VOICE OF THE PRESS

APPLE QUESTION

Can you remember not so long ago when people were coaxed to help out the apple industry of Canada by purchasing and eating apples? Where are the good apples today at a reasonable price for the household? Oranges brought all the way from California are in much more popular demand than the Canadian apple. Even the Canadian black walnut has gone into the luxury class at 70 cents for a six-quart basket.

—St. Catharines Standard

—o—

INEXPERT WALKERS

"New and inexperienced" pedestrians, placed in that class by gasoline restrictions, have resulted in boosting the street accident rate in Los Angeles. It may yet be necessary to equip them with horns and tail lights.

—Windsor Star

—o—

"WORK OR FIGHT"

The war-time policy of President Wilson in the last conflict was "work or fight," which labor in the United States on the whole felt compelled to respect. It is still a pretty good ultimatum for any democracy in this struggle, if enforced.

—Hamilton Spectator

—o—

JUST IMAGINE!

Before rationing, American motorists burned 70,000,000 gallons of gasoline each day. Until the advent of motor cars, gasoline was considered a waste product of kerosene refining; it was poured into rivers or burned.

—Canadian Press

—o—

COVERING UP

"Where have all the bare-legged girls gone," inquires The St. Thomas Times-Journal. As if the editor didn't know that they've gone up to the attic to look for a pair of Grandma's old wool stockings.

—Ottawa Citizen

—o—

BUTTER PREFERRED

Of course, it's wonderful — about science making a suit of clothes of milk. But if it's all the same we'd rather be measured for a pound of butter.

—Kitchener Record

—o—

ANOTHER COUPON

It's a lot of trouble bringing them up, but what's nicer around the home at a time like this than a 16-year-old who doesn't drink coffee?

—Winnipeg Tribune

—o—

LAST IS REAL THING

Schooling is what you get in school. Education is what the world gives you when you get out.

—Brandon Sun

I Saw the Morning Break

You that have faith to look with fearless eyes
Beyond the tragedy of a world at strife
And trust that out of night and death shall rise
The dawn of ampler life:
Rejoice, whatever anguish rend your heart
That God has given you, for a priceless dower,
To live in these great times and have your part
In Freedom's crowning hour;
That you may tell your sons who see the light
High in the heaven, their heritage to take:
"I saw the powers of darkness put to flight!
I saw the morning break!"

—Sir Owen Seamen.

Play Canned Chimes At Church Services

"Canned church bell chimes" are the latest ersatz innovation in Holland to be forced by German confiscation.

The Nazi authorities recently requisitioned most of Holland's church bells to melt them down for the Reich war industry. Some churches made phonograph records of their bells before yielding them and are now playing these records at services.

The German-controlled newspaper Nieuwe Rotterdamsche Courant said the experiment was tried out successfully during Christmas and New Year's Eve services at the Catholic Singel Church in Schiedam, and later similar records were used in Amsterdam and Rotterdam.

At Kethel, a Rotterdam suburb, experimental amplifying equipment was installed in a church steeple, which succeeded in broadcasting recorded chimes as far as eight miles, under favorable wind conditions.

The Courant said church officials wishing to install similar apparatus would require a 'special ringing permit" from the Nazi authorities.

ONE WAY TO LOAD

Truck backs down into shallow water on shore of Guadalcanal to take supplies from landing boats—which is one way to do it.

Corvettes Score Against U-Boats

Small Fast Vessels Have Made Name For Themselves

Continued menace of the German submarine and the success of Canada's fleet of small, fast corvettes in combating it have caused the champions of the small craft to urge its use on a more extended scale.

The records show that corvettes have not only sunk submarines; they also have defended themselves against aircraft and protected many merchant convoys across the Atlantic.

In fact, according to the Department of Munitions and Supply, Canadian corvettes have escorted more than 11,000 merchant ships acros the water, carrying supplies of approximately 64,000,000 tons to the battlefronts of the old world.

With high American and British naval spokesmen emphasizing anew the gravity of the increasing total of United Nations merchantmen, it is indicated that new emphasis may be placed upon the corvette's role.

Speed and Maneuverability

These small boats, whose tonnage lies in a category between that of a patrol torpedo boat and a destroyer, are lightly armed and have only their speed and maneuverability to ward off attack.

As convoy escorts Canadian corvettes have performed notable work. The Arvada recently came into port with well over 100 survivors from ships sunk by enemy action.

Seventeen of Canada's corvettes, it was also disclosed, took part in the United Nations invasion of North Africa.

Corvettes have ranged as far north as Iceland and as far south as the Caribbean.

In the Pacific corvettes provided a section of the fighting fleet which escorted the troop landing on the Aleutians to take the offensive against the Japanese.

Jeeps Take Place Of Plow Horses

American jeeps, the handyandies of the United States Army, are going to plow now.

The quarter-ton vehicles, which have been used to haul generals and even Presidents, hunt tanks and carry the wounded to hospitals, will be pressed into service in the spring plowing program in Britain to raise food for part of the American armed forces stationed there They already are being employed to clear thousands of acres of agricultural land.

LIFE'S LIKE THAT — By Fred Neher

"Shut off that war news! . . . I want to hear the battle next door!!!"

THE BOOK SHELF

OUT OF DOORS IN WINTER
By C. J. Hylander

Perhaps you think of winter as a season to stay indoors, but if you are a nature lover, you'll want to put on your warm coats and explore out of doors. Even though there may be snow on the ground and less greenness in the landscape, the world of nature is very alive and there is fun and excitement for your winter walks.

Now that the leaves are off some trees you have a better chance to study their branches. And you'll want to become better acquainted with evergreens, those trees and plants that stay green all year round. There are permanent residents among birds too. It's fun to learn to recognize the birds and animals by their tracks in the snow.

There may be days when it's not easy to go out of doors and then you'll want to learn how to bring nature indoors, with a terrarium for favorite flowers and lawns arranged for some of your pet animals. And think of the plans you can make during the winter for next spring!

Out of Doors In Winter . . . By C. J. Hylander . . . . The MacMillan Company of Canada . . . Price $1.75.

Strange Folk These British

They Even Conduct a War On Decent Principles

A few weeks ago, relates The Kansas City Times, the British cruiser H.M.S. Scylla (Capt. I. A. P. MacIntyre), on patrol duty in the North Atlantic, was informed that a large German cargo ship was attempting to run the blockade and reach a French port. After a 200-mile chase the Scylla overtook the vessel and fired a warning salvo ahead of her. Instead of stopping, the blockade runner shifted course, and the cruiser then fired directly at her. Here is the rest of the Admiralty's report:

"Soon flames were seen coming from the superstructure of the enemy vessel, and it was noticed that the crew was abandoning ship. The cruiser ceased fire until the lifeboats were clear of the ship, and then the blockade runner was finally sunk with a torpedo. This was done as quickly as possible, because it was believed that German aircraft and U-boats might be in the vicinity and might be attracted to the scene by smoke from the burning ship."

Remember the number of times that survivors of Allied merchant vessels have reported being fired upon by the submarine which had sunk their ship, after they had taken to small boats and liferafts, and then notice Capt. MacIntyre's order to cease fire as soon as the Germans were seen abandoning ship—although hostile planes and submarines might be in the vicinity.

Canada Keeps Inflation Away

$50,000,000 in Subsidies Protects Prices Ceiling

From the end of March last year to the present time, according to a House of Commons return, the Prices Board has paid out $50,000,000 in subsidies to protect its prices "ceiling," says The Ottawa Journal.

This looks like a lot of money; a lot of money, at any rate, to protect a ceiling. Actually, it is but a bagatelle in comparison with what the people of Canada would have had to pay out if there had been no prices ceiling.

A jump of one point in the cost of living index means roughly $30,000,000 out of the pockets of Canadian consumers. Therefore, if we were without a prices ceiling and the cost of living had gone up, say, four points (which would not have been extraordinary) what we would have paid would not have been $50,000,000, but $120,000,000. If, as would not have been impossible, the jump in the cost of living reached 10 points (it has gone up that fast in some other countries) our bill would be $300,000,000.

The truth is that a prices ceiling in Canada has worked. It has not worked as easily as its authors hoped it would; has brought a lot of grief and difficulty; but it has kept prices down and inflation away, perhaps saved all of us from a major economic disaster.

Toronto's TIM, the government telephone announcer of the correct time, has been called 190,000,000 times since the service was started.

THE WAR - WEEK — Commentary on Current Events

Fighting Spirit Of True Canadians Cannot Be Beaten By Any Enemy

The Independent Majority of the Steelworkers of Steel Co. of Canada ran the following advertisement in the Hamilton Spectator on January 23 and paid for it out of their own pockets:

STRIKING IN WARTIME IS A DIRTY BUSINESS

In fact, over 75% of the Steelworkers at the Steel Company of Canada regard such action as TREASON, and want your help in avoiding any such occurrence at our plant. Every man on strike from a Canadian steel plant to-day is killing Canadian soldiers as surely as if he shot them. This fact makes the relations between the Steelworkers' C.I.O. management, and the Government no longer a private matter, but a public concern.

We think the idea of a steel strike should make every citizen of Canada as hopping mad as it makes us. How would you feel if through determined action of an organized minority you were forced to stop working in what you knew to be a vital part of our war effort?

—Or if you had worked for your firm for over 25 years, as over 10% of us have, and had no grievances you thought were very important these days when so many people are suffering so much, and were suddenly told you were expected to strike on Monday?

—Or if you had several children, a home to pay for, and other expenses you could just meet, and were suddenly faced with the possibility of being forced to live for several weeks with no money coming in.

Don't get us wrong. We aren't Union haters, or "Company men." We believe well-run and responsible unions can benefit every on. We also know that basic wage rates may need to be adjusted from time to time, and there are other grievances in this plant as in most others.

What we object to is the use of strikes over which we have no control to force decisions in such matters in these times. The Government has set forth a policy of wage and price control to try and avoid troubles and hardships met in the last war. It also provides means for adjusting inequalities brought to its attention. Public opinion should demand quick, firm, and just use of this machinery to settle problems as they arise, and avoid situations such as we have here. To allow any group to dictate its own terms in any such dispute spells disaster for the whole national economy.

THE C.I.O. IS BOMBARDING WORKERS AND PUBLIC WITH PROPAGANDA PUT OUT EXPRESSLY TO WIN MEMBERS AND INCREASE THEIR OWN POWER BY DISCREDITING BOTH GOVERNMENT AND MANAGEMENT.

WE WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS AND EXPLAIN THE REAL CONVICTIONS OF THOSE STEELWORKERS WHO DO THEIR OWN THINKING.

FIRST—A FEW COLD FACTS WHICH CAN BE EASILY VERIFIED:

1. Union membership never represented more than about 25% of the 4,900 wage earners at Hamilton Works. Not more than 500 members have attended any one meeting.
2. Only 300 members were present at the meeting in which the strike vote was held. Three hundred men are attempting to force more than 4,000 men to stop work.
3. A large percentage of former C.I.O. members believe in Unions and joined to assist in correcting grievances the C.I.O. brought to their attention. They joined on the understanding that no strikes would be called in wartime. These men are now thoroughly disgusted, are not paying Union dues, and are completely inactive in Union affairs, but they are included in estimates of C.I.O. membership.
4. The strike issue here is Union recognition and collective bargaining, with the pay increase an incidental. Through our Works Council we already have a collective bargaining agreement through elected representatives, free of charge. The Union guarantees to give us the same thing for about $50,000 in dues. We do not take our Works Council seriously enough, or make it work as it should, because we didn't have to fight for it.
5. No discrimination is shown against Union members in the plant. Union representatives sit on the Works Council.

We feel that this projected strike is part of a planned program to unionize Canada's steel industry, no matter at what cost to the country—YOUR country. The C.I.O. is following a familiar pattern which has been very successful in the States. Strong and decisive action is needed immediately to prevent further trouble, and forestall a general inflation. Management's hands are tied, the Government is unwilling and unable to act without some overwhelming expression of public opinion.

Now is your chance to do something concrete to prevent a minority sabotaging our war effort. Write the Government. Express your opinions in the papers, and make sure any man who supports a strike in these times realizes what he is doing.

As for us, we take this opportunity to tell the world that we have no intention of being pushed around. Certainly not by any selfish group who feel that the present crisis is a golden opportunity to gain power and raise wages, even at the risk of torpedoing our whole war effort.

We are paying for this notice out of our own pockets, hoping it may help to save us the money we would lose if the Steel Company is shut down by a strike.

A Committee of The Independent Majority of the Steelworkers of the Steel Co. of Canada

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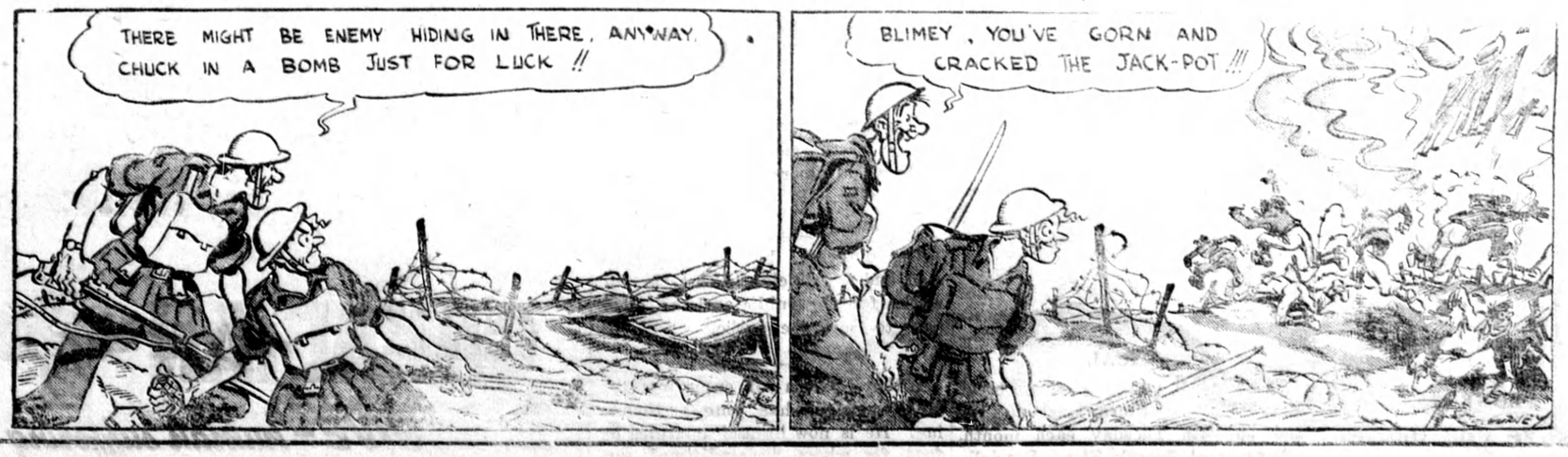
"PURE DICTATORSHIP"

There is nothing in our civil law to prevent strikes, says the Owen Sound Sun-Times. If workers are not content with conditions they cannot be forced to stay on the job. But what right have they to say to others, not members of their Union, "You shall not work!" and use force to prevent them from working? None whatever, we should say.

It is a poor rule that does not work both ways; but apparently these strikers want everything their own way. They are exercising their privilege of refusing to work but they are refusing to others the privilege of staying on their jobs. And there is nothing democratic about that. It is pure dictatorship. In a dictator ruled country their Unions would not last a minute.

Bluey and Curley of the Anzacs — "In on the Jack-pot." — By Gurney (Australia)