

Another Rogers-owned boat is apparently scheduled to leave Toronto before the close of navigation is the motor-assisted sailing vessel ALISON LAKE, which has been lying for a number of years in the Leslie Street slip off the Toronto turning basin. ALISON LAKE is the former United States Coast Guard tug SAUK which has been undergoing a slow rebuild for her new service as an excursion vessel. It has been intended that she would be returned to salt water for service rather than operating in the lakes, and it now has been decided to take her to the Carolinas, where the conversion work will be finished.

Some boats may have been leaving Toronto before winter sets in, but one very interesting vessel has arrived to spend the winter here. She is the MATTHEW, the replica of the ship in which the explorer John Cabot crossed the Atlantic Ocean. The MATTHEW replica was built and brought to Canada this year to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the discovery by Cabot of what now is Newfoundland, on June 24th, 1497. MATTHEW will spend the winter here and will be specially protected from the weather. It is intended that she be open to the public, with the revenue from admission tickets going to offset the cost of her stay. MATTHEW had a very tough trip up Lake Ontario, arriving at Toronto late on October 26th in some of the nastiest autumn weather the area has experienced.

In the October issue, we reported the departure of the former C.S.L. self-unloader SAGUENAY from Toronto on September 28th. She was bound for Thunder Bay where she will be used as a transfer barge for the removal of pollutants from the bottom of the harbour there. What we did not realize when we wrote the article for the October issue, was that some damage was caused to the Cherry Street bridge over the Ship Channel as SAGUENAY was being towed through the narrow draw of the bridge, although the damage was not particularly serious. SAGUENAY had been moored, facing in, along the face of the old Texaco dock immediately inside the bridge and on the north side of the channel, and there was not much room to line the tow up to pass under the venerable bascule bridge. FLORENCE McKEIL and GLENSIDE turned SAGUENAY over to AVENGER IV at Port Colborne, and the Purvis tug arrived with her charge at the Soo on October 5th. The tow stayed at the Government Wharf in the Canadian Soo overnight, and on the morning of October 6th, AVENGER IV took SAGUENAY up through the Poe Lock with the assistance of W. I. SCOTT PURVIS.

On October 6th, activists from the Greenpeace organization managed to gain entry to Ontario Hydro's Lakeview Generating Station at Mississauga. The five protestors climbed a hopper into which a C.S.L. self-unloader was preparing to unload a cargo of coal for the power plant. They hung a protest banner on the side of the hopper and perched on its top, preventing the unloading of J. W. McGIFFIN. The five eventually were arrested and removed, and the McGIFFIN was able to unload her cargo.

The former U.S. Navy minesweeper RHEA, (a) YMS-299 (47), which has been lying at Oshawa, Ontario, since 1983, sank at her moorings on Saturday, October 4th. The cause of the sinking was not immediately known, and the only casualty of the sinking was a cat, whose owner lived aboard the RHEA but was away at work at the time. The City of Oshawa Marine Rescue Association took immediate steps to prevent the escape into the harbour of an estimated 1,600 litres of diesel fuel aboard the ship, containing the spill between the ship and the wharf. The 136-foot RHEA was built in 1943 and served the U.S. Navy until decommissioned in 1957. She was awarded three battle stars for her wartime service, and cleared the way for the entry of U.S. forces into Tokyo harbour at the end of the war. She came to the lakes in 1960, for two years being part of the marine "junk collection" of Arthur Hill, of Burlington. She was owned by a Port Stanley sailing club from 1962 until 1983, and presently is owned by Gary Zulauf, of Oshawa. It is reported that RHEA was in the process of being restored to operational condition when the sinking occurred.