



FIERY DEATH FOR SIX

This U.S. Navy tanker at Norfolk, Virginia, smashed into two houses, killing its four of the houses.

(AP Wirephoto)

## Edmonton Outskirts Area Is Centre Of Land Battle

By DON HANRIGHT

Canadian Press Staff Writer  
EDMONTON (CP)—The \$200,000,000 industrial area on Edmonton's eastern outskirts has become the centre of a land annexation battle involving all Alberta.

The plum is the municipal taxation revenue from the petrochemical plants, refineries and pipeline terminals clustered in a 12,000-acre district within smelling distance—if the wind is right—of the city limits.

All that revenue now goes to Strathcona rural municipality, a 562-square-mile area which in pre-industrial 1947 got along on taxes from not-so-good farmland.

**GREW WITH OIL BOOM**  
After the oil boom began the industries, looking for space that Edmonton couldn't offer, started setting up shop in Strathcona, keeping downstream on the North Saskatchewan River to avoid pollution of the city's water supply.

Since then, Strathcona's assessment has climbed 450 per cent to \$40,000,000.

Edmonton wants to include the industrial property in a big annexation program that would more than double the city's area to 112 square miles, bringing the adjoining towns of Jasper Place and Beverly into a one-government metropolitan area with a population of 265,000.

The amalgamation was recommended two years ago by a provincial royal commission but negotiations, among local councils involved have produced little progress.

Beverly, with a population of 5,000, wants to come into the city for the services it will get, and Jasper Place, with its 18,000 residents making up Alberta's largest town, hopes to complete negotiations with the city next year.

**WON'T YIELD PLUM**  
But Strathcona isn't willing. Municipal secretary-treasurer Alfred Hawkins says Strathcona will give the city land for "bona fide expansion"—such as for residential sub-divisions—but refuses to yield the industrial area, which provides the municipality with nearly 90 per cent of its current assessment.

Meanwhile, the entire amalgamation proposal has been clouded by the Alberta government announcement that it may consider taking over from all municipalities industrial assessment and taxation in the province.

This step would involve collecting the industrial taxes and then redistributing the total revenue

among all municipalities on a formula yet to be worked out. In dealings with Strathcona, the city of Edmonton has complained that while the rural municipality gets all the benefits of the industrial development, Edmonton has had to provide services for the 2,500 plant employees who flocked into the city.

**ADDS TO IMBALANCE**  
This influx, say civic officials, has added to the city's imbalance in commercial-residential assessment. The ideal ratio between the two tax sources is 50-50 says Mayor William Hawrelak. A few years ago it was 55 per cent commercial, 45 per cent residential. Now it has swung the other way—43 per cent commercial, the rest residential.

If Edmonton brought in Beverly and Jasper Place the imbalance would increase, since both towns are almost solidly residential. Mayor Hawrelak says

**HERMITAGE SMOOL**

Following is the Hermitage school report for the month of November.

Grade X: 1. Betty Curran, 2. Michael Wood.

Grade VIII: 1. Doreen Murphy.

Grade VII: 1. Marie Hayes; 2. Gerald Curran; 3. Preston Hayes.

Grade VI: 1. Elaine Murphy.

Grade V: 1. Albert Kern; 2. Blair Murphy.

Grade III: 1. Arlene Murphy.

Grade II: 1. Sr. 1. Brian Murphy.

Grade II Jr.: 1. Elmer O'Donnell; 2. Paula Murphy; 3. Joey Gallant.

Grade I: 1. Francis O'Donnell 2. Linda Murphy; 3. Leo Garland.

Teacher, Mario Curley.

this trend cannot continue if the city is to pay for public works; it must have the industrial income from Strathcona.

"Home owners don't pay for the city services they get—they have to be subsidized by business and industry," says the mayor. "This city has to depend on commercial assessment to meet the needs of a modern community."

Mr. Hawrelak regards the annexation and amalgamation as inevitable but adds that "the longer the situation is allowed to be protracted, the worse it will become. Look at the history of other cities with this problem. The people around Toronto wish now they had amalgamated 25 years ago."

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**WHA?, NO DRUNKS?**  
TORONTO (CP)—Jack Little, justice of the peace in charge of magistrate's court at city hall, was amazed Wednesday to find that for the first time in 25 years there was no case listed in liquor court. Nobody was arrested Tuesday night for a breach of Liquor Control Act and none was remanded for today.

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## Canadian Legion L. A. Held Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Kensington branch of the Canadian Legion Ladies Auxiliary was held on Monday evening, December 1st, at the home of Mrs. Luella Bryanton with 13 members present.

The president, Mrs. Jean Mayhew occupied the chair and opened the meeting with the regular opening ceremonies.

The secretary treasurer, Mrs. Ruby McInnis gave an encouraging general financial report, and was asked by the president to give a detailed report at the next meeting.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Mrs. Luella Bryanton; 1st. vice-president, Mrs. Marguerite Watson; 2nd. vice-president, Mrs. Erma Turner; secretary, Mrs. Ruth Carr; Treasurer, Mrs. Ruby McInnis; Press secretary, Mrs. L. Profit; Auditors, Mrs. Mamie Cotton, Mrs. Mae Gill.

Executive, Mrs. Winnie MacLean, Mrs. Mary Baglole, Mrs. Edna Dennis, Mrs. Jean Mayhew, Mrs. Velma Blakeney, Mrs. Rose Caseley, Mrs. Helen Murphy; Buying Committee, Mrs. Jean Mayhew, Mrs. Edna Dennis; Buying Committee (canteen) Mrs. Rose Caseley; Ways and Means (two months) Mrs. Ruth Carr, Mrs. Molly Brown; Sick and visiting, Mrs. Luella Bryanton, Mrs. Mamie Cotton; Lunch committee, Mrs. Marguerite Watson, Mrs. Ruth Carr, Mrs. Bryanton, Mrs. Winnie MacLean. It was decided to hold meetings on the second Monday at Mrs.

Bryanton's and Mrs. McInnis' alternately for the Winter months next meeting to be held at Mrs. Bryanton's.

## Hosp. Auxiliary Holds Meeting

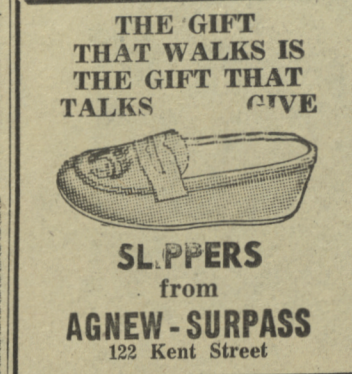
CASCUMPEC—The Cascumpec Auxiliary of the O'Leary Community Hospital Ladies Aid met for their regular monthly meeting at the home of Mrs. Harry Thomas Friday evening, November 22nd.

The president, Mrs. James Thomas opened the meeting by repeating the Lord's Prayer in unison. The Secretary Mrs. Firth MacNeil read the minutes of the last meeting. Roll call was answered by presenting pennies for the size of your shoe.

After the meeting adjourned lunch was served by the hostess, assisted by the committee in charge. Mrs. James Thomas provided entertainment in the form of a humorous reading "homehunting" also a contest. Mrs. Kenneth Leard kindly invited the members to her home for the December meeting when new officers for the coming year will be elected. C.V.

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POWERFUL CLOSE—shaves deep down where beards begin!

**SEA VIEW SCHOOL**  
The following is the report of Sea View School for the month of November.  
Grade X: 1. Doreen Adams.  
Grade IX: 1. Sylvia Murphy, 2. Lorraine Co son.  
Grade VIII: 1. Buddy Clark, 2. Lennie MacLaren.  
Grade VII: 1. Georgia Murphy, 2. zier.

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