THE
Flesherton Advance

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Federation News

(By Clifford Allen, President of Grey County Federation of Agriculture)

During the holiday week, Dec. 27 to Jan. 1st, short courses in Co-Operation and Community Leadership were held in Ontario at the O.A.C., Guelph, and at Queen's University, Kingston. A large number of young people and some older ones, too, took advantage of these courses, which were provided at a minimum cost; travelling room and board being practically the only consideration. Assitance to individuals in the way of grants of money were made by many farm organizations, which are awake to the fact that the future of their industries depend on the education of the people.

Many people have only a vague idea of what takes place at these courses, but anyone who could have dropped in, as I did, in the middle of a class at O.A.C. on Tuesday morning would have experienced a very vivid picture. Here was David Smith, secretary of the Simcoe Federation of Agriculture, on the platform leading a very active discussion with some 50 or 60 of a class. Everyone was interested, and if not taking an active part in the discussion, they certainly were not sleeping.

Among the topics covered by the courses are: public speaking, secretarial work, community organization, preparation of program content and methods of conducting meetings, community pools, marketing, co-operation, credit unions, the Federation of Agriculture, municipal health, soil erosion, etc.

It is easy to see that with such a varied program in such a short time, that discussion on each topic must be brief. However, it proves most valuable and short course discussions on some pertinent question have sometimes, in other years, resulted in direct action to remedy the situation.

Recreation and entertainment at these courses are not forgotten. For a small individual registration fee, high class entertainment is provided most evenings. Last year no entertainment had been planned for New Year's Eve, so the short course students took over, and enjoyed an evening of organized recreation, games, etc., ending with a dance.

It is a cross-section of Ontario's best farm people who attend these courses, young men and women with a purpose in life, and often contacts are made which grow into worthwhile friendships.

Having attended the course for two years, I can highly recommend it to any rural person who can leave the farm for a week. It is a good holiday from the strenuous farm work, and at the same time of a high educational value.

PRICEVILLE

Mr. and Mrs. Gilvray McLean spent a few days visiting with his father, Mr. H. R. McLean. Gilvray is in the Navy at Halifax.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Carson spent New Year's with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. Adams, Flesherton.

Miss Jean Sims of Fergus spent the week end at her home.

Friends of Mrs. Alf. Hincks are glad to know that she is improving, after having an operation for goitre in a Toronto hospital.

Mr. Neilburt McKenzie returned home after spending a week with Swinton Park and Holstein friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Hincks and children of Wyoming spent a couple of days visiting at the home of Mr. Chas. Tucker.

Mrs. Ramsdell of New York spent the Christmas holiday at the home of Mr. John Stothart.

Cpl. Alex. Weir, R.C.A.F., Camp Borden was a visitor with friends in this area.

Clarence McArthur, R.C.A.F., of Prince Edward Island spent the holiday with his mother.

Mrs. Archie McKechnie spent a few days last week in Toronto.

Miss Winnie McConkey of Toronto holidayed with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. McConkey.

VICTORIA CORNERS

Mrs. Edith Hall of Owen Sound visited a few days the first of the week with her sister, Mrs. Russell Linton and family.

With our sick, we are sorry to report Mrs. Chas. Best under the doctor's care, and trust that she may soon be restored to her usual good health.

Several cases of chicken pox are in our neighborhood.

Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Talbot received word that their son, Driver Clifford Talbot, had been flown from the scene of battle in Italy, to a North African hospital, suffering from an attack of blood poisoning. We hope that the Talbot's may soon receive more encouraging news from their son.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Jackson have received word of the favorable progress of their son, Pte. Harold Jackson, following his recent illness in a distant land.

Some other Christmas activities which we have learned about since our last budget of news are as follows: Miss Kaye Bannon, Reg.N., Toronto, and Miss Doris Bannon, Sarnia, spent Christmas at the parental home; Mr. and Mrs. John Talbot and Miss Laurene Talbot, Clarksburg, Miss Muriel Talbot, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Talbot and Shirley, Toronto, Mr. and Mrs. Clem Livingstone and family, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Bradley, Corbetton, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Talbot, Messrs. Sam and George Talbot and Miss Molvina Talbot, Maple Grove, spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Talbot and Earl; Mr. and Mrs. Jas. MacMillan and Strongman, Bethel, with Mr. and Mrs. John Duncan and family; Cpl. Jack Linton, Orillia, with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Linton.

Some New Year's "doings" in the community were: Mrs. Harry Acheson, Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Galagher Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Batchelor and Gordon, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Acheson and Ina, and Mr. and Mrs. Emerson Gallagher and family of Wareham with Mr. and Mrs. Bill Batchelor; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Acheson and Gordon Brown with Mr. and Mrs. George Moore.

FIRST AIR STOWAWAY TO DODGE TCA CHECK

Well it did happen. Despite the careful check which Trans-Canada Air Lines maintains at all airports, a stowaway 'uded checks and guards and was carried from Newfoundland to the Montreal Airport at Dorval. That requires some explanation.

The story starts at Gander, Newfoundland, where a group of winged members of the air force were anxious to get to Canada for Christmas furlough. Expectations rose high as Capt. J. L. Rood, senior T.C.A. pilot in the Dominion Government trans-Atlantic service operated by Trans-Canada Air Lines, dropped his huge Lancaster on the runway at Gander on his return journey from Great Britain, after delivering three tons of Christmas mail for the boys and girls of the Canadian Forces overseas. It took only a few minutes to assure the group that Capt. Rood was not then carrying passengers and that he could fly the airmen to Montreal, provided they obtained authorization and their clearance papers were in order. They were, and presently 23 members of the R.C.A.F. were on board, and a few hours later they were being disembarked at Dorval.

Then it was found that while 23 fliers had their papers in order there was a 24th flier without a single document. Not only that, it was discovered that he was not in a cabin but had chosen to fly in temperatures ranging to 50 below zero in one of the air ducts in a wing. When discovered by the inspection crew he glared with eyes ablaze, but he was eventually taken from his place in the wing, a horned owl, the first stowaway to make an unauthorized flight in a Trans-Canada Lines plane.

NO MAN SO WISE

No man is so wise that he cannot learn something from someone he may consider inferior. Few of us are so unintelligent that we don't know something, and all of the so-called highly educated class who, while they may boast a lot of book knowledge, are not possessed of that thing we call horse sense. —Durham Chronicle.

Finance Minister Ilsley has announced that the cost of selling bonds of the Fifth Victory Loan will not exceed 87 cents for each $100 — a pretty small figure for doing such a splendid job.

CANADIAN CEMETERY IN SICILY

A beautiful memorial cemetery for Canadian soldiers killed in action in Sicily is nearing completion near the mountain top town where troops of the 1st Division achieved one of their greatest successes of the summer campaign.

Construction of the cemetery was started almost before the sound of the guns died away in Sicily in August. Built on the crest of a ridge, it is so placead that half a dozen battlefields where Canadians fought can be seen from a point beside the cross of white Syracuse limestone in the centre of the cemetery.

One side of the cross on either side of which is a crusader's sword, faces toward Algira, the other toward Regalbuto. Beyond Algiro is Leonforte and beyond Regalbuto is Aderon, all secenes of Canadian battles.

Etna Tower in Distance

In the distance Mount Etna raises its towering peak capped by snow and sheather in billowing white clouds. The panorama is one of rust-colored mountains visible for miles around.

Construction of the cemetery was started son after the Canadians came out of the action in Sicily. Several sites were surveyed before the precent was chosen and bodies of soldiers who were buried where they fell were gathered to be placed in graves near the shrine erected to their memory.

The memorial was designed by Capt. G. H. Macdonald of the Royal Canadian Engineers, a veteran miner and construction man, whose wife lives in Winnipeg, where he enlisted. He designed it from a rough sketch prepared by an official in London.

Capt. Macdonald chose a white limestone, soft when quarried, but becoming hard as marble when exposed to the air.

The crusaders' swords are engraved on bas-relief on either side of the 15-foot cross set on a pedestal of marble, which is to be inset with an inscription yet to be prepared. Three steps lead to the pedestal.

Pine Trees Planted

Stone posts to carry a wire fence are erected around the buriel plot. Canadian pine trees are planted inside the fence. A path leading up the side of the hill to the memorial is lined with cedars and gravel paths with concrete curbing to divide the cemetery into four plots. Geraniums which blossom the year round and pansies which grow wild, will be planted around the plots.

Crosses of wood will be used to mark the graves until the end of the war, when headstones will be erected after the cemetery has been taken over by the Imperial War Graves Commission.

The work of building the cemetery was done by Capt. Macdonald and seven sappers, assisted by a number of Italian laborers, one of whom will be retained as caretaker.

RURAL LIFE AND THE 'FLU

Many have been suffering an attack of the 'flu during the past couple of weeks, are now convalescent and it may be the epidemic has now run its course. It is only those in rural areas who understand the dire consequences of sickness in these times. On many farms Dad and Mother, nearing the alloted span of life, are carrying on alone in the fond hope their boy will be spared to return at the end of hostilities to the old homestead. They manage the feeding of the stock during winter and make arrangements with some one doing custom work with a power outfit for the summer work. Winter is the precarious time of sickness, if sickness comes along. The animals must be fed and attended. A farmer a few miles from here, though suffering with the 'flu, managed to feed 50 cattle, some hogs and horses and 300 hens until just overwhelmed with trouble. To lessen the work he had turned a number of cattle to a hay stack to feed. In his weariness of mind and body it was a crushing blow to observe that the cattle had bored into the stack, upsetting it and four cattle were rapped underneath the hay. Frantically he worked to have the cattle until exhaustion laid him out. His wife summoned some good neighbors and the buried bovines were released in just the nick of time. — Milverton Sun.

Life isn't fair to us men. When we are born, our mothers get the compliments and the flowers. When we are married, our brides get the presents. When we die, our widows get the insurance. — The Canadian Detor.

ORANGE VALLEY

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Littlejohns, Mrs. Wes Littlejohns and daughter, Carol, spent New Year's with the Russell family at Rock Mills.

L.A.W. Esther Duclos and Grace Duclos, training at Brantford, formerly of Edmonton, spent a couple of days during the New Year with the Alcox family. Their mother was a resident of Orange Valley forty years ago, being the former Kathleen Milligan.

Misses Bertha and Mary Menary of Berkeley visited with Mr. and Mrs. John Boyd and Dorothy.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Alcox and son, Leslie, also Mr. Leonard Alcox, spent New Year's with Mr. and Mrs. Bert Porteous, Maxwell.

The Farm Forum met at the home of W. H. Hill on Monday night with a fair representation. Mr. Leonard Alcox was convenor and the topic was "Planning Farm Credit." Mr. Clifford Littlejohns, who attended the O.A.C. short course at Guelph last week, gave a good report of his trip, outlining the new methods we shall soon be obliged to adopt. Mr. Clifford Allen, president of the Grey County Federation of Agriculture, was also present. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mr. G W. Littlejohns.

HALF A MILLION PERSONS HAVE LEFT THE FARMS

It is estimated that 400,000 men and probably at least 100,000 women have left the farms since 1939, so Arthur McNamara, Deputy Minister of Labor and Director, National Selective Service, told the Dominion-Provincial Agricultural Conference which met recently in Ottawa. Tens of thousands of young farmers are serving on the battle fronts. Thousands of others went with munitions factories during the first two years of the war when it was so vital that fighting weapons be supplied in ever increasing volume. Mr. McNamara paid tribute to the older people left on the farms, who with their young boys and girls have worked harder and produced more. Thousands of men and women, he said, have come back from well-earned retirement to help Canada's war effort on the farm front. Older men and women realize this extra work will probably impair their health, that it may shorten their lives, but they have concluded that, in total war, casualties are inevitable in all age brackets and on all fronts.

He said that Selective Service regulations have been a factor in stabilizing employment on farms, and reviewed what the Government as done in an effort to overcome some of the difficulties in connection with farm labor shortage.

RATION NEWS

On January 17th, canned salmon will be released for sale to consumers, but will be rationed. Meat coupons will be used, one eat coupon being good for one-quarter pound of canned salmon.

All coupons in Book No. 2 and all canning sugar coupons expired on December 31st.

Coupons now valid are: Sugar, 14 to 24; tea and coffee, 14 to 27; preserves, D1 to D11; butter, 42 to 45, and meat coupons 30 to 33.

An exhibit of relics of the brewery business is to be set up in Milwaukee. Nothing has been said about includign the 'old soaks" in the collection.

SMALL BUSINESS LEAGUE FOR THE FORGOTTEN MAN

The forgotten man in this war is the small town citizen who owns a business of his own. Most of them have tried to do heir duty to their country. They have paid taxes which bleed them white. They have had to increase wages which they pay, without any increase in the rice of what they sell. They have been pestered to death with the unnecessary red tape of price controll. Still they have rallied in every Victory Loan campaign.

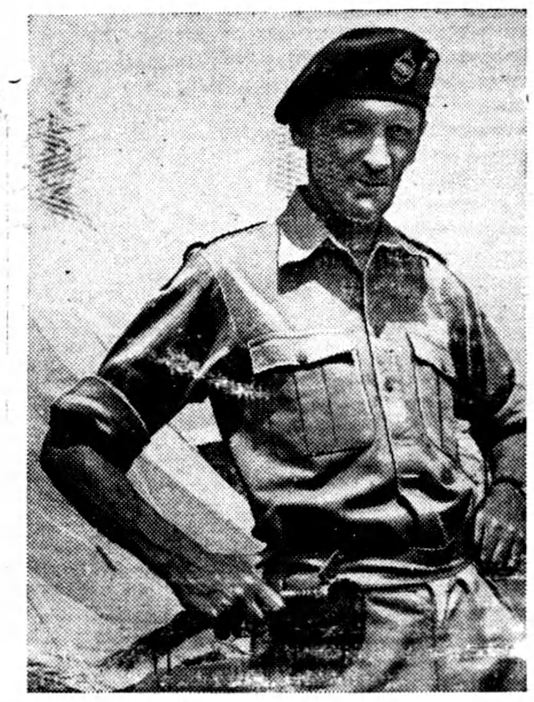
Their personal standards of living have steadily fallen. They have no right to unemployment insurance, if and when they go bankrupt. That is reserved for workers. They are usually too old to benefit from family allowances. None of the innumerable committees on reconstructoon has any program for restoring their shattered fortunes.

They are not as numerous as the farmers, who atleast get some consideration, and they are far fewer than organized labor, which is receiving the highest wages in history, and demanding more. They are numerous enough to make it possible for them to insist on the government doing something for them.

It might be an excellent thing to start a League of Small Business, for the open and announced purpose of warning every candidate for Parliament that they do not intend to stand any longer for the government doing something for everyone else, and only doing them in the eye.

It is quite possible for this country to fight a war, without ruining all the small business men.

Often wonder how much paper is wasted in mail-order soliciting.



General Montgomery Says Time Come for Europe

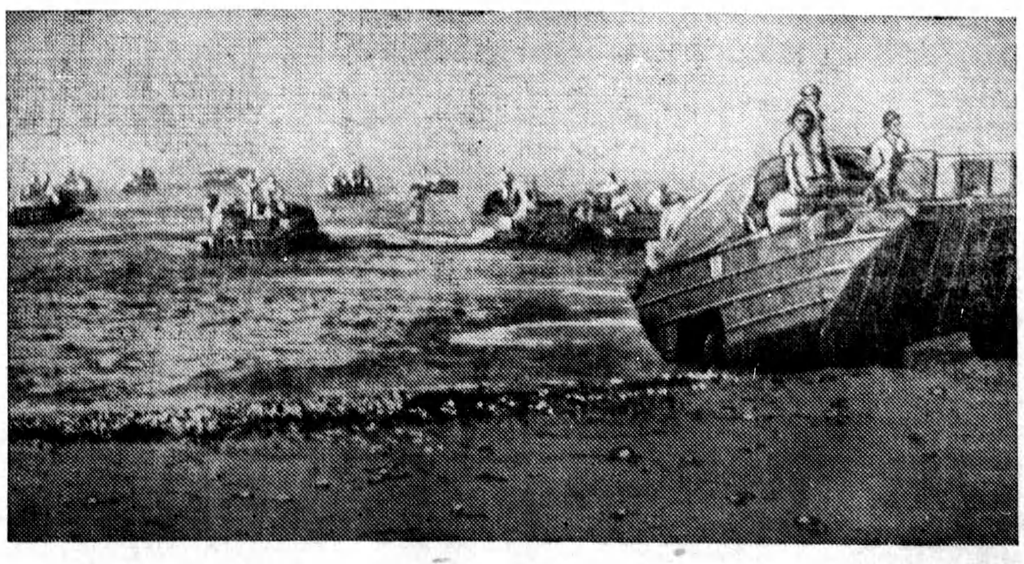
General Montgomery, G.O.C., the victorious 8th Army, sent a personal message to his men taking part in the invasion of Italy. "The time has come to carry the war through Italy and into the continent of Europe. The Italian overse. empire has been exterminated. We are now dealing with the home country." General Montgomery is with his men on the battlefields of Italy.

Picture Shows: General Montgomery about to address men of he 8th Army who are fighting 'n Italy.

British Airman Celebrated Birthday Over Berlin

One night recently aircraft of R.A.F. Bomber Command carried out a heavy attack on Berlin. Picture made at a Stirling station just before the raid shows: Members of his crew toast in coffee their Captain, Flight Sergt. S. Mason of "Mount Pleasant" Middle Herrington, near Sunderland, England, who celebrated his 21st anniversary over Berlin.

Immediately after midnight, and in the first seconds of the 24th (Mason's birthday) his crew joined in serenading him on the inter-com, with "Happy birthday to you."



8th Army Continues Northward Through Italy

Through Libya, Tunisia, Sicily and now Italy, the 8th Army has relentlessly pursued the German forces of aggression. At dawn on September 3rd, 1943, British and Canadian 8th Army troops crossed the straits of Messina to invade the Italian mainland. By September 10th, the Italians had surrendered and the Anglo-U.S. 5th Army had landed at Salerno bay. By September 23rd, the 8th and 5th Armies had established a continuous front in their task of driving the Germans northwards out of Italy.

Picture Shows: Canadian troops roll ashore in "Ducks" near Reggio after their trip across the Messina Straits from Sicily.