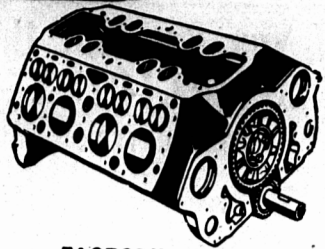



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### NEWSY NOTES

By Agricola

#### THE LINCOLN'S SPARROW

The only record we have of this Sparrow was made by John Macoun in 1888. (Mr. Macoun published a "Catalogue of Canadian Birds" in 1909). Other writers have expressed doubt about the presence of this bird in Eastern Canada, while both Taverner and Peterson state that its range is from Newfoundland to Maine. These writers lay stress, however, on its unsociability which leads it to shun mankind, and so creates a doubt of its presence. "It is a skulker in the marshes, and is afraid of its own shadow". The admirable list of New Brunswick birds, drawn up by Mr. Wm. H. Moore of Scotch Lake, describes the Lincoln's Sparrow, as a tolerably common summer resident, and adds that it breeds there. It is included also in the list of Nova Scotia birds drawn up by Mr. Robie W. Tufts Chief Federal Migratory Bird Officer for the Maritimes.

Other difficulties in getting records, are caused by this Sparrow's resemblance to other species, and also to the scarcity of trained observers in the Province. In the illustrated "Bird Guides", this species is hardly to be distinguished from the Song Sparrow except for its finer streaks on the breast and the absence of the central spot. Here is a short description from that fine work. "The Birds of North Carolina":

Lincoln's Sparrow AOU 533  
Plumage: Crown brown, streaked black, and with a light median line. Back olive-gray or brown, sharply streaked black; underparts mainly white, but with a broad buffy band across the breast, which is narrowly streaked with black. Length to 6 inches.

Look also for a narrow, rather inconspicuous eye-ring in the Lincoln's Sparrow.

#### FOX SPARROWS

A letter from Professor J. Lincoln Dewar, Supervisor of the Agriculture Short-Courses, reads: "Dear Agricola: It has occurred to me that you might be interested in our observation of a small flock of birds on our lawn at New Perth on April 18th (1950). From our description of the birds Mr. Ralph MacLean has identified them as "Fox Sparrows". The description as submitted to him is as follows:

(1) Stout as a large English Sparrow, but longer. (2) Long reddish-brown tail. (3) Brown and white breast. (4) Bluish gray over back. (5) Very energetic, scratches both feet at once making the leaves fly out behind. (6) A sweet pleasant song.

"We are very much interested to know if these were "Fox Sparrows", and would appreciate hearing from you regarding them."

Yes, they were Fox Sparrows, and I congratulate you and Mr. MacLean on your identification. The Sparrows are a rather difficult group; so much alike.

The Fox Sparrow gets its name from its red-brown tail; just the color of the red fox. However the "bluish-gray" of the back "is caused by the feathers becoming worn, and the normal color is brown.

I have seen but one bird (leaving out the domestic fowl) that can scratch the Fox Sparrow at scratching for a living animal that is its cousin, the Towhee. Both make quite a noise while scattering the dead leaves. An article describing this Sparrow is in preparation.

#### FIRST TO BLOOM

"On April 19th of this year the little Winter Aconites spread their golden flowers to the sun—heralding the Summer's floral display. The little yellow flowers, like buttercups, grow two or three inches above the ground, and each is set in a collar of fine green frilled segments that never seem to mind the cold. Last year they were in bloom April 28, and I covered them with a box to protect them from the snow that fell that night. For some unknown reason the Winter Aconites did not bloom till May 9th in 1944. The botanical name is *Eranthis hyemalis*, and they belong to the Buttercup Family. They grow in some parts of England, where they are said to be naturalized. I found that they liked the morning sun, but not the mid-day heat; and preferred a good damp black soil. They require no protection, unless one doesn't want them covered with snow in bloom. They will "snow themselves."

#### THE SKY IN MAY

As the days lengthen the sky loses interest: the glorious constellations of winter are now below the western horizon, and the few spectacular groups remaining must contend with the increasing sunlight. Moreover both work and pleasure take up more of our working hours and to that extent our star-gazing falls away. Still there are a few happenings we must watch:

May 2, 1950: Moon at the Full and in Perigee; distant from Earth 221,800 miles. May 4, Eta Aquarid meteors.

Moon in Last Quarter May 8. Conjunction of Moon and Jupiter May 9. Rain?

May 12 conjunction of Moon and Venus. May 15 Moon in Apogee, distant 252,600 miles.

New Moon May 16. Conjunction Uranus and Moon, May 19.

Moon in First Quarter May 24.

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#### Australia Considers Selective Service

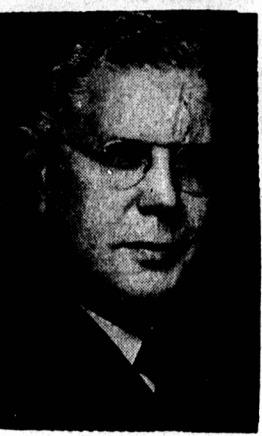
LONDON, May 1 — (CP) — Introduction of a peacetime form of selective national service is under consideration by the Australian Government, it was disclosed by Defence Minister Eric J. Harrison, newly-appointed Australian resident minister in London.

Harrison, who retains the defence portfolio during his temporary London duties, said in an interview with the Recorder, a London weekly, that a draft plan for national service already has been drawn up and will shortly be placed before the cabinet.

Legislation would be designed to give fullest effect to the responsibilities Australia might undertake under a proposed Pacific Pact against Communist aggression in Southeast Asia.

Prime Minister Menzies of Australia said recently his Government "would seriously consider any request from the British Government for help in Malaya," now plagued with civil disorder. But while the Government was "interested in resistance to Communism" he was lukewarm toward forming a Pacific Pact until more settled conditions prevailed in one of the countries concerned.

#### Ordered Investigation Into Vice Conditions



A Provincial-wide investigation into gambling and vice conditions has been ordered by Premier Leslie Frost. The Premier said the inquiry is not concerned primarily with Windsor, where a recent police commission inquiry into vice failed to bring any "finality" to the situation, but includes the whole of Ontario. Because of the "undercover nature" of the investigation which will also try to prevent racketeers and gamblers from establishing a beachhead in Ontario after they are forced out of U. S. Premier Frost said he did not intend to give any details of the assignment given to police squads. Already, it is understood, special detachments are working in several sections of the province.

#### Governor-General To Open Legion Meeting

WINNIPEG, May 1 — (CP) — One thousand former soldiers—old and not so old—will come here in mid-May to deal with matters affecting Canadian veterans of two wars.

Viscount Alexander, the Governor-General, will open the Canadian Legion's four-day 25th annual convention May 14.

Veterans Minister Gregg, V.C., will head a parliamentary delegation from Ottawa. Others will be Walter Woods his Deputy Minister, and Leslie Mutch, Liberal member for Winnipeg South who is Mr. Gregg's Parliamentary Assistant.

#### BENINTON, Lancashire, England - (CP) A woman sexton at a church here has three wedding rings. One is her own. She keeps the other two handy for nervous bridegrooms who might forget theirs.

#### FOR JITTERY GROCERS

FANATICAL guerrilla gangs were active in the region even after the Dutch-Indonesian warfare that ended last year, but the highways had been regarded as safe in recent weeks for daylight travel.

Kennedy and Doyle had hoped to complete the 360-mile trip

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#### Yale Professor, Time Writer Killed In Java

JAKARTA, Java, Indonesia, May 1 — (AP) — Two Americans delving for information on Indonesian life — a university professor and a magazine correspondent — were shot to death Thursday on a jeep trip in West Java.

The victims were Prof. Raymond Kennedy, 43, a Yale sociologist, and Robert Doyle, 31, a writer for Time and Life.

Kennedy was studying the impact of western civilization on native culture. Doyle was after a story on feelings of the common people after four months of independence from the Dutch.

They were waylaid and slain near Tomo by a band of four or five men.

Fanatical guerrilla gangs were active in the region even after the Dutch-Indonesian warfare that ended last year, but the highways had been regarded as safe in recent weeks for daylight travel.

Kennedy and Doyle had hoped to complete the 360-mile trip

#### Begin Conversion Of U. S. Planes For Canadian Use

HALIFAX, May 1 — (CP) — The first technical move in the Canadian navy air arm's switch from British to United States equipment has been announced.

Fairley Aviation Company of Canada disclosed it will modify three single-engine American bombers for navy use. This is in line with the navy's recent decision to adopt American planes and flying methods.

C. E. Hibbert, general manager

#### of the Fairey factory at nearby Eastern Passage, gave no details but it was learned the first modifications will be on an experimental basis.

The U. S. will deliver three Avengers to the company, which they will modify them to the navy specifications. After working on the first two in an experimental way, the third will be offered as a prototype for navy use.

"After work on the first three Avengers is completed here, approximately 30 more will be required," said Mr. Hibbert. "This contract, we are told will go out to tender and our company hopes to be in a position to obtain this project."

The Fairey plant here is a \$1,000,000 subsidiary of the British firm that turned out such well known planes as the Fairey Firefly, at present used as a fighter-reconnaissance aboard the Canadian carrier Magnificent.

The factory, employing some 300, has been repairing Fireflies and also building a training version of the aircraft. In addition, it produces plywood dinghies.

The Avenger, a torpedo bomber, will be converted for use in anti-submarine warfare, operating from land and carriers. Announcement of the navy's change over was made some weeks ago.

#### NAPOLEON and UNCLE ELBY by Clifford McBride

**DINNER, NAPOLEON.**  
**DINNER, WAKE UP! I SAID DINNER!**  
**CONFOUND YOU, CAN'T YOU HEAR ANYTHING? DINNER'S READY!**  
**GIVE UP! HE'S FALLEN IN LOVE WITH VIOLETTE AGAIN! HE'S IN A BLOOMING TRANCE!**



**NOTICE**

**MILLVIEW MILL POND**

Under "The Game Act 1937" Millview Mill Pond is "Enclosed Property", consequently it is unlawful for any person or persons to fish in the same without the consent of the owner.

Dated at Charlottetown this 21st day of April A. D. 1950.

**PALMER & HASLAM**  
Solicitors.

**NOTICE TO DOG OWNERS**

The following sections from the By-Law relative to Dogs and the taxing thereof are as follows:

Section 9 Subsection A: No person shall permit his dog or bitch to be on any street without a collar and attached thereto the tag issued by the Department showing that the tax has been paid for the current year.

Section 9 Subsection B: No person shall allow his dog or bitch to be at large on or about the streets of the said city.

Section 9 Subsection C: Any dog or bitch which shall be on or about the streets of the said City and shall not be in the immediate company of, or under the reasonable control of its owner, or some competent person, shall be deemed to be at large.

The services of a dog catcher have been employed in the enforcement of this By-Law, and any dog found at large and taken will be impounded and delivered to the owner on payment of \$2.00 forfeit and subject to any prosecution for infraction of this By-Law. Any dog unclaimed after a reasonable period will be destroyed. PLEASE NOTE that if the impounded dog is without a collar and tag attached there will be no way of knowing who the owner may be.

**C. W. MacARTHUR,**  
Chief of Police.

## Wildcats are risky

To an oil man a "wildcat" is a well drilled in an area where oil has never been found. Drilling a wildcat is a risky undertaking and a costly one. Some wells have cost more than a million dollars—and have not been successful.

For that reason oil men make as certain as they can, before drilling, that there is a good chance of finding oil. They use the most modern instruments and skills to locate each drilling site; but still the odds are 20 to one against them. Only about one wildcat in 20 becomes a producer.

Over the past 30 years oil men have worked continuously against these odds. In western Canada Imperial alone drilled 134 wells—all dry—before the Leduc field was discovered in 1947.

But the end result has been new oil for Canada and benefits for Canadians. There are thousands of new jobs. Millions of U.S. dollars are being saved as the need for imported oil lessens. And, as another natural resource moves toward full development, the Canadian standard of living climbs higher.

These are real benefits to Canadians and they will increase as more oil is found. But to find more oil and to spread the advantages it brings, oil men must continue to work against long odds.

Sometimes a job that *must* be done can't be done without great risks.

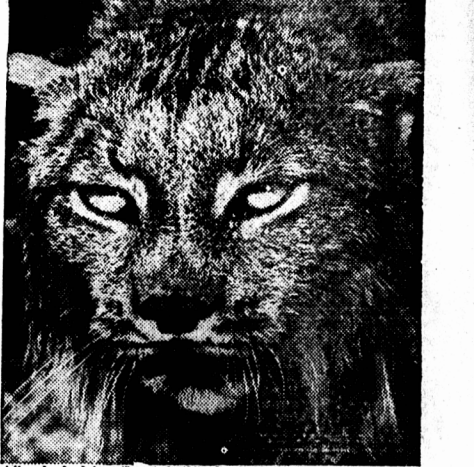
## Bringing you oil is a big job... and a costly one

**About Canada's Oil**—Canada's proven oil reserves now amount to about one billion barrels, as compared with only 72 million barrels in 1946.

It is estimated the oil industry will spend \$150 millions for exploration and development in western Canada this year.

Last year Imperial drilled or shared in the drilling of 70 wildcat wells.

Wells drilled by Imperial to find and produce oil in Canada during 1949 totalled 231 miles in depth.



**IMPERIAL OIL LIMITED**