

Missing Herring Mystery Long Way From Solution

By DON HOYT
Canadian Press Staff Writer
ST. ANDREWS, N.B. (CP)—The mystery of the missing herring along New Brunswick's southwest coast is a long way from solution, says a sleuth of the sea.

"It's going to be quite a time before any positive answers are found to the questions that will give us the key," says Dr. S. Noel Tibbo.

As biologist in charge of herring investigations at the Atlantic Biological Research Station here, Dr. Tibbo leads the search which it is hoped will end the fame looming over the once-prosperous herring fishery and its supplementary sardine industry.

CAN BE SOLVED
"It may be 10 or 15 years," says Dr. Tibbo. "But the problem can be solved in time."

Time is becoming ever more precious to fishermen whose boats return with herring so small they sell them "trash."

Sardines, or young herring, play a major role in the province's coastal fishery and once were the major factor in a herring industry earning annually between \$5,000,000 and \$9,000,000.

Canneries prefer packing a four-fish can weighing two to three ounces.

"They're packing up to 25 fish in a can now," says Dr. Tibbo, "and the weight is still only three and one-half ounces."

CATCH DROPS SHARPLY

Whatever the cause of the slump in the sardine-herring fisheries, which yielded 100,000,000 pounds of fish in one record year, it struck swiftly.

During the first six months of this year the catch amounted to 3,116,000 pounds. Over the same period last year the seines and wiers dotting Passamaquoddy bay and the Bay of Fundy snared 11,070,000 pounds, and the full year's catch in 1954 reached 62,000,000 pounds—a total described by Dr. Tibbo as average for the past 20 years.

The big handicap in the year-round herring fishery this year is the absence of large fish.

"They're travelling in large schools of small fish," says Dr. Tibbo.

Scientific explanations put forward by the ocean-going detective for what he prefers to call fluctuations, rather than a decline, are a poor survival rate from 1954 spawning and the possible movement of herring too the areas

WIDESPREAD SURVEY
Although the herring hunt has been underway in the Gulf of St. Lawrence area for nine years, it was only launched here about a year ago.

Snub-nosed boats prowling the fishing lanes that stretch northward

to Labrador and southward to New Jersey, gathering information to salvage the floundering meal ticket of thousands of coastal fishermen.

Researchers have four big objectives: location of spawning areas; homes of herring populations; factors playing a part in fluctuations and abundance; and effects of weather and water conditions on the fish.

While science moves slowly toward a solution, fishermen from Deer and Campobello islands in Passamaquoddy bay and communities stretching along the Bay of Fundy coastline are fighting for survival.

Ernest Wentworth, skipper of the 42-foot Lois and Maud, says he has been fishing 'Quoddy for 25 years and there's never been a season as bad as this.

His words echo feelings expressed the length and breadth of the fisheries.

"Sure, I've seen this happen before," says Wentworth. "But it's never lasted three or four years in succession. There hasn't been anything worthwhile in 'Quoddy since 1951."

"If this keeps on for a couple of years we'll have to give up fishing. That's a pretty hard proposition for a man who's been in it a lifetime and has no other trade."

Wentworth sets the present price for herring at between \$8 and \$9 for 1,000 pounds. During an average year, says Dr. Tibbo, herring prices run about two cents a pound.

Reports Polio Incidence Reduced By Salk Vaccine

NEW YORK (CP)—Health Minister Paul Martin said Monday there is no doubt that Salk vaccine contributed to this year's low incidence of polio in Canada.

Preliminary evidence points to a "substantial reduction" in the number of paralytic polio cases among children who have been vaccinated, he told a luncheon at the Ambassador hotel.

The luncheon was given in honor of the 1955 Lasker Awards winners, including Dr. Robert D. DeFries, retired director of the Connaught medical research laboratories in Toronto.

The award, formal presentation of which will be made Nov. 17 in Kansas City, carries a cash value of \$1,000 and recognizes Dr. DeFries' work on Canada's Salk vaccine. He is the first Canadian winner.

Martin said that prior to this season's polio outbreak nearly 1,000,000 Canadian children were vaccinated with Salk serum, and the great majority received two shots.

"While it is too early to draw final conclusions, preliminary evidence points to a substantial reduction in the amount of paralytic poliomyelitis among the children who have been vaccinated," he said.

INCIDENCE DOWN

The incidence of polio in Canada this year—844 cases reported so far—was about one-quarter of the average for the last five years. Barring a serious outbreak in the next few weeks, 1955 probably would be recorded as the second lowest year in a decade.

"I have been asked from time to time whether the Salk polio vaccine contributed to the low incidence of polio this year," Martin said. "I do not think there can be any doubt that it has had some effect."

"However, since only about one-fifth of the nation's children under 16 have been immunized, it is evident that other factors have contributed to the encouraging decline in polio this year."

Martin was the first Canadian official to state definitely that use of the Salk vaccine had reduced

polio incidence in the country this year. A final report on its effects in the United States has not yet been

issued but federal Health Secretary Maroon Folsom said Sept. 4 in a television interview that "all indications are that it is effective."

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Wed, Nov. 2, 1955

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In Memoriam

MRS. ALDEN GAMBLE
On September 14, 1955, Mrs. Alden Gamble (nee Reta Wallace) of Cascumpec passed from this life after an illness which began more than a year ago and came to an end in the New England Deaconess Hospital, Boston, where she had been a patient for three weeks.

The eldest child of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Wallace, she was born at Cascumpec twenty-five years ago. In 1932 she was married to Alden Gamble. Besides her husband and her parents, she is survived by a little son, Ronald Elmer, aged one year; two brothers, Henry and William; and one sister, Helen Wallace.

Reta loved her home and her church. To each she quietly contributed much that was worthwhile and in doing so she found happiness. During the long months of illness she received affectionate care from her family, comfort from the ministry of the Church and the fellowship of friends, and skilled treatment from kind physicians and surgeons.

An unflinching Christian faith gave her an inner peace which manifested itself in patience and good cheer and enabled her to approach the end of her earthly journey with serenity and the hope of all true believers. In her heart.

The funeral, from the home of her parents on September 17, was conducted by her minister, Rev. Murray Gardner. Hymns were "The Lord's My Shepherd" and "The Sands of Time are Sinking." A duet "Shall We Meet Beyond the River" was sung by Miss Helen Bryan and Mr. Alvin Ashley. The theme of Rev. Mr. Gardner's message was "The Comfort of God." The text was "Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted." (Matthew 5:4)

Pallbearers were Messrs. Burton Stewart, Kenneth Leard, Charles Gordon, Gordon Warren, Gerald

Probe Of Millionaire's Death Needs Wife's Story

OYSTER BAY, N. Y., (AP)—Mrs. Ann Woodward was walled off by hysteria and shock Monday from any detailed recital of the killing of her millionaire sportsman husband. Further police questioning awaited her doctor's go-ahead.

Her story that she accidentally shot William Woodward Jr. Sunday will eventually be weighed by a grand jury, a reliable source said, regardless of the outcome of the police investigation.

It would thus be left to the Gamble and John Rayner.

Flower bearers were Messrs. Winfred Bridges, Lorne Leard, Gordon Leard, John Locke, Horace Gamble, Ivan Wallace, Roy Bell, Walter Wells, William Bell, Harold Ashley, Wayne Locke, Frank Bryan, Boyd MacWilliams, Hillard Bell, Floyd Hardy, Lorne Yeo, Robert MacKay, Walter Hudson, Douglas Rix, Russell Bonyman, Charles Johnston, Lloyd Wilkie, John Webb, Arthur Arsenault and Everett Hudson.

Interment was in the Cascumpec Cemetery.

grand jury to decide whether Woodward died accidentally or whether he was slain. There was no police suggestion of murder.

The 35-year-old Woodward was killed at his bedroom door by a shotgun in the hands of his svelte, blonde wife. She said she saw her husband only as "a man in the dark" and mistook him for a prowler.

"Are you at all suspicious of this death at this time?" Nassau county detective chief Stuyvesant Pinell was asked at a press conference.

"No," he replied. "However, that opinion is subject to change." Earlier there has been gossip of friction in the 12-year marriage of the one-time Kansas farm girl and the social register blueblood. At the time, Pinell said.

"We have come across nothing to indicate ill feeling between them."

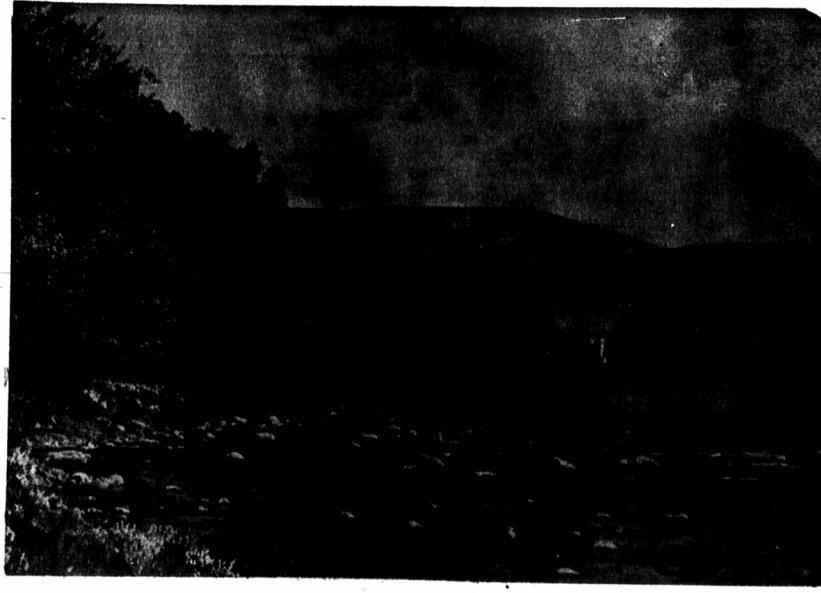
"I shot my husband—I thought he was a prowler," Mrs. Woodward cried hysterically Sunday on the scene of her husband's pre-dawn death.

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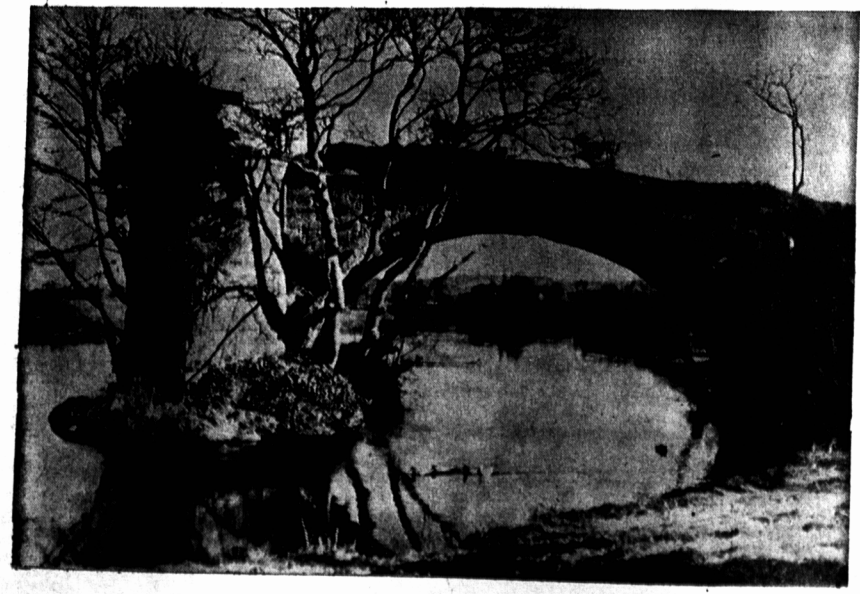
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