

Simonstown Naval Base Handed Over To S.A. Navy

SIMONSTOWN, South Africa (Reuters)—The Simonstown Royal Navy base, which Admiral Nelson on one occasion urged the British government to return to the

Dutch, will be transferred to the South African government April 2.

Wheat Acreage Cut Is Planned

OTTAWA (CP)—Canadian farmers intend to reduce their wheat acreage this year to the lowest point in 14 years, dropping it to 19,876,100 acres, down about 1,500,000 from a year ago.

The bureau of statistics, reporting that Wednesday, said the intended acreage if carried out would be the second lowest in 37 years and would involve the fifth consecutive annual decline. Prairie wheat acreage, including durum wheat, is estimated to decline to 19,259,000 acres, down from 20,630,000 last year. All of the intentions are based on reports reaching the bureau March 1.

Later as Admiral Lord Nelson he urged the government of the day to "give it back to the Dutch."

"It is only a re-territorialization," he said. "When the Dutch were in command, one could buy a cabbage for two pence. Now they are one shilling each."

Often called the "Gibraltar of the South Atlantic," the base now is to pass into the hands of the South African Navy, a small but efficient and growing force commanded by Rear-Admiral Hugo Hendricks Biermann.

LONG HISTORY
The Simonstown base has been associated with nearly three centuries of South African history. In 1667, the Dutch East India Company of French war vessels based on Reunion and Mauritius, the British government on July 14, 1795, sent a force under Major-General Craig to occupy Simonstown. Except for a few years, the Royal Navy has remained in control ever since.

Italian Courts Revive Freedom Of Assembly

ROME (AP)—Italy's constitutional court Monday ruled unconstitutional a police regulation that controlled Protestant religious gatherings.

The decision by the country's highest tribunal marked a victory for evangelical groups who had long sought to have the police regulation set aside.

Under the regulation police had insisted that religious meetings of evangelical groups open to the public could be held only after police permission had been obtained for them. The regulation had been invoked since fascist days by police.

The regulation did not affect the Roman Catholic Church, whose relations with the Italian state are regulated by the Lateran Pacts, signed in 1929.

Article 17 says that "all citizens have the right to reunite peacefully and without arms," and that "for reunions, even those open to the public, no prenotification is necessary."



BEDTIME STORIES

Young Hoot Is Puffed Up

Success to failure often leads. While failure in the end succeeds. —Old Mother Nature.

Young Hoot was the son of Hooty the Owl. Of the several members of the Owl family living in the Green Forest Hooty and Mrs. Hooty are the biggest and most feared by small folk in the forest. Hooty, young as he was, would soon be as big as his father and mother. He felt fully as big. He had left home. He was out in the Great World on his own. That means he must now look out for himself. There was no one to bring him food, to take care of him, to warn him of danger and fight for him should sudden danger threaten. He had no one to depend on but himself.

At first he had missed the visits of his father, but not too much. He had been lucky enough to catch a good dinner that first day on being on his own. That made him feel very smart. He was all puffed up with pride. Yes, sir, he was all puffed up.

"It's easy," said he, talking to himself. "It's a lot easier than I thought it would be. I can get all I want to eat without any trouble at all. I guess I'm smart. Any way, I'm smart enough to take care of myself. Now I can go where I want to go, do what I want to do and nobody will stop me. It's fun being out in the Great World."



After that meal that he had caught for himself, Young Hoot took a long nap. When he awoke he was hungry again. Right away he started out to look for something to eat. Presently he saw Jumper the Hare. He never tried to catch anything as big as Jumper the Hare. That didn't matter in the least. He swooped down at Jumper in the boldest manner. Because he had caught his dinner before so easily, he expected to do it again now. He didn't try to take Jumper by surprise. He didn't catch him. No, sir, he didn't catch him. Jumper simply took to his long heels, dodged behind a tree, and wasn't even frightened. He knew when he saw Young Hoot that he had nothing to be afraid of. He knew that he was a puffed-up young Owl who felt he knew all there was to know, but really knew very little.

He had wandered far from the loneliest place in the Green Forest where the big tree in which he had spent his babyhood. For a few days after he left the nest father had brought him food to help while he was learning to hunt and how to catch food for himself. At the same time mother had been doing likewise for his sister, Toot, who had left the nest when he did and had gone off in another direction. He hadn't seen either of them since.

Unably to find Jumper again, Hoot went on his way. He was still puffed-up and feeling very big, because such a big fellow as Jumper should be afraid of him and run away. It made him feel more important than ever. He was sure of himself that when he had a chance to catch a careless mouse he missed it. He was careless. He let that Mouse see him coming. When finally he was too tired to hunt any longer he hadn't caught a thing. He went to sleep dinnerless. He no longer felt so puffed-up as when he had started out.

DAILY CROSSWORD

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| ACROSS | DOWN | ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1. Before (naut.) | 3. Pronoun | 19. Smith's block | 23. Exist |
| 2. Move through water | 4. River (U.S.) | 20. mium (syn.) | 24. Cad- |
| 3. More loyal | 5. Bitter vetch | 21. mium (syn.) | 25. Before (poet.) |
| 4. Cattle (dial.) | 6. Form of trapshooting | 22. Indefinite article | 26. Tit for |
| 5. Lays up | 7. Wound (colloq.) | 23. Man's nickname | 27. Separate |
| 6. Finishes | 8. Native (Asia) | 24. Beard of rye | 28. American Indian article |
| 7. Hostel | 9. Hodge-podges | 25. Those in sheep | 29. Wild and |
| 8. Cowardly | 10. George William Russell | 26. Part of a cheer | 30. English princess |
| 9. 20. mium (syn.) | 11. 21. mium (syn.) | 27. Those in sheep | 31. Supposes |
| 12. 22. Indefinite article | 12. 23. Man's nickname | 28. 24. Beard of rye | 32. At once |
| 13. 23. Those in sheep | 24. 25. Those in sheep | 25. 26. Part of a cheer | 33. 27. Those in sheep |
| 14. 24. Beard of rye | 26. 27. Those in sheep | 26. 28. American Indian article | 34. 28. American Indian article |
| 15. 25. Those in sheep | 27. 29. Wild and | 27. 29. Wild and | 35. 29. Wild and |
| 16. 26. Part of a cheer | 28. 30. English princess | 28. 30. English princess | 36. 30. English princess |
| 17. 27. Those in sheep | 29. 31. Supposes | 29. 31. Supposes | 37. 31. Supposes |
| 18. 28. American Indian article | 30. 32. At once | 30. 32. At once | 38. 32. At once |
| 19. 29. Wild and | 31. 33. 27. Those in sheep | 31. 33. 27. Those in sheep | 39. 33. 27. Those in sheep |
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| 21. 31. Supposes | 33. 35. 29. Wild and | 33. 35. 29. Wild and | 41. 35. 29. Wild and |
| 22. 32. At once | 34. 36. 30. English princess | 34. 36. 30. English princess | 42. 36. 30. English princess |
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