

3:39	20.1 feet
16:50	17.6 feet
10:25	3.4 feet
22:29	8.9 feet

American Newsmen Released

William Oatis
and to be Out

The Canadian Press
N.N. — Associated
correspondent Wil-
Oatis has crossed
Germany follow-
is release from a
on in Communist
oslovakia.

was freed after serving
this of a 10-year prison
charges of being a spy.
U.S. government de-
the charges as a
after conviction of the
old newsmen on July

said his release came as
a surprise.
was accompanied on his
from the Czech capital to
Germany by the U.S. vice-
in Prague, Chris Squires,
ported him across the

made the trip in a U.S.
Department auto travel-
luggage.
appeared thin and pale.
at the border how he had
treated in prison, he re-
"Well, they treated me
good, but it's great to be

ed Pianist, Max Schapiro turning Here

musical event of consid-
interest will be held
when Max Schapiro,
pianist, makes his second
appearance here this season to
solo performance.

Gyro Club, which is
during the concert, has
arrangements for Mr.
Schapiro's return to the city
of his great personal
enjoyment with which
being received in other
on his current tour.

Schapiro, who is well-
known to Prince Rupert audi-
ence for the leading part he
played in Alaska Music
concerts, played here last
in a trio ensemble. After
returning to the U.S., he
called back to the north
coast demand and gave
at Prince George and
Columbia before continuing
give others in Alaska.

concert next Friday is
part of the regular Alaska
Trail series. Tickets are
available from Gyro mem-
ber at the Civic Centre
the performance will be
at 8:30 p.m.

Weatherman Forecasts Sunny Skies

weatherman says warm
weather is in prospect for
B.C. this weekend.

Pacific storm now moving
the Gulf of Alaska has
spread rain east-
over the province. How-
a high pressure ridge is
to deflect this storm
ward, confining the rain to
coast regions.

the clouds from this system,
the weatherman, will move
southern sections late Sun-

Forecast — Variable
in coast region — Variable
inland today. Occasional
rain overnight and Sun-
little change in tempera-

light, increasing to
tonight. Low tonight
at Port Hardy,
55; Sandspit and Prince
46 and 55.

Monday Holiday

There will be no edition of
Daily News on Monday.

most other workers, the
of this paper will take
the Empire Day
celebration will resume with
today's paper.

The Daily News

NORTHERN AND CENTRAL BRITISH COLUMBIA'S NEWSPAPER

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Mountie Guards Exhibits

AN RCMP CONSTABLE STANDS ON GUARD at the Canadian exhibits at the British Industries Trade Fair in London. Officials of the trade commissioners' service will assist business men who visit the exhibit and are interested in any phase of Canada's market and import possibilities, market development, setting up of selling and distributing channels, customs, shipping or banking problems.

Many Persons on Both Sides of Border Affected by Drop in Canadian Dollar

by ALEX DIMEO
Canadian Press Staff Writer

The recent drop in the value of the Canadian dollar will affect many Canadians and Americans.

To the average Canadian it will mean the end of holiday or business travel at a premium across the border.

To the American tourist in Canada, it will end the nuisance of having to use a 95-cent dollar. Tourist officials, however, do not think the disappearance of last summer's five per cent premium on the Canadian dollar

will have much effect on their industry.

The fact the two currencies recently have come to almost even terms won't mean a great increase in tourist travel or tourist spending here.

Canadian holidays will be just a bit more pleasant for Americans.

To the business man, the increase in value of the U.S. dollar should mean higher returns for many basic Canadian exports, including pulp and paper, lumber, base metals, grain and gold. As an example, pulp and paper companies showed profits last

year as much as 18 per cent less than the previous year. This was blamed mostly on lower returns in U.S. money. Increased labor costs were also partly responsible.

A spokesman for the Canadian Exporters' Association said the decrease in value of the Canadian dollar is a boon to Canadian exporters. With the Canadian dollar at a premium, they said it was virtually impossible for the exporter to realize a profit.

A survey of some companies, which export to the United States, reveals all welcome the Canadian dollar's decline. Import-export companies, those companies which import component parts of their products and export the whole, also consider the change a healthy development, despite the fact that they must pay more for incoming material.

Canadian officials attribute the decline to the reduced demand for Canadian dollars, caused by a decline in Canadian exports. Other causes noted were the tendency of American investors to sell Canadian securities and the reluctance of Canadian companies to float bond issues in the United States at a time of rising interest rates in that country.

Canadian exports in the first quarter of 1953 dropped to \$900,000 from \$989,000,000 for the corresponding period last year.

In New York, bankers attributed the drop to American investors selling Canadian securities and re-investing their money in United States issues, for greater interest rates. This, they say, has increased the supply of Canadian dollars on foreign exchange markets, and tended to push down their price in terms of Canadian dollars.

London brokers expressed still another view. Some observers said it was the cessation in American investment rather than a withdrawal of capital from Canada that has caused the current setback. Also, some continental interests which have transferred funds to Canada now are taking their profits, they said.

Foreign exchange officials in Montreal say that Canadians can look forward to a levelling off near par, and if trade balance is achieved the Canadian dollar will return to a premium in terms of American funds.



FREEZING TEMPERATURES, heavy snow, rain and gusty winds brought the worst May blizzard in years to Saskatchewan. Highways were blocked, airline schedules snarled and seeding operations halted. Snow blocks this grader clearing the highway near Saskatoon. Stuck in a drift within a mile of the city, it had to be pulled out by a highways department truck.

Hospital Gets Advance To Meet Payroll Costs

More Money Needed To Cover Deficits

Drastic measures may be taken by the Prince Rupert General Hospital board of directors in meeting future shortage of money as a result of budget-freezing by the provincial government.

Unable to meet its payroll, the hospital has asked for an advance from the B.C. Hospital Insurance Service. This was granted but will be charged against the next grant, directors were told at their meeting last night.

While all trade accounts have been paid up to date, the hospital's coffers were short \$2,000 in meeting its mid-month payroll, said D. C. Stevenson, administrator.

"We wired for an advance and got it, but it will be deducted from next month's grant, we were told."

Jack McRae, finance chairman, said his committee viewed the situation "with alarm."

Because of higher wage costs this year—about \$40,000 more than in 1952—the hospital was steadily going in the hole "because we are held to last year's budget."

"If we don't get an advance big enough to cover deficits, we will have to reduce staff. We may even have to close our doors," said Mr. McRae.

His suggestion that a "particularly strong request during this time of election" be made for sufficient operating funds was endorsed by the board.

Board president R. G. Moore

said "the health minister has told us he will not let us down, but that may mean anything or nothing."

On Mr. McRae's suggestion, the board also adopted a stiff collection policy concerning delinquent accounts. Board was told that of \$60,000 in accounts receivable, \$37,000 were bad debts.

Mr. Stevenson reported that hospital solicitors Brown & Harvey had been instructed to "put on the heat" on delinquents.

Most such accounts, he said, were those of transients and other irresponsible citizens.

The board agreed it would not borrow any money to meet operating deficits and all trade accounts would be paid first.

A major program of expansion was outlined by Norm Bellis, chairman of the long-range planning committee.

Tenders will be called for conversion of sterilizing units from electricity to steam-operated.

Mr. Stevenson claimed that by using them, the hospital could save \$2,000 annually. Steam was more efficient, too, said Miss Elizabeth Clement, superintendent of nursing.

Conversion To Cost \$1,500

Estimated cost of conversion was \$1500, a third of which would be paid by the provincial government, said Mr. Stevenson.

A committee also will investigate purchase by bulk of electricity. If this could be done, the hospital could save up to half its present electrical costs, said Ald. Ray McLean, city council representative to the board.

Elaborate conversion of the hospital attic into 4000 square feet of useable floor space is planned, but will hinge on whether a certain amount of money will be granted to the hospital from a special fund.

Jack Martin, director, who illustrated a remodeling plan of the attic, estimated cost of the project at \$25,000. It would provide for X-ray room, laboratory, central supply room, three orderly rooms and rough storage space.

Some of these units are now located on other floors; some

are non-existent.

The board will consider a proposal by the city council finance committee to study formation of a hospital district for capital financing and to work with city council on the basis of a long-range program.

The proposal was presented by City Clerk W. R. Long, who said council had in the past kept from contributing to capital structure of the hospital because it felt city taxpayers should not bear the complete burden of the cost of facilities provided for all residents in the area, city and district.

Mr. Long proposed that the board study a suggestion that a hospital district similar to a school district be formed for taxation purposes.

Mr. Stevenson said figures showed 60 per cent of those using the hospital were city residents; 35 per cent were natives from outlying villages, and five per cent were transients.



TIPPY, a black water spaniel, got spring fever and started out on a trail of adventure, winding up in the Cornwall, Ont., city jail. He greets his owner, Betty Michaud, who looked all over town for him, finally finding him in custody for breaking a city ordinance which forbids dogs wandering around loose between May 1 and June 30. Tippy's prison record reads: Cell No. 3, Tippy, charged with vagrancy; sentence, time spent in jail (two days).

Fiery American Merchant Ship Owner Dies on Plane

NEW YORK (AP)—Hans J. Isbrandtsen, 60, the fiery, independent American merchant ship owner, died Wednesday on Wake Island, according to word received here today by his family.

Isbrandtsen was on his way home from Japan after a three-week business trip to the Far East.

Ironically, the man who did not hesitate to tangle with governments or get mixed up with wars for freedom of the seas, was an airplane passenger.

The word from Wake was that he succumbed suddenly to a heart attack.

Though a relatively small operator as maritime interests go,

Isbrandtsen was one of the biggest of the independents and a thorn in the side of all shipping magnates.

He scorned their rate conferences, and undercut them to get business. He refused government subsidy.

It was such a determination that won him world-wide notice in the early days of 1950.

Because he believed in freedom of the seas and the "open door" in China, Isbrandtsen refused to recognize a Chinese Nationalist blockade of Communist-held mainland ports.

He ignored American warnings and several of his vessels, notably the Flying Arrow, suffered from Nationalist gunfire.

Isbrandtsen's determination was reflected in his skippers. One such was Capt. Kurt Carlsen, whose Flying Enterprise went to the bottom of the Atlantic in January, 1952.

Carlsen's heroic, two-week effort to save his doomed, storm-battered ship, brought him world-wide acclaim.

Strike Threat Ends as Union Reaches Accord

VANCOUVER (AP)—A 7½-cent-an-hour wage increase has been negotiated for 2,300 British Columbia Electric Company employees, ending the threat of a transit tie-up in three cities.

Agreement with the Street Railwaymen's Union (AFL) on wages in Vancouver, Victoria and New Westminster was followed by a company announcement Friday night that it was determined to hold the line on fares despite what it called "substantial new costs."

The increase will bring the hourly rate for drivers to \$1.59½ cents and will cost the company an estimated additional \$365,000 annually.

The union, which originally sought a 23-cent boost and rejected a conciliation board recommendation for a six-cent increase, said the agreement still must be ratified by the membership.

Seven Killed In Jet Mishap

WASHINGTON (AP)—The U.S. air force reports that seven American flyers were killed in yesterday's triple air collision over Germany. An F-84 Thunderjet smashed into a formation of Flying Boxcars, hitting two of the big transports.

Help Police Search

Sought for Stephen Kasper, missing policeman lost in the crash of a CPA plane here last Monday, is still continuing and RCMP today asked all who may be making boat trips along the shoreline this week-end to keep a watchful eye for any portion of the plane or clothing that may have floated ashore.

DRY SUMMER PREDICTED FOR WEATHER-HIT BRITONS

LONDON (AP)—Weather-buffed Britons are in for a dry summer it's been predicted.

The grim news comes from Ritchie Calder, science editor of the News Chronicle, who mercifully allowed some of the bright sunshine of spring to soak in before predicting a severe drought.

He says some places will be hard hit, because the fog, hail, flood and tempest of the vile winter just passed were accompanied by a 60-year record dry spell. Nor was there much snow to recharge lake and river reservoirs.

It's impossible to say how badly the country's natural water stocks are depleted, Calder says, because the government suspended the inland water survey. The economizing move will save a farthing a head, about \$140,000, he claims, against a potential drought loss of millions of pounds to industry and agriculture.

'Straw Vote' Charge Laid

DUNCAN, B.C. (AP)— Formal charge of "unlawfully conducting a straw vote" has been laid against Watts Marketing Research of Vancouver by Cowichan-Newcastle CCF candidate Robert Strachan.

Named in the information is William Watts, managing director of the firm accused of taking a vote in the riding. The case will be heard here May 22.