"A LITTLE WIDER PLEASE . . . THANK YOU"

Amiable Hippo at Fleishacker zoo, San Francisco, "Puddles" is recovering from a sore throat after his keeper, John Swanson, got busy with a king-sized spray. "Wider, please," says Swanson as the 10-year-old hippopotamus obligingly opens his mouth.

FARMERETTES ON A PICNIC

Girls stationed at camps in Niagara peninsula were guests recently at picnic of Lincoln County farmers. Georgette Gledhill, 16, in flowered dress, of Kapuskasing, was chosen "Miss Lincoln County." Donna Love, Milton, runner up, holds bathing suit.

KING GEORGE HONORS MRS. CHURCHILL

Honored for her work in connection with British aid for Russia, Mrs. Winston Churchill, with her two daughters, Mary, left, and Sarah, right, leaves Buckingham Palace after receiving the Dame Grand Cross of the Order of the British Empire from the King.

Highlights of the News

Sugar Ration Increased

The prices board announced an increase of three pounds per person in the individual sugar ration for the remainder of the year with corresponding increases in the allotment for industrial and quota users such as soft drink and confectionery manufacturers and hotels and restaurants.

A board statement said stocks have improved sufficiently to allow the increase, although world supplies still are below requirements.

Two extra coupons will become valid in September and the remaining coupon on or about December 6.

Cost of Living Rises

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics reported a 1.5-point jump up in its cost-of-living index during June —making a total advance of five points over the last four months— and Chairman Donald Gordon of the Prices Board warned at the same time that further increases could be expected.

Resumption of the cost of living bonus for persons in the public service has created keen interest inasmuch as the United Steel Workers have proposed a similar system for the steel industry.

Iceland Requests U.N. Membership

Iceland, which was used as a base for American troops during the war, has formally applied for admission to the United Nations.

Seven applications for admittance, consequently, are now before the membership committee of the Security Council. The others are Albania, the Mongolian People's Republic, Afghanistan, Trans-Jordan, Ireland and Portugal.

Palestine Issue

Informed observers said that the British cabinet might decide to inform the United Nations that Britain is ready to surrender her mandate over Palestine.

The British government has prepared to abandon plans for transferring 100,000 European Jewish refugees to Palestine in the face of mounting evidence that the United States would reject proposals for an Arab-Jewish federation in the Holy Land.

The cabinet would probably discuss the formation of a "caretaker" regime in Palestine to function until the United Nations is sufficiently organized to take over the Palestine mandate.

Forest Fires in Siberia

Huge forest fires are raging over 66,000,000 acres of land in Central and Northern Siberia.

Airborne fire-fighting patrols have dropped parachutists who are mobilizing the villages to check the conflagrations.

Eire Quits Neutrality

The net result of the decision of the Eire Parliament to join the United Nations is that Eire has decided to abandon her policy of neutrality.

Thus Prime Minister de Valera's government is the first of the wartime neutrals to declare its willingness to accept the responsibilities implicit in membership in the United Nations—responsibilities which specifcally rule out any reservations on neutrality in a war against an aggressor power.

Eire's decision is regarded by many as an omen of closer co-operation with the British Commonwealth. These observers have noted a trend in this direction also in recent trade discussions between Britain and Eire and the British purchase of Irish foodstuffs.

Fruit Prices Levels

Maximum prices for domestic and imported peaches, pears and plums of the 1946 crop have been set at the same level as those in effect in 1945, the prices board announced last week.

Religious Leaders

Protestant leaders from eight countries, meeting in England said they favored joint action with Roman Catholics on world problems. A satisfactory understanding at the highest level, "presumably between the World Council of Churches and the Vatican" was urged as the basis for such cooperation.

Socialist Japan Possible

Observers in Japan reported a movement there away from a conservative regime and toward a system like that of the British Labor party. They predicted that if a general election were held in the near future, a Socialist Japan might be the result.

Unrest In Albania

Reports reaching Rome asserted that Albania had been transformed into a Russian puppet state and that extensive fortifications and other military works were being built there. Civil liberties and religious freedom were said to have disappeared.

Dutch Seek New Border

Queen Wilhelmina told the New Parliament that The Netherlands intends to seek a limited rectification of its frontiers with Germany. No details were given.

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