New RCN Destroyer Escort Columbia Launched in South

VANCOUVER— Launching of the anti-submarine destroyer escort Columbia took place at the Burrard Dry Dock Co., Ltd., North Vancouver, November 1. The Columbia was the 11th of 14 Royal Canadian Navy destroyer escorts to go down the ways. Two of the warships, the St. Laurent and Assiniboine, are in commission and a third, HMCS Ottawa, commissions November 10.

Sponsor of HMCS Columbia will be Mrs. K. L. Dyer, wife of Commodore K. L. Dyer, DSC, CD, RCN, who now is attending the National Defence College at Kingston.

Like others of her class, the Columbia will be fitted with highly advanced electronic gear and anti-submarine weapons, with mortar mountings and homing torpedoes forming the main offensive armament.

The ship has a length of 366 feet overall, a beam of 42½ feet and will have a displacement of approximately 2,800 tons when completed.

The new Columbia will be the second of that name to serve in the RCN. The first (ex-USS Haraden), was one of eight ex-American destroyers turned over to Canada early in the Second World War.

Taken over on September 24, 1940, by the RCN, the Columbia served through most of the war on Atlantic convoy duties.

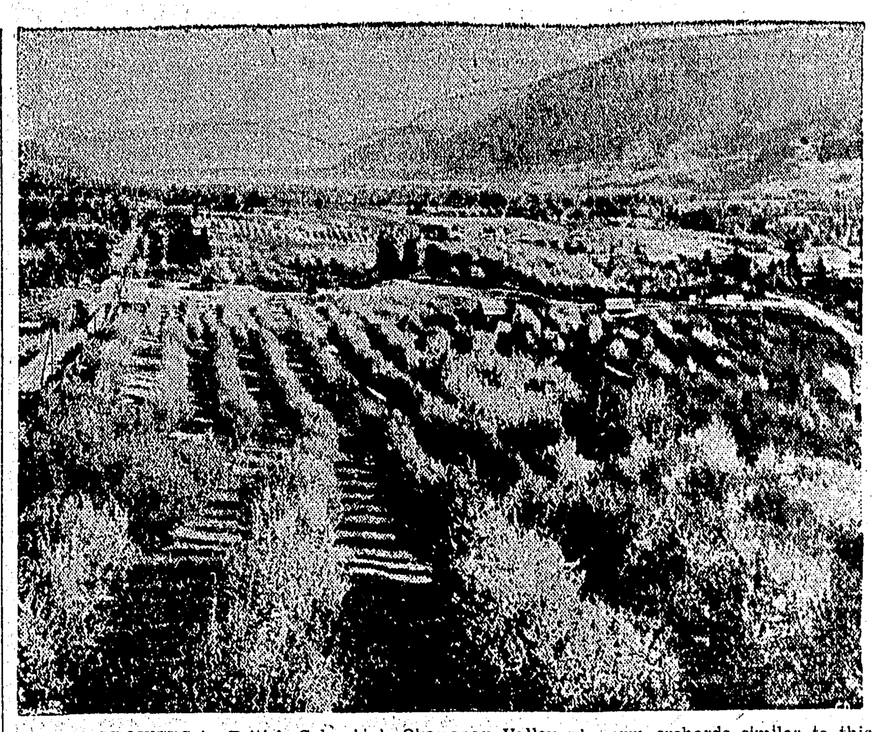
The Columbia was damaged early in 1944 off Newfoundland. Following repairs, she was finally allocated to Liverpool, N.S., for magazine and fuel storage duties. She was turned over to War Assets Corporation for disposal on August 7, 1945.

MUSICAL FORM

Franz Liszt is believed to have been the first composer to produce the type of music known as a symphonic poem.

SEASHORE PROVINCE

Few places in Nova Scotia are more than 50 miles from tidewater.



FRUIT GROWERS in British Columbia's Okanagan Valley who own orchards similar to this one pictured here near Penticton, B.C., say this year's crop is expected to be the lighest of the last 20 years. The $20,000,000 British Columbia fruit industry, which grows one-third of the apples produced in Canada, suffered a heavy blow in the winter of 1949-50 with two months of below-zero temperatures. One official said "we still don't know the full effect of the damage." This B.C. government photo, taken with the Okanagan mountains as backdrop, shows the orchard in blossom. (CP Photo).

Economic "Squeeze," Heavy Frosts Playing Havoc With Okanagan Fruit

By ERWIN FRICKE
Canadian Press Staff Writer

KELOWNA, B.C. (CP) — Many farmers in the Okanagan Valley claim fruit growing here has not been in such a predicament since the Earl of Aberdeen started the first commercial orchard at the north end of the 100-mile-long valley in 1892.

The troubles are twofold: an economic "squeeze," and a one-two punch from Jack Frost.

The $20,000,000 British Columbia fruit industry, which grows one-third of the apples produced in Canada, suffered a heavy body blow in the winter of 1949-50 from two months of below-zero temperatures.

A near-knockout punch was thrown on the night of Nov. 11 last year when unseasonable five-below weather sent the fruit industry reeling.

R. P. Walrod, general-manager of B.C. Tree Fruits, the growers' central-selling agency, said "this is a catastrophe most people in Canada and even in British Columbia are not aware of."

"We expect the lightest crop this year in the last 20 years," he said, "and we still don't know the full effect of the damage."

Dr. T. H. Anstey, superintendent of the Dominion Experimental Station at Summerland, B.C., said it will take a minimum of 10 years to bring back fruit trees to their status before the November frost.

Damage to late apples varieties alone would mean a 30-per-cent reduction in Delicious apples and up to 70 per cent in Newtons.

B.C.'s 1956 apple crop is estimated at 4,000,000 bushels compared with 6,405,000 last year and 9,000,000 in 1946, the record year. Many farmers predict it will be years before the valley can again produce a bumper apple crop.

L. G. Butler of East Kelowna, one of the valley's most prominent farmers, said: "In my 35 years of fruit farming this is the worst situation we've run into."

"In 1949-50 I lost a lot of replanted and patched-up trees. But this last frost took the young, good trees.

"In the 1930s I put in a large number of new trees. By now I should be enjoying the fruits of their production. Instead 75 per cent of these trees will have to be pulled out. I'm too old now to start over again."

The normal life of an apple tree is about 40 years with its peak at about 20. It takes at least 10 years, however, before a new tree will produce worthwhile quantities.

George Porter, superintendent of the Keloka Ranch here, biggest commercial orchard in Canada, said that as a result of the November frost only half the Keloka trees are commercially fit.

Economically the "squeeze" is attributed mainly to increased labor and transportation costs. Though the cost of fruit to the consumer has gone up, the grower claims he is not getting his share of the increase.

This fall at a number of regional meetings of grower co-operatives, some of the Okanagan's 3,650 fruit farmers demanded a provincial royal commission to investigate diminished net returns to growers.

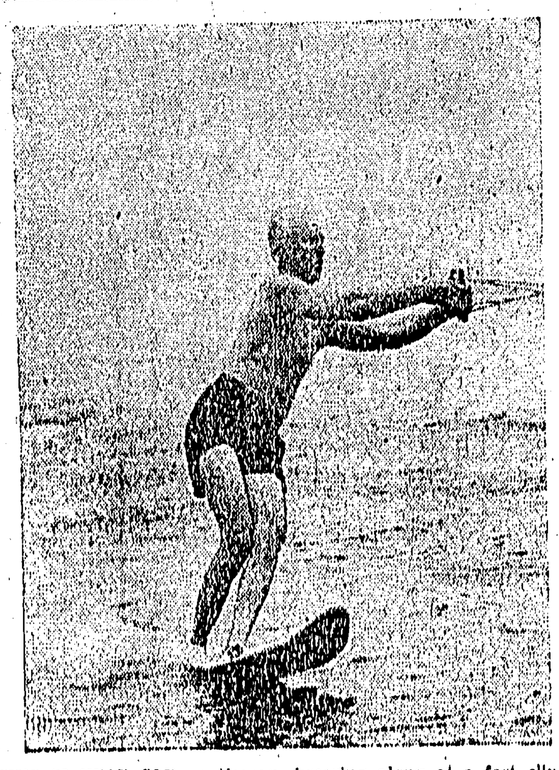
Last January the B.C. Fruit Growers Association at its annual convention asked for a federal royal commission to inquire into all phases of the fruit industry.

Mr. Walrod says the "depressed state" of the fruit industry is due to new production ratios; to "consumption imbalances" in the United States; and to the "weather cycle."

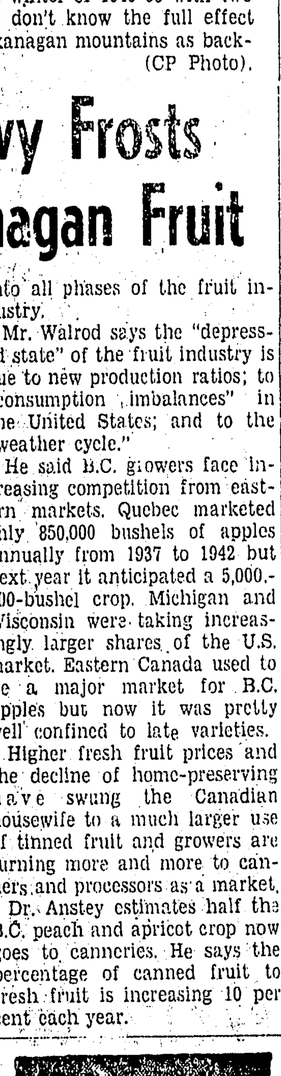
He said B.C. growers face increasing competition from eastern markets. Quebec marketed only 850,000 bushels of apples annually from 1937 to 1942 but next year it anticipated a 5,000,000-bushel crop. Michigan and Wisconsin were taking increasingly larger shares of the U.S. market. Eastern Canada used to be a major market for B.C. apples but now it was pretty well confined to late varieties.

Higher fresh fruit prices and the decline of home-preserving have swung the Canadian housewife to a much larger use of tinned fruit and growers are turning more and more to canners and processors as a market.

Dr. Anstey estimates half the B.C. peach and apricot crop now goes to canneries. He says the percentage of canned fruit to fresh fruit is increasing 10 per cent each year.



THIS 58-YEAR-OLD gentleman, breezing along at a fast clip, is Leland G. Sutherland, a ski-muter. A ski-muter is a commuter, only more so. Sutherland, a veteran water skier, indulges in this brisk commuting quite frequently from his vacation cottage at Lake Hopatcong to the lakeside railroad station from where he boards the train that takes him to his office. Pulling power for his ski trip is provided by Sutherland's wife and daughter who ride a motorboat ahead of him. The boat also carries his luggage and clothing into which he changes when it's time to get on the train.



LA BELLE MADEMOISELLE— Shapely proof of the good taste of a French jury is trim Genevieve Solare, elected unanimously Mademoiselle France of 1956 at Paris' Moulin Rouge cabaret. Her title will give the 20-year-old beauty a chance to compete in the forthcoming Miss World beauty contest in London.

BLACKWOOD on BRIDGE

By EASLEY BLACKWOOD

Trick Lost To Leave A Trump In Dummy

Proper handling of the trump suit involves a willingness to lose a trick that might have been won—in order to leave a trump in dummy to stop the run of an adverse suit.

North dealer
Both sides vulnerable

NORTH
Mr. Muzzy
♠ 8 2
♥ J 3
♦ A K Q J 5
♣ A Q 10 8

WEST
Mr. Masters
♠ J 7 5 3
♥ A K Q 10
♦ 6
♣ 9 7 6 4

EAST
Mrs. Keen
♠ 6 4
♥ 6 4 2
♦ 9 8 7 4 3
♣ K J 8 2

SOUTH
Mr. Champion
♠ A K Q 10 9 4
♥ 9 8 7 5
♦ 10 2
♣ 3

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
3 NT	Pass	4 ♠	All Pass

In today's deal, Mr. Masters won the first trick with the king of hearts. He then made a good shift to a club. He reasoned correctly that if his partner had a trick in clubs it had to be set up now—while he still had the trump suit stopped.

If Mr. Champion had as many as two small clubs, he could get rid of his club loser only on dummy's diamond suit. But with a lone diamond, Mr. Masters could ruff the second lead of that suit and fire another club. Thus the defenders would win a club, two hearts and a trump trick.

NO CLUB LOSER

But Mr. Champion had no club loser. Hearts were what he was worried about. He won the second trick with dummy's ace of clubs.

Now, if he had cashed even as many as two high spades, hoping the defenders' spades were divided 3-2, he would have lost his contract. Mr. Masters could have ruffed the second lead of diamonds and cashed three more heart tricks.

In this particular situation, Mr. Champion ignored the fact that five outstanding cards of a suit will break 3-2 more than two-thirds of the time. At trick three he led the deuce of spades from dummy and finessed the nine spot.

SPADES SET UP

This lost to the jack but now the spades were set up while there was still a trump on the board to stop the run of the hearts. Mr. Masters was stymied. He cashed another heart, then led a club. But Mr. Champion ruffed, picked up the remaining trumps and got rid of his heart losers on dummy's diamond suit.

Mr. Muzzy wasn't quite satisfied. "Don't you make five," he asked, "if you don't take that silly first round spade finesse?"

"That silly spade finesse was the only play to make four," snapped Mr. Champion.

"But the finesse lost," Mr. Muzzy continued. "I still say."

"You still say you don't know a good play when you see it," broke in Mr. Champion. "Whose deal is it?"

LIVING HISTORY

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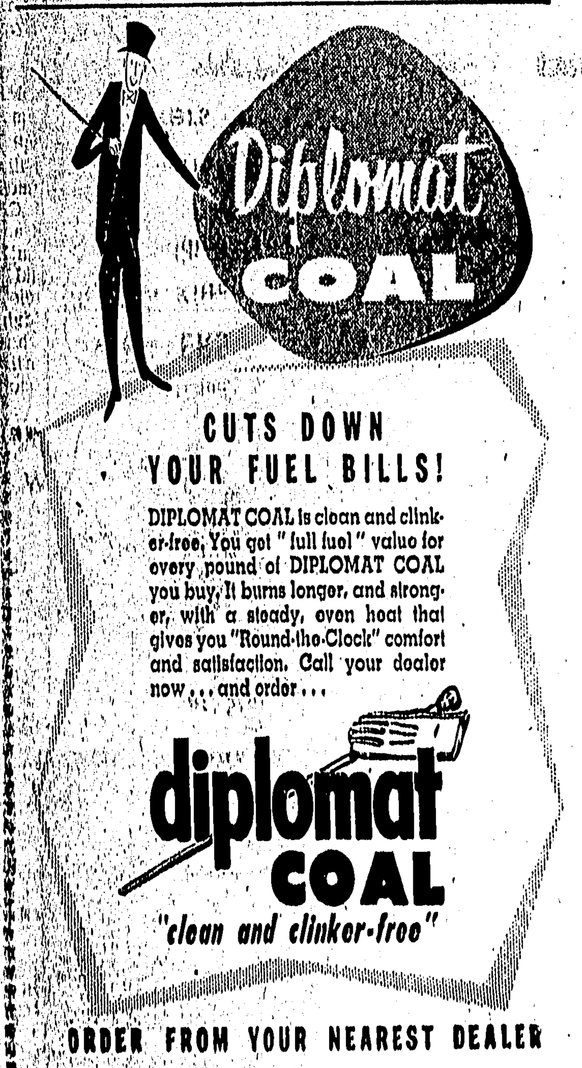

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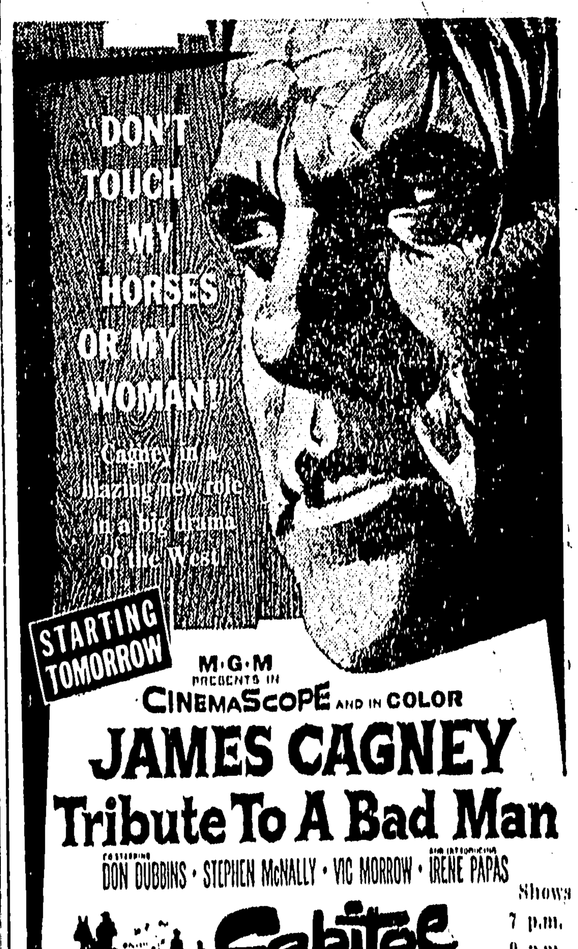

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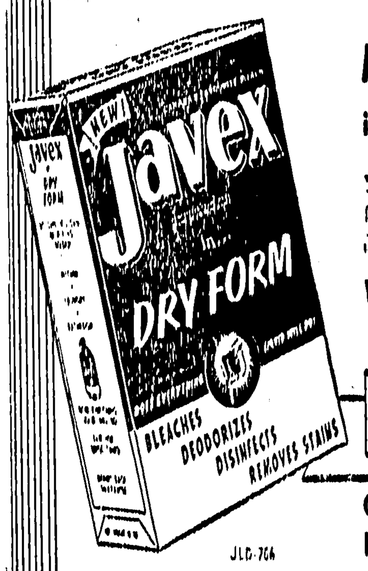

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Daily except Sundays and Holidays.

LEAVE BUS DEPOT:		LEAVE SEAL COVE:	
6:55 AM	3:30 PM	7:10 AM	3:35 PM
7:00 AM	4:00 PM	7:45 AM	4:15 PM
8:15 AM	5:15 PM	8:30 AM	5:30 PM
8:50 AM	5:30 PM	9:05 AM	5:45 PM
9:00 AM	6:10 PM	9:45 AM	6:30 PM
10:10 AM	7:30 PM	10:25 AM	7:45 PM
10:45 AM	8:15 PM	11:00 AM	8:30 PM
12:00 Noon	9:15 PM	12:15 PM	9:30 PM
12:40 PM	10:00 PM	1:00 PM	10:15 PM
1:30 PM	11:15 PM	1:45 PM	11:30 PM
2:30 PM	12:00 Midnite	2:45 PM	12:15 AM

Sundays and Holidays Only.

LEAVE BUS DEPOT:	LEAVE SEAL COVE:
10:20 AM — Church Run	10:35 AM — Church Run
12:15 PM	12:30 PM
3:30 PM	3:45 PM
8:00 PM	8:15 PM