COLONIST TELEPHONES
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# The Daily Colonist.

(ESTABLISHED 1858)

NO. 299—EIGHTY-NINTH YEAR — VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1947 — TWENTY-TWO PAGES

WEATHER FORECAST

Victoria and Vicinity — Cloudy becoming clear by noon. Winds easterly 15 m.p.h. shifting to westerly 40 m.p.h. early in the morning. Temperatures normal.

Yesterday's Temperatures—Maximum, 46; minimum, 40; minimum on grass, 37.

Yesterday's Rain—.38 inch.

Yesterday's Sunshine—None.

# British Vessel Runs Aground Among Islands

## Ss. Sedgepool Hits Peile Point On Crofton-to-Vancouver Run

Early this morning the Salvage Chieftain was rushing from this port to the aid of the British freighter Ss. Sedgepool, which went aground on Peile Point at the extreme north end of Prevost Island between 6 and 7 p.m. last night.

The ship was believed to be in no danger, despite gale warnings issued last night for the British Columbia coastal regions.

Due at the scene by 3 a.m., the Chieftain, commanded by Captain A. Thomas, of Victoria, was expected to begin refloating operations at daybreak today.

Best hopes for refloating the vessel are held for the period of high tide slated for 11 a.m. She is reported to have gone aground when the tide was at a high point.

The accident to the ship occurred during a scheduled run from the Vancouver Island port of Crofton to Vancouver. She is believed to have followed a course north to the Houston Passage between Kuper and Salt Spring Islands, then southeast through Trincomali Channel between Salt Spring and Galiano Islands. The grounding apparently occurred on Peile Point in swinging east toward Active Pass, the main route to Vancouver.

Lloyd's Register lists the vessel as 5,552 tons, owned by Pool's Shipping Company of West Hartlepool, England. B.C. agents are the Empire Shipping Company, Vancouver.

No SOS was sent out, but the ship reported by radio and help was rushed after the private message.

Only report issued by Empire Shipping last night was that the vessel was in difficulty near Salt Spring Island. The exact location and details were not forthcoming.

# Sees Cloud Hovering Over Europe

HOBOKEN, N.J., Dec. 2 (CP). — The cloud of uncertainty hovering over Europe has "become charged with ominous portents" and, unless caution and wisdom are exercised "may sooner or later menace anew the well-being of mankind," Prime Minister Mackenzie King said here today.

In a statement issued on his arrival from Europe, the Prime Minister said:

"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.

" . . . The present meeting of the council of Foreign Ministers in London is of greater importance to the world than the combined conferences held since the termination of hostilities."

## Scenes of Violence in Strife-Torn Parts of World

FIGHTING and disorder continue in several countries of the world more than two years after the end of the war. In the upper picture, a strong armored police contingent moves into Bitonto, Italy, "recapturing" it from Communists who had "captured" it and called it the "First Socialist Republic in Italy." In the lower photograph, soldiers of the 1st Kumaon Regiment in Kashmir arrest and search a prisoner. The Indian troops were sent to aid in defending the state against invading Pathan tribesmen.

# Will Reduce Bus Stops On Douglas

## Act Seen Restoring Lost Parking Space

Swift action was taken by Alderman Dr. J. D. Hunter yesterday to benefit from experience gained in the first day's operation under the new transit franchise.

Following a conference with H. B. Balls, B.C. Electric transportation manager, Dr. Hunter said it had been decided that there would be a reduction in the number of bus stops on Douglas Street. By revision of the experimental loading zone plan, he said, it was considered changes could be made to retain more parking space for private automobiles and, at the same time, result in an improvement to bus service.

Some loading zones would be lengthened, Alderman Hunter explained, and others eliminated.

A special meeting of the public works committee will be held Thursday, at which the question will be studied further.

### At Least 160 Lost In Storm on Coast

LISBON, Dec. 2 (AP).—A 125-mile-an-hour hurricane struck the Portuguese north coast fishing fleet last night and today, killing at least 160 fishermen and sinking many vessels.

The bodies of 160 men had been washed ashore by tonight, but many others were believed to have lost their lives. A few larger trawlers were able to return to port, but a majority were overdue and believed lost.

It was reported that almost the entire adult male population of the village of Afurada was wiped out.

# BULLETINS

### Seven Killed

**PARIS, Dec. 2 (AP).—The French National Assembly was told by a Government spokesman today that seven persons had died in the derailment of a Paris-Arras mail train—which he blamed on saboteurs.**

**The announcement was greeted by a tumult from the Communist Deputies.**

### Race to Rescue

**AMSTERDAM, Dec. 3 (Wednesday) (AP).—Rescue ships raced today to the aid of the British ship Rajahstan, 5,391 tons, which struck a mine off the Dutch resort of Noordwijk. There was no word regarding casualties or damage.**

### System Planned

**CALGARY, Dec. 3 (Wednesday) (CP).—A newspaper said today that a $45,000,000 distribution system to supply Alberta natural gas to Winnipeg and intermediate points is now in the organization stage.**

### Nears End

**MONTREAL, Dec. 2 (CP).—Crown evidence in the conspiracy trial of Dr. Raymond Boyer drew near its close today and is expected to be completed tomorrow when prosecution counsel said, only two or three more witnesses would be called.**

# Violence Marks Arab Protests Over Partition

## Property Damage in Jerusalem Said Likely to Reach $1,000,000

By the Canadian Press

Thousands of Arabs surged out of the old walled city of Jerusalem Tuesday, attacking Jews and setting the torch to Jewish property in a demonstration of Arab determination to prevent the United Nations from implementing its decision to partition Palestine.

The Jews struck back, and in the violence that flared in the Holy City and elsewhere in Palestine eight Jews and six Arabs were reported to have lost their lives. Many Arabs and Jews were injured and the Jews said property damage in Jerusalem would reach $1,000,000.

Rumblings of a "Holy War" by the Arabs continued to sound throughout the Middle East and in Washington an American military observer raised the possibility that the Soviet Union might send troops ostensibly to protect the new Jewish state against the Arabs.

No United Nations military force exists to compel partition in the face of Arab military opposition. Britain intends to withdraw her forces before next August. Both Russia and the United States joined in the stand for partition.

NEAR SUEZ CANAL

The American military observer said the sending of Russian troops to Palestine would put Marshal Stalin's forces on the Mediterranean within striking distance of the Suez Canal and American oil concessions in Saudi Arabia. No United States troops are in the area.

There was no organized military campaign as yet by the Arabs in Palestine, and the world looked to the coming meeting of the Arab League for some possible indication of what steps would be taken to resist carrying out partition.

Abdel Rahman Azzam Pasha, general secretary of the league, had called a meeting of league representatives in Cairo for about December 12, but a dispatch from Baghdad said the Iraq Government had asked that the meeting be advanced to Saturday and be held in Baghdad instead of Cairo.

Azzam Pasha spoke to demonstrators in Cairo who shouted for "war," "weapons" and "revolution." He restrained them against violence and promised "we know our enemies, we will go to them, we will fight them in a regular armed struggle. You will get arms—an abundance of them." Cries of "long live Hitler, the assassin of Jews," and "down with America, down with Russia," were heard in Cairo, where demonstrators wrecked a number of foreign-owned shops.

The Syrian Parliament voted 2,500,000 Syrian pounds (about $860,000) to raise a "striking force" to aid the Arabs in Palestine, the Damascus correspondent of the Near East Broadcasting Service in Jerusalem said. Twenty-eight Syrian deputies immediately volunteered for combatant service.

# Hearings to Begin Today Into Claims of Japanese

VANCOUVER, Dec. 2 (CP).—Canada tomorrow opens her official investigation into complaints by her Japanese citizens that their property rights were abused during the World War.

In a Vancouver court room, Mr. Justice Henry I. Bird of the British Columbia Court of Appeal will formally open the records of Canada's Japanese property claims commission.

Before it is completed, details of "at least 1,000" complaints entered by Japanese-Canadians from the West Coast to Montreal will have been entered and property to a total value of "well over $3,000,000" will have been discussed.

The commission will sit in Vancouver, Kamloops and Nelson; Lethbridge, Alberta; Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan; Winnipeg, Toronto and Montreal. Having heard evidence concerning all the claims, which the commission expects to reach a total of 3,000 as new ones arrive at a rate of 50 to 100 daily, Mr. Justice Bird will return with counsel to Vancouver for the final sittings and to consider his report.

The claims all concern property evacuated when the Japanese were obliged to leave coastal areas for the interior after the Pearl Harbor attack, December 7, 1941.

The Dominion Government order in council banning them from the coast, never repealed, still applies. It affects all Japanese except those who served during the war in the armed forces. Almost 300 claims from citizens still in British Columbia will be the first heard, probably next Monday.

Most of the property, through one Government agency or another, has been disposed of to non-Japanese citizens and, it has been alleged, at prices much below the normal market value.

T. G. Norris of Vancouver will represent many of the claimants while the Japanese-Canadian Committee for Democracy, instrumental in pressing for the Royal Commission, is to be represented by Andrew Brewin of Toronto and B. J. McMaster of Vancouver.

# Reduced Total For Aid Asked By Republicans

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2 (AP). — Rank-and-file Republican Congressmen called tonight for a whittling of the $590,000,000 recommended by the House foreign affairs committee for emergency aid to France, Italy and Austria.

Republican Leader Charles Halleck said following a meeting of all House Republicans that the committee's figure, trimming $7,000,000 from the sum authorized by the Senate yesterday, was regarded by many representatives as "still too high."

Rep. Forest Harkness (Rep., Ind.) told reporters he would like to see the Winter relief fund slashed to $400,000,000 and Rep. Karl Stefan (Rep., Neb.) declared that when the measure comes before the appropriations committee, of which he is a member, "I know it's going to be cut."

The economy demands presaged a sharp, concentrated fight when the relief measure reaches the House floor on Thursday since several Democrats have indicated they will seek to restore the full amount approved by the Senate.

The Senate's version would provide supplies for France, Italy and Austria while the smaller sum recommended by the House committee would be credited to those three countries plus China, which would get some $60,000,000 of the reduced total.

# Italian Leftists Ask Resistance To Government

ROME, Dec. 3 (Wednesday) (AP).—Italy's Communist party early today called Premier De Gasperi's Christian Democrat Party a dictatorship "seeking to enslave Italy to the foreigner" and appealed for a "labor front" to fight it.

A lengthy communique issued after a two-day meeting made it clear the leftists had no intention of abandoning strikes, demonstrations and political violence as weapons in their three-week-old war of nerves on De Gasperi.

The Communist directorate sent greetings to "workers of all parties" who, it said, had displayed their "decided will to resist" the "reactionary counter-offensive stimulated and supported" by the Government.

Continued ignoring of the Communists, the communique said, would be an "act of open hostility" against the workers.

# Russia in Opposition To Part for Canada

LONDON, Dec. 2 (CP). — United States demands that Canada and South American countries take an active part in preparation of the German peace treaty ran into Soviet opposition tonight, during another fruitless session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

United States sources said sharp exchanges between United States State Secretary Marshall and Foreign Minister Molotov marked the meeting, which bogged down along the same lines as the Big Four Council at Moscow last April. No compromise proposals were offered.

Foreign Secretary Bevin urged that smaller Allied powers should attend the four committees which will draft a German peace treaty.

Marshall demanded that such countries as Canada have full participation in treaty drafting and that all countries which declared war on the Axis participate in one form or another. He accused Molotov of making "disparaging remarks" about some of the smaller countries.

Citing Canada as an example of what the lesser powers did in the war he said:

"She had 1,000,000 men in her armed forces, 400,000 under arms in 1943. This important Allied state of about 12,000,000 population suffered casualties of 100,000.

"Canada was the main protector of the North Atlantic convoy route, third in naval power and fourth in air power.

"This expenditure cost at least $12,000,000,000 and Canada contributed about $2,332,000,000 of supplies to the United Kingdom, the Soviet Union and other countries.

"It certainly is to our advantage as insurance of the future peace to have the advantage of the practical participation of an Allied state such as Canada working on the permanent committees and subcommittees."

The ministers had before them four main points:

1. Composition of the permanent committees of the German peace conference;

2. Whether or not China is to be included;

3. What countries shall compose the sub-committees, and

4. Composition of the conference of information which will also be an organ of the peace conference.

Molotov dropped the Soviet proposal that the four main committees should comprise only members of the Big Four, in favor of a French proposal leaving with the Big Four the right to invite smaller Allies.

# Coast Given Gale Warning

Gale warnings were issued for the West Coast of Vancouver Island and Juan De Fuca Strait last night and 40-mile-an-hour westerly winds are forecast for Victoria this morning.

Northerly gales up to 40 miles an hour were forecast for the West Coast and northwesterly winds at 35 miles an hour for the East Coast.

The gale warnings were also issued by the Dominion Weather Office for the Strait of Georgia, Queen Charlotte Strait, Johnstone Strait and Queen Charlotte Sound.

Northwesterly gales were forecast as spreading over south coastal waters this evening, with winds shifting northwesterly 30 to 40 miles per hour over waters adjacent to west and north of the Island this afternoon.

# Group to Plan Jerusalem Rule

LAKE SUCCESS, N.Y., Dec. 2 (AP).—A six-power group with Russia omitted, was named today to draft plans for the rule of Jerusalem as an international city under United Nations supervision.

The "working party" was named by Francis Sayre, president of the trusteeship council. It will meet tomorrow.

Members are the United States, Britain, France, China, Australia and Mexico. Sayre gave no explanation of Russia's omission.

# French Assembly Passes First Part of Strike Bill

PARIS, Dec. 3 (Wednesday) (CP).—The French National Assembly overrode Communist opposition by a decisive margin early today and approved the first article of Premier Robert Schuman's drastic, five-part anti-strike bill.

The article, suspending for three months the present French law, punishes sabotage by a maximum 500,000 francs ($4,200) fine and three months' imprisonment. The vote favoring the article was 402 to 183, with only the Assembly's Communist bloc opposing it.

The other four articles of the bill will be debated and voted on one by one, after which there will be a vote on the bill as a whole.

The vote came as France's three-week-old strike wave began receding. A highly placed neutral official said last night he believed the Communists were beginning to lose their first big offensive in the French "cold war."

As the French National Assembly neared completion of the drastic strike-control law, Ministry of Labor sources estimated the number of strikers had dropped to "well under" 2,000,000. At its peak the strike movement had tied up nearly 3,000,000 men, it was unofficially estimated, while the Communists had placed the number at 4,000,000.

The National Assembly spent 2 1-2 hours hearing Communist orators protest the expulsion by a symbolic force of guardsmen early this morning of Communist Deputy Raoul Calas from the Chamber. Then the parliamentarians got down to work of completing the legislation asked by Premier Schuman to protect the "right to work" and prevent sabotage.

Reuters News Agency, quoting official sources, said the French Cabinet will meet today to discuss the present political and social situation.

As the workers began trooping back to jobs, however, sabotage incidents began increasing, and in a number of localities pitched battles were fought between police and militant strikers.

The most serious incident took place in Paris when about 3,000 strikers from the Renault automobile factory broke into the Salmson motor plant by knocking down part of one wall with a tractor in an effort to oust an occupying police force.

A battle ensued which ended with the dispersal of the strikers at a cost of three mobile guardsmen wounded and an undetermined number of attackers injured.

A similar fight occurred at the railroad station of Rive de Gier in Central France where the station master suffered knife wounds.

Fighting between police and strikers in coal mines resulted in a hurry call to Arras to send armored cars to Bethune. Police at Bethune said hundreds of strikers attacked late in the day, trying to drive police away and occupy the coal pits. Police drove the attackers off with tear gas once, but a new fight broke out after dark.

# Window-Box Horticulturalists Seen As Possible Wheat Crown Winners

WINNIPEG, Dec. 2 (CP).—Canadian agriculturists were confronted today with the possibility that a window-box horticulturalist might some day win the world wheat crown.

The suggestion came after Alberta Department of Agriculture officials had urged that grain show exhibits be restricted to entries from bona-fide farmers.

"There is no reason why city couldn't grow prize-winning wheat in a window box, provided soil, moisture and other conditions were right," said Dr. P. J. Olson, head of the University of Manitoba's plant science department and one of the officials at the recently concluded Toronto Royal Winter Fair.

"Of course, quite a number of window boxes would be needed. An exhibit requires approximately 18 pounds of wheat kernels and one box wouldn't go far in supplying this quantity."

It was for the purpose of barring such wheat fanciers from taking grain awards with their city-grown samples away from country farmers that prompted the Alberta recommendation.

The suggestion found favor in British Columbia Government circles. Said one official in the Agriculture Department, "small patch seed growers are not bona-fide farmers. Such competition is not honest."

In Manitoba, on the other hand, Deputy Agriculture Minister J. H. Evans came out strongly against the suggestion that only legitimate farmers should be permitted to exhibit in shows.

"If we can interest more city people in grain and one of them should win over farmers . . . more power to them," was his comment.

Given the proper soil and other conditions, he said, there was no reason why prize-winning wheat couldn't be grown in cities. William Miller of Edmonton proved this in 1941 when he won the Wheat Crown at the Chicago Grain Exposition with an entry grown on a city lot.

Persons who favor restrictions, however, believe any rewards available should go to farmers and not to persons who take up wheat growing in miniature as a hobby. Unless the latter are barred, some day window-box wheat may be adjudged the world's best.

# Milk Producers Threaten Strike

WINNIPEG, Dec. 2 (CP).—Strike action December 15 was threatened today by 500 milk producers attending a meeting of the Winnipeg District Milk Producers' Co-operative Association, unless their demand for an 80 cents a hundredweight milk price increase is granted.

The association represents approximately 90 per cent of the producers in the area. A request earlier for an increase from $3.60 to $4.25 a hundredweight was partially met Friday.

# Willows Insurance Fund Turned Over to Victoria

Long-sought authority has been given to Victoria to use $67,000 of insurance money on Willows buildings destroyed by fire in 1944, Mayor Percy E. George announced yesterday. The city is expected to transfer most of the money to the arena fund. Although the city has had actual possession of the sum since the Willows fire, the British Columbia Agricultural Association had laid claim to a share.

The dispute between the parties was referred some months ago to a special Cabinet committee composed of Hon. R. C. MacDonald, Minister of Municipal Affairs, Hon. Herbert Anscomb, Finance Minister, and Hon. Frank Putnam, Minister of Agriculture.

Mayor George said he had received the committee's decision from Mr. MacDonald by phone.

It had been estimated, he said, that the committee was satisfied the association had no legal claim but that the city was under a moral obligation to transfer to the agricultural body $4,456 which it had paid in interest and sinking fund.

Mayor George disclosed that the association had at one time signed an agreement waiving any claim for insurance.

Ald. Ed. Williams, finance committee chairman, joined with the mayor yesterday in stating it was considered the committee's decision was a fair one.

Ald. Williams said he would recommend the money be used for the arena.

The city had paid all the insurance premiums on the Willows buildings. A Provincial grant of $4,532 for ten years starting 1938 was made for construction of buildings for the annual Agricultural Fair. The city was required to put up a matching amount.

# Baghdad Arabs Shout Protests

BAGHDAD, Iraq, Dec. 2 (AP).—All traffic was halted in Baghdad and business establishments closed down as 70,000 demonstrators rallied through the streets protesting the partitioning of Palestine.

The demonstrators, whose ardor grew fiercer after dark, shouted protests against "imperialism" of the United States, Russia, Great Britain and France, and "tyranny" of the United Nations.

During the demonstrations, six Communists were arrested while distributing Communist leaflets. An American army sergeant and his wife were pulled from a jeep and molested by Arabs.

# Bill Affects New Zealand

LONDON, Dec. 2 (Reuters).—The House of Lords, in a few minutes today, passed through all its stages a bill to enable the Parliament of New Zealand to alter its constitution in any way desired.

Lord Addison, leader of the House, explained that there were certain limitations on the powers of the New Zealand Parliament to alter the constitution set up in 1852.

The bill would give the New Zealand Parliament complete freedom, although New Zealand, in effect, has been independent for a long time.

# Would Benefit Canadian Ships

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2 (AP). — Legislation to permit Canadian vessels to operate in the Alaskan trade is planned by the Senate public lands committee, Senator Magnuson said today, but is headed for a careful study by the commerce committee.

"The proposed change," he said, "probably would mean diversion of much of Alaskan trade from American ships to Canadian bottoms."

### Highs and Lows Of the Weather

| | Min. | Max. | Precipitation |
|---|---|---|---|
| Montreal | [illegible] | [illegible] | |
| Toronto | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] |
| Port Arthur | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] |
| Winnipeg | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] |
| Regina | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] |
| Swift Current | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] |
| Calgary | [illegible] | [illegible] | |
| Edmonton | [illegible] | [illegible] | |
| Penticton | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] |
| Vancouver | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] |
| Prince Rupert | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] |
| Seattle | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] |
| Chicago | [illegible] | [illegible] | Trace |
| San Francisco | [illegible] | [illegible] | |

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