

### Skunks Pose Problem For Prairie Cities

REGINA (CP)—This city was apparently no bigger stinker than any other in Saskatchewan this fall.

The stink comes from invading prairie skunks. There are no authoritative statistics but many citizens have complained of seeing skunks in the city streets. The problem is that no agency accepts the animals as its responsibility.

"As far as this department is concerned," said Ernie Paynter, provincial director of wildlife, "skunks that move into the city become residents of the city and no longer are the concern of the department."

What they're after is just food and water, he says.

City police have received some complaints which they turn over to Mr. Paynter's department. Some people went directly to the humane society, but their permanent employees doesn't seem to like tackling skunks so nothing gets done.

Still, there's more to the problem than just the smell. Skunks have become rabies carriers in southeast Saskatchewan in recent years.

The best thing the homeowner can do is trap them himself, says Mr. Paynter.

"Build a little home-made trap, lay a trail of meat from the skunk-hole to the trap and catch the little stinker."

"Then close the box, tip it on its side—skunks don't usually blow their stack when agitated—and drown it."

### Seal-Killing Proposals Discussed

FREDERICTON (CP)—Elimination of one method of killing seals and expulsion of sealers breaking regulations are among proposed changes in rules governing the Canadian sealing industry, Brian Davies, executive secretary of the New Brunswick Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, said here.

Mr. Davies said in a telephone interview from his home at nearby Lower Lincoln that he had received the proposals from C. B. Levelton, director of the conservation and protection service of the federal fisheries department.

A department spokesman announced Oct. 30 that revision of the regulations should be completed by Christmas.

The seal-hunting season opens off Eastern Canada in March.

Mr. Davies said gaffs—long spears previously used in killing seals—no longer would be allowed under the proposed amendments.

### OPPOSES SHOOTING

Mr. Davies said: "I'm not at all pleased that they are going to permit the continued shooting of seals. This is a barbarous practice which results in wounded seals escaping beneath the ice to die of wounds."

Mr. Davies said he also was displeased that seals still could be killed by drowning "and I was most unhappy that the Norwegians refused to accept the regulation that hooded seals be protected in breeding patches on the front."

The front-named after the front of the ice pack—is the sealing area off the east coast of Labrador.

He said the changes had been drawn up after a meeting of government, sealing industry and humane society officials in Ottawa last June 1.

### Steel Price Increase Is Forecast

HAMILTON, Ont. (CP)—Absorption by the steel industry of steadily mounting costs "is no longer possible," Frank H. Sherman, president of Dominion Foundries and Steel Ltd. said Saturday in a quarterly statement to shareholders.

Profit margins have declined and can be restored to their former level "only by means of increased prices."

Dofasco, together with Steel Co. of Canada Ltd., announced Aug. 1 that a 3.7-per-cent increase in tin mill products would go into effect Oct. 1. On Sept. 13, Stelco announced increases of less than three per cent in prices of plate, galvanized sheets and some bar mill products.

Finance Minister Mitchell Sharp the same day asked Stelco to reconsider. If this was not done, he said, he would suggest a joint parliamentary committee look into industry prices. Stelco suspended the Sept. 13 price increases six days later and together with Dofasco cancelled the Oct. 1 increases.

### TAO CHU MOVES UP

TOKYO (Reuters)—Tao Chu, regarded as one of the leaders of China's cultural revolution, has been promoted to membership of the Communist party's central committee, Radio Peking said Saturday in a broadcast heard in Japan. The radio said he was among those set Peking airport to see off a Chinese delegation flying to Albania. It described him as a member of the standing committee.



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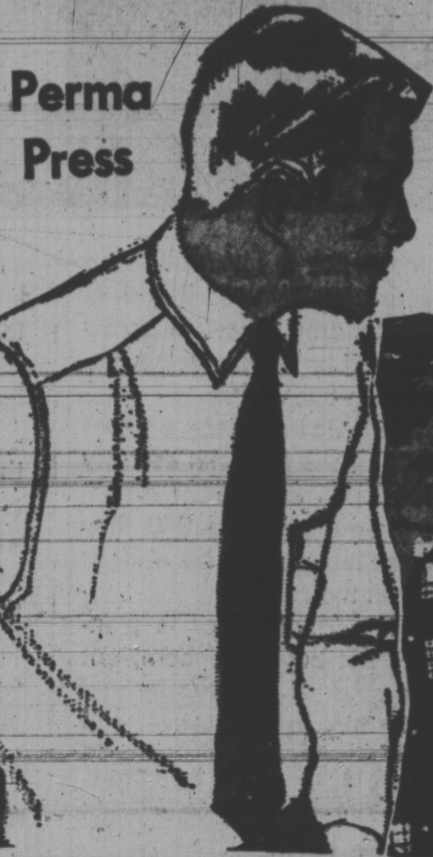
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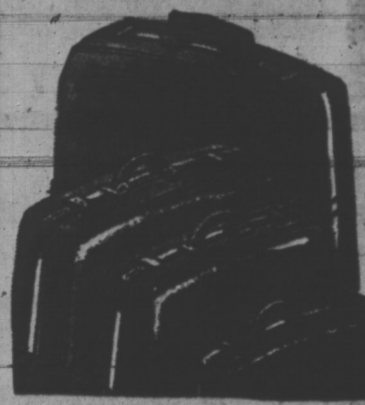
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