

Anil Elephant Drops Dead

Balakrishnan, Anil's white elephant, dropped dead in his shackles at 5 o'clock this morning in his shed at East River.

The 25-year-old former working elephant had been sick for a week and was visited by a veterinarian surgeon during the weekend and given an injection.

For the past seven days, Balakrishnan had not eaten, to the concern of his keeper, Sankunni. Yesterday, he drank a lot of water, but still refused to eat.

According to a local report, he had not laid down for nearly three months

Both elephant and his mahout, Sankunni, felt the Canadian winter excessively and Sankunni developed arth-

ritis in his arm. He became worried about handling the animal which has been in restricted captivity since it left India last June.

Before setting out on the sea voyage from Bombay to Halifax, the elephant and his keeper walked 110 miles in five days across the hot Indian countryside beneath the blazing equatorial sun.

Sankunni is now free to return to his family in South India. Only one other person at the hardboard factory of Anil Canada Limited spoke his Malayalam dialect. He spoke hardly any English.

Since arriving on July 11, 1967, the elephant was visited regularly by Frederick Cordwell, inspector of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals until one month ago.

Efforts were made on several occasions by the Anil firm to have the elephant housed in a warmer climate, in either a zoo, or with a film company.

The most recent effort to have Balakrishnan sent home to India were foiled at the last hour in mid-January, when the captain of the vessel City of Poona, sailing from Saint John, declined to risk an elephant on board in winter weather.

Youth Dies In Highway Accident

WOLFVILLE — Seaman Edward Connors, 17, son of Mr. and Mrs. David Connors, was killed last night