

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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THE BACON QUOTA

An analysis of the Canadian hog marketing situation, from the condition of low prices prevailing in 1931-32 to the present remunerative basis is made in the current letter on Canadian Livestock Products, issued by the Industrial and Development Council of Canadian Meat Packers. The immediate cause of the low hog prices which began in the latter part of 1931 is shown to have been the collapse of grain prices which began to be effective in Canada in 1929. The farmers of the world began selling to the European competitors of Canadian hog growers' grains at a price that permitted them on a large turnover at the low price to live. The cost of the production of grains did not trouble the European importers. Their costs were only the cost of what they had to pay for the grain. The Canadian farmer, however, had to try to live out of what he could get out of the production of his acres. Grain yielded him practically nothing. Hogs did not make his acres pay. It was impossible that his hogs should yield a value that would meet the cost of the production of grains because hogs in competitive countries were being fed with grains which had been supplied far below the cost of production.

The steady upswing in Canadian hog prices since the early months of 1933 is shown in the bulletin, it being pointed out that this advance has been closely associated with the advance in prices of Canadian bacon in Great Britain in terms of Canadian currency. Prices of bacon in terms of British currency advanced considerably as a result of the reduced total supplies of bacon on the British market. Canada's bacon quota in the British market, obtained as a result of the Imperial Economic Conference at Ottawa, gave our producers a magnificent opportunity of profiting under this plan. The result is summed up in the following concluding paragraph of the article above quoted:

"The betterment of Canadian hog prices has been brought about by one single factor. The British market permits Canada to dispose of her surplus hog products at a remunerative price. This is precisely the point which Mr. W. M. Lee, Opposition leader chose to ignore in commenting on the hog marketing situation in the Provincial Legislature. He attributed the increased prices solely to a "swing of the pendulum," due to the falling off in production over a period of abnormally low prices. Asked by Mr. J. A. MacDonald if the trade negotiations by the Bennett Government with overseas countries did not enhance the price of Canadian bacon, Mr. Lee's only reply was that he "thought supply and demand did that." Mr. Lee is of course fully aware that if it were not for the bacon quota obtained under the Empire agreements our Canadian producers would still be selling at a loss in order to meet world competition in the British market. Had he frankly conceded this fact and commended the Bennett Government for its initiative in obtaining the quota, his comments on the bacon marketing situation would have been much more to the point.

EDUCATION COSTS

A great deal, says the Vancouver Province, has been said and written during the past few months on the high cost of education in Canada. Sir Henry Drayton in his recent crusade, suggested that the increase in the cost of education since 1913 was a shameful thing. And others have taken up the cry. Sir Henry used figures in his argument. He did not attempt to explain them or weight them or qualify them. He presented the figures and let them talk. But now comes another set of figures from the same bureau of statistics which supplied Sir Henry's figures. And these figures suggest that there is no such thing as a high cost of education in this Dominion. "Intelligent consideration of educational expenditures," says the bureau bulletin, "is frequently hampered by a lack of comprehensive facts to use as standards of measuring the property or adequacy of school support." So a series of compilations is being issued to help meet this difficulty "by giving a comprehensive grasp of some of these fundamentals—by showing in context, so to speak, the provision of schools and colleges as an economic activity."

The bulletin, by reference to various tables which are available, attempts to work out the cost of raising a child to the age of self-support, and in working this out, indi-

cates the proportion which goes to education.

Through calculations based on earnings given in the census returns, the bureau has decided that the average boy or girl in Canada is dependent up to the end of his or her eighteenth year. Then it estimates the average expenditure on this average boy or girl for food, clothing and housing, for the eighteen years. The result is as follows: Food ..... \$1500 Clothing ..... 800 Housing and related costs .. 2050 Health, recreational and social costs ..... 600

Total, without schooling ... \$6000 The estimate of the average cost of schooling is based on figures from seven provinces, British Columbia and Quebec having no records useful in the calculation. The bureau has discovered in its researches that the average child in Canada completes more than eight years or grades of school work. Two-thirds of all children go as far as the final year in the elementary school. About half do some high school work. About a fifth reach the final or matriculation year. And a tenth continue to a professional school or university, and about three in a hundred get as far as a university degree. The average cost per pupil in the elementary grades is \$60 to \$70 per year, and in the secondary grades from \$120 to \$140 per year. The cost per student in the University is \$500 per year. The cost of a full elementary training is, therefore about \$600 per pupil to the end of the high school course about \$1000, and the cost to a university degree about \$2300. The average expenditure on schools and universities works out at \$600 per child, or when expenditure on books and equipment is added, \$750 per child.

The total cost of bringing up a child, then, to the age of self-support, is \$6000 for food, clothing, shelter, health and recreation, and \$750 for education. The education cost is 13 per cent. of the total, or, as the bureau bulletin puts it, it costs no more to raise six children and give them an average schooling than to raise seven completely illiterate.

"More is spent on clothing a child than on sending it to school," the bulletin adds; "twice as much is spent on nourishing it; and nearly three times as much on housing it. The money devoted to its formal education can scarcely be considered a very formidable fraction of the total sum involved in bringing a child to the age of self-support. It would, no doubt, seem smaller still if seen in comparison with the amount that it adds to the earning power of the child, and perhaps insignificant when considering the wider mental life that an education opens up to the individual."

THE WAR SPIRIT

The publication of a translation of Professor Bane's volume, "Germany, Prepare for War," has created an impression in Great Britain, which all the repudiations of the Nazi leaders in Germany will not readily dispel. The book has been banned in Germany, and the Professor scouted as an extremist who represents nobody's views but his own; but it is difficult to throw off the impression that his views would have ready support in Germany were the times considered opportune to air them. The spirit of militarism pervading this book is more violent than ever. "It is a question," the Professor says, "of eat or be eaten," and in an allusion to Britain, he goes on to speak of the pleasure it gives them to "meditate on the destruction that proud sooner or later overtake this proud and seemingly invincible nation, and to think that this country which was last conquered in 1066 will once more obey a foreign master, or, at any rate, have to resign its rich colonial empire." Such utterances, comments an exchange, seem incredible, and can have had their origin only in a reckless determination to put a final period to any amicable agreement on the vexed question of adjustment of armaments.

EDITORIAL NOTES

During the past year Canada's export of eggs has been climbing up towards the aggregate of a decade ago when it reached the total of about two and three-quarter million dozen. The export during the last twelve months was 2,351,000 dozen compared with 372,000 in the previous twelve months. The value was almost half a million dollars as against about \$67,500.

Notes By The Way

Outside, the noise of the change and the clamor of the motor are heard. But within St. Sofia the noises are not heard. One stands there, beneath the gold domes which are like the very arches of heaven, daisy and anemone by their majesty. Still, with all the pandemonium outside one may stand here, where Justinian stood, and understand just why it was that when he beheld his work he said: "O Solomon, I have surpassed thee."—Victor, Bulletin, in The Fortnightly Review, London.

We do not agree with Mr. Kenneth Lindsay that "the idea of artificial large scale migration is a bankrupt idea"; but we agree that the investment of human lives requires more care than the investment of money. Mr. Lindsay himself testified to the success of the 19000 famine refugees in Canada, and experience of that scheme shows the advantage, even the necessity, of friendly support and a highly trained administration on the other side. Scheme, moreover, which aimed at settlement on a subsistence basis, might be more successful in the long run than schemes based on large scale production. We are faced with the fact that the world is suffering at the moment from a surplus of raw products; but present conditions may presently change and the urgent need at the present time is to prepare by careful planning expansion.—London Morning Post.

Hitler's achievement of power was in no small degree due to his far-reaching economic promises to the German electorate. A proportion of this electorate supported him on the account of what was a truly ambitious and socially pragmatic program, now almost a year since he and National Socialism rode to power, on these promises, and thus enough time has gone by in these days of greatly accelerated economic evolution to be able to ask, in all fairness, for a balance-sheet. One strange fact is immediately apparent. Politically he has kept many of the promises made, even though they had disastrous effects upon the prestige of Germany as a civilized nation. Economically, hardly one of the promises made has been fulfilled, and it will be seen that the price he has paid to keep some of them was soon abandoned after resulting in a chaotic dislocation of the commercial and industrial machine.—Johannes K. H. Sherman in his book "Chemistry of Food and Nutrition," says:

"The best advice as to how to make sure of getting plenty of the 'protective' foods (milk, fruit and vegetables) in the diet means that one should eat as much of each as possible. (1) At least as much should be spent for milk (including cream, poultry and fish) as for meat, sweets, potatoes and bread may be considered right or nearly right. However the suggestion above of having the other three vegetables equal to one another in cost should make our diet about perfect as it provides for enough minerals, vitamins, roughage, and non-acid foods (milk, fruit and vegetables)."

There is no question but that following the above arrangement there would be few colds and other disturbances. In fact, if the diet is taken, but this does mean that other factors—alcohol, exercise, outdoors, regular intestinal habits—are not equally important in "protecting" us from illness.

Why Not Film The Odyssey

(London Times)

Report says that, in consequence of a recent judgment, a wave of apprehension has swept Hollywood, and caused a revulsion against the making of historical films. If there is really this misgiving, why should such films seek in the service of Calypso the safety they fear that Clio cannot give them? Not all the world's great stories are about Henry VIII. The field of epic has been left strangely unexplored on the screen. The Voltaire plays, the Song of Roland, the Arthurian Cycle, all contain magnificent material; but surely the supreme film might be made out of the Odyssey. It is the greatest of all travellers' tales; and in the power to traverse all the ways of the world lies the peculiar excellence of the cinematograph. Its scene includes heaven, earth, and hell, regions that cannot be localized on the stage, but may be penetrated by the imaginative eye of the camera. Its theme includes tragedy and comedy, splendour and homeliness, love and hate, adventure and pathos, and passion and a chance, and behind all and ennobling all, the ever-present sense of mystery and doom. The more the Odyssey is considered in detail, the more will its unique appropriateness for film treatment become apparent. Here is no slice of intractable history, needing to be manipulated and tortured to make a story of it, but a story in itself, already shaped to this purpose by the master of storytelling. It will need, of course, the highest skill that the profession can command. There are parts for one superb actor, and for at least three great actresses. Not to the mere picture postcard beauty can be given the trust of representing the best-beloved of ancient heroines; Nausicaa may speak as few lines as Cordelia, but her part is no less vital to the whole. The most famous of the screen "ramps" might long to play Circe, or even Calypso; while the patient Penelope is the command of all right-minded audiences. As for Odysseus himself, his sufferings and his prowess, his destiny and his triumph, must require the exercise of the highest and most versatile art that any actor can bestow upon their interpretation.

There are episodes in the Odyssey that only the film can portray to the eye. By the miraculous power of the camera, it is now possible to bring its marvels to life—the giant rage of Polyphemus and the escape of his victims clinging to the bellies of his monstrous sheep; the spearing of hogs' bristles on human flesh; the enchantments of Circe; the restoration of the squeaking ghosts to living semblance by the draught of blood. These preternatural happenings are interspersed with simpler episodes—the beautiful scene of Nausicaa and her maidens playing on the rippled sands, the comic discomfiture of the bully Iru, the rescue of Argus and his dog, and at last to a tremendous climax in the grim scene of slaughter that follows the bending of the bow.

Scenery is of course among the most vital elements of the film, and in scenery the Odyssey is continuously magnificent. It must be photographed, naturally, in the sunny lands of which it tells. Much of the latest part could be acted in Ithaca itself—under the direction, no doubt, of Lord Rennell. But these land-scenes make up only the less important part of the Odyssey, which is above all a tale of the sea. Here is the special good fortune of those who would film this noble story. The sea on which Odysseus sailed is with us still.

The hall where he slew the suitors was not demolished without a trace, but the sea is the same that reflected the topless towers of Ithaca. And of all subjects that the photographers can treat, there is none nobler than the sea. If they will faithfully follow the wanderer in his ten-year travels over blue water, chronicling his recorded adventures in storm and battle and wreck, Poseidon himself, who was the hero's enemy, will see to it that they do not fail to find admittance.

grand Spanish and French attack on Gibraltar, which saved this great gale of the Mediterranean for the British Empire. The Spaniards were very confident that they would get the Rock, but the British were just as determined to hold it. The siege, lasting as it did three and a half years, is probably the most marvellous in British history. General Elliot, the Governor, a veteran of 60, who had fought at Dettingen, Fontenoy, and Havana, had fewer than 6,000 men against the large forces of Spain which were constantly being reinforced, with their vast works and heavy artillery; and the united French and Spanish fleets were equipped with as much of the line against the British 38. For his splendid heroism General Elliot was knighted and eventually created Baron Heathfield of Gibraltar. Thanks to him and his gallant men, this classic Pillar of Hercules still stands guarding the British highway to the East. At its base an important arsenal of the Empire, and its harbour a port of call for the shipping of the world.

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The Poet's Corner

THE INDIAN TRAIL

Here, where the traffic of a city street Flows in an endless stream by night and day, Was once an Indian trail where stealthy feet, In years gone by, sped ghostlike on their way; Where flaring arc-lamps light the garish signs, The soft, cool moonlight gleamed on whispering trees, The tapering cones of tamaracs and pines, Their banners stirred by every passing breeze; Where now the motor hons the bull-frog's throaty cry Sang to the swamps of summer pasting by. This spreading wilderness of street and square, Lit by the endless rows of city lights, Was then the home of wolf and prowling bear. Where fireflies danced through the warm summer nights, Gone are the chirring crickets in the grass, The loons lost cry above the lonely stream, Gone and forgotten with the years that pass, Like fading echoes of a far-off dream: The whispering pines, the grass that smelted so sweet, Buried in dust beneath the city feet. —David Cunningham in The New Outlook.

A Roman Arch

(Exchange)

The Roman Theatre at Verulamium, near St. Albans, which was covered up after its discovery in 1847, has now been retraced and partially cleared, with a view to its future preservation. The owner of the site, the Earl of Verulam, has promised in due course to enable visitors to St. Albans to inspect it. Conforming to the normal Diocesan Roman plan, its auditorium stretches in a great arc, embracing the nearby circular "orchestra," where wealthy citizens sat. Its form can still be clearly seen, with corridors between the Roman seats. The only classical theatre yet found in Britain, it stands in the depths of the Hertfordshire countryside—a peculiarly impressive link with the civilization of Rome. The excavations have been conducted on Lord Verulam's behalf by Dr. R. E. Mortimer Wheeler, Keeper of the London Museum, with the assistance of Mrs. Wheeler and many volunteer excavators. In a lecture before the Society of Antiquaries at Burlington House, London, Dr. Wheeler described the last season's work of the Excavation Committee, which brought to an end investigations begun in 1930. It has been found that the great triumphal arch identified three years ago was erected in the second half of the second century. Digging round the foundations within the past few months had revealed fragments of fluted Italian marble. This unique example of the Roman triumphal arch in England was, in fact, a "Marble Arch," comparable with the elaborate examples still standing in Roman Gaul. At the first important road junction within the city the traveller in Roman times came to a triangular site occupied by an unusual temple, built in the second century. This temple, another of the season's discoveries, had an open triangular courtyard, surrounded by a portico. In the courtyard was a large altar, behind which was buried the skull of an ox. Behind the court was the cells, with the base of the cult-statue of a deity. No inscription remains to identify the god or goddess, but throughout the building small deposits of vessels and lamps have been unearthed, as well as collections of edible pine-kernels, imported from Italy.

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WRIGLEY'S MINT LEAF FLAVOR. Keeps you fresh! FAMOUS FLAVORS THAT SATISFY. BAKERS BAKE IN FLOOD. When floods swept through Ingham, Queensland, recently bakers donned bathing suits, baked bread and saved the city from starvation. Water quickly rose three to four feet in the three bakeries, but did not reach the ovens. Pushing their way through the water then men mixed and kneaded the dough and baked the bread at night while the rest of Ingham watched the rising flood and worried about a possible repetition of the 1927 deluge. Next day the bakers requisitioned municipal boats, loaded them at the oven doors and made their deliveries direct to homes. The first pumpkin pies were made by cutting a hole in the pumpkin, extracting the seeds and fibrous matter, stuffing the cavity with apples, spices, sugar and milk, and then baking the whole. The country would be o. k. if the people hadn't spent yesterday what they were going to save tomorrow.

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