

Missiles Seen Possible Arm For RN Ships

ESQUIMAULT, B.C. (CP) — Rear-Admiral Michael Stirling said today that Defence Minister Helehy's new defence policy might contain a proposal to equip the Canadian navy with missiles.

The admiral made the comment at his first press conference as flag officer of the Pacific Coast.

Admiral Stirling said missiles are not necessarily better than present arms aboard Canadian naval craft, but are only "another means of throwing a weapon."

He said he hopes the government as flag officer of the Pacific will position a second submarine on the West Coast.

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CANADIAN DESIGN WINS GOLD MEDAL

This summer cottage was designed by the Canadian Government Exhibition Commission and won a gold medal at an industrial design competition in Milan, Italy. It was the first time Canada had won a major award at this international competition. Five Canadian products won gold medals. (CP Wirephoto).

FEDERATION NEWSLETTER

Fine Weather A Real Break, Oats And Barley Yields High

By J. LINCOLN DEWAR

The fine weather during the early part of this week will be a real break for those with grain to harvest and potato digging to do.

The excellence of the Island grain crop this year is demonstrated by the estimate of 32 bushels of oats to the acre, only one other province exceeds this Ontario and that by a very narrow margin at 32.3 bushels. For barley the Island average of 44.6 bushels per acre leads Canada. It is interesting to note that P.E.I. grows more barley than does the large province of Quebec.

With the end of October, crop year is now under way. The early part of this week will be a real break for those with grain to harvest and potato digging to do.

PASTURE RECOGNITION

On Wednesday evening those who were involved in this year's Pasture Competition met for a social evening at the Charlotteown Legion. Prize winners were recognized and for this Centennial Year rather than having a program, speakers with the titles of grass the audience heard of an Island author, Rev. Francis Bolger discuss certain aspects of Confederation and this province.

The form in which this annual competition will be carried on is now under review and certain modifications are being considered. Certainly during the past six years there has been an increased emphasis on pasture management and it can probably be assumed that the competition has played some part.

WINTER FAIR

This is a reminder that at the end of the week the second Atlantic Winter Fair is getting underway. Island livestock exhibitors are well represented and those who go as spectators will certainly meet friends and acquaintances.

For the first five days of the fair, Mary Lou Farrell, Miss Dominion of Canada will be present. On Wednesday, Nov. 4, Miss Farrell leaves for London to take part in the World's Beauty Contest. On opening day Miss Farrell will officially declare the Atlantic Winter Fair open.

FEED GRAIN POLICY

Early next week the feed grain administrator and rather curiously this office is now in the Department of Forestry, will meet in Moncton with interested Department of Agriculture and farm organization representatives to discuss matters related to a permanent feed grain policy for eastern Canada.

Specifically the Federation of Agriculture has recommended that an agency be established which would have the responsibility of supervising and co-ordinating the movement and storage of Western grain for the East. It will be recalled that certain changes were made early in September in the policy for freight assistance and no doubt the new regulations will be the

LARGE OR SMALL

As recently as ten years ago there seemed to be a very strong body of opinion that the small farm was to be preserved at all costs. This belief was based on a number of factors such as the value of maintaining the rural community and its institutions, the value of farming as a way of life and the contribution which the surplus population coming from these small farms could make to society generally.

Most of these reasons are still valid but now being to disappear that there is very great pessimism about the future of the small farm. The full forces of mechanization, specialization and the need of volume production per unit have certainly caught up with farming. More and more volume is required to meet continuing increasing farm and living costs and it is in this department that many small farmers find themselves in a strait-jacket.

Just how far this trend is going to continue and whether it will eventually reach a point where it is reversed even the experts cannot predict.

The income position of the farmer and his family is of particular concern in the Atlantic provinces and considerable effort is being exerted in devising policies both Federal and provincial which will assist.

However, in practically all cases these policies are more apt to help the farmer who is in a better position than the one who is in real trouble. While there are certainly many un-economic farms in the East this fact alone is not enough to impel people to leave them. For many a person these small farms are a home and a way of life that they have no intention of leaving even though conditions may be far from ideal.

FARM FORUM

Farm Forum 1964-65 gets underway next Monday evening with the topic being "The Price of Life." Medical costs can weigh heavily on those with low incomes or more than their share of illness. Would a standardized medical plan to public or private distribute the burden of medical care more fairly?

Dearson Urges Easing of Education Costs

OTTAWA (CP)—Free education at all levels is only an ideal at present but Canada's job should be to remove as many financial barriers to the ideal as possible, Prime Minister Pearson said here.

Speaking at the annual dinner of the national conference of Canadian Universities and Colleges, Mr. Pearson said completely free education is "an ideal to which we cannot expect to move overnight."

There were other priorities in the education field that had to be met.

"We must not indefinitely tolerate all the financial impediments which now exist. If we really appreciate the value of education, the importance of our human resources, then clearly no young man or woman of talent ought to be shut out from university by the gap between what a student can earn in the summer and what it costs to live and study for the year."

Mr. Pearson said a student-finable university faces an employment market that is not

tion-wide—a student graduate in the Maritimes might go to work in Toronto.

DRAWBACK IN LANGUAGES

"This mobility does not operate as one would wish between the English-speaking and the French-speaking that is a major drawback."

He hoped for greater exchange between the two major cultures and suggested this might be done through establishment of post-graduate schools.

"I wonder . . . whether there could not be a co-operative agreement to establish an institute for advanced studies in physics in Montreal; in sociology, physics in Toronto; in public administration in Ottawa, in chemistry in Vancouver; in agriculture in Saskatchewan; in political science in Quebec City."

"I realize that some faculties at some universities would lose something in the process. But I am bound to wonder whether the losses would be comparable to the great gain that there

ACROSS THE ISLAND

Stories Recall '77 Exposition

By NEIL A. MATHESON
Provincial-Farm Editor

A.H. MUTCH of Cherry Valley has some unusual souvenirs and stories from the explosion which shattered Halifax on December 19, 1877, back in the days of the great Great War, 1914-18.

Then in the Army, stationed in Halifax, the general farmer and beef cattle breeder recalls "I was one and one-half miles away from the scene of the actual explosion, but I thought a shot had dropped right behind me. The concussion was so heavy, you would wonder why you weren't killed."

The munitions from Mount Bliss with high explosives and she blew up with devastating effect on the city, when she collided with another ship the Imo in the harbor.

Mr. Mutch has a piece of the Mount Bliss he picked up on the street several miles away. He also has a piece of a Halifax fire engine which was new at the time—that was blown to bits and scattered all over the city.

He remembers, after 47 years, the orders of an excited officer who shouted "Get under cover boys, look out for flying stones!"

"Windows came in, doors came down and a stove pipe fell" but the gun crew was really action not 20 minutes later."

Security Scare Yarn Is Unusual

MR. MUTCH has a fund of stories of the event, but I picked this "Army Boy" was a captain in the heavy artillery; but he was also a professional photographer—he operated a studio in the building now owned and operated by Cleve Craswell on Great George Street.

There was grave suspicion that the enemy somehow had a hand in the explosion which destroyed the city, that was one of the key points of the British Empire, and it was known at the time. So security was heightened to an unusual degree. To make the problem more difficult many of the top security people had been killed or otherwise put out of action by the blast.

People arriving at the port were subjected to a thorough examination and it developed that one lady coming in was a blonde and she was carrying a box containing a tin of soap. She sat down. This stirred a flurry of excitement lest some secret information had been smuggled in by the most unusual means.

So Capt. Jimmy Bayer of the artillery was called in to photograph the printing on the box. The lady was from Poland and on the way across the Atlantic she took every possible precaution against contracting disease. One precaution included the lining of the toilet seat with paper, before she sat on it in her case. The box of soap was in her possession, and the printing came off on her skin.

But there was little humor in the terrible explosion that destroyed the city. "The Richmond printing concern had employed 30 girls, but only five got out alive," he told me. And that story was repeated right across the city. The devastation was indescribable in many places.

Gradfather Clock 200 Years Old

MR. MUTCH also has a Grandfather's clock he believes must be more than 200 years old. "It's the same type," he told me, "as the one you were about to see when you saw at the home of William Johnston, Kingston RR."

Mr. Mutch's grandfather bought the clock when he was the first living man who came out from Scotland. He settled first in Murray Harbor, then came to Cherry Valley and is an ancestor of the Mutch family.

Mr. Mutch's grandfather bought the old clock at a sale about a year ago. He thinks it had someplace been employed 1728 that the clock was brought to the Island. "It's so old," he quipped, "that the shadow of the pendulum has long since worn a hole in the wall. The clock is now in my possession and the printing came off on her skin."

The old clock is still keeping perfect time. It has the days of the month and the phases of the moon on it. Though the moon has a hole in it, it is still working.

"It has a beautifully polished mahogany case, the best case I've ever seen on an old clock," Mr. Mutch told me.

Rural Mail in Pioneer Days

SOME INTERESTING stories of the pioneer days of looking after rural mail came my way during my recent visit to West Prince. Mrs. Alvie Mountain of Alma who is bright and cheerful in the days of the mail train to the post office, that is particularly timely, now that the mail train has been removed from the area.

The Alma post office was operated in 1876 in the home of John Mountain and it remained in the family through the years. Later it was in the home of Mrs. James Mountain. In 1903 it was taken over by Mr. and Mrs. Alvie Mountain who kept it until it was closed. Mr. Mountain died some time ago.

For the more interesting events of the pioneer days of the older days, Mrs. Mountain who reads without glasses, said she had a letter in the mail train to the post office which was about one-half mile away. For this he received \$18 every three months, or six dollars per month. They were paid \$4 a year for keeping the post office. The works out to \$7.75 per month.

RAILROAD STATION at Alma was a small shed, closed on three sides, and there in the chilly cold dead of winter night Mr. Mountain often waited for hours for the arrival of the mail train. But at 9:00 p.m. the mail train to the post office came in every two hours late, or even later, which put it past the midnight hour.

Mr. Mountain never forgot his horse and chilly waiting post before the train arrived.

Unusual Experiences

Some of the most unusual experiences. Some of them caused her more than a little worry. There was the time the school teacher came to mail two letters. They were left temporarily in the school house. The teacher found one of the letters at the head of the bed in the oven.

When the teacher returned to the table she found one of the children had grabbed the letters and cut them in pieces with a scissors the child had grabbed. "So," she said, "the 'put them in the oven' was a very good idea. I told the teacher with my regrets, but the teacher fixed them up and told me not to worry," the Alma lady told me.

Miss McKeivie was a lady she recalled with appreciation.

Dodd's Almanacs Disappear

BUT THE MOST unusual disaster was the disappearance of the Dodd's Almanacs.

"Some time later the almanacs were found hidden in an old trunk where one of the youngsters had hidden them among his toys."

For the benefit of the younger readers the Dodd's almanacs were a piece of the industry every year. The Dodd's almanacs were in those days. Many a farmer turned to his almanac in winter months to see what the predicted weather was, and they put in much faith in those forecasts. As many modern people do in the daily weather bulletins they received based on the best knowledge of meteorologists of today.

It cannot recall for who the Dodd's almanacs carried the weather forecast, but Dr. Chesney surely did.

Mention must be made of the Dodd's almanacs reminds me of student days at Mount Allison University where our Biological professor often came into class with large sheets covered with pictures of various birds and animals. And he would tell us with bitter sarcasm, "these are not the founders of the nation, these are the people who were cured by certain kind of kidney liver pills."

Mrs. Annie I. Donald, whose husband is a grandson of James Mountain of the Alma post office now. So it still in the Mountain family.

Firm Stand Is Urged On Canadian Water

OTTAWA (CP)—Resources Minister Laing has called a C.M.O.S. committee studying Great Lakes levels to take a firm stand in favor of treating Canadian waters as a Canadian, rather than approaching so rapidly the object appeared to be to use Canada as a vast water storage area for continental water resources. Although such a program would involve billions of dollars in storage costs, it would be a water resource program which would be a water resource.

The object appeared to be to use Canada as a vast water storage area for continental water resources. Although such a program would involve billions of dollars in storage costs, it would be a water resource program which would be a water resource.

Mr. Laing said water in Canada's most important resources. Its management would determine the economic future of this country and the prospects of Canadians for all time to come.

Education in Matter of Provincial Jurisdiction

Education is a matter of provincial jurisdiction and will remain so, Mr. Pearson said today. There are ways in which education is of real concern to the federal government.