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NORTHERN AND CENTRAL BRITISH COLUMBIA'S NEWSPAPER

# ANOUNT OF THE Canadian National Railways Annual Report Is Presented;

OTTAWA, March 29.—Notwithstanding increases in resented - Edmonton Commerce age rates and prices of material, the Canadian Nation-Railways in 1937 handled traffic at a lower operating ratio than in 1936, said S. J. Hungerford, chairman and president, in the annual report of the railway system The provincial government of Albled in the House of Commons today by the minister of berta was not represented at the

For the first time in the 124-

year history of the Royal Phil-

harmonic Society, one of its

famous concerts was conducted

by a woman. Mme. Nadia Boul-

anger, pictured during rehear-

sal, was the feminine musician

presentation of Faure's Re-

quiem Mass at Queen's Hall,

ern Shanshi Province Are

Claimed

WINNIPEG WHEAT

(Continued on Page 4)

London.

so honored. She conducted a

and operating expenses were

"After payment of all operating expenses," says the report, "the net operating revenue of the railway ver, for the year 1937 was \$17,607,750, increase of \$2,474,951 over the

"After payment of taxes, rentals, scounts and all charges of every description, excepting only capital sses from line abandonments arged to proprietors' equity, the income available for interest \$8,287,228, an increase of \$1,-8.317 over the previous year. Afapplying such net income gainst the interest on funded debt tue to the public and interest on overnment loans, there was a deciency of \$42,345,867 as compared th \$43,303,393 in 1936."

In 1937 the government adopted be policy of collecting from the allway in cash interest on loans r capital purposes and the report tates that, had that change in polley not taken place, the deficiency or 1937 would have been \$40,661,114 instead of \$42,345,867. This change was made following the passage of the Capital Revision Act 1937. After explaining the provisions of that act the report continues: "The adjustments authorized by the act were entirely confined to the relationship between the government and the railway and did not deal in any way with the large funded debt of he system in the hands of the pub-

> Taxes paid by the railway in 1937 mounted to \$6.697,242, exclusive sales tax of approximately \$4,-0,000 added to the cost of mater-

"The increase of all operating ex-

penses over those of the preceding ear was \$9,311,168." says the re-"Increased rates of pay ac- HANKOW, March 29: (CP)-The ounted for \$2,800,000 and increas- Chinese military command last s in prices of materials accounted night reported further advances \$3,500,000. The program of against the Japanese invaders on naintaining and of modernizing all fronts in southern Shansi olling stock was augmented during Province as well as gains in the he year, resulting in additional north. charges to maintenance of equip- | Shanghai reports today were that ment expenses of \$2,500,000, the a great Chinese army was pushing enefit of which will be reflected in back the Japanese along a one hunubsequent years. Equipment re- dred mile front in a battle for cenfrement charges to operating ex- tral China. The Japanese disputed penses increased over the preced- the reports but the best available Ing year by \$730,000. There was a information indicates that the Jareduction in expenses due to the panese are retreating. elimination of the unemployment elief maintenance-of-way program \$1,015,00 and flood damage. Snow emoval costs were \$528,000 less

#### an in 1936. Property Maintained

The property has been efficient- ing at \$1.183/4. maintained having regard to affic requirements," says the re-5.4 per cent."

The increase in the gross operat- class 1 railroads. d \$475,682 or 10.8 per cent. Express

### COMMISSION IS SNUBBED Improvement Shown In Affairs

Government of Alberta Not Rep-Chamber Presents Case

EDMONTON, March 29: (CP)opening session of the Rowell royal commission on interprovincial SETTING A PRECEDENT relations yesterday. There is possibility, however, that a case may be presented by the government as the question of doing so is to be brought up again in the Legislature today.

The Edmonton Chamber of Commerce, in making representations to the commission, urged the taking over by the Dominion of a number of functions now in control of the province.

The Edmonton Chamber of Commerce, in its brief to the commission, explained that it had included a number of matters of general provincial interest because of the understanding that the provincial government would not make any submissions. It submitted, among other things, how the British North America Act, as at present interpreted, was inadequate to the present needs of the people. It submitted that the allowance from the Dominion to meet the needs of the present was inadequate. It also submitted that the province had to buy in a protected market whereas products of the province were! almost without protection. This was a severe handicap.

Transportation also was a source of complaint. Alberta suffered in almost every case over other points on a ton mile basis. As an example of the manner in which Alberta! claims to be handicapped, it is pointed out that the freight on a carload of 400 boxes of butter shipped from Edmonton to Toronto amounts to \$764.82, exclusive or icing charges. On the same weight of Ontario condensed milk, another dairy product, shipped from Aylmer, Ontario, a slightly longer distance, Advances On All Fronts In Southto Edmonton the freight rate is

> Complaint was also made of the interest charges on farmers of the province which were maintained in spite of the depreciation of the dol-

> The chamber pointed out the high cost of education and the loss of revenue resulting from encroachments of the Dominion on provincial fields of taxation. It submitted that banking, companies, fire insurance, railroads, manufacture of farm implements and department store selling were controlled outside the province, mostly in Quebec and Ontario.

The chamber asks for cancellation of debts incurred for relief and the orderly refunding of the debt of the province at a low rate of in-WINNIPEG, arch 29: (CP) - terest by means of federal guaran-Winnipeg wheat futures were 21/2c | tee. So far as possible it would have to 3/8c higher yesterday, May clos- taxes collected by means of visible rather than hidden taxes.

#### Slap at Aberhart

ort. "The moderate increase in ex- revenue increased \$438,181 or 4.9 The Edmonton chamber asks in pense which resulted from the in- per cent. Mail revenue increased its brief for disallowance of any trease in traffic apart from chang- \$149,043 or 4.4 per cent, operating provincial measures limiting freees in wage rates and prices of ma- income of hotels increased \$40,000. dom of speech, freedom of assembly, downed Seattle Sea Hawks by a terials can be considered as satis- The report states the growth of freedom of religious worship, free- score of three to nothing last lactory. It may be noted that class the system's gross revenues from dom of access to the courts and night to capture the Pacific roads of the United States with the low point reached in 1933 con- freedom of the press and also ob- Coast Hockey League championincrease in traffic of 2.8 per cent tinued. In 1937, the report contin- jects to restrictions on movement ship for the second time since ad an increase in expense of 6.4 ues, all of the expected improve- from one province to another of the league was revived five years er cent. The Canadian National ment in revenue did not material- citizens, money, goods and services. ago. lad increase in traffic of 6.3 per ize, due largely to western crop con- It asks for such constitutional ent with an increase in expense ditions and also to the sharp bus- changes as will give the Dominion iness recession in United States government the right of legislative authority over labor legislation, received from Paris, France, of ng revenues of Canadian National Commenting on behalf of the such as hours of labor, minimum mounted to \$11,786,119 over the board of directors of the national wages and workmen's compensapreceding year. Freight revenues system on transportation prospects tion; unemployment insurance, un-Increased by \$8,308,097 or 5.7 per in general, Chairman Hungerford employment relief, public health, ways and president of the transt. Passenger revenues increased continues: "Immediate outlook for old age pensions, allowances for wi
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t. Passenger revenues increased continues: "Immediate outlook for old age pensions to the continues of the contin 1,923,021 or 11.3 per cent. Com- railway revenues is obscured by dows, jails and reformatories, truck orary membership in the Sciendercial telegraph revenue increas- several factors, principally the transportation and regulation of tific Institute of Studies of Com-

## Coal And Petroleum Board To Be Appointed; To Take Action On Public Utilities As Well

3ensation

VICTORIA, March 29: (CP)-In a public address last night, Premier T. D. Pattullo announced that a one man board would be appointed to regulate coal and petroleum industries in the province of British Columbia. Dr. W. A. Carrothers was the intended commissioner. The board would have full control of coal and petroleum within the provincial boundaries from production to sale.

The Premier further announced the intention that a public utilities act would be introduced at the next session of the Legislature. Dr. Carrothers had agreed to serve as commissioner under that act also.

Mr. Pattullo disclosed that he would shortly be making another trip to Ottawa with a view to pressing a more expansive road program and obtaining increased federal aid for public works projects. He much hoped, he said, to be able to make progress in the east toward the construction of the proposed British Columbia-Alaska-Yukon highway.

The Premier further stated that renewed efforts would be made to have the Pacific Great Eastern Railway taken over by the Canadian National and Canadian Pacific Railways and operated on a joint basis. Railroad facilities, said Mr. Pattullo, should be extended to the Peace River where there was every indication of oil possibilities as great as in the Alberta fields. If the Pacific Great Eastern was extended from Prince George to the Peace River, both Prince Rupert and Vancouver would be served.

# Dr. Otto Schmidt, One Of Soviet's Heroes, Is Accused By Dictator

Former President of One of Asiatic Republics One of Nineteen Persons Who Have Been Put to Death For Plotting

MOSCOW, March 29: (CP)-Soviet Russia broke two new espionage sensations today. The Northern Sea Route Administration, headed by Dr. Otto Schmidt, one of the greatest official Soviet heroes, was accused of "criminal anti-Soviet activity." A provincial newspaper reported that nineteen persons had been shot after a trial

at Alma Ata. Among them was U. K. Ulumbetoff, former president of Kazakhstan, who was accused of plotting to make his middle Soviet UNDER WAY republic the colony of an undisclosed nation.

Lines Being Drawn for Crucial Engagement in Spanish Civil War F ranco Answers Protest

SIEGE NOW

LERIDA, Spain, March 29: (CP)-Battle lines of the oncoming insurgents are drawing close upon this strategic key city on the road to the provisional loy- + PRAHA, March 29: (CP) alist capital of Barcelona. The | President Edouard Benes of rebels are bringing up their ar- | + Czecho-Slovakia said last night + tillery and aircraft with a view it that there was no immediate to laying an intensive siege | + danger of conflict with Ger- + which General Francisco Franco | many. On the other hand, + anticipates will result in an early | + there was possibility of a + capture. On the other hand, the friendly accord on the subject + government is rushing forward | of the German minority which + reinforcements of men, guns and airplanes with a view to bolstering up the defences. Lerida, in the opinion of observers, may mark the final phase of the civil

Internatioal brigades of the Spanish government army moved to the front today in the effort to check the insurgent sweep into HARBORS Catalonia.

The insurgents were massed on the west bank of the Chinca River along the central front.

The Spanish government, with "we must hold out" as its watchword, published a lengthly report of German and Italian armaments and men being sent to the insurgent army.

Franco Answers Protest LONDON, March 28: (CP) -General Francisco Franco, insurgent commander-in-chief in the Spanish civil war, has answered protests against the bombing of civilians with the expressing of regrets that innocent lives should have been lost over the previous year was \$468,000. but explaining that Barcelona is such an important centre from a military standpoint, on account of its factories and munition stores, that it has been necessary to attack it.

### Weather Forecast

Prince Rupert and Queen Charlotte Islands- Moderate to fresh northwest winds, mostly fair and colder at night.

LONDON GOLD PRICE

LONDON, March 29; (CP)- The London price of bar gold was up 1c yesterday, closing at \$34.96 per

fine ounce.

Armstrong Co-operative Society by the Princess Louise on his re- appreciation to their many friends and had held the office of chief turn to Esquimalt after spending who were so kind to them during

### \* No Danger Of Conflict Now

+ which has been agitating in-\* ternational peace. A com- \* romise is expected to be

# REVENUE

Increase Shown in Income During Past Year Despite Lower Grain Exports

OTTAWA, March 29: (CP)- In spite of a greatly decreased wheat movement, Canadian harbors com ing under the National Harbors Board showed an increase in operating revenue during the past year Hon. Clarence D. Howe, minister of transport, announced yesterday The increase in operating income

### VOTE IN DEWDNEY

Victoria Hears That Provincial By-Election May Be Held on May 17

VICTORIA, March 29: (CP) -there are reports in well-informed quarters here that the provincia y-election in Dewdney riding may o called for May 17. The seat was nade vacant through the recent death of Dr. Frank Patterson, Leader of the Conservative Opposition. There will be at least three candidates in the by-election-Liberal. Conservative and Co-operative Commonwealth Federation.

### Card of Thanks

a few days here on naval business. their recent bereavement.

# DULLLIIND

INSPECTOR STRICKEN

Inspector John A. Fraser, provincial police, suffered a slight stroke late yesterday afternoon and is now confined to bed at his home. He was reported this morning to be doing as well as could be expected.

VANCOUVER EXTORTION VANCOUVER-The home of Kapoor Singh was under heavy police guard today as detectives probed what the wealthy Sikh

lumberman said was an extortion plot backed by threats on his life. Kapoor told police that a fellow countryman pointed a revolver at him Monday afternoon and handed him a note saying: "Drive me to the bank. Give me

SILVER SLASHED AGAIN

WASHINGTON- The United cent off the price for foreign silver today, cutting it to 43c per fine ounce. This action makes it more difficult for Mexico to sell its silver abroad. Today's reduction apparently confirmed fears of London silver speculators that United States was withdrawing its support from the world price. The New York silver price today was 423/4c.

LIONS WIN TITLE

VANCOUVER-Vancouver Lions

HUNGERFORD HONORED MONTREAL-Word has been the appointment of S. J. Hungerford, chairman and president

Eleven Known Dead as Result Of Fresh Outbreaks in Holy Land

JERUSALEM, March 29: (CP)-Fresh disorders during the last twenty-four hours in Palestine are known to have resulted in eleven! persons being killed. Four were slain when bandits attacked a passenger car.

# CANNER

Nelson Bros. Lease Massett Canners Plant for One Year with Option To Purchase

Announcement is made of the States Treasury shaved another lease with option to purchase of the Massett Canners salmon canery a old Massett, Queen Charlotte Islands, to the Nelson Bros. Fisheries Ltd. of Vancouver. The plant being taken over by Nelson Bros. for operation this year which is due to be one of the heavy cycle run seasons for pinks in Massett Inlet and

The Massett Canners plant was established in 1927 by a Prince Rupert company with John Dybhavn as manager. It has operated regularly each year that the fish ran.

## MAYOR HAS SUCCUMBED

Frank L. Sugden, Chief Magistrate Of Armstrong, Passes After Brief Illness

ARMSTRONG, March 29: (CP)magistrate for some years.