

Strange But True

By F. H. MacArthur

Strange stories often follow in the wake of war. The one I am now going to set down for your entertainment takes us back to 1942, to an airport in the southwest of England. My informant, an officer in the R. A. F. had been hospitalized from wounds received in a raid over Germany. The day of his return to active duty was chilly and foggy. He was walking across the airfield, when he saw a uniformed man emerge from one of the buildings. Upon nearly approaching, my informant stated that he identified the fellow as a brother-in-law of the informant. "MacFadyen," my informant exclaimed, "I'm sure glad to see you again!"

The man made no reply, but kept right on walking, looking neither to the right nor left. "MacFadyen," he shouted, "why all the hurry? Haven't you time for a word with an old buddy? Still the retreating figure made no reply, just kept on walking with his head bent slightly forward. Very much surprised at getting the cold shoulder, as the saying is, my informant entered another building and reported to his superior officer who was pleased to see him back again. "You seem to be upset about something," he observed. "Didn't see a ghost, did you?" "No, sir, but I just passed MacFadyen on my way here and he never gave me a hello nor any sign of recognition, though I called after him a couple of times." "You never saw MacFadyen, my boy," said the superior officer, "because he was killed last night over the Ruhr!"

Sounds a bit like a tall tale, doesn't it? Yet the man who told me the strange story, a couple of months ago, vowed that it is absolutely true, and as he seems to be a pretty solid sort of individual I accepted the story for Strange But True without any "ifs or buts," because I myself have read many supposedly true accounts of ghost planes over Europe in World War I. If ghost planes were seen then it seems reasonable enough there would be ghost pilots too.

The land surface of the earth changes level an average of 11 inches in a day due to the pull of the sun and the moon. President Andrew Jackson once cut up in small pieces, a 1,400-pound cheese and gave every Dick and Harry who could crowd into the "White House" a slice. The big cheese was sent to the President by the dairy farmers of New York state. This amusing event took place on Washington's birthday, 1837. In the foreign office of all the major nations is a complete file of the predictions of a man who has been dead for 400 years. Nostradamus prophesied the League of Nations' failure; the rise and fall of Hitler and Mussolini; the death of King Henry II of France; the rise of Felix Peretti, to His Holiness, Pope Sixtus the fifth; the conspiracy against King Charles I of England; the Great Fire of London in 1666; the birth of the United States of America, World Wars One and Two; the American Revolution; the rise of Communism and many other outstanding events in history. This remarkable man was born on Christmas Eve in 1503, and his gift was to write history before it happened. In a letter to Henry II of France, Michael Nostradamus claimed he could have specifically placed dates, places and persons in all of his 1000 predictions had he not feared persecution at the hands of his enemies. His final prediction, the end of the world in 3797, need not concern us unduly because none of us will be around to check up on the year. Carpenter Lee Maness who was the first man on the job of constructing the new jail at Pennington, Va., also became its first prisoner when it was completed.

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Believe it or not, but the last 13 cantos of Dante's "Paradise" were found after the poet's death as the result of a dream. Dante's son dreamed that the missing cantos were hidden in a room behind a mat in a niche in the wall. None of the family knew there was such a hiding place in the house. William Blake's dead brother, Robert, instructed him in a dream how to reproduce his exquisite designs, mingled with verse, by a process of sketching and writing in reverse on plates rendered impervious to acid, except where the pen had touched them. Robert Louis Stevenson and Edgar Allan Poe admitted that much of their best works came to them during the hours of sleep. The most interesting dream of modern times which has come my way, has to do with F. H. Grise-wood who, as a boy had a dream that went on and on for 14 nights, in which he saw what appears to have been part of a former life in the days of King Charles I. The 14 night dream gave Grise-wood a good knowledge of that part of England where the dream

IN MEMORIAM

JOHN J. ACORN

Primrose and surrounding districts were saddened by the tragic accident on June 22 and the sudden death of John J. Acorn on June 23. The late Mr. Acorn was born in Primrose, July 10, 1923, the second youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. James Acorn of Primrose. In 1941, he joined the R.C.N.V.R., and served his country four years and five months. One of these years was spent in a prisoner of war camp in Germany. Left to mourn are his wife, Mary Acorn, and a young son, Barry. His father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. James Acorn, five sisters and four brothers: Laura, of Arlington, Mass.; Margaret, Mrs. Wallace Wood, of Primrose; Annie, Mrs. George Hume of Cardigan; Bertha, Mrs. Truelove Taylor of Upton; Stillman of Caledonia; Nathan at home; Chester of Primrose; Marian, Mrs. Arthur Cantello of Belfast, and Fred of Bridgetown. The loss of his passing was expressed by the number who attended the funeral to pay their last respects. The funeral was conducted by Evangelist Svend Christensen, assisted by Rev. Russell MacLeod of St. Peter's Bay. Mr. Christensen spoke on the "Brevity of Life." The hymns sung during the service were "Safe in the Arms of Jesus," "Lord I'm Coming Home"

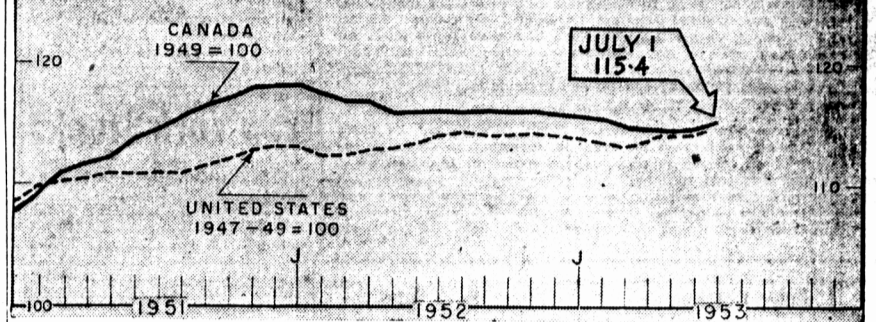
and a solo "Will the Circle be Unbroken" was rendered by Mr. Walter Burdett of Strathcona. The military pallbearers were Messrs. Francis Shepherd, Joe MacAulaly, Raymond Acorn, Albert Taylor, Cecil Rice, Alonzo Riley, and the active pallbearers were Lee Philayson, Earl MacKay, Aeneas McGillivray, Francis Johnstone, Joe Morrison, and Howard MacLeod. The interment took place in the Acorn Cemetery, Dundas. The family of the late John J. Acorn wish to express their sincere thanks to the doctors and nurses of the King's County Memorial Hospital, Rev. J. M. Fraser, relatives and friends for their kindness shown during their recent sad bereavement. They also wish to express their sincere thanks to those who sent floral tributes, letters and cards of sympathy. Best natural source of vitamin D is the liver of such salt-water fish as cod and halibut.

Card Of Thanks

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Living Costs Rise

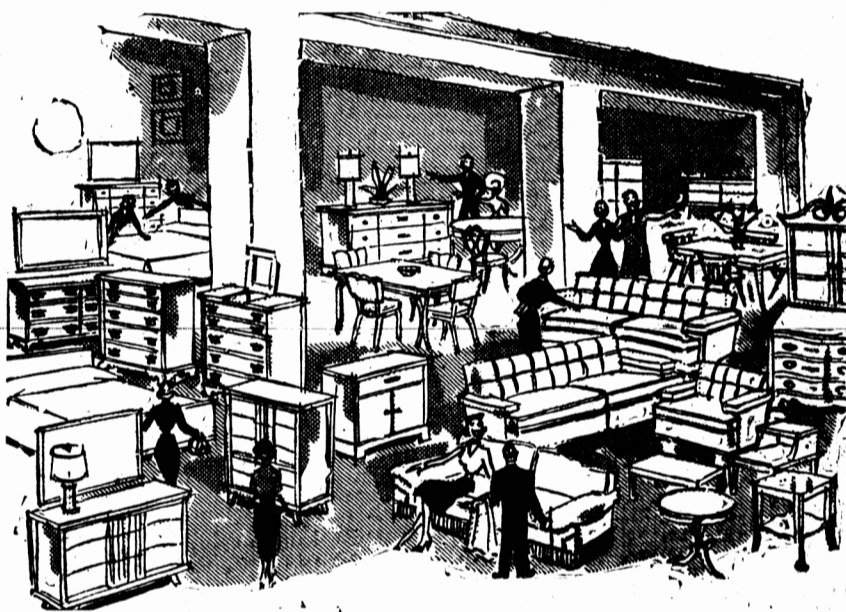
CONSUMER PRICE INDICES



The consumer price index rose half a point in June to 115.4 from 114.9 under the impact of a seasonal increase in food costs and higher prices for clothing, rent and other commodities, the bureau of statistics reports. It was the second consecutive monthly rise following a steady half-year decline. The peak of 118.2 was reached in December, 1951, with 1949 prices equalling 100. The dotted line shows the United States consumer price index which advanced between mid-May and mid-June to a record of 114.5 of the 1947-49 average. These indices measure percentage changes in prices in each country but should not be used to compare actual levels of prices between the two countries. (CP PHOTO)

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