



CANADA TO BE HOST TO GUIDES' FIRST WORLD MEET

A beautiful Muskoka camp has been chosen as the site for the first World Girl Camp in history. The camp, summer training centre for Ontario Guides, will be enlarged to accommodate some 1,500 Guides from around the globe who will assemble in August, 1957, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of the founder of the Guide and Boy Scout movement. To ensure success of the camp, Canadian Guides are making their first public appeal for funds.

Apply Centrifugal Force To Ancient Task Of Drying Cod

BY GERALD FREEMAN
Canadian Press Staff Writer
ST. JOHN'S, Nfld. (CP)—In a workshop behind Theodore Laurentius' home in suburban St. John's is an experimental machine that may bring a new surge of vitality to Newfoundland's dwindling fishing industry.

It consists simply of a whirling wire-mesh cage driven by an electric motor inside an iron frame, but it appears to be the slickest rig ever devised for drying codfish.

Instead of spreading split, salted codfish on flakes to dry in the uncertain sunlight, a fisherman has only to hang the fish on hooks inside the cage. As it spins at 100 revolutions a minute, centrifugal force drives the moisture off into the air.

The result is semi-dry fish, which fetches fishermen better prices than salt bulk—codfish preserved in strong brine—and means cheaper and faster handling for fish plants.

The inventor is a 49-year-old native of Holland who lived much of his life in South Africa and married a Newfoundland girl in Egypt

during the war. They moved here five years ago to start a flower nursery which Mr. Laurentius later turned over to two young Dutch immigrants. He now is office manager for a St. John's firm.

Mr. Laurentius, who has applied for a patent, says he's not sure how or when the driers will be marketed but is considering having them manufactured and selling them himself. He says they'll be cheap enough for any fisherman to buy and pay for out of increased income in a season.

He says the driers can be made to any capacity but the standard machine would probably be able to handle three quintals—the average day's catch that dries to 336 pounds—in 24 hours.

Max Lane, general secretary of the Newfoundland Federation of Fishermen, who has predicted the death of the inshore codfishery in six years if present trends continue, was impressed by the cheapness and simplicity of the machine.

WORKS ON FOGGY DAYS
"I believe that if it is proven successful after tests and experimentation it would revolutionize the individual fisherman's problems," he says. "Centrifugal drying, to my knowledge, has never been tried before, and because it costs so little, every encouragement should be given to find out whether it really can work in this province with its variable weather conditions and humidity of the atmosphere."

Mr. Laurentius says he has dried fish on foggy days, and says if the weather was too damp a small fire in the drying shack should do the trick.

If the mechanical drier becomes popular it will mean picturesque fish flakes will disappear from the cliffs around Newfoundland outposts. Mr. Laurentius says they may be replaced by the windmills of his native Holland—sea breezes could be harnessed to drive the drier in places without electricity.

With his own semi-drier the fisherman would salt the cod for three weeks at the first of the season, then keep it moving through the drier at a three-quintal-a-day rate.

"The fisherman will get about 30 per cent more—and besides he will have a bigger catch," Mr. Laurentius says. "The fisherman can spend more time on the fishing grounds and can produce more. The whole salt fish industry will benefit."

Alaska Monster Unidentified Yet

YUKUTAT, Alaska (AP)—More than two months after its discovery on a remote Alaska beach, the carcass of an unidentified monster was being buried today by shifting sands.

Only a few inches of the head remained visible on the beach 60 miles south of here.

Estimates of the monster's size were scaled down somewhat after first accounts of the mystifying find stirred interest around the country.

Donald Vent, a fisherman who first sighted the carcass May 10, guessed the length at 40 to 60 feet.

"It would be pretty hard to estimate the length," Vent said. "The head was above ground and it was uncovered for about 18 feet back from the head. Then a section of about 10 feet was covered with sand and then another section six or eight feet was uncovered."

Bob Kederick, reporter for the Juneau, Alaska, Daily Empire, viewed the carcass last week. He said it had reddish-brown hair two inches long; a head measuring 5½ feet across and eye sockets 7 to 9 inches in diameter, about 42 inches apart.

MIAMI, Fla. (AP)—The North and Middle Atlantic states are gaining a measure of protection against hurricanes this season by a great, misplaced river of air.

Gordon Dunn, head of the Miami weather bureau and chief hurricane forecaster for the service, said the unusual weather condition is prevailing westerly winds that have strayed far to the south.

As long as they remain in southern latitudes, Dunn said, a storm that develops on the northern side of the hurricane belt should be shunted into the North Atlantic. One forming further south might move into the Gulf of Mexico or head for the Central American coast.

He emphasized, however, that freak conditions might also move a hurricane into other paths.

MAY DELAY BIG BLOWS
The straying westerlies might also delay the appearance of the first hurricane of 1956, Dunn said, by bringing cool air into the hot, moist regions where hurricanes form.

"However, it's still early in the year," he said, "July rarely produces hurricanes."

The storm expert said there is no way to estimate how long the westerlies will remain in their present position.

Three great hurricanes struck the eastern seaboard last year, creating a record amount of property damage. None has appeared this year.

Misplaced Westerlies Are Keeping Hurricanes From Coast

ROYAL WEDDING
MUNICH, Germany (AP)—Archduchess Charlotte of Austria, youngest daughter of the late Austrian Emperor Charles I, was married to Duke Georg of Mecklenburg in a civil wedding at nearby Poelck on Lake Starnberg Saturday. The bride had lived in New York where she worked in a Roman Catholic welfare organization.

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