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NEWS IN FLASHES

It's all "Huntin', Shootin' and Fishin'" at the Chelsea Arts Ball this year - that's the theme which inspired John Minton and Alexander Bilibin for the main decor of the Albert Hall New Year Party. Organised by the Chelsea Arts Club - whose Diamond Jubilee it is this year - the Ball has grown into the big "fun show" of the New Year. The floats are designed and carried out by hundreds of Schools of Art students and the accent is generally on - Girls!

"Mary Munro the Third" puts to sea under skipper Alec Mellen to fish for strange fish. She's looking for traces of atomic energy. It may be in the air - so they collect samples with the good old vac. They're checking to see whether waste matter discharged to sea from Windscale atomic factory makes the sea water dangerous. Before discharge from the factory, the waste is carefully treated to make it safe: yet, as an extra safeguard samples of water and mud are taken for laboratory tests which have so far proved negative. There's no danger of an atomic kipper - they even test the fish.

In the Concert Hall, Stockholm, six 1951 Nobel prizewinners receive their awards from King Gustav Adolf. Among those to be honoured are Sir John Cockcroft and Professor Walton. The British physicists are introduced by Professor Waller.

We are apt to overlook Britain's invaluable part in this vital science. These awards to Sir John Cockcroft and Professor Walton are timely reminders.