

Curtis To Continue CF-100 Development



As Marshal W. A. Curtis, recently retired chief of Canada's air staff, has been elected vice-chairman of the board of directors of A. V. Roe (Canada) Ltd. An advocate of the CF-100, Canada's all-weather jet fighter, Curtis hopes to develop it still further in the Roe plant. He said it could be produced for NATO air forces.

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Exit Tony Blount

CHAPTER XIX

THURLOW's first sensation at sight of the schooner was one of relief. For a moment it seemed to him that here was an easy way out of his difficulties. The arrival of a visitor from the outside world was the one thing that would bring Strang to his senses, and he foresaw a speedy collapse of the trader's resistance to his authority.

But hard upon the heels of this comforting thought came a second and less agreeable notion. What was Captain Bowker doing back here again so soon? He knew that the Merry Maid was due to sail straight to Brisbane from Suva, and the captain had said that it might be years before he was in the vicinity of Arafu again. Yet here he was back again in a month. It could only mean that he was here on business, and as that business could not be trade it must surely mean that he was on Government service.

It was this last thought which filled him with sudden apprehension. On the face of it, it was highly improbable that the Government would go to the expense of sending the schooner all this way with letters or dispatches. But an obvious and disconcerting alternative explanation was that the authorities had decided to replace him in spite of the doctor's favourable report—and that his relief was even now approaching the island so that if that were the case it meant the end of everything as far as he was concerned. It meant that in another day or so he would be on his way to Auckland—and once there the mistake in identity would be exposed at once. And it would not end there. He could still plead loss of memory, but they would leave no stone unturned to discover how he came to be adrift in the Mauwai's boat—and the chances of his being ultimately connected with Noumea would be enormously increased by reason of the fact that so short a time had elapsed since his escape. But he was not the only one to read impending disaster in this visit. Strang, too, had seen the end of all things in the Merry Maid's appearance. Reasoning along the same lines as had Thurlow, he felt that it was only too likely that the latter's relief had arrived and he saw himself facing a situation which would inevitably be reported by Thurlow, he had compromised himself badly by instituting what was virtually an act of rebellion against the Government representative.

A little rapid thinking had convinced him that there was no time to lose if he was to repair this latter disastrous error in tactics, but there was still a hope that he could clear up that particular aspect of the situation if he moved quickly. He swung round on his heel and looked back at the Residency. Thurlow was still standing at the window, and he made straight for the verandah steps. The latter glanced over his shoulder and saw that M'fani had vanished. He had not heard her go, but he guessed that she must have seen the trader and had left by the back of the house, fearing to be found in his company at this juncture. A moment later Strang appeared in the doorway and he turned to face him, his expression grim and uncompromising. "Here's friend Bowker looking in on us again," the trader announced unnecessarily. "Come back for some more of my whisky I suppose."

The unexpected friendliness of his tone took Thurlow by surprise, for he had not yet realised how this visit of the schooner had struck the other, and he nodded without speaking. "He might have chosen a better time for it," Strang went on with a half rueful smile. "But I suppose he thought he might as well take us in on his way back to Brisbane." "You think so?" Thurlow asked dryly. He was beginning to understand what was in the trader's mind now. "It's taking him a good fortnight out of his way to call here." "I know," Strang returned. "But I told him there was nothing doing in the way of trade, so I can't see why else he should turn up here again so soon."

"Can't you?" Thurlow returned grimly. He guessed that Strang saw the red light and was now making belated overtures of peace, but he deliberately ignored the fact. He stood to gain nothing by compromising with him if his successor was in fact aboard the schooner. And if such was not the case, then there was still no reason for him to be in a hurry to meet him halfway. But Strang could not afford to stand upon his dignity, and he affected not to notice the rebuff. (To be Continued)

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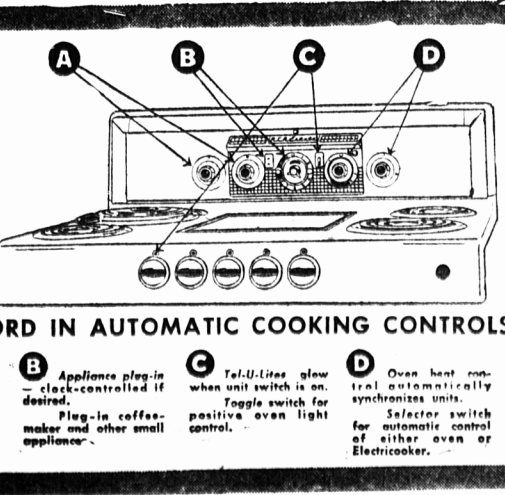
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DAILY CROSSWORD

- ACROSS: 1. Staff, 2. Addition to a table, 3. Measuring device, 4. Corn (India), 5. Crescent-shaped, 6. Plunge into water, 7. Type measure, 8. Ever (Yugo), 9. Coin (Peru), 10. Warp-year, 11. Dawdles, 12. Spill over, 13. Larva of eyethread-worm, 14. Chopped, 15. More agreeable, 16. Routine mode of procedure, 17. Large volume, 18. Darkened, 19. Small, 20. A son of Noah (Bib.), 21. Kind of cheese, 22. Road (abbr.), 23. Affirm, 24. Pricks painfully, 25. Shield of Zeus (Gr. myth.), 26. One of the Great Lakes, 27. A British title (fern.), 28. Serpentine lizard.

WATER GIANTS: 1. COYOTE, 2. OMBEL, 3. CUPID, 4. ANKLE, 5. SAILED, 6. ICE, 7. RED, 8. SPOTTLED, 9. CROP, 10. SLOW, 11. ESTIMATED, 12. GUESS, 13. OLD, 14. SOUP, 15. CHEROKEE, 16. GNU, 17. LAX, 18. TRIO, 19. IR, 20. ABOUT, 21. ENLIST, 22. MIGHTY, 23. HELLO, 24. SAKA.

Yesterday's Answer: 1. Washed, 2. Greek letter, 3. Fruits of the palm, 4. Bog, 5. Border, 6. Pinch, 7. Selenium, 8. (sym.)

DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE—Here's how to work it:

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW. One letter simply stands for another. In this example A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different. A Cryptogram Quotation: JP! P JN CTUX IJLCFUIW MF ZU IPF WCTHH AZLAHF JB T NFSSZUQ LZUQ—AZMMFL. Yesterday's Cryptogram: TIS MIGHTY EASY, OER A GLASS OF WINE, ON VAIN REFINEMENTS VAINLY TO REFINE—CHURCHILL.

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