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13M

CHRONICLES of GINGER FARM

By Gwendoline P. Clarke

I have been outside looking for signs of spring. And, believe it or not, I found them. There was the sound of frogs singing in the pasture swamp; the shrill scolding cry of a blue-jay, as he flew towards the big oak tree; a red-breasted robin strutting around; lilac buds definitely swelling and, by scratching away at the dead grass, I found several yellow-green shoots of daffodils. There were also some healthy looking rhubarb crowns—if only there were sugar to go with it—and here and there seedlings of burdock and chicory. Come late spring or early, the weeds are always with us.

* * *

Down at the barn there are other signs of spring. I don't have to look for them, they make their presence known from afar. I mean the calves—there are four of them, and all heifers. Yesterday we stopped their horns. Farm people will know what I mean by that but for the benefit of those who don't live on a farm perhaps I had better explain. Calves are born without horns just as babies are born without teeth. But the roots are there—little hard knobs on either side of the head known as "buttons". They appear quite harmless and can hardly be felt at all until the calves are about a week old. But leave them alone and watch those buttons develop into murderous looking horns. It depends on the breed of cattle how murderous those horns are likely to be. Our cattle are Ayrshire and that breed has about the worst horns of any. So to keep the horns from growing we rub the buttons with a caustic pencil. If the job is done carefully the calf doesn't even feel it. But if one is clumsy and gets caustic on the surrounding flesh then the poor little calf gets bad burns and no doubt suffers pain and discomfort. But believe me, it is quite easy to bungle the job as the fighting strength of a week-old calf is amazing. Incidentally it is quite as easy to burn oneself as the calf. Caustic should be handled with respect.

* * *

Here is how Partner and I tackle the job. I gather up my supplies, rubber gloves, scissors, cup of water and caustic pencil in a bottle. Partner corners the calf to be treated, straddles its back and tries to hold its head steady. With the scissors I clip away when I get a chance at the rough hair around the buttons. Sometimes I get quite a bit done before the calf realizes that something queer is happening, but sooner or later it "catches on." And then the fun begins. It twists and it wriggles and it sticks its nose up in the air. Every time I get the scissors in position for another go the calf gives a mighty lurch and I have to back up or catch the calf in the eye. Partner tries to do my part as well as his own. "There now, he says, "get her now.... oh, you're too late again." And then I start telling him what to do .... "Watch out....hold her steady.... down—down—how do you think I can work with her nose in the air?"

* * *

And so the job goes on. If it is too prolonged we get out of patience with each other, the calf and the job in general. But we always persevere and finally finish the job. The worst part is rubbing the buttons with the caustic pencil. This is dipped in water and rubbed very firmly on each button until the skin is rubbed off and pinpricks of blood are showing. Care has to be taken to see that both sides are done evenly. One time when we were dealing with a particularly unruly calf I didn't make too good a job of it. One horn grew and the other didn't. The horn that grew was stunted but it was still a horn and certainly made the heifer a queer looking animal. However I think we made a pretty fair job of things yesterday and the calves are none the worst for their ordeal. We did only two—the others were not quite ready.

CARRIES TORCH

The chap above literally "carries the torch" for the RAF. He's traffic director at RAF station in England, and is pictured using a pair of torches to signal landing directions to bombers returning after night raid over Europe.

Skin Eruptions

Here is a clean, stainless, penetrating antiseptic oil that brings speedy relief from the itching and discomfort.

Not only does this healing antiseptic oil promote rapid and healthy healing in open sores and wounds but boils and simple ulcers are also relieved.

In skin affections the itching of Eczema is quickly stopped. Pimples—skin eruptions dry up and scale off in a very few days. The same is true of Barber's Itch, Salt Rheum, Itching Toes and Feet and other inflammatory skin disorders.

You can obtain Moone's Emerald Oil in the original bottle at any good drugstore. Satisfaction guaranteed or money back.

English Train Escapes Blitz

Courageous Action of Driver And Fireman Averts Danger To Passengers

Few passengers, if any, on a London night express recently knew that only the prompt and courageous actions of the driver, Herbert Blunt, and his fireman, William Page, saved them from great danger.

An air raid was in progress when the packed express entered a tunnel, and most of the passengers were asleep. When about half way through, Blunt saw that the end of the tunnel was silhouetted in a dazzling white glare and that incendiary bombs were showering down.

He slammed on all his brakes and stopped his train just inside the tunnel. Then, with shovels from the engine, Blunt and Page went out into the open and set about extinguishing the bombs, some of which had already set fire to the wooden sleepers.

Despite the danger from possible explosives they carried on and extinguished nearly 40 incendiaries lying on the track. Other incendiaries on either side of the embankment were illuminating the countryside around.

Having completed their task, Page telephoned from a lineside box to the next signal cabin, briefly reported the incident and said that as no high-explosive had been dropped and the track was safe they proposed proceeding "at caution." This they did, with a total time loss of only 30 minutes.

On arrival at their depot neither made any mention of what they had done, and it was a day later when the district locomotive superintendent heard of the incident from another source. Asked why they did not report the matter, Blunt, who is 57, answered, "I did not want to blow my chest out about nothing."

Cat Vision

A new kind of goggles has been developed, fitted with plastic lenses of a deep red color, David O. Woodbury notes in Collier's. They are being worn by thousands in the armed forces to adapt the men's eyes for exacting night duty. After the war, this scientific short cut for establishing night vision will be available everywhere to truck and bus drivers, railroad men, plane pilots, seafarers and automobile owners, and will help cut down the high accident rate associated with darkness.

THE WAR · WEEK — Commentary on Current Events

Indian Army Of 2,000,000 Men Largest Volunteer Army In World

Increasing interest in the Burmese campaign has centred attention on the Indian scene generally, comments the Montreal Star. It is doubtful whether the general public, in this country or in the United States, has more than a vague idea of the part that India has played and is playing in the world-conflict. Some data recently issued by the Government of India Information Services in Washington serve to emphasize in a graphic manner India's share in the struggle. How many people, we wonder, realize that the Indian Army is the largest volunteer army in the world—two million strong. The regular recruiting has been 50,000 men per month, and it would have been infinitely larger but for the fact that it was limited by the amount of the equipment available for enlisted men.

India's Army

Nearly one-fourth of India's army has seen active service overseas; the Fourth Indian Division played a most important part in the overthrow of Mussolini's African Empire, during which it suffered some 15,000 casualties, or one hundred per cent of its strength, but it captured over 100,000 German and Italian prisoners.

Field-Marshal Lord Wavell has also gone on record as saying: "Without the assistance of India, both in troops and in material, we most certainly could not have held the Middle East, which has been, I think I can claim, the keystone of our present successes."

Royal Indian Navy

The Royal Indian Navy personnel is today thirteen times greater than at the outbreak of the war. The Information Services state that ships of the Royal Indian Navy have played their part in the Battle of the Atlantic, in the operations against the Italians in East Africa, the campaign in Iran, the operations in the Dutch East Indies waters, the defence of Singapore, the Battle of Burma, and the invasion of Sicily. Today they are engaged in the duties of escort, patrol and mine-sweeping throughout the Eastern and Middle Eastern Waters.

Indian Air Force

The Air Force has developed also in a phenomenal way, having expanded ten-fold since the beginning of the war. India was one of the first countries to establish a training school for parachute troops. The response of volunteers to this extremely hazardous branch of the air services has been excellent, and it is stated that both Indians and Gurghas have been found to make first-class parachutists. The Force has played an important part in providing coverage for Allied shipping both going and coming with troops and war supplies. In addition Indian air units have made many important raids on enemy territory. Some idea of the expanse of the Force may be gained, it is pointed out, from the fact that during the past year more than one million men have been engaged day and night in the work of aerodrome construction.

Shipbuilding

The war has brought about the development of one important new industry to India — shipbuilding. Before the war there was none in the Indian Empire. Today Indian shipyards are building ships for submarine and general patrol duties, minesweepers, motor launches and other craft. Over 4,000 sea-going vessels of all types were repaired in Indain shipyards in the first two and a half years of the war.

War Industries

The development of war industries has been little short of amazing. From the outset of hostilities up to March, 1942, India supplied the bulk of war material for the Middle East. She produces the latest types of artillery, and her ordnance output has grown by leaps and bounds. She makes over 8,000,000 garments per month for army use, and over 4,000,000 pairs of boots a year for the army.

All the above figures are official, and should serve to convince all save the deliberately purblind that India is behind the war effort heart and soul, despite the lugubrious prophecies of Gandhi and his satellites that the Indian people would not back the Allies until the British Government had withdrawn from the sub-continent. India has every reason to be proud of her war achievements.

RECEIVES M.C.

From the hands of Lt.Gen. Sir Oliver Leese, Eighth Army Commander, Capt. A. J. Charbonneau of Ottawa, former star football player with Ottawa Rough Riders, receives the coveted Military Cross for valor in action.

OTTAWA REPORTS

That Problem Ahead of Canadian Poultrymen Is To Produce Eggs More Efficiently

The problem ahead of Canadian poultrymen is not one of increasing production, but of producing eggs more efficiently, according to officials of the Egg and Poultry Marketing Service, Dominion Department of Agriculture.

The new contract between the Special Products Board and the British Ministry of Food calls for shipment of a minimum of 8,400 (short) tons of dried egg powder annually during 1944 and 1945, the equivalent of 48,000,000 dozen eggs. With the delivery of 847,149 cases from the first of the year, as against 329,112 cases in the same period last year, indications are that the quantity available for drying for British shipment in 1944 will greatly exceed this amount.

Prewar egg exports to the United Kingdom were around one million dozen eggs a year. Shipments of dried eggs in 1943 were the equivelant of 34 million dozen eggs. Canadian eggs sold for approximately the same price as those from Holland and Denmark on the British market in prewar years. In order to meet this competition, greater efficiency on the part of Canadian poultrymen will be necessary, Marketing Service officials advise.

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The premium of $1.00 a carcass on Grade "A" hogs which packers formerly paid to producers has been abandoned after negotiations between the packers and the Meat Board, Dominion Department of Agriculture. Instead, as from April 10, this is now being paid as an increase in the dressed weight price of both "A" and grade "B1" carcasses, by the packers.

The increase in the dressed weight price of grade "A" hogs amounts to about 50 cents a hundred, and on "B1" grade carcasses, to about 10 cent a hundred. Approximately 28 per cent of hogs now being marketed grade into the top grade but the percentage of those grading into both "A" and "B1" is as high as 75 percent.

Discounts previously made for "heavies" and other off-grade hogs have also been discontinued, and the three "C" grades, and three "D" grades have been consolidated into one grade each, with weight range of "heavies" being narrowed by 10 pounds, and that of "extra heavies" widened by the same amount.

Federal premiums of $3 and $2 on the two top grades are now being paid on officially-graded hogs direct to producers. Some provinces are also paying premiums on top grade hogs. All of this is additional to the increase added to the two grades by the packers.

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Sales of used trucks, trailers and buses by individuals not in automotive sales business are now under a price ceiling, according to the motor vehicle controller. The new order covers private deals, sales by auction, or in sales of personal or household effects. Maximum prices are established on the basis of new vehicle prices with percentages to allow for depreciation according to the age of the model.

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A net increase of $443,959,015, or 21% in customs, excise and income tax returns for the year ending March, 1944, as compared with the year ending March, 1943, is announced by the Minister of National Revenue, Hon. C. W. G. Gibson. Income tax returns totalled $[illegible],635,494,707, an increase of $257,451,874 over 1943, and total customs and excise taxes were $914,762,285, an increase of $186,507,141.

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Provisions of the new Wartime Prices and Trade Board Order controlling sale and distribution of corn does not apply to sales of corn to a farmer for use as feed on his own farm premises, the order points out.

The Book Shelf

Bedford Village

By Hervey Allen

Bedford Village is a novel of high adventure, a story of people and events so real, so vividly alive that you cannot help but become a part of their lives and fortunes. With it, Hervey Allen takes full stride as a storyteller in his portrayal of American frontier life in 1764.

While the story is centered in Bedford Village and Pendergasses' tavern, it also moves in the bleak wilderness about, as Captain Jack and his Mountain Foxes stalk Indians through the forest to a bloody climax of death at The Salt Kettles. Through it all runs the story of Salathiel Albine and his fight for his white heritage, and the complications of his search for a vanished wife.

These people are not figures in an easy costume piece of colonial life—they are the Americans of yesterday, the men and women and children who touched hands with our ancestors, fought with them, lived with them, died with them in the making of a new country.

Bedford Village . . . By Hervey Allen . . . Oxford University Press . . . Price $3.00.

"What else WOULD I DO?"

OF *course*, I'm buying Victory Bonds — double what I bought last year. And that doesn't make me any hero, either. There will be lots of time to buy the things Mother and I are doing without, once we lick Hitler, and Bill's back home again — if he comes back! Until then, I'm putting Victory first. What *else* would I do?

Keep on buying
VICTORY BONDS

Weight Of World

As currently estimated by the U.S. Bureau of Standards, and subject to correction if anyone wishes to cavil, the weight of the world in tons is 6 followed by 21 ciphers, or in plain figures 6,000,000,000,000,000,000,000, says the Ottawa Citizen. That seems to take it definitely out of the lightweight class, though on recent performance we believe that if weighed in the balance it still would be found wanting.

KEEP FIT

"Give yourself a lift"! Increase vigor and vitality—build resistance to infections—by taking Vitavax, all the year 'round.
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ROBERTS
VITAVAX
COLD VACCINE plus VITAMINS

Worm Trouble
CHILDREN REALLY NEED
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these changeable days! It helps protect them from worm trouble, and other children's ills. Keeps them regular. So soothing too! Now try it.
At all Druggists or R. L. Mulveney's Remedies Ltd., Dept. A, 211 Ossington Ave., Toronto 3, Ont.

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HOT FLASHES

If you suffer from hot flashes, dizzy spells, irregular periods, are weak, nervous—due to the "middle-age" period in a woman's life, take Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. It's helped thousands upon thousands of women to relieve such symptoms. Pinkham's Compound is also a fine stomach tonic! *Worth trying!* Made in Canada.

RECTAL SORENESS AND
PILE TORTURE
QUICKLY RELIEVED

If you are troubled with itching piles or rectal soreness, do not delay treatment and run the risk of letting this condition become chronic. Any itching or soreness or painful passage of stool is nature's warning and proper treatment should be secured at once.

For this purpose get a package of Hem-Roid from any druggist and use as directed. This formula which is used internally is a small, easy to take tablet, will quickly relieve the itching and soreness and aid in healing the sore tender spots. Hem-Roid is pleasant to use, is highly recommended and it seems the height of folly for any one to risk a painful and chronic pile condition when such a fine remedy may be had at such a small cost.

If you try Hem-Roid and are not entirely pleased with the results, your druggist will gladly return your money.