



**WESTERN HAT FOR MAYOR CURRIE**

Mayor W.A. Currie of Summerside, P.E.I. and citizens greeted Imperial Oil drilling crews and their families at the end of 3,000 mile journey from Alberta. Here the Mayor holds aloft Linda Diane and Martin Grant, 3-year-old twin children of driller Roy Stone of Edmonton, after they presented the Mayor with the western headgear he is wearing. The party of 94 men women and children reached Summerside within a few hours of the 450-ton rotary drilling rig and equipment although the rig left a week earlier, in preparation for drilling Imperial's first well in its search for oil in Prince Edward Island. Site of "wildcat or exploratory well is on a farm owned by Donat Arseneault of St. Raphael, about 13 miles west of Summerside.

L.O.L. Photo

## Oil Drillers And Families Are Welcomed At S'side

The party of Imperial Oil Company drillers, and their families, from Alberta, arrived at Summerside about 10.30 p.m. Saturday night to conduct drilling explorations near Wellington. They were welcomed by civic officials and local citizens whose assembly at the Summerside C.N.R. station was the largest welcoming committee to await the arrival of a train in this town for many years.

Mayor W. A. Currie, accompanied by members of the Summerside Town Council, extended an official welcome to drilling supervisor, George Kirkpatrick, and his party of 96 persons, and was in turn presented with a lovely white Stetson hat brought from the west by the drill crew. The presentation was made by Linda and Carty Stone, 3-year-old twins, who are among the 40 children in the 26 families.

After the official welcome by the Mayor and Council members, the visitors had a chance to talk briefly with local residents, before loading their children and luggage into waiting taxis which transported them to temporary lodging at Summerside motels, hotels, lodges, tourist, and private homes.

The drill rig and other equipment is being assembled for unloading at Wellington Station and the work is scheduled to begin immediately.

Meanwhile, the children of school age are preparing to start school at Summerside, while the wives of the oil drillers are trying to locate suitable renting accommodation in homes or apartments in Summerside or vicinity, and Mr. Vaughan Groom of Summerside, who is representing the company in arranging accommodation, said last evening that any information on available housing will be much appreciated because furniture of these families has already arrived.

The arrival of the modern railway train bringing these 96 persons from Alberta to Prince Edward Island in search of oil is a reversal in contrast of the pioneer days when eastern families travelled westward in wagon trains in search of gold.

In the longest move of its kind ever made in Canada, drilling equipment costing half a million dollars is being set up near Wellington, P.E.I., and will be the only such drilling operation in progress east of Quebec Province.

An unexpected overnight delay in Moncton, caused by heavy snow encountered in travelling through New Brunswick, gave the weather a chance to clear, and gave the travel weary westerners their first opportunity for the added interest of a stopover, since leaving Edmonton, Alberta, on Tuesday afternoon at 2 p.m.

Men and women of the 26 families (the group included two single men) and the older children aboard the four special railway sleeper cars, were refreshed with excitement of what, for most of them, was their first visit to the Atlantic coast.

Sunny skies Saturday afternoon gave the party their first clear weather during their journey from Alberta, and the thrill of the 9-mile voyage on M. V. "Abegweit" across, the blue

waters of Northumberland Strait to Prince Edward Island was the highlight of the entire 3,000 mile trip.

The drilling equipment will be unloaded at Wellington Station where the 167-foot drill rig will be erected in four or five days at the drill site about two miles from the station.

The drilling operations will be conducted at this site to a depth of approximately 10,000 feet, unless oil or natural gas in sufficient quantities for production, is found closer to the surface.

While pointing out that explorations of this nature average only a 1-in-10 chance of success, company officials cautioned against sure-shot optimism on the part of local residents, but admitted that while the geological formations beneath the drill site are favorable the oil or gas they may have contained, could have disappeared many hundreds of years ago.

For Prince Edward Islanders success of the drilling operation would mean a cheaper source of power and heat, and a much needed new source of provincial revenue to assist the present agricultural economy of this Island Province in the provincial financing of government departments such as public health, education, and highways.

## 10 To 14-Foot Cuttings Seen On Western Prince Highways

Cuttings in the snow from 10 to 14 feet high are reported in the Rosebank and Cane Hill area following the severe snow storm last Thursday and Friday.

The main highway from O'Leary Corner to Alberton was not opened up until about six o'clock Saturday evening when plows working from either end finally broke through. A stretch

of road at Rosebank proved particularly difficult and required many hours of work by the plows.

A number of motorists who left Summerside Friday evening reached Alberton Saturday night, twenty-four hours later.

Plows worked all day yesterday widening the main paved highway and a start is expected to be made

## New Snow Blower Is Put To Immediate Use In S'Side

Water Street in Summerside was being cleared of snow last evening by the newly arrived snow blower which arrived in town yesterday afternoon.

The blower, which was immediately put to work, was reported by Mr. Joseph Brophy, town manager, to be doing a good job but he pointed out that this type of snow clearance was something new to the truckmen who were hauling away the snow as the blower filled them up.

Mr. Brophy said that the trucks would do a better job as soon as their timing improved and all trucks were equipped with rear wheel

chains.

Mr. Brophy said that this blower has been brought over on approval and whether or not it will be purchased by the town depends on the decision of the council after they have seen it in operation.

He said also that the blower appeared to be in good condition, that its speedometer read only 6,000 miles and could be purchased by the town for \$3,800.

**WESTERN GUARDIAN**

**CARD PARTY** Kensington High School Auditorium, Monday, Feb. 17th, 8 p. m. Sponsored by community Club.

**KENSINGTON** rink tonight, Monday, Farmers League, New Annan versus Cavendish. Game time 8:30. Skate after.

**ACCEPTING POULTRY** at our plant Mondays and Tuesdays only. Large lots by appointment. Wadell Bros.

**KENSINGTON RINK** Tonight, Monday, Farmers League, Cavendish vs. New Annan, Game time 8:30. Skate after.

**CEAUPAD RINK** Monday night Doubleheader, Crapaud vs. Vocational School at 7; Tryon vs. Nine Mile Creek Junior Bulldogs at 9.

**COME to the Valentine Social** St. Mark's Hall, Monday, February 17th, 8:00 p.m. Sponsored by Kensington A.Y.P.A. Admission 35 cents.

**BEDEQUE RINK** tonight, Monday, Intermediate C hockey play-off. Lennox Island Micmacs versus Elmsdale Rockets. Admission 35 and 50. Game time 8:30 sharp. Skate after. Carnival Wednesday night.

**PERSONALS**

J. Stewart Burns, Lower Free-town, left Thursday for Hamilton, Ontario, to visit his son Morris and family. He expects to return March 1st.

**Professional Cards**

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**THE READ STUDIO**  
D. W. SEARS

**Space Travel Seen Possible**

SAN ANTONIO, Tex. (AP) — Airman Donald G. Farrell completed a seven-day make believe trip to the moon Sunday and reported nothing seems impossible about space travel.

His duties kept him too busy to get bored and he never was scared during the lonely test, the 23-year-old volunteer said after crawling from an experimental space cabin at Randolph air force base.

"I realized all the time I was on the ground," he said, "but other than that it was a true simulated space flight."

**NORTHERN RIVERS**

Potential power sites on Northern Manitoba rivers are estimated to have a possible production of 4,500,000 horsepower.

**THIS WEEK AT CIVIC STADIUM**

**MONDAY—**  
8:30—Play-off Hockey : Amherst Ramblers vs. Summerside Aces.

**TUESDAY—**  
1-3—Pre-School Skate.  
8-10—Skating.

**WEDNESDAY—**  
4-5:30—Skating.  
8:30—Playoff Hockey : Amherst Ramblers vs. Summerside Aces. (If necessary, otherwise 7 p.m. Summerside High School Ice Sports).

**PLAYOFF HOCKEY CIVIC STADIUM**

**TONIGHT MONDAY**

**8:30 Amherst Ramblers vs. S'side Aces**

ADMISSION: RESERVE \$1.00; RUSH ADULTS 75 Cts. STUDENTS 35 Cts.

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