



WATER'S (B-R-R-R) FINE—John Kenney and Mrs. Lea Weese of Windsor managed to appear enthusiastic about their dip in the Detroit River, despite the ice, a 20-mile-an-hour wind and the near-frigid temperature. (CP PHOTO)

Scientists Like Monks Renovating Fire Hall

ALDERMASTON, England (AP)—One day soon a bus will draw alongside a 12-foot-high wire fence in the hills of Berkshire, and out will tumble more than 20 boys.

They will carry their grips past a cluster of guards through a gate in the fence—then, as far as the outside world is concerned, they will virtually disappear as if as rigorous and secluded as any monks.

These boys, aged 15 to 18, may be Britain's atom scientists and engineers of the future. The fact they will disappear behind the one ringling the 10 square miles of Aldermaston, Britain's latest, and most hush-hush atomic plant, being built at what was once a deer forest by Harold, last of the Tudor kings.

They have been hand-picked from applicants answering newspaper advertisements for craft apprentices. For their five years' training they will be voluntary prisoners.

Apart from periodic visits home, they will eat, sleep and work at the plant until they are ready to take their university course. Afterwards, they will be expected to return to Aldermaston as full-fledged atom workers.

This way, authorities think, they will be kept away from Communists and Communism, and there will be less risk of another Fuchs or Pontecorvo.

The plant itself already has started to operate in a small way, months ahead of schedule. Physicists are working in two laboratories hidden away behind their own little security fence inside the main perimeter.

No one knows exactly what will be going on in the main plant. The supply ministry, which runs Britain's atomic energy program, maintains strict security.

The plant itself will be the first in Britain to run on the "assembly line" system. No worker will know how his own work fits into the general plan.

Official estimates put Aldermaston's total cost at £12,000,000. It is the only one of Britain's six known atomic centres to be built under such secrecy wraps.

**City Thanks
Cellulose Co.**

A vote of thanks to Columbia Cellulose Co. Ltd. was tendered by council for the use of snow removal equipment last week. The company also will be asked to convey special thanks to the operator of the equipment who worked a strenuous and long shift. Ald. George Hills made the motion.

Ships and Waterfront

A local notice to mariners from the Department of Transport announces that the outside beam of the north side of the entrance of Porpoise Harbor has been demolished, presumably by a storm. It will be rebuilt in spring but, in the meantime, ships must be exercised as regards the base are completely submerged at high water.

If you want to sell it, advertise it. Classified.

Intrigued by Watch Works, Farm Youth Started His Career

John Bulger, Local Jeweler, Worked for Nothing
Through Good Times and Bad to Success

A very young man—a farm boy—stopped in front of a jewelry store window and peered inside as he so often had done before. He marvelled at the exposed intricate mechanisms of countless watches ticking. John Bulger, in the little town of Seaforth, Ontario, made up his mind and decided on his life's career.

The boy asked the jeweller for a job. He got it, alright, but without pay. For several years young Bulger learned as he worked at watchmaking, gold and silver-smithing and other facets of the jewellery business.

Today, a modern, well-stocked jewelry store on the main street of Prince Rupert is the climax of a story which started in the little eastern farm town more than 50 years ago.

And it was not long after John Bulger learned the fundamentals of the jewelry business that he opened up his own store.

"It was a very modest beginning and I guess I worked some pretty long hours at times but I was working for myself and that was what I wanted," today recalls Mr. Bulger at 73 and still active in his business.

In 1910, the jeweler, his wife and young son, Jack, came west to Vancouver and bought a store there which he operated for a few years, following which the family moved again, this time to Lacombe, Alberta.

In 1916, the final move was made—to Prince Rupert. Mr. Bulger bought a store in bankruptcy located next to the Royal Bank.

SLOW START
Business was very slow, admits Mr. Bulger. It was during the First World War days and the city seemed empty. For a time the newcomer worked in his own shop during the day and in another jewelry shop in the evenings, trying to get established.

Of all the businesses hit during the 10 years of depression, Mr. Bulger believes jewelers suffered most.

"We had a pretty good stock when the bad years came, but very few people bought things. You can't eat jewelry and people were more concerned with getting enough food than in luxuries."

But the grey-haired, soft-spoken jeweler with an open, friendly face, has served thousands of customers and knows that jewelry is not always a luxury, but a definite need.

"Sometimes a gift for a special occasion is as much a necessity as food. Gifts need not be expensive, either, to make someone happy—and a moment of happiness is often a vital need."

In 1942 Bulger's moved to their present premises in the Killas-Christopher block on Third Avenue. Meanwhile, a son Jack had gone to Vancouver to learn the jewelry trade in a well-known store. Then Jack took a course in optometry and returned to join his father in partnership, operating the optometry section of the business.

A SHIP SHIP
All types of customers with all types of requests came to Bulger's. For instance, the Prince Rupert Yacht Club over 20 years ago promoted an international yacht race and the winner would be given a special kind of trophy.

Bulger's tendered on and received the contract to make out of silver the replica of a yacht.

"We laid the keel in much the same way as a ship is built, then built the rest with separate pieces of silver, smithing each piece individually. Jack did most of the work but we all enjoyed watching it being completed."

Other "specials" included a memorial for the first ship built in Prince Rupert and a plaque

given by railway officials to a well-deserving employee.

LOCAL BUYING
What do the Bulgers think of local merchandizing?

"We think people will buy locally if they see merchants are not trying to make a killing. In most cases it isn't so, either."

Department stores, says the elder Mr. Bulger, often make their prices look very low by "loss-leader" inducements—broken lines on which they can afford to take a loss. Standard goods, however, sell for standard prices.

"We handle most nationally advertised products. We sell them for the same price as they can be bought in Vancouver or other large cities."

Mr. Bulger has not regretted choosing the jewelry business as his career. When he took his first job—and without pay—his employer said:

"Sure, you can come and work here—but you may be a sorry man for it." Such was not the case.

"I can't say I ever regretted being a jeweler," says the jeweler.

Thirty-One Tax Appeals

Thirty-one appeals will be heard by court of revision on city tax assessments February 4.

Deadline to present appeals was at noon Tuesday. Following city council members have been appointed to the revision court: Mayor H. S. Whalen, Aldermen George Hills, J. W. Prusky, Michael Krueger, George Casey with Ald. John Currie as alternative member.

Lumber Sales Not Disturbed

VANCOUVER, (CP)—Britain's austerity program should not effect sales of lumber to the United Kingdom Hon. Howie, minister of defence production, said here.

Steel will be short for the next six months. The situation may ease after that.



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Started Business in 1916

John Bulger first opened a small shop in Seaforth, Ontario, at the age of 18 in 1898, specializing in clocks, watches, jewelry and plated ware.

The large turnip watches were mostly key winders and had silver hunting cases, some weighing as much as twelve ounces. Usually there were heavy silver chains to match.

After a fair amount of success, Mr. Bulger moved to Vancouver for three or four years, later to Lacombe, Alberta, where he remained three years, finally taking over the Wark business in Prince Rupert in 1916, which business had been here since the founding of the city. Jim Thompson, owner of Thompson Hardware, is the only person still in business who was in business on the main street at that time, as far as Mr. Bulger can remember.

At about this time ladies' watches were also large and attached to long neck chains, quite different from the feminine watches of 1952 which are not much larger than a dime.

In the year 1923 Mr. Bulger and R. W. Cameron went into partnership, and Jack, son of Mr. Bulger, went to Vancouver to learn the jewelry manufacturing business. Later taking a course in optometry, son Jack joined the business known as John Bulger Ltd. as partner, and Mr. Cameron withdrew.

John Bulger, Sr., has always taken an interest in the technical end of the business and in the summer of 1925 undertook to make a street clock which still stands in front of the store.

Policy of the store has always been to handle the most reliable and best-known makes of merchandise so that customers know what they get and know the price is standard.

A large repair business is done in watches and different kinds of jewelry; manufacturing on a small scale is done as well as engraving and diamond setting. Only the best quality diamonds are handled.

The WATCHMASTER (illustrated on this page), a very expensive watch timing machine which operates similar to the electro-cardiograph for human heart beats, is included in the equipment in John Bulger's Ltd. Mr. Bulger's WATCHMASTER was the second machine of its kind purchased in the province of British Columbia.

A stock of all the best makes of watches is carried, including Elgin, Hamilton, Rolex and Gruen, as well as a large variety of lesser-known makes at moderate prices.

People are realizing more and more the advantage of sterling silver table ware, and Bulger's carry a number of nationally advertised patterns in open stock as well as a good stock of Rogers and Community flatware.

At this time of year, with inventory being taken, there are a large number of items to be cleared at a discount.



Miss Marnie Bulger



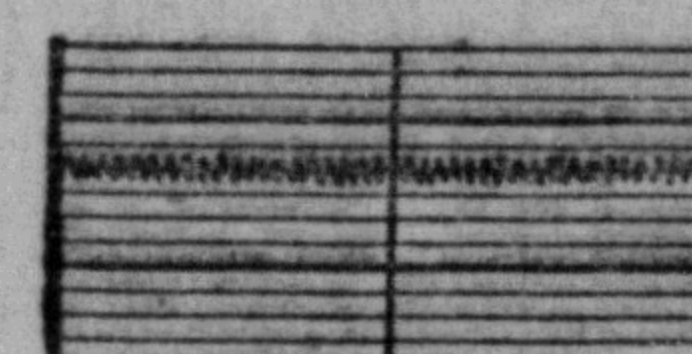
Mrs. Leona Sprinkle



Mrs. Lorraine Fedoruk

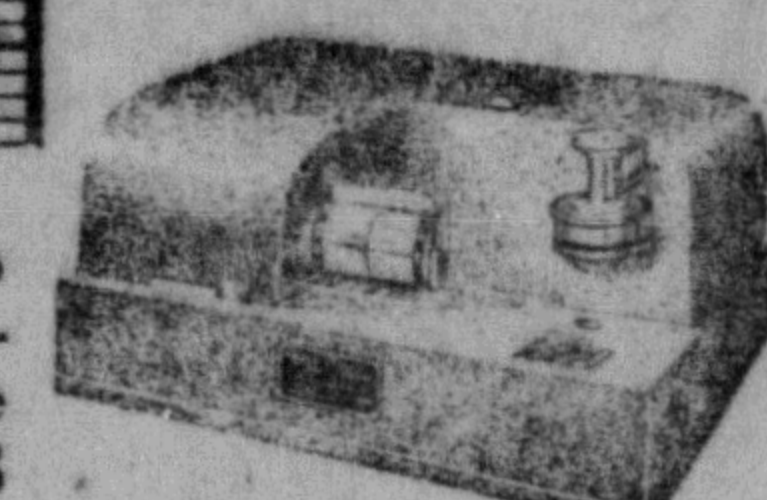


Jack Bulger, Son of John and Partner



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WHEN YOU BUY A NEW WATCH, BE SURE TO GET A WATCHMASTER CERTIFICATE

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Mr. Wally Landon
Watchmaker

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