

LIVING INDEX TAKES BIGGEST DROP

Increase of 1.7 Points in Month

PRINCE RUPERT, B.C. (CP)—The Canadian cost of living index has its biggest decrease in ten years, Dominion Statistics today announced the index for March 1952, a drop of 1.7 points in February 1952.

Makes Terrace Catholic Church Extended

PRINCE RUPERT, B.C. (CP)—For the past few weeks a crew of five men have been busy in remodelling and extending the existing little Catholic Church built at Terrace in 1915 by the late Bishop Buno.

The undertaking has become necessary on account of the growing population and the larger attendance in church. An extension is being built to the rear of the building 40 feet in width and 30 feet in length and, when completed, the partition will be removed, opening the new addition into the main body of the church.

The interior will be completely redecorated and new pews will replace the old ones.

Plans are to repaint the building outside and a parking place on the side lots is being cleared so that during the services cars of members of the congregation may be parked off the main highway.

Father Leray and Father Racette, who have charge of the parish, are well pleased with the work and with the generosity of their friends in and out of Terrace.

Peakes Sees Pacific Coast Vulnerability

PRINCE RUPERT, B.C. (CP)—Major General G. Peakes, VC (Progressive Conservative, Nanaimo) official Opposition's military expert, in the House yesterday that the British coast is the "soft under belly" of Canada from a defence standpoint.

General Peakes said this when he answered a 90-minute speech by Defence Minister Claxton at the opening of the first big defence debate in the present session of Parliament.

Mr. Claxton told the House that strength of Canadian forces had been doubled in the 20 months since the outbreak of the Korean war—forces now total 95,300 men—and predicted that Canada's military construction and equipment program should hit its full stride about the end of the year.

Peakes reiterated his criticism of Canada's role in Germany and said that the 27th Brigade was ill equipped to play the role assigned to it. He suggested that the Army may be organized along out-dated lines.

Not Enough Or Too Much

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CP)—A \$4,240,638,500 cut in the defence department's \$50,921,022,770 budget for the fiscal year starting July 1 was recommended by the House of Representatives appropriations committee Thursday.

The \$46,680,384,270 which the committee approved will not be enough if actual war starts and will be far too much if peace comes suddenly, Representative Mahon (Democrat, Texas), chairman of the group that prepared the budget, told reporters.

Demands for stiffer cuts are expected to be made in the House when the bill is debated next week.

Nothing was cut from the overall budget of \$1,700,000,000 for research and development to produce latest type weapons.



REVENTING LOG JAM—Spring is the time for log drives and on many of Canada's northern rivers scenes such as this soon will be commonplace. Competent river drivers prevent log jams by skillfully using pole-poles to keep logs moving smoothly down the waterways. White Chute on Nipigon River, about 150 miles north of Port Arthur, is one of the places where jams are likely to occur, mainly because of the fast-flowing water. Emory Matchett, left, and Charles Allison are the drivers working to free the logs. (CP PHOTO)

British Gold and Dollar Reserves at Crisis Level

LONDON (CP)—Britain disclosed today that gold and dollar reserves which pay for her life-giving trade have sunk below the crisis level with a loss of \$635,000,000 in the first three months of this year.

Since the war, Britain considered \$2,000,000,000 reserve rock bottom for financial safety. Today, Chancellor of the Exchequer R. A. Butler told the House of Commons that reserves were down to only \$1,700,000,000. This is the lowest level since a similar crisis forced a 30 per cent devaluation of the pound, September 18, 1949.

Rapid decline has cut reserves by more than half since they stood at \$3,800,000,000 nine months ago.

Mr. Butler found some ground for hope that the crisis was beginning to ease. He told of the turning of the tide in March and said: "Toward the end of the month our reserves actually rose. A slump of gold and dollar reserves—which finances world trade for the entire sterling area, coincided with a severe slump in British exports."

Labor Scores Heavy Gains Over Tories In County Contests

LONDON (Canadian Press)—Conservatives suffered severe setbacks in local elections that saw Labor pile up lopsided victories.

Cold War But No Hot War Foreseen

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (CP)—Sir Gladwyn Jebb, Britain's delegate to the United Nations, in an address here said he does not expect an all-out military clash between Moscow and the west. The cold war, he predicted, will continue for a long time.

Tillsonburg In Finals

TILLSONBURG (CP)—Tillsonburg Livingstone's on Thursday night won Eastern Canada's senior basketball championship by overpowering the YMHA senior Blues 57-49 in the final game of the three game series.

In important elections for the London County Council, which governs the city, the Labor Party gained thirty-seven — 36 from the Conservatives and one from the Liberals.

The Conservatives took 92 of 122 seats. Labor won eleven seats in Buckinghamshire and gained ten others in Middlesex. Both counties are near London.

In Cumberland, far to the north, Labor gained four. In Northamptonshire, centre of the shoe-making industry, Labor gained fourteen seats.

In the last County elections three years ago the Labor Party, which had controlled the London County Council for eighteen years, finished in a 64-64 tie with the Conservatives, Liberals holding the only other seat.

This year Labor won the Liberal seat and gnawed deep into Conservative holdings.

TIDES

Saturday, April 5, 1952

High	10:24	16.7 feet
	23:10	17.2 feet
Low	4:26	9.6 feet
	16:45	6.3 feet

Defeatist Attitude Deplored by Mayor

Unwraps Piece of Crumbling City Hall Before Rotarians

Unwrapping a piece of the City Hall before astonished Rotarians at luncheon yesterday, Mayor Harold Whalen said:

"When the City Hall starts falling down, it's time the citizens took a serious interest in civic affairs."

Russ Break With Cuba

HAVANA, Cuba (CP)—Russia, in anger over Cuba's refusal to let two Soviet diplomatic couriers bring secret documents into Havana from Mexico, Thursday broke off relations with the revolutionary government of Fulgencio Batista.

Miguel Angel Campa, Cuban Secretary of State, said he had received a cable from the Soviet foreign ministry in Moscow announcing the break.

General Batista, who seized the government in Havana last month, pledged then that his regime would have nothing to do with communism but would watch communist activities.

That pronouncement was followed by the Soviet courier incident here March 21.

Unable to clear their suitcases into Cuba without customs examination, the Soviet couriers returned to Mexico City on another air liner.

United States A.G. Also Out

Astonishing Two-Act Political Drama in Washington

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CP)—Attorney General J. Howard McGrath and Newbold Morris, the Truman administration's corruption administrator, both got the axe Thursday in an astonishing two-act political drama.

McGrath summarily fired Morris who had tried to delve into finances of McGrath and other high officials. Less than four hours later President Truman announced McGrath's departure from the cabinet.

Truman named Federal District Judge James P. McGranery as the new attorney-general. McGranery is former assistant attorney general and former Democratic member of the House of Representatives.

WEATHER

Synopsis

Clouds were thin in southern British Columbia this morning and there will be sunny periods in most districts this afternoon. In the northern sections and on the west coast clouds and showers will persist today.

A disturbance is developing about 800 miles west of California and there will be some rain on the south coast tomorrow afternoon. Temperatures will be noticeably higher in the southern part of the province today and tomorrow.

Forecast

North Coast Region—Cloudy with rain showers today and Saturday. Little change in temperature. Light winds. Lows tonight and highs tomorrow—At Port Hardy, 40 and 48; at Sandspit, 38 and 48; Prince Rupert, 38 and 46.

Gas Export Opposition

EDMONTON (CP)—An Alberta government member has expressed opposition to the export of natural gas from Peace River, while brokerage houses and stock exchanges from Vancouver and Vancouver prepared for another day of bullish trading.

W. F. Gilliland, Social Credit (Peace River) in the Alberta Legislature, said he opposed the exporting of gas from the Peace River block until all towns, villages and hamlets adjacent to all pipelines in the area are assured of supply.



NO DEFEATIST—Mayor Harold Whalen

Alberta Gas Insufficient

So Spokane Gas Line Corporation Will Bring It From Texas

SPOKANE (CP)—Pacific Northwest Pipe Line Corporation is making immediate plans to build a \$130,000,000 pipe line to bring natural gas from Texas to the Pacific Northwest, Chairman Ray Fish announced here on Thursday.

Fish, by telephone from Houston, said that 300,000,000 cubic feet of gas authorized for export from Northern Alberta by the Alberta Conservation Board is not enough to make the line from there "economically feasible." He said that he has a "verbal commitment" from N. Henry Gellert, president of the Seattle Gas Co., that the firm would buy Texas gas. He said he would try to get a similar commitment from the Portland Gas Co. and the associated recently-bought Spokane Gas Co.

The Pacific Northwest Pipe Line Corporation will ask the Federal Power Commission for a permit to build a 26-inch line from northern Texas to the northwest states. It would be 1,460 miles long and have a capacity of 200,000,000 cubic feet of gas per day.

Blind Child Sees Again

VANCOUVER (CP)—When two-year-old Cora Deszwarth took her afternoon nap a few days ago she was blind, apparently for life. When she awakened two hours later, she could see again.

Cora's story was told Thursday by her guardian, Sid Hardy of Chilliwack.

The little girl lost her sight in a train-car crash February 23 which killed her Dutch immigrant parents and two brothers.

Mrs. Hardy said when she put the child to bed after her lunch last Friday she showed no signs of recognizing anything.

She woke up two hours later, said Mrs. Hardy, sat up, looked around and said, "Hardy."

Dr. Frank Turnbull of the three specialists who treated her confirmed the child had regained her sight.

Saskatchewan Loses 3 Seats

OTTAWA—Prime Minister L. S. St. Laurent indicated today that Saskatchewan will lose not five but three seats in the forthcoming redistribution based on the 1951 census.

Nova Scotia will lose one seat. Yukon and Northwest Territories will gain one.

Mr. St. Laurent announced appointment of a 27-member committee of Parliament to consider redistribution.

Six Children Burn to Death

CAMPBELLTON, N.B. (CP)—Six children were burned early today when a converted barn erupted in flames here. Mother and small son fled just before the building crumbled in flaming ruins. The fire started about 8 a.m. while the family members were sleeping.

The dead, children of Mr. and Mrs. Odina Laviole, are Georgette 18, Eveline 15, Odina Jr. 11, Patricia 9, Rosaline 7, and Giselle 3.