

Tartan Officially Launched

1967

The Bruce County tartan was officially launched at the G. C. Huston Public School auditorium in Southampton last Wednesday evening, when clothing in the material and bolts of tartan were displayed.

In attendance was the Bruce County Junior Pipe Band from Kincardine, members of which wore uniforms in the tartan which they will wear for their July appearance at Expo.

The new tartan is one of five Canadian official tartans. The others are Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Manitoba and Saskatchewan. All have been registered at Her Majesty's Registrar House at Edinburgh, Scotland, by the Lord Lyon, King of Arms for Scotland.

A Bruce county tartan was first proposed by Dr. J. W. Morton of Southampton, when he spoke at the annual concert of Bruce Centre District Women's Institute in 1962, and was approved at the county's Institute's annual meeting in 1963.

Original tartan committee members were Mrs. Gordon Hepburn of Hope Bay, Mrs. J. Jackson of Brant Township, Mrs. Edgar Rowe of Kincardine, Mrs. Otto Gateman of Southampton. Later Mrs. C. C. Wimperly of Southampton, and Norman McLeod of Toronto were added.

The Lord Lyons originally refused to consider another tartan, but later agreed to an alteration in the Bruce clan tartan to represent Bruce County, which was named for his great, great grand-

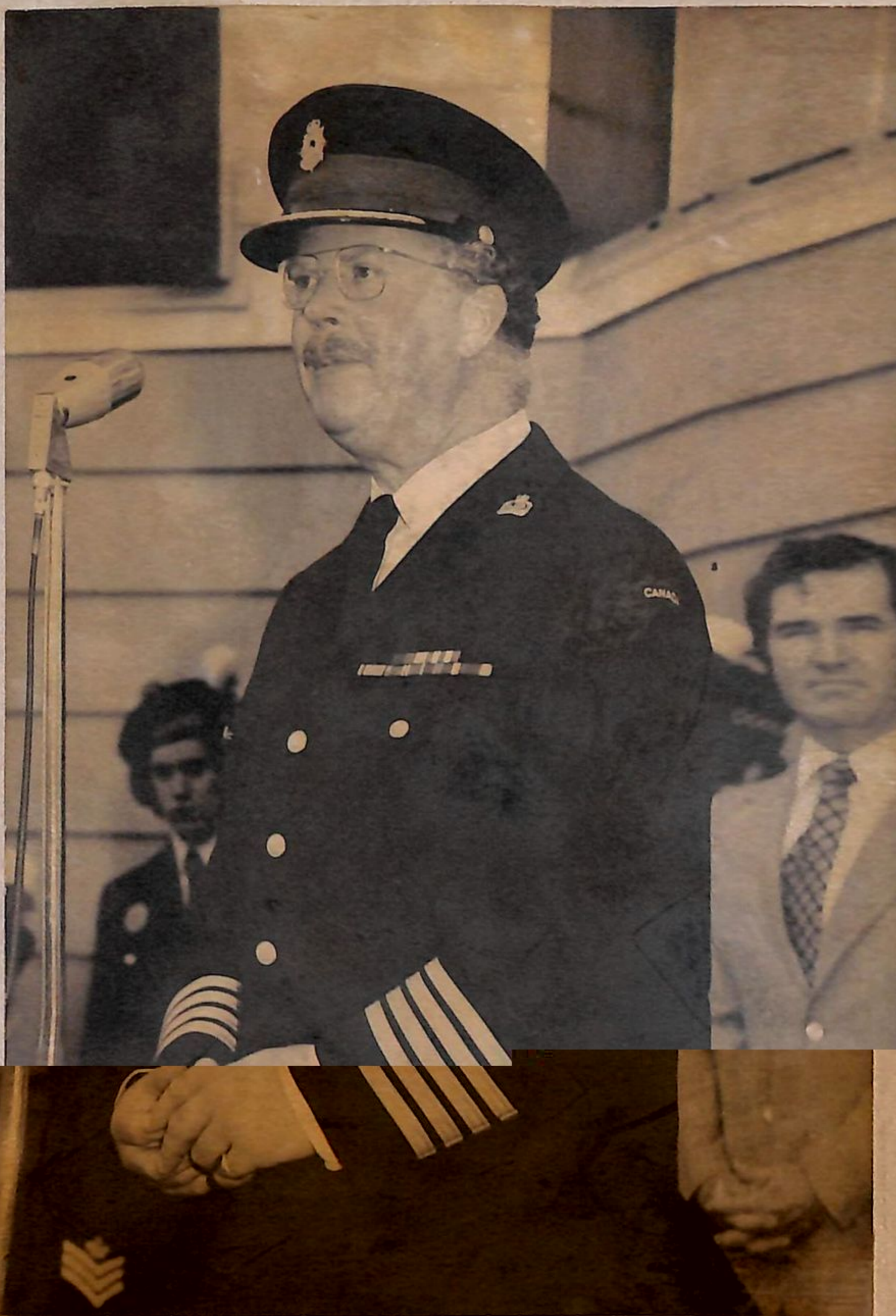
father.

Following Lord Elgin's permission, the Lord Lyon stipulated application must be made by Bruce County Council. Before registration would be authorized an official coat-of-arms had to be produced.

Council applied for both and by July, 1965, tartan yard goods were placed on sale in Bruce stores. The same year Mrs. Anna Meyer of Wingham was appointed agent for production of the tartan and a \$6,000 loan was made available to her to have tartan clothing placed on the market. The loan is repayable through royalties from sales of tartan, which were introduced to the public Wednesday night.

County council members, merchants and the general public were invited to the event.

V1-3



LORD ELGIN

"A copy from a newspaper clipping 1967"

When is a Tartan not a Tartan ?

Halifax -- With the advent of the Centennials, plaids and Tartans have been proliferating on the market. With them, confusion about what actually constitutes a Tartan has grown.

Contrary to general opinion there is definitely a difference between the two, according to Isabel Macauley, President of Tartan House Ltd., secretary of Clan Macleod for Nova Scotia.

All Tartans must be woven in a twill weave and to qualify as official they must be approved by Lord Lyon, King of Arms in Edinburgh, who traces his office back to the days of the Celtic Kings.

The Lord Lyon's jurisdiction includes all badges and insignia worn by any of the Scottish Clans or designated as official for a district.

Designs must be submitted to him in sketch form, in color. Those not accepted can still be used, but are properly called plaids not Tartans.

The only official Tartans in Canada, approved by Lord Lyon, Mrs. Macauley told Style are those of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Bruce County, Ontario.