THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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Editor and Managing Director: J. R. Burnett, F.J.I.
Associate Editors: Frank Walker and Lieut. Ian A. Burnett, R.C.N.V.R. (On Active Service)

"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink."

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1945

Rural Diets Survey

In August of this year a survey of food eaten by families living on farms in the Maritime Provinces was begun. The survey, which is being conducted jointly by the Dominion Departments of Agriculture and Health and Welfare, and by the Departments of Agriculture and Health of the three Maritime Provinces, is the initial part of a Canada-wide investigation of the kinds and quantities of food consumed, and produced for home consumption, on farms and of the food habits of the farm people in different parts of the country.

The reasons for the survey are: to ascertain the possibilities of increasing the sale of the farm products raised in certain parts of Canada to farm families living in other areas; to learn how much of various foods are raised and consumed on farms in order that those quantities may be included in national production accounts, and may be taken into consideration in the planning of production of food for use in Canada, and for export; to find out how well nourished the different groups of farm families are, in the light of the most recent knowledge of nutritional needs, since measures for improvement can only be undertaken when it is known how diets are influenced by factors such as region, family composition, training of farm operator, size of farm business.

Representative areas of Nova Scotia in the Counties of Cumberland, Halifax, Kings, Lunenburg, Queens and Richmond were chosen as the scene of the project in that province. It is expected that the work there will be completed by the end of September, and that at that time the survey will be started in Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick.

Meat Rationing

Objections to meat rationing have emanated from all parts of Canada, including our local wholesale and retail meat dealers. It is just as well that the whole problem should be fully aired, and that both sides of the question be understood. The following comment from the *Hamilton Spectator* is a fair index to public opinion in many quarters: It would appear that many of the snags now encountered might have been avoided by more skilful planning. As it is, we are witnessing a standard political dog fight between the Government and the trade, and it is not an inspiring or an illuminating one.

The consumer is not saying much; he hasn't much to say about it anyway. The overall need—it is more than a need; it is an urgent demand—is to get meat to the hungry people of Europe, not only out of purely humanitarian motives, but as insurance against the horrors of starvation and epidemics that might sooner or later strike us as it would strike others; for the world grows ever smaller, more interknit, more interdependent.

That is the important thing, and quite naturally the consumer would feel it a small sacrifice to ensure that, as far as he was concerned, everything possible was being done to increase the flow of meat across the seas to people who are so desperately in need of it.

This is one viewpoint; the other hits closer to home. If there have been gaps and errors in the technical organization of meat rationing, they should be remedied, and remedied at once. There will be general sympathy with the butchers and the penalties they suffer; they should not be aggravated by government mistakes.

Britain's Fish Supplies

Fish is the one important food of which there is any prospect of an increase in supply in Britain in the near future. Faced with a shortage of other foods, especially of first-class protein foods such as meat and cheese, the United Kingdom Government is doing its utmost to restore fish supplies to near their pre-war level in the shortest possible time.

In 1938, there were about 3,800 first-class United Kingdom fishing vessels of all kinds, landing 1,049,000 tons of fish, of which 271,000 tons were herrings. Britain then imported about 100,000 tons of fish, and exported 219,000 tons, (mainly pickle-cured herrings). The quantity consumed by the people of Britain was thus 907,000 tons, or a little under a pound per head per week.

When war came in 1939, the Admiralty took away for mine-sweeping and other war service the best part of the fishing fleet, including all the largest, newest and fastest vessels. By 1941, landings from British vessels had fallen to 250,000 tons, about a quarter of those of pre-war. Imports of fresh fish, mainly from Iceland and the Faroes, and of frozen and salted fish, mainly from Canada, Newfoundland and Iceland, had gone up to 182,000 tons, but, even so, the total supplies available were only 40 per cent of those of 1938.

After 1941, conditions somewhat improved. Reduced enemy action and the removal of the invasion threat permitted some relaxations of the fishing restrictions, and steps were taken to increase imports. As a result, 1944 supplies were about half those of pre-war years. On the other hand, as other foods became increasingly short in supply, the demand for fish went up and up. Families which rarely ate fish before the war now wanted fish, and those parts of the country, especially the rural areas, where the peace-time consumption was low, demanded their fair share. With less fish and a bigger demand, coupled with the unpracticability of rationing this foodstuff, the fish queue became a feature of war-time life.

Two steps were essential to bring about an increase of fish supplies. The first, and by far the most important, was to increase the number of vessels fishing; the second, to re-open the fishing grounds that had been closed because of the war. With the improved war situation after the successful invasion of the Continent, the Admiralty began to release a few vessels towards the end of 1944, and undertook to release half the requisitioned fleet on V-E Day. It is hoped that the remaining vessels will be surrendered within the next twelve months. Every effort is being made to get the boats back to fishing as quickly as possible.

Minefields have been sown in many of the fishing grounds around Britain, and the task of clearing these fields must, of necessity, keep back a certain number of fishing boats. By mid-summer of 1945, a number of pathways through the mines had been swept clear and many of the old fishing grounds, now more prolific than ever because of their enforced rest during the war years, were re-opened once again to British fishing vessels. Plans have also been made to re-start the big East Anglican Autumn herring fishing from the ports of Lowestoft and Great Yarmouth for the first time since 1939.

Month by month, 1945 landings have been above those of 1944, but the increase will be still greater as time goes on. By the end of the year, it is possible that supplies will be about three-quarters of those of 1938. The winter, however, always brings a fall in landings, and therefore not until the Spring or early summer of next year will the people of Britain be able to get all the fish they need.

—EDITORIAL NOTES—

Our car ferry seamen are now to receive the war risk bonus for service in dangerous waters. It pays to have live-wire spokesmen at Ottawa.

* * * *

This is a big week for the Prince Edward Island poultry industry, with the most prominent poultrymen in Canada here as guest speakers.

* * * *

The remodelling of the Canadian Legion Home will be a splendid thing for our younger returning veterans, and for all concerned in veterans' welfare.

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If the Lauzons and Koresky are to be tried here, the Court will doubtless insist on getting their evidence in the proper manner, and on tracing unauthorized statements to their source.

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Plans are being considered for an $800,000 addition to the Moncton Hospital. This would provide accommodation for 260 patients instead of the present 184.

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Major Rogers' appeal for a large attendance at Friday night's meeting in the interests of the National Clothing Collection campaign should find ready response. Prince County has already gone ahead with this humanitarian scheme; why should Queen's lag behind?

* * * *

The craze for popularity, and even notoriety, so prevalent at the close of these war-torn days, may be discouraging to the student and thinker. It has been the lot of artists in all ages to live in a garret, to fashion their vision, out of the flames of their hearts, and to die enriching a world that too often scorned them and their way of life.

* * * *

According to an Admiralty statement, floating airfields in mid-ocean and even floating highway bridges across such waters as the English Channel are now technically possible. The story of this amazing discovery appeared in yesterday's issue. Perhaps the day will come when we shall see it applied to Northumberland Strait.

* * * *

Commenting on the $10,000 sale of one lone bull calf for $10,000 the *Sackville Post* says wistfully: "The lucky owner was Premier Jones of P. E. Island, and he sold to an Ontario stockman. The price is said to be the largest ever paid in Canada for a bull calf. Just think: with the proceeds from the sale of his calf Mr. Jones could buy a good Island farm with house and barns, and stock it with a span of horses, and several good average cows and perhaps a number of sheep and pigs thrown in. It pays to raise good stock."

* * * *

Pepys, in a letter of this date 1695, notes that the extreme depression of the London public under a grievous war and heavy losses at sea, was enlivened by an extraordinary occurrence in connection with Christ's Church Hospital the famous Blue-Coat School of London. Two wealthy citizens, recently deceased, had left their estates, the one to a Blue-Coat boy aged fourteen, the other to a Blue-Coat girl, aged thirteen. This had led some of the magistrates to bring about a match between these two young persons; the boy in an outfit of blue satin, led by two of the girls; the girl, in blue with a green apron, and yellow petticoat, all of woven silk, led by two of the boys, proceeded in procession along Cheapside to the Guildhall, where, in the chapel, they were united in wedlock by the dean of St. Paul's, the Lord Mayor giving away the bride; then there was an entertainment in the hall of the school, Bow Bells ringing out a merry peal all the time; the high patronage bestowed upon the union of two children in nonage gives some idea of how matrimony was looked upon in those days; it would be easier to show that the incident was far from being unique; other days, other manners.

Notes By The Way

Radar is likely to put lighthouses out of business as no longer necessary to warn lake and ocean traffic of dangers. Another case of invention putting men out of employment.—Chatham News.

Most city dwellers like daylight saving while most country dwellers dislike it. Both groups frown on a hodge-podge system in which every municipality determines for itself which time it will observe. Uniformity is very desirable. — Toronto Star.

One of the great problems of the future is, "What is to become of world trade?" How can the conflicting interests of nations in seaborne trade be reconciled with all the great merchant fleet tonnage built during the war? That is the rub!—Brantford Expositor.

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt's writings, radio talks and lectures are reported to have earned her more than her husband was paid during the 12 years he was President of the United States. This report suggests to the Chicago Daily News that the old adage might be revised to read: "I'd rather write than be President." — Stratford Beacon-Herald.

Whatever views one may hold on education nowadays it must be admitted by all that sport should find a place in the program of every school. It may not be on the curriculum as a subject for examination, but unless it finds a place, large or small, in the thought of the school directors, and provisions are made for it, that school is hardly considered to be doing its full duty to the youth in attendance. — Chatham News.

As the 85,000-ton Queen Elizabeth moved slowly into the slip of Pier 90, at the foot of West Fiftieth street, The New York Times reports, a new note was added to the traditional welcoming routine by the film actress, Marlene Dietrich, who stood at the upper level corner of the pier's "porch" and waved one of her shapely and widely viewed legs at the thousands of G.I.'s packed at the rails.

Many hundreds of barrage balloons, used in the defence of London and other cities in Britain, have been placed by the British Government at the disposal of industry. Raincoats, rubber aprons and various household goods are now being manufactured from the "demobilized elephants" which have been protecting vital targets from Nazi bombers. — United Kingdom Information Office.

Bristol, England, was another city with a housing problem. She went in for "prefabs" made of aluminum. The first to be erected took three-and-a-half hours to complete, during which time water, gas and electricity were installed. The foreman in charge apologized for being so long. "With a little experience," he said, "we shall be able to put them up more quickly." Perhaps, after he has finished his job in Bristol, he could still find something to do in Halifax—if he could spare a few hours. — Halifax Chronicle.

His visit to Europe as one of the "big three" was a test for Truman. The result of the Potsdam conference has raised his prestige. Truman today stands high both at home and abroad. What is the secret of his success? He is a man of average ability as compared with Roosevelt or Churchill. He has none of their glamour; he is a very ordinary speaker. His background is not such out of which world statesmen are made. His ability to co-operate with other men, his acumen in picking good advisers, his willingness to listen to their advice and his sound common sense are probably the chief reasons for his success so far in one of the most difficult positions in which any American president was ever placed.—London Free Press.

The use of telephones between train crews and other operators has passed the experimental stage and the Pennsylvania Railroad is now installing equipment on the main line on a big scale. By means of wireless telephones an engineer can make or receive calls from the engineer of another train, from the freight conductor in a distant caboose, or from a towerman as the train rolls along. The system was worked out by the Pennsy Company in conjunction with the Union Switch and Signal Company. Thus another great step is being taken toward the promotion of safety in railroad travel. It can prevent many accidents. — St. Thomas Times-Journal.

A capital with broad avenues, long vistas, green belts and parkways would be more than an object of national pride; it could also be a national example....Of course, if the country is going to pay to beautify Ottawa, it might be a good idea for Ottawa to become the property of the Dominion —a Federal district, in fact. There are advantages and disadvantages in such a scheme, but it seems clear that we all have a right to own what we have paid to build. If Ottawa is to become the most characteristic, and most beautiful of Canadian cities, as a capital should be — for who thinks of Britain without thinking of London, or Russia without thinking of Moscow — the idea of creating a Federal district needs careful consideration. — Peterborough Examiner.

Nowhere else in Australia is the annual marriage rate as high as it is at Darwin. With less than 900 service-women in the area, comprising Army nurses, Women's Army Service and Medical Women's Service, Darwin, with 31 marriages recorded, and about 50 engagements announced in the last 12 months, can lay claim to being the most romantic town in Australia. Many of the couples prefer to go to their home States for the wedding ceremony, where parents and friends can be present. In spite of this there has been an average of one wedding a month since 1944. Methods of courting are somewhat different from generally accepted ideas. When boy goes out with girl they are always accompanied by at least two other couples, and must return to barracks before 10 p.m. When a suitor pays a call he is never left alone with his fiancee. High rate of marriages and engagements seems to indicate that perhaps old-time methods are not so outmoded after all.—From Australian Newsletter.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

TRIBUTE TO MR. CHAMPION

Sir,—Did you know the late Mr. Ernest Champion? Those who did will treasure a fine experience. He always had a smile when you met him, never complaining, always cheery "How are you"; always anxious to listen to a business discussion, or to your troubles and lend a helping hand.

If you went into his office you were made so welcome; everything was pushed aside as if you were the only one that counted, and when you left he would see you to the door with that sunny smile and request you to call again. When passing out a helping hand he stuck to the theory "Don't let your left hand know what your right hand does", and now that he is gone you will be told of his many good deeds and acts of kindness.

As a younger man he was of powerful physique, and when his health interfered with his activities and when a rebellious moment would strike him he would say, "Who am I to criticise"?

He said to me one day when we were discussing the worldly doings of today: "If one goes to Church and believes in Prayer, he couldn't go far astray."

I am, Sir, etc.,
CITIZEN.

A Great Canadian

Perhaps one of the greatest contributions that the late Jack Miner, O.B.E., made to America was the fact that he lectured to hundreds of thousands boys and girls, men and women, speaking night after night to audiences, which filled such auditoriums as Carnegie Hall in the U.S. and Massey Hall in Canada. During the daytime he spoke to school children as many as five times a day. Certainly no citizen ever created so much interest in, Wild Life, Nature and Conservation as did Jack Miner.

During his life time, the door receipts at his lectures amounted to tens of thousands of dollars, which he gave back to the public in the form of creating his world-famous Bird Sanctuary, and, before he died he created the Jack Miner Migratory Bird Foundation, a philanthropic, non-profit, non-share organization and to it he gave his home, Bird Sanctuary, Community Park and Clubhouse for the benefit of mankind.

So outstanding was Jack Miner's conservation work that for nearly fifteen years he was featured more than any other individual in Canada, while articles, praising his life and life work, were published in such national magazines as Collier's American Magazine, American Weekly, Saturday Evening Post, Reader's Digest, not to mention all the sporting and conservation and outdoor magazines and outdoor editors of every daily, weekly and monthly publication. To no other Canadian was ever devoted such prominent space and it is doubtful if any American, other than Edison and Ford, was given such prominence. At the time of Jack Miner's death, the Book of Knowledge rated him along with the names of the fifteen great men of the world.

The United States awarded him the Outdoor Life Gold Medal, one of the highest honors ever to come to a Canadian from the U.S.

As an Empire recognition, His Majesty King George VI bestowed upon him the Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.) one of the highest honors a King can bestow upon a Canadian citizen.

Jack Miner's birthday was on April 10th, the time of the year when the birds are returning to Canada. As a recognition to Jack Miner's life and work from Canada, Mr. John R. MacNicol, one of the oldest members of the House of Commons at Ottawa, Canada, has suggested that April 10th be known as The Jack Miner National Wild Life Day, not a holiday but a day to stress in Canadian schools love of children, love of birds and animals, reforestration and conservation; a day for erecting and cleaning out bird houses.

In U.S. each year there is a National Wild Life Week, while several states have a whole month set aside to concentrate on the value of nature. In what greater way could Canada honor its great Naturalist, the late Jack Miner, O.B.E., and at the same time educate her people as to the value of her wild life, especially as April 10th is such a seasonable and appropiate time of the year? Certainly there never has been and never will be a man in private life to give to his country what Jack Miner gave to Canada, in any line of endeavor.

The Poets' Corner

THE ALIEN BELLS

The black and yellow bees live here, and plunder
My clover and my honeysuckle vine,
I own the hives, but (my eternal wonder)
The bees themselves I never can call mine.
They will not tolerate my hand, my food,
I rob, but they will not accept of me,
And I might win, before that alien brood,
The islanders of some lost lunar sea.
Nothing can bridge the twain experience,
The amber-winged, the goblin-esque non-human,
Forever-bee will hold no consequence
With uncommunicated man or woman.
Forever alien, fixed on their intent,
They are the purpose, I, the incident.

—Yetsa Gillespie, in the New York Times.

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P. E. BERNIER, Chief of R. O. P. Inspections, Ottawa.
H. F. WILLIAMSON, Neppco Hatchery Division, Sailsbury, Maryland, U. S. A.

A special luncheon will be held at the Charlottetown Hotel at 12 o'clock noon. Tickets for the luncheon may be obtained from Mr. F. G. Ward, Dominion Department of Agriculture, or the Secretary L. McDonald.

This meeting is most important. Plan to attend.

L. McDONALD, Secretary,
P. E. I. Poultry Ind. Com.

9-13-7i.

Italy's Colonies

By DeWitt MacKenzie
(Associated Press Foreign Affairs Analyst)

The United States proposal, now before the Big Five council of Foreign Ministers in London, that Italy's colonies be placed under international trusteeship of the United Nations looks like a master stroke in the interests of world peace.

The Mediterranean theatre is one of the most important zones strategically on the face of the globe. Throughout centuries the country or alliance which had the upper hand in the Mediterranean also has had a mighty grip on Europe. The blue waters of this great sea have contained the elements of both peace and war—to be conjured up to suit the desire of the power in control. That is as true today as it was before the Hitlerian conflict produced epochal changes.

Thus, if the Allies now can insure that this great water highway is bordered by territories pledged to peace, one of the worst danger spots will have been removed from the eastern hemisphere. It will be hard on Italy to lose her African possessions and the Dodecanese Islands, but she certainly can't be surprised if that's the price she is made to pay for Mussolini's gamble with the devil.

• • •

We may never know exactly what Il Duce's ambition aimed at, but even before he made his pact with Nazidom there were indications that he was reaching for control of the Mediterranean—Mare Nostrum. We see that in his development of Libya, his wicked conquest of little Ethiopia and his assistance to Francisco Franco in the Spanish civil war.

Anyway, now is the time for the peace-seeking United Nations to erect their safeguards against any future Mussolini. So it is encouraging to see the proposition of international trusteeship being considered by the Big Five council.

This is, of course, a matter of moment to Britain, since the Mediterranean highway is an essential link in her chain of empire. It's the shortcut to her far eastern possessions and dominions via the Suez Canal. It gives her quick access to the Middle East—and don't forget that this means oil. These facts explain why Britain has maintained her famous naval base at Gibraltar, and the powerful air and naval base at Malta, and why she has strong land, air and naval forces based on Egypt by treaty arrangement. The big island of Cyprus, Palestine and Iraq also fall within her sphere of control.

• • •

However, there has been no public indication that Britain wouldn't welcome the trusteeship arrangement. It would, to be sure, mean a readjustment of the influence she had wielded in the Mediterranean heretofore, but it would give her the security she desires.

There has been talk that Egypt might ask for eastern Libya, which isn't surprising since I learned in Cairo in 1942 that Egypt was going after this territory. Whether an Egyptian trusteeship of this area would fit into the United Nations plans remains to be seen.

Certainly Libya should be under United Nations control, especially the eastern section where lies the famous port of Tobruk. Tobruk harbor is small, but it's the best natural harbor on the north coast of Africa.

That's half the story. The other half is in the big island of Crete, which lies some 200 miles north of Tobruk. These two positions "straddle" the main sea lane where the Mediterranean narrows—that is, they dominate it militarily. They must be under United Nations control.

There's one other issue likely to be raised in connection with Libya. Native leaders told me that they were seeking their independence and hopes to make the powerful chief of the Senussi their king.

LAVAL TRIAL

PARIS, Sept. 18 — (AP) —The public prosecutor, Andre Morent, said today the treason trial of Pierre Laval head of the former Vichy Government, would begin Oct. 4 if a jury could be selected. Otherwise, he said, the trial will open Oct. 24, shortly after the national elections.

QUICKIES

By Ken Reynolds

"Perhaps you wondered when you read our Guardian Want Ad how we could guarantee fast cement work—we use quick sand!"

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