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The Pick of Tobacco

OTTAWA REPORTS

That Canada's Output Of Farm Machinery In 1945 Will Equal Average Of 1940 and 1941

Good news for farmers is the Wartime Prices and Trade Board announcement that total tonnage of farm machinery to be produced in Canada in 1945 will equal the average output of 1940 and 1941, and there will be no rationing of farm machinery repairs, and no restrictions on the quantities of these to be manufactured. The administrator of farm and construction machinery points out, however, that rationing of equipment will still be necessary next year and only the most urgent and essential needs can be met. In addition to the tonnage of farm equipment being made available for ordinary domestic use, the administrator said that Canadian manufacturers will produce an additional tonnage specifically for the establishment of war veterans on farms. Canada's contribution of farm equipment for rehabilitation under the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Association program also will entail an additional tonnage.

* * *

A former Senior Livestock Fieldman at Moncton, N.B., who has taken an active part in boys' and girls' farm club promotion, Edmond F. Pineau, has been appointed Associate Chief, Livestock and Poultry Division, Production Service, Dominion Department of Agriculture. Mr. Pineau will be in charge of co-ordinating boys' and girls' farm club policies throughout the Dominion. He was among the first to form boys' and girls' clubs in New Brunswick and coached several provincial champion teams for the annual competition in Toronto.

* * *

Arrangements have been completed with the British Food Mission for the purchase of any dried white peas produced in Canada in 1944, surplus to Canadian requirements, the Agriculture Department has just announced.

* * *

Canada's plan to deliver 600 million pounds of bacon to Britain during 1944 seems well on the way to fulfillment. Since the first of this year inspected packing plants have processed more than 200,000 hogs a week on an average topping the record of last fall when for the first time the weekly number was 180,000. In order to meet British and domestic needs, the Dominion Department of Agriculture advises that every good quality hog that can be produced will be required.

* * *

Bean seeds of the green podded varieties may have to be used this year instead of wax or snap beans. T. F. Ritchie of the Central Experimental Farm horticulture staff says that a number of the green podded varieties are equal, if not superior, to the wax beans which are in short supply.

* * *

All the winter and spring care expended on bees may easily be wasted if the colonies are not closely watched during the period between the early flow from dandelion and fruit bloom and the main flow from clover, advises C. B. Gooderham, Dominion apiarist. The early flow stimulates the colony to its maximum production of brood but seldom permits a surplus to be stored for emergencies. Any shortage of food at this time results first in a reduction of brood rearing which in turn means fewer bees for the harvest, and secondly it may end in starvation and death of the whole colony. A few lbs. of sugar given at this time may save a colony of bees and a lot of honey.

* * *

To shorten milking time, the Dominion Experimental Station at Normandin, Que., has tried to do away with stripping the cows by hand after milkng them by machine. J. A. Belzile of the Normandin Station says, "We have not succeeded entirely with the old cows, that is, those milked by hand before a milking machine was installed, but heifers started on the milking machine at their first lactation do not generally require stripping by hand."

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THUMBS HER WAY

Leave it to woman's ingenuity to transfer the lowly thimble to warplane production. Hazel Porterfield, worker in Douglas Aircraft Company's Santa Monica plant, is pictured with thimble screwdriver she devised because her work involved holding large pieces of metal in one hand and awkwardly balancing screws and screwdriver with the other. Her gadget, which won a plant suggestion award, is now used extensively throughout the plant.

Output Of Aircraft Soars In Australia

Australia's aircraft industry is still expanding, with at least two plants having turned their 1,000th plane over to the Royal Australian Air Force. The Federal Department of Aircraft Production, which is manufacturing Beaufort bombers, delivered its 500th plane as long ago as last November.

Both British and American-type planes are being built. Before the war the men who build them worked on farms, in shops and in offices. The Government has spent about $175,000,000 in promoting the aircraft industry in Australia.

Since 1919 more than one-third of the population of Britain has been rehoused.

THE WAR · WEEK — Commentary on Current Events

All People In Britain Calmly Await Hour of Coming Invasion of Europe

While the Continent shook to the thunder of bombs and the Berlin and Vichy radios stepped up their warnings to the captive peoples, the atmosphere of Britain, staging area for the Invasion of Europe was one of calm and confidence, comments The New York Times. Observers in London noted that on the surface there was nothing to indicate the final stage of preparations for the great test had been reached, that in various headquarters scattered throughout the city invasion plans were receiving a last careful scrutiny, that in the countryside around the capital as well as from the northern tip of Scotland to the westernmost point of Cornwall Britain was one vast armed camp, thronged with men awaiting the signal to go.

Mood In Britain

Londoners, and all Britons, have been "sitting on top of a volcano" so long they are neither particularly excited nor especially nervous. The hour when invasion becomes possible has been longed for as one which will mean the beginning of the end in a war which for the British has lasted nearly five years. They view the coming Allied assault with a mixture of gladness, relief and worry for their fighting men.

Tania Long, a member of The New York Times staff in London, cables this description of the pre-invasion scene: "The war of nerves from the German side is hvaing no effect whatsoever. This is partly because the British have heard it all before, partly because everyone is so busy there is no time to worry now about what the Germans may do, partly because of the British lack of imagination, which stood them in such good stead in the earlier and darker periods of the war.

"On the streets, in the trams and buses and restaurants, it is not invasion that is the topic of conversation but such things as the tulips in Birdcage Walk and the price of lettuce. There is practically no speculation as to the date of D-Day. Londoners know it is coming and are willing to leave the date to General Eisenhower. People preserve their normal appearance. Reports from New York appearing in British papers, depicting the American people as sitting on the edges of their chairs, are read with some astonishment and persons arriving in Britain remark with some bewilderment on the calm normality. Except for the newspapers there is little to remind a Londoner of the great drama about to unfold.

Railroads Blasted

The blasting of railroads went into its third week and British transportaton experts said that every railroad yard of any importane in a 100-mile deep stretch of Europe from the Bay of Biscay to Cologne had been hit. In their judgment there was not a single place in this area that could now handle even moderately heavy military traffic. Trains could still run, but the systems could no longer support emergency mobilization and movement. Reconnaissance photographs showed storage and loading yards crated from end to end by bombs, complicated switching arrangements and 'choke points" ripped up, roundhouses and heavy turntables obliterated, hundreds of pieces or rolling stock smashed or burned.

The simultaneous attack on airfields in western Europe was equally methodical and far-ranging. From the English Channel to Clermont-Ferrand, in central France, the Luftwaffe's bases and facilities were being smashed. While runways can be quickly restored, the damage done to parked aircraft and to service and repair hangars cuts heavily into the operational value of these fields, and to observers in London it seemed likely the Germans would have to rely on more remote bases for their main air activity.

The Fortress Garrison

By the latest estimates the Germans are supposed to have sixty-nine divisions — 760,000 men — stationed or in reserve in Western Europe. Some of these are air forces. Fifty-two divisions—572,000 men—are beieved to be in France and the Low Countries under Field Marshal General Karl von Rundstedt. Within this command is a separate field army of nine to twelve divisions, to be moved wherever it is needed, probably under Field Marshal General Erwin Rommel. In Norway there are perhaps twelve divisions and in Denmark five. Against this the Allied have in Britain forces numbered in the millions, representing British, Canadan, American and other Allied armies, and with countless weapons of all kinds.

More than that, there is for Germany the great threat in the east. All signs point to a large-scale preparation for a new Red Army offensive to start at the same time as the invasion from the west. Most observers feel the main weight of the attack will be aimed through Poland. Supporting this view have been the heavy Russian air assaults during the last ten days on German communications centers behind the front.

Threat of Encirclement

Finally there is the prospect of an Allied move in the south coincident with D-Day in the west. The Germans openly predict such an attack but are as unsure of where it will come as they are in western Europe. Last week they claimed to have taken new defensive measures in southern France, central and northern Italy and in the Balkans. Throughout this area Allied bombers were pounding hard at large rail centers.

This encircling threat, protracted day after day, emphasizes the Nazis' problem. Not knowing the "where, when and how much" of the Allied plan they cannot make final disposition of their defending forces. They must be prepared for a fluid situation, for diversions, feints and secondary attacks. They must be able to keep their mobility to meet the chief threats as they develop. The air attacks on their communications are designed to prevent just that.

HONORS HEROES

Photo above is the latest camera portrait of Lt.-Gen Walter Kreuger, commander of the 6th Army in the southwest Pacific, taken when he recently pinned a "streamer" award on the colors of the Headquarters 1 Corps of the 6th at an advanced base. Corps was cited for action in defeating strong Jap forces on Papua, northern New Guinea.

Princess Beatrice

Princess Beatrice, ninth child of Queen Victoria, and last surviving member of her generation, was 87 on April 14. She is now at the former residence of the Earl of Athlone, Brantridge Park, Sussex. It is 59 years since she married Prince Henry of Battenberg, and since his death in 1896 she has been Governor of the Isle of Wight.

Her widowed daughter, the former Queen of Spain, lives abroad, and is not likely to return to London until after the war ends.

Pruritis—Intense Itching

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Who Fights Whom?

—There are now 33 United Nations and nine Axis Nations.

Germany is the only Axis Nation at war with all 33 United Nations.

None of the United Nations is at war with all nine Axis Nations.

Australia is the only United Nation to declare war on Vichy France.

The Fighting French are at war only with Germany and Japan.

India and Norway are at war only with Germany.

Brazil, India, Norway, Greece and Russia are the only United Nations not at war with Japan.

The United States is at war with Albania, but not Finland; Great Britain with Finland, but not Albania. Thus, although the United States and Great Britain are both fighting eight out of the nine Axis Nations, there is a difference in which ones.

Approximately 7,000 calves were vaccinated against Bang's Disease in British Columbia during 1943.

BREATH OF LIFE

Girl Scout life-saving training of Mrs. Davis Evans of Chicago, saved life of her 15-months-old daughter, Margaret, with whom she is pictured. Baby was choking with convulsions, and Mrs. Evans breathed into her mouth until inhalator squad arrived.

VOICE OF THE PRESS

Rare Birds

A centenarian says the secret of living to be 100 lies in the minding of one's own business. And that, of course, is what makes the centenarian virtually as rare as the dodo and the great auk.

—Ottawa Citizen

Lack of Space

When we told a lady subscriber the other day we didn't have space to print a long story about her club's doings, she replied. "I don't see why not; you always have plenty of space for that old war and those old politics."

—Brandon Sun

Is That New?

Equipped with the latest scientific knowledge, according to a writer, a 98-pound woman can throw a 190-pound man to his knees. What's so new about that?

Hun Hides For Sale

Relieved of air attacks, Malta will soon resume the shipping of hides to Britain. The Maltese must have a lot on hand, principally of German and Italian fliers.

—St. Thomas Times-Journal

Or 16, or 15?

And, if there is a case for giving the ballot to the 18-year-old, why not at 17, when he—and she—knows everything?

—Edmonton Journal

Another Green

Unless you get busy, the first thing to turn green this Summer will be your envy of the neighbor's gardens.

—Kitchener Record

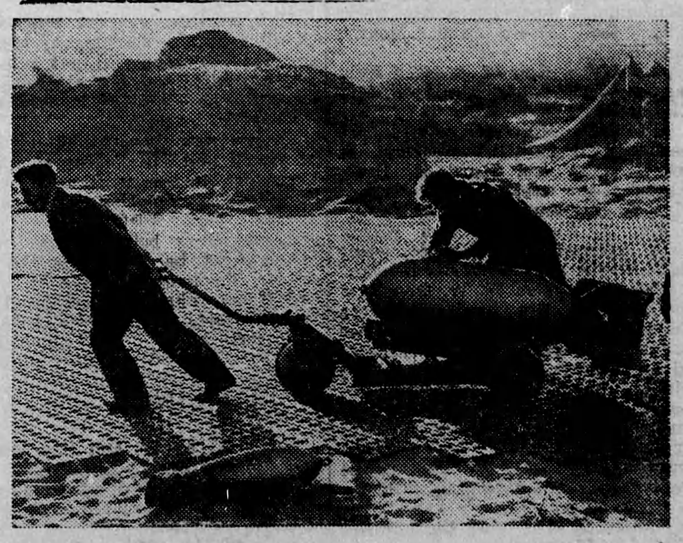
And Deep

The same slogan is appropriate for Victory Bonds and Victory Gardens—dig down!

—Stratford Beacon-Herald

Do not discard the outer leaves of lettuce, cabbage, escarole, turnip or beet tops. They contain more healthful iron than the inner leaves.

LOADING A THOUSAND POUND BOMB



A one thousand pound bomb on its way to the under-carriage of a Kitty-bomber operating from an advanced airfield in Italy. The wing to which these men belong has, in one day, operated in support of the 8th Army, 5th Army, over the beach-head south of Rome, and helped the partisans in Yugo-slavia.

REG'LAR FELLERS—Eternal Spring Problem

By GENE BYRNES