

# INCO TRIANGLE

VOLUME 14

COPPER CLIFF, ONTARIO, JULY, 1954

NUMBER 4



Princess of the Circus



Published for all employees of The International Nickel Company of Canada, Limited.  
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EDITORIAL OFFICE COPPER CLIFF, ONT.

## State of Our Nation

Many thoughtful Canadians, more than a little troubled over the state of the world, found solid comfort in contemplating their own country as she observed her 87th birthday on July 1.

A Canadian Press staff man, Harold Morrison, wrote for the teletypes on June 28:

Canada, the "lady of the snows" who sprang to life in 1867, observes her 87th birthday this week, looking down from economic heights which probably surpass the best of Confederation dreams.

Fired by ambition and endowed with a rich natural heritage, the young domain has travelled fast and far along the economic road to achieve greatness and recognition in world production.

Now third among the trading powers, Canada in her 87 years, not many for a country, has quadrupled her population, boosted her foreign trade about 60 times, grabbed world leadership in some forest and mine output and multiplied her bank deposits about 300 times.

Increasing her wheat harvest some 40 times, she produces enough to feed herself and many of her overseas allies, and still has to worry about an embarrassing surplus.

She's the top world producer of newsprint and nickel and compares with the best of them in output of other metals and forest products.

And in recent history she has startled the world with her big discoveries of oil and natural gas.

Finance Minister Rose, who brought down the 1953-54 federal budget, predicted cautiously that "under the blessing of a good providence," there was a "certain and prosperous future before us."

But he was hard-pressed on the federal budgetary expenditures of \$17,300,000 and the public debt of some \$70,000,000. Compare that with this year's estimated federal expenditures of \$4,700,000,000 and the public debt of more than \$11,000,000,000.

Mr. Rose spoke glowingly of foreign trade, exports of \$40,000,000 and imports of \$47,000,000 and predicted that exports would increase by about \$2,000,000 a year.

Today, Canada does a foreign trade of more than \$8,000,000,000 a year, taking a back seat only to the United States and Britain. She exported last year about \$4,300,000,000 worth and imported just a little more than that.

### COVER GIRL

Seven-year-old Sharon O'Neill, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim O'Neill of Copper Cliff, is this month's cover girl. The name of her favorite elephant, with whom we were lucky enough to photograph her, is Fatima. She has a sister Helen, 3, who will regard this photograph with a certain amount of envy. The picture was made at the annual circus staged in Sudbury Arena by the Sudbury Shrine Club, a group of good guys who go to all sorts of trouble to raise money for their crippled children's fund. The circus as usual was a fine, clean show with some very good animal acts, some very funny clowns, and some very pretty girls. Sharon thought it was wonderful, and who would doubt her.



A large group representing all departments of Copper Cliff Smelter surprised Bill Somers at his home to honor him on his retirement on Inco pension. On behalf of the gathering Jack Lilley presented Mrs. Somers with a beautiful bouquet, and to Bill from his many friends he gave a sun cot which was immediately put to its proper use, and also a fat purse. With these presents, he said, went sincerest wishes for a speedy return of all Bill's old vigor, and for a long and enjoyable retirement. Picture shows Bill and Mrs. Somers, Jack Lilley, and Russ Chambers.

## BILL SOMERS HAS SCORED HIGH IN BOTH PUBLIC AND INCO SERVICE

An outstanding career of public service in McKim Township, as well as a long and valuable contribution to smelter operations at Copper Cliff, have culminated for Bill Somers in his retirement on Inco pension.

Few men with the public weal at heart can have tried in more ways or with deeper sincerity to do their duty as citizens. Bill has served two terms as reeve of McKim, and two years as councillor; he has been a school board trustee, and chairman of the suburban board; he was chairman of the court of revision for three years, township assessor for two years, and a member of the board of health for two years. His skill and interest in municipal affairs got special recognition when he was named the first president of the Sudbury District Municipal Association.

It was as a new member of the Bank of Toronto staff that Bill first came to Copper Cliff. Born on a farm near Barrie in a family of four boys and six girls, he completed his studies at Barrie Collegiate and then spent four years with the bank. He arrived in the Cliff at Easter of 1915, and six months later had succumbed to the lure of better wages in the converter building at the plant, where he started as a skimmer's helper, soon becoming a skimmer. In 1917 he left to join Algonia Steel at Sault Ste. Marie, where he worked first in the office and then on the open hearth furnaces. The following July he went with National Grocers, in charge of their warehouse at the Soo, then returned to the steel plant as

stock foreman on the open hearths. This restless phase of his life ended in 1922 when he went back to Inco, once again in the converter building. Early in 1923 he was transferred to the reverberatory department when the old reverberatory was started, and it was in this interesting section of the works that he filled out his career. For some years before his retirement he was shift general foreman.

Safety was almost an obsession with him, and he taught and practised it without letup. He takes great pride in the smelter shift safety record established by his men back about 1938 of 186,000 consecutive shifts worked without a lost-time accident.

Hunting and fishing used to be his hobbies. During the past five years he and Mrs. Somers have taken a keen interest in developing their lovely property on the north shore of Lake Ramsay, just past CPR Bay.

"Greatest thing that ever could have happened to me" is the way Bill describes his marriage in 1915 to Evelyn Agnes Paul, who had been a resident of Sudbury since early childhood. Of the family born to them, one son has died; the others are Tom, of Guelph; Marie (Mrs. Jack Noble of Thessalon); Rheta (Mrs. Bill Reynolds of St. Catharines); Betty (Mrs. Donald Dixon of Sudbury); Irma (Mrs. W. J. Munro of Toronto); Frank, of Toronto; Bill and Jack, the twins, both in the Canadian Army. Bill just returned from Korea and Jack still over there; Lois (Mrs. George Dickerson of North Bay), and Jean, at this writing in Thessalon.

# INCO FAMILY ALBUM

Winter or summer, rain or shine, the Triangle camera never seems to have any difficulty finding happy, handsome families to photograph, no matter where it points within the Inco domain. Here we have: (1) Mr. and Mrs. Ewart Wright (Frood-Stobie) with Frances, 18, Irene, 17, and Gary, 15. (2) Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Stone (Copper Cliff) with Heather, 3, and Donnie, 7. (3) Mr. and Mrs. John Morrison (Port Colborne) with Sandra, 2, and Carol Ann, 6. (4) Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Duncan (Coniston) with Terry, 6, and Diane, 14. (5) Mr. and Mrs. Jack Gibson (Creighton) with Myrna, 15, Billy, 14, Donna, 12, and Jackie Jr., 2. (6) Mr. and Mrs. Bill McBain (Copper Refinery) with Stewart, 5, and Walter, 10. (7) Mr. and Mrs. Albert Morin (Garson) with Donald, 13, Sheila, 17, Roy, 9, and Judy, 3.







On the left Captain Bill Peters sits at the controls of a Trans-Canada Air Lines plane at the Sudbury airport. In many ways nickel is at work in the aircraft which responds to his slightest touch. One TCA engineering expert said to the Triangle, "Well, frankly, I don't know what we'd do without nickel". On the right Jo Travaglini, of the Inco general offices at Copper Cliff, says good-bye to Stewardess Sheila MacIver after a pleasant flight. Jo flew to New York for her vacation, and says she got a big charge out of her first trip by air.

## No Doubt About It, Nickel Belt People Are TCA-Minded

This year more than half a million passengers will travel with Trans-Canada Air Lines. Many of them will be "first-flighters" enjoying their initial experience of the comfort, cleanliness and speed of air transport. Up above the clouds they will learn of this bright new star in Canada's diadem.

A little more than a century ago, Sir George Simpson, governor of the Hudson's

Bay Company and Canadian pioneer with a reputation for fast travelling, left Montreal on a record-breaking 3,000-mile journey to Vancouver. Twelve weeks later, after an arduous trip by canoe, ox-cart, and on horseback, he arrived at the Pacific coast, a little the worse for wear but triumphant. Today by TCA he could bridge the distance in 14 hours.

A start on construction of the new \$85,000 administration building at Sudbury airport a week or so ago was the signal that Trans-Canada Air Lines service to Sudbury, inaugurated February 1, has proven a successful business proposition.

A steadily growing number of Inco employees is using the service for pleasure trips as well as for emergency or business, the Triangle was told by John Sinden, the very personable local public relations officer.

Starting on February 1 with three flights daily out of Sudbury, to Sault Ste. Marie, Montreal and Toronto, service has now been increased to five flights including connection with the Lakehead, and includes two flights



A TCA plane is seen here over Toronto, en route to Sudbury from Cleveland. Captain Bill Peters is at the controls.

direct to Toronto, one at 8.15 in the morning and the other at 10.35 at night.

Trans-Canada Air Lines officials, John Sinden says, are very happy about the way business has developed at the new Sudbury branch. Their service to the Nickel Belt has drawn a substantial response and the traffic grows daily, compared with the inauguration of air service in some other Canadian centres which took years to become established on a firm footing.

Of particular interest to Inco employees is the part nickel is playing in this new boon to travel in and out of the Nickel Belt. TCA's planes out of Sudbury, like all other aircraft out of anywhere, depend upon nickel as a bird depends upon its wings. In the planes which fly out of Sudbury the crew in the flight compartment take comfort out of the presence of nickel in the firewall, the exhaust manifold, and the fire extinguisher lines. They know, too, that nickel's special properties are being put to use in the crankshafts, exhaust valves, connecting rods and propeller shafts of the engines, in the combustion heater and the galley, and, in fact, in every nut and bolt of the aircraft.

## Robert Jack New Pensioner

Bob Jack of Garson likes to recall the days when you had to go no farther than Bushy Lake or Red Pine Lake, about where the Falconbridge camp is now, to get your deer in the fall. And in the blueberry patches within an arrow's flight of home you could pick 10 full baskets a day with no effort at all.

Among his favorite reminiscences too are many anecdotes of his experiences as an executive supporter of Garson Gunners, who in their day have counted among them some of the finest soccer players ever to put toe to leather in Canada.

Bob was born in Glasgow on May 24, 1889. His father was a checker on the Caledonia railroad. He came to Canada in 1912 and in Toronto somehow got mixed up with a group



MR. AND MRS. BOB JACK

of Cornish miners who were coming to Sudbury. So Bob came to Sudbury. He started with Mond at Garson, where No. 1 Shaft had then been sunk to about the 700 foot level. When it was decided to sink the shaft another 200 feet he was Johnny-on-the-spot for handling the sinking hoist, and he was a hoistman almost steadily from then on.

## Pete Walker Farewelled at Pit



While Supt. Ernie Smith (left) beams approvingly, Campbell Girdwood, master mechanic at the Open Pit, makes a presentation of a purse of money on behalf of the men to Pete Walker, who retired on service pension after a long and valuable career with the Company.

Born in Copper Cliff where his father William, who died in 1933, was a sampler with the Company, Pete later moved with the family to Victoria Mines, and his first job at the age of 14 was as a rock-picker at the Mond Mine. About 1910 he broke his service to move to the Soo for two or three years, but returned to become a compressor-man and then a hoistman. When he transferred from Frood-Stobie No. 3 Shaft to the Open Pit shortly after the latter operation got underway, he had completed 25 years as a hoistman. He wound up his career in the vulcanizing shop at the Open Pit.

Pete was married in 1920 to Ethel Barry and they have had three sons and three daughters, of whom five are living; Barry, a traveller for Scales & Roberts, Jim of Fowler Hardware, Mrs. Phyllis Simmons, Mrs. Paul Paulowich, and Mrs. Henry L'Abbe, all of Sudbury. They have eight grandchildren.

Pete's mother is still hale and hearty at the age of 86, residing in Sudbury.

He had a distinguished military career in World War I, although with typical Scottish reticence he seldom brings out his special kudos from his commanding officers both in training before he left his homeland and also during the war.

Now retired on Inco service pension and more aware than he ever was before of the comforts of home, Bob is triply grateful that he wed a pretty girl named Jeannie Harrower in 1920 at Coniston United Church. Of their four children, two are living: Barbara (Mrs. Allan McLean of Forest, Ont.) and Peter, who is stationed with Inco at Coniston.

Mrs. Jack, whose desire for service found an outlet in Girl Guide work, has given some 18 years of enthusiastic service to this great cause, concluding her career as district commissioner.

To this happy couple who have played their full part in the life of their community, the Triangle conveys the best wishes of their wide circle of friends for many more years of contentment.

People are lonely because they build walls instead of bridges.

## Raising Chicks For the Wedding

A brand new high in paternal devotion seems to be the honor of Alex Davie, Coniston employee who recently was forced by a leg ailment into accepting a disability pension. He worked on the charge floor at Coniston Smelter. Looking to the marriage



of his son Jackie in October, Alex is setting a pattern for all such expectant fathers by raising 30 chickens which will be served at the wedding feast. He is seen in the above photo with a few of the favored fowl. Alex was born in the Ukraine in 1893 and first worked at Coniston Smelter in 1915. His four sons are all employed by the C.P.R. He owns his home at 90 Rumford Road, Coniston.

### HEIGHT OF FRUSTRATION

Physics professor: "Give me an example of wasted energy."

Student: "Telling a hair-raising story to a bald man."



With undisguised pride and affection the Riou family of Port Colborne gaze upon an Inco Employees Suggestion Plan cheque for \$1,000.00, first ever won by a Nickel Refinery employee. With Mr. and Mrs. Allan Riou are seen their daughter Helene, a student at the University of Western Ontario, and their sons Donald, 16, and Albert of the yard crew at the refinery. Happy winner of the major award, Allan has been with Inco for 25 years.

## Allan Riou Wins First \$1000 Idea Award at Port Colborne

For the first time the \$1,000.00 "jackpot", from Assistant Manager W. J. Freeman in the absence of R. C. McQuire, manager of the nickel refining division of the Company, has been won by a Port Colborne man.

Allan Riou, a 25-year employee in the Nickel Refinery, received his handsome prize

The rank and file of Incoites may be pardoned if they remain a little vague about Allan's jackpot-winning suggestion, even

after reading it: "To reduce the volume of low nickel concentration liquor by using weak wash solutions from the cobalt operation for re-emulsification of first precipitations."

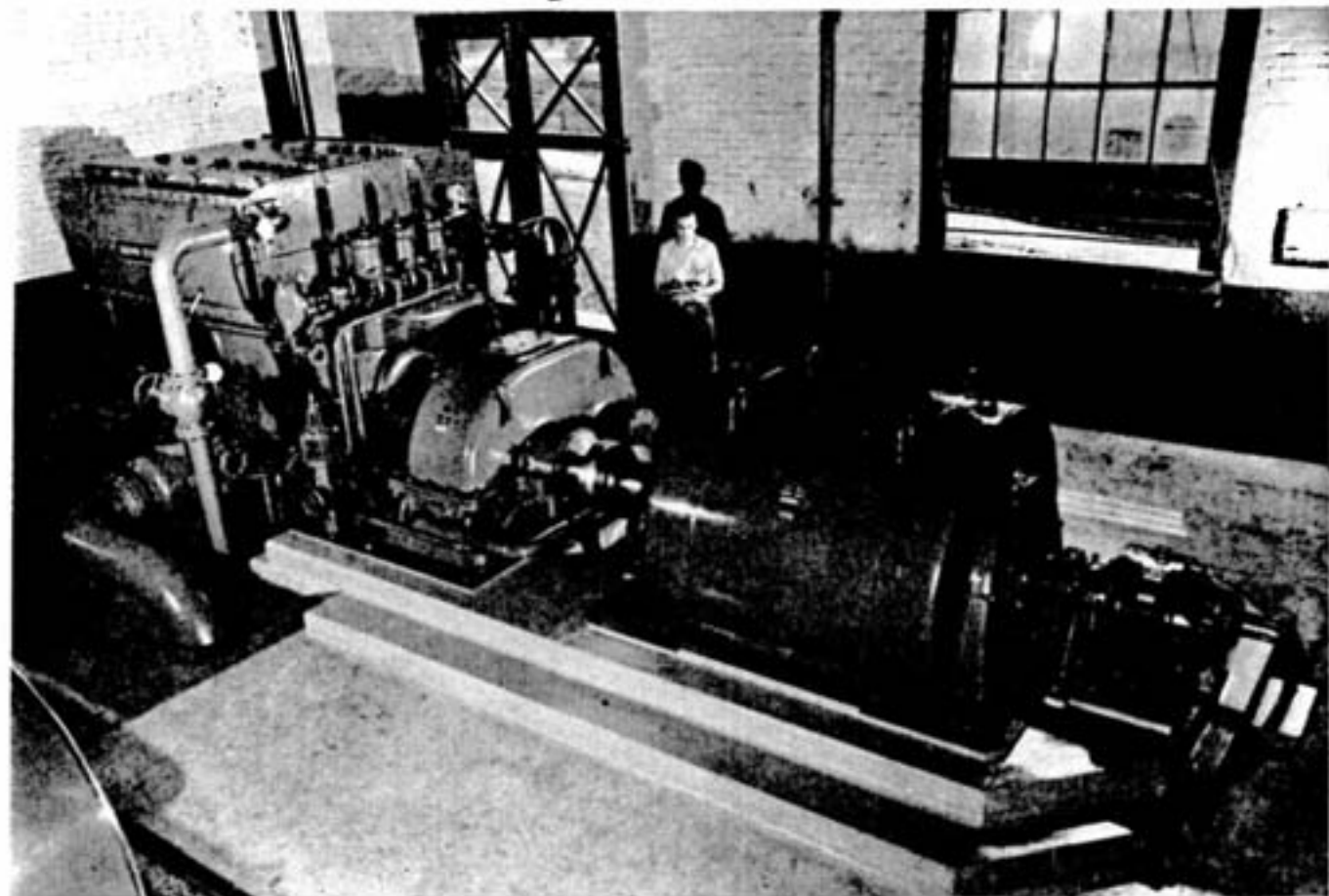
However mysterious it may sound to others, though, the idea made sense to supervision at the Port Colborne plant and they promptly put it on test. Soon its merits were proven and the Suggestion Plan Committee met to authorize payment of \$1,000.00 to Allan Riou for his bit of extra brainwork on the job. Two other Nickel Refinery men also re-



Presentation of Suggestion Plan cheques to three Nickel Refinery workers was made by W. J. Freeman, assistant manager of the Inco nickel refining division. "We are just as pleased to make these awards as you are to receive them," he told the recipients. On the left he congratulates Allan Riou, Port Colborne's first \$1,000.00 winner; on the right he is seen with Don Chisholm, who clicked for \$172.00, and Mike Iszak, whose cheque was for \$56.00. All three men made neat speeches of appreciation.



## Powerful New Compressor Installed at Creighton



Of a type specially designed for large capacity compressed air systems, this centrifugal compressor which recently went into operation at Creighton Mine will replace three reciprocating compressors, any one of which is bigger than it is. The powerful new unit can supply 18,500 cubic feet per minute of compressed air at 100 pounds pressure, as compared with 5,000 cfm for each of the three reciprocating compressors it replaces. It is driven by a 4500-hp motor and operates at 6900 rpm. Seen working on his charts recording the initial performances of the new compressor is Ben Hines, powerhouse engineer.

ceived Suggestion Plan awards from Assistant Manager Freeman. Don Chisholm smilingly accepted a cheque for \$172.00 for a suggestion which, while not adopted in its original form, was adopted in principle by the Company and was, therefore, considered worthy of a full award. As a result of Don's brainwave, a pressure cylinder is being used for removing old bolts from anode bars sent to the shop for repairs. Don had clicked once previously under the Suggestion Plan, winning \$10.00 in 1945 for a method of reinforcing production bars.

The other happy recipient was Mike Iszak, whose \$56.00 cheque rewarded him for suggesting that a box be used on the Clark lift truck to transfer slimes from the pachuca sumps to the coils when cleaning out the sumps. This was Mike's second successful submission; in 1951 he rang down a \$236.00 award for his idea to use a portable pump for washing out slimes in the unit sumps and also for washing the basement floor.

Presentation of the three cheques took place in the manager's office. In his brief remarks, Mr. Freeman stressed the eagerness of the Company to have all employees take advantage of the Suggestion Plan and not to be discouraged if their first efforts are unsuccessful. He said:

"In presenting these cheques to you men I want to express the Company's appreciation for the interest you are taking in your particular jobs. The fact that you have made suggestions that merit an award is evidence that you are interested in the work that is assigned to you.

"The Suggestion Plan Committee have reviewed, at this plant, approximately 1,000 employee suggestions and of course in many instances no award was made. We hope that the employee who does not receive an award will continue to study his particular job and try again by making further suggestions that may bring him an award equal to the one that is being presented to Allan Riou today.

"I know it is the Company's desire to encourage every employee to put his suggestions before this Committee, and the Committee for its part is as pleased to make an award as you are to receive one.

"This cheque for \$1,000.00 being presented to Allan today is the first one at this plant for the full amount. I hope I may have the opportunity of making further awards for a similar amount to more employees of Inco at Port Colborne."

Each of the three recipients expressed his appreciation of his award. Allan Riou admitted that, although he had often sent in suggestions, this was the first time he had rung the bell. He was outspoken in his admiration for the spirit of the Suggestion Plan at Inco as well as for its substantial awards. "When the men and the management can work closely together like this," he said, "we should be able to solve all our problems at the plant."

Born in France, Allan had just completed his term of training in the French Army when he married and set sail for Canada. He and his pretty young wife had their moments of discouragement and despair before they finally became permanently settled

with Inco at Port Colborne, but they persevered and nobody is happier than they are today.

Albert, the older of their two sons, is also an Inco man, having been with the yard crew at the Nickel Refinery for almost two years. The younger son, Donald, divides his time between Port Colborne High School and a caddying job at Cherry Hill. Their daughter Helene has just completed her second year in Home Economics at the University of Western Ontario, London, where she was clocked in eight A's and one B.

What will he do with that thousand dollars? Well, in the first few happy hours he hadn't made up his mind definitely, but Allan Riou thought that maybe a trip back to his native France might be as good a celebration as any. In this ambition he is like Alf Mitchell of Copper Cliff Smelter, another \$1,000.00 Suggestion Plan man, who has just returned from a trip to his old home in England.

### CONVINCED AT LAST

Aboard ship a magician was entertaining the guests — all except a parrot perched on its stand. Everything, including a pigeon that was made to disappear, was greeted with a shout of "Faker" from the bird.

All of a sudden an explosion destroyed the ship, and the parrot landed in a raft occupied by the magician. For two days it sat and stared at the man, then finally said: "All right, you win! What did you do with the ship?"



MR. AND MRS. JAMES CROSSGROVE, 60 YEARS WED



MR. AND MRS. JACK BURGESS, 50 YEARS WED

## Three Couples Celebrate Their Anniversaries

Three unusual wedding anniversaries have recently been celebrated in the ranks of Inco pensioners. Mr. and Mrs. James Crossgrove have observed their diamond anniversary, 60 years wed, and both Mr. and Mrs. Jack Burgess and Mr. and Mrs. Isadore Pilon, 50 years married, are not far behind with only 10 more years to go to match this wonderful record of wedded bliss.

Mr. and Mrs. Crossgrove, who reside in Sudbury with their daughter, Mrs. K. Acheson, are respectively 82 and 81 years of age and, as our photograph shows, are both in fine fettle. They were married 60 years ago on July 6, the same day as the late King George and Queen Mary were wed. As a young man Mr. Crossgrove followed the sea as a stoker in merchant vessels, most of which took the Mediterranean route. His first job with Canadian Copper Co., Inco's corporate predecessor, was as a watchman at 13 cents an hour. When he retired in 1927 after 29 years and 1 month of service, he was an engineer in the substation at Copper Cliff. Besides their daughter Molly (Mrs. Acheson) Mr. and Mrs. Crossgrove have three sons, George of Bell Telephone at Montreal, Bob of Richmond, West Virginia, and Alex, director of personnel for Inco at Copper Cliff. Before her marriage Mrs. Crossgrove was Mary Faulds.

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth cabled congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Crossgrove, and they received letters expressing cordial greetings from Prime Minister St. Laurent and Ralph D. Parker, asst. vice-president and general manager of Inco.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Burgess of Copper Cliff were married in the village of Westmeath, Ontario, on June 22, 1904, by Rev. Mr. Vernon. They lived first in Pembroke but finally moved to Copper Cliff under the persuasion of Mrs. Burgess' sister, the late Mrs. Thos. Harkins Sr. When they arrived at Sudbury the temperature was 50 below zero, and after travelling to Copper Cliff in the open horse-drawn rig which then plied the route, they began to wonder if they hadn't better head back to Pembroke. When Mr. Burgess retired on Inco pension in March of 1941 he had credited service of 35 years and 4 months. Inco has no more grateful booster of its provisions for the comfort and welfare of its veteran workers than he is. Mr. and

Mrs. Burgess were presented with a television set by their friends on their golden wedding anniversary.

The Club Allegri in Coniston was the scene of a gala party on June 19 to celebrate the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Isadore Pilon. Married at Warren, they have resided in Coniston for almost 32 years, which was the length of Mr. Pilon's service with Inco. Their family of 11 children was on hand to take part in the festivities—Isadore Jr., Elsie, Bertha, Romeo, Leonard, Lionel, Alice, Irene, Slater St. Evangeline, Henry, and Gerard. From their friends they received a handsome array of gifts and a purse of money. Mr. Pilon retired on Company service pension seven years ago.



MR. AND MRS. ISADORE PILON, 50 YEARS WED



## Miss Agnes Colquhoun Honored on Retirement



When Miss Agnes Colquhoun retired on service pension at Coniston a representative gathering of her associates at Coniston and Copper Cliff assembled in Superintendent Fred Murphy's office to present her with a beautiful oil painting and wish her every happiness.

She has had a distinguished record of more than 37 years with the accounting department, and her work has been characterized

by its efficiency and by her broad knowledge of the Coniston operations both before and since the merger of Mond with Inco in 1929. Her presence will be greatly missed.

Alex Godfrey, asst. to the vice-president, and Harry Stephenson of the paymaster's office, a former Coniston employee, joined Superintendent Murphy in expressing the good wishes of all her friends in Inco to Miss Colquhoun.

Miss Colquhoun's father, Alex Colquhoun, was blacksmith foreman at Coniston prior to his retirement in December, 1930 after 30 years with the Company. He died in March, 1935.

With her twin sister Florence, with whom she has resided in Coniston, Miss Colquhoun will make a new home in Southern Ontario, probably in Toronto. She has four other sisters.

## "Lap's" Invisible Cushion Solves A Ticklish Blasting Problem

Inco employees, particularly those in the Mines Department, will be interested in the novel solution of a tricky blasting problem described in the following article by Kenneth F. White in C-I-L Oval. The "hero" of the piece, "Lap" LaPrairie, is well-known to many Inco men.

Several months ago, explosives and power experts of Canadian Industries Limited and the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario were faced with a tough blasting problem. It arose in the construction of the new 1,328,000-horsepower generating station at Queenston, six miles below Niagara Falls.

The problem concerned the removal of a 12,000 cubic yard rock "plug". The removal of this rock would connect the forebay of the new plant with the forebay of the existing 550,000 horsepower Sir Adam Beck-Niagara generating station No. 1. The plug had to be blasted out without damaging the No. 1 generating station, only 85 yards away.

The project engineers thought they would have to drain the No. 1 station forebay area and blast out the plug "in the dry". This would have meant closing down the No. 1 station's ten generators and buying power from the United States — at a cost of approximately \$1,600,000.

However, these obstacles were overcome by an idea suggested by C-I-L explosives expert "Lap" LaPrairie. "Why not place an 'air curtain' in the water of the forebay to dissipate the shock waves set up by the blast?" he asked. "Then we could blast the entire plug in one shot without closing down."

"If we release air in the water of the forebay between the plug and the plant at the same time as we blast the plug, the air bubbles rising to the surface of the water may cushion the blast effect."

This idea appealed to the Ontario Hydro

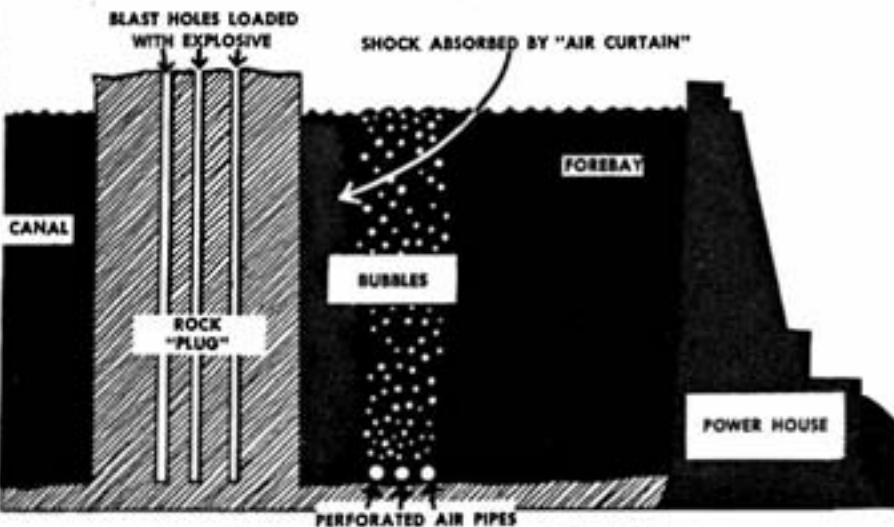
engineers, and Hydro's Toronto laboratories were consulted. R. C. Jacobsen, a physicist, and A. T. Edwards, an engineer, were assigned to investigate the effectiveness of the "air curtain". To reproduce the problem in miniature, they used a tank of water, bisected by pipes through which they forced

compressed air.

Sensitive pressure gauges were rigged up at one end of the tank, and C-I-L blasting caps were set off at the other. By varying the amount of air, and the size of the holes in the central pipe — and thus the size of the bubbles created — Jacobsen and Edwards arrived after two months of experiments at the most desirable quantity of air and size of bubble. They also established that ordinary air, rather than any other mixture of gases, set up the best baffle against the shock waves.

The results of these experiments were projected into full-scale operation. A six-inch air line was connected to three three-inch pipes clamped together in a fixed position so

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THE NIAGARA AIR CURTAIN IN CROSS-SECTION



In a sequestered spot on the narrows between Frood and Charlton Lakes, near the Inco village of Willisville, Percy Coones runs this neat little tourist camp. Most of his guests hail from Ohio and have been coming back to his place summer after summer for several years. He built the four cabins and the seven boats himself.

## Percy Coones, Pensioner, Found Life Began Over Again at 65

Life began again at 65 for Percy Coones — a brand new kind of life in which he was monarch of all he surveyed. During the long summer months he worked hard, but he had the deep-rooted satisfaction of seeing his project flourish under his efforts, and he savored the sweetness of his leisure hours all the more.

When he retired from Inco at Copper Cliff

in 1943 after almost 24 years' service noted for its unwavering devotion to duty and a strong conviction that a day's pay deserved a day's work, Percy felt no yen for a life of slippared ease. He was in remarkably fine health and as tough as rawhide, and for the past couple of years he had been toying with an idea that had caught his fancy. Why not add some cabins to the little camp he had

built in 1935 on the narrows between Frood and Charlton Lakes, near Willisville, and get into the summer tourist business?

After establishing a home in Toronto where he would spend the winters with his wife and daughter, Percy got busy on his project. He put up three more housekeeping cabins, the last one completed in 1949, and it was characteristic of him that he did every bit of the work himself, minus the aid of anything even remotely resembling a power tool. He cut the logs and dragged them out of the bush, flattened them on one side with his broadaxe, and built with great care and precision so that the buildings would stand indefinitely. Most of the lumber he cut from



New 76 and an Inco pensioner since 1943, Percy Coones does all the work at his camp.



A closeup of one of the four attractive housekeeping cabins at the Coones camp. Percy dragged the logs out of the bush, flattened them on one side with a broadaxe.

## Dog Show Popular Feature of Coniston Field Day



Awaiting the critical inspection of the judges in the dog show at the Coniston Legion's annual Field Day are, on the left, John Dube with Smokey, David Gobbo with Chip, Alexander Oliver with Teddy, and Kenny Creswell with Barney; and on the right, Pauline Walker with Lucky, Patricia Bloemmen with Susie, Anne Stacey with Prince, and Paulette Tessier with Tippy.

Judging by the racket created, just about every canine from Sudbury to Wahnapiatae was entered in the dog show staged by Coniston Branch of the Canadian Legion at their annual Field Day. Rounded up in a circle on the bandstand, and all frantically giving tongue at the same time, the pooches raised a din that ought to have been audible in Timmins if the wind was right.

Don Creswell's collie took the prize for the biggest dog in the show and also the dog with the longest tail. Kay Spencer's entry was judged to have the best repertoire of tricks, and Sonny Squires' dog proved to be the fastest eater when a serving of Ballard's was put before him. Pauline Walker brought the smallest dog, John Stacey had the dog with the shortest tail, and M. Boulay had the best-dressed dog.

Other events on the program of the very successful Field Day were performances by the Coniston Band and the Coniston Drum Majorettes. The senior bike race was won by Don Creswell, and the one mile marathon by Kenny Fitzgerald. Nobody could climb the greasy pole this year, although several valiant efforts were made. A grand display of fireworks at night was the crowning feature of the event.

President Tommy Hoare, Secretary Bill Muraska, and other members of the committee in charge expressed themselves as "very happy indeed" with the way everything turned out.



Here are some of the hard-working Legionaires who pitched in to make a real success of the Coniston Branch's annual Field Day. Kneeling are L. Ckyka, Jim Tackaberry, and Joe LaPrairie, and standing are Bill McLaughlin, Jim Forestell, Roy Ladurante, Ted Morrison, and Albert Dubery.

logs with a crosscut saw. He made ice boxes, so well insulated with sawdust that a chunk of ice will last five days. He made the seven rowboats which are at the disposal of his guests. He did not hurry his work, and took great joy out of fashioning with his own hands this small settlement in the woods.

He obtained a license for his camp in 1946 and has operated it each summer since then. He has complete sleeping accommodation for 22 persons but has had as many as 27 at one time. "We must have hung them from the coat hooks," he says. His guests come mostly from Ohio, and many of them return year after year. He has never had to advertise to get his full quota every year.

Percy does all the work around the camp, including the laundry. He cuts all the firewood, housecleans the cabins in preparation for new guests, shows the tyros where to catch fish in the chain of small lakes sur-

rounding his retreat. In February of each winter he comes up from Toronto to cut and store the coming summer's supply of ice.

Born near Apsley, in Peterborough County, Percy worked on his father's farm, then as a young man went lumberjacking. He hooked up with Inco in 1918 at O'Donnell road yard, was later transferred to smelter transportation at Copper Cliff, and in that department worked out his time. He was married at Peterborough in 1914 to Annie McIlvanna. Their daughter Margaret suffers a great deal from arthritis and finds the Southern Ontario climate better for her health.

Percy has had two or three attractive offers for his camp this year, and thinks possibly he may sell. As spy a pensioner as you ever saw in your life, it's not that he wants to take things easier — just that he thinks his family needs him around the house more than previously. Well, he can be a very handy guy.

## 11th Award for Frood-Stobie

It was gift theatre tickets to all hands again at Frood-Stobie Mine last month.

For the 11th time since the award was instituted in 1944, Frood-Stobie piled up the coveted total of 100,000 shifts without a lost-time accident.

The latest achievement ran from April 15 to June 2, and in that period the actual total of accident-free shifts was 102,520.

Superintendent C. H. Stewart, Safety Engineer Vern Ritzel, and all members of the Frood-Stobie force whose safe workmanship was responsible for gaining the award for the mine, are deserving of Inco-wide congratulations.



## "Lap's" Cushion Solves Problem

(Continued from Page 9)

that the centers would be nine inches apart. Each pipe was perforated with 36 small holes per foot. The complete unit was submerged on the bed of the forebay between the rock plug and the headworks of No. 1 generating station.

Blast holes drilled in the rock plug were now loaded with six tons of "Nitron". This blasting agent was selected because of its low sensitivity to propagation and of the water resistance provided by its welded steel containers.

As an added precaution, Hydro workmen sandbagged the generating station headworks. However, "Lap" LaPrairie's air curtain successfully reduced the blast effect reaching the headworks and no damage occurred. The resulting hammer "shock" transmitted through the water was absorbed by the air bubbles, which were compressible and acted as a buffer.

The blast cleanly sliced out the plug, allowing the forebay of the new plant to fill with water. Yet the shock reaching the generating station was only 1/70 what it would have been without the air curtain.

Instead of an estimated \$1,000,000 power shutdown bill, the air curtain part of the operation cost about \$2,000.

The curtain was built up by forcing compressed air under 90 pounds pressure into the 250-foot-long pipes; 3,750 cubic feet of free air were pumped in each minute. The air bubbles rising from the piping raised the surface of the water as much as four feet above normal.

This air curtain was so successful that another unit was assembled and used while blasting the tailrace rock plug deep in the Niagara Gorge. This second air curtain was 750 feet long, and equally successful.

Both blasts were of the "split second" type — a blasting technique which has been one of the notable features of Ontario Hydro's Niagara development.

The split-second technique uses electric blasting caps that set off charges 25/1,000 to 75/1,000 of a second apart. This results in greatly reduced seismic shock and better fragmentation, even with less explosive, than in other techniques using longer delays.

The combination of "milli-second" blasting caps and C-I-L's regular quarry grades of explosives virtually eliminated the need for a concrete canal lining at Niagara — even around the curves — except in one section where an unstable ground area was met. The blasting experts created with the split-second technique a canal wall of unprecedented smoothness. Ontario Hydro estimates that it has saved \$1,500,000 on canal walls alone.

## Nothing Funny About Sunburn

Most of us like to share our vacation fun with others. Perhaps that's why so many folks, while on vacation, take time out to send greeting cards — often humorous ones — to those back home. One, for example, shows a chubby gal sitting on more than her share of beach soaking up too much sun. Near by, a fellow looking at her lobster-red sunburn, knowingly remarks: "The beach won't be so crowded tomorrow."

But, as any one who has suffered sunburn knows, there's nothing funny about it. It can be terribly painful and even dangerous. Beyond that, even a mild sunburn can spoil weekend or vacation plans, or cause you to lose time from work.

But you can easily avoid painful sunburn and still get a good tan. Just adjust your sun bathing to the burning power of the sun and to the sensitivity of your own skin.

It's not the heat of the sun, you know, that causes all this trouble; it's the ultraviolet light rays. Even on a cool day, if the sun is bright, you can get a severe sunburn.

The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company warns that the sun's ultraviolet rays are most damaging when the sun is high overhead. During the summer, this is between



10 o'clock in the morning and 3 o'clock in the afternoon. So, when you start your sunbathing, try to get out in the sun during the late afternoon or early morning.

The sensitivity of your skin is important too, of course. Generally speaking, a light complexioned person should be more careful than a man or woman with darker complexion.

For the average adult, 10 minutes the first day is long enough for a sun bath. Using caution, and an effective suntan preparation, you can gradually increase the length of exposure as your vacation goes on, meanwhile enjoying the benefits of the sun's rays without risking the dangers of severe sunburn.

A good suntan preparation will help strain out some of the sun's dangerous rays. You can have your pick of lotions, creams or oils, or you can have your druggist make up a prescription. However, to avoid sunburn you must still time your sun bathing properly, and don't forget to reapply the lotion after each swim and every couple of hours.

And when you send your vacation cards to friends at home this year, here's hoping you can say truthfully: "Having a wonderful time, wish you were here."

### CALLED HIS OWN BLUFF

This fellow Steve Kuzmaki, of the Mines Department at Copper Cliff, is a fisherman who calls his own bluff — and delivers the goods.

"Just leave your back door open next Sunday evening, in case you're not at home," he said, "and I will place a nice little feed of speckled trout in your refrigerator."

This statement was made on Wednesday. We thanked Steve profusely, smiled gently but sadly, and hoped our disillusion wasn't showing.

But Sunday night when we got home there was a nice little feed of speckled trout in the refrigerator. And were they good!

That Steve is either a first-class crystal gazer or the greatest gambler of all time.

## Second Longest Service Record

An Inco man whose aversal to the spotlight is legend among all who know him, but who must endure the great glare on account of his distinguished service to Inco, is Omer Gatten of Copper Cliff.

The second-longest employment record in the history of Inco's Canadian operations, 48 years and 8 months, is the reason why Omer can't be allowed the anonymity he dearly desires. His recent retirement, at his own request allowed to pass without fanfare by



his friends in the control lab at Copper Cliff Smelter, points up his unusual record. Among those who have worked with him he will always be remembered for his passion for precision and his unswerving faithfulness to his job.

Omer was born in Sarsfield, P.Q., moved with his parents to Sturgeon Falls, and started in 1904 as a beaker boy in the lab at Copper Cliff under Jim Rawlins at the West Smelter. His father, Leandre Gatten, who died in 1928, was also an Inco pensioner, having retired in January of 1919 after 20 years of service.

The plant laboratory was moved in 1905 to the building in the smelter yard now occupied by the Field Office of the Geological Department, and Omer went along with Eddie McKerron and the rest of the staff. During the depression shutdown in 1921 he saw service at the Coniston Smelter. He shared the general jubilation of the lab staff when they moved into their present commodious quarters in the big Research building.

Omer was married in 1919 to Alice Legault of Blezard Valley. Of their family of seven, Leonard is studying for the priesthood, Rudolph is with the RCAP at Toronto, Edward is with the Canadian Army in Korea, Gerald is studying to enter a religious order. Beatrice is Mrs. Josephine Moreau, and Laura and Annette reside in Toronto and North Bay respectively.

### APPOINTMENTS

The following appointments at the Mining and Smelting Division were announced by Ralph D. Parker, asst. vice-president and general manager, to take effect July 1:

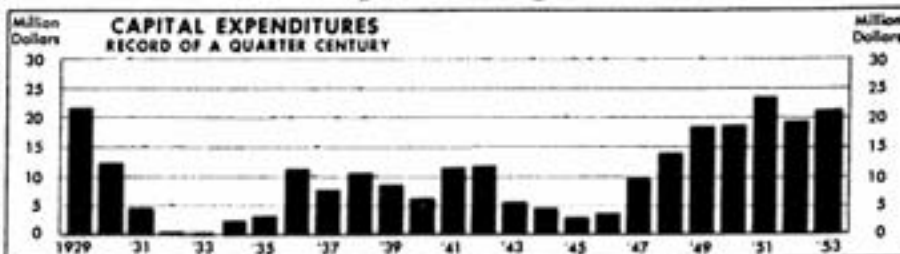
S. D. Gemmell, paymaster; R. H. McInnes, asst. paymaster.

### ARTFUL SCHEMER

"So you taught your wife how to play poker?"

"Sure, and it was a swell idea. Last Saturday night I won back nearly a third of my salary."

## Inco's Capital Expenditures



## Four Glimpses of the Nickel Belt Sports Scene



Probably nowhere else in Canada is there such a varied and swiftly changing kaleidoscope of sport as in the Sudbury District, where just about everything in the way of games, including croquet, has its enthusiastic following. Only four of the favorites are represented in these action shots by the Triangle camera:

In the top picture Adria-Croatians are playing the Italians in a regular league soccer game which the A-C's (striped jerseys) took 4-0.

A great big bundle of anything but joy was "Dizzy" Davis during a wrestling bout with Dinty Parks at Inco Employees Club. Set upon by two challengers, Tarzan Zimba and Benny Trudell, who actually had no business touching him, "Dizzy" set up such a holler about a wounded ankle that the referee, Joe Dempsey, carried him to the dressing room.

At bottom left, "Whirling Willse" Barboise cowers in the corner of the ring as Jorma Ahopelto connects with one of the powerful rights which won him a decision when the two boys met at Sudbury Arena last month. And in the snap at lower right, Bobby Fuller takes a powerful cut at the apple in a Nickel Belt juvenile league ball game between Copper Cliff and Falconbridge, which the Cliff won 16-2 going away. The catcher was McDonald and the ump was Boyd.





Getting a chuckle out of an amusing wooden model of Cyril Fortier at work in the Coniston warehouse are Oscar Paradis, Cyril himself, Smelter Superintendent Fred Murphy, and Bob Muirhead. Retiring after more than 33 years' service, Cyril was presented with the model and a purse of money from his associates.

## CYRIL FORTIER A VALUABLE MAN AT CONISTON FOR OVER 33 YEARS

When he was working at Mond Nickel Co.'s new smelter at Coniston in 1915, Cyril Fortier got his foot caught in a freight car coupling and lost his right leg. That fall he was back at the plant, but the combination of an artificial limb and a job on the charge floor didn't work out too successfully, so he quit Mond and opened a poolroom in Coniston.

Business was good enough but the inactivity during the day soon got him down, and when Superintendent W. J. McDonnell hinted that there was an opening in the warehouse at the smelter, he lost no time getting after it. He retired there last month after 33 years and 8 months of credited service, admired by all for his steady and valuable ways of work.

Born on a farm seven miles from Pembroke on June 4, 1889, Cyril Fortier was one of a family of seven. When farm chores were done the most popular sport was base-

ball. In winter there was skating on the nearby Indian River. At the age of 17 Cyril went to Quebec City to work in his uncle's store; whiskey and beer were stock in trade but he never touched a drop, a record which he now regards with some astonishment.

In 1910 he went to Victoria Mines, the Mond smelter site, and was hired by the superintendent, J. F. Robertson. He was a member of the crew which surveyed the Coniston townsite.

Cyril was married at Coniston in 1931 to Dora Turgeon, and members of their family are: Lucille, of the RCAP at St. Hubert; Joe, of the staff of McLeod Motors in Sudbury; Jack, of the Canadian Navy at Vancouver; Annette, 12, at school.

Mr. and Mrs. Fortier reside in a cosy home on Bancroft Drive, Minnow Lake, where it is hoped they will enjoy many more years of happiness.

O. B. J. Fraser and Donald J. Reese will serve as the assistant managers of the division.

At the same time, Mr. Wingate stated that "the Company's product development and research program, which over the years has helped nickel to attain its present position in industry, will be pushed intensively to keep pace with quickened scientific and technological progress."

The direction of this extensive program, he said, will require senior personnel with a broad metallurgical and research knowledge and experience which the division will have in the person of the new manager with his extensive corrosion engineering background, and that of the two assistant managers.

Mr. Fraser has had wide experience in the company's research facilities and plants in Canada and the United States, including eight years as head of Inco's largest United

States research laboratory. Mr. Reese has been in charge of the technical field sections of the company throughout the United States and Canada and has had close association with the division's development work as well as broad knowledge of iron and steel activities in general.

Mr. LaQue has been head of the corrosion engineering section of International Nickel's Development and Research division in New York since 1945. After receiving his degree of Bachelor of Science in chemical and metallurgical engineering from Queen's University, Kingston, Ont., in 1927, he became associated with the Development and Research Division of The International Nickel Company, Inc., devoting his activities to the field of corrosion and corrosion-resisting materials. He was assistant director of technical service on mill products from 1937 until April, 1940, when he became engaged in development activities on all applications of both ferrous and non-ferrous nickel-containing alloys. Under his leadership, the well-known corrosion testing stations of the company at Kure Beach and Harbor Island, North Carolina, were established.

Mr. LaQue was the recipient in 1949 of the F. N. Speller Award in corrosion engineering of the National Association of Corrosion Engineers, of which he is a past-president. He is chairman of the advisory committee on corrosion of the American Society for Testing Materials and in 1951 delivered the Edgar Marburg memorial lecture of that society. Mr. LaQue is a member also of the Corrosion Advisory Committee, Prevention of Deterioration Center, National Research Council. He is the author of many corrosion papers and articles.

### JUST THE OLD STANDBYS

"What kind of pies you got?" said the man in a restaurant.

"I've dust dot abble and cherry left," replied the husky-voiced waitress.

"You got laryngitis?"

"No — dust abble and cherry."

### GETTING AROUND IT

The superintendent of a zoo was mailing an order. He began: "Kindly send two mongoses." Somehow that didn't seem right, so he started again with "Kindly send two mongeese." Finally he settled his problem by writing, "Kindly send me a mongoose." Then he signed his name and added a P.S.: "Send another one with it."



### THAT PERSONAL TOUCH

No matter how expert the mechanics are at the big garage, the old crate always runs better after that personal touch. Fred Buchy of Lively is the private mechanic here.

## Frank L. LaQue New Head of D & R Division

Frank L. LaQue has been elected vice-president of The International Nickel Company, Inc., and manager of the Company's Development and Research Division, Henry S. Wingate, president, has announced.

A distinguished authority on corrosion, Mr. LaQue, who was born in Gananoque, Ontario, succeeds in both positions Thomas H. Wickenden, who has attained retirement age, but who will continue to serve the company on special projects and as a consultant.



## Says Invention May Bring Him \$50,000 or More

Clarence Flannagan is a quiet-spoken fellow who puts in a steady shift at Garson and gets along well with his fellow miners. Few realize there's another side to his life so packed with wild hopes and suspense that many a man would go wacky after a week of it.

Some months ago Clarence put the finishing touches to a working model of a hair-washing machine he invented. He got his Canadian patent protection and then looked around for a way to cash in. He says that an authority on electrical appliances, a member of one of the big firms, has told him he ought to realize between \$50,000 and \$75,000, and that the Canadian Manufacturing Association is giving his invention the routine usually accorded outstanding industrial prospects. The model is still on trial, and a U.S. patent has been applied for.

Clarence says he has had several good offers, none of which he has either refused or accepted, but he's determined to stick with his job at the mine and listen until he hears the right figure.

His ambition has always been to be an inventor, and if his hair-washing machine brings him a big enough grubstake he will probably have a fling at it on a full-time basis. He has several other ideas in the making which he feels will be winners when he develops them to the working model stage.

When he was overseas with the paratroopers he dreamed up many a gadget, like levers for steering Bren gun carriers, for instance. One night after he returned from the war he was watching his wife washing her hair. There must be an easier way, he



CLARENCE FLANNAGAN AND FAMILY

thought, so that instead of getting soap in her eyes she can sit back and read a magazine while a machine does the work for her. He thumped his skull, made countless sketches, persevered until an idea took shape. About 18 months later his invention was perfected in the form of a scale model which cost him about \$1,000 to have made.

Relatively simple in theory, the head piece, shaped like a German helmet, is made watertight by a rim of spongy material (such as rubber). One hose is attached to an ordinary water tap, adjustable to hot and cold. An outlet hose drains this water after it has washed through the hair. As the water comes in, so does the soap or commercial



## Lively Cubs Build Birdhouses

A birdhouse competition held by 2nd Lively Wolf Cub Pack drew a good-sized entry of such a generally high calibre that the judges were hard-pressed to name the best. The prize-winners are shown above with Mrs. Rita Pidgeon, cubmaster, and Mrs. Paulette Smith, asst. cubmaster, of 2nd Lively, and Russell Haas of 1st Lively Scout Troop: Hughie Craigen, Mark Dumencu, Jimmie Farrand, and Randy Cretzman. The picture below tells its own story in the expressions on the faces of the boys as Mrs. Pidgeon starts serving the hot dogs after the birdhouse competition was declared a gratifying success.



shampoo mixture. The cleansing material is turned off and the flow of water removes any suds.

The complicated lining of the helmet, activated by an electric motor, is massaging the head and rubbing in soap during the washing process.

Dye or oil can be evenly distributed throughout the hair by the same method.

It wasn't an easy machine to perfect, admitted Clarence. Even after 17 months of working on the machine, it still pulled at the hair, but eventually this pull was converted into the proper massage action.

"You don't have to be particularly smart to be an inventor," Clarence maintains. "You just have to watch for things that can be improved, and then try to figure out a way

of improving them. There's lots of things in this world that can be changed for the better, and I'm going to help change them if I can."

He and his wife have learned to live with the suspense of waiting for word on Clarence's invention, but both admit it gets them slightly jittery at times. Last summer, when he was going through patent negotiations and preliminary dickering with possible manufacturers of his hair-washing machine, Clarence lost 25 pounds. "I guess an inventor just has to get used to this uncertainty and waiting," he says with a sigh.

Clarence, who was born in New Brunswick, was married in 1949 to Jane MacLean of Truro, Nova Scotia. They have two children, Cindy, 4, and Johnny, 2.

# SNAPSHOTS OF LIFE WITH INCO



When 5-year-old Rachelle Levesque went to the beauty parlor one day last month for her first hairdo, her hair was 26 inches long and she wore it in two thick braids. Beautician Patricia Henry's scissors did some swift snipping and Rachelle went home with her braids in her pocket and a modish "Little Siska" trim in their place. Her dad, Paul Levesque of the nickel reverbs, at Copper Cliff Smelter, felt a pang of regret that her lovely long braids were gone, but soon admitted he liked the new hairdo his fashionable young daughter was sporting.



Although she is only 2½ months old, Nancy Boulton has learned that a gal has to stand up for herself. She has been able to do it since she was 1½ months, which one of the doctors at Copper Cliff Hospital told the Triangle is remarkable—it's unusual for a child of that age to be able to sit up, much less stand. Nancy is seen with her dad, Albert Boulton of Gatchell, a stope boss at Garson Mine, who says three of his five daughters have all had the same head-start on life.



Many a man, on his day off, helps his wife by taking on the shopping chores. Here Ward Davidson of the Nickel Refinery checks his grocery list in a Port Colborne store; assisting him is his son Arnold, 5. Some men hate shopping, some don't mind it, others are afraid to tackle it because the food looks so good they always bring home twice as much as they were sent to get, thereby knocking the family budget cockeyed.



This key made of a wrought palladium-ruthenium alloy, was used by Queen Elizabeth II to open the nickel silver doors of the Air Forces Memorial at Runnymede, Surrey, England. The names of 20,455 men and women of the United Kingdom and Commonwealth Air Forces who lost their lives in World War II and have no known grave are recorded on panels in the beautiful shrine. The shank and wards of the key are made from the wrought palladium-ruthenium alloy, similar to the alloy used for the finest jewelry. The Air Force crown was cast in the same alloy and hand-chased, and the Royal cipher is inlaid in gold.



Reminiscences of the early days in Copper Cliff Smelter were being swapped when this picture was taken of four Inco furnace veterans: Mike Puszkarenko, Earl Wilson, Sid Smith, and Jack Johnston. The photo was made at a retirement party for another old-timer, Bill Somers, about whom more on another page of this issue.