



R. G. CASEY (left) External Affairs Minister for Australia, is greeted in Ottawa by Canada's Finance Minister Abbott. Mr. Casey, chief Australian delegate to the United Nations, is in Canada for talks with Prime Minister St. Laurent and members of the cabinet.

Russian Upper Class Growing Rather Than Diminishing

(Tom Whitney, AP correspondent who lived in Moscow nine years, says the Russian upper class is growing rather than diminishing.—EDITOR.)

By TOM WHITNEY
LONDON.—A jewelry store on Moscow's Petrovka Street recently displayed an emerald of several carats, priced at 35,000 rubles.

That is about as much as an average Russian would earn in 4½ years. It is officially \$3,750. The store displayed the jewel because it knew there were potential customers.

Soviet propaganda contends Soviet society is "classless." Anyone who has seen Soviet citizens riding around Moscow in big, black Zis or sim limousines will realize this is not so.

CROWDS LINE UP
Small Pobeda automobiles are priced at 16,000 rubles (4,000 each). The demand is such that a long line of prospective purchasers assembles each morning at Moscow's one auto store.

There are high ranking industrial and economic executives, scientists and research men. There are responsible government and party officials, and successful people from the literary and artistic world. A certain number of technicians and workers, for reason of special skills or work in particular regions, benefit from special bonus payment schemes. Certain collective farm executives and farmers benefit from special bonus schemes for particular crops. Finally, some doctors and other professional men have lucrative private practices.

SOME PRIVILEGED
Often times big apartments costing nothing or almost nothing, the use of an official car at all times, and like privileges go with jobs the regime considers important.

This upper class is certainly increasing in size. As the state grows larger and more complex it needs more and more executives and specialists.

Some Soviet citizens make fantastic amounts of money. This applies particularly to the more renowned doctors with private practice. Writers, if successful, earn so much money they don't know how to spend it.

How do people get into the upper class?
The main factor to start with is education. Talent, hard work and occasional intrigue also play vital roles.

Some sprang from the pre-revolutionary upper and middle class. Most of the present members, however, were brought up by the revolution from families of workers and peasants. These people are particularly strong for the Soviet regime, of course, since it gave them their opportunities.

JEAN LESAGE, 41-year-old lawyer who has represented Montmagny-L'Islet, Que., in Parliament since 1946, has been appointed Minister of Resources and Development. He was named parliamentary assistant to Finance Minister Abbott last January.

GORDON ROBERTSON, 36, assistant cabinet secretary and assistant privy council clerk, has been appointed deputy minister of resources succeeding Maj.-Gen. H. A. Young. A specialist in political economy, Mr. Robertson was born at Davidson, Sask., and was educated in Regina.

New Evidence Submitted In Senate Wheat Probe

WASHINGTON.—A Senate investigating group was said today to have new evidence that frost-damaged wheat from Canada was used in recent years to adulterate United States wheat and flour intended for humans.

The agriculture sub-committee headed by Senator Edward J. Thye (Rep. Minn.) provided to details, however, pending public hearings on the matter in Minneapolis Oct. 8 and 9, and in Galveston, Tex., Oct. 13 and 14.

The full agriculture committee, after hearings last winter, denounced adulteration practices and demanded punitive action by law enforcement agencies against American firms using the low-grade imported grain.

A staff spokesman for the sub-committee has received reports from the agriculture department since then indicating that several companies never before publicly linked with the practice were involved.

In some of these cases to be explored in hearings the investigating firms "withheld or refused" to surrender important documents to the agriculture department. The sub-committee has wider subpoena powers than the department and hopes to get access to the documents.

Last winter the full committee heard testimony that about 60,000,000 bushels of wheat imported from Canada in 1950-52 was labeled "unfit for human consumption," but that a "good percentage" of it was converted into food by U.S. companies.

Import quota regulations forbid the shipments of more than 45,000 bushels of Canadian wheat a year into the U.S. for food purposes, but impose no limit on the amount imported for animal feed.

New Home Plan May Reduce Down Payment

TORONTO (CP).—A change in federal government housing policy may help Canadians in the middle-income brackets to build homes, particularly if a high down payment has been the stumbling block.

Construction firm spokesmen said this week they welcomed an announcement by Prime Minister St. Laurent that the government is considering smaller down payments and a longer time to repay loans as means of broadening the opportunity for persons of moderate incomes to build their own homes.

Mr. St. Laurent also said measures to increase the supply of mortgage money for new housing will be placed before Parliament next month. These would include amendments to the National Housing Act to provide for establishment of residential mortgage insurance and enable the chartered banks, as well as other lending institutions, to lend on insured home mortgages.

The prime minister said the proposals are designed to produce a lower monthly carrying charge for the borrower over a longer period of time. Most mortgages now are limited to 20 years.

The system of insuring holders of mortgages on new homes against default would enable the chartered banks for the first time in their history to lend money on home mortgages.

Bankers reacted cautiously. Spokesmen expressed surprise that the government did not discuss the plan with bank representatives before making it public. The banks will make their official statements on it at conferences in Ottawa later this year.

Generally, the position of the banks was that they now have all the loan business they can handle or want to handle.

One banker said the banks will need to train entire new staffs to deal with housing loans.

There was no indication of how much reduction the government has in mind for down payments or of the time increase for loan repayment.

B.C. Roundup

VANCOUVER (CP).—Necessity for adequate civil defence is greater today than before the Korean truce, Maj.-Gen. F. E. Worthington, federal civil defence coordinator, said here.

"We must face the fact that it is certain in the event of a major conflict that North America will be attacked," Gen. Worthington said in an address before the 48th annual convention of the Chief Constables Association of Canada.

He said the danger of a third world war had not been reduced by the ending of hostilities in Korea.

NELSON, B.C. (CP).—A 66-year-old farmer killed his 55-year-old wife at their home Friday and then committed suicide, police reported.

Dead are: Alec Nespiak and Mrs. Pauline Nespiak of Carvon District, 65 miles southeast of here.

Police said a shotgun was found beside Nespiak's body.

H. H. Stevens, chairman of the special committee on whose report British Columbia's new liquor act is based, said at Moose Jaw the act receives his personal approval.

Mr. Stevens said the act is favorable and closely follows the committee's recommendations.

VICTORIA (CP).—Canada's only Indian member of a provincial legislature said Indians should be represented in the Senate.

Frank Calder (C.P.C.) said in the legislature as a C.P.C. he did not believe in the Senate but seeing there was one a native representative should be represented in it.

He asked that Premier Bennett take the matter up with the federal government when he makes his trip to Ottawa late this year.

VANCOUVER (CP).—Golf of Georgia east of the Gulf Islands has been closed to salmon fishermen in the interests of conserving the pink run.

The order, issued by the Federal Department of Fisheries, is in effect until further notice following discovery that insufficient numbers of pinks are moving into spawning areas.

VANCOUVER (CP).—Police Chief Walter Muirhead of Vancouver was elected president of the Chief Constables' Association of Canada at the closing session of the annual convention here.

Air Vice-Marshal K. M. Guthrie announced at Edmonton that No. 22 Powell River, P.C. air cadet squadron topped more than 100 western squadrons to win the Guthrie Air Cadet Efficiency Trophy for 1952-53.

VANCOUVER (CP).—Legal action against the B.C. Labor Relations Board has been started by Local 583 Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union (C.I.O.), in connection with the 15-week-old strike at the Slade and Stewart vegetable and fruit warehouse.

Application for a Supreme Court injunction restraining the board from continuing a vote among the warehouse employees on a recent company offer was made by R. J. McMaster, solicitor for the union.

The union says the vote circumvents the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act and therefore is null and void.



MAJ.-GEN. HORATIUS MURRAY (right) dons an army duffle coat on arrival at Montreal, en route to his new assignment as commanding officer of the Commonwealth division in Korea. He is met by Maj.-Gen. J. P. E. Bernatchez, officer commanding Quebec command. Gen. Murray is making a tour of Canadian military installations before leaving for Tokyo on Tuesday.

Sons Appeal For Better Treatment by Police

VANCOUVER (CP).—A plea that the authorities adopt a more Christian attitude towards the Doukhobors was made in police court Friday as the mass trial of 144 Sons of Freedom rolled towards a close.

Twenty-seven members of the fanatical religious sect, convicted earlier of appearing in public while nude, were sentenced to prison terms ranging from six months to three years.

The 27, all men, brought to 99 the number of Freedomites sentenced to date.

The plea was made by Mike Chernenkoff, first prisoner to be brought before the court today.

In a lengthy "open letter" from Doukhobor prisoners, read to the court, Chernenkoff claimed police broke into several ten homes at Perry Siding September 8 and used "blackjacks" in making arrests. He said "blood flowed" as parents were dragged from tents.

The charges were promptly denied by the prosecution.

Meanwhile, at Wyndell, B.C., a dynamite explosion Friday ripped a large hole in the track bed and blew out a 3½-foot section of rail on the CPR Kettle Valley line.

Wyndell, six miles from Creston, B.C., is in the centre of

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CNR Puts on Special Trains To Handle Strike-Hit Ships

HALIFAX (CP).—What may be the biggest emergency transport job Canadian National Railways has handled from this port in five years began last night with the arrival of 870 passengers aboard the Cunard liner Britannic.

As a result of the strike in American ports, the ship is the first of four including the Queen Mary which may dock here with nearly 4,500 persons for overland routing to the United States.

Three special CNR boat trains totalling 36 sleeping cars, six diners and three baggage cars were made up and ready hours before the Britannic docked.

Enough equipment to provide an additional 13 specials within the next five days is now being marshalled by CNR and earmarked for Halifax.

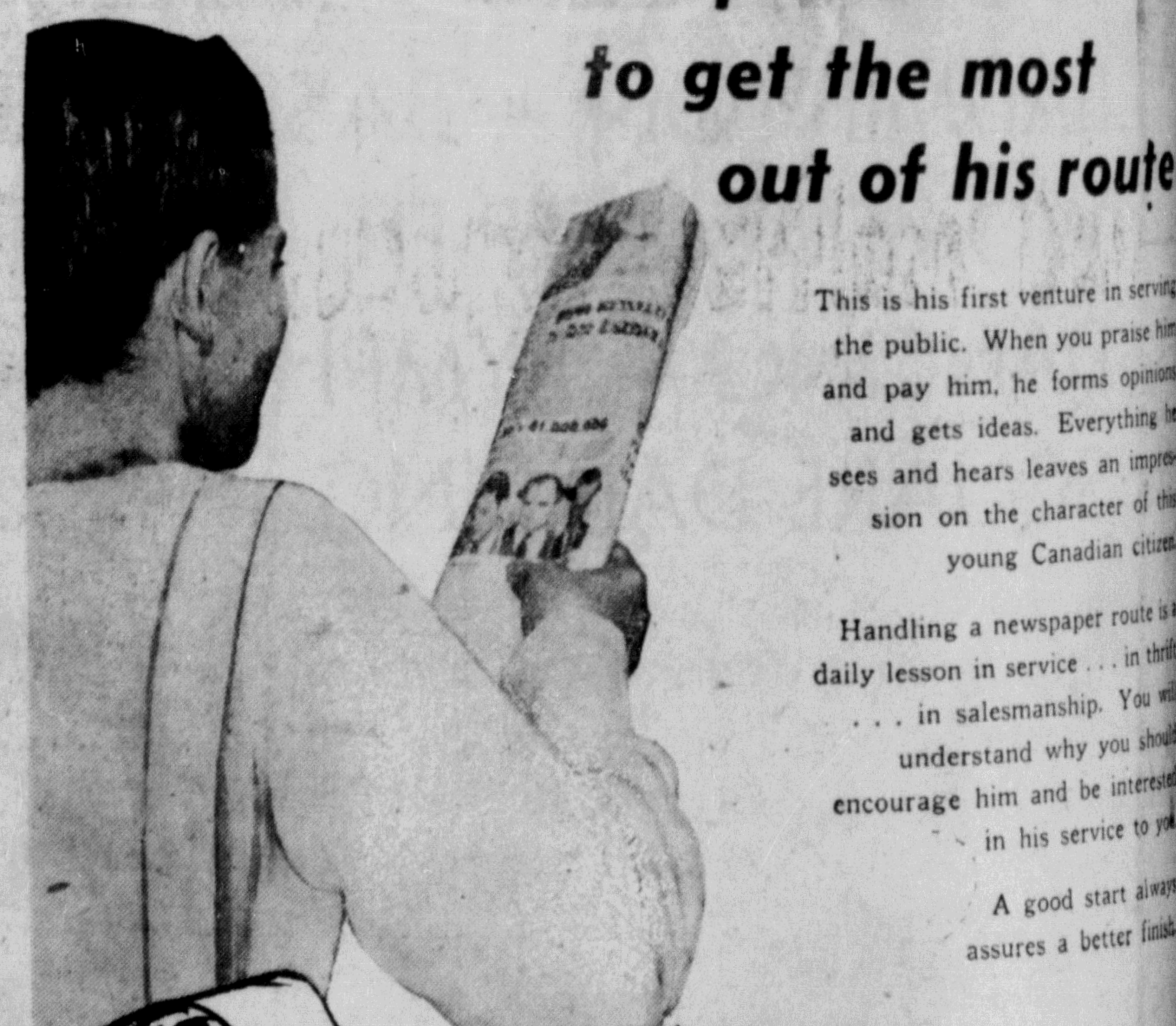
In addition to equipment, the railway has brought in extra ticket clerks from outside points and special wickets have been set up at dockside to service passengers as they pass from customs to immigration.

A corps of redcaps assigned to handle baggage during the emergency last night took care of nearly 2,000 pieces of luggage between the pier shed and the

Tropical North
GRAND FORKS, B.C. (CP).—This may be pretty far north for growing oranges, but Mrs. Dan MacDonald will be ready to pick them around Christmas. During the warm weather she keeps the six-foot tree outdoors, and brings it in the house before frost. She started the tree from seed.

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