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## Means Test

THE Disabled Persons Act, passed this year by parliament, is worth study by anyone interested in discovering some consistency in welfare state legislation. Heretofore the last person to be considered in welfare state proposals has been the tax-payer, who has to pay for them all. The present legislation contains so many safeguards for the tax-payer that it should make no appreciable difference in the tax-rate, provided ridears of those who will be entrusted with administrative details, and who will be the principal beneficiaries, are kept within reasonable bounds.

Ottawa's legislators have taken no chance on a disabled person's getting a cent more than he is entitled to. The act, for any province, does not come into effect until that province has signed an agreement with the Dominion. Then, for a qualified applicant, the Dominion's share of the allowance will be equal to that granted by the province, with an upper limit, for the Dominion, of \$29 a month.

Practically, the applicant for an allowance, if he is to succeed in getting one, must be destitute as well as totally and permanently disabled. If he is unmarried, his total income, including the allowance, must not exceed \$720 a year. He must not be receiving any other allowance, such as a veteran's pension, a blind person's allowance or an old-age pension. If the authorities find that he has assigned or transferred any property in order to qualify for the allowance, they may refuse it.

For most other benefactions of the welfare state, no means test is required. Parents of young families receive the baby bonus whether it is needed or not. Old-age pensioners are not required to show any need. Defenders of such schemes have stated that it would be too humiliating for recipients of the taxpayers' largesse to have to expose their financial affairs to government officials.

It has not been explained why it should be less humiliating for a disabled person to submit to a means test. However, it may have been realized that the totally disabled are relatively few in number, while there are millions of young parents and elderly people in Canada. Young and old can manage to reach the polls on election day, a journey that is accomplished only with difficulty by the totally disabled.

## AMERICANS DENY PLANES STRAFED POLISH VESSELS

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- The U.S. has rejected as "without foundation" Communist Poland's claim that U.S. planes strafed two Polish ships near Balman Island in the south Pacific.

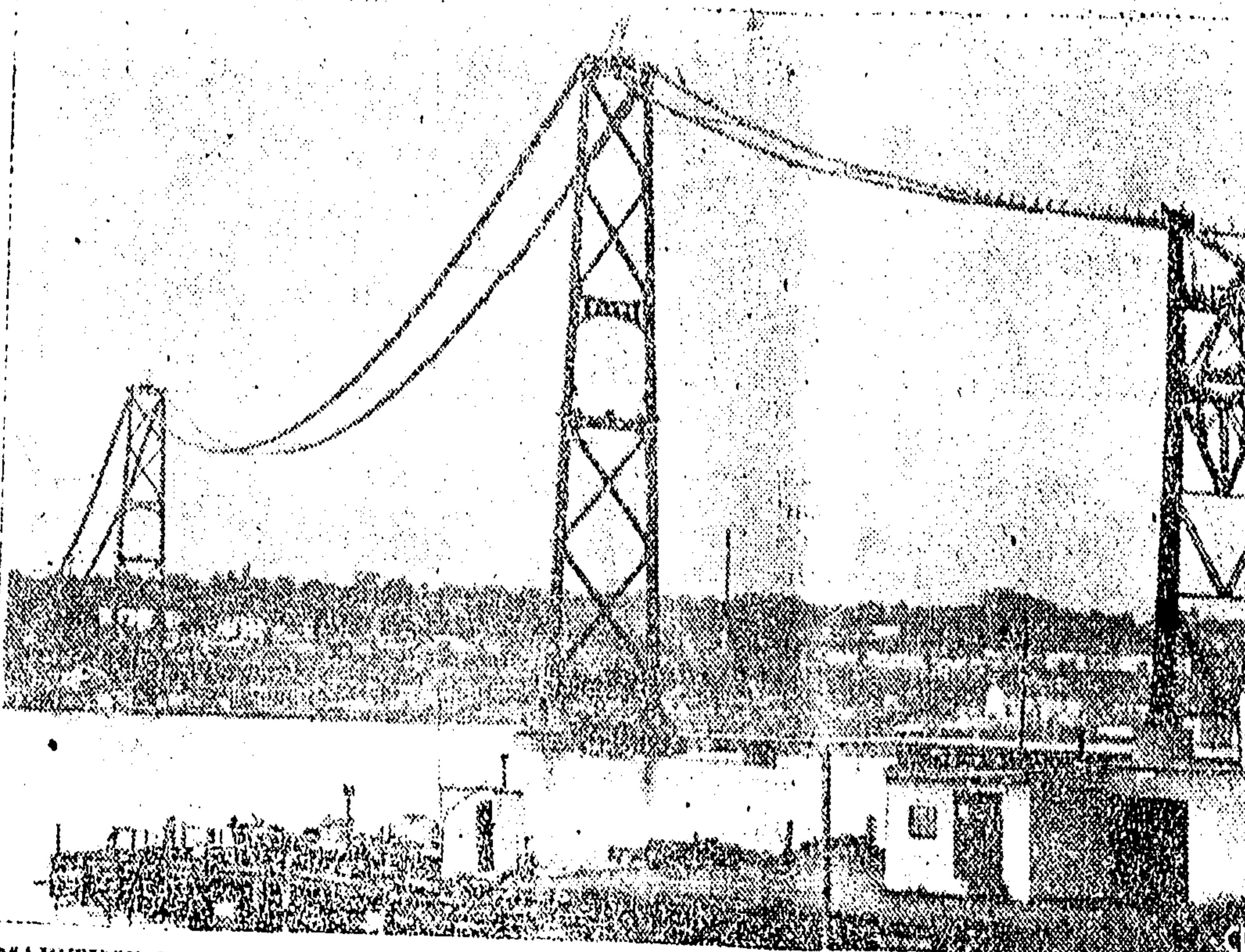
The state department, in commenting on Poland's accusation, said Monday: "United States planes have not fired on any ship in that area."

The Polish government protested the alleged strafing Saturday.

*(UPI Photo)*



TOP SECRET--This unusual photo catches Queen Juliana of the Netherlands as she lends a curious royal ear to a whispered reception for President René Coty during a visit to the French Presidential couple at Deschartes House in Amsterdam. The French Presidential couple were official guests of Queen Juliana and Prince Bernhard.



MARITIME LINK--The dream of half a century in Halifax came closer to reality when structural workers strung a catwalk across the towers of the Halifax harbor bridge. From this catwalk, Dartmouth, patterned after Lion's Gate bridge in Vancouver, the new bridge is one of the largest suspension bridges in the Commonwealth. It will be opened late this year.

## All Aboard

By G. E. MORTIMORE

"Above our heads are four apartments and the holiday visitor from the big town. In those apartments among other things are four kids and two television sets."

"I thought you might be getting TV yourself," I commented. "Comes a choice between the rent and paying the rent, I pay the rent."

"That's a fusty old-fashioned attitude."

"Yeah. Well, these four kids are all in the one apartment, see. After midnight the kids re-enact the wrestling matches."

"Who wins?"

"Nobody," my friend said. "Every night the referee grabs all the wrestlers and knocks their heads on the floor for an hour or so. At least, I figure that's what he does."

"Send for the police," I suggested.

"Would the police throw out the landlord? He lives upstairs. No, sir, the police will be sending for me any day now, only they'll have two little men in white with them and they'll invite me to try on a sharp little canvas jacket with no sleeves and no buttons."

Briefly, "the people upstairs are driving you nuts?"

"You know what I have upstairs, pal? A racetrack. I have a racetrack upstairs. Every morning at 7 a.m. the trainers exercise the horses at a gallop. Every afternoon they have the races."

"You might drop a hint by knocking on the door to ask where you could place a bet," I suggested.

"And here's something else. I always know when the dog upstairs is having a bimbo party because they're boombaby boom."

"That's on the Pace. How weird a beat! Twelve times I went to the door. I thought it was somebody knocking. Twice it was a man from upstairs who wanted to use my phone to call a bootlegger. The other times it was the dog wagging his tail."

"A radio station should send a man around to make a record-hitting," my friend went on. "Then we'd have every possible sound effect from a crash against the wall to the song of a sawing-off beetle. Heh! There is one tape. Man, you don't know what it's like living in that kind of an apartment."

"I know very well," I said.

"That's why I live in a house ten miles from any town." And believe me, I was telling the truth.

## Domestic Gas Kills Two More In Vancouver

VANCOUVER (UPI) -- Two women died in separate gas deaths yesterday. Monday, calendar of the 1954 death toll from gas poisoning to 49.

Mrs. Irene McCallum, 61, and Mrs. A. Cadman, 43,

were found dead in their homes when husband returned from work.

McCallum, by Mrs. Cadman, was believed the cause of her death. Police said she accidentally turned on a kitchen range and forgot to light it.

## Ray Reflects and Reminiscences

It seems there is no place once seen, you feel less like leaving.

It ain't no use to grumble and complain:

It's just as cheap and easy to rejoice:

When God sorts out the weather and sends rain, Why, rain's my choice.

—James Whitcomb Riley.

### AN OLD FRIEND

Horses are going out the hard way.

Today it is rated the poor brutes are the fewest in Canada's history, being, it is estimated, well below the million mark.

Once he was our gallant army, transportation system and farm adjunct, but that was yesterday.

In this day and age, horses in northern logging camps, already abused, are gradually starving.

Last month, near Kitchener, a man was charged with trying to club a horse to death.

It seems the monster was known to have attempted to kick.

DISTINGUISHED RECORD

Commissioned in the Royal Canadian Engineers, he served

with the signal corps during the First World War.

During the Second World War Gen. Burns held various senior staff appointments and commands, among them that of general officer in charge, Canadian section, headquarters 21st Army Group, in northwest Europe.

He was appointed director-general of rehabilitation in the veterans affairs department in 1945 and became assistant deputy minister in 1946. He was appointed deputy minister in July, 1950.

### Use Want Ads—They Pay

Watching them polish off a big turkey dinner and listening to them chat over coffee, you'd never suspect all 60 members had once faced—and apparently been cured of—cancer.

The club devotes itself to reassuring people now suffering from cancer that the disease often can be cured if detected and treated early enough.

### WE'VE HAD IT

"We've had it—and here we are!" said the club's president and founder, Mrs. Oliver S. Kern.

Mrs. Kern was operated on for intestinal cancer in 1944. She is one of the club's majority who have gone, at least five years.

Kern—a period which is considered a cure in the medical book.

Some other members have not reached that time, but all are confident they're on the way to recovery. They have been treated by surgery, x-ray or radium.

One of the last group is Mrs. Elizabeth Branci, wife of a navy man, who was operated on for breast cancer two years ago.

One member at the dinner—a peppery, '66-year-old retired U. S. army colonel named Aristedes Moreno—has two afflictions:

### STRANGE SPEECH

He's also president of the so-called "Lost Chord Club," made up of 40 persons whose larynxes or "vocal boxes" have been cut out because of cancer. Moreno talks with the strange, forced but effective speech that each person can learn.

"Most people like me speak by burping a couple of times to get air from their diaphragm," he claimed, "but I speak more from my pharynx, or upper part of the windpipe beneath my adam's apple."

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