

# Tractor Trains Commence Winter Hauling In North

By MRS. ATHOL RETALLACK  
Canadian Press Correspondent  
DANFORTH, Y.T. (CP)—Tractor trains, the lifeblood of oil exploration in the far north, have started their annual winter hauls across the frozen muskegs, rivers and snowswept glaciers of the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

Progress is slow — only four miles an hour. A work day is a 12-hour shift. But the pay is good and the grub is tops.

Twenty-one men handled the first tractor train of the season for Western Minerals Limited, a company with extensive exploration rights in the north.

Headed for the Peel River Country 200 miles north of here, the nine-tractor train hauled 500 tons of freight—mostly fuel oil and drill pipe for exploration camps.

The first trip will take about five weeks as the men repair washouts and slides that have hit the trail since last year. Each train carries a complete workshop. Breakdowns of equipment are taken care of on the spot despite temperatures which slide under the 60-below-zero mark.

The comfort and welfare of the men are well looked after. The crews live in eight-by-20-foot bunk houses pulled by tractor.

The plywood houses are snug, have electric lights, washing facilities, and, like the cookhouse, carry split wood with them for stoves — the constant joggling would soon make an oil burner unserviceable. At first the men find it difficult to sleep while the bunkhouses on sleds bounce and joggle over the frozen ground.

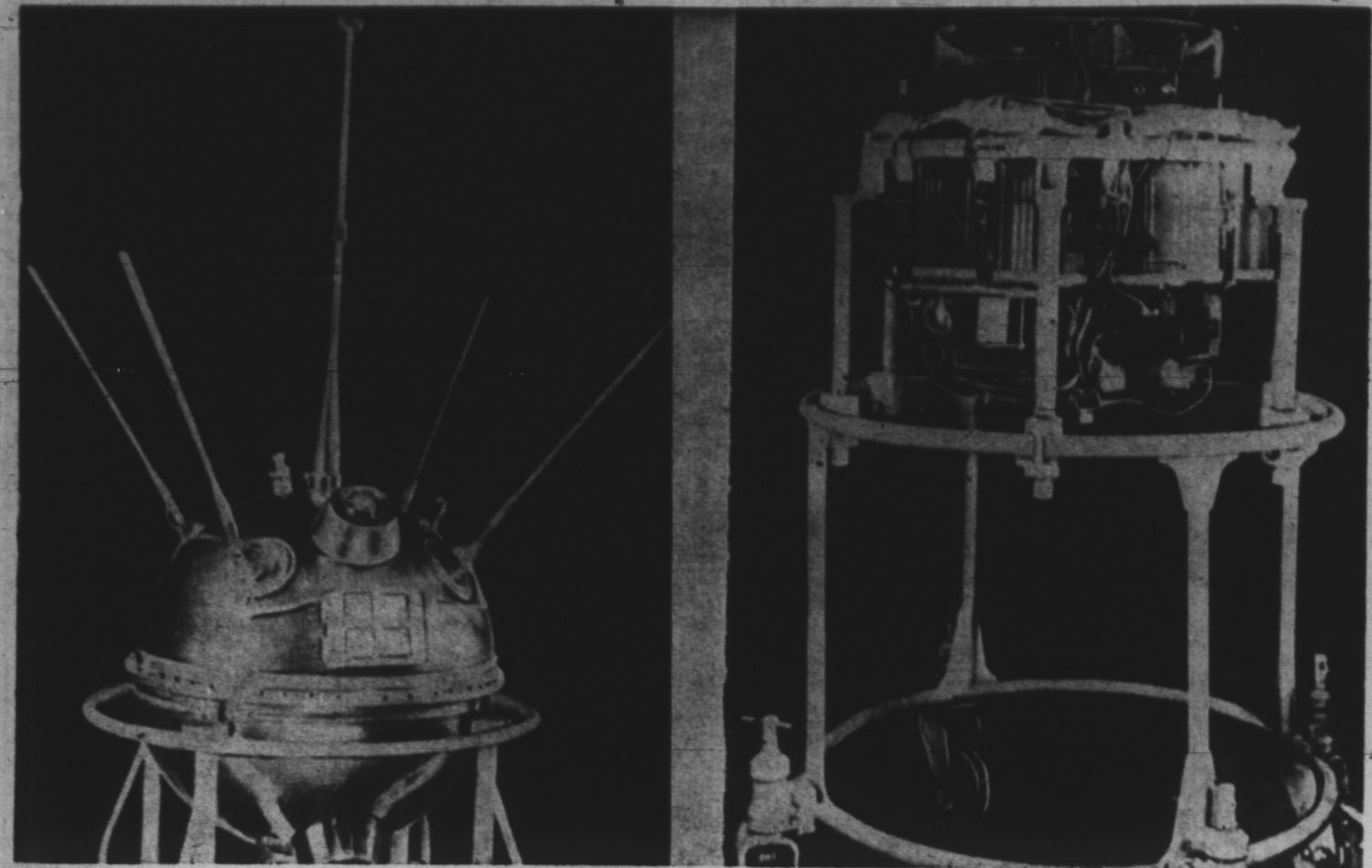
Fresh meats, fruits and vegetables and canned goods are on board. Part way the train will rendezvous with an aircraft from Dawson for more fresh stuffs and mail.

**SAFE-SUFFICIENT**

Though the journey is made through uninhabited country and the train must be self-sufficient, daily radio contact is made with army signal corps in Dawson.

Tractor trains are at times stopped by Arctic blizzards but the biggest problem is the Summit Pass Glacier of the Ogilvie Mountains. There is no traction for vehicles when the glacier has been swept clean of snow.

Three round trips are planned before breakup to stocking supplies to keep drill crews going all summer.



## RUSSIANS' ARTIFICIAL PLANET

The latest satellite fired by the Russians now is in an egg-shaped orbit around the sun, the first artificial planet in the solar system. The Soviet Embassy in Ottawa provided these pictures.

Left is an exterior view of the satellite on its assembly carriage and right its instruments and power supply.

## TIMELY NOTES ON FUR FARMING

The New York Auction Company's sale of the United Mink Producers' Association's consignment in New York a week ago was very successful. 98 percent of the 51,618 ranch mink were sold, with males reported to have climbed 15 percent over January 1958 levels; females climbed 20 percent.

A total of 36,616 wild mink was 86 percent sold, with prices quoted as "very firm." The bulk of the goods were said to have been sold to both European and domestic buyers.

**REPORT PRODUCTION**

New records were set in fur production in Manitoba in 1958. According to officials sources in Winnipeg, more beaver were taken during the year than in any season since 1870; the number is 20,000, and it is the result of a sound fur management policy that has been in force since the years when the beaver stock in Manitoba became dangerously low.

The 37,854 wild mink trapped there during the year also set a new record, this one dating back to 1825. The record crop on mink added more than \$700,000 to the trapper incomes for the year.

The value of the beaver and wild mink combined made up 58 percent of the wild fur-valuation for the year, which was \$1,677,263. The fur farming industry of the province again produced a high yield of fur, almost exclusively mink. The value of fur produced on fur farms reached \$4,688,362, which is slightly higher than a year ago.

**U. S. BUYS**

A despatch from Oslo, Norway, dated January 11, stated that an offering of 100,000 Pastel, Topaz and Palomino mink was almost 100 percent sold at prices ranging from unchanged to down 10 percent compared with the December 1958 sale levels at auctions held in Oslo.

Male Pastels were 5-10 percent down from December; Topaz and Palomino were unchanged. In the United States males averaged \$23.50 with a top of \$37.25; females averaged \$21 with a top of \$28.75; females averaged \$11.50 to \$14. Palomino sales averaged \$20 with a top of \$27.50; females averaged \$11 with a top of \$14.75.

The Western Canadian Raw Fur Auction Sales, Ltd., will offer at public auction on Wednesday, January 21, a large variety of Marten, Fisher, Ermine, Wolverine, Otter, Wolf, Muskrat, Squirrel, Lynx, Beaver, Wild Mink, 5,000 red, cross, silver and white foxes, and 80,000 ranch mink, comprising all the popular mutations.

These are being offered by arrangement with Canada Mink Breeders (EMBA affiliate in Canada, and they will have special catalogue sections. The auction will take place at Vancouver.

A despatch from New Haven, Conn., to "Women's Wear Daily" had the following: "A man and a woman teamed up to steal a \$700 silver blue mink stole at Lillian's Fur Studio, Capel Street, last Friday as the woman, posing as a customer, was trying on furs, the man with her asked to use a rest room, and the store owner, Jack M. Fiederman, led the way. When he returned the lady had disappeared with the fur."

A despatch from Norway dated January 7 has the following: "Pensioned silver fox couples are the latest news on the social security front in Norway. The few, but magnificent specimens that were carried up to the judges' table at the Fur Animal Exhibition here, recently aroused little interest.

All spectators crowded around the tables where mink and blue foxes were shown, and the silver foxes were attended only by their owners. When the war broke out in 1939, Norway had about 500,000 silver foxes on their farms, but today it is feared that the race might die out entirely.

**BEING READY**

The Society of Norwegian Fur Animal Breeders is seriously thinking of "pensioning" off the best pedigree animals by paying their owners for their board and lodging on the chance that the

## St. Marks W.A. Holds Meeting

Mrs. Elmer Paynter was hostess at her home in Kensington to the members of St. Mark's Anglican W.A. at the regular meeting on January 7.

The new president, Mrs. Lloyd Howard presided and led in the devotional period which included the Litany for the month and prayers. "As With Gladness Men of Old" was sung and responsive scripture reading was from Isaiah 61 and St. Matthew 6. The new secretary, Mrs. Walter Moore read the minutes and called the roll which was responded to by 12 members with a verse of scripture.

On behalf of the Christmas Cheer committee, Mrs. Elmer Paynter and Mrs. D. Roy Ingraham reported 15 boxes packed with treats, and gifts made and donated by the Girls Auxiliary. The W.A. members were happy to receive as gifts, Christmas Greeting book marks made by the Junior Auxiliary.

A message from Mrs. John Moase asked that the members consider a query from Mrs. R. Carruthers re the Girls meeting for the World Day of Prayer. It was suggested that the girls hold their own service separately in the United Church where the service is scheduled to be held on February 13.

Mrs. Townsend read a letter from Mrs. Lillian R. Dickson telling of her missionary and welfare work in Formosa. A report from Mrs. John Moase, G.A. leader, showed a membership of 8, average attendance of six. The membership has increased this year to 11. Mrs. Lester Champion is her new assistant. The local group entertained 82 G.A.'s at the annual festival, and distinguished themselves by placing first in Drama and 2nd in singing.

Thank you messages were received from Mr and Mrs. H. Paynter, Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Ingalls for Christmas boxes.

A letter from the Prayer Partner Miss Mary Rendell, Executive Secretary of the W.A. was read by Mrs. Ernest Mill. Mrs. Elmer Paynter gave the treasurer's report, showing a working balance to begin the New Year.

Mrs. Elmer Moase, Educational Secretary, gave a talk on the Study Book "He Cares" taking the first part of the chapter entitled "He Giveth Medicine to Heal Their Sickness." She said His express command is imperative for the church, "Heal the Sick." The Canadian Church has assumed responsibility for healing overseas, in Japan, Africa and especially India. She told of the opening of the new Maple Leaf Hospital at Kangra when Dr. Florence Haslam said, in part "Today marks the climax of many years of hoping, planning and praying, and now we have in Kangra a hospital worthy of the name."

The old hospital grew from small beginnings about 50 years ago when Dr. Haslam's mother, also a doctor began seeing a few

## Canadian Legion Holds Meeting

Mr. Ira Ellis was elected president of the O'Leary Canadian Legion Branch at the annual meeting on Thursday, January 10th.

Mr. Ellis was elected sergeant at arms, with Mr. E. B. Ellis as president.

The 1958 financial statement showed a small credit balance on hand following a very successful year.

The installation of officers was conducted by Mr. Harry MacWilliams, assisted by Mr. Emerson Smallman and are as follows: Honorary President, Mr. Bradford MacKay, Colem a; 1st. vice-president, William G. By; 2nd. vice-president, Hughie MacGregor; secretary-treasurer, Gerald Matthews, re-elected; Sergeant at arms, Frank Silliker, Chaplain, Charles Foley, security officer, Sam Cornish; welfare officer, Harry MacWilliams.

A most interesting program from the Study Book Meeting closed by repeating the Mizpah benediction.

## SPRINGFIELD-O'LEARY

The annual meeting of the Springfield-O'Leary United Baptist congregation was held on Tuesday evening January, 13th, in the O'Leary Baptist Church.

The meeting opened with hymn "What a friend we have in Jesus." Scripture reading Psalm 84, followed with prayer by the pastor, Rev. Ross Howard, the devotional period closed with hymn, "I need thee every hour."

On motion Mr. Earle Jelly acted as chairman. The minutes of the last annual meeting were read by the secretary clerk, Mrs. Earle Jelly.

Reports of the church organizations were heard from church "Treasure's" report was given by Miss Jean Stetson. A complete report from the beginning of the church Building Fund was given

## Worship service on "Growing Magnanimity"

Mrs. Earl Pearson presided over the business session when monthly and annual reports were presented.

The treasurer's financial statement was heartening, the allocation being exceeded leaving a balance for gifts for building advance. The supply secretary reported that several bales of clothing had been packed and shipped overseas, where the need is still so great.

Following is the slate of officers for the year 1959:

President, Mrs. Earl Pearson; first vice president, Mrs. Kenneth Muttart; second vice president, Mrs. Ralph Calbeck; recording secretary, Mrs. Ellisson Wright; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Edith Thompson; treasurer, Mrs. Edith Wright; Mrs. Walter Craig; temperance and christian citizenship, Mrs. Wilfred Craig; christian stewardship, Mrs. Irving Toombs; Missionary Monthly, Mrs. Walter Bowness; community friendship, Mrs. Charles Green; associate members, Mrs. Arnold Henderson; supply secretary, Mrs. Ralph Calbeck, and Mrs. Arthur Murray; sick committee, Mrs. Neil Bradshaw; press secretary, Mrs. Norman MacFarlane; organist, Mrs. Walter Craig.

Mrs. Wilfred Craig conducted

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## FOR BRONCHIAL ASTHMA

YOU CAN'T BEAT BUCKLEY'S MIXTURE

FOR BRONCHIAL ASTHMA YOU CAN'T BEAT BUCKLEY'S MIXTURE

## RAF Transport Plane Ready

MONTREAL (CP) — Canadian Limited said Thursday the first of a series of new turboprop transport planes for the RCAF likely will be ready for delivery within two weeks.

The first model of the medium-range, twin-engine craft was wheeled from the company plant Thursday. A spokesman said it will be test-flown before delivery as the first of 10 ordered by the RCAF Air Transport Command.

Built primarily as a cargo-carrier, the aircraft can be converted for passenger use. It has been named the Canadair 540.

With maximum space payload and 45 minutes fuel reserve, the aircraft has a range of 900 statute miles. At 20,000 feet, it has a cruising speed of 320 miles.

and consideration of the church to be voted on at a later date.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned, after which Bless Be the Tie and Mizpah benediction.

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