

Owning things can never mean so much as when they are earned.

We all gain by self-denial and untiring effort becomes our own.

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WOOD ISLANDS FARMER PERISHES IN FIRE

Blaze Destroys Four Barns And Numerous Stock Mr. John J. Martin Was Victim In Tragedy Yesterday Afternoon. Origin Of Fire Unknown.

Mr. John J. Martin, 67-year-old Wood Islands West farmer, was burned to death yesterday afternoon in a fire which destroyed four barns on his farm. Fourteen head of cattle, two horses and forty hens also perished in the conflagration. Origin of the blaze, discovered by his wife who was alone in the house nearby at the time, was unknown.

After viewing the body, recovered from the ruins two hours after the outbreak of the flames, and burned beyond recognition, Coroner Dr. Lester Brehaut of Murray River decided an inquest was unnecessary.

Amount of the loss was unknown last night but was believed to be probably in excess of \$2,000. It included besides cattle and horses, crop and farm machinery.

Mrs. Martin told Mounted Police from the Montague Detachment, who investigated the tragedy, that she was lying on a couch in the house about 2.30 in the afternoon when she noticed through a frost covered window an unusual appearance of the outlines of doors. Believing at first it was a squall coming up she went to the door where rolling clouds of smoke and flames shooting from one of four barns grouped close together met her horrified gaze.

Turning away she rushed to the country school house nearby and children hurried to notify neighbors. When help arrived, however, it was impossible to get near the buildings as flames spread with great rapidity fanned by a high Northwest wind.

Bucket Brigade Formed A bucket brigade was formed and after a fight the house, directly east of the barns was saved. A shift in the wind around to the north during the height of the fire allowed volunteer fire fighters.

Origin of Fire a Mystery The origin of the fire was a baffling mystery. Police said they were informed that Martin did not smoke. Neither did a son, Lloyd Martin, 21, who resides at home but was at Belle River some miles away when the fire occurred.

Her husband was in the habit of going to the cattle each afternoon, Mrs. Martin told police. Mrs. Martin's wife before her marriage Annie McKenzie of Wood Islands North. Mr. Martin is survived by a son, Lloyd at home, another son, Norman, at Summerside, and a daughter, Mrs. Lloyd MacMillan of Hopfield.

The sympathy of the whole Province will go out to the bereaved family in their tragic loss.

Naturalization Figures Down OTTAWA, Jan. 13.—(CP)—Naturalization figures in Canada for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1938, showed a slight decline from the previous year, according to the annual report of the secretary of state tabled in Parliament today.

A total of 27,455 new Canadians obtained naturalization rights in the year under review compared with 31,744 in the preceding year. Greatest number of the newly-naturalized citizens gave Poland as their country of origin, totalling 7,871.

SPANISH CIVIL WAR:—er delta town of Tortosa and launched a march northeastward up the Mediterranean coast toward Tarragona and Barcelona.

Meanwhile General Franco's motorized infantrymen bowled up the coast road and laid siege to Perello, a town of 5,000 which advised said the insurgents planned to occupy during the night. (A Bugio dispatch said Perello had been taken.)

The Government's central front offensive, to check this sweeping advance was the first major activity there since July, 1937.

HAS NARROW ESCAPE FROM DEATH AT SEA

Yarmouth Seaman Swept Overboard In Furdy Storm—Second Ship Blown Off Course.

BOSTON, Jan. 13.—(CP)—A narrow escape from death at sea during a howling gale was experienced by Clarence Letteney, 63, of Yarmouth, N. S., one of a crew of seven on the Canadian motor boat Accuracy which arrived here today with part of her lumber cargo.

The Accuracy had left Apple River, N. S., for Boston when she struck a storm in the Bay of Fundy Tuesday. Her deck was piled high with lumber, mostly 6x8 timbers, held on deck with heavy chains.

After dark Tuesday night, as the vessel was being tossed about in the storm that had reached Gale force, Letteney went on deck to tighten the chains when one of them gave way.

Swept Overboard Letteney was swept overboard with about 67,000 feet of heavy timber, helpless under the force of the terrific load.

The men in the crew hurried on deck when they heard the crash, and one man with a flash light found Letteney floundering in the water among the mass of lumber. A line was thrown to him and Letteney managed to grasp it. He was hauled back on board, after the "longest 10 minutes" he had ever spent in the water.

His legs and body were bruised and cut. He said today it was the closest escape he had experienced in his 45 years at sea.

The vessel had shipped with 137,000 feet of lumber. Another Canadian motor boat, which arrived here Tuesday, the O. K. Service II, also ran into the same storm and was blown 75 miles off her course.

She had sailed from Lunenburg, N. S., with 270 crates of lobsters, barreled herring, smelts and eels and had changed her booking from Boston to Gloucester because of the truck strike here.

The action was so severe he could not head into Gloucester and was off Highland Light, Cape Cod, before he could bring the vessel to anchor. The gale was accompanied by bitter cold temperatures. Instead of continuing on to Gloucester on the way up the Cape, the vessel was in Boston and discharged his cargo here.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—(AP)—The Justice Department announced tonight that Arthur (Doc) Barker, gang leader who sought to escape Alcatraz prison, was shot through the chest by police.

Warden James M. Johnston of Alcatraz notified the Department of Barker's death. Barker was one of five convicts who saved their way out of a cell and sought to escape into fog-bound San Francisco Bay early today. A second convict, Dale Stamp-hill, Oklahoma kidnapper, was wounded.

Barker was shot through the head and legs. The action was so severe he could not head into Gloucester and was off Highland Light, Cape Cod, before he could bring the vessel to anchor.

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—(CP)—Demand continued good today at the silver fox sale of the New York Auction Company. Top price for the day was \$65 for a good silver skin while "undersized" skins sold at from \$20 to \$35.

INCORPORATED HERE OTTAWA, Jan. 13.—(CP)—Notice of the following incorporations was given in the current issue of the Canada Gazette published today including: Hermes Finance Company, Ltd., \$75,000, Charlottetown.

HUNGARY TO BE PARTNER IN ANTI-RED PACT

Move Lends French Impetus To Germany's March To The East.

(By Louis P. Lochner, Associated Press Foreign Staff)

BERLIN, Jan. 13.—Germany's push to the east received fresh impetus today from Hungary's decision to join the anti-Communist Pact, in which Germany, Italy and Japan are linked.

An official announcement said that Count Stephen Cskay, Hungarian Foreign Minister, has accepted the invitation of the German, Italian and Japanese ministers to Budapest to join their common front against the Communist International.

The Rome-Berlin axis, the Italo-German non-aggression agreement, has gained support in Hungary following the extension of Germany's influence in Czechoslovakia after the latter's dismemberment. In other words, the influence of the axis reached from the Baltic to the Mediterranean and from central Europe to the gateway to Ukrainian wheat and Rumanian oil.

Stress Importance Emphasis was laid in official German circles on the importance of Hungary as a bulwark against Bolshevism.

It was pointed out that Hungary, having experienced the "terrors" of the Bela Kun Communist regime in 1919, may be counted upon to support any movement for stamping out Bolshevism.

In this connection, Chancellor Hitler's reported advice to Premier Mussolini to forego force for a year in settling a Mediterranean settlement, although not confirmed officially, assumed added significance.

It is a matter of general knowledge in informed circles here that Germany is anxious to help avert a Mediterranean conflict, at least at this time.

Hitler was represented by men who may be considered to know his feelings as convinced that a concerted attack by Germany, Poland and possibly Rumania upon the Hitler-unsuspecting Soviet Union, and the regime of Joseph Stalin.

Colonel Joseph Beck, Polish Foreign Minister, apparently is not ready to make Beck more willing to join Germany.

Arab Rebel Chiefs Flee To Syria JERUSALEM, Jan. 13.—(AP)—Two Arab Rebel chiefs fled to Syria today as Great Britain's military forces apparently broke the back of the Arab revolt after 32 months of almost continuous fighting.

Abdul Rahim Baj Mohammed, commander of Arab forces in the Samaria, Nablus and Jenin districts, went to Damascus and Aref Ruzak, leader of the Jerusalem, Ramallah and Tulikarm areas, took refuge in Beirut, where the exiled Grand Mufti of Jerusalem fled months ago.

The two leaders, both of whom had claimed supreme command of Arab resistance to increased Jewish settlement, left the Holy Land where 1,260 of their Guerrilla troops died during the last year in engagements with 20,000 British troops. British forces lost 70 dead and 233 wounded during 1938.

Vessels Attest Bitter Weather BOSTON, Jan. 13.—(CP)—Frosts spay, several inches thick, coated hulls, decks and rigging of vessels arriving at the fish pier today from the offshore grounds.

Crews of the arriving boats reported bitter weather on the homeward trip last night. Before hatches could be removed today to permit unloading operations crews had to break out axes and steam hoses to chop and melt the frozen masts.

Ch'town Guild Judged Best In Drama Festival

Splendid Performances Given By Four Competing Troups In Subregional Contest At Prince Edward Theatre.

The Charlottetown Little Theatre Guild, winners last year of the Prince Edward Island Drama festival, again carried off the honour at last night's festival, the adjudication being made by Mr. George Skillan, distinguished English actor.

Best performances of male and female characters also were awarded to the Charlottetown players. Mrs. Frances Holl Trainor in the winning play "Its Autumn Now," and Mr. Frank O'Neil as "Benson" in "Season of Celebration" by the Brighton Players, which the adjudicator rated as the next best production.

There was a very large attendance at the festival, which was held in the Prince Edward Theatre under the auspices of His Honour Lieutenant Governor DeBlais and Mrs. DeBlais, Premier Campbell and Mrs. Campbell, and Mayor Foster and Mrs. Foster.

Following the performances and adjudication, Mr. Skillan was guest of honour at a reception tendered by His Honour and Mrs. DeBlais at Government House.

Four plays in all were entered in the festival, three from Charlottetown and one from Summerside. Mr. Skillan warmly commended all concerned for their sincerity, pointing out that the chief difference in respect to merit was due to some having more winning plays to compete in the Dominion Festival at Ottawa.

Mr. Skillan leaves on Monday for Saint John, where the New Brunswick festival will be held. Excellent music was furnished at last evening's entertainment.

Bren Gun Report Tabled In Commons Recommends Defence Purchasing Board

Urges Future Contracts For War Supplies Be Controlled By A Competent Board Of Business Men—No Blame Attached Officials.

(C. P. by Guardian's Special Wire) OTTAWA, Jan. 13.—Future contracts for war supplies should be controlled by a board of competent business men rather than by the Department of National Defence, Mr. Justice H. H. Davis reported in his report on the Bren gun contract tabled in the House of Commons today.

Concerning officials of the National Defence Department, Mr. Justice Davis wrote: "I think it is right to say that there is no evidence, nor is there in the evidence any ground for suspicion, that the Minister (Hon. Tan Mackenzie) or the Deputy Minister (Major General L. R. LaFleche) or any officer or officials of the Department of National Defence was guilty of any act of corruption or anything in the nature of corruption."

While the report declared no substantial objection could be taken to the contract under which Chan Inlets Co. Limited of Toronto is to supply the department with 7,000 Bren light machine guns on a cost plus basis and found no evidence of corruption, it suggested a greater degree of business experience and knowledge should be brought to bear on such dealings in future.

The contract was on a cost plus basis and it was not known what amount of National Defence was to be paid for the guns.

IN PARLIAMENT:—OTTAWA, Jan. 13.—(CP)—Party leaders and others in the House of Commons united in praise of the personal, political and professional qualities of two members who died since the last session.

HITLER ADVISES MUSSOLINI AVOID WAR

URGES ITALY KEEP PEACE FOR ONE YEAR

German Dictator Intervenes In Appeasement Talks—Chamberlain Visits Pope Pius.

BY RICHARD G. MASSOOK Associated Press Foreign Staff ROME, Jan. 13.—(AP)—Prime Minister Chamberlain's diplomatic "draw" with Premier Mussolini was overshadowed momentarily today by reliable reports Chancellor Hitler advised Duce to avoid war during 1939 in seeking to achieve Italy's "natural aspirations" for colonies.

The visiting Prime Minister meanwhile paid a cordial visit to the Vatican, canvassing hopes for peace and the thorny refugee problem with Pope Pius XI.

Hitler's views were said by persons close to Germans to have been conveyed to his axis partner, Mussolini, through the German Ambassador to Rome, Hans-Georg von Mackensen.

Von Mackensen conferred with Foreign Minister Count Ciano for the second time since Mr. Chamberlain arrived Wednesday. It was Ciano who used the phrase "natural aspirations" in a Chamber of Deputies address Nov. 30, touching off Fascist clamor against France for colonial concessions.

WANTS NO WAR Many who have watched development of Fascist claims on France expressed belief Mussolini wanted to keep out of war. Some Italians have said their differences with France could be settled amicably.

An Italian communiqué said the conversations between Mr. Chamberlain and Duce were friendly and that the latter affirmed their intention "to develop relations existing between the two countries in the spirit of friendship of the Anglo-Italian accord signed last Easter."

It added that both nations intend to pursue a policy directed "toward the effective maintenance of peace."

The British delegation was understood to have approved the (Continued on page 3, Col 8)

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