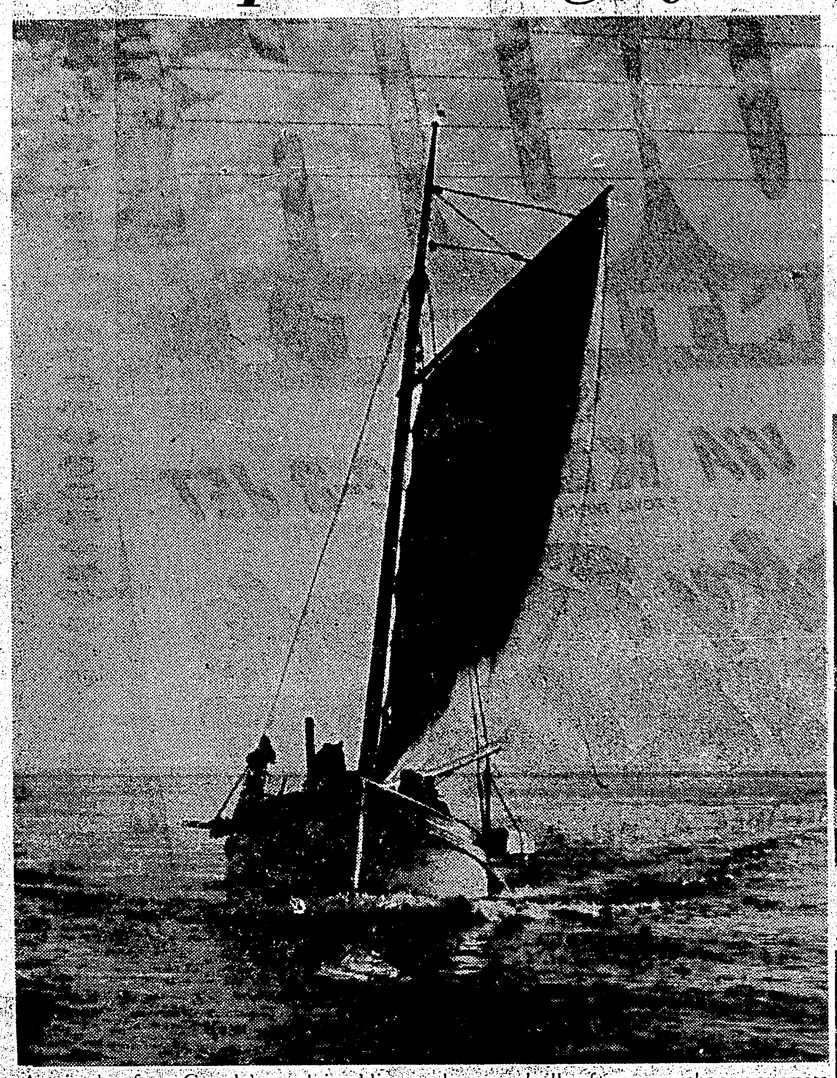
Ilkalupik: King of the Arctic



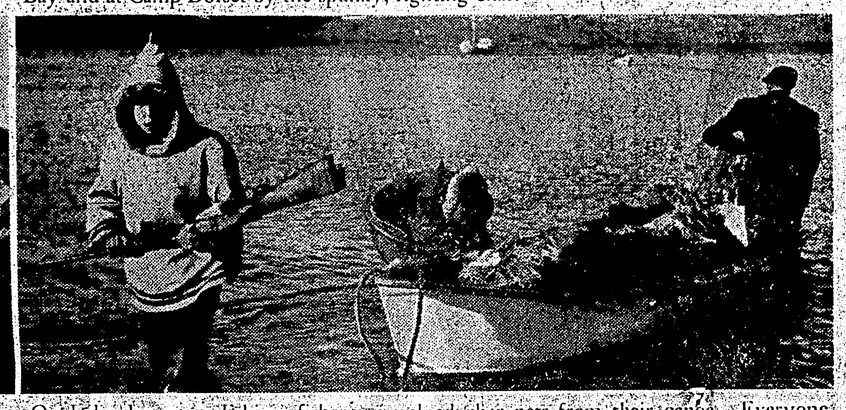
Arctic char from Canada's north is adding to the taste thrills of many southern gourmets who specialize in epicurean delights. Fashionable clubs and restaurants in New York, Chicago, Boston, Detroit and major Canadian cities offer the delicate-tasting char to their discriminating clientele. In the past couple of years, three Arctic fisheries have been established. The fishing, freezing and shipping of char to southern markets has given a small group of Eskimos a new source of income in a land where the traditional means of making a living is rapidly changing through contact with the civilization of the white man. For a limited number of Canada's 12,000 Eskimos this added income, which reduces their dependence on the vagaries of a fluctuating food supply, is now a reality. In the frigid waters of the Arctic Lakes char reproduce at a comparatively slow rate so the fish are never likely to be in abundant supply. Eskimos call the char "Ilkalupik", which means *special fish*, and, at $1.25 a pound, the succulent char seems slated to hold its lofty position for some time to come. First overseas shipment of char went to Paris for a banquet of the French Nature Protection Society—a body that takes pride in serving its members something new, if possible exotic, in the way of foods. To those in the know, Arctic char is just that.

In photo at right, Eskimos stretch nylon-gill net across the mouth of a small stream near Port Burwell on Ungava Bay. Catch is loaded aboard motor-boats and sped to Port Burwell fishery where, last August, 18,600 pounds of choice-flavoured char filled the freezers to capacity. Here it is cleaned, flash-frozen, and loaded aboard refrigerated ships for transport to southern markets. Biological studies ascertain the quantity of char that may be taken without depleting fishing grounds.

Cleaning char is done with meticulous care to assure fish reach market in top condition. At Port Burwell Eskimo child gets on-the-spot view of the operation.

A fisherman's dream is this rack of Arctic char beauties! Increasing numbers of sportsmen are being attracted northwards to Eskimo-operated tourist lodges near Frobisher Bay and at Camp Dorset by the spunky, fighting char.

Henry Anatuk takes the order of a young Eskimo mother at co-op store at Port Burwell. Here, skins, carvings and work done at the summer fishing camps, are exchanged for pipes, tobacco, sugar, tea and other necessities.



On Labrador coast, Eskimo fishermen unload char nets from their canoe. Everyone works hard during brief char-fishing season—mid August to end of September. Rifle ensures a daily diet of fresh meat while at the fishing grounds.

National Film Board of Canada Photos by Rosemary Gilliat.

Dismissed serviceman gets better pension

OTTAWA (CP)—A service man wanting to leave the armed forces can get a better pension deal if he's dismissed for inefficiency than if he retires voluntarily, Deputy Defence Minister Elgin Armstrong said Tuesday.

His statement to the Commons public accounts committee caused lifted eyebrows.

Paul Hellyer (L-Toronto Trinity), former associate defence minister, said he is appalled by the idea that a service man would benefit by doing something to get himself dismissed.

Mr. Armstrong replied that the policy doesn't have that result, though it's true the pension is higher.

The committee was questioning the award of a $2,732 pension to 38-year-old navy officer dismissed last year for inefficiency following an unexplained shortage of funds under his control. He was supply officer at his naval station.

Auditor - General Maxwell Henderson said $1,700 was involved. The officer was involved in a similar shortage of funds in 1957.

Mr. Hellyer said the case "smacks of something irregular." The facts led to the almost inevitable conclusion that there might have been collusion "by which the man's lips have been sealed.'

"This should be thoroughly investigated and we should have all the facts," he said.

Mr. Armstrong said the officer was originally awarded a pension of $1,438 under the rule providing for a half-pension for persons retired for inefficiency. But the treasury board, exercising its discretionary authority, increased this to a 95-per-cent pension based on the number of years of satisfactory service he had given.

Pensions for those retiring voluntarily were lower than for those dismissed for inefficiency.

"He was not convicted of theft," the deputy minister said.

Asked by Mr. Hellyer whether any charges were laid, Mr. Armstrong said a court of inquiry investigated but found no evidence of theft.

Death rate higher

VANCOUVER (CP) — The dean of medicine at the University of British Columbia says the overall infant mortality rate in Canada is higher than in 12 other advanced countries because of the high death rate amongst babies in some provinces.

PLANE RADIO

LONDON (CP) — British Overseas Airways Corporation is to provide individual radio entertainment for passengers. Tape-recorded programs, mostly light music and with "a modicum of high - quality advertising," will be transmitted from within the aircraft.

DOUBLE BIRTHS

A total of 63,055 infants were born in Norway in 1959, including 727 sets of twins and seven of triplets.

Commonwealth best African aid

LONDON (CP) — A Labor member of Parliament has suggested that Canada and Australia could best provide the basic technical knowledge of primary production that could be applied to Africa.

"It is 15 years since I first pleaded for an Empire consultative Parliament in which knowledge could be exchanged," Leslie Hale told the House of Commons.

"Nothing has been done about it," he added, and now Prime Minister Macmillan says that "we must study all the problems of Commonwealth in relation to the Common Market."

TOURIST RECORD

Italy reports a record year for its tourist industry in 1960 with 20,550,313 visitors, an increase of four per cent over 1959.

ANCIENT BASTIDE

Cordes, a town of southern France, was a bastide founded by Raymond VII, Count of Toulouse in 1222.

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