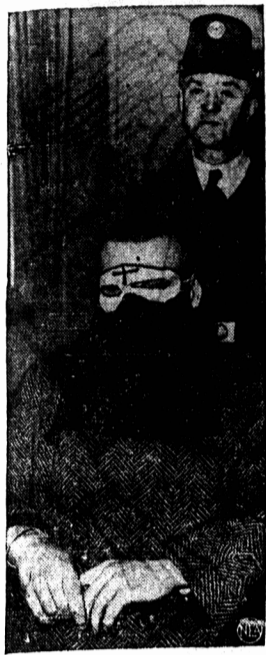


Canuck Woman Runs Traffic For Bermuda



HAMILTON, Bermuda, May 4—(CP)—A Montreal-born woman, who served six years in the Canadian Women's Army Corps, is in charge of traffic on the island of Bermuda.

Mrs. Robert B. Watson, who had to be persuaded to stand for Parliament, found that the job of controlling traffic on the island also came under her jurisdiction.

Mrs. Watson's task is not an easy one. Although Bermuda is only 22 miles long and two miles wide, it is criss-crossed with narrow twisting lanes. The population is sharply divided in opinion as to modes of transportation; many still adhere to horse-drawn carriages; the bicycle has many devotees; and, of course, there are cars.

Mrs. Watson took her seat in parliament only last year. There is only one other woman.

During the First World War, Mrs. Watson served with the St. John Ambulance Brigade of Montreal. After the war, she married Robert B. Watson, a childhood sweetheart, and in 1927, they moved to Bermuda, where they started a poultry farm and built a home.

When her husband died in 1938, Mrs. Watson ran the farm alone for a year, then on the outbreak of war, she decided to volunteer her services to the Canadian Army.

But even getting back to Canada proved eventful for Mrs. Watson. She was a passenger on the flying boat, "Cavalier," which crashed in the Atlantic. With other survivors, she spent several hours in the ocean before being picked up.

After her discharge from the Army, she went back to Bermuda.

So far, the tall, greying, 52-year-old Mrs. Watson has only this to say about her legislative duties: "Don't let anyone ever tell you women are the most talkative of the species. After a couple of months sitting in Parliament, I'm convinced men can out-talk any woman."

Wearing his headman's mask, Gustav Voelpe, 48, Berlin executioner who claims to have chopped off 30 heads since the end of the war, sits in a police station after being arrested for robbery. He denied robbing an invalid but admitted, however, he'd been forced to seek a side-line recently due to a slowdown in the head-chopping business. "At 1000 marks a head," he said, "I can hardly make ends meet."

A single pound of Irish flax fibre has been known to produce 1,432 miles of hand-spun yarn.

Sask. Farmers Have Worries This Year

By Erwin Frid

REGINA, May 4 — (CP) — Farmers, probably with reason, generally rank high among the world's worry-warts.

Concern for their crops is a year-round worry but in the spring it reaches its peak. Saskatchewan's 125,000 farmers are no exception this year. The province's "biggest gamblers," after 10 years of good crops and prices, seem faced with their severest test since the drought-ridden '30s when many left the prairies in despair.

The biggest grasshopper plague in 10 years has been forecast. The Agriculture Department yesterday reported the first grasshoppers of the type which caused crop damage were found hatched at Lemsford near the Alberta border.

Dust storms have swept the southern part of the Province with a severity unexperienced since the '30s. Two and three-foot ditches in the Swift Current district, in the southwest corner of the Province, have been filled with valuable top soil. Farmers in the area are waiting for rain before they seed crops.

Agriculture Minister I. C. Nollett said the hopper menace at present overshadows the possibility of a drought year. Eight hundred carloads of poison bait are available for immediate use.

In its first crop report this year, the Provincial Agriculture Department said 30 per cent of Saskatchewan's anticipated 15,800,000-acre spring wheat crop and 10 per cent of the coarse grains already is seeded.

An agricultural official said the crop picture was "vulnerable but not nearly hopeless."

INFANT QUEEN

When she was six years old, Mary became Queen of Scotland.



Little Samuel Solnik, according to his dad (right), Dr. Samuel Solnik, is a direct descendant of King David of Israel and thereby rates the throne of the new government should a monarchy ever be established. The youngster (left), who is almost six years old, has a following among ultra-orthodox groups in Israel, states his father. He says he has documents which go back for centuries to prove his claims.

Labor Party Suffers Loss In Scotland

GLASGOW, May 4 — (CP) — The Labor Party suffered a net loss of 43 seats with almost complete returns in from yesterday's Scottish burgh elections, unofficial tabulations showed early today.

In the contest for 195 municipal councils, the unofficial tabulations showed Labor had lost 72 seats while gaining only 29. Most of Labor's losses went to the Progressives, an anti-Socialist party.

There are two ex-officio members of the council, Lord Inver-

clyde, dean of guild, and Douglas McNaughton, deacon convenor. If both were to vote with the Progressives Labor would be outvoted by a one-vote margin.

In Edinburgh, Labor lost 11 seats and saw its total dwindle to 15. The Progressives increased their representation from 40 to 52, gaining 11 from Labor and one from Independents.

LABOR retained control of the Aberdeen Council by one seat.

RECORD POTATO CROP

BELFAST — (CP) — Northern Ireland's 1948 potato crop totalled 1,600,000 tons, a record and double that of 1939.

Startling Find Made In Study of Growth Causes

By Howard W. Blakeslee (Associated Press Science Editor)

ROCHESTER, N. Y., May 4 — (AP) — Coconut milk, fed to little slices of living carrot root, makes them grow to 80 times their original sizes in three weeks. This is something new in growth. It is much more growth than comes from any other nutrient.

The discovery was described in a paper today at the University of Rochester Department of Botany, where it was made by Dr. F. C. Steward and Dr. S. M. Caplin. They are using it to try to learn more about the mysterious nature to growth.

These pieces of carrot do not grow in soil, but in small glass tubes — one tube, about three inches long, for each slice. Hundreds of them occupy one end of a laboratory, under brilliant electric lights which substitute for sunshine.

The tubes are fixed near the rims of rotating wheels, which operate in banks, like a multiple-tire truck. In each tube there is some coconut milk and other nutrients. Each turn drenches the carrot slice with its food, at the rate of once a minute.

The amazing size of growth is not the only unusual effect. The carrot cells are mature, the kind which normally have finished their growth.

The new carrot cells are not well organized. They might be called wild growth.

What the milk contains to speed growth is not yet identified.

FRAGILE STEAKS

BRIDGEND, Wales — (CP) — "Close the door, or your meat ration may blow off the counter," says a butcher's notice to customers.

Says Water Appears To Have Long Memory

By Howard W. Blakeslee

NEW ORLEANS, May 4 — (AP) — Water does something that resembles learning.

It even imitates the mental quality called understanding, says Dr. H. M. Johnson, Tulane University psychologist.

More startling, water seems to have a very long memory. The experiments to support this were made by Dr. N. E. Dorsey of the National Bureau of Standards. For 20 years Dorsey alternately froze and thawed samples of water enclosed in glass tubes. The water was pure and the tubes very clean, also sealed hermetically.

After a few freezings these water samples no longer froze until their temperatures dropped close to zero, fahrenheit.

In some cases one sample of water preferred a different temperature for freezing than the other samples. The largest difference between these preferences was nearly 20 degrees, fahrenheit.

Dr. Johnson says that scientists have known for a long time that non-living systems, such as water, can learn, remember and forget. But because this is usually slight and doesn't last long, psychologists have assumed that only living beings have memories.

He explains that the water samples did something very like learning when they lowered their freezing temperatures.

Their long memories were indicated by the fact that once the water samples had "learned" a low temperature, the lapse of time between freezings did not make them forget. Even a lapse of months failed to make a difference in the lower temperature.

"I have no objection," said Dr. Johnson, "to saying that the sample of water had come to understand its task. Those who do not like to say so, should recognize from Dorsey's experi-

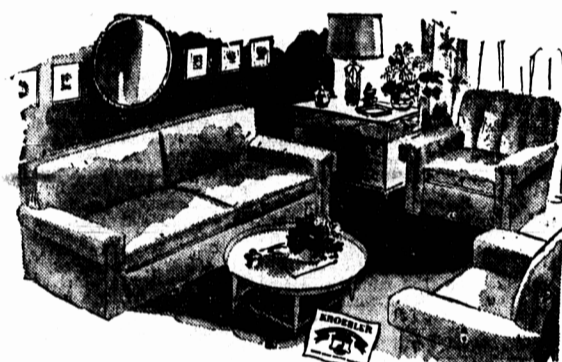


Vlasta Adele Vraz of Berwyn, Ill., was arrested in Prague, Czechoslovakia, for possible "political activities." Miss Vraz is field director of American Relief for Czechoslovakia, and is shown at one of her duties, supervising feeding of undernourished children.

ments that non-living as well as living physical systems behave according to their past experiences, and thus should no longer assume that changes in learning behavior necessarily mean "understanding." Dr. Johnson made his report to the Southern Society of Philosophy and Psychology.

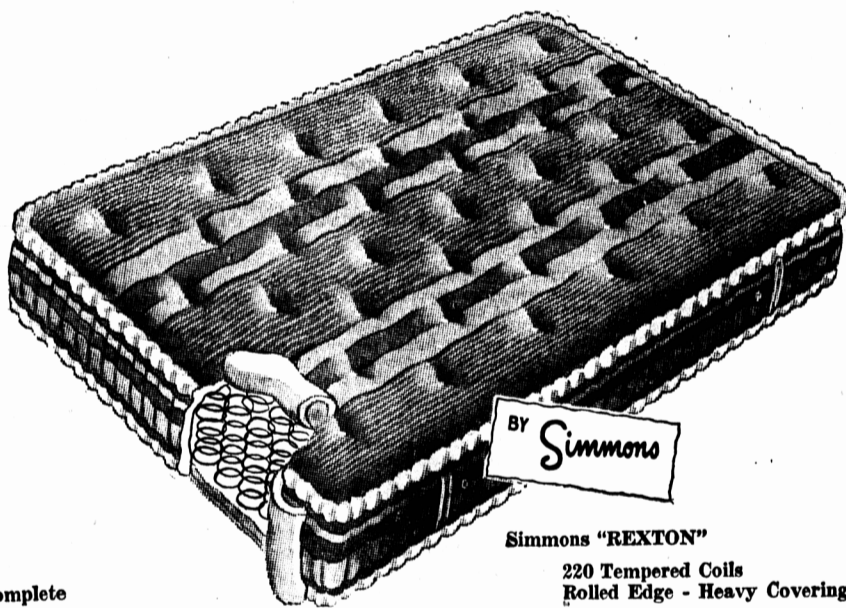
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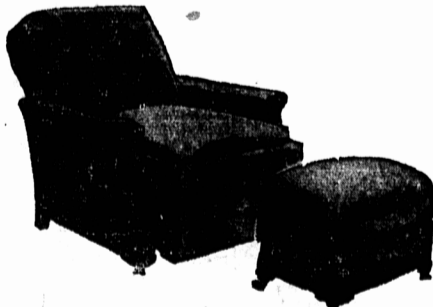
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