

Musical instruments are being gathered with a view to organizing an orchestra; a beard-growing competition has already started; bridge and cribbage tournaments will be regular events.

Members of the ship's company who will be standing watches or working on the upper deck have been issued with special clothing to protect them against the freezing temperatures and Arctic gales.

The ship itself has been winterized so that it will be comfortable below decks, regardless of the weather.

"St. Stephen", one of the last frigates to

be commissioned by the R.C.N. during the war, was built at Yarrows Limited, Victoria, and was launched in the spring of 1944. The ship had the distinction of being christened by Princess Juliana of the Netherlands.

She saw service on Atlantic escort duty and, following the close of the war in Europe, was placed in refit to prepare her for service in the Pacific. This refit was in progress when the Japanese capitulated and "St. Stephen" was placed in reserve.

Because she was one of the most modern frigates in the R.C.N., "St. Stephen" was chosen for the job.