The Zip-Topper, left, from Elanden has a completely removeable lining that makes it a perfect coat for any weather. It is classic in styling with a small throat-hugging collar. Right, a velvet trimmed tent coat by Printzess with the petal collar in the contrasting fabric. There are cavalier cuffs on the dolman sleeves and a small tie at the throatline.

Famous Ruined Room Now Restored

In a city as old and famous as London there are many rooms in which great decisions have been taken, where Kings and statesmen have sat and pondered before deciding on actions which have shaped the course of history. Such a room is the panelled Board Room at the Admiralty. Damaged in the blitz on London, its ceiling ruined, its doors blown out and its historic panelling splintered, the pictures slashed to ribbons and the leather chairs tattered and torn, the task of restoring it to its original state must have seemed an almost insuperable one. But it has been done successfully.

The restorers set to work in 1947. Three hundred and seven pieces of woodwork and a barrel of fragments had somehow to be sorted out and put in their rightful places. No exact record of the panelling existed so that each piece had to be numbered and measured and a precise architect's drawing produced. The ceiling was beyond repair and a new one has been made, painted a warm cream and white, with a decorative pattern of intertwined circles and flowers edged with gilt. The oak panelling, now stripped to a fine honey color, is decorated by classical columns with foliaged capitals topped by a dolphin motive. The chairs are newly upholstered in plum-colored leather, the long mahogany table is covered with black baize and the First Lord's chair, larger than the rest, stands at the head of it, facing Nelson's portrait. The carvings over the mantelpiece are of 16th century navigational instruments, and are of great value to historians, for the movable parts actually slide up and down as they did in the original instruments. The wind dial shows an ancient map of Britain and the European coastline, and the single gilt hand is worked from a wind vane in the roof. This vane moves fitfully in the wind, giving the seadogs consulting on shore some idea at least of the weather conditions that His Majesty's vessels have to contend with on that day. It is a magnificent room, rich in naval history, and now happily returned to its former proud condition.

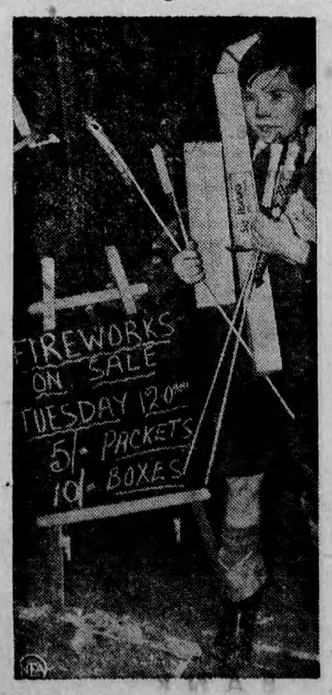
"Oh, where is my wand'ring boy tonight?" is no problem any more. Just contact the nearest neighbor with a television set.

DUD RACKET DEVALUES BOON OF ENGLAND'S FIRECRACKERS

London—Post-war racketeering, and the devaluation of the pound sterling, have hit one of Engalnd's most innocent and most profitable industries.

The victims are mainly boys stocking away firecrackers and toy rockets for the approaching Guy Fawkes night, a celebration resembling a cross between Victoria Day and Hallowe'en and the Fourth of July.

Commemorating the arrest of one, Guy Fawkes, on November 5, 1605, a few minutes before he planned to set a torch to a stock of explosives which would have blown up the British Parliament with the King inside, British children, before the war, on and about that day exploded an estimated £500,000 ($2,000,000 at the pre-devaluation rates) worth of fireworks each year..



But this year, many of the boys will find that they have spent their pocket money on "duds" which will fail to explode.

* * *

Since the war, the government has put increasing restrictions on the sale of fireworks, and this year the prices of some of the "rockets" have gone up by an additional 400 per cent. Dealers blame devaluation for the increase.

A small bomb, which last year sold for about two pennies, now costs one shilling (14 cents).

Hardest hit are the small retailers. The omnipresent sign "Fireworks sold out, sorry" is usually the signal for one of the racketeers, representing some of the back-room manufacturers, to approach the shop owner and offer to sell a limited number of fireworks and rockets at slightly less than the official prices.

"We can find no answer to this racket, except to advise people to look at the labels and the names of the makers of fireworks before they buy them," said Leslie Riddle, one of the country's leading sports and toy dealers, "but, unfortunately most of the customers are boys happy to lay their hands on anything which might make a noise."

Good Plowers Get Grand Trip

One of the very interesting events at the International Plowing Matches, held recently at Burford, was the daily demonstration of contour plowing featured by the Ontario Agricultural College. Some Ontario farmers already practise contour plowing. Others are studying soil conservation and investigating the benefits which may be derived from it. By winning the Salada Tea Intercounty Plowing Match, held last Friday, four Ontario boys will have a splendid opportunity to learn about agricultural conservation. These boys, Earl Bacher, Cayuga, and Robert Nixon, Hagersville, representing Haldimand County, won the first award, while E. Timbers, Milliken, and N. Watson, Woodbridge, representing York County, came second, They received the Salada Tea award of all-expense tours to the United States.

They will visit some of the largest agricultural conservation projects and see for themselves what soil conservation can do for farmers who wish to follow this scientific system.

Other winners were: Brant County, Bill Buck, Paris, and Carman Porter, of Ohsweken; Wentworth County, T. Braithwaite, of Ancaster, and G. Markel, of Alberton; Waterloo County, R. Honderich, of New Hamburg, and G. Brohman, of West Montrose; Grey County, Mac Gamble ,of Chatsworth, and Allan Duff, of Chatsworth; Peel County, D. Cunnington, of Inglewood, and H. Cunnington, of Inglewood; Victoria County, G. Bell, of Woodville, and I. Bell, of Kirkfield; Huron County, John Clark, of Goderich, and Graham McDonald, of Brussels; Welland County, C. Warner, of Port Robinson, and A. Marr, of Stevensville.

Useful Talent

A patriotic and harassed British matron was interviewing a D.P. girl from the Baltic for a servant's job. The girl didn't know much about ironing or running a vacuum cleaner or other work about a modern home. "Well," the lady said at last, "I understand you can cook. Is there anything else you can do?"

"Yes, ma'am," the maid replied, "I can milk reindeer."

Table Talks

"Bread is something like the weather," a friend of mine once said. "Everybody complains about it, but nobody does anything about it."

Down in New York State, however, they HAVE been doing something about it. The School of Nutrition at Cornell University, working with the State Department of Hygiene have come up with a bread formula that is unusually nourishing and unusually flavourful too. It's a white bread, neither too flabby or too hard.

It's not hard to make either. One woman, who said that she was "no baker at all" till she tried it, reports that it was no trouble at all, and so good that she and her family now eat no other kind.

So here is the basic recipe, also instructions how — using the same basic recipe—you can make Coffee Cake and Rolls as well.

HIGH PROTEIN BREAD

1 package yeast
1 cup lukewarm water
2½ cups enriched flour
1½ teaspoons salt
2 teaspoons sugar
3 tablespoons full-fat soy flour
3½ tablespoons dry skim milk
2 teaspoons shortening

Method: (1) Dissolve yeast in lukewarm water (not hot), about 85 degrees F. in temperature.

(2) Combine all dry ingredients in mixing bowl. Pour in the yeast solution and start mixing.

(3) Add shortening and mix until the dough is smooth.

(4) Place dough in a well-greased bowl, cover and let rise in a warm place (80 to 85 degrees F.) for an hour and a half.

(5) Punch dough down by plunging the fist in the center of it. Fold over the edges of dough and turn upside down. Cover and let rise fifteen to twenty minutes.

(6) Shape into a loaf and place in greased bread pan (9x4x3 in.). Cover and let stand about fifty-five to sixty minutes in a warm place till dough fills the pan.

(7) Bake in a hot oven (400 degrees F.) about thirty-five minutes.

If prepared in the specified proportions the above recipe will yield one large or two small coffee cakes or eighteen rolls. For the coffee cake:

FRUIT-FILLED COFFEE CAKE

Recipe for high-prwotein bread, prepared through step No. 5 (see above)
Melted butter
½ cup white or brown sugar
1 tablespoon flour
½ to one teaspoon cinnamon
2 cups chopped apples
½ cup seedless raisins
1 cup sifted confectioner's sugar

(1) Roll dough on a lightly-floured board into a rectangular sheet about a fourth inch thick. For one coffee cake work with all the dough in one sheet, for two, divide in half.

(2) Brush with melted butter. Blend sugar, flour and spice. Sprinkle over dough; sprinkle that mixture with the apples and raisins.

(3) Roll up as for a jelly roll. With the "seam" on the bottom, transfer to a greased, shallow pan. Shape into a ring.

(4) Using shears, cut almost through ring into slices three-fourths inch thick. Slant slices down a little and overlap to expose the filling. Let rise in a warm place till almost double in size.

(5) Bake in a hot oven (400 degrees F.) fifteen minutes. Reduce heat to moderate (350 degrees F.) and bake till center is firm to the touch, about twenty-five minutes.

(6) Mix confectioner's sugar with about two tablespoons water and drizzle frosting over top of cake. Yield: about twelve servings from one large cake.

HIGH-PROTEIN ROLLS

Recipe for high-protein bread, prepared through step No. 5 (previously listed)
Melted butter

Method: (1) for Hamburger buns roll dough on a lightly-floured board into a sheet about a half inch thick. Cut with a large floured biscuit cutter.

(2) For frankfurter rolls use half the dough at a time. Rol into rectangular sheets about a half inch thick, having the width of the dough about the same as the length of a frankfurter roll. Trim off edges to straighten them. Cut rectangle of dough into strips an inch to an inch and a half wide.

(3) Place cut-out dough on a greased baking sheet about an inch apart. Grease tops lightly with the melted butter. Let rise in a warm place till almost double in size.

(4) Bake in a hot oven (400 degrees F.) till brown,about fifteen minutes. Yield: about 18 rolls.

THE FARM FRONT

by John Russell

Just what you personally think about Government support of farm produce prices is, of course, strictly your own business. However, to ring in my favorite quotation once again, "it is a condition, and not a theory that confronts us." And the condition that confronts the United States Government, in this regard, is causing plenty of head-scratching down Washington way.

* * *

Down there the Government has been supporting and subsidizing farm production for quite some time now; and the way surplus food products have been piling up is almost incredible. Here are just a few items.

* * *

They have FIFTY-NINE MILLION POUNDS OF DRIED EGGS—a nine years' normal supply—in storage.

They have FIFTEEN AND A HALF MILLION POUNDS OF CHEESE laid away here and there.

* * *

Even a million pounds of dry skim milk sounds like quite a pile. The U.S. Government is wondering what to do with TWO HUNDRED AND FORTY-FIVE MILLION POUNDS.

* * *

Exact figures on butter are not available—BUT ONE HALF OF ALL THE BUTTER STORED IN THE UNITED STATE belongs to the Government, as well as FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND BAGS OF RED KIDNEY BEANS.

* * *

There's so much wheat in storage that THIRTY-SIX RESERVE FLEET SHIPS ARE BEING USED AS FLOATING ELAVATORS. And the production of raisin and wine grapes has been so much greater than the demand that they're going to use ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY THOUSAND TONS as hog feed—with the United States Government paying 4c a pound, or $80 per ton—which sounds to me like rather expensive hog feed.

* * *

Oh, well, figure it out yourself. It's a long way over my head; but it must make rather strange reading, and hearing, on the far side of the Atlantic. Or the Pacific, for that matter.

* * *

Now, to change the subject, here's some advice, which might be fairly timely, regarding winter damage done to trees by mice, which comes with the authority of John Walker, Superintendent of a Forest Nursery Station.

* * *

Scarcity of normal food and ready accessibility of trees, be they in shelterbelt or orchard, may be considered primary reasons for damage by mice. As colder weather becomes the order of the day there is, through migration, a concentration of destructive rodents, including mice, in buildings and in other more or less protective areas.

* * *

As far as shelterbelt trees are concerned, damage by mice is most likely to occur to younger trees. This condition is likely to be aggravated if a dense growth of weeds has been permitted to develop among them. Again, proximity of trees to a grain field may mean greater likelihood of damage by mice. In passing, young trees planted near native groves or other established trees are more likely to be eaten by rabbits than those planted in the open where there would be no natural cover.

* * *

Damage to trees by mice most often constitutes a complete or partial girdling of the main stems near ground level, i.e., removal of bark. Above the snow line there may be no evidence that damage is occurring or has occurred. It is questionable if much damage of this sort occurs until after the ground is covered with snow.

* * *

Keeping in mind the condition already described, damage may be forestalled by following the advice given to an anxious planter:

"Our recommendation is to use grain poisoned with gopher poison, place it in containers and distribute these containers near your trees. They should be put out in the fall before snow comes, and we have found that these are made more effective if each one is covered with a sheaf of grain of some sort. ... ..."During winter damage to trees by mice below the snow may be prevented through packing the snow around the trunks and stems of the trees by using a long pole. You should also make every effort to see that no grass or other trash is left near the trunks of your trees." ...

* * *

As necessary during the fall, poisoned grain must be replentished in containers, and the procedure revived towards spring.

In the event that damage and girdling of stems by mice occurs, pruning or removal of trees should be delayed in spring until the full extent of damage can be determined; namely, well after the normal period of renewed growth has passed.

A machine went out of order in a knitting factory in London. The crazy pattern it made was offered as a new design, and created a sensation.

Last Estate—When Army Private Eugene Bunch, 19, committed suicide, he left his 19-year-old widow this amazing assortment of goods, ranging from jars of peanut butter to diamond rings. Police said Bunch's death ended a six-month career of robbery. The soldier's worry over inability to dispose of the stolen goods may have caused his suicide, they said.

JITTER — **By Arthur Pointer**