERGENCY FUND: The executive board of the International Children's Emergency Fund has approved an increase of \$196,000

in aid to Greece because of the marked increase in homeless refugee children in that country. The board also elected the following member nations to the programme committee: Australia, Canada, China, Czechoslovakia, France, Switzerland, United Kingdom, USSR, United States and Peru.

Mrs. D.B. Sinclair of Canada was elected chairman of the programme committee.

(Mrs. Sinclair, who is executive assistant to the Deputy Minister of Welfare, was a member of the Canadian delegation to the second session of UNESCO at Mexico City).

CAPITAL GOODS ADMINISTRATOR: Reconstruction Minister C.D. Howe announces that J.H. Berry, President of War Assets Corporation, would return on loan to the Department of Reconstruction and Supply. Mr. Berry will take charge of the administration of the emergency regulations governing the importation of capital goods.

WORLD WHEAT SITUATION: World production of bread-grains in 1947 is now indicated at 5.8 billion bushels of wheat and 1.5 billion of rye, according to the monthly review of the wheat situation by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The wheat crop is currently estimated at about the 1946 level but is four per cent less than the 1935-39 average, while the 1947 rye crop is four per cent above 1946, but only 88 per cent of the 1935-39 average. The record wheat crop in the United States and the anticipated record outturn of the Australian wheat crop now being harvested bring the world total for the year near average, despite much below-average crops in Europe and the Soviet Union.

The European bread-grain crop is about a third below the 1935-39 level, placing most of that continent in a serious food position again this year, since bread constitutes such a large part of the diet and alternative foods are also scarce. European import needs will be greater than during the past season when production, though low, was estimated to be about 25 per cent larger than this year's outturn. While a moderate increase in world grain exports is anticipated this year it will evidently be insufficient to offset the sharp decrease in indigenous production in many deficit areas. Bread rations have already suffered further reductions from their already low levels in a number of European countries.

FEWER BUT BIGGER FARMS: Total number of occupied farms in Manitoba declined from 58,024 in 1941 to 54,448 in 1946, but the proportion and also number of farms over 200 acres increase, according to Prairie Census figures on Manitoba farms released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Aggregate area of occupied farm lands in 1946 was 16,872,535 acres, only 0.1 per cent less than in 1941.

Farms over 200 acres in 1946 were 55.3 per cent of the total against 50.3 per cent in 1941.

THE CANADIAN MINISTRY
(according to precedence)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. The Rt. Hon. W.L. Mackenzie King, C.M.G.,
Prime Minister and
President of the Privy Council.</p> <p>2. The Rt. Hon. Ian Alistair Mackenzie, K.C.,
Minister of Veterans Affairs.</p> <p>3. The Rt. Hon. James Lorimer Ilsey, K.C.,
Minister of Justice and Attorney General.</p> <p>4. The Rt. Hon. Clarence Decatur Howe,
Minister of Reconstruction and Supply.</p> <p>5. The Rt. Hon. James Garfield Gardiner,
Minister of Agriculture.</p> <p>6. The Honourable James Angus MacKinnon,
Minister of Trade and Commerce.</p> <p>7. The Hon. Colin Gibson, M.C., K.C., V.D.,
Secretary of State.</p> <p>8. The Rt. Hon. Louis Stephen St. Laurent, K.C.,
Secretary of State for External Affairs.</p> <p>9. The Honourable Humphrey Mitchell,
Minister of Labour.</p> <p>10. The Honourable Alphonse Fournier, K.C.,
Minister of Public Works.</p> <p>11. The Honourable Ernest Bertrand, K.C.,
Postmaster General.</p> <p>12. The Honourable Brooke Claxton, K.C.,
Minister of National Defence.</p> | <p>13. The Honourable James Allison Glen, K.C.,
Minister of Mines and Resources.</p> <p>14. The Honourable Joseph Jean, K.C.,
Solicitor General.</p> <p>15. The Honourable Lionel Chevrier, K.C.,
Minister of Transport.</p> <p>16. The Hon. Paul Joseph James Martin, K.C.,
Minister of National Health and Welfare.</p> <p>17. The Hon. Douglas Charles Abbott, K.C.,
Minister of Finance.</p> <p>18. The Honourable James J. McCann, M.D.,
Minister of National Revenue and
Minister of National War Services.</p> <p>19. The Honourable Wishart McL. Robertson,
A Member of the Administration and
Minister without Portfolio.</p> <p>20. The Honourable Milton Fowler Gregg, V.C.,
Minister of Fisheries.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Clerk of the Privy Council and Secretary to
the Cabinet, A.D.P. Heeney, Esquire, K.C.</p> <p>Assistant Clerk of the Privy Council
A.M. Hill, Esquire.</p> <p>Assistant Secretary to the Cabinet
J.R. Baldwin, Esquire.</p> |
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WEEKLY SECURITY PRICE INDEXES: The following are security price index numbers of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics on the base 1935-39=100, for the week ending November 27, a week and month earlier:

	Nov. 27	Nov. 20	Oct. 30
INVESTORS' PRICE INDEX			
(100 Common Stocks)...	107.3	108.1	105.0
74 Industrials.....	101.3	102.0	98.5
18 Utilities.....	112.8	114.8	115.4
8 Banks.....	135.8	135.4	129.6
MINING STOCK PRICE INDEX			
(27 Stocks).....	89.3	92.3	87.3
23 Golds.....	78.7	81.7	78.2
4 Base Metals.....	108.3	111.2	103.2

W.P.T.B. CONTROL ORDERS

MARK-UP ON FRUIT JUICES: All canned citrus juices are now subject to mark-up control at all trade levels.

The new order by Wartime Prices Board limits the mark-up which importers, wholesalers and retailers may take to the amount allowed when these goods were subject to price control previously or their basic period mark-up (Oct. 1941), whichever is the lower.

This action follows the statement made November 24, by the Minister of Finance, Mr. Abbott, (C.W.B. Nov. 28), that he had directed the Prices Board to re-impose price control on the more important canned fruits and vegetables and to be prepared to place mark-up controls on canned fruit juices.

Canned peas, corn, beans, tomatoes and tomato juice, and canned peaches, pears and plums were placed under control on November 27.

The Board also announced that at the same time its Statement of Policy concerning the equitable distribution of goods in short supply would be amended by adding to the list of goods subject to the policy, the canned fruits and vegetables and the canned citrus juices on which price controls have been re-imposed.

Board officials emphasized that at present there is an adequate supply of all the above goods but under the new equitable distribution regulations, processors, importers, wholesalers and others, will be required to allocate 10 per cent of their current supply of the above goods to their former customers. 'Former customers', in this case means those customers to whom a supplier delivered these goods during the year ending June 30, 1947.

The move to preserve equitable distribution, Board officials pointed out, was made to strengthen the administration of price controls on these particular items. Experience has shown that controls are more effective when customers know their suppliers are required to make this allocation.

The Board announcement also carries the information that adjustments have been made in the schedule of maximum canners' prices for the canned fruits and vegetables which were brought under control on November 27. The prices established in the adjusted schedule conform to the price levels which prevailed prior to November 17 and which were based on the canners' then costs.

It was also emphasized that although some canners may have entered into contracts at prices lower than those now established, the new order does not authorize them to increase these contract prices and they may not, in any event, sell at prices higher than those at which they sold on November 17, 1947.

CANNED FRUIT ORDER CLARIFIED: Wartime Prices and Trade Board has also issued an order amending and clarifying Order No. A-2459 which established maximum prices for certain canned fruits and vegetables on November 27.

The amending order provides that retailers and wholesalers may dispose of domestic stocks which they have on hand at prices based on laid-down cost plus the mark-up specified in the order, or their basic period mark-up, whichever is the lower.

For the purpose of establishing cost of the goods on hand, wholesalers and direct buying retailers are required to average the prices of all their stocks of each product by quality and size of container. They are also required to file with the Co-ordinator of Foods of the Prices Board an inventory of all their products to which the order applies as at November 29, 1947, together with a statement of their average costs and particulars of the manner in which such average costs were calculated.

The amending order also regulates the sale of imported canned fruits and vegetables which were in the hands of wholesalers and retailers in Canada on November 17, 1947, prior to imposition of import controls.

The cost of such goods in the hands of the trade had been established prior to the imposition of import restrictions and the amending order provides that such goods may be sold at laid down cost plus a reduced mark-up not to exceed one-half of the lawful maximum mark-up provided under the order for domestic goods, or their basic period mark-up, whichever is the lower.

The amending order contains the over-riding provision that no person may in any event sell goods covered by the order at prices higher than they sold those goods at November 17, 1947.

CANADA'S PRACTICAL HELP: How Canadian medical supplies have saved millions of lives in the devastated countries of Europe, particularly in the Balkans, and the extent of Canada's share in the work of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration was explained by Leslie Atkins, director of medical supplies of UNRRA, during a press conference at the Mount Royal Hotel, Montreal, reports the Montreal Gazette.

Mr. Atkins and his assistant, Dr. J.J. Weisskopf, arrived in Montreal to complete arrangements for a shipment of supplies still to be sent to Europe under Canada's obligation toward UNRRA. The two officials are about to wind up their work and the present shipment is composed of remnants of former supplies.

Canada's contribution, particularly in the supply of medicines and medical machinery, has been most generous and the people of the devastated countries have become thoroughly acquainted with the Maple Leaf trucks that carry these supplies into their towns and villages, Mr. Atkins stated.

Mr. Atkins cited the case of Yugoslavia where 3,500,000 children were supplied with anti-toxin to protect them against diphtheria. He remarked that the delivery of these supplies was made within five weeks.

Among other shipments made by Canada to UNRRA in Europe were six Canadian-built plants for the manufacture of penicillin. The two UNRRA representatives will remain here for a few days.

GOLD PRODUCTION UP: Canadian production of gold in August amounted to 260,891 fine ounces compared with 261,397 in the preceding month and 231,200 in the corresponding month last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. During the eight months ending August, 2,036,208 fine ounces were produced compared with 1,898,999 in the like period of 1946, an increase of seven per cent.

JAP DRIFTING MINES: The ships at present at the disposal of the Commanding Officer Pacific Coast are of the right kind to deal with Japanese drifting mines in Canadian West Coast waters, according to a statement issued today by Naval Service Headquarters. "Drifting mines cannot be swept," the statement emphasized, "and destroyers, frigates, and even tugs and other small vessels are suitable for locating such mines, which must either be sunk by gunfire if afloat, or destroyed by detonation if ashore. No special mine-sweeping equipment is required, and would in fact have no value against drifting mines."

During the past eighteen months, the Navy said, a total of forty-six Japanese mines has been reported, and each report has been fully investigated. Seven of the mines reported were clear of coastal shipping routes, and twelve mines were destroyed by the Navy. "A considerable number, although reported in perfectly good faith as mines, were actually not mines. A large amount of timber is always adrift in British Columbia waters, and can easily be mistaken for mines by people unfamiliar with their exact shape and appearance."

It was pointed out that, though an increase in the number of Japanese drifting mines in West Coast waters is possible, no such increase has been in fact established, and the danger which might arise from them is greatly minimized by the facts that a considerable proportion of them may be expected to be inactive due to deterioration, and that a safety device required by the Hague Convention is known to have been fitted to the majority of Japanese mines. "The way to deal with the mines there are, is to sink them by gunfire at sea or destroy them if ashore."

C. O. I. INDEX UP: Higher prices for food, clothing and home furnishings sent the cost-of-living index up another 1.4 points during October and stretched the gain over the last year to more than 16 points, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reported yesterday.

The index, calculated on the basis 1935-39 equals 100, reached 148.6 at Nov. 1 against 142.2 at Oct. 1 and 127.1 at Nov. 1 last year. On the basis of August, 1939, equalling 100, the index stood at 142.5 as of Nov. 1.

Reporting on the October increase, the Bureau said that higher food prices continued to "dominate" the advance, although each of the sub-group indexes, excepting rentals, moved higher.

The index for the food group rose 2.3 points to 173.6, due mainly to higher prices for eggs, fluid milk, certain meats and canned vegetables. Butter, lamons and a few fresh vegetables, on the other hand, declined slightly.

The clothing group advanced 2.8 points to 157.0, with prices rising in all sub-sections, while home furnishings and services climbed 1.5 to 151.4 on the strength of increases for

furniture, floor coverings, furnishings, dishes and cleaning supplies.

Slightly higher costs for medicinal supplies, personal care items, newspapers and gasoline were responsible for a gain of 0.6 to 118.2 in the miscellaneous items index. Higher prices for coal and coke boosted fuel and lighting by 0.7 to 122.6.

Rentals, under control, remained unchanged at 119.9

(Continued from page 1)

of Edinburgh, the people of Canada extend all good wishes for their future happiness.

Conditions throughout the world, the Speech further states, continue to be difficult and disturbing. Dislocations resulting from the ravages of war have become increasingly apparent. In Europe, production has made only a partial recovery. In Asia, over large areas, active fighting continues. Shortages of the necessities of life, particularly of food, are still acute. In many countries, political and social unrest is serious. Failure to agree on peace settlements with Germany and Austria is preventing recovery of Europe. While unsettled conditions still prevail in Europe and Asia, Canada has continued to enjoy general prosperity. Employment and income have reached levels never before attained. Our country has not been unaffected, however, by the problems and difficulties of other countries. Many nations with which we trade have been unable to restore their full productive capacity. Their consequent inability to increase their exports in sufficient measure to pay for their imports has greatly complicated Canada's foreign exchange situation. A permanent solution of our exchange problems and the future well-being of the nation depend upon revival of world trade.

The Canadian delegation to the United Nations General Assembly took an active part in its proceedings. Canada was elected to a seat on the Security Council. Canada was also represented on the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine. Support of the Charter of the United Nations remains an essential feature of Canada's foreign policy.

HIGH EMPLOYMENT LEVEL: In spite of serious losses resulting from the dispute in meat packing plants, substantial expansion in employment was indicated, on the whole, by leading establishments at October 1, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The general gain was seasonal in character, but was rather above average for the time of year. The staffs of the 18,182 employers in the eight leading industries rose from 1,993,483 at September 1 to 2,007,897 at October 1, or by 0.7 per cent, while weekly salaries and wages aggregated \$75,088,687, an increase of 2.4 per cent over the September 1 total of \$73,285,907. The employment index based on the 1926 average, reached a new maximum of 194.6 at October 1.