

environment

R/V Westward visits Halifax

A Tall Ship from the United States visited Halifax this past Labor Day weekend. Aboard the oceanographic research and training schooner R/V **Westward** were a group of university students and scientists who have spent the last month studying whales and other marine mammals along the coast of Newfoundland and Nova Scotia.

Westward serves an academic program called Sea Semester. Twenty-one young men and women from all parts of the United States (including several from abroad) join a new cruise every two months. They serve as apprentice seamen and research assistants aboard the 240-ton staysail schooner.

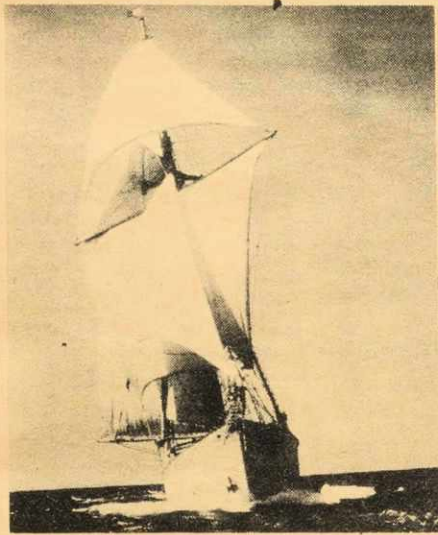
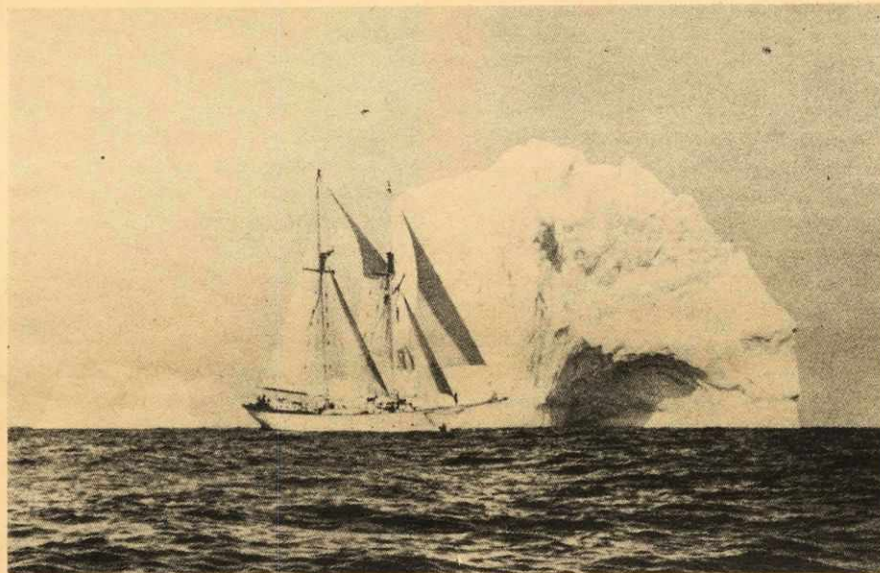
They begin their semester, which

is accredited by Boston University and Cornell University, with six weeks of intensive classroom studies ashore in Woods Hole, Massachusetts. There, they take preparatory courses in marine science, nautical science, and maritime policy. Students then turn to apprenticeship - learning by doing - as they actively (and strenuously!) participate in the mission of a working ship.

Westward's mission in Canadian waters - for the third summer in a row - was to collect behavioral and acoustic information about whales. Numerous observations, films, and recordings have been made of several different marine mammal species. Under sail, **Westward's** silent characteristics have been used to scientific advantages in the Lower Bay of Fundy, Sable Island Bank, the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and the northeast coast of Newfoundland.

Scientists from the U.S. were joined by Dr. Peter Beamish of the Bedford Institute of Oceanography in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.

Twenty-one apprentices are supervised by a veteran staff of seamen and scientists, including the Captain, three watch officers, steward, engineer, staff scientist, and up to three visiting scientists. In command is Captain John Metcalfe. No stranger to Canada, Captain Metcalfe was aboard **Westward** a year ago during a previous cruise in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.



Energy Conference

Organizers have announced the completion of the programme for an Energy and People Conference to be held in Halifax at Saint Mary's University the weekend of September 19, 20 and 21.

The conference, planned by a number of interested Maritime individuals and citizens' groups and supported by various public and private agencies, is designed to provide concerned individuals, groups and policy-makers an opportunity to share information and ideas on issues concerning renewable and nonrenewable energy resources.

Dal begins shelf fishing study

The Institute of Environmental Studies at Dalhousie University will undertake a study for the federal government on the requirements for managing the eastern continental shelf fishing resources.

The Institute co-ordinates university resources in scientific, social and legal fields to deal with specific environmental problems while simultaneously providing students and faculty with an understanding of aspects of the man-environment system.

Professor Rowland Harrison, the new director of the Institute says that up till now regulations governing international fishing have been based on biological theory alone. This study will be concerned with the interdisciplinary nature of the problem including economic and social theories.

Those working in advisory positions on the project include Dr. L. Dickie, Prof. N. Morse (Economics), Dr. E.C. Pielou (Biology), and Prof. C. Steinberg (Economics). On the operational side will be Dr. Bill Silvert (Physics), and Dr. Chris Ploughwright. With the exception

While provision for general-public participation is limited, two Addresses, entitled "The Global Energy Situation" and "Status Report on Renewable Energy Resources", will be open to the public. It is hoped that discussion among the two-hundred invited delegates, representing Government, Business and the Media, will generate constructive policy suggestions for decision-makers and increase public understanding of energy-environment issues.

National energy policy, alternative energy sources and the social implications of energy policy change are among the topics to be discussed by delegates.

Registration for the Conference will begin in the Reading Room, Main Building, Saint Mary's University, at 3:00 p.m. Friday September 19th, with the first public session at 8:00 p.m. the same evening. Sessions will conclude at 3:00 p.m. the following Sunday, 21 September.

of the latter, all are on staff at Dalhousie. Dr. Ploughwright is on sabbatical from the University of Toronto.

The fisheries study is the second project the Institute has undertaken. They have just completed a major study for the Nova Scotia Environmental Control Council concerning Nova Scotia beaches. Dr. Tony Bowan and Prof. Paul Emond are in charge of that study.

The Institute is also drawing up a schedule of academic courses under the guidance of associate director Dr. F.R. Hayes. It is expected that by September, 1976, Dalhousie will be able to offer a program of study leading to the degree of Master of Environmental Science. There is no such graduate offering in the Maritimes at the present, and only three other similar programs in Canada.

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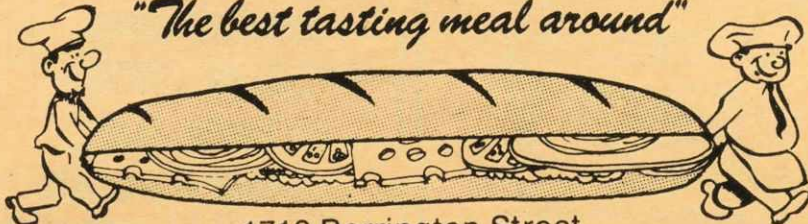
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