

# New 'Flu Germ In Canada

Health department officials confirmed Tuesday that a new strain of influenza virus has been found in Canada, but added that an existing vaccine is effective against the virus.

The department's laboratory of hygiene reported it has identified a new strain of Type B virus as the cause of an influenza outbreak in the Regina area.

Dr. F. P. Nagler, chief of the virus laboratories, said the same strain was isolated at the Saskatchewan Provincial Laboratory in Regina. He said the same strain was detected recently in Florida.

The strain was "closely related" to Type B (Great Lakes) influenza virus, which was isolated in Michigan in 1957.

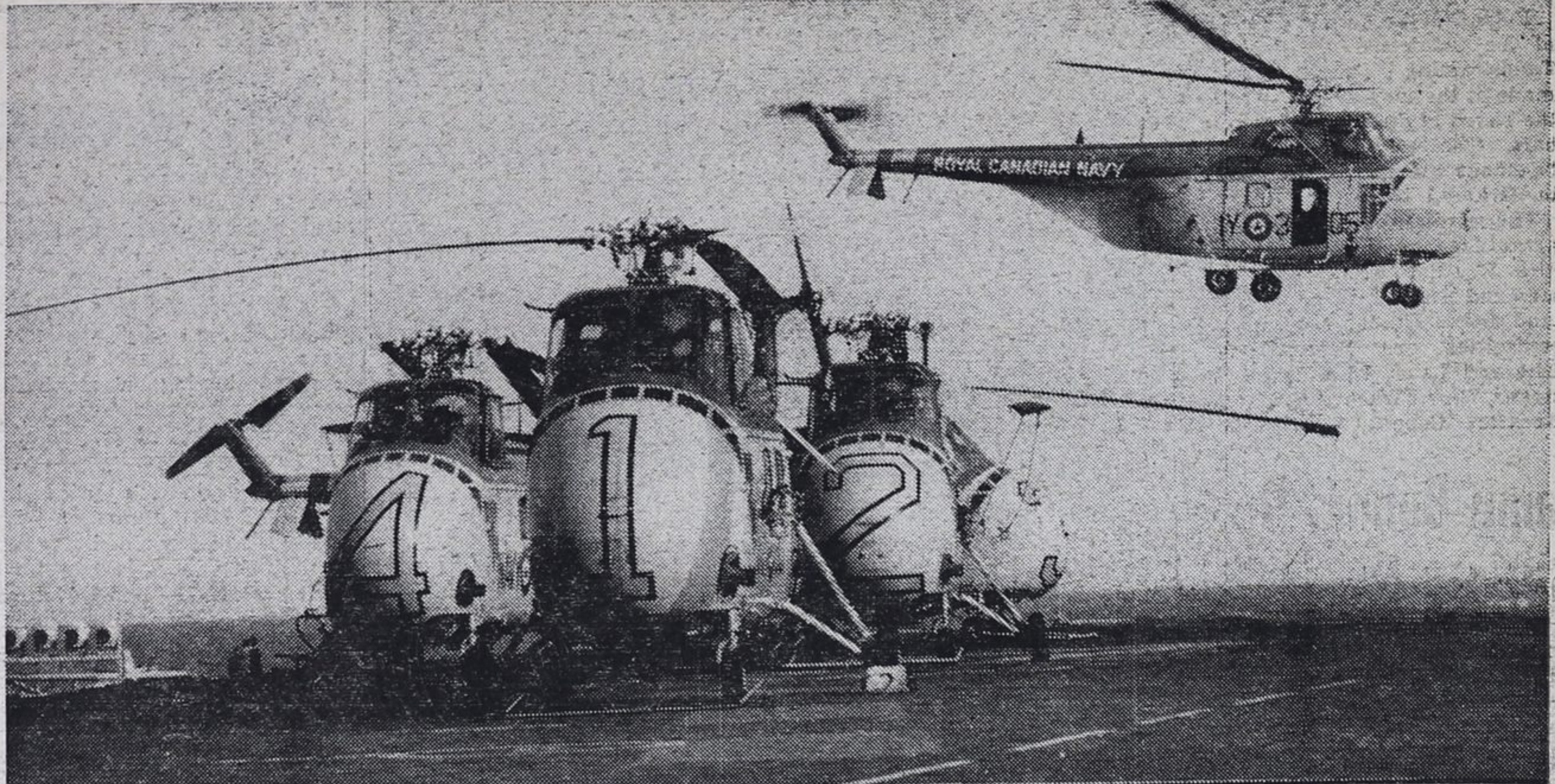
Dr. Nagler said Type B vaccine is effective against the new strain and that Type B virus does not spread as quickly as the more common Type A virus.

Several schools were closed and visitors barred from hospitals in the Regina district because of the 'flu outbreak. Dr. Nagler said the incidence of influenza is normal in the rest of the country, according to his department's information.

The new strain of influenza is reported to be on the wane in Regina but spreading in rural areas to the east and west of the city.

Dr. Murray Acker, director of the Saskatchewan Health Department's Regional Services Branch, was in Toronto Tuesday to obtain supplies of vaccine.

Several schools in the Regina rural health district were closed Tuesday as attendance in some dropped 90 per cent.



Helicopters of the Royal Canadian Navy's Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron 50 are grouped together on the flight deck of the aircraft carrier HMCS Bonaventure before being lowered to the carrier's hangar decks. Hovering over the group is a Sikosky helicopter of the Navy's Utility Squadron 21. The latter squadron celebrated its 10th anniversary earlier this year and its Latin motto "Omnibus Paratus" fittingly designates it as being "ready for anything". Helicopters of these two veteran squadrons have been used in anti-submarine training, search and rescue operations and in the last two years became seasoned forest fire fighters when they spent many hours flying men and equipment to the fire-ridden areas on Nova Scotia and Newfoundland. — Nat. Defence Photo

## Dry New Years

Provincial Secretary Yaremko told the Legislature on Thursday that no banquet permits will be issued either for New Year's Eve, which falls on a Sunday this year, or for the period beginning at 12:01 a.m. New Year's Day.

He said no other arrangements are being made to accommodate organized party-goers over the holiday.

# Nun's 13th Century Cake Origin of Christmas Cake

The Christmas cake you will eat this year had its origins in a 13th century German convent.

At about the beginning of that century, a good nun laboring in the convent kitchen produced what has been claimed to be the world's first layer cake.

Presumably because of its origin, this cake acquired a religious significance, and was soon the required thing at such events as christenings, weddings, and funerals.

It also appeared in various forms on Holy Days — at Christmas, for instance, moulded in the form of a manger, and decorated with spices and fruits to represent the gifts of the Wise men.

This Christmas cake was probably the first "special occasion" cake, the 13th century forerunner of what is today a thriving industry. The "special occasion" cake as it is produced today could very well be called the "every occasion" cake because the list of occasions for which one of these is made has been growing steadily ever since the ancient Chinese fashioned special pastry to appease the anger of the gods.

Today's "specials" are designed and fashioned by experts who have perfected their art over a long period of training and experience.

Birthday cakes make up the bulk industry. The majority of them are made to mark the anniversaries of children — and the one to be honored often makes pointed suggestions as to the exact number of icing-fashioned cowboys and Indians who are to be in full gallop in that area of the Wild West represented by the surface of the cake.

The demands on the ancient Chinese "special occasion" expert were less exacting. His principal function was to fashion the pastry in the shape of human beings, as had been the case in China before the "special occasion" cake made its appearance.

The God of Fog, in particular, was notorious for his consumption of such delicacies and, whatever the results of the change from protein to pastry, it was an admitted improvement in the lot of those who would otherwise have been cast upon the waters of any number of fog-shrouded China rivers.

The early Romans, Greeks and Egyptians were others who prepared offerings in the form of special cakes for their gods, with the Egyptian deities preferring a combination of white flour in a leavened dough that was sweetened with honey and flavoured with spices. The Romans are in fact generally credited with originating the wedding cake.

The "special occasion" cake also had its day in England, where in Medieval times a huge Twelfth

Night or Christmas cake was considered a social necessity at family gatherings.

Evidence at hand indicates it was here that the art of cake-icing began to flower, with the status seekers of the times vying with one another in the fashioning of the figures of men, animals and plants, castles and the like from what the chroniclers of the day described as "snow-white confectionery".

One of the many appealing customs related to the Twelfth Night cake involved the baking of a pea and a bean in each cake. The man who found the pea and the woman whose piece of cake contained the bean were acclaimed the King and Queen of Twelfth Night — and the party was on.

A cake containing live birds, was the job wished on at least one nobleman's chef, but modern chefs have made such items as a ten-foot high wedding cakes, cakes for annual meetings decorated with miniatures in icing of all company products, and a range of other items as wide and varied as the customer's imagination.

Many of the icing artists working in Canada received their training in Europe. To see them at work is to witness the high point in the evolution of an art that began in an age for removed from the caves and which through the succeeding centuries has been related in one way or another to religious events, the greatest of which we observe at Christmas.

# Higher Insurance Rates Forcast for New Year

Some Ontario car drivers will have to pay up to 15 per cent more for auto insurance next year.

The 1962 auto-rate manual for Ontario of the Canadian Underwriters Association shows public liability insurance will be up 15 per cent over 1961 for the largest category — drivers over 25, accident-free for at least three years, who drive for pleasure.

For \$100,000 coverage on a single accident the rate is raised to \$48 from \$42.

A spokesman for a local insurance broker said that the changes in rates will be applicable, here and that on some cars it will be as much as 15 per cent.

Increases will apply to policies issued or renewed in 1962 by association members. About half the auto insurance firms in Ontario belong to Canadian underwriters.

One of the largest outside the association said Friday it plans no Jan. 1 increase but, like most firms, it adjusts its rates each year.

Disclosure of the planned increase follows an interim report this week of the Ontario legislature's elect committee on car insurance, which recommended that

rates be government-controlled.

Association members will charge the over — 25 Toronto driver who has been accident-free for three years, drives for business and seeks \$100,000 coverage \$66 next year, a 14-per cent boost over this year's \$58.

Single male drivers under 25 with a no-accident record will pay \$178 for \$100,000 coverage — a 14-per cent increase from \$156.

In Hamilton, the increase in the largest category will be to \$44 from \$42; for the business category to \$60 from \$58, and for the under-25 group to \$163 from \$156. For London, the first category rise would be to \$40 from \$37, the second to \$54 from \$49, and the third to \$147 from \$134.

Rural areas will see few rate changes.

Collision rates are generally unchanged or lower in areas outside Toronto, but some Toronto rates have gone up as much as 22 per cent.

The association said the increases were forced in the Toronto area by the increasing number of accidents and increasing amounts claimed.

# BINGO

LEGION HALL, HAILEYBURY

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

8 p.m.

\$160.00 on 18 numbers or \$10.00 blackout

SPONSORED BY Ladies Auxiliary to the Canadian Legion Branch 54

## Elizabeth Arden Gift Sets

COUTTS HALLMARK

CHRISTMAS

AND NEW YEAR CARDS

Helena Rubinstein Toiletries

Whitby's Pharmacy

Phone OS 2-3211

Haileybury, Ont.

Thank you for your support on December 4th.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Merci a tout pour support decembre 4.

Joyeux Noel, Bonne Annee.

# A. M. Deraiche