

Mr. Harkness Resigns
In his letter of resignation from the Diefenbaker Government Mr. Harkness made clear why he could no longer carry on as defense minister.

It was a dignified letter, creditable to the man, to his honorable record in public life and gallant service as a soldier. There was no question as to the sincerity of his views.

There is no reason, either, to doubt that those who differed with him in the Cabinet were not equally sincere. Many of them—such as External Affairs Minister Green and our Island representative, Fisheries Minister MacLean—also had distinguished war records and do not need to apologize to this score for the defense policies to which they subscribe.

It was an honest difference of opinion. But it would have been better, perhaps, if Mr. Harkness had not waited so long before acknowledging the fact of its existence. Only last Thursday he declared in the Commons that there was no division between him and the Prime Minister on nuclear arms policy.

The public, if not Mr. Harkness, has known for a long time that dissensions were brewing in the Cabinet on this issue and weakening it at a time when, if ever, it should be speaking with united voice.

Whether or not it leads to dissolution of Parliament and the calling of another election, Mr. Harkness' resignation has served to clear the air. We believe, with the Government, that this is a time for making haste slowly on the nuclear arms question and for clearing up his resignation on a good thing. But he rates a respectful salute as he steps down.

Space Race Goes On
The launching of satellites is no longer a matter of sensational news. Most of us have lost count of the number of entries in this fantastic race, but for the record it is worth noting that while the United States has lost some spectacular firsts to the Soviets, its achievement to date reflects a massive success.

For comparison, the Soviets have successfully launched 83 satellites and four space probes since October, 1957. Their failures are thought to have been proportionally as numerous as those in the Amer-

ican program, but we don't hear much about that from the other side. In reporting to Congress as chairman of the National Aeronautics and Space Council recently, Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson noted that 1962 could be called a period of acceleration, accomplishment and relative progress for the United States in its space leadership drive.

Equally striking was the fact that satellite launching reliability had improved to a point where 83 per cent of such launchings last year were successful. In the early days of the program, only 38 per cent of American satellite launchings were successful.

From the beginning, there have been scientifically valuable, if not dramatic, achievements. Explorer 7, the earth's natural radiation belts. This discovery still ranks as outstanding among the results of space research.

From these small beginnings has grown the space capabilities that last year placed 54 U.S. satellites in orbit as compared to 15 launched by the Soviets. The report rightly notes, however, that competition from the Soviets continues to be stiff. They can still launch heavier payloads than can the United States and they have used this ability to maintain an impressive lead in manned space flight.

The Athabaskan Sands
A few weeks ago the Alberta government approved a \$125 million program of Great Canadian Oils, Ltd., to extract oil from the Athabaskan sands. The area to be developed lies 280 miles northwest of Edmonton and is believed—hold your breath!—to comprise 300,000 million to 500,000 million barrels of oil, a large proportion of it extractable. These sands, in fact, are believed in some quarters to contain the largest-known reserves of petroleum in the world, potentially enough to meet Canada's requirements for eight centuries.

For many years they were regarded as potentially useless because, in spite of their oil content, no practical process was available for separating the oil from the sand and making it available for transportation to distant markets. But the development of a water flotation process for separating the sand and water has provided the spur for development and attracted the interest of major oil companies.

The same process may prove valuable in developing the potential of other areas of northern Canada where the geological formations and their characteristics indicate the presence of large pools of oil. This is true of the recently located Melville Island deposits, 1,450 miles north of Edmonton, which, however, are not as extensive as those of Athabasca. And being farther from the market, their commercial development may be delayed for some time.

Financing of the Athabasca project is expected to be completed during the coming fall, with construction of plant and other facilities to start about a year from now. The company plans a 290-mile pipeline to connect with the existing interprovincial pipeline system. Initial production capacity is expected to be about 35,000 barrels a day, which will not interfere with other companies' markets as it represents only about 5 per cent of current production in Canada.

EDITORIAL NOTE
The financial position of our hospitals is a matter of public concern. There are many things which the Hospital Insurance plan does not make allowance for, and which may necessitate an appeal for funds to carry on in the near future. Why this is so is set forth in statements in today's issue which we commend to the serious attention of all our readers.

RUSSIAN COSMONAUT POPOVICH SAYS HE HAS 'INVITED' SOME CUBANS TO FLY THROUGH THE COSMOS

By Dr. Theodor R. Van Dellen
MANY GROSS pass through the placenta into the circulation of the unborn child. None produces the deformities that we know of unless it is present in the fetus. But some precautions are advisable because we know so little about causes of birth defects. Pregnant women should not take any medicine at all, not even a vitamin, unless it is prescribed by the physician.

When a husband gets in all right, the secret is told you not to be wrong.—Shakespeare.
One of the toughest tasks facing a new employee is how to look back on his first year. You are not.—Kitchener-Waterloo Record.

It is in a sense that you told her the secret I told you not to tell her.—Him-m, I told her not to tell you I told her.—"Well, don't tell her that I told you she told me.—Montreal Star.

Adam may have had his troubles, but he never had to listen to Eva's talk about the other man she could have married.—Montreal Star.

It seems that it is impossible to live in a Nazi German butcher shop. An unhappy citizen in East Berlin was given this explanation in a production: "This is the latest miracle of the Communists. They have succeeded in producing child without lives. Since the animals get so little to eat, they have no need of them."—Deutsch-Gezetzung, Stuttgart.

Some hormones, such as the progesterone, testosterone and stilbesterol, have a temporary masculinizing effect upon the sex glands of the fetus. The fetus may develop the sex characteristics of the mother or father. A number of tranquilizers cure the barrier, but do not encourage the defects that we know of. Thalidomide. The fetus may be injured by the mother's use of tranquilizers. It is utilized in treating high blood pressure associated with the mother or fetus.

Some physicians are in agreement that all drugs should be avoided during the first three months of pregnancy, unless they are needed to save the mother's life.
LOOKING INTO BRONCHI
G. W. writes: When is a bronchoscopic indicated?

The bronchoscope enables the physician to look into the windpipe and larger bronchi. It is used to investigate the possibility of tumors or other disease processes, to obtain biopsy material if necessary and to remove foreign bodies such as pins or needles.—HEREDITY AND LEUKEMIA Mrs. J.H. writes: Is cancer of the blood hereditary?

The cause of leukemia is not known at present. A virus is implicated but more research will be needed before this concept receives universal acceptance.
URINARY TRACT INFECTION
O.R. writes: Can infection in the bladder or kidneys be cured without antibiotics?

Yes, and this applies to the majority of patients. Best results are obtained when the cause of the infection is determined and treated accordingly.

How To Beat A Cold
Financial Post, Toronto
Avoiding colds these damp, cold days may be difficult. But there is one way. And even if the circumstances revealed in Modern Medicine do not fit you, there are lessons which could help you to keep fit.

Workers in farmer areas, but do insist on wool clothing a day before the weather is too warm. The work, in cellars and filter room, keeps them active and warm. They also get through each evening before leaving the plant.

Curling Without Ice
Niagara Falls Review
The Dutch have invented a game called roll curling. It is played on a smooth surface mounted on steel ball bearings. The "stones" are made of a plastic material, and are compact, and tough in resistance.

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Care Is Needed With Tranquilizers When Pregnant

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NOTES BY THE WAY

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Suitable To Them

Cape Breton Post
A proposed name for the eastern section of the Northwest Territories is Nunavut, an Eskimo word meaning beautiful land, and pronounced noo-nah-wut. It is a name that has been used by Eskimos in the past.

How right and true it is for people to discern beauty in the world, but if it is beautiful with a discernment based on familiarity. To anybody with an eye for beauty, it can be found everywhere. In the Northwest Territories there is the stark and terrible beauty of the low windswept tundra there is a colorful beauty in the summers, in the low growth of grass and little berry plants that garb the blunt nakedness of the earth.

Enormous problems are involved in the proposed fitting of American built Polaris missiles with British nuclear warheads and then launching them from British submarines. Some scientists think the international missile mating wouldn't be worth the effort even though it worked in the future. They say the diplomatic and military stresses during the development of the head-off process would be too disruptive.

William Perkinson, staff writer of the Baltimore Sun, points out what can happen when even "a little bit of change" is made in a reliable routine. In the United States' high altitude hydroelectric plants in the Pacific last summer, new type warheads were placed atop American turbines thoroughly tested. Three times the missile had to be destroyed in the new type warhead was exploded. On the fourth try, it was test succeeded. And the Thors

Every component of a missile will be tested under laboratory conditions more severe than any existing in space. Yet when put together in orbit, the components may fail. Why? The engineers wish they knew. What they do know is that such failures will occur regardless of the agreements entered into by heads of state.

North American Life Reports to Policyholders
Another year of significant PROGRESS

The record of growth of North American Life was further enhanced in 1962. The protection and savings represented by more than \$2.7 billion of assurances and annuities in force reflects the continued confidence of the holders of more than 243,000 Ordinary policies and 155,000 Group certificates in the services which the Company has to offer.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 82ND ANNUAL REPORT
Benefit Payments and Provisions \$ 57,173,686
Increase \$5,080,170
New Assurances and Annuities \$ 350,037,727
Increase \$9,362,039
Assurances and Annuities in force \$2,720,425,853
Increase \$245,967,048
Total Assets \$ 397,713,966
Increase \$30,874,089

NORTH AMERICAN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY
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W. D. Nunn, Regional Group Executive