

# Zoologist Discovers New Species

What's a beach hopper? No, it's not a tourist that flies from one swimming resort to another, nor, in fact, is it human at all. Beach hoppers are known to zoologists as little "animals" or amphipod crustaceans living between the tides, that help make up that great family sometimes known as "insects of the sea."

Crustaceans are important in the chain of life in their environment. They change organic matter into animal protein, and they in turn become food for birds, fishes and other animals.

There probably isn't a fish in the sea that doesn't depend on these little amphipods for nourishment at some time during its life cycle. Even baleen whales and seals depend significantly on them for their food.

Dr. E. L. Bousfield, chief zoologist and curator of carcinology at the National Museum of Natural Sciences, returned recently from the "Hudson 70" expedition in the Cape Horn region where he collected about 60 containers of amphipods and other sea animals. The "Hudson 70" expedition, Canada's largest single research program ever undertaken, is the first circumnavigation of the Americas by any vessel concerned with oceanographic research.

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Dr. Bousfield personally brought back several vials of specimens to the museum to get a head start on his research. The others will arrive when the Hudson docks in Victoria this month.

Preliminary examination of the collection has revealed some exciting discoveries. After a close study of one specimen, he found it new to science, and a look over the collection indicates at least 20 other species that probably are also unknown to the scientific world.

"The newly-identified species is the most primitive of its group," said Dr. Bousfield. "It probably hasn't changed much in 100 million years. At the rate of evolution or replacement of animals, this species has no business being around after all this time. It's almost like finding a live dinosaur."

He believes about two-thirds of the entire Hudson 70 collection will be new to science. He'll be busy for years identifying and placing them in their proper categories.

Dr. Bousfield said it was "natural to look for basic primitive types" in the southern hemisphere. The field operations were in Beagle Channel, named after the ship that carried Charles Darwin on his five-year epic voyage of scientific discovery 130 years previously.

He hopes to find other animals as significant as the first one he examined - perhaps finding some of the evolutionary "missing link" types.

"A few of these animals I have looked at are difficult to place in any known

family", he said. "It may mean that we will have a whole new classification of some groups.

The museum scientist said beach hoppers and beach fleas are important in keeping beaches from from organic material cast ashore - the final stage garbage disposers. They are equivalent to insects and spiders of the land, and they occupy almost every ecological niche of the marine environment, from shallow water to the very deepest parts of the ocean.

"They are important", he said, "because they convert primary food sources - algae and marine plants - into animal protein, thus making up one of the most important fish foods. Without amphipods, much of the marine life could not exist."

Why haven't they been collected before in the southern hemisphere?

"Probably because the region has been very remote and hasn't been given much research priority in the past 100 years", he said. "From my general knowledge of world museums, they contain very few collections from the southern part of South America."

The beach flea family is one of the very few animal groups that today has members living in the sea, in the tidal zone, and on land up to the tops of the highest mountains. They occupy a physically harsh and different environment to which few other animals have been able to adapt.

"My interest", he said, "is to find out what morphological adaptations have taken place that have enabled them to survive as they have."

Dr. Bousfield believes they have occupied a niche that in most cases no other animal has taken. Because they have been in geographic isolation in the southern hemisphere, the more successful modern crustaceans of the northern hemisphere haven't been able to move in to replace them.

**PLENTY OF MAIL**  
**HALIFAX (CP)** - Every week William G. Thomas receives 500 letters. They contain information and verification from patients asked to confirm services rendered on claim cards sent to Medical Services Incorporated by Nova Scotia physicians. As supervisor of MSI's new service and audit department, he is responsible for a random sampling of the 200,000 MSI claims arriving each month. MSI is Nova Scotia's medical insurance plan.



The 1971 Vega 2300 - named after the star 'Vega' - is the new little car from General Motors that "does everything well." It comes in a sturdy two-door sedan, sport hatchback coupe, slick KAMMBACK wagon and one-passenger panel express truck. The 90-horsepower engine is 2,300 cubic centimeters (140 cubic inches) with overhead valves and a die-cast, aluminum-alloy block. Compression ratio is eight to one. Lightweight and powerful, it is expected to deliver mileage comparable to any car in its class. Wheelbase is only 97 inches and overall length is 1169.7 inches, yet the Vega seats four comfortably. Shown above is the Vega 2300 Coupe.

# Economists Proven Wrong

**ST. ALBERT, Alta. (CP)** - The agricultural economists doubted if a penniless hired hand could become a successful farmer, but Tony Raven has proven them wrong.

Fifteen years ago Mr. Raven, an immigrant from England, was earning \$145 a month on the Jeff Bocoock dairy farm near St. Albert. Today he is known as the Birdman of St. Albert and owns a 2,600-bird poultry operation which grossed \$130,000 in 1969.

It all started when Mr. Raven asked Mr. Bocoock for the use of an abandoned building on the farm - just a small place where he could raise a few chickens.

"He said 'Sure, go ahead.' So I started on my own with about 50 chickens."

Mr. Raven and his wife, June, began selling eggs at night after their farm chores were done and within one year the flock of chickens had expanded to 1,000.

The Ravens needed more money to enlarge their little business, but the banks considered a farmhand a poor credit risk. The much-needed capital finally was obtained through Mr. Bocoock and the fledgling operation soon was able to stand on its own.

Mr. Raven says marketing is the key to his success. He has never increased egg production unless he was assured of markets.

His major market now is a chain of supermarkets in Edmonton, only a few minutes drive south of St. Albert.

The chickens alone are valued at \$250,000 and the Ravens also own three large laying buildings, with a fourth and even larger one under construction.

The St. Albert man also is a believer in automation. Feed is mixed in an automatic feed mill and distributed by an electric feed cart.

"Since I got automated," he says, "I can look after 26,000 birds as easily as 1,500."

Mr. Raven's philosophy of business and farming is simple.

"Farmers have to be bigger and fewer to be practical and economical. There's no hope for the small farmer with a few cows, pigs and 100 chickens. He'll starve to death, but he'll never make a dollar either."

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# One Open Door

**REDRICTION (CP)** - For transients passing through this New Brunswick town will find at least one door - the Holy Cross Hostel, near the Canada Highway that skirts the city.

For 50 cents, a weary traveller can have a bed, a private shower, a private service and a fast breakfast consisting of coffee and oranges. A breakfast can be for as long as 10 days.

The hostel, offered by Richard Renshaw of the Holy Cross Fathers, was originally designed to take pressure off the city's day centre, Insight.

Insight staff found young travellers were flocking to the centre for food, conversation, a place to wash up and for a place to find accommodation.

expect a dozen or more travellers each night as the heaviest traffic passes through later in the summer.

The majority of visitors come from Toronto or Montreal, stopping enroute to Charlottetown or Halifax. But others have come from as far away as California and Alaska, Vancouver and Ohio.

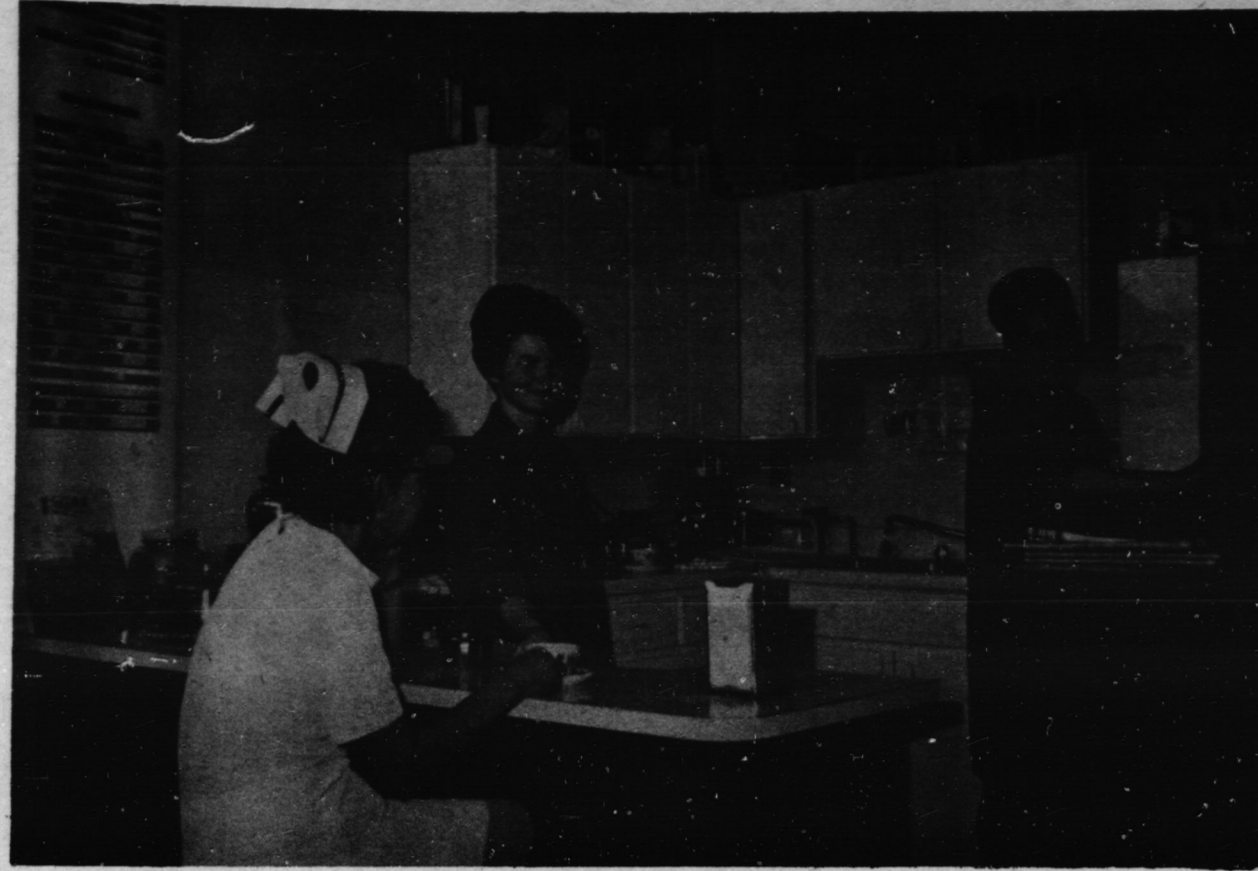
The hostel acts as a referral agency, directing visitors to health and welfare offices for food, to Insight for drug problems, or to the Salvation Army for clothing.

The hostel also sends someone out along the highway in a car just before dusk to pick up hitch-hikers and drive them to the hostel.

The rules are rigid: no drugs or alcohol and members of the opposite sex sleep in separate bedrooms. Those under 16 years of age must have some evidence of parental permission to travel before they will be accommodated.

Why are so many young people travelling these days?

Hostel supervisor Bill Page says it is partly due to the lack of summer jobs and "rather than sit home and vegetate, they explore Canada."



Hospital Ladies Auxiliary Volunteers Mrs. B. Moerschfelder, and Mrs. C. Havill serving coffee to Mrs. P. Diello, R.N. in the Coffee Shop. (Photo by S. Dighe)

**WINS AWARD**  
**VANCOUVER (CP)** - Dean Ian McTaggart-Cowan, head of the University of British Columbia's graduate studies faculty, has been named the 1970 recipient of the Aldo Leopold Award, the highest award of the Wildlife Society of the United States.

**ETHNIC CAMPERS**  
**VANCOUVER (CP)** - The Canadian Council of Christians and Jews plans a unique experiment in summer camps this year in British Columbia, calling on leaders from six ethnic groups to pick 10 boys and girls between 15 and 20 for camps during the last weeks of August.

**NEW HEAD**  
**VANCOUVER (CP)** - Professor Maurice H. L. Pryce of the University of British Columbia department of physics has been appointed acting head of the UBC Institute of Astronomy and Space Science, succeeding Prof. R. D. Russell, who is taking a sabbatical year at the University of Tokyo.

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