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# Take Chains Off Elephant In New Home

By BARBARA HINDS

Balakrishnan, the elephant at the Anil plant, was moved yesterday into more draught-proof quarters at the rear of the factory.

His new home is a much more stable building than the tumble down shanty he was housed in until Monday midday.

Concern for the elephant was expressed from many quarters after it was brought to Nova Scotia as an advertising gimmick for the Anil hardboard plant — first major Indian industrial investment in North America.

The elephant has remained shackled — and necessarily so — in its Nova Scotian environment since its arrival last summer, and according to the SPC it developed a chafed wound on its left front leg last week.

Yesterday, as Balakrishnan stood in his lofty, new shed, his left leg was free of tethering chains.

Its new home is without windows, and workmen were nailing boards over the gap where the animal had entered, yesterday afternoon. A small doorway remained to give access to his mahout, Sankunni, and any visitors.

A gas-fired heater was re-assembled yesterday and put into action while Sankunni fed his charge with handfuls of grain and oats. Hay was available for it to eat.

There are no bathing facilities for the animal, and the building will be insulated if it is kept in Nova Scotia, according to the plant's engineer. A possibility exists that it will be sent to a more permanent home at a zoo near Toronto.

When the animal was finally removed from the temporary shelter made of "start board" near the factory entrance, the roof was wide open to the sky and the walls were broken down and gaping.