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**I See by  
THE PAPERS**

LONDON — Apart from the glitter and pomp of the royal wedding, Westminster Abbey on May 6 will be looking better than at anytime since the coronation of William the Conqueror in 1066.

For the first time since its establishment 895 years ago the stately but grimy face of the abbey is getting a good scrubbing. And, by general agreement, the job was badly needed.

The walls of the high stone structure hadn't been touched since huge candles deposited soot and smoke around the once-unnoticed areas that are now illuminated by bright electric lights. The tons of delicate wood decorations have been gathering grime since their beginning.

Now, after five years of dedicated employment, a group of cleaners has finished the choir area and transepts and is well on its way toward polishing up the eastern bays of the nave.

In another four years, after a total of £1,000,000 has been spent, the 513-foot-long abbey will be as good as new. The areas that really matter for the royal wedding are already gleaming.

But its strictly coincidental that the cleaning and the wedding are making such good connections. When Sir Winston Churchill launched a drive in 1954 for the million-pound scrubbing, it was in preparation for the abbey's 900th birthday in 1965. At that time it was extremely unlikely that Princess Margaret had ever heard of Antony Armstrong Jones.

But the man in charge of the cleaning operation, S. E. Dykes Bower, whose title is Surveyor of the Fabric, says his men have really stepped up their pace since the wedding was announced. No effort is being spared to have things shipshape for May 6.

It's a difficult job. Under inches of dirt workers have discovered carvings from the time of Henry III, which no one knew existed. Previously unknown woodwork trimmings were also turned up.

Because of the danger of destroying such discoveries, all chemical cleaners were banned early in the operation. And because spraying cleansers would spread dampness through the 2,047-seat building, they too were banned.

So the workers are bringing back the gleam with soft brushes, dipped in nothing stronger than

clean water. Every time they discover a flaw in the stones, repairs are made immediately.

Apart from the heavy 37-foot oak beams that support the abbey's roof—they have become victims of woodworms—the ancient worshipping place is said to be in generally sound shape. And when all necessary repairs are completed within the next few years the experts say there is no reason why the famous church won't sit under the shadow of Big Ben for another 900 years.

**TAMPA, Fla. — A hysterical 123-pound woman lifted a 3,600-pound station wagon several inches off the ground to free her trapped son. Mrs. Maxwell Rogers cracked several vertebrae but was in good condition Monday.**

Mrs. Rogers performed the feat after a jack slipped and pinned her son, Charles, 16, under the vehicle while he was working on it. Charles escaped with minor bruises.

Mrs. Rogers, in what she described as "virtual hysteria", went to the car, grabbed the bumper and "lifted with all my might."

"I felt the car rise up," the 5-foot-7 mother said, "and I actually heard my back pop. Then Charles crawled out and I let go."

LONDON — Down in quiet Kent County a weird and dismal droning noise just never seems to stop.

Most people can't hear the noise at all because the pitch is too low. But those able to pick up the low frequency range complain the strange humming torments them day and night.

Electricity and telephone men have checked all the wires strung across the countryside and say they emit no drone.

The government has disavowed all knowledge of the matter—but with a certain coyness that aroused the suspicions of William Deedes, conservative MP for the market town of Aschford.

He noted that Kent lies nearer than any other part of Britain to the Continent.

"Obviously," said Deedes, "the hum is something to do with defence warning apparatus."

He plans on bringing the matter up in Parliament and demanding an investigation.

"I do not hear it myself, but far too many people complain for it to be just imagination," said Deedes.

Until recently imagination was frequently blamed. It was only when one long-suffering woman wrote to a local newspaper that sufferers realized they were not alone. Now more than 100 people have reported being in tune with the noise.

The woman who wrote the pa-

per is Mrs. Edward Hyams, who lives with her novelist husband near Canterbury. For five years she has been tormented by the drone but could never find anyone else who heard it. She was advised to consult doctors.

Then one day a woman friend who had been out of the country for years visited the Hyams' home. She immediately remarked:

"My dear, what is that awful humming noise? Can't you turn it off?"

Mrs. Hyams was overjoyed. The noise was really there.

**RICKMANSWORTH, England — Mrs. Paddy Martin shot three holes in one on the same green in four days this past week-end.**

Mrs. Martin, Irish-born golfing housewife, admitted: "I'm only a duffer with an 18 hole handicap—but that short hole makes me look like a champion."

She used a No. 8 iron on the 125-yard hole to score her first hole-in-one on Good Friday. She did the same on Saturday and repeated on Monday.

**BOWSMAN, Man. — To the people of Bowsman, Henry Ste-**

vens is the bank.

Mr. Stevens has a more informal description.

"Really, it's not a bank. It's more like someone asking you to hold onto some money for him."

Some 500 people in this district near the Saskatchewan border 200 miles north of Brandon have left their money with "Banker Stevens" for safekeeping.

Winnipeg banks readily clear cheques bearing the inscription of Mr. Stevens' unofficial bank — Henry Stevens, Bowsman River, Manitoba — General Insurance and Real Estate.

Mr. Stevens worked as a relief teller in the Bank of Montreal branch after coming to Bowsman in 1921. Later he became an accountant for a lumber company and then an insurance agent.

In 1933 during the depression the bank closed and Henry rented the building for his insurance business. His role as banker expanded until now he issues mortgage loans, handles accounts and carries out virtually all other transactions associated with a bank.

Most of his depositors are insurance clients and he also issues

auto and driver's licences.

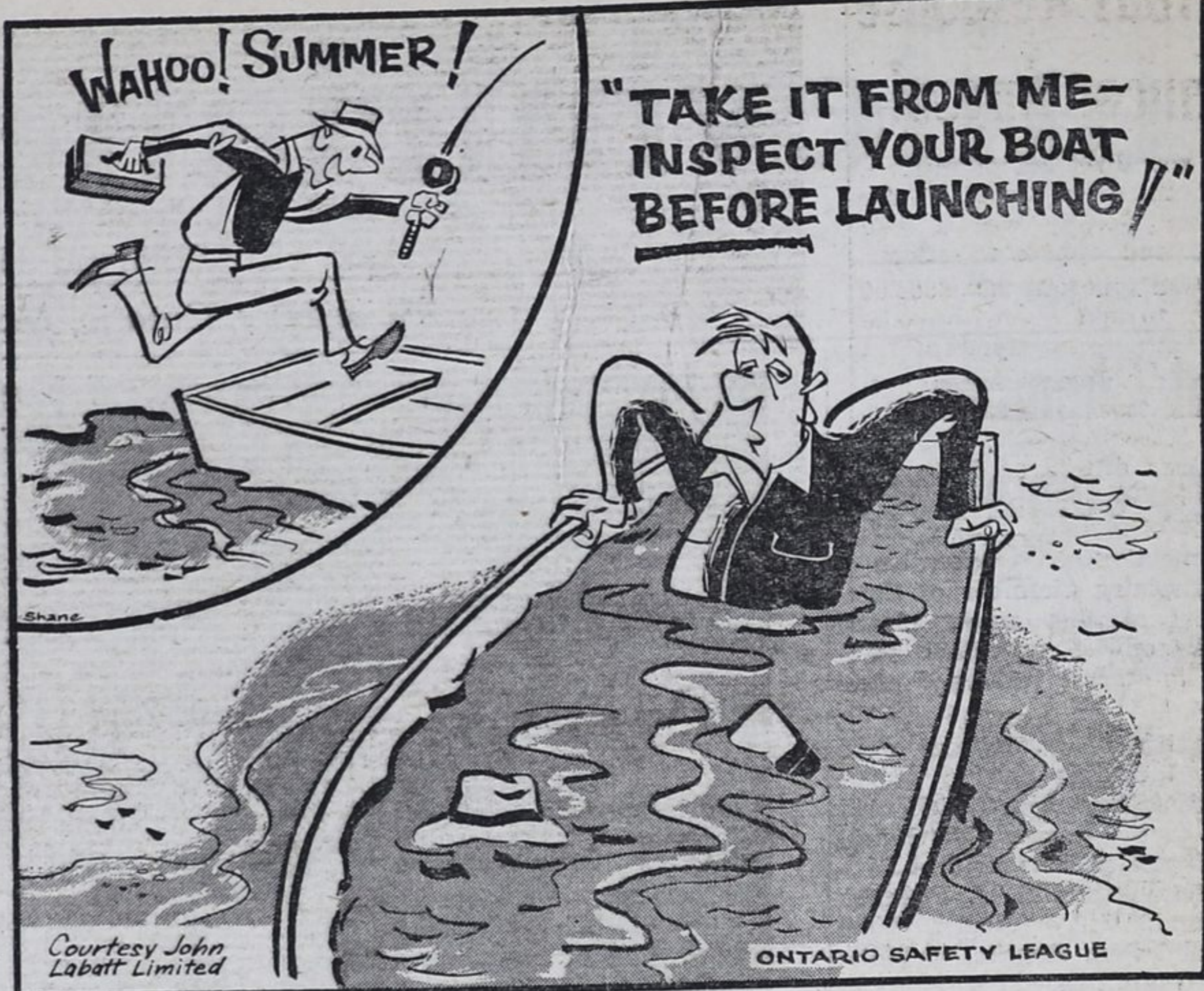
One difference is that he doesn't work banker's hours. His office is open until 6 p.m. or later each day.

"Every community has to have someone who is a father confessor," said the white-haired business man. "I guess I'm it here in Bowsman."

**EAST RUDHAM, England — William Matsell, 70, kept 30 pigeons, 14 cats and five chickens. He had an income of only \$1s a week. Meat for the cats alone cost him 20s. Matsell died recently in his hut surrounded only by his companions. "It is perfectly clear," said the coroner, "that he died from starvation."**

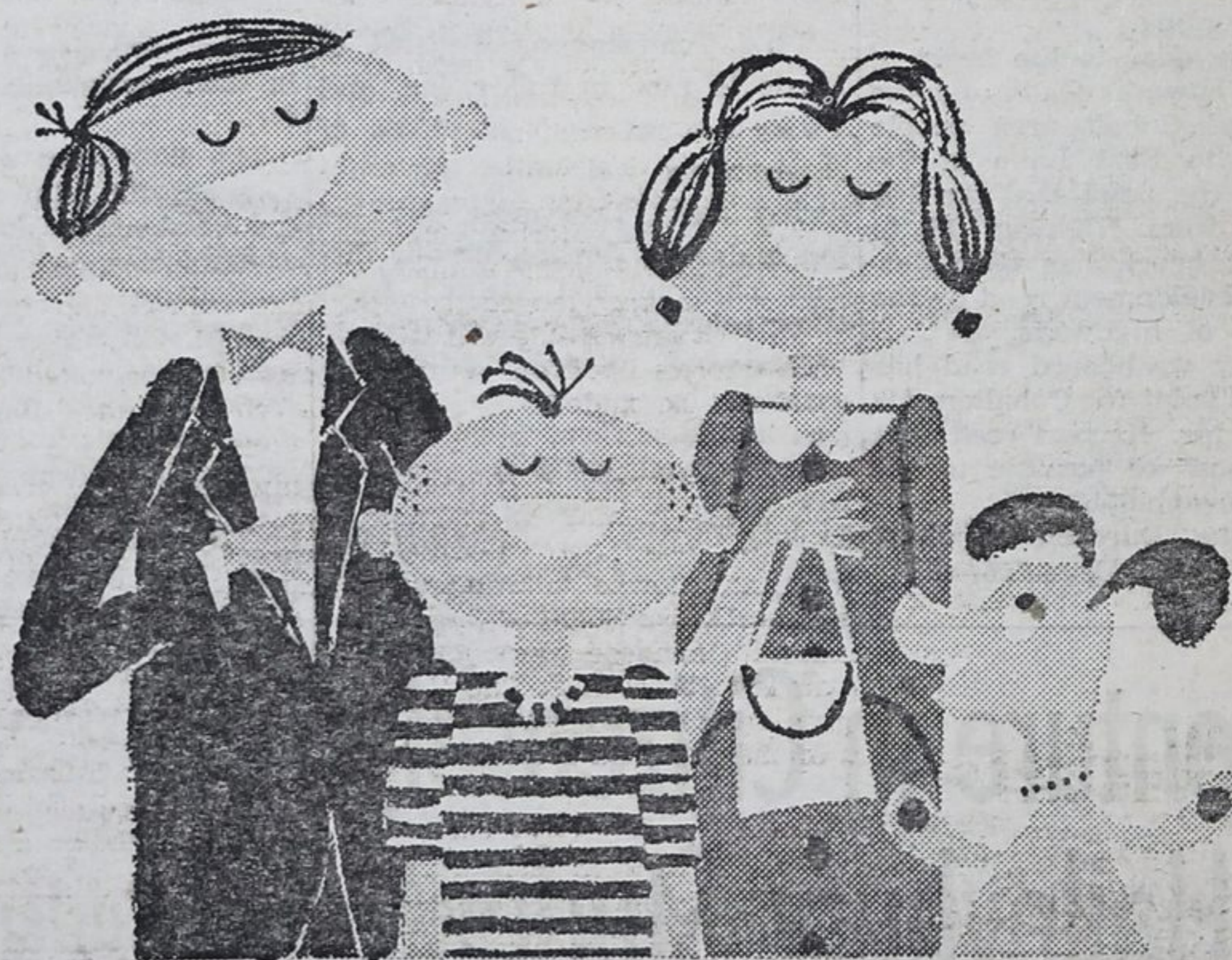
The federal government has on file 1,347 suggested designs for a new Canadian flag.

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