A COUNTRY EDITOR SEES Ottawa

WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS OF CANADA

by JIM GREENBLAT, Editor of the SUN
SWIFT CURRENT SASKATCHEWAN

FARM MACHINERY

Even the person living in a city apartment is indirectly interested in the fact that it takes farm machinery to produce the necessities of life. Administrator H.H. Bloom had some of the answers for me in Toronto. First let me pass on the information that our tentative allocation for 1943 is 25% of the 1940 tonnage for farm machinery and 150% for repairs. That's not as bad as it sounds when one considers that the Russians found it possible to produce materials in factories six months after they had been blasted to rubble by the Nazis, and retaken That takes ingenuity and improvization. The Canadian farmers can do that too.

Why is 1940 taken as the basis? Because that was the last normal year in the implement business, and the period used by the United States also, from whence we have some dependence for materials. Things were not so serious in this line in 1942, for when the smoke had cleared away a healthy business shows a statistical reality between implements and repairs we had a 96% overall tonnage manufactured or imported

Why Materials Are Scarce

But there's a different picture for 1943; shelves are bare and no inventory to speak of. You on the farm, we in the towns have got to get it into our noodles that materials which go into farm machinery, also go into machinery for killing Nazis and Japs.

As the administrator explained it, and it sounded reasonable, it would have been simple to make an order stopping importation of not more than 25% gross weight. But there were other considerations. For one thing they curtailed exports drastically. Yes, they have to export a certain amount yet—to New Zealand and Australia, who have some basis of argument that they are dependent on us in that they also have to produce the food to keep them alive. Just like our own city apartment dweller, they are interested in machinery.

Then the administration made a survey clear across Canada, discussing the situation with deputy ministers of agriculture, experimental station superintendents, the supply board and others to see what types and varieties were most essential. That's a good approach, isn't it?

In Western Canada, for instance, they found they could do without threshers more, and wanted combines increased; they could cut out drag harrows for a year but wanted one-way discs. As a result they were able to order varieties eliminated in the West from 473 to 73; from that many to 117 in Eastern Canada. Walking plows, as an example, will come in only five kinds as compared to 52.

1943 Conpared to 1940

And here is another practical application of the survey. They will allow manufacture of 75% of 1940 output of cream separators, with combines down to 33% for Eastern Canada; the West will get 33 1-3 in one-way disc seeders and Eastern Canada nil. The tonnage was computed separately for East and West as essentiality required.

The administration knows there will be a bigger demand for farm machinery this year because generally speaking there was a better income in 1942 and farmers will want increased and better part facilities. Labor will be scarce. So then, what better than a rationing system?

"We studied the British system and that of the United States to guide us if possible," said Mr. Bloom. Out of the cumulative study and research they evolved what they consider the most simple and least expensive way to work out the farm machinery and equipment problem which is nationally important in scope.

Here it is in a nutshell, just as easy for the city slicker to understand as for the farmer. In the regional boards across Canada, fourteen machinery rationing officers have been appointed. Acting as a consultant in each case without additional remuneration is an Agricultural Representative. He might be the superindendent of an experimental station or one qualified and delighted by him to assist. As a further consultant to the rationing officer some prominent farmer of the region is chosen who has the confidence and respect of the others. His judgement is used indealing with "boarder line" cases because—as we neglected to mention earlier—the individual farmer can make applications to the rationing officer for farm machinery he thinks he essentially requires. The mechanism for appeals is also provided for.

Problems Well Understood

Well, that's the story I got from the boss of farm machinery, boiled down to the space available. They realize the labor shortage presents difficulties. They are sympathetic to the fact that a farmer can't get everything he wants for replacement or new equipment. But they're making every effort to be fair and equitable to all with the amount at disposal of the country as a whole. That means harder work, taking care of present equipment to make it lasts longer.

The farmer likes to grouse just as the soldier does, but they both give when it's needed. Because there is a serious war going on the farmer will, we think, without hesitation, do the best he can to make machinery go 'round to the best advantage. The comparative rationing has been set up because there is a scarcity of materials and the necessities of war production. We've just got to like it and make what we've got last longer.

PORTLAW

Miss Hazel Wilkinson of Rock Mills and friend visited with Miss Mabel Blackburn.

Pte. Roy Fisher of Newfoundland is visiting with his uncle, Roy Lyons, and other relatives here.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Linton and family are moving to Bethel soon. A presentation was held in their honor Friday night.

Miss Nellie Allison of Maxwell is spending a few days with her aunt, Mrs. Laurie Pedlar.

Mrs. Laurie Pedlar visited recently with her sister, Mrs. Ken Wright, Berkeley.

Gnr. R. D. Meldrum, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Meldrum, has been transferred to Halifax, N.S.

Mrs. Wallace Fisher and Stanley Patton are on the sick lists this week.

Mr. Wm. McNally left last week to visit his daughter, Mrs. Dingwall, in Northern Ontario, who is very ill at present. We hope to hear of Mrs. Dingwall's improvement in health by the time her father arrives.

The Fourth Line Red Cross unit met at the home of Mrs. A. Blackburn on Thursday, Feb. 25th, with a good attendance. Another quilt was completed and one quilt handed in by Mrs. L. Fisher, which was quilted in her home, also two quilts by Mrs. Boyce which were also quilted at her home. Several socks made by different members and three sweaters knit by Mrs. R. Lyons were also handed in. Little Doreen Fisher knit a very pretty baby's bonnet and donated it to the Red Cross. We had another new member join our group in the person of Mrs. Austin Hill. The annual meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Jas. Pedlar on March 11th. All interested in this work will please attend.

(Intended for Last Week)

Our sympathy goes out to Mrs. Harry Patton on the death of her little granddaugher.

The Fourth Line Red Cross met at the home of Mrs. Wallace Fisher. Another quilt was completed, a windbreaker and parka, made by Mrs. L. Pedlar, handed in, also a quilt made at the home of Mrs. Harry Fisher.

We are sorry to report Mrs. Fred Taylor bedfast again.

The house of Roy White on the Shier homestead was struck with lightning on Wednesday, causing considerable damage.

The Fourth Line Red Cross unit held a dance at Portlaw school on Friday evening, the door receipts being $19.00,

Mr. Art Wilson is home again and is feeling much better.

Miss Elva Russell spent a day with Miss Hazel Wilkinson at the store.

EUGENIA

Just a March of 31 days until April showers bring forth May flowers.

We are sorry to report Mr. Chas. Park on the sick list the past several days. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Misses Winneta and Carmel Martin of Toronto visited at their parental home over the week end.

Tpr. Doug. Cairns of Camp Borden visited at his home Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Stewart and family have taken apartments in the home of Mr. John Magee in the village.

Miss Dorothy Falconer of the Power House community spent the week end with Margaret McMillan.

Tpr. O. J. Rowe of Camp Borden visited recently with his wife here.

Miss Marge Martin was home from Flesherton and Mrs. Martin from near Duncan over the week end.

Mrs. Davidson spent the week end and a few days at her home near Feversham with her husband who was ill.

Automobile magnate says men of 70 and 80 should drive cars. According to the producer, they should roller-skate, too.

Young Wife: "I'm afraid dear, my pie is not all it should be. I think I must have left something out." Husband: "Nothing you left out could make it taste like that."

PRICEVILLE

An error was made last week when an item read that Mrs. Hector McEachern had donated the afghan on which tickets had been sold. It should have read as having been donated by Mrs. Angus McKechnie of Toronto. Robt. McIntyre was the lucky winner.

Mrs. Hector McLean returned to her home from Fergus last week, after spending near a month with her daughter.

Miss Mary McKinnon spent Tuesday at the Carson home.

Mrs. Brodie of Markdale visited last week with her sister, Mrs. Ben McKenzie, and daughter, Mrs. Bill Campbell.

Mr. Dick Carson of Fergus spent the week end at his home here.

Mrs. Percy Sims and Miss Nellie McLean visited one day with Mrs. Dan Campbell.

The assessor, Mr. Fred Boland, of Vandeleur made his annual calls last week in Priceville and vicinity.

Friends here will be glad to know that Miss Eleanor Thompson, a pupil of Mr. Clifford Hincks at Wyoming, Ont., is gold medalists in public speaking for Lambton Connty. She is in Grade 8 and is 12 years of age. She spoke on the subject "Canada and the People's War." She now meets winners from five other counties in Chatham on Saturday, March 6th, the contest to be broadcast. The winners from Chatham go to Toronto at Easter to compete for the Provincial championship.

Mrs. Jack McFarlane and little son, Colin, of Toronto are visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Colin McLean.

Molly (weary of sermon, in a very audible whisper) Mummy, if the church caught fire, would he stop then?

NATIONAL SELECTIVE SERVICE

MOBILIZATION
OF SINGLE MEN

A RECENT Proclamation, issued by His Excellency the Governor General in Council, provides that certain single men must register immediately for the Military Call-up under National Selective Service Mobilization Regulations.

Single Men who must now register are those who were born in any year from 1902 to 1923 inclusive, and who did not previously undergo medical examination under the Military Call-up.

Men actually in the Armed Services are exempt under this order, but men discharged from the Services, not previously medically examined under the Military Call-up, must now register.

"Single Men," referred to, now required to register include any man—

born in any one of the years mentioned, who has not previously been medically examined for the military call-up, and described as follows:—"who was on the 15th day of July, 1940, unmarried or a widower without child or children or has since the said day been divorced or judicially separated or become a widower without child or children."

It is pointed out that any man unmarried at July 15th, 1940, even if married since that date is still classed as a "single man."

Registration is to be made on forms available with Postmasters, National Selective Service Offices, or Registrars of Mobilization Boards.

Penalties are provided for failure to register

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

HUMPHREY MITCHELL, *Minister of Labour*

A. MACNAMARA, *Director, National Selective Service*

URGENT!

Great Britain asks or seventy-five million dozen Eggs from Canada in 1943.

That is nearly one-third more Eggs than there were produced in Canada last year.

This task can be accomplished best by every producer striving to get more Eggs per Hen.

The average production per month in Canada last year was nine eggs from each hen. Two more eggs per bird per month will do the job.

YOU'LL BE PLEASED WITH YOUR RETURNS

Flesherton Creamery & Produce Co.

Phone 66 **Angus Avis, Manager**

RATION COUPON BANKING

Beginning March 1st, the 3,200 branches of the Chartered Banks of Canada, undertake another wartime service, namely Ration Coupon Banking. It is a vital part of the nation-wide rationing program.

Facts You Should Know

1. If you are a merchant, jobber, wholesaler or other dealer receiving ration coupons from your customers, your bank stands ready to show you how to deposit or otherwise deal with the coupons you receive. The same applies if you are a "quota-user."

2. It has nothing whatever to do with your regular bank account, in which you deposit dollars and draw cheques in dollars.

3. It is purely a relationship between dealers and commercial banks. Ration Banking begins only after the consumer has used his coupons to purchase rationed commodities.

4. The banks' job is mainly of an accounting nature—acting as an agent of the Ration Administration, Wartime Prices and Trade Board, under carefully defined regulations.

5. Ration Coupon Banking relieves the Ration Administration of the tremendous burden of handling, verifying and accounting for used coupons with which consumers have obtained their supplies.

6. If you are a consumer only, it in no way affects how much or how little of rationed commodities you receive. Banks do not issue ration coupons, nor do they have anything to do with the actual rationing of commodities.

By this important addition to the many wartime services they perform, the Chartered Banks serve the nation, facilitate business, and seek to save time and expense to the country.

THE CHARTERED BANKS OF CANA