



**REFINERY OPENED**—The Canadian Oil Company's \$23,000,000 refinery at Sarnia, Ont., is officially opened by Production Minister Howe along with Premier Frost of Ontario and Premier Manning of Alberta. At the ceremony are (left to right) Mr. Manning, W. Harold Rhea, president of Canadian Oil, Mr. Howe and Mr. Frost. (CP PHOTO)

## Storage Biggest Problem in Record Grain Crop

By BRUCE PHILLIPS  
Canadian Press Staff Writer

A dawn autumn sun baking a field of waxen-hued stubble is symbolic of the prosperity of optimism evident these days across 1,000 miles of western Canada wheatlands.

From Winnipeg to the foothills of the Rockies, farmers are garnering the greatest grain crop Canada has ever seen.

A staggering amount of grain, estimated at 1,310,468,000 bushels or enough to fill a train of box-cars 5,731 miles long, is being harvested by jubilant farmers.

The mammoth yield is choking elevators, taxing shipping facilities and in many cases grain is being dumped on the ground.

Clacking combines, ingenious machines which cut, thresh and load grain in one operation, are methodically gathering in last of the golden treasure before the onset of cold weather.

### MAY BE BEST EVER

In a region of which it is often said, "four good years and you're a millionaire," and where dungaree-clad farmer driving a Cadillac is a not uncommon sight, this year may rank as the best ever.

The bare statistics are a story in themselves. Wheat production, the staple grain in the west, is expected to reach 654,000,000 bushels, 169,000,000 more than the previous record in 1928. The yield per acre is estimated at 25.9 bushels, equal

to the all-time high of 1915. For all grains combined, this year's figures should exceed the previous record set in 1942 by more than 3,000,000 bushels.

The western economy revolves almost entirely around the fortunes of its farmers. Even urban city-dwellers in the west's principal centres maintain a keen interest in the crop's progress. The bountiful harvest indicates there will be plenty for all in the months ahead.

For the country as a whole, the crop is just as important, in an indirect way, as it is to westerners. As a major item in Canada's export trade, a failure of the crop or a big drop in market price would be felt everywhere in the land.

Twenty-five years ago, the farmer seldom faced the problem of finding a place for his grain. Then harvesting was slow, back-breaking work. Elevators and railways were always able to handle the grain as fast as it came in.

### TAXES SHIPPING POINTS

Today, with the big threshing gangs and teams of horses replaced by efficient combines and trucks capable of handling huge loads, the grain arrives at shipping points all at once.

Emergency storage of all kinds is being hastily thrown up on farms. In many cases grain is being dumped on the ground, at the mercy of the weather. Some farmers are covering the wheat with bales of

hay to protect it.

Canada's two trans-continental railways, with about 55,000 box-cars shuttling grain to the lakehead, the west coast and Churchill on Hudson's Bay, are making a great effort to relieve the pressure on country elevators. But for the time being at least, the grain will go wherever there's a place for it.

Indicative of the size of this harvest is the fact that for the first time in many years combines from the U.S. are travelling north to help. Previously, Canadian combines went south. The demand for harvest labor this year was well above normal.

**USEFUL FROSH**  
MONTREAL (CP) — "Hazing Week" at Sir George Williams College starting Oct. 1 will be turned to good use. Freshmen are scheduled to wield paint brushes, brooms and mops in clean-up operations at many welfare centres operated by various red feather agencies.

**RECKLESS WHALE**  
PINKEY'S POINT, N.S. (CP) — Robert Doucet thinks whales should blow their horns. A big whale almost upset his fishing craft in thick fog off Trinity Ledge, near this Digby area community. The whale hit the boat with its tail and dashed away while Doucet managed to right the craft.

## Canadian Airmen Enjoy English Life

By JACK GOLDING  
Canadian Press Staff Writer

**NORTH LUFFENHAM, Eng-**land (CP)—Children of Canadian airmen stationed here with the RCAF's No. 1 fighter wing carry on in the lush Rutland countryside, with its quiet little villages, just as naturally as they might in cities such as Saint John, Toronto or Winnipeg.

There is a school for all the local children housed in a former barracks. Of the 135 there are some 90 Canadians between the ages of four and 14. The youngsters wear tartan skirts and "jeans" ride bikes and carry on much as they would in Canada.

The Canadian "married patch" has 79 brick duplexes, 17 temporary married quarters buildings and about 75 caravans. Cost of living is reasonable in these circumstances, as most of the wives agree. Special facilities for washing and playing in inclement weather are provided for the caravan dwellers.

### RURAL HAMLET

The village from which the

fighter station gets its name is North Luffenham. This rural hamlet, set in rolling hills, has a population of about 450 persons. Most of them either farm or work for the RCAF.

Much of the village is walled with six-foot stone enclosures. The parish church dates back to Norman times.

"The Fox and Hounds," one of two pubs, sports a ghost. The story goes that the pub was once a bakery and that the baker, in a moment of annoyance, stuffed his girl friends in an oven. Her white footprints appear now and then, but some locals say the cause is not so much spiritual as chemical—a reaction of atmospheric conditions on the stone floor.

Another little village on the air base fringe is Edith Weston. It has about 350 people and three shops. Airmen and their wives often go to the "Wheatheaf Inn," now renamed by Canadians "Stinky Joe's." Some of the grey limestone cottages in this village, occupied by Canadians, now have tele-

vision aeriels pushing up through thatched roofs.

### NAMED FOR QUEEN

The little community gets its name from Editha, wife of Edward the Confessor. It was the western part of estates given her by Edward, founder of Westminster Abbey in the 13th century.

Today you can hear Canadian accents, Canadian childish laughter and baseball jargon on the vacant plots any time at all.

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