

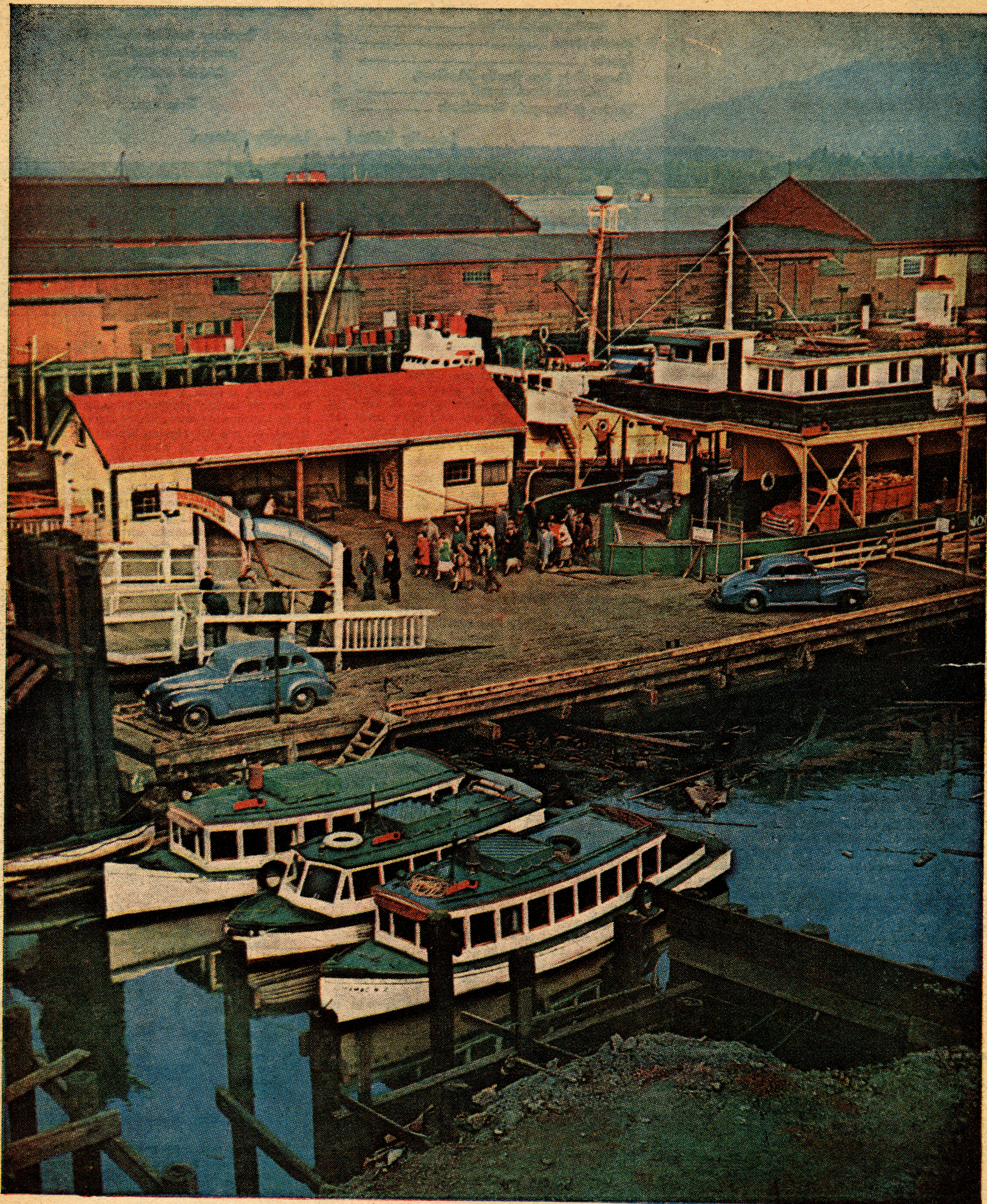
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B.C. MAGAZINE



FERRY SLIP — VANCOUVER HARBOR

COLOR PHOTO BY CLAUD DETTLOFF

See Page Two

What Happened To---



Inspector J. F. C. B. Vance.

CANADA'S "Sherlock Holmes" was the favorite nickname given to Ins. John Fleming Cullen Brown Vance by newspapers 20 years ago. Starting from a small \$600-laboratory situated on the top floor of the police building in 1905, Inspector Vance built up a criminology lab that was known throughout the world. He was Canada's first scientific "detective."

With only a scrap of paper, a thread of wool, or some dust caught in a pants-cuff, Inspector Vance traced down criminals time after time.

Like the fictitious sleuth of Baker street, Inspector Vance amazed everyone with his "elementary" deductions, using spectroscopes, microscopes, and ballistics testers.

So efficient was he that the mention of his name struck fear in the hearts of Vancouver's criminals. He was considered the main deterrent to crime in the city. He was so feared, in fact, that in one year (1934) seven attempts were made on his life—he received a bomb in the mail, had one planted under his car, and several thrown Chicago-style at his house.

One of his enemies came the closest to doing away with the criminologist when he threw acid in the inspector's face. Luckily Inspector Vance's eyes were shielded by his arm, and his sight was unimpaired.

Inspector Vance retired from the police department in 1949, after 42 years of analysis work. He is living in Vancouver, now, in semi-retirement, acting as a consultant for outside legal departments.

He says he is "kept going" by these commitments, and sometimes longs to be back in harness again down at the police station.

"But on the whole, I am happier as I am, for now I have more time to devote to my inventions," he says. Inspector Vance has been working on an odor-detection machine for the last 20 years. He feels that each individual has a distinctive odor which would identify the person as accurately as fingerprinting and would be much easier to detect.

ABOUT OUR COVER: The North Vancouver ferry is one of the three arteries which connect the North Shore with Vancouver, and of the three, it is the most relaxing—after you're once aboard, of course. For approximately 13 minutes as the ferry pursues the 2.12 mile course, the mountainside commuter can sit back with a sigh and contemplate the water as it slips by the stubby prow. For almost a quarter of an hour, he can capture the feeling of being on the high seas, in fair weather and not-so-fair weather. He can ride across the inlet when the waves are choppy and the ferry pitches and yaws with a rollicking movement; or travel when fog obscures the shoreline and muffles the sound from the cities and makes the boat to be an island far removed from the hustle and bustle of the nine-to-five day.

THE PROVINCE B.C. MAGAZINE

I'm a Postman, Frank Fillery, as told to Ed Moyer	3
Only Ghosts Stay at the Reco, Leslie Holmes	4
Murder On the Cariboo Road, B. A. McKelvie	5
"Storehouse of Treasure" Lies In Canada's Arctic, Francis Dickie	6
Here's Howe	7
Sports	8
These Cats Are Really Obedient, Michael MacDougall	9
Cruise of Europe's Bluebloods	10

Football Can Be Fun, Peter Carter-Page	12
The Girls Are Showing, Kay Cronin	13
Giles and Puzzles	14
Books	16
Records, D. Ogilvy Irving and Les Wedman	17
Pawnbrokers	18
Cooking News, Winnie McLearn	19

Province Book-of-the-Week
(complete in this issue)

CASSY SCANDAL
by
Zola Ross

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Boston Tea Party Started In Amoy

FROM the embattled southeast coast of China, where Nationalist and Communist Chinese have been exchanging increasingly heavy fire, came the tea dumped overboard at the Boston Tea Party of 1773, according to the National Geographic Society.

The port from which the British ship sailed with its historic cargo was Amoy, now in Communist hands. Near-by Quemoy Island, only six miles from Amoy Island and five miles from the Red mainland, has been the focal point in a three-cornered struggle that recently cost the lives of two officers of a U.S. army advisory group.

In the years prior to the American Revolution Amoy had become the first Chinese port to trade with the British and Dutch. Later, by the Treaty of Nanking that ended the Anglo-Chinese war in 1842, the ancient city of Amoy off the Fukien coast was named one of the five "treaty ports" opened to foreign traffic and residence.

Unlike well-known Amoy, Quemoy only lately has come into prominence as one of the Chinese Nationalists' strongest offshore bases. With its neighbors — another island called Little Quemoy and several islets — Quemoy has remained continuously under Nationalist control since the Reds took over southern China in 1949. At that time, the Communists made strenuous efforts to capture the Quemoy island group and were repulsed with heavy losses.

Of the Nationalists' major island bases, the Quemoy comes closest to the Communist dominated mainland. The Nationalists' Formosa stronghold is 85 miles east of the bulging China shore.

Big Quemoy covers some 50 square miles and is a little larger than Amoy Island. With narrow waist of only two miles, it resembles on the map an hourglass lying on its side. It is mostly low-lying, especially in the north facing the Reds' coastal batteries. Some high cliffs rise along the east shore.

Before the Nationalists moved in with garrisons and fortifications, Quemoy had a population of nearly 50,000. Farmers grow some rice and wheat, although a generally sandy soil is more favorable to such crops as peanuts and sweet potatoes. Lately Formosa is reported to be shipping in rice and other additional food supplies. Quemoy's kaolin quarries have long been worked for the pure white clay used in making porcelain.

Conflict and violence are an old story in the Amoy-Quemoy area.

Pirates have periodically infested these waters. From the 16th century to the mid-19th, troubles between local Chinese and foreign powers seeking trade and influence led to riots, the burning of the foreigners' ships, and sometimes open warfare. The Japanese occupied Amoy and the surrounding region from 1938 until the end of World War Two.

Back in the 13th century Amoy made history as the final refuge of the Sung dynasty fleeing the conquering Mongols from the north.

After the fall of the Ming dynasty in the 1600s, this coastal section became the centre of a fierce rebellion against the incoming Manchus. General Koxinga, the "pirate patriot" who fought to restore

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sir: Rather interested in Ken McConnell's article on the Stanley Cup coming back to Vancouver. Mr. Hall must be dreaming when he mentions Vancouver having a team in the NHL. What is he going to use for hockey players? Already several teams in the big-time are near collapse due to lack of decent talent. We are not playing hockey the same as we did in the old days when one player played 60 minutes. Each team needs three times as many players as then. He'll also have to find a lot of hockey players a lot better than Stanley and Irwin if he expects to ice a team in the NHL. In reference to the new arena, I guess it would be the same story as Empire Stadium where they would boost the prices to a point where the poor public would end up paying for it three times over.

Vancouver.

KEN BARBOUR.

Editor: Congratulations on your Golden Years series. I think it is the first time a local newspaper has taken the trouble to direct an effort towards helping we older forgotten citizens.

I have found great comfort and hope in their inspiring messages. I know there are scores of others in B.C. who agree with me. They ease the pain of neglect.

Vancouver.

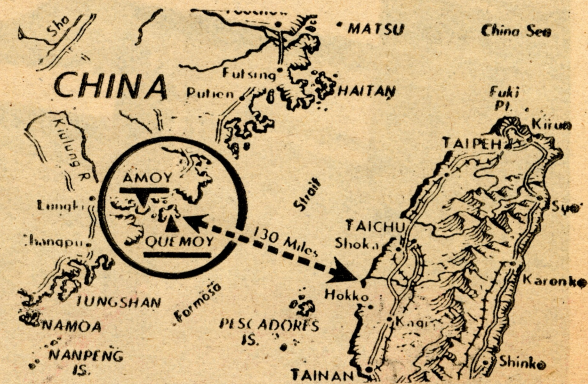
J.H.H.

Editor: As a working constable for 20 years I take issue with your title "I'm a Cop," on the article about Malcolm Fish in your Nov. 2 issue.

Policemen don't call themselves cops, except in plays. We don't like the word. We resent people calling us cops and I'm darn certain Malcolm Fish didn't use that expression.

Vancouver.

F. F.



Conflict is an old story here.

Ming power, seized Amoy and adjoining islands and assembled there a large and picturesque following.

With him in his daring but unsuccessful attempt, he claimed to have some 8000 war junks and 800,000 fighting men, including all the pirates then ranging the southeast coast of China.

THE VANCOUVER PROVINCE B.C. MAGAZINE