



FIRST CARGO SHIP LEAVES YARD UNDER OWN STEAM—Launched only two months ago, the Fort Ville Marie, first cargo vessel to be built in Canada during this war, is shown as she leaves the yards of Canadian-Vickers under her own steam. Several other 10,000-ton cargo boats are being built in Canadian shipyards.

Board Will Get Jap Fish Fleet Operating

OTTAWA (CP) — Plans have been approved by the government for putting back into production the 1,100 vessels of the British Columbia Japanese fishing fleet immobilized Tuesday by government restrictions.

Fisheries Minister Michaud announced today approval of an order-in-council setting up a committee of three which will supervise charters, leases or sales of these vessels to non-Japanese operators.

The fleet, owned by persons of Japanese origin, is valued at between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000. Some 980 units are impounded near New Westminster and the remainder at Prince Rupert and other Pacific ports.

They were immobilized after the outbreak of war in the Pacific and the government ruled Tuesday that fishing by those of Japanese racial origin would be prohibited in all Canadian waters and banned Japanese from serving on any fishing vessels.

The production of the Japanese fishing fleet in British Columbia contributed largely to the food supplies of the Empire it was said. This led to a government decision that action must be taken at once to get the immobilized fleet back into operation while preserving for the Japanese owners their equity in the vessels.

The following committee has been named to supervise transfer of the fleet to non-Japanese operators:

Justice Sidney A. Smith, preside

judge of the Supreme Court of British Columbia, Vancouver;

Cmdr. B. L. Johnson, Royal Canadian Naval Reserve, Vancouver, representing the Defence Department, and Kishizo Kimura, Vancouver, representing the owners.

This committee, Mr. Michaud said, will facilitate negotiations between the owners and those desiring to take over vessels for fishing purposes, arbitrate on prices and protect the interests of both sides, report on claims which may arise in respect to deterioration or damage, and report on claims which may be made on the government for return of the vessels to the point where they were picked up.

The committee will also report on steps which should be taken to dispose of vessels which the present owners are unable to sell, charter, lease or otherwise transfer.

The committee will serve without compensation other than traveling and living expenses when away from home.

Seven-day Week

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Plans of the United States government for ships and more ships for the country's war effort brought agreement from Pacific coast shipbuilders and unions today to keep production going 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Midshipman Gives Story of Torpedoing

AN EAST COAST CANADIAN PORT (CP) — Richard (Willie) Sutton of Lincolnshire, Eng., is only 17 years old, but looks upon himself as a full-fledged member of Britain's merchant navy, having spent 20 hours in a lifeboat in which 38 died, after his ship was torpedoed 160 miles off Canada's east coast.

—Dropped up in a bed in a hotel here, the junior midshipman told how his first deepsea trip turned out to be practically a round-the-world cruise before it was ended, when two torpedoes from an enemy sub sank his ship.

"I was just stripping off my jacket in the midshipmen's room when the first explosion shook the ship," he said, "and Hughes (David Hughes, 19, of Vancouver) told me to put on my lifebelt and find my boat.

"I ran up on deck and started to help load the Chinese in a lifeboat, but felt cold, so went below deck and put on some more clothes. When I got back the lifeboat had been battered about until it was no good, so I jumped into the water and managed to get into the one Hughes had.

"We had 39 Chinese in the boat with us, but they were not much help.

"Even then the Chinese didn't seem to have any incentive to live. One died after the rescue boat was sighted, and another—the only one of the 39 to survive—was rescued only because Hughes kept shaking him and refused to let him slide out of the boat."

Speed in Shipyards

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A seven-day week for machines and a six-day week for men in all United States Pacific coast shipyards was urged on shipbuilding leaders Tuesday by Navy and Maritime Commission spokesmen.

"Wars are not fought solely by the men in uniform," Daniel C. Ring of the Maritime Commission told a conference of 75 men representing government, labor and management of every major shipyard from Seattle to San Diego. "The responsibility is on the men behind the lines who must produce the ships and the guns.

"The Maritime Commission wants to work the men six days and the machines seven."

Bow Toward Mecca

HALIFAX (CP) — A gloomy passageway buried deep in the bowels of a ship, a deserted hallway or a lavatory in a sailors' home—these are places of worship for Mohammedans in port here.

Probably the most devout of all the varied nationalities that man the allied merchant fleet, the swarthy followers of Mohammed never seem to let lack of facilities stop them from practicing their sacred rites.

Calling in ports such as Halifax, where Mohammedan mosques are unknown, these deckhands and stewards serving aboard ships gather in out-of-the-way places every evening at sunset to bow in the direction they believe Mecca, their Holy City, should be. They ignore all calls to duty while engaged with their prayers.

New York Stocks

NEW YORK (AP) — A little profit selling today threw the stock market off the forward pace followed in the previous session.

Stocks under water most of the day included U.S. Steel, Bethlehem, Youngstown Sheet, Sears Roebuck, Westinghouse, Anaconda, Kennecott, Phelps Dodge and Santa Fe. Given occasional support were Boeing, Douglas, American Can, Western Union and Texas Co.

Among Canadian stocks Hiram Walkers and Dome Mines were fractionally higher while Canadian Pacific was easy.

Dow Jones averages closed today as follows: 30 Industrials... 112.59, up .15 20 rails... 28.29, up .08 20 utilities... 14.61, up .06 Total sales, 390,000 shares.

Sit-down Strike

VANCOUVER (CP) — Calling of a two-hour strike Monday in the west coast shipyard here where cargo vessels are being built, was disclosed at a meeting of the Vancouver District Labor Council of the Canadian Congress of Labor.

Daniel O'Brien, general organizer for the Congress, told the council that about 70 per cent of the shipyard workers staged a sit-down strike until the management rehired a youthful steelworker who had been fired for what was termed a "trifling offence."

William D. McLaren, speaking for the company, said following the meeting that the dispute might have stopped work for an hour, but not for two hours as called by O'Brien. He said a delegation came to him at 10:30 Monday morning and that "before noon they were all back to work." He charged that the incident was being "greatly magnified by some labor men who want to make trouble."

4 People Killed in Ontario Collision

CHAPLEAU, Ont. (CP) — Four persons were killed today in the collision of two freight trains on the main Canadian Pacific line, 50 miles west of this northern Ontario town.



P.O. HARRY BRAWN has been spending his leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Brawn, 151 Wellington Avenue, born and educated in Victoria, he joined the R.C.A.F. in March, 1941. In training for overseas service, he won his wings at Claresholm, Alberta, on Dec. 29.

"Naval Old Pirates" is the name of the only Home Guard naval unit in Britain. They are manning an observation post on the Sussex coast.

Waite

TORONTO (AP) — Interest lagged into exchange about steel metal issue up side but balanced b groups.

Moves to Weld Americas

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — Behind the scenes diplomacy aimed at welding the western hemisphere into a solid front against the Axis, occupied the attention today of representatives of 18 American republics assembled here for opening of the Pan-American Conference tomorrow.

Chief centre of interest was the assertion of acting President Ramon Castillo of Argentina at Buenos Aires Tuesday night that his government could not give assent to any military alliance or other "measures of belligerency" which might be proposed at the conference.

It was learned that Panama planned to present a proposal to the conference which would make effective article 15 of the Havana Conference, embracing a program for mutual assistance against aggression, but the extent of the proposal was not disclosed.

The Panama delegation also was expected to recommend certain economic measures to be taken both during and after the

Salt Spring Island Ferry

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