

## Ancient Dice Were Loaded, Director Of Museum Reports

By EDDY GILMORE  
LONDON (AP)—The Romans, who brought Christianity to England, also seem to have brought along several pairs of crooked dice.

"The evidence is inescapable, I'm afraid," said Director Norman Cook of the City of London's Guildhall Museum. "Here, see for yourself."

He held forth several pairs of dice dredged up from the Roman ruins on which the City of London stands. The biggest dice had a neat hole in one side.

"Definitely a case of plugging," said the director.

In Roman London, as now, plugging is one of the easiest

ways of doctoring a pair of dice. You ream out a section of the die, insert a small slug of something heavy, like lead, then replace the section. Thus, the lighter side, when the dice are rolled, should come up more often than the heavier side.

"Now, examine this pair," said Cook.

The second pair, though smaller than the plugged pair, were crooked too. The sides with the six and the one were longer than the other sides.

**SHOT DICE**

I rolled this pair of Roman dice 14 times. On a smooth piece of Guildhall Museum paper, six and one came up 11 times.

"Extraordinary," said the director.

"Elementary," was the reply. "This particular pair of dice was found in a deposit which dates between 100 AD and 200 AD, so that's a pair we can date absolutely to a date," Cook said.

"The Romans, splendid as they were, had no garbagemen. All the rubbish was just dumped in the back gardens, and it's from this rubbish that we are finding so much really wonderful Roman stuff."

**OBJECT FOUND**

He said that when the Royal Exchange, which houses the Guildhall Museum, was built, thousands of Roman objects were found when the builders dug down to make the foundations.

Dice are the oldest gaming implements known to man. The Encyclopedia Britannica says that dice, with markings practically equivalent to the dice of

today, have been found in Egyptian tombs that date back before 2,000 BC.

Most dice were made in those days from the knucklebones of sheep or goats. Hence the expression, "throwing the bones."

Th Danes took up dice shooting in a big way when they came to England in the ninth century.

## Eskimos At Frobisher Bay Have Hot Line Radio Program

By TOM MITCHELL  
OTTAWA (CP)—It has to be the coldest spot in the world for a hot line radio program. And, as far as is known, it's the only one anywhere in the Eskimo language.

The program, where telephone calls from listeners are broadcast live on the air, is

carried by CFFB Frobisher Bay, a 40-watt station of the publicly-owned Canadian Broadcasting Corporation that serves the main community on Baffin Island.

For 30 minutes a week, Eskimos keep the station's switchboard buzzing as they call in

to give their views on local problems.

Despite the fact that Frobisher Bay is 1,300 miles north of Montreal and only 200 miles from the Arctic Circle, many topics raised on the program are akin to those heard on similar programs in the heavily-populated areas of Canada.

One question that received a lot of attention this fall was election of new members to the territorial council, governing body for Canada's North.

**WINS CONTEST**

The only place where there

wasn't an acclamation in the election was the eastern Arctic, where Frobisher is situated, and the contest there was won by the Eskimo, Simonie.

He was moderator of the hot line program for a period earlier this year and CBC officials believe his exposure on the program was a contributing factor in his election victory over two white residents.

The station has problems that are unique. One of these is the difficulty of translating news of Canada and the world into Eskimo.

The station really is trilingual. The bulk of its broadcasting is in English but it carries some French programs as well as its two hours a day in Eskimo.

Breaking the station's programming into language compartments is difficult, Harry Walker, a CBC official, said in an interview Wednesday.

The hot line program is conducted by Tikavik, an Eskimo free-lancer, but there are two other Eskimos, Jonah Kelly and Ann Hanson, among the six announcer-operators on the staff. When either one acts as

disc jockey the commentary between records is often given in both English and Eskimo.

**TO DIE**

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (AP)—Arthur J. Davis, convicted of slaying six persons in a shooting spree, was sentenced Thursday to death in the electric chair Jan. 18, 1967. The sentence was handed down by three judges who convicted Davis less than 24 hours earlier on six counts of first-degree murder.

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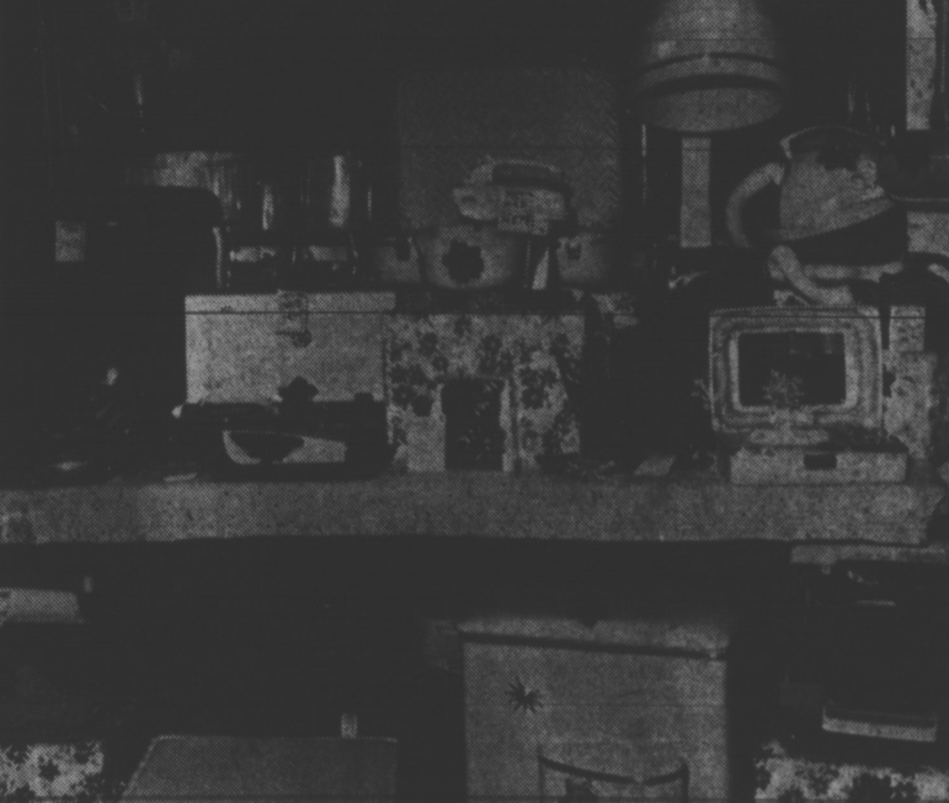
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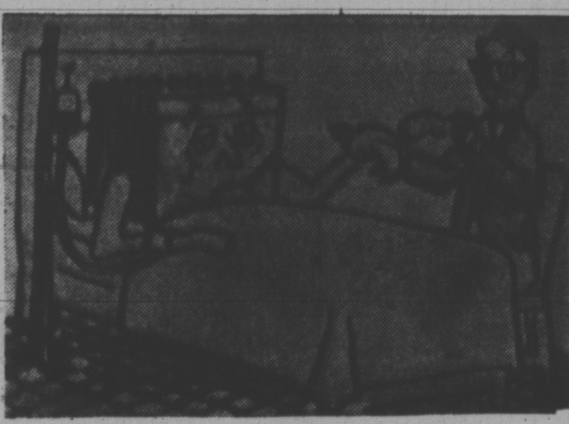
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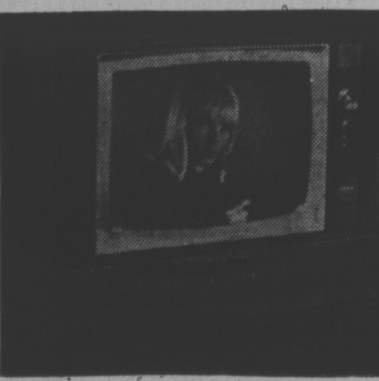
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