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Look for the Girl on the Pony



England's Choicest Lavender

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Guardian reserves the right to edit or to omit any material that is unnecessarily long or that is not in accordance with the opinions of the correspondents.

(Continued from page 4)

chemical virtues. Once flaked they can be converted into a variety of finished products, such as starch, potato flour, and many kinds of food for both human and animal consumption. Starch manufacturers are unfortunately unable to pay a fair price for potatoes or flakes, competing as they do with the starch mills whose raw material is imported free from South Africa. I understand that, if blended with certain of the coarse grains and mixed with dried buttermilk or skimmed milk, molasses, and small quantities of mineral salts (calcium, phosphorus, etc.), potato flakes will make the best balanced rations for live stock and poultry. The blending of course would differ for the several kinds of animals and birds, but that would be only a detail in a properly equipped plant.

The above facts apparently are quite beyond peradventure, for there is a number of large feed manufacturing plants in the United States turning out thousands of cars per day of scientific potato products for use as feed. Moreover, if our Canadian farmers preferred to continue to use their own home made rations, a good market could be found for exports to Europe, and to some of the hottest countries. If the above suggestions will be founded there should be no risk in the five Provinces of Eastern Canada taking the whole surplus potato crop of the market at once and as quickly as possible convert it into flakes, paying the farmers a percentage and the rest of the cost of the full market price as set by the Central Marketing Board. The money for the above purpose could be raised at from 3 per cent to 4 per cent and the rest of the cost charged incidental to the flaking and the ultimate sale of the surplus crop would be deducted from the final payment to the farmers.

It would probably be necessary to name a closing date upon which the government would continue to make their purchases, for otherwise many potato growers would be inclined to hold back, hoping to sell their stock at the full market price for immediate consumption. Assistance in this matter could be given by the Provincial Marketing Board by the institution of some system under which they would sanction the sale by any individual farmer to the local licensed potato dealer of only a stated percentage of the farmer's stock presently on hand.

The cost of flaking machinery is not serious, and, at say 20 cents per bushel paid for the surplus stock, the total amount of borrowed money should not exceed ten millions dollars, which divided among the five Provincial governments is not a very serious matter. There are of course many details connected with the above plan which it is not necessary to refer to for none of them could I have been able to think of is of prime importance. In order that the plan outlined above may be given some consideration in advance of your meetings in Ottawa, I am taking the liberty of sending a copy of this letter to some of the newspapers in the Maritimes.

Yours faithfully, H. K. S. HEMMING

A Utopian Footnote

(Sydney Post-Record) In a "footnote" to the Report of the Royal Economic Commission, its Chairman, Professor Harry Jones, draws an imaginary picture of the prosperity the Sydney steel industry might have enjoyed under an all-round free trade system. "The existence," he says, "of a large supply of coal in Nova Scotia and of an abundant supply of iron ore at Wabana provides a natural advantage of the first importance in the manufacture of iron and steel. Under a free trade system the money cost of coal would have been far lower, the cost of constructing blast furnaces, coke oven plants, steel furnaces, rolling mills and finishing plants would have been far lower, while wages and other current costs of production would also have been characteristic of those prevailing under a free trade system.

"The industry might have developed so easily and quickly as to secure and maintain a considerable part of the central Canadian market that is now supplied by central Canadian establishments. "It would undoubtedly have been able to build up a considerable export trade and become a far more important seat of production for the markets of the world than has been the case." Soaring still higher on the wings of imagination Professor Jones adds: "Under the more favorable cost conditions which a free trade system would have maintained, exports might have been expected to grow far more rapidly and in many more directions. Moreover, since the cost of transport is not a serious matter in relation to rolling stock, it is highly probable that under a free trade system Nova Scotia would have been a far more important centre for the construction of freight and passenger cars for Canadian railways."

These speculations, for obvious reasons, are not endorsed by the Canadian members of the Commission. They are manifestly not in accord with modern fiscal thought in Great Britain, where the free trade system has been abandoned after 86 years of practical experience. In point of fact the fallacies of the Jones footnote stare the most casual reader squarely in the face. Professor Jones correctly suggests that Nova Scotia's cost reserves constitute a vital business of the steel industry. The plant



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New South Wales

Wealth in Wool

One of the most important events in New South Wales is the annual exhibition of sheep by the Sheepbreeders' Association. It brings all the "squatters," as they are still termed, to the city to observe the progress made in sheep breeding developments. The show in Sydney in June eclipsed all previous records for numbers and quality. The merino constitute the principal section in the industry. They established Australia's fame as the chief wool producing country in the world. The exhibition included many sheep of English breed of value in developing meat production.

It is estimated that the Australian wool clip for the 1934-35 season will amount to 3,165,000 bales. At a luncheon at the show the Premier of the State (Mr. B. S. Stevens) said a great tribute was to be paid to the breeders who, by scientific methods of flock im-

provement, had increased the weight of the fleeces from 7lb. to 8-9 lb. in the last 25 years. He pointed out that wool has meant to Australia \$877,000,000, exceeding £230,000,000 all the gold that has ever been produced in the continent.

Port of Sydney Facilities

In a Rotary address the president of the Sydney Harbour Trust (Mr. E. W. Austin) said the Trust had its own views about the heavy subsidies paid to shipping by the sign countries but considered it a duty to welcome all shipping to Sydney, irrespective of nationality and to accord the same facilities to all. Despite the foreign competition the proportion of British shipping visiting Australia in recent years had not seriously declined. It had been between 73 and 76 per cent from the years 1925 to 1930. There was a slight decline in 1930, but it was still as high as 66 per cent.

He stated that facilities for such ships as the Majestic and Berengaria were greater in Sydney than at Southampton. In comparing port charges the president gave the charge at Sydney at 5-1-2d per net ton of shipping, as against 11-1-4d in London, and 1-6d in Liverpool.

Busy Factories

Supplementing the official figures concerning factory employment (quoted in last month's news letter) the State Minister for Labour (Mr. J. Cunningham) announced that 38 per cent more persons are engaged in the factories of the State than two years ago. In order to cope with increasing orders a number of factories have sought permission from the department to work overtime. One company has arranged to work in an endeavour to avoid overtime additional machinery had been installed, and every additional labor unit employed on day work had been utilised for several months past, and arrangements had been made for a night shift. Other companies had also found it impossible to cope with the orders unless overtime were worked. Another company had added 350 employees to its payroll.

What particular manufacturing was concerned was not given. The State has however benefited in many other respects, as is shown by figures relating to retail trade building, bank clearings, fuel consumption, etc.

Housing Scheme for Unemployed

The State still has a large number of unemployed to provide for. One result of the depression was that many who were without homes of their own, and were unable to pay rent took the easy course of living in camps near the ocean beaches and outside the country towns, there being plenty of unoccupied land in favorable positions available. In this latitude there are no rigours of climate to be dreaded, the mildness of the prevailing weather making life pleasant enough. As the presence of camps near or in the municipalities is undesirable the Government has proposed a scheme of providing houses of an inexpensive type for the unemployed. A sum of £200,000 is proposed, and the people to be housed will be provided with enough land to supply their own needs in raising vegetables, the plan being one of encouragement to the tenants to become ultimately the owners.

Miss Leah Batten, the New Zealand girl who flew solo from England to Australia in the record time for a woman of less than 48 days, was given a great welcome on arrival in Sydney. On alighting from her aeroplane at the aerodrome she was immediately called upon to speak to London by radio telephone. It was a mere slip of a girl who discarded her cap and goggles and climbed out of the cockpit when coming to earth. Her diminutive physique made the more surprising. She is 24 years of age. The Sydney sirmen turned out in force to provide an escort to the outskirts of the city at the arrival in Sydney. An official welcome was given an official welcome at night she attended another reception at the City Hall where she made a delightful speech in response to the welcome. Her stay in Sydney was made pleasant by many hearty invitations from the citizens.

Australian flora and fauna are noted for many strange types unknown in other parts of the world. Of the birds there are two which are of special note. One is a bird that laughs—the kookaburra. The other is a bird known as the lyrebird from the fact that it possesses a tail which, when standing erect, resembles the ancient lyre. It is one of the shyest birds in the world and is possessed of marvellous and beautiful powers of mimicry. In the forests the observer considers himself lucky if he can catch a glimpse of this wonderful singer and performer—for it dances. Naturalists have therefore been roused to the greatest curiosity by the fact that John Coyle, who lives in the mountains near Sydney, has succeeded in taming two which were captured when young. In view of the scientific interest and the fact that these are the only specimens known to have been tamed, he has been given the first sanction by the Government to keep them for experimental purposes.

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would never have been established here were it not for the abundant supply of coal in its immediate vicinity.

But where would the colliery industry of this Province be, if it were not for the tariff protection it has enjoyed for more than half a century? Everyone knows the answer. Even as it is more than half the Canadian market is supplied from the American mines. Under free trade, Nova Scotia coal would be off the market, our mines closed, our colliery workers absorbed long since in other occupations.

Professor Jones' ideal free trade system, he himself frankly admits, would mean lower wages for Sydney steel workers, as well as cheaper living standards. They stood for that kind of thing for long years in England, but would never do so in Canada. The value of a wage-worker's services should bear a reasonable ratio to international standards, and no industry could be of much advantage to this province which would force its employees to accept lower pay and less favorable standards of living than obtain elsewhere.

In assuming that the products of the Sydney steel plant compete chiefly in Quebec and Ontario with the products of central Canadian establishments, Professor Jones shows a remarkable lack of knowledge of the situation on which he offers advice to the people of Nova Scotia. By far the larger part of such products reaches Central Canada from the United States, where the tariff structure is and always has been considerably higher than in Canada. This circumstance in itself is surely a conclusive answer to the professor's contention that free trade is the ideal route to success in a competitive market.

The case of Professor Jones is under the double handicap of being a confirmed Cobdenite and a book economist. Every practical industrialist knows that the two greatest factors in cost reduction under modern conditions are mass production and mass transportation. A factor of almost equal importance, Henry Ford contends, and he is one of the world's largest employers of labor—is a well-paid force of skilled workers. And yet Professor Jones holds up the deal of reduced wages as affording the key to successful industrial operations in such an enterprise as the Sydney steel industry!

Mr. Johnston and Professor Innes are to be congratulated on not being responsible in any way for the precious "foot-note."

WRITER LAMENTS FAIR SEX ENTRY TO PUBLIC BARS

(By The Canadian Press) NEW YORK, Dec. 17—After the first anniversary of the demise of prohibition Don Marquis, the columnist, writes to the editor of the Herald Tribune and remarks he and "the old Sock," one of his characters, are profoundly disappointed with the "New Barroom." What they had "hoped and prayed, fought and bled and died and lied for" was the return of the "Old Saloon."

Mitchell Hepburn, the new premier of Ontario, comes to town and says he sees no evidence of drunkenness. A young man from Winnipeg making his yearly journey to Mecca, reports the town changed. He regrets the passing of the hectic speak-easy. "These mid-westerners, sipping cocktails," comments he, and remarks an air of solid respectability in bars of all degrees. Mr. Marquis laments the lack of privacy of the bar saying, "Your wife, your sister, your maiden aunt, your little golden-haired daughter, your mother-in-law, the pastor of your church, the boss at your office—the man you are trying to get the contract from, your creditors may look right through the window and count every liquid drop of damnation you dribble down your gullet." He regrets the passing of stout language in the bar consequent upon the influx of women. "The spiritual essence of drinking," he says, "is also included in the days of the old saloon—is gone forever, killed by this invasion of women. Here she is in the new bar-room and her foot is on the

LIQUOR SOLD AT AUCTION

(A.P. By Guardian's Special Wire) BOSTON, Dec. 17—The government today sold at auction 3438 cases of seized liquor and champagne for \$36,000. The contraband was seized about two years ago when the British motor ship "Amelia" was captured off New Bedford. The purchaser was James J. Sullivan, Boston wholesale liquor dealer. The purchase price represented about \$17 a case of 220 cases of champagne and about \$10 a case for imported gin, whiskey and rum.

CRITICALLY ILL

(C.P. By Guardian's Special Wire) MONTREAL, Dec. 17—Hon. James Robson Douglas, former lieutenant-governor of Nova Scotia and a prominent figure in the insurance business life of the country, is critically ill in Royal Victoria hospital here. Members of Mr. Douglas' family were gathered in Montreal tonight.

TO PRODUCE "BIRTHRIGHT"

(By The Canadian Press) LONDON, Dec. 16—The first performance in England of the play "Birthright," written by Richard Mailbaum, will be given by the Plinius Players, under the auspices of the Jewish Education Guild, at the Cambridge Theatre, Sunday, Dec. 16.

RAISE NURSE PAY FOR MATERNITIES

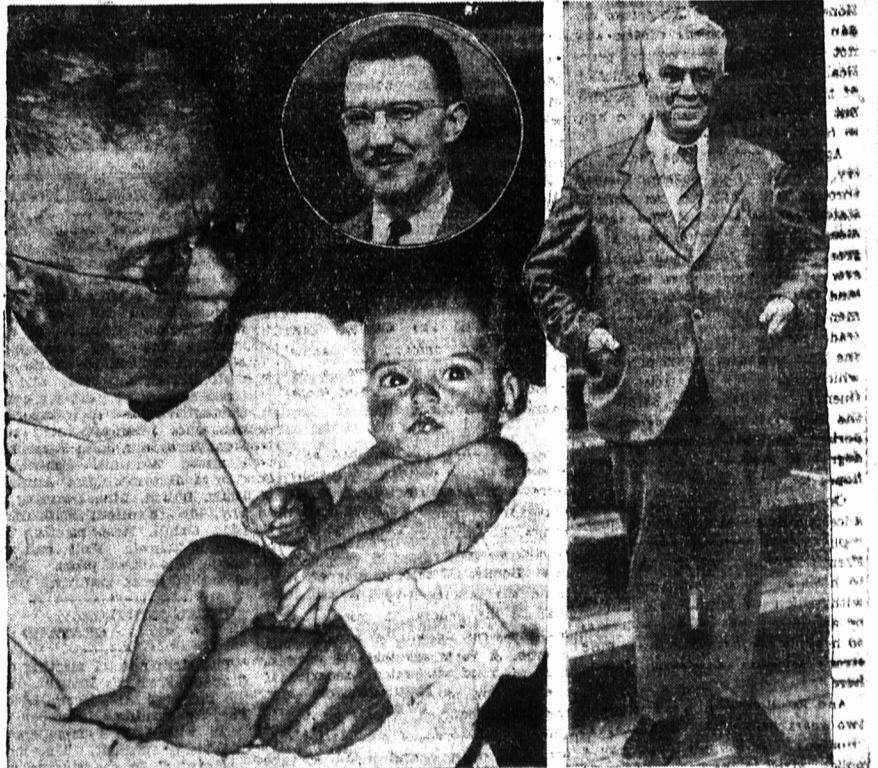
(By The Canadian Press) TORONTO, Dec. 16—Remuneration to nurses for maternity cases were raised from \$2.50 to \$3.50 a day to reduce mounting hospital expenditures. The council hoped this step that the majority of obstetrical cases will be treated at home rather than in hospital where the cost would be considerably higher. The grants will be paid to association nurses and those approved by physicians handling the cases. The fee of \$5 paid to physicians will remain unchanged. It was pointed out that hospitalization cost \$212.48 to date this year, compared with \$202.28 for the corresponding period last year.

MONTH'S CELEBRATIONS

In Bethlehem, Christmas celebrations occupy over a month. Catholic services are on Dec. 25th, the Greek Church, and thirteen days later again, those of the Armenian Church.

QUITE INCREDIBLE

Sandy—if you had five shillings in your pocket, what would you do? Tammas—I'd think that I had somebody else's breaks on.



One of Canada's foremost medical men, Dr. Allan Dafeo of Calander, Ontario, has been recommended for the Nobel prize for his expert care is witnessed by the above layout. The doctor is seen tenderly holding Marie, below from left to right are Marie, Emilie, Cecille, Annette and Yvonne. How different they now appear from their early pictures! They are just past six-months old. Dr. Dafeo is leaving his charges for the first time since their birth to live a series of lectures in New York. During his absence, Dr. P. Hamblin, (Miss) will be in attendance. Dr. Dafeo is also at right as he prepared to leave for New York. (Photo Copyright by Central Press, Canadian)