Reds build atomic icebreaker

By ROBERT ELPHICK

MOSCOW (Reuters) — The world's first atomic surface ship, the Soviet icebreaker Lenin, is nearing completion at Leningrad and is to begin mooring trials in the spring.

Soviet scientists say it will be able to cut its way directly to the North Pole. Two helicopters will be carried aboard to reconnoitre ice conditions ahead.

The 16,000-ton vessel will be the most powerful icebreaker ever built, with its three nuclear reactors producing the power for engines developing 44,000 horsepower, or twice as much as the most powerful icebreaker now afloat. The Lenin will be capable of cruising for years without refueling.

SCIENTISTS ABOARD

A large group of scientists will live aboard to attend to the reactors and take measurements of Arctic conditions. But the Lenin's main task will be to keep open the northeastern trade route around the coastline of northern Siberia which provides an 11,000-mile link between the seaports of Murmansk and Vladivostok.

Three big rivers, the Ob, the Yenisei and the Lena, empty into the Arctic, providing, with their tributaries, the main highway for goods from the vast Siberian hinterland where few roads or railways exist.

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M. S. Taylor, General Sales Manager Building Supplies, Evans, Coleman & Evans Ltd. is pleased to announce the appointment of W. C. (Bill) Coleman to the position of Dealer Sales Supervisor for the Evans, Coleman & Evans organization. Mr. Coleman with thirteen years experience in the company will further co-ordinate the sales and service of construction supplies to the many building supply dealers throughout British Columbia.

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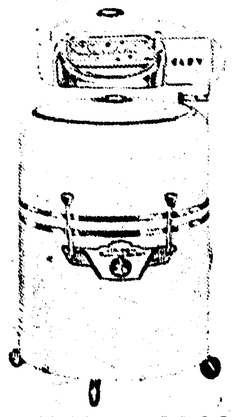

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High-Riggers

One of the most skilled and spectacular jobs in Canada's colorful logging industry is topping and rigging the spar tree—used to hoist and load heavy timber onto railway cars and trucks.

The high-rigger is an experienced logger, who spends considerable time and thought in selecting the right tree. He limbs tree as he scales it, tops it at the 120-150 foot height where trunk measures 14-20 inches in diameter.

Cool nerves are essential as high-rigger clings to trunk of topped tree which may sway from 14-20 feet; he then begins rapid descent. Experts limb and top a tree in 1 day; rigging spar tree may take a week.

3-INCH SPUBS which bite deep into tree and sturdy ropes with steel core are part of safety equipment. For their skill and daring high-riggers are paid $22 a day.

—National Film Board of Canada Photos by Gar Lunney.

AT THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Fine tale of Alaska Highway hike

"As Far as You'll Take Me" by Lorna Whishaw

(Dodd, Mead and Company, New York, 1958)

Reviewed by BEATRICE E. MELVILLE

This is an account, written in the first person, of a hitch-hiking holiday spent on the Alaska Highway.

Lorna Whinshaw, the author, is the wife of a geologist on exploration. She is faced with a lonely three months on Kootenay Lake while Quen her husband rs away on a trip to the "wildest and least explored region of British Columbia's coast range."

The solution to her difficulty is found in the person of a Mrs Clements, a shrewd and motherly Englishwoman with a look of devastating competence, who agrees to take over the house, two children, two dogs, four horses and a garden.

At first home is so desirable under the new regime that the story teller loses all desire to leave and she spends her time happily fishing on the lake.

However, one bright morning she awakens with the knowledge that this is the day; provides herself with a large and comprehensive pack and leaves home on foot heading for the nearby ferry landing to reach the Trans-Canada highway.

From then on, as the story unfolds, it is necessary to use the helpful map printed inside both front and back covers, to follow the course of the author' adventures.

The route followed is east on the Trans-Canada Highway from Creston to Macleod and from there north on the Alaska Highway.

However, it is a story of people rather than of places.

We read of truck drivers and motorists each one of whom provides transportation "as far as you'll take me." As well as drivers we encounter other interesting people met on stops on the road, proprietors of coffee bars, hotel keepers, RCMP, government employees and many others.

The author finds that from all of them she experiences a great deal of kindness and consideration for others.

Her goal of Alaska is reached after misfortune and adventure. The times spent in Alaska and the stop-over at Kluane Lake on the return journey are rich in description of scenery and natural history as well as personalities and calamity, not the least of which is the loss of pack and equipment and the necessity of borrowing these and money from a game warden to return home.

So the author comes back to her starting place and arrives simultaneously with her husband.

Together they find their home deserted, the indomitable Mrs. Clements having taken the children and the dogs to her daughter's home because "I can't stand them spooks in your house. It's the loneliest house in the world."

The book reveals a fine sense of humor and a tremendous interest in and sympathy for human nature. It is a tale of courage and love of adventure and gives a picture of a way of life with which few of us are familiar.

Prince Rupert Daily News, Thursday, January 22, 1959

Fewer frills, more studying said needed

OTTAWA (CP) — Canadian schools need more book work and fewer frills, says Commons member Fred Stinson.

The kids would like it too, he says.

Complacency has left Canadian schools two or more years behind Russian schools in the fields of mathematics and science, said Mr. Stinson, Progressive Conservative member for York Centre and former chairman of the North York township board of education.

Speaking Monday in the Commons throne speech debate, he quoted from a study by Anthony Frisch, Brampton, Ont., school teacher, who reported Canadian high schools are behind Russian schools.

The report, he said, showed Ontario mathematic courses are about three years behind the Soviet. British Columbia high schools trailed the Russians by three years in physics and the Atlantic provinces were "even further behind."

LOOKS JUST AS GOOD

Usually seen swimming beneath the surface, screen star Esther Williams pulls a swim and makes merry on top the water at Cypress Gardens, Fla. Clad in a snappy leopard skin outfit, Esther skims over the waves on water skis.

How to stop a parrot cussing

By STEWART MacLEOD

Canadian Press Staff Writer

LONDON (CP)—The distressing thing about a swearing parrot is that he will probably live for 100 years and never give up the habit.

It seems you can scold him, starve him and threaten to slay him and that cursed parrot will still swear like a drunken sailor.

So it is not surprising that respectable parrot-lovers should take a dim view of Polly's impurities.

A group of them got together when their parrots went on display at London's national exhibition of cage birds, and while the judges listened to these talking birds go through their nice, clean nursery rhymes, the owners chatted about their problems.

"The environment means everything," said one exhibitor. "A parrot reared in a decent home will develop a similar temperament and vocabulary."

ADVISE COMPLIMENTS

Another suggested that parrot-psychology should get top priority. "When he says something nice let him know you like it, and when he starts to swear, ignore him."

Sometimes, he said, the parrot will forget certain phrases, providing the owner is willing to wait, say 25 years or so.

Because some parrots live so long it is possible for one bird to have half a dozen homes. This is where problems can arise.

One of the exhibitors who works in a pet shop made his business sound like a child adoption agency. He must show great discretion in placing his parrots.

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