

The largest unit moved was a two-storey duplex, 60 feet long and 25 feet wide, which made the trip without event at the beginning of August.

One feature sometimes found in the moving of houses is missing in the present exercise. All the furniture, houseware and personal belongings were removed to permit the houses to be refurbished, where necessary, for the new occupants. This deprives the mover of an opportunity to boast that he moved a house without spilling the water in the goldfish bowl.

Nonetheless the procedure is an interesting one, says the contractor's general foreman Gilles Dufort:

"First, two holes have to be punched out of each end of the basement walls. This gives us room to slip two 'I' beams under the length of the house. Hydraulic jacks then are placed under the 'I' beams to raise the beams until rollers can be placed under them on block frames. Then the house can be winched away from its foundation."

The house then is positioned on the travelling wheels and frame, which are connected to a tractor for transport.

It takes about two days to move a house from its foundation, and another full day to transport it to Churchill Falls.

Dufort has a special interest in the contract as he worked on the construction of some of the Twin Falls' homes in 1962.

ARCTIC RESCUE REFUSED

The Canadian Coast Guard light icebreaker *Sir Humphrey Gilbert* last month penetrated 70 miles into the uncharted waters of Steensby Inlet, northwestern Baffin Island looking for four groups of Eskimos, with whom contact had not been made for three months.

The 28 Eskimos, who were found at various points in the Inlet, were all well and chose to remain where they were, rather than go back to Igloolik. They had left Igloolik early in the summer to seek new hunting grounds.

When the party failed to return to the village after so long, members of the community became concerned. The local Royal Canadian Mounted Police detachment requested the Canadian Coast Guard to have an ice reconnaissance aircraft, chartered by the Department of the Environment in support of the

Ministry of Transport's annual Arctic resupply convoys, keep a lookout for the Eskimos. An RCMP aircraft also took part in the search.

The aircraft crews eventually spotted the groups on the shores of Steensby Inlet, about 75 miles northeast of Igloolik.

At that time, the icebreaker, commanded by Captain George Brown of Lewisporte, Newfoundland, was engaged in support of a supply convoy discharging cargo at Hall Beach, about 50 miles south of Igloolik on the western shore of Foxe Basin.

UNCHARTED WATERS

The ship was despatched to attempt entry into Steensby Inlet, where no vessel other than small Eskimo craft had ever been before, to try and make contact with the groups. Captain Brown cautiously edged his ship northward some 70 miles, with one eye on the depth sounder and the other on the shoreline. Marine charts of the area, showing only shore outlines, were useless.

When found, the Eskimos were brought aboard the ship by helicopter. Their desire to stay in Steensby Inlet was reported to the RCMP at Igloolik and Captain Brown turned his ship south to resume support of the supply convoy. His unexpected Arctic side-trip meant that future enterprises requiring to enter Steensby Inlet would have the benefit of a safe route indicated on it.

Another Canadian Coast Guard icebreaker, the veteran CCGS *Labrador* came to the aid of an Eskimo party in late September. While escorting the seismographic survey ship M.V. *Theta* from eastern Arctic to western Arctic waters through Bellot Strait, the big icebreaker picked up a group of three adults and four children at the west end of the strait. The Eskimos, who had run out of ammunition and were almost without supplies, were originally from Spence Bay, nearly 200 miles to the south on Boothia Peninsula. They were taken aboard the icebreaker, and asked to be dropped off at the first sizable Eskimo village reached by the ship.

Increasingly severe ice conditions resulted in the westward trip being cancelled and CCGS *Labrador* escorted the M.V. *Theta* back to Lancaster Sound area, from where the survey ship could return south if required. The Eskimos went ashore at Resolute Bay.

Corrigendum

Please substitute the name "Dextraze" for "Sharp", on the first line, fourth paragraph, Page 5, in the article "Top Man in Uniform", which appeared in the *Canadian Weekly Bulletin*, October 4, 1972.