

Flu Outbreak Said Normal

OTTAWA (CP)—'Tis the season to be jolly. It's also the season for fevers, aches, stomach upsets and all the other symptoms of influenza.

While it may be small comfort to those who have come down with the recurring disease, health authorities say all indications point to no more flu than is normal at this time of year.

There certainly is no evidence available to the federal health department of a flu outbreak on the scale of the 1957 epidemic which affected thousands and disrupted schools and businesses.

But it may only be a matter of time before the versatile flu virus changes this bright picture. It seems to run in 10-year cycles.

If the flu bug holds true to form another variety should be ready to strike in 1967, when Canadians are marking the centennial of Confederation.

However, health authorities can't do anything until a new flu strain develops. And then it takes so long to produce a vaccine, which must be grown in fertilized eggs, that most of the population is exposed to the disease before they can take shot.

For the varieties now making the rounds, a four-virus vaccine is available to help give some protection.

Yugoslavia Is Granted U.S. Credit

BELGRADE (AP)—The United States announced here new credit grants of \$27,000,000 to help the Yugoslav economy.

American Ambassador C. Burke Elbrick made the announcement to the Yugoslav government and expressed U.S. understanding of the aims of Yugoslavia's drastic economy reform program.

The reform went into effect July 24 last. It was designed to stabilize the Communist country's shaky economy by making it more of an open market economy, with lessened government control and subsidies.

With the latest grant the U.S. has given Yugoslavia a total of more than \$175,000,000 in credits this year.

It was another aspect of what was described as the best state of U.S.-Yugoslav relations in the last five years.

On the positive side of the relations balance was listed the agreement by the U.S. last month to sell Yugoslavia 700,000 tons of wheat to help the country through the winter. Another wheat sale is expected in the spring.

Ont. Changes Cigarette Tax

TORONTO (CP)—Ontario's new tobacco tax will go into effect at the start of the year—but no change in price to the smoker is anticipated.

The government has removed the three-per-cent sales tax from cigarettes and replaced it with a quantity tax of one twentieth of a cent a cigarette.

The new tax works out almost to the same amount as the old one, but the change makes it far easier for the provincial treasury to collect the money.

The three-per-cent sales tax on cigarettes is collected from about 25,000 retailers in the province. But the new quantity tax will be collected instead from the wholesalers and, in some cases, the manufacturers.

Here's how the new tax works: On a \$3.20 carton of 200 cigarettes the tax will be one twentieth of a cent a cigarette, or 10 cents.

The old three-per-cent tax amounted to 9.6 cents, or in round figures 10 cents, on the same-priced carton. So there should be no difference to the consumer.

MINISTER AILING

LONDON (Reuters)—Foreign Secretary Michael Stewart, 59, is suffering from a painful kidney ailment, it was announced Tuesday. He became ill at the foreign office Monday but officials said Tuesday night he already is feeling better and plans to open the House of Commons foreign affairs debate next Monday.

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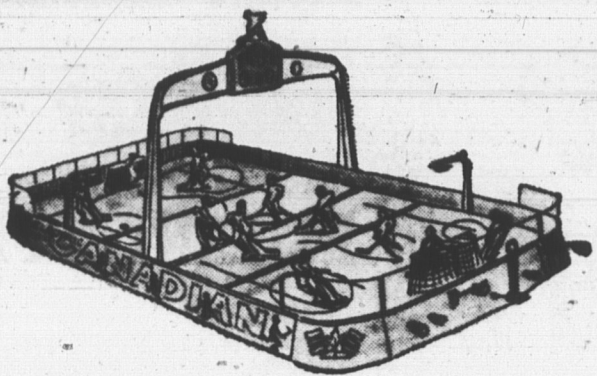
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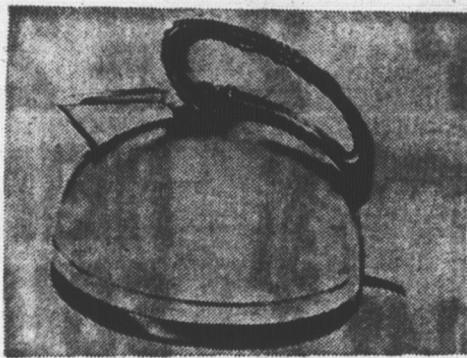
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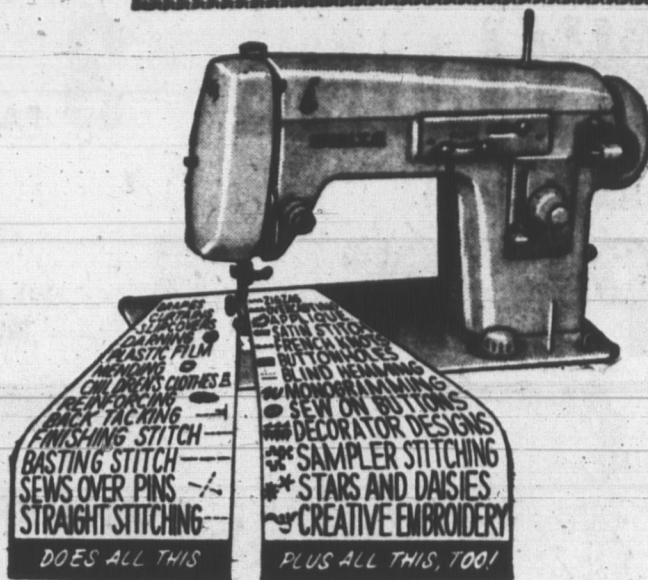
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Your choice: 50-pc. sets, each

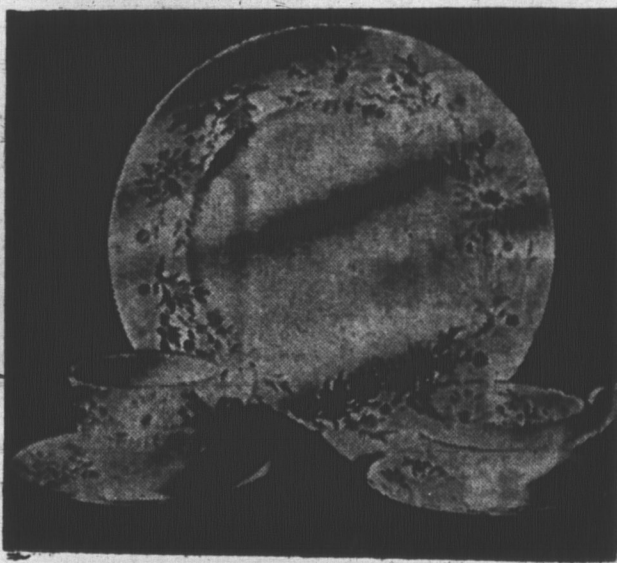
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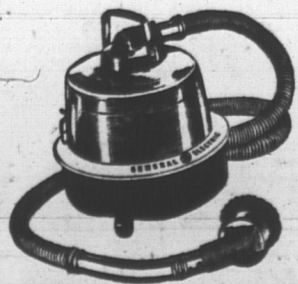
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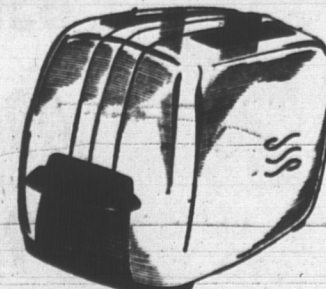
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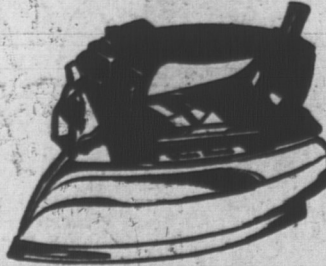
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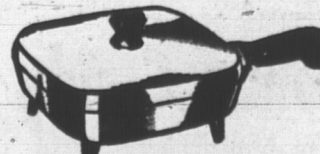
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