

Campaign for New Home for Blind To Begin in Spring

A man who cannot see but whose handicap is a challenge towards successful achievements visited Haileybury last week. He is Mr. J. W. Gillespie, who on October 1st succeeds Mr. W. T. Simmons as Supervisor of Northern Ontario's blind people's lives and problems. Mr. Gillespie is making a Northern Ontario tour prior to taking up his duties at new headquarters at 125 Durham street in Sudbury. The offices were formerly in North Bay. From there he will see that services are extended to 2,000 blind persons in an area extending from Chalk River to White River and all points north. Of those afflicted, over 330 have less than 10% vision.

The big, jovial man, who soon makes one forget that he has lost his sight, has been working with the Canadian Institute for the



Blind for eighteen years, having served in the Maritime position and more recently with the Newfoundland division.

Thanks to co-operation from the Federal and Provincial governments and various welfare agencies, a broom factory which had employed 14 persons when he went to Newfoundland in 1946 has been expanded, a mattress plant has been established and 67 sightless persons are working full time. Where none has existed, six canteens are operated and there is room for 30 more if funds can be provided.

Born in Florenceville, N.B., Mr. Gillespie was raised in Woodstock, N.B. He lost the sight of one eye in an accident while a boy and went blind in the other just after leaving school. Meanwhile, however, on doctor's advice, he had been sent to a school for the blind and was able to take care of himself when faced with total blindness.

After earlier association with the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, he rejoined the Institute as a field secretary in New Brunswick, later became supervisor in the then three Maritime Provinces and rose to assistant superintendent of the Maritimes in 1944. He went to Newfoundland as division superintendent in 1946, where eventually he became a very good friend of the present premier, Joseph Smallwood, whom he describes as "a bundle of energy".

While doing his C.N.I.B. work throughout the Island which boasts only one railway line and few roads, he organized Lions' Clubs where none existed. He holds the distinction of being the second blind person to serve as Governor of Lions International. On the recent completion of his term in the district embracing Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and the State of Maine, he was made International Councillor for the Lions, a life time position.

Although many consider distances and means of travel in Northern Ontario difficult, Mr. Gillespie has no misgivings—in fact, he is looking forward to becoming acquainted with the country. Any blind person in the district who is not already connected with the Institute is advised to write to him at Sudbury.

Already, the building site has been purchased in the Nickel City for a new home and service centre for the blind in the District. The Institute operates similar establishments in Ottawa, one under construction in London St. Catharines and Windsor, has and the Kingston area and this district are just planning their campaigns.

The new building at Sudbury

will accommodate thirty resident and some transients who will receive training. A fully equipped, modern eye clinic will be available to doctors who give their services through the week.

The building fund campaign will be organized here during the spring and summer of next year, when the entire district will be called upon to raise \$225,000 for the project.

It was apparent that Mr. Gillespie considers any honours that have come to him as much a tribute to the Canadian National Institute for the Blind as to himself. The high standing of the organization throughout the world is readily recognized, he said, when we learn that the Superintendent of the Ontario Division, Mrs. A. N. McGill, has recently been appointed to act as consultant to the Egyptian Government for a year in setting up work for the blind in that country along the lines of our own organization.



That the hunters say the Northern ducks have not arrived yet but that the native black duck are fairly plentiful. The partridge are a bit young and need a little fattening up. What the hunter wants more than anything that we don't want at all, is a good frost—when the foliage is out of the way, the dinner tables are going to be laden with partridge. And speaking of wild life, an unusual sight last week on the Hound Chutes road was a mother bear and her cub.

That Frank Rolph cast clear light on the rainbow trout and who has caught some of the biggest and where. Contrary to a report in these columns last week 1948 records show Clive Stevenson heads the fly casting, Western Division, with a 20 lb. 14 oz. beauty, caught in Coquille River, Oregon. Runner-up was Donald

Fotheringham with an 18 lb. 6 oz. specimen from Henry Lake, Idaho. Canadian honors go to John West with a 12 lb. 6 oz. fish from Thompson River, B.C.

Using any method in the Western Division, John D. Bates Jr. caught a 31 lb. 12 oz. trout in Pend Oreille Lake, Idaho, and is closely followed by George Tabor who landed a 31 lb. 2 oz. fish from the same lake. In British Columbia, Eric Martin caught a 23 lb. 10 oz. trout in Bulkley River, B.C. and runner-up Betty Martin's fish weight is 21 lb. 8 oz. taken from the same river.

In the Eastern Division, Robt. Toepke caught the winner, a 13 lb. 2 oz. fish, flycasting at Catherine Creek, N.Y. and F. W. Hensolt follows with an 11 lb. 4 oz. fish from Big Hole River, Montana. In Ontario, Earl Leitz leads with a 7 lb. 4 oz. weight, fly casting at St. Mary's Rapids, Ontario, and is closely followed by G. H. Chambers who took a 7 lb. 1 oz. fish from the same waters.

Fishing by any method in the Eastern Division, Evert Lagerquist caught a 17 lb. 9 oz. prize at Big Manistee River, Michigan and in the same area, William Mathews caught a 14 lb. 13 oz. fish.

And so a 12 lb. rainbow trout caught in Georgian Bay last week is far from being "the biggest specimen caught on this continent".

That thirty years later the Government Housing Loan scheme resulting from the fire is almost all cleaned up with one house under contract.

That when the fire bell rings it would be appreciated if you kept a firm grip on your senses and refrained from letting curiosity lead you to the telephone. The operator is busy with more important things than you at that moment.

That we all instinctively rush to a fire but think before you block the firemen's way—Haileybury firemen all have their own cars and it is exasperating to have your thoughtlessness block the way when every minute counts.

That the Temiskaming Health

Unit voted \$15.00 last week towards a new pair of trousers for Sanitary Inspector T. Forrester. In the line of duty, Mr. Forrester went to Constance Lake last month to get water samples—he got the samples alright but he spent the better part of one of the hottest days of the year being thoroughly lost in Northern bush land and found himself in the late afternoon at North Cobalt with both he and his clothes much the worse for wear.

That the winners of the IODE telephone bridge will be announced during the week of October 2nd.

That Paul Helmer of Kirkland Lake, who has been appearing in concerts throughout Temiskaming since he was a small child and is considered a most promising pianist, has won a scholarship award from the Royal Conservatory of Music. In order to aid young Canadians obtain the best possible education here, the Conservatory has awarded \$24,000 in awards. The money has been donated by sponsors and friends and divided into scholarships ranging from \$100 to \$750.

That we are happy to tell you that, contrary to popular opinion, it was no mistake of ours when we reported in the Clover Valley W. I. meeting that the members answered to the roll call "How to Wash Woollens Without Shrinking". Secretary, Mrs. E. Campbell tells us that they prepare their year's program in advance and when roll is called each member is prepared to enlighten the group on helpful hints. You are fined if you can't do your bit, but they don't make much money this way because everyone is very co-operative and ready to answer.

That the Fire Brigade will give a demonstration of the old inhalator and new resuscitator at the CWL meeting on Tuesday evening, October 7th. Later in the month, a demonstration for the public will be given at the Fire Hall. It takes a team of five men to operate the new machine and gradually all the firemen will have been trained in the technique.



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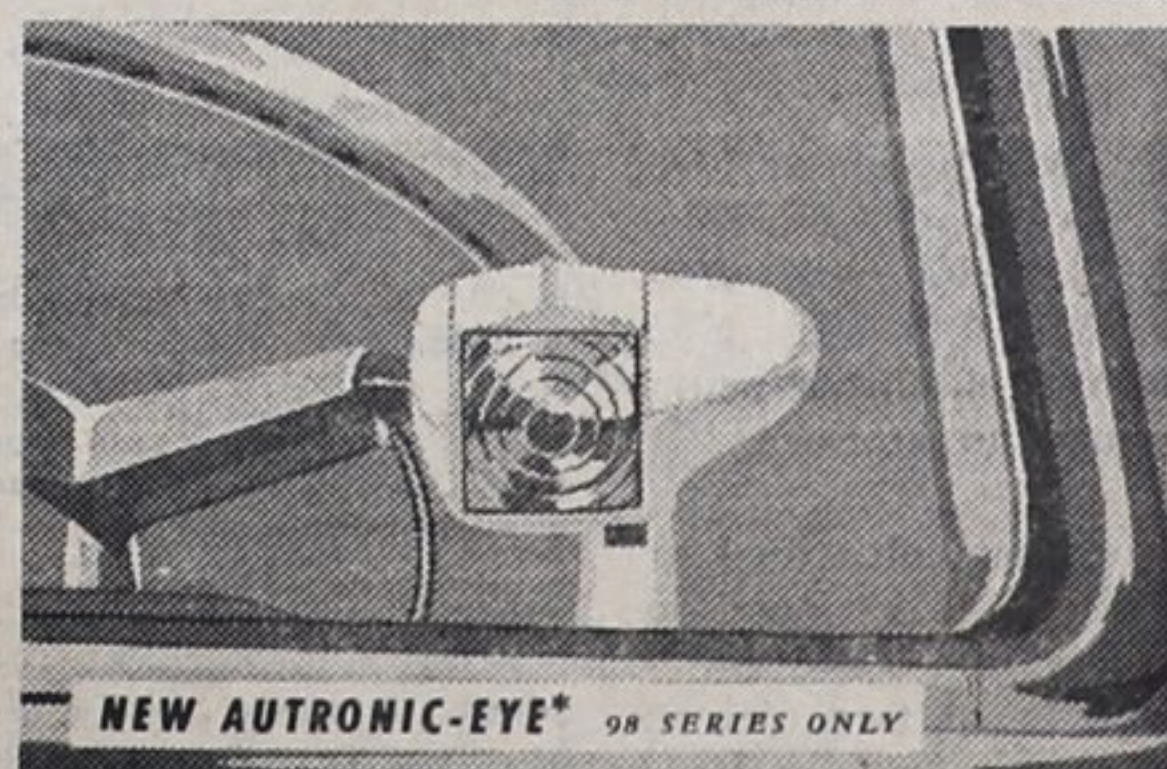
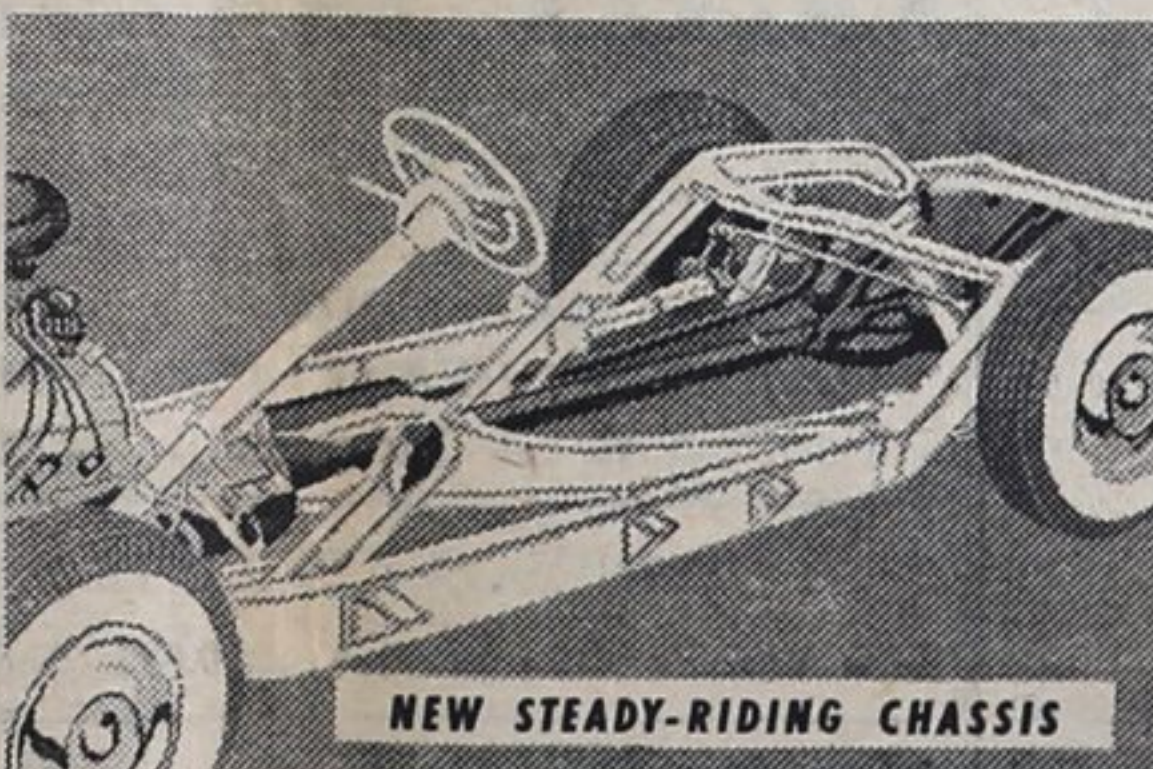
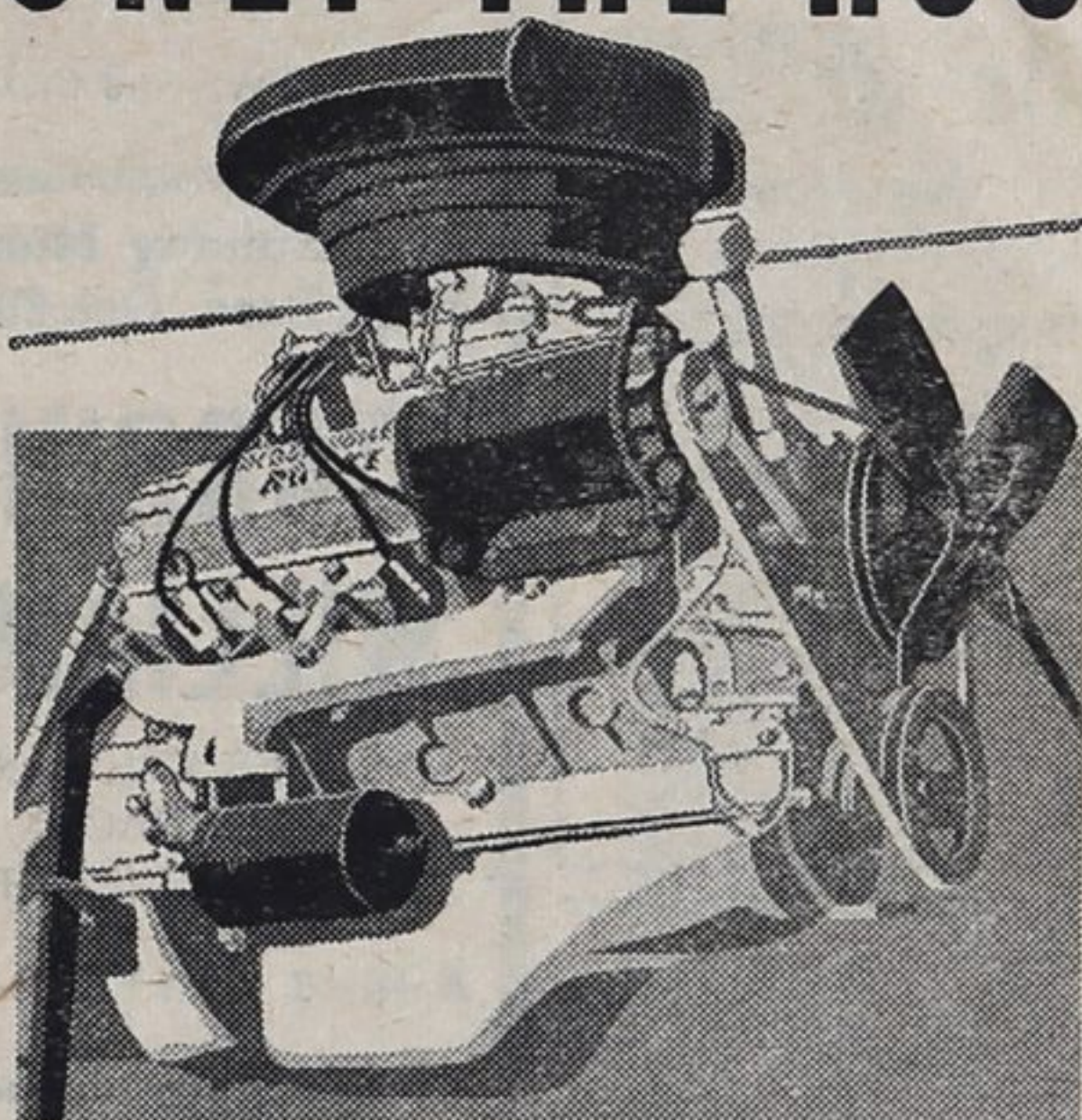
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