

Water Export Case Said Lacking Facts

OTTAWA (CP) — Resources Minister Laing said here it will be a long time before Canada has the necessary facts for discussion of water export to the United States.

Furthermore, he said in a luncheon address, "we don't know if they will leave room for discussion."

Mr. Laing, whose portfolio includes federal responsibility for water resources, reiterated that Canada should give no consideration to export of Canadian water until it is known how much is "surplus to our requirements

now and in the foreseeable future."

He said the United States government is being pressed to enter discussions with Canada to see whether some Canadian water can be acquired by the U.S.

"Let me make it very clear that we have received no such approach from the U.S. government," he said.

Mr. Laing said water pollution and export are the two monumental problems facing the next generation.

NOTES STORM SIGNALS

He recalled that President Johnson has said that every major U.S. river system now is polluted. Canada hadn't reached that stage "but the storm signals are flying."

He said Canada must look at U.S. water problems with sympathy "but perhaps a bit of skepticism too."

To battle pollution of Canadian waters, federal and provincial governments would confer in Montreal next fall to improve inter-governmental co-ordination and to learn more

Four Independent Youngsters Decline Many Christmas Gifts

VANCOUVER (CP)—Four independent youngsters who fled an unhappy home life in Montreal have declined hundreds of Christmas gifts with a polite but firm no.

The four, Maria Balent, 17, sisters Malica, 14, and Draga, 9, and brother Andre, 13 fled from their Montreal home last August and were discovered living here last week.

Hundreds of offers of Christmas gifts followed newspaper reports of their new life here. "Thank you very much" said Maria. "But please give it (the gifts) to the people in Vancouver who need it."

"We have everything we need — what we haven't got we will buy as we earn money."

Donations of money from the public will go into an education fund for the four Balent children. The fund is administered by the Catholic Children's Aid Society.

Maria also turned down dozens of invitations for the quarter to spend Christmas Day with other families.

"Thank you, but we want to have our Christmas alone," she said. "We are very happy with our plans."

Maria told reporters they left their Montreal home because of parental quarrelling.

Maria, who has assumed the role of "mother" to the other three, works as a nurse's aid. Two of the others deliver newspapers. Their total income is about \$340 monthly, of which \$80 goes for rent.

They live in a one-bedroom basement suite.



LIGHT-HEARTED COMEDY STAGED

Notre Dame Academy staged a light-hearted comedy Friday night in the school auditorium entitled "Catching Up With Christmas". Shown here from left to right, front

row, are Cheryl Currie as St. Joseph; Norma Morrison as Our Lady Mary, back row, Regina MacDonald the Angel, Gabriel, Anne O'Haley as the trumpet angel and Norma Ha-

gen, the piano accompanist for Notre Dame choir in a scene from the cantata "The Song of Christmas" also presented.

City Schools Planning Programs For Yuletide

A number of City schools are planning Yuletide programs for presentation during the Christmas season.

Notre Dame Academy will stage a light-hearted comedy on Dec. 12 in the school auditorium at 8:15 p.m. entitled "Catching Up With Christmas". There will also be a cantata called "The Song of Christmas" by Notre Dame High School choir. As they sing grades seven, eight, nine and ten will pantomime scenes of the Nativity.

Queen Charlotte High School will hold its annual Christmas concert at Confederation Centre Theatre, Sunday, Dec. 19, at 8 p.m.

The main part of the program will be a cantata drama "Miracle at the Inn" there will also be a large choir rendering Christmas music.

Birchwood High School will present its annual Christmas concert in the High School auditorium Monday Dec. 20, at 8 p.m.

This year's concert will be presented in three parts. First the pupils of grade seven and eight

will set the mood of the evening by singing many new and modern songs of Christmas. As an added feature the grade eight boys will play many of the old favourite songs of Christmas on flutes.

The main part of the concert will be an operetta presentation of a Dutch Christmas tale, "Old Crosspatch."

West Kent School will stage a three-act operetta entitled "Mr. Grumpy's Toy Shop" on Tuesday, Dec. 21. There will also be Christmas choruses.

St. Jean's Elementary School will stage an operetta on Tuesday, Dec. 21, in the school auditorium entitled "The Magic Christmas Bell." This will be followed by a tableau of the nativity scene.

Prince Street School, St. Joseph's convent and Spring Park School are planning Christmas programs that are not open to the public but are for the entertainment of pupils.

Prison Term Suspended

John Gallagher, Hamps hire, charged with theft over \$50 (money), was given a two-year suspended sentence in City Police Court Saturday. Magistrate A.J. Haslam, QC, presided.

Kenneth B. Bourgoynne, Saint John, N.B., pleaded not guilty on two charges of false pretences. His case was adjourned to Dec. 13 at which time a date for trial will be set.

J. Ernest Johnston, City, charged with false pretences had the case dismissed.

The assault case against Felix LaForest was adjourned to Dec. 13.

Gordon L. MacDonald, Burnbury, was fined \$15 and costs or five days for speeding.

Roy Peter Evans, Peakes Station, was fined \$5 without cost or two days for going the wrong way on a one way street.

A city resident, remanded

Hunting In Arctic On Way Out

OTTAWA (CP) — Disappearance of the High Arctic's hunting economy in favor of a wage earning life was forecast here by a man who has spent most of his last 20 years there.

Douglas Wilkinson, author and former officer of the northern affairs department, said this is inevitable as white civilization moves north.

He said in an address to the Ottawa Women's Canadian Club it is the government's responsibility to provide incentives for people to go north now to develop the area's vast resources.

Immediate development would ensure orderly change and make the Arctic an integral part of Canada without endangering the Eskimo's strong sense of identity with his land. Otherwise, schools there would graduate Eskimos who could find no work in their homeland.

Mr. Wilkinson, who lives in Yellowknife, N.W.T., said the North is "a land of great opportunity, and it will be a land of adventure for some time to come."

"We need not only specialists but adventurers as well. The key quality in the development of the North is vision and faith."

STUDY COPPER IN BODY

TORONTO (CP)—The Hospital for Sick Children announced Thursday a grant of \$200,078 has been approved by the John A. Hartford Foundation in New York for the hospital's research institute. The grant, extending over a three-year period, will be used to study the function of copper in the body. The project is headed by Dr. Andrew Sass-Kortsak.

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Students Hear RCMP Constable

TIGNISH — Constable John Greer of the RCMP Detachment at Alberton addressed the student body of the Tignish Regional High School during Safe Driving Week.

Constable Greer encouraged the students to be more cautious while driving. He pointed out that drivers between the ages of 16 and 25 have to pay the highest insurance, as the greatest number of offenders are in this bracket.

He said 16 were killed in P.E.I. during the past year, and the accident death rate is on the increase. He urged the students to use good common sense and responsibility when driving.

Sister St. Mary Arnold school principal introduced Constable Greer to the assembly.

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