

TOUCH OF NELSON

Admiral Lord Nelson's christening mug is now the proud possession of the wardroom of HMCS *York*.

The money for its purchase (\$3,000) was raised by donations from *York's* officers, members of various naval veterans' associations, the Naval Officers' Associations of Canada, numerous reserve units, and interested persons in private and public life.



Nelson's christening mug.

The display case for the mug was designed by members of the Royal Ontario Museum, whose Director of Display, Mr. John Anthony, used a section of the original oak planking of HMS *Victory* as a base for the mug. The planking and an original copper bolt, the latter flattened to serve as a name-plate, were contributed by HMS *Victory's* commanding officer, Lieutenant-Commander W.E. Pearce, RN.

The project began last December when Captain T.C. Turner, HMCS *York's* commanding officer, made a transatlantic telephone call to Mr. Hugh Maclear, who had offered the mug for public sale in London. Mr. Maclear, whose son is Michael Maclear, an overseas correspondent for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, explained that the mug had come into his family's possession through a marriage with the McGraw family. Sir George McGraw had been a surgeon to Lord Nelson, and had served in HMS *Victory* at Trafalgar.

Arrangements were made with Mr. David Bull, curator of the Nelson silverware collection of Lloyd's of London, to authenticate and purchase the mug, which has hall marks indicating it was made in 1732 or 1733.

Legal papers have now been drawn to pass the mug to the Royal Canadian Military Institute, and thereafter to the Royal Ontario Museum.

CANADIAN EXHIBITION AT THE LOUVRE

The inauguration on November 28 at the Cabinet des dessins du Louvre in Paris of an Exhibition of drawings of European masters selected from the collection owned by Canada's National Gallery was attended by Mr. Paul Beaulieu, the Canadian Ambassador to France, representing the Canadian Government, and the representative of the Minister of Cultural Affairs of France, as well as Miss Jean Sutherland Boggs, Director of the National Gallery and Mr. Maurice Serrulaz, curator of the Cabinet des dessins du Louvre. This exhibition, entitled "From Raphaël to Picasso", was organized by the National Gallery and the Musée du Louvre, with the assistance of the Department of External Affairs under the aegis of the Franco-Canadian cultural agreement.

This important display, the first of its kind ever held in the Cabinet des dessins du Louvre, consists of some 106 drawings of European masters from the fifteenth century to the present day. The Paris exhibition, which follows showings at the Colnaghi Gallery in London and the Uffizi in Florence, is intended as a tribute to Miss Kathleen Fenwick, who retired recently as curator of prints and drawings at the National Gallery and who participated in the inauguration. During her career with the National Gallery she was responsible for the acquisition of a particularly rich and important collection of prints and drawings.

COST OF HEALTH SERVICES

The federal-provincial conference of ministers of health met recently in Ottawa to consider the report of the committee on costs of health services authorized by the ministers at their last meeting, in November 1968.

The urgent concern arises from factors detailed in the report such as a steady rise of more than 10 per cent annually in health care costs and of 14 per cent in hospital service costs. The report states:

"The cost of health services has risen so rapidly in Canada in recent years that three alternatives are now imminent.

The standards of health care now available can be reduced, or;

Taxes, premiums of deterrent fees can be raised even higher, or;

Ways must be found to restrain the growth of cost increases through better operation of the health service structure now in existence, and serious consideration must be given to a future major revamping of the entire system."

CANADA'S SYSTEM AMONG THE BEST

It notes also that Canada's health system is, through a combination of individual dedication, public desire, and government action, one of the best in the world.