

HIGH SPEED RAIL LINK FORECAST FOR A.C.T.

Canberra might have a rail link to Melbourne through Yass and a high-speed rail service to Sydney within the next decade.

The National Capital Development Commission is believed to have reserved land for the direct branch line from Yass to Canberra. It does not expect any action to be taken to build the rail link before 1967 at the earliest.

The Commonwealth is committed to substantial expenditure on railways until 1967, when work on the standard gauge across Australia is due for completion.

Several Members of Parliament are believed to be interested in the proposal to improve the rail service from Sydney to Canberra. The proposal envisages a train completing the journey in three and a half hours. At present the journey takes a minimum of five hours, the Commonwealth Railways Commissioner of Railways, Mr. K. A. Smith, described the two schemes yesterday as a "look into the crystal ball."

Vast increase in freight

He said no definite plans existed for either scheme. The N.S.W. Government was responsible for providing rolling stock on the Canberra-Sydney line and any link from Canberra to

£10,000 for a better show

A total of £10,000 was needed to develop the Canberra showgrounds, the management, planning and action committee of the National Agricultural Society decided last night. The committee will ask the society's finance committee to investigate ways of raising this amount.

The money would be spent on improving dog facilities, extending horse stalls, and erecting rodeo yards, a cattle pavilion and poultry pavilion. The most expensive item would be a cattle pavilion, costing about £5,000.

The president of the society, and chairman of the management and action committee, Mr. B. E. Nicholas, said great improvement was planned for the 1965 annual show, for the benefit of both exhibitors and visitors.

Wool and agricultural stands would be enlarged and, if space permitted, farming and Government bodies would be asked to stage displays.

The show will be held on March 4, 5 and 6.



The chairman of the A.C.T. branch of the Australian Society of Animal Production, Dr. G. R. Arnold, with Chinese visitors, Mr. Lin Sung, and Professors Jen Chih Chou and Fu Yin Sheng at the C.S.I.R.O. Canberra, yesterday.

Another threat to kill Mr. Maloney

SYDNEY, Thursday.—Police will continue their guard on the Labour and Industry Minister, Mr. Maloney, following another threat today on his life.

The Acting Premier, Mr. Hills, announced this today, and said that he too had received a telephone call at home threatening Mr. Maloney.

Mr. Maloney, meanwhile, spent a normal day at his city office. The latest threat came in a phone call by a man to a Sydney newspaper office.

He invited the newspaper to send a representative to Mr. Maloney's "execution" scheduled for "five o'clock" this afternoon.

Mr. Maloney was travelling home in his chauffeur-driven car at 5 p.m. and arrived safely. There were no incidents. The threats on Mr. Maloney's life follow the death of Fairlight shopkeeper, Mr. Tom Allan, in Long Bay Gaol yesterday.

He had been gaoled for his failure to pay a fine for a breach of the N.S.W. shoplifting laws.

'We are out to get him'
The police guard on Mr. Maloney's Rexley home has continued since last night. Mr. Hills emphasised that he and not Mr. Maloney had had the police guard posted.

Mr. Hills said he had taken this action last night when a man phoned him at his home and said, "We are out to get him."

In other developments today, many small shops in the Sydney and suburban

Peking experts in city

Two visiting scientists from Communist China said yesterday they hoped an interchange of scientists between their country and Australia would develop in the future.

The scientists are the director of animal genetics at the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Professor Fu Yin Sheng, and the head of the range management and pasture research at Kansu Agricultural University, Professor Jen Chi Chou.

With an interpreter, Mr. Lin Sung, they visited the C.S.I.R.O. Division of Plant Industry yesterday, and left Canberra last night for Brisbane.

The main purpose of their three-week visit to Australia was to attend the biennial conference held in Sydney last week by the Australian Society of Animal Production.

A society of animal production has recently been formed in Communist China.

During their stay in Australia, Professors Fu and Jen will study scientific research methods in the sheep and wool industry in various centres.

"From our experiences in Australia so far, we feel there should be more interchange between Australian and Chinese scientists," Professor Fu said.

Nauru not to take Curtis Is.

The Nauruan people have rejected the Australian offer to resettle them on Curtis Island, off the Queensland coast.

The Minister for Territories, Mr. Barnes, yesterday officially announced the breakdown of the discussions in Canberra.

Mr. Barnes said the Nauruans had indicated that they did not wish to become Australian citizens.

They wished to be resettled on Curtis Island as a separate and independent nation.

"The Commonwealth could not accept this," he said. "Curtis Island is virtually part of the Australian mainland and is in fact part of the State of Queensland."

Nauru is a phosphate island in the Pacific with a population of 2,700 people. Australia is responsible for its administration in partnership with the Governments of Britain and New Zealand.

The island is important to Australia because it supplies phosphate, the raw material for superphosphate. Australia is ultimately responsible to the United

Complaint over ski lodge

The proprietor of a commercial ski lodge at Perisher Valley made unauthorised building alterations and let sleeping accommodation well below minimum standards, Snowy River Shire Council was told today.

The health inspector, Mr. H. Roach, said the lodge was inspected following a complaint to the Board of Health by a visitor to the area.

It was found the proprietor had made unauthorised alterations to provide extra sleeping accommodation. The accommodation was far below the minimum standards required by the Ordinance and Public Health Act.

Repudiation by Orr 'attempted'

The Chairman of the Professorial Board of the University of Tasmania, Prof. James McAuley, alleged last night that Mr. Sidney Sparkes Orr was attempting to repudiate an agreement he had accepted publicly last December.

In a statement to The Canberra Times last night, Prof. McAuley said, "The University of Tasmania has been ready, willing and anxious to complete the settlement in accordance with the terms agreed upon in December last."

"The University's lawyer has advised the council that there is no legal bar to the settlement. Attempts have been made to upset the settlement by demanding that new terms be introduced."

"The University Council has indicated that it expects the various parties to honour their undertakings under the December agreement."

"Orn made a public acceptance of the terms on December 17. Philosophers' position

"By backing Orr's repudiation of his December undertaking, the philosophers have put themselves in the position of penalising the university for being willing to honour its undertakings, and of endorsing Orr's unwillingness to honour his undertaking. It is indefensible. If agreements publicly entered into are not to be honoured then there is no possibility of ever ending the affair," Prof. McAuley said.

Decision makes industrial history Individuals in A.C.T. get Federal award

Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commissioner G. A. Findlay handed down a history-making decision in Canberra yesterday.

Mr. Findlay decided that for the first time individuals would be given a Federal award.

Fifty-two Canberra firemen were granted the award. The award, which has been regarded as a test case by the trade union movement, was first applied for in December last year.

Apart from the award being the first granted to individuals, it establishes a precedent which can be followed by schoolteachers and others employed, as the firemen are, by the Commonwealth, but administered by N.S.W. authorities.

An official of the Teachers' Federation, Mr. R. Gunning, said last night his organisation had kept a close watch on the firemen's case and would soon decide whether it would also apply for a Federal award.

The new award gives firemen little better than they were receiving under the New South Wales award under which they were previously employed.

The standards prescribed in terms of N.S.W. awards are appropriate for application in the A.C.T. with two exceptions, the marginal wage for an A grade fireman and the rate payable after three hours' overtime.

"The parties are now required to confer and draft an award incorporating the requirements of this order, together with conditions of employment in line with the terms prescribed in N.S.W. awards for firemen."

The award will take effect on August 31.

As reported in The Canberra Times yesterday, the cost of the auditorium has been increased by \$59,340, so the stage area could be redesigned.

The design changes were recommended by the theatrical bodies advising the Commission, after the original tender for the auditorium had been accepted.

These changes will push up the total cost to \$536,634.

The spokesman added that the redesigning meant that large set wagons could be used, thereby enlarging the scope of theatrical presentations.

The auditorium is expected to be completed next year.

Establishment of a Legislative Council on their island as a transitional step to independence by 1967.

Transfer of the ownership of the phosphate deposits on their island to the Nauruan people.

The Commonwealth will also consult with the Queensland Government which co-operated fully in earlier discussions about resettlement on Curtis Island.

Mr. Barnes said the Government would continue with its investigations and negotiations with a view to the successful resettlement of the Nauruan people.

Facilities for stage set model

Scene-changing facilities at Canberra's Civic Auditorium, now being built, will be among the best in Australia, a spokesman for the National Capital Development Commission said yesterday.

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Dearer milk denial

Dairy Farmers Co-operative Limited had no plans for a milk price rise in Canberra in the immediate future, the general manager, Mr. C. M. Barker, said yesterday.

He was commenting on a claim by the vice-president of the A.C.T. Trades and Labour Council, Mr. T. Donnelly, that a rise in the price of milk was imminent. Mr. Donnelly made the claim at the council's meeting on a Wednesday night.

Mr. Barker said, "We wish to repeat our statement of July 29. We said then that there are no plans for a rise in the price of milk in Canberra in the immediate future — although an increase could well be justified."

"We made the position clear then and there is no change."

"Milk prices in Canberra have not risen since 1960." The manager of the Beag Milk Co-operative Society, Mr. R. G. Martin, was not available for comment but a spokesman for that company said he knew nothing of plans for a price rise.

Writ for Minister

MELBOURNE, Thursday.—A Supreme Court writ was issued today alleging libel by the Commonwealth Minister for Immigration, Mr. Opperman.

The writ, for unspecified damages, was taken out by Mr. Harold Leonard Martin, of St. Peters, South Australia.

Mr. Martin alleges he was libelled in a statement issued by Mr. Opperman in Canberra on July 29 last.

The writ says the statements were published in newspapers in Canberra and three other States, and dealt with Mr. Martin's support of an application by Mr. L. M. Van Der Puit and his family to migrate to Australia from Ceylon.

The writ seeks trial of the action by a judge and jury.

Causeway not to be demolished

The Minister for the Interior, Mr. Anthony, said yesterday he would not demolish homes in the Causeway while some Canberra people needed low-rent homes.

He said there was a social need to provide homes at low rents and the Causeway homes all had rents under £1.

He was replying to Mr. A. Gibson (Lib., Denison), in the House of Representatives, who referred to criticism of the Causeway by the Tasmanian Premier, Mr. Reece, after a recent visit to Canberra.

Mr. Reece described the Causeway as one of Australia's "best planned slums."

Mr. Anthony said: "This area only came about by chance."

Opposition Member: An accidental slum.

Theatre use kept secret

Mystery surrounds the purchase yesterday of the old Triumph Theatre in Crawford Street, Queanbeyan.

The theatre, built in 1910, rebuilt in 1928 and remodelled in 1959, was bought by Mr. G. D. Godwin, of Sydney, for an undisclosed amount.

The last bid at an auction held yesterday, was £20,000.

The auctioneer, Mr. W. A. Woodger, said £20,000 was "considerably lower than the reserve price."

Mr. Godwin and the owner of the Property, Mrs. E. C. Freebody, for W. B. Freebody Pty. Ltd., of Queanbeyan, then negotiated for about an hour and completed the sale.

Mr. Godwin left the auction rooms in Monaro Street, Queanbeyan, hurriedly.

Tom the Cheap denial

Mr. Godwin denied he had bought the theatre for Tom the Cheap Grocer and that he had ever had dealings with the grocery chain owner.

A Tom the Cheap Grocer store is to open in a south Sydney suburban converted picture theatre at the end of this month.

Tom the Cheap, Mr. Tom Wardle, of Western Australia has built a chain of more than 100 stores in W.A., Victoria and N.S.W., since World War II. His national circuit will be completed with projected openings of stores at Darwin and Queensland.

Mr. Godwin said he and his partners had bought the property and would convert it. "It is a straightforward job and nothing glamorous," he said.

Mr. Godwin said he and his partners felt that Queanbeyan was a town that would prosper. He refused to say what would be done with the building.



Postman John Paxton in Boldrewood Street, Turner, yesterday.

Post office recruits 4 'strong prospects'

Canberra postal authorities have recruited four men who are "strong prospects" for postmen.

The men had been recruited from outside the A.C.T., a Post Office spokesman said yesterday. One had had some experience in the Post Office, but the other three were from "outside," he added.

They would arrive in Canberra next week.

In addition a number of university students and school students had been recruited to work for a short period to help overcome the city's postman shortage.

He said it would take about a week to train these temporary replacements, however. This meant that they would only be of full value for about two weeks of the school vacation period. The spokesman said the temporary staff and the full-time recruits — if taken on permanently — would bring the postal delivery staff up to full numerical strength. Even though the situation

Philosophers' position

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