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CANADA BECOMES SECOND LARGEST WORLD EXPORTER

Annual Review By Trade Minister MacKinnon Shows Big Increases In Canadian Economic Activity

OTTAWA, Jan. 1 — (CP) — Trade Minister MacKinnon said today in a review of Canadian activivty in 1944 that it is probable exports of domestic merchandise for the year came near "the unprecedented value of $3,500,000,000."

To this total should be added, as the product of Canadian labor exports of new or "non-monetary" gold amounting to more than $100,000,000, the minister said.

"Thus Canada has been exporting its products in 1944 at the unparalleled rate of approximately $12,000,000 per working day—a figure which indicates that we are the second largest exporting country in the world, second only to the United States," he continued.

"It must be realized, of course, that we cannot take full credit for this achievement since Great Britain during the war has suffered her exports to decline to a low level."

Canada entered 1945 with an extraordinarily high level of productivity and of cash income in all her leading industries. This was not merely a paper prosperity, since the purchasing power of the Canadian dollar has been well maintained throughout the war, particularly since the establishment of price ceilings in 1941.

The generally high level of productive and distributive activity throughout the Dominion in 1944 was reflected in increasing retail sales, as well as in the increasing ordinary revenues of the Dominion, which for the first six months of the fiscal year 1944-45 amounted to $1,366,000,000, or an increase of $90,000,000 over the same period in 1943.

National Income Up

The national income in the first nine months of 1944 was estimated at $6,828,000,000, an increase of 6.3 per cent over the corresponding period of 1943, and more than double the amount in the same period of 1939.

"From the national point of view, 1945 should be a year of high production," said Mr. MacKinnon.

"As for the the individuals whose fortunes may be affected by the transition from war to peace, I may observe that government policies in respect of demobilization and rehabilitation, of unemployment insurance, of housing, of family allowances and other social security measures, will go far to assist Canadians in adapting themselves to the changes inherent in the re-establishment of peace throughout the world.

"Canada has made many claims upon its citizens during the war, and will be prepared to honor their reasonable counter-claims in the future."

The rate of expansion in Canadian production in 1944 had been moderate compared with that in previous wartime years, but it had been more widely distributed over the whole of the Canadian economy, especially in theagricultural industry.

"During the earlier years of the war, Canada was working up to a record level of industrial production, and we thought a year ago that the peak figure had been reached in 1943. Nevertheless, we have again made further advances in 1944", the trade minister said.

Exports In 1944

In the first 10 months of 1944 exports of Canadian products valued at $2,861,000,000 exceeded by $482,000,000 the figure for the same period in 1943, largely as a result of increased exports of food.

While it was too early to dogmatize regarding the post-war export trade and its distribution by countries and commodities, old customers in countries formerly occupied by the Axis and now liberated were beginning to appear in trade statistics.

After four years, France had reappeared as a customer in September and October trade statistics and it was expected Belgium and the Netherlands soon would be buying in Canada again.

"By and large, there will be in the immediate post-war period an urgent demand from all over the world for a great variety of essential goods which Canada can supply," said Mr. MacKinnon.

"The more remote outlook is a different matter, but I have complete confidence in the commercial and industrial future of a nation which, amid storms of war, involving the withdrawal of a large part of the labor force from productive employment, has nevertheless put forth the creative energy which Canada has so abundantly demonstrated throughout those stirring years."

On Home Front

Mr. MacKinnon reviewed home front activities thus:

Seven hundred thousand Canadian farmers attained a high level of production in 1944, in spite of depletion of labor forces. They obtained higher cash incomes than in any other period, enabling them to pay off in large measure the mortgage indebtedness and other obligations contracted during the depression.

Exports of agricultural and vegetable products and of animals and concerned wiwth food products. animal products had an aggregate value of $919,000,000 in the first 10 months of 1944, compared with $588,000,000 in the same period of 1943.

In the forests, logging activity was at a higher level in 1944, with an increase of 17 per cent in the employment afforded. Pulp production in 1944 was likely to be near that of 1943, when it was 5,273,000 tons.

Newsprint production was likely to be greater than in 1943 and probably would approximate 3,000,000 tons. Exports of wood, wood products and paper in the first 10 months of 1944, valued at $363,000,000, were about $47,000,000 greater than in the same period of 1943.

Mines were affected in 1944 by the secretary of labor, there being a decline of two per cent in the number of miners employed in reporting mines in the first nine months.

HON J. A. MacKINNON
Minister of Trade & Commerce

Fisheries Advance

Fisheries increased the value of their products from $40,000,000 in 1939 to $75,000,000 in 1942 and an estimated $95,000,000 in 1943. Increases in sea catches had been reported for 1944.

The manufacturing industries as a whole gave more employment in 1944 than in 1943. In 1944 the salaries and wages paid employees of manufacturing industries appeared to have been at the rate of nearly $40,000,000 a week compared with about $14,200,000 a week in 1939.

"In recent months the prospects for an early victory have brought about some decline in the numbers of employees in the groups of industries which had shown most rapid expansion during the war, such as the iron and steel group, the non-ferrous metal group and the chemical group.

"This decline has been accompanied by an approximately equivalent expansion in the non-war industries, particularly in those concerned with food products. The trend of the time is seen in the removal of restrictions on the use of certain metals and other materials in production for civilian consumption."

Mr. MacKinnon reviewed the work of railways and other transportation services. He said their achievements had been remarkable and they had made a substantial contribution to winning the war.

HEATHERDALE CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Heatherdale school concert was held in the school hall on Thursday, December 21st.

With Hon. J. A. Campbell in the chair, the program was as follows.

Opening Chorus: O Canada—School pupils.

Recitation: A Christmas Greeting—Ronnie MacPhee.

Song: Jolly Old St. Nicholas—Grades I and II pupils.

Recitation: Santa's Love — Barbara MacPherson.

Song: Wandering On—Grades IV, V, VI and VII boys.

Encore: My Galveston Rose.

Recitation: A Christmas Telephone—Donnie MacPhee.

Motion Song: O, Little Town of Bethlehem—Grades IV, V and VII girls.

Encore: Away In A Manger.

Dialogue: Harry's Pockets—Two pupils.

Instrumental Music (harmonica) —Preston Peardon (encored).

Recitation: A Tragedy — Thelma and Norma MacPherson.

Song: Lords of the Air—Senior girls.

Encore: Coming In On A Wing And A Prayer.

Drill: Christmas—Grades II and IV pupils.

Chorus: It Came Upon the Midnight Clear—By the pupils of the school.

Dialogue: Married In Haste — 5 pupils.

Instrumental Music (organ and violin)—Dan Matheson and Irene Bruce (encored).

Recitation: Best of All—Grade V pupils.

Duet: The Soldier's Last Letter —Norman Bruce and Wendall Bears.

Encore: I Traded My Saddle for A Rifle.

Dialogue: Courtship Under Difficulties—Three pupils.

Recitation: When Pa Shaves—Sandy MacLean.

Duet:: Silent Night—Alice MacPherson and Irene Bruce.

Encore: Star of the East.

Instrumental Music (violin and organ)—Dan Matheson and Irene Bruce (encored).

Closing Recitation — Betty MacPherson.

Closing Chorus: Farewell Christmas—By the school.

Organ accompanist—Irene Bruce.

Guitar accompanist—Mary Bruce.

Immediately following the program the teacher, Irene Bruce, was called to the platform where Norman Bruce, on behalf of the pupils, read an address and a fitting presentation was made by Thelma MacPherson. The teacher, so pleasantly surprised, warmly thanked the pupils for their address and gift. The chairman then complimented the teacher and expressed his enjoyment of the program, especially the musical numbers, stating that music was rightly coming to have a more prominent place in the school curriculum. He asked for remarks by any others present.

Mr. W. E. MacPhee then expressed his pleasure at being present, and his enjoyment of the program presented. He congratulated the teacher and pupils and moved a vote of thanks to the teacher. This was seconded by Mr. John Bruce, and presented by the chairman. The teacher, in reply, thanked the pupils, parents and all who took part for their goodwill and co-operation. A very enjoyable evening was brought to a close by singing The King. Santa Claus then came, in his jolly way, and distributed the gifts off the loaded tree, assisted by the teacher, Mary Bruce and Christene MacPhee.

Famous Nazi Generals Lead Panzer Units

By LOUIS P. LOCHNER

LONDON, Dec. 29 — (AP) — A daredevil and a "man-devil" are Marshal Von Rundstedt's panzer commanders in the great battle in the Ardennes, and capture of either by the Allied forces would be a big feather in the Allied cap. They are S.S. Col.-Gen. Sep Dietrich and Gen. Hasso Eckhardt Von Manteuffel.

Gen. Dietrich's rise was meteoric. Until June 30, 1934 when Hitler purged Ernest Roehm, his most intimate friend, Gen. Kurt Von Schleicher, former chancellor, Karl Ernst, leader of Berlin's brown-shirted Storm Troop Division, and some 1,000 lesser Nazi lights—Dietrich was merely Hitler's trusted personal chauffeur.

Suddenly Dietrich became commander of a large Elite Guard unit. People asked why.

The story generally circulated in Berlin at the time was that Hitler came within an inch of being killed during the purge but was saved by Dietrich.

News of Roehm's revolt reached Hitler at Godesberg, on the Rhine, where in 1938 he later met British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain for a talk on the Czechoslovak situation. All through the night Dietrich drove him to Lake Wiessee in Bavaria where Roehm with his trusted friends was staying.

Reaching Wiessee about 4 a. m. Hitler reportedly jumped out of the car brandishing a revolver, and from the hotel emerged the Storm Troop leader for Silesia, named Heines, notorious as a murderer of men suspected of revealing Nazi secrets.

Heines carried a gun. Except for intervention by Dietrich, who knocked the gun from Heines' hand, Hitler might then, have been a dead man.

From then on Dietrich's rise was phenomenal. Daredevil that he was, he proved a dashing military leader and gave a good account of himself as a panzer division leader during the Normandy battle.

UnMike Dietrich, Manteuffel is just another Prussian General. But his name, literally meaning "man-devil", is as significant as is his lineage. His forbears probably acquired the name because of their fierceness as warriors.

The most distinguished of the family was Baron Edwin Von Manteuffel, whom Prussian King William IV in 1848 made an aide-de-camp for his part in defence of his sovereign during the Berlin uprisings.

Year Of Fulfilment For Women In Canadian Services

(By MARGARET ECKER

BRUSSELS, Dec. 29—((CP)—For several hundred Canadian women in battledress 1944 will be remembered as a year of fulfillment, the goal towards which they had been working since they put away civilian life and moulded themselves into the military routine of living.

As each girl, Nurse, CWAC, WID, WREN solemnly took the oath that made her a member of His Majesty's forces, tucked away at the back of her mind, behind the desire to do a job for Canada, was the hope that that job would mean even more than serving at home.

For Canadian Nurses, Cwacs, members of the Canadian Red Cross Corps, 1944 meant just that.

Thirteen days after D-Day, four attractive girls in Air Force blue battledress waded ashore from landing craft as part of R.C.A.F. mobile field hospital.

As guns barked around them day and night the four feminine flying officers, Molly Mulholland, of Georgetown, Ont.; T. C. "Pit" Pitkethly, of Ottawa; Edna Millman of Manitoulin Island, Ont.; Vera Soper, of Owen Sound, Ont., cared for Air Force wounded.

By mid-July the first Canadian Army hospital had been set up in tents in a Normandy apple orchard and the tragic stream of wounded was flowing into its wards.

Others followed closely and now their number, which includes several hundred nurses, is a military secret.

The policy of the Canadian Medical Corps, the Montreal Colonel who is Medical Director for this theatre, and Maj. Mary Shaffner of Toronto and Halifax, Chief of Nurses here, will tell you, is to bring hospitals as far forward as operations permit.

Casualty clearing stations, where nurses also serve, are usually three or four miles behind the front where often shells from Canadian artillery behind them whizz overhead.

Nurses are not the only Canadian women serving in France, Belgium and Holland. With each Canadian general hospital goes several girls of the Canadian Red Cross Corps to act as welfare officers, to write letters for the men, provide them with reading material and cigarets, and to take hot tea around the wards.

Cwacs came overseas from England when the first Canadian military administrative headquarters arrived in the middle of August with Capt. Pearl Hatton of Windsor as senior officer.

The Cwacs who see the most of the war are those in the Canadian Army show units, and for them its a tough campaign. Often they sing their songs and perform their skits right behind the front, sleeping wherever there is accommodation, eating field rations and moving overnight to give another show next day.

Some members of the R.C.A.F. Women's Division serve at headquarters in London but the greater number live on airfields where they may have filled any post, such as intelligence officer, messing officer, operations room staff, driver, clerk, cook or wireless operator.

The Wren establishment overseas under Lieut. Margaret MacKie of Victoria has, during 1944, grown from a skeleton token force of 31 Wrens and two officers to an establishment numbering in the hundreds. All are stationed in the United Kingdom.

The roads to Ravenna, Italy were heavily mined with the new German "glass-mine." In this picture Cpl. George Underwood of Rouge Hill, Ont., and Spr. Fred Fisher of Sarnia, Ont., are shown lifting one of these mines. (Canadian Army Overseas Photo).

MONTAGUE W. M. S.

The regular monthly meeting of the W. M. S. of Montague United Church was held at the home of Mrs. Harry Davison on Tuesday evening, with the president, Mrs. Ethan Stewart in the chair. The meeting opened with the call to worship by Mrs. H. Davison who had charge of the devotional service.

This was the Christmas program and was especially beautiful. Carols from many nations were very sweetly sung by five little girls, with Mrs. Davison as accompanist, and a special feature was the candle lighting service. First was a reading: "A Folk Song" by Eugene Field, by Anna MacLaren; then the French carol: "O, Come All Ye Faithful", by Ardeth McKenzie. "Silent Night, Holy Night" was sung by Laura Higginbotham, who kindly took this part when Jean Johnson was unable to be present.

Mrs. George Gordon next took a part, then the German carol, "Away In A Manger" was sung by Wilma McLure. After this all joined in the old English carol "The First Nowell"; this was followed by a Canadian carol, "Gentle Mary Laid Her Babe", and was sung by Anna McLaren. A reading: "The Night" by C. Bain was given by Wilma McLure and was much enjoyed. The next carol, "Infant Holy" was sung by Barbara Mabon.

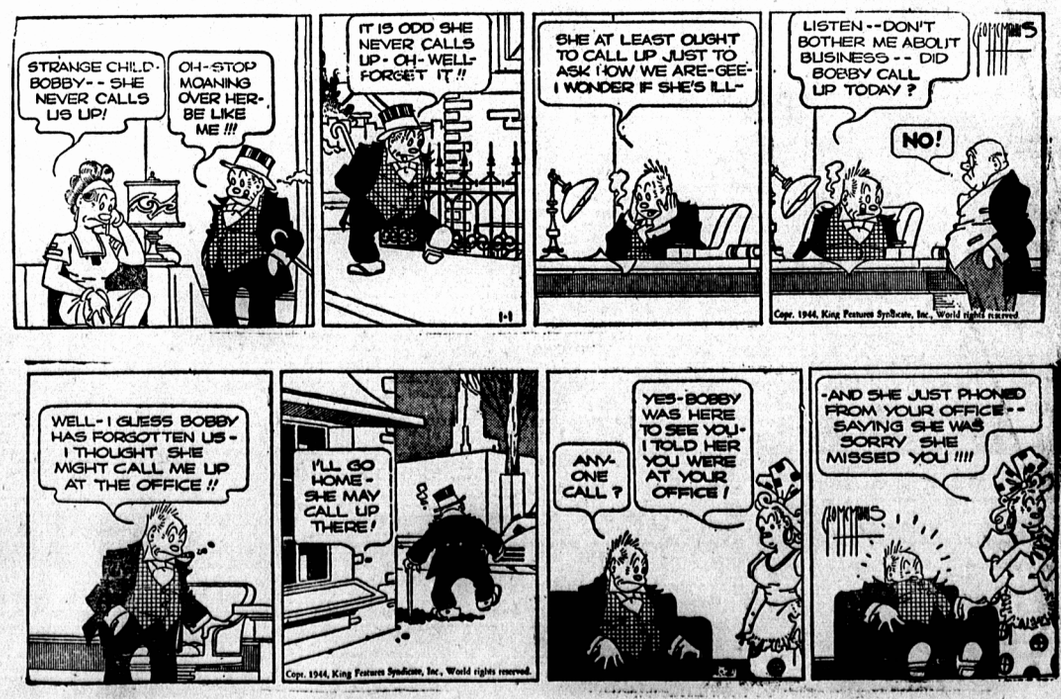
Four of the members, Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Lane, Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. MacLean gave Scripture readings and poems suitable to the subject. The devotional period closed with prayer and the Benediction. The president then took charge of the business meeting. Minutes by the secretary, Mrs. G. Gordon were read and approved. The chairman of the nominating committee, Mrs. Davison, brought in the slate of officers. The old officers were re-elected, much to the satisfaction of the members.

Roll call was answered by a verse containing the word "Hope." Six sick and nine hospital calls were reported. The treasurer, Mrs. L. Johnson reported that we had reached our allocaion. We were asked to increase our allocation for next year by six per cent. After the business meeting, Mrs. MacLean was very pleasantly surprised, when Rev. Mr. Adams, on behalf of the Women's Missionary Society, presented her with a very nice address and a life membership certificate in the Society. Refreshments were then served by the hostess, assisted by a committee, and all present felt that they had spent a very enjoyable evening.

Out Our Way By J. R. Williams

Our Boarding House With Major Hoople

BRINGING UP FATHER By George McManus



Major General Charles Philip Fenwick, M.C., 53, who has been appointed as Director General of Medical Services and promoted from the rank of brigadier. General Fenwick has been serving overseas as Deputy Director of Medical Services at headquarters of the First Canadian Army in North Western Europe. He will arrive shortly to take over his new duties. He was born in St. John's, Newfoundland, and educated at the University of Toronto and the University of London, England. Mrs. Fenwick resides at 230 Rosedale Heights, Toronto. — (Canadian Army Overseas Photo).