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

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1942

Tank Training in Canada

Mr. W. W. Rowell, formerly commercial representative of the Province of Saskatchewan in Ottawa, Canada's Weekly how

trans-Atlantic shipping presents, and will continue to present, and furthermore there are many other advantages in having the training stage of all types of training in the United Kingdom, which has become

Potato Diseases

An urgent appeal to assist in keeping potato diseases out of Canada is made to all potato growers by the Dominion Department of Agriculture.

While it is unlikely that European potatoes may reach Canada under present circumstances, there is an increased movement between Canada and Newfoundland, where the notoriously destructive wart disease (formerly known as potato cancer) is prevalent.

One of the diseases which causes heavy losses to potato growers and a disease which is easily spread is Bacterial Ring Rot. H. N. Racicot, Associate Plant Pathologist, Dominion Department of Agriculture, says that now is the time to be on the lookout for it and he urges growers to disinfect second-hand or used bags in 1 pint of formalin in 30 gallons of water for 2 hours before using them as containers.

Parities A Puzzle

A word frequently thrown across the news pages these days is "parity" in relation to farm products. It comes from the United States.

To arrive at what is called the parity price three steps are involved: (1) by averaging the prices reported by farmers for the base period above indicated; (2) an index of prices paid, including taxes on real estate and interest, the prices of items used in family living and in farm production, and the estimated quantity of each commodity used by farmers; (3) to adjust the base-period prices by the index.

To obtain the final figure, the index of prices paid for commodities used in living is given a weight of nearly one-half and the index of commodities used in production, and interest and taxes per acre, are likewise given a weight of about one-half. Selecting the latest month for which figures are available, the foregoing procedure gives an overall index for July of 152, which means that farm commodity prices would have needed to be 152 per cent of the base prices to have the same purchasing power as in 1909-14.

In its latest report on the subject the U. S. Department of Agriculture states that the general level of prices received by farmers rose three points during the month ended July 15 to 154 per cent of the pre-World War I level. This is the highest level reported since May, 1928. As the application works out it is stated that the ratio of prices received by farmers to prices paid was 101 per cent of parity.

Then And Now

War was not the highly mechanized conflict in 1917 that it is in 1942. Great as were the demands which it made then upon manpower, the demands under more modern conditions are still greater. If more men have enlisted in this war the problem of providing reinforcements is proportionately greater. If the Dieppe casualty list was the largest on record it tells in blazing letters how urgent that problem is. The engagement was a short one. The number of men who took part does not appear to have been more than six to seven thousand of whom something over five thousand, according to an Ottawa estimate, were Canadians. Canadian casualties thus accounted for more than two-thirds. Increase that ratio in proportion to the strength of the Canadian overseas army, an army which is certain to take the offensive in Europe, late this year or early in 1943, and the reinforcement issue is reduced to very simple terms. Many thousands more men will be needed than the voluntary system is producing. But before the Government can act upon the all-out war authority which people and Parliament have given it, Prime Minister King must obtain a vote of confidence from the House of Commons. It is the essence of absurdity but it is not funny. It means that Canada is not prepared to defend herself or give all-out help to her Allies. In 1917 Canadian leaders saw the danger and rose to meet it. In 1942 the peril is greater, but Mr. King must have a vote of confidence. The late Hon. N. W. Rowell, K.C., then Ontario Liberal leader, afterwards a member of the Union Government and subsequently Chief Justice of Ontario said: "We cannot meet the situation any longer by voluntary enlistment," and "Do you see any hope of our moving forward as a united nation, exerting our utmost efforts to win the war, and grappling courageously with our own domestic problems, unless we create a War Government?" He led the majority of the Liberals in the House of Commons and Senate, as well as the rank-and-file into Coalition, and the war was won.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Oliver Wendell Holmes, American author and physician, died this date, 1894; professor of anatomy at Harvard for thirty-five years; made his mark with "The Autocrat of the Breakfast Table," in 1858, which was followed by the equally successful "Professor" (1860) and "Poet" (1871) of the same series; among his other works are a novel "Elsie Venner," "Our Hundred Days in Europe," and several selections of poems, his poetry is graceful and ingenious, as a prose essayist he ranks high: "It is very hard to lose your cash, But harder to be shot."

The N. B. potato market last week was firm with the demand exceeding supplies. Wire enquiry from widely scattered points in Ontario and Quebec was good and the majority of shippers were unable to obtain sufficient supplies to fill their orders. Carload shipments from the Hartland area were medium to light, but further up river at Victoria County points, shipments were fairly heavy as early varieties are being cleaned up. Digging is progressing favorably. Yields vary considerably, but an average crop of good type tubers free from disease is assured.

Mixed metaphor for the Canadian farmer: The cow and the hog have become more than ever the geese that lay the golden eggs. The changed sources of income for Canadian farmers, brought about by the demands of war, are thrown into sharp relief by Dominion Bureau of Statistics figures on farmers' incomes during the first six months of this year. For instance, even in the wheat-growing province of Saskatchewan which has looked on grain as the source of most of its wealth, cattle, hogs and their products have been the main source of income so far this year.

After having advanced to a new peak in July, the index of New England industrial activity, as compiled by The First National Bank of Boston, declined more than eight per cent during August, bringing it down to 155 per cent of the 1935-1939 average. Of the fifteen series composing the bank's index, twelve declined and three advanced. The most pronounced decreases were in boots and shoes, furniture, cotton goods, electrical machinery and metals. For the first eight months, aggregate production in this section was more than 10 per cent above the same period of last year. The principal source of New England business activity is the large volume of government orders. Up to July 1 of this year, New England firms had received more than \$6.2 billion worth of war contracts, or eight per cent of the national total. About one half of the contracts awarded this section were to the aircraft and shipbuilding industries, while the remainder were largely scattered over hundreds of different items.

One food, popular with the multitude, of which there is abundance, we are told is what is known as "hot dogs." Mr. Harry D. Oppenheimer, president of the Natural Casing Institute, Washington, has so informed U. S. Price Administrator Henderson. "The traditional American hot dog and other forms of sausage can and should be made available for the American housewife in unlimited, unrationed quantities," Mr. Oppenheimer said. "Because of the needs of the army, navy and lend-lease, together with an increasing volume of consumer consumption slaughter-house kills of beef cattle and pigs have reached an all-time high. As a result there is an unusually large amount of beef and pork trimmings used in the manufacture of hot dog sausage. Within two weeks the incoming pork supply will have reached the market and the nation's butcher shops and food stores will have an adequate supply of hot dog sausages to meet the heaviest consumer demands. Should that demand increase, there are adequate facilities and raw ingredients, including natural casings for insuring a steady, unbroken supply of this product."

NOTES BY THE WAY The Political Second It Could Happen Here Front

The Nazis starved their people from 1933 onwards, not because they had insufficient food in the country, but because they turned their fists into proclivities when Goering talked about "guns and butter" he meant it literally. Not as it was alone which can be turned into munitions. A handful of wheat can provide enough alcohol to drive a lorry a mile or more; from milk you can obtain an obtainable quantity. Why, for instance, have the Germans robbed the French peasant of his wine? Not because they drink it themselves, but because they use alcohol for their munitions. No question of starvation in Europe if Germany were to allow occupied Europe to produce the food which it can grow; starvation exists because Germany takes the men from the fields and drives them into the factories and the forces. It takes a huge proportion of their food production and turns it into war material. The people of Europe, but to starve German war. Harold Nicholson in The Spectator

In breaking it to the public that their green-clothing-coupons must be used in 5 months instead of 4-1-2, Mr. Dalton, who would like to say on hats "Anybody," he affirmed, "who retains his natural hair ought to go without a wig. How much natural hair is there in a field in which there are infirm graduates from the late Mr. Dalriewick to let us say, Mr. Dalton, for me to add my great modesty, myself, and who for that matter, only natural hair? A wig, or more tactfully, (tuppit) in relation to the same category of persons, I think that polished and hygienic comes like the two I have delicately covered. If Mr. Dalton's words and acts—otherwise it will cause a great exercise of mind.—London Spectator.

More Justice is done by the new ruling which provides for compensation to be paid A. R. P. workers for injuries sustained in training. It is another step toward deserved provision for the people, following the provision to repay their debts incurred in carrying out their duty in case of enemy action. These workers are volunteers. The majority of them are people of moderate means, who must work for their living. To be incapacitated through the service they are rendered to be a serious business to them and their families, and matters not whether the injury might be sustained in the face of the enemy or during training. In the case of service, the injury, and well deserving of at least reasonable indemnification against pecuniary loss.

It isn't likely that Amherstburg will ever have to establish nurseries for children whose mothers are engaged in war work, but there need not be any, now for either individuals or organization that will take care of children while their mothers are at the front. Red Cross or other war services. Patriotic societies suffer these days because young mothers who are anxious to help cannot do so because they have to be to mind their children. If a group of young children or even boys, could form such an organization, they would be helped in their effort. A headquarters could be set up with a telephone so that a call could be put through to a baby-minder. A rate-per-hour could be set also in order that no mother would pay too much or too little.—Amherstburg Echo.

Leutenant Pavlichenko, the Russian aviator, who has notches in her gun for 300 Nazis, is all hot and bothered about American women. It is plain to her, she says, that they are not important whether they are in uniform or not. They wear their uniforms but what the uniform stands for they have yet to learn. She said that the American woman criticized as too long the Pacific Islands, skirt, and told her that it made her look fat. That was when our Russian visitor blew up. Surplus aviator is apparently as delicate a subject in Russian feminist circles as in American. She said: "This made me angry, I wear my uniform with honor; it has been covered with blood in battle. Fortunately for her curiosity, she is a crude tormentor, the uniform was not again drenched with blood in battle. The incident too well indicated that the American women, have not awakened to the world situation. A woman who has enemy is awake; a woman who doubts whether ever again she can really sleep. Certainly her country's uniforms in uniform is not to be ridiculed by the Americans.—Portland Press Herald.

Gunsmiths have always fancied black walnut for stocks, says The New York Times. It is comparatively light, weighing forty-five pounds per cubic foot when dried, and it won't warp or split under hard use. Birch is as good as black walnut, but it is so soft, oak is stronger, but weighs more than a third again as much. Some army rifles are now turned out with butts of plastic or molded wood, but the demand manufacturers, for instance, stick to walnut. Enough sound walnut for 400 stocks is considered a windfall these days. There is always a shortage of walnut in the time of war. A good bit was cut during the Civil War, and even more in the period right afterward. This led to an increase in the price of the wood, and when the war came along, the price went up again. Looking around carefully the Government found enough trees to yield 100,000 bushels of wood, which went into stocks and airplane propellers. Today there would probably be enough walnut, and to spare, for the fact that the farmer likes—rich bottom land. The pioneers burned and cut huge quantities of walnut in order to get space out of it, and log cabins.—Exchange.

Rationing has brought forth many hints on how best to make tea. Curiously enough, the three words most commonly used to describe the infusion process—"steep," "brew," and "make," are all contradictory. "Steep" is "steeped" without salt. "Brew" is more commonly used in the Old Country than in Canada to describe the

(New York Times) The silliest spectacle we have seen in a long time is that of American Communists, who until June 22 of last year were doing all they could to insure this country's defenses and stab Britain in the back, holding a mass meeting in Union Square to demand that the military strategy of the United Nations be changed to the party line. Nobody listens to them. Nobody trusts them. On the basis of their record they would hurt their own cause, even if it were a good cause. A group of them, but opposite a second front to suit another party line would be just as silly and more dangerous. We do not believe that there are in this country, outside of jail and out of the run from the F.B.I. enough members of such a group to hold a mass meeting in a telephone booth. More serious, the frank insistence now being made in Moscow that a second front be opened at whatever cost. The Russian demand is not for plain speaking. We are not in this war with Russia. 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