

Baffin Island Eskimos Enter Drapery Business

VANCOUVER (CP)—A Baffin Island Eskimo co-operative has been launched in its first major assault course. "If promises turn into a new segment of Canadian orders the Eskimos will have immersed—the drapery fabrics a lot of work on their hands."

The idea came from a dozen members of the West Baffin Eskimo Co-operative at Cape Dorset, Mr. Patton said. They decided three years ago to expand their limited activities into the drapery business.

The Eskimos saved \$30,000 from sale of soapstone carvings and simple sketches to get the business on its feet.

A designer from the Ontario College of Art, Olga Chagowsky, was hired to spend the summer of 1963 in Cape Dorset teaching the Eskimos how to screen sketches from paper onto fabric.

Then the co-operative set about organizing its contacts in the reception in Ontario and southern Canada. In 1964 the

ACROSS THE ISLAND

Wild Bill Cody Born In P.E.I.?

By NEIL A. MATHESON
Provincial-Farm Editor

BUFFALO BILL Cody was born in this province on a farm owned at the time by Dick Creed of Sturgeon. Apparently the date was 1846, for that is the birthdate attributed by American publications to the man who became a famous U.S. frontiersman.

The U.S. publications report that William Frederick Cody, as he was christened, was born on a Scott County farm in Iowa. They give the date as February 26, 1846.

The bold statement in my first paragraph comes as the result of information I have gleaned from a number of reliable sources. I think immediately of George Laird, Souris, who has long been a devoted student of island history. Another man just as well known is James (Big Jim) Pendergast of Charlottetown, formerly of Kensington. And one of the most convincing bits of proof comes from John Cairns, Dunstons, who is also interested in digging up unusual happenings from the island's past.

MR. LEARD told me he talked in 1949 with Hector MacKay, Desable who told him Buffalo Bill Cody was born on the farm owned at the time by Dick Creed at Sturgeon.

Mr. MacKay has said that the boy left P.E.I. with his parents, when he was 18 months. He said his birth was registered in New York State, that's why there was no proof of Cody's island birth. Mr. MacKay told Mr. Leard.

Mr. MacKay said also that he had talked to Murdoch MacLeod of Bonshaw who once talked to Will Cody, and Cody has told Mr. MacLeod that he had been born on Prince Edward Island. Both Mr. MacKay and Mr. Stewart have died since the time referred to here.

Mr. Pendergast talked some 12 years ago with a man called "Twitter" Johnson who had worked in a circus at Boston with Buffalo Bill. Cody had told Johnson, "I was born on Prince Edward Island."

From Weekly Examiner Files

MR. LEARD also showed me an extract from "The Weekly Examiner of Friday, June 3, 1887 which said: "Will Cody was born at Hope River, P.E.I., a son of Patrick Cody who went to Ohio."

Well that's quite the assortment of statements on Cody's birthplace, but here's the one John Cairns gave me and it is, perhaps, the most sensational of them all; certainly it has more of the ring of truth than most of the others. Indeed John has two documents, both of them interesting. He loaned them to me for this column.

The most interesting came from Rev. R. J. Westaway, DD, and his letter was dated from Calgary, Alberta on August 31, 1899. I'm giving you the excerpts from Rev. Dr. Westaway's letter as he wrote it to Mr. Cairns seven years ago. Here it is:

"This is the story I heard from the lips of the late James Creed of Albion Bay, Kings County, P.E.I. Mr. Creed took me over an indentation on his father's farm, located some 500 yards north of the old dwelling place of his father's house. His father's name also was James Creed. The Creed family settled in P.E.I. just after the American revolutionary war—they were United Empire Loyalists.

"James Creed, Jr. pointed to the indentation as the cellar of the house in which William Cody was born. He also told me that two weeks after his birth, young Cody's parents moved to Ohio. They borrowed the price of the tickets from James Creed, Sr."

If I may depart from the direct quotation for a minute, Dr. Westaway said that a road that led off the Montague and Sturgeon road was known as "The Cody Road, or Lane." The Cody family were Scotch, he added.

But listen to this from Rev. Dr. Westaway in his own words:

"Mr. Creed told me that Buffalo Bill wrote about his own life and mentioned that he was born in P.E.I. The Americans did not care for his auto-biography, so this book may be hard to find."

Before I leave Dr. Westaway, it's interesting to note he explained in his letter "My grandfather, Richard Westaway, and his brother John were shipbuilders. They built square riggers and traded on the Seven Seas. The last ship they built, 'The Westaway', was launched in 1833 at Albion Bay. It was owned and sailed by a giant of a man, Captain James Westaway."

Continuing about the Cody tale, Rev. Dr. Westaway told Mr. Cairns "there is a Richard Westaway who lives at Albion Bay. He may be able to give you some history, etc."

Earlier Settlers Told Cody Story

MR. CAIRNS went to see this Richard Creed who died only a few years ago, and received from him a written note which Mr. Cairns kindly passed on to me.

Mr. Creed said in part "I have every reason to believe that William Cody (Wild Bill) was born at Albion, P.E.I. about 1840, and his family migrated to the United States when he was still a young child."

There's a spot known as "Cody's swamp" and there are many tales told of strange things being seen at night as pedestrians pass that way.

All of the earlier settlers often told about the Cody family living in Albion. "When they used to hear of William's wild exploits, they would at once recall about his family having lived in this part of the country" concluded Mr. Creed who was writing his letter in Albion.

With that I leave, temporarily at least, the saga of Wild Bill Cody being born in this province.

I have talked to many, many people about this tale. Many have helped me get the story I have told here. Only yesterday I talked to Rev. F. P. Mully, who retired from the Priesthood only last week, after a pastorate of many years in Sturgeon parish, close to the area of which I've been talking. The records of the Sturgeon Roman Catholic church only go back to 1887. Father Mully told me. Earlier records were destroyed by fire, I understand.

I want to thank all of those who have helped me on this interesting story, but a special "thank you" goes to John Cairns. He's the man who first told me about the idea of Cody being born in this province.

Message From 'Rebe' Scantlebury

MRS. WALLIE SCANTLEBURY, or 'Rebe' as I know her, has sent a passage through a member of her family saying her reading of "Across The Island" does help her as she is recuperating in Scotland from an accident which fractured her pelvis, among other things.

Mrs. Scantlebury, I understand, is in hospital at the following address: "Victoria Infirmary, Ward 4, Langside, Glasgow, Scotland. I don't know how long Rebe has to stay there, but how about some of you friends of her sending along a card or an air mail letter."

The Scantleburys were on another of their world trips when the unfortunate accident occurred.

non-profit Canadian Arctic Products was established to produce the fabric in quantity and handle marketing arrangements.

"The profits from sales will all go back to the Cape Dorset Eskimos," said Mr. Patton. "This is a 100-per-cent Eskimo venture with no subsidy from the federal government."

More than a dozen designs will be available, including birds and fish, totem figures, mermaids, whales, shadows and spirits. All designs are two-tone but will come in a wide range of colors.

Mr. Patton said the products are aimed at a limited segment of the community, architects, interior designers and contractors primarily.

"We want to protect the Eskimo from the bargain basement," he said.

"The product is unique and more copyrighted designs are

Milk Price Rise Seen For Nfld.

ST. JOHN'S, Nfld. (CP)—A dairy that has raised home-delivered milk three cents to 35 cents a quart says general price rises here are possible in the fall.

Douglas Kelsey of J. S. Kelsey and Sons Ltd. says the company's new price was set on the way. "We want to get maximum sales mileage out of the product for the Eskimos, it's their effort."

The fabric won the design award of the National Design Council last month and Mr. Patton hopes that several Canadian exhibitors at next year's Expo 67 will use it to decorate their Montreal pavilions.

Monday because of an increase

in home deliveries of milk.

"If more people want continued house-to-house delivery service they are going to have to pay a bit more for their milk," Mr. Kelsey said. "It is simply not feasible to sell milk at the former price any more."

He said milk prices had not changed in Newfoundland in 12 years. "I don't think there's any other basic commodity whose price has remained the same for so long."

With compulsory pasteurization like this fall, Mr. Kelsey said he believes farmers "almost surely" will raise their selling prices and all dairies would probably then be forced to increase their charges for milk.

A spokesman for Sunshine Dairies, one of the largest fresh milk distributors in the province, says the company does not plan to raise its milk prices. "Unless we are informed by

Soviets Agree On Fish Limit

WASHINGTON (AP) — Soviet negotiators have agreed to recommend that Russian fishermen stay at least 12 miles off the Washington-Oregon coast and not fish for salmon, the U.S. department announced Wednesday.

Although the United States claims territorial water rights only three miles from shore, Russia and many other countries claim more and efforts have been made to have the U.S. Congress increase the U.S. territorial water rights.

The Newfoundland Dairyman's Association that they are going to raise their prices then we won't change ours," the spokesman said.

Contract Talks In Sixth Week

HAMILTON (CP) — Contract steelworkers went into the sixth straight day Wednesday before a conciliation board.

The negotiations between the Steel Co. of Canada and Local 1005, Steelworkers of America (CLO), began last Friday.

The chairman of the three-man board, Judge Walter Little, of Parry Sound, Ont., reported that "some progress has been made in the negotiations."

The main issues are pensions, wages, job training and supplementary unemployment benefits.

Details of union proposals have not been revealed, but it is known that the union is seeking a pension giving 75 percent of income, including public pen-

sions, after 30 years of service.

The steelworkers are also hoping to close the gap in earnings between United States and Canadian workers in the steel industry. Figures are high as \$1,300 an hour have been mentioned to achieve that earning parity.

The talks on the new contract began May 31, going through a conciliation officer early in July with no breakdown at any stage in the negotiations.

THOUSANDS SWIM LAKE, PEKING (Reuters) — Eight thousand people swam across Peking's Lake Kunming Sunday in a giant phalanx to celebrate Army Day today, the New China news agency reports. The Chinese press reported recently Mao Tse-tung 72, Chinese Communist party chairman, swam nine miles down the Yangtze River in mid-July.

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And there's one other major thing. Obviously, a gasoline that is this efficient will work harder to give you more miles per gallon. If your car is in good shape, you'll find that this special blend of White Rose Ultra will give you an extra boost in your mileage.

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White Rose Ultra: The great gasoline

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