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CANADIAN EDITOR REPORTS ON QUEEN'S INSPECTION OF NAVY

Portsmouth, June15 - Although I arrived here late as I had to come down from Central England where I had been looking over rural England in haying time and attending some farm shows I got a better look at the array of battlecraft here than many of the London or other Canadian news men

When I got to HMS Vernon which is the name of the land-port where Naval Headquarters are at Portsmouth I had to battle my way for hours through traffic all bent on getting to the same place the Spithead Naval Show The Queen was to inspect her Navy

I happened into the pressroom just as a London reporter had hung up holed the only officer not glued to a telephone and stood by while this chap gave him a typical English interview He asked every question you could imagine but the one we wanted an answer to Where could we go to see the show"

However, just as we were about burned up waiting after the exhausting struggle to get through one of the officers on the phone gave us a hearing We could not get through the lines now as the Queen had commenced her inspection However, from a high tower in the yards one could climb 140 steps and watch her yacht as it made its way around the lines.

As an afterthought he told us a mail boat was going up among the fleet after the inspection and accredited press representatives would be allowed a pass

Losing no time in securing this we made for the tower slowly and carefully, reaching the top in time to see the trim white yacht making a turn to come back inside the lines

Warned to be on time as the mail tenders were known to leave early I was on board before the mail and when I saw bags labelled HMCS Magnificent I knew I had chosen the right mail boat as there were five of them leaving

Once out into the harbour we met a headwind and our little craft which was originally a mine sweeper, took into the waves instead over them I was loaned an oil slicker by one of the crew. Soon we were to our first ship in the line, this one we came alongside and passed the mail bags up and received the outgoing mail in return. Even the Registers were signed for.

However, this was the last craft to which we could hand mail, the others were too large or had rows of lights strung around them which prevented our boat from coming alongside. The navy craft sent out motor-driven boats manned by foremen, to take off the mail.

At the Illustrious we put off with their mail that of the Canadian ships The small boat which came out rolled and tossed on the waves and when it got to the mother ship it was necessary to climb a long set of stairs hung on the side with ropes which rather discouraged our endeavoring to make the trip. I know, from later reports I really missed a very sociable evening but those on board there also missed seeing many of the craft among which our little mail boat made its calls.

We passed close by the Quebec, also the Ontario, both of which made a Canadian proud of his part in the show, especially when the sailors of the little mine sweeper mail boat went out of their way to compliment these ships. They were outlined in electric lights which were lighted simultaneously with all the others on a green signal at 10.30 p.m.

Italian Sailing Ship

One sight which is almost a thing of the past was the Italian sailing craft Americo Vespucci, a completely rigged sailing craft

Just as we circled past her the sun, which had been clouded, broke through and saw her out in full light, dark and tan In colour it was something most of us have seen only in pictures When the Queen passed her the sailors were in the rigging and on the yard arms to take their duty salute The done was worth braving the weather to see

Russian Cruiser Sverdlov,

We passed just under the bow of the Russian cruiser This was one of the most businesslike looking vessels of her class among the whole show

Built somewhat after the style of a trim racing or pleasure craft yet long and heavy enough to be a formidable fighting vessel she had the appearance that if speed was needed to make time she had it and if guns were the answer there were plenty visible.

The crew were doing some kind of a folk dance when we were passing

Later, at 9 p.m when colors were taken down we heard both Russia and a French cruiser across the line first play their National Anthem then God Save the Queen, when the whole ship's companies including our little crew stood to attention

Between the masts of Russian cruiser was hung a large star made up of lights as well as lights to outline the whole hull As we passed that we might see this lighted form close range, as though our mail could be sent suddenly they all blossomed in light with red outlining the hull the hanging in the air between the masts Only part of a minute those shone in front of us but it was a splendid sight to have seen, anybody

Fireworks and Lighting Display

At 10.30 on a signal given by flares the rocket showers of fireworks were sent up from all the ships plus the display of lighting searchlights on From a point on the lines to which I had been driven, I was bringing on the mail boat, I saw a most thrilling display.

The value of the floating craft lighting part was beyond estimation Canada alone had two aircraft carriers the Bonaventure and the Magnificent cruisers Quebec and Ontario, destroyers HMCS Sioux and Crusader, frigates Hullmose and Swansea US navy cruiser Baltimore Besides these, 15 other countries were in evidence on the list Besides the naval craft of many nations there were hundreds of privately owned yachts, passenger cruisers and ocean liners

Every trip of pleasure boat ferry and fishing vessel was doing a land office business taking sightseers up the lines of anchored navy vessels Our ferry, which passed us, bound to the huge Toronto Island ferries was packed so that not a square inch of space could be seen on the decks.

Forks, Teaspoons Given Club Girls

Brighton-Ivan Women's Institute held their June meeting at the home of Mrs C Storey The meeting opened by singing the Institute Ode followed by repeating the Mary Stewart Creed The roll call was answered with some helpful serving hints

Twenty dollars were sent to the Department of Agriculture field day fund The Institute picnic to be held in July was planned

Mrs W Linham and Mrs J Phillips convenors of home economics and health, were in charge of the program Reports were read from District annual and Guelph conferences A motto "Homemaking is not what it is but the attitude we take" was given by Mrs F Brown

The Junior Homemakers' club demonstrated using milk on the invalid's tray Each member of the club was presented with an 1847 Rogers Bros dessert fork in "first love" pattern to encourage them in their work Alice Wilkinson thanked the Institute ladies

Mrs Storey and Mrs Brown, members of the club, presented the girls with five o'clock teaspoons and Marjorie McDonald thanked the ladies for their spoons and for their kind and helpful guidance

Delicious lunch was served and a social time enjoyed

NEIGHBORS AT DUBLIN HONOR YOUNG COUPLE

On Friday, June 19, Dublin friends and neighbors gathered in Dublin school to honor Miss Lorraine Mullin and Charles Kingsmill in their approaching marriage A program consisting of vocal solos by Marilyn Rognvaldson and Donna Rennick, readings by Wilmer Fryer, dances by Jackie and Billy Dawe and piano selections by Allan and Ann McLean was given

The young couple were then called to the front and Miss Elda Fryer read an address After Miss Mullin and Mr Kingsmill had opened many beautiful gifts they thanked the group

The first coast to coast crossing of Canada by automobile over an all Canadian route did not occur until 1946 In that year Brig R A Malone and Kenneth MacGillivray of Toronto drove a stock 1946 Chevrolet from Louisburg, N.S., to Victoria B.C., in nine days a trophy unclaimed since then

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Announcement....

DR. D. A. GARRETT WILL BE ON HOLIDAYS FROM

June 30th until August 4th

In his absence Dr. John Scott of 191 Woolwich St., Phone 423, Guelph, will be available

Tips on Touring

By Carol Lane

Women's Travel Authority

Almost every province in Canada stages some unique event that is an exciting vacation goal in itself

The "local" flavor of some of these events is what gives them their charm like the Cherry or Strawberry Festivals, climaxed by judging of local pies and pulchritude Others are spectacles as thrilling as they are varied For instance, in July the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede which attracts cowboys from all over the country, is an important annual event

For theatre lovers, there's the magnificent Shakespearean Festival in Stratford, Ontario or the charming Highland Games in Antigonish, Nova Scotia The Laurentians offer a gay Summer Program And Shediac, New Brunswick, offers quaint historical traditions in its Lobster Festival Throughout the summer Indians display their exotic rituals and dances on certain dates

The Canadian Government Travel Bureau is glad to send lists of these special events, so are the Chambers of Commerce Touring Services or various Automobile Clubs

I hope you will plan to include at least one of these enjoyable events in your vacation schedule

Check Valuables Before Vacation

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