

LITTLE THINGS

A crumb will feed a tiny bird,
A thought prevent an angry word,
A good thing forth full many a flower,
A drop of rain greets a shower.

Twenty Years Ago

From the issue of The Free Press of Thursday, June 3rd, 1920

Mid-summer weather has prevailed this week.
Potatoes dropped \$1.50 per bag on Cuelph market Saturday.

Mr. Webster, of the Province of Quebec, has purchased the Thompson farm at Dublin from Mr. John R. Robertson.

Alton Dramatic Club presented a very fine play in Acton Town Hall, under the auspices of the Junior I.O.G.E.

The Brampton Banner reports that one of the finest clubs and athletic grounds in Ontario has been opened in Acton.

The Equestrian-Township Sunday School Convention in the Methodist Church on Friday evening, was well attended.

DIED

MCCUTCHEON—In Erin Township, on Friday, May 28th, 1920, Mrs. Mathilda Loeve, wife of William McCutcheon, in her 54th year.

Fiords of Norway Fix Air Nitrogen

Norway, land of the Vikings whose exploits are recorded in Norse sagas, including that of Eric the Red, who discovered the discovery of America in 1000 A.D., was until 1814 a province of Denmark and from then up to the beginning of the present century a protecting partner of Sweden.

On the geography of Norway we have lately gone to school again aided by maps which cartographers strive to keep up-to-date. Meantime, Christians have become Oslo, and in the region of the capital, just across the southern tip that juts into the Skagerrak and opposite Stavanger, a recent map showed 'Notodden. Now, Notodden is notable as the site of the first commercially successful attempt to combine atmospheric nitrogen for use in fertilizers.

Norway's waterfalls furnished the power to produce a temperature of 3000 degrees C. in the arc-furnace nitrate process installed by Birkeland and Edje, at Notodden in 1903, and later at Arendal and Rjukan. Germany, in 1906, began production of Kalkstadstoff (lime-nitrogen) by a cyanamid process. It was the privilege of the writer, B. Leslie Emalle, then supervisor of an agricultural research station at Leopoldsdorf, Staastadt, to experiment with samples of the initial output from Westergaard. The new material was used in comparison with other sources of nitrogen in fertilizers, and the heat of the chemical reaction in the mixtures containing the cyanamid lime-nitrogen revealed the reversion of phosphoric acid. This is the reason why cyanamid is manufactured since 1909, on a very large scale at Niagara Falls, Ontario—must be limited to 50 lbs. per ton of fertilizer mixture.

Nevertheless, cyanamid is a valuable constituent of fertilizers in Canada and, apart from its nitrogen, furnishes important conditioning qualities to the compounds.

JUST THE SCORE

Mrs. Jones was taken by a friend to her first symphony concert. She sat very silent during the first item on the program, and at the end, she whispered to her companion: "What's that book the conductor keeps looking at?" "Oh, that's the score of the overture," replied her friend. "Really?" she cried, "what's winning?"

Acton's Family Album

Turning Over the Pages, Week by Week, and Looking on the Faces of Those Who Were Familiar to Many Here in Other Years

DO YOU KNOW WHO THIS IS?



LAST WEEK'S PICTURE

Last week's picture was that of a man who a few years ago took all the pictures that were taken in Acton. That was in the days before the small cameras and roll films were so popular.

How Britain Keeps Down Food Prices

By ELAISEVA SAYERS

This article refutes allegations that there is any shortage of food in Great Britain or that prices are unduly high.

Most of Great Britain's essential foodstuffs and raw materials are now controlled by the Government. The result is that food in Great Britain is cheap and abundant.

Controlled foodstuffs include bacon and ham, butter and cheese, imported eggs, condensed milk, cereals and cereal products, fish and meat, canned fish, livestock, all animal feeding stuffs, oil and fats, potatoes, sugar, tea and dried fruits.

Since the outbreak of war the British Government has become the largest food importer in the world. Business men who previously dealt in these products are giving their services to the British Government as expert advisers, many of them without remuneration.

The British Government, fully alive to the problems of wartime shipping, lost no time in placing food contracts in the British Dominions and Colonies on the outbreak of war.

The entire West African cocoa crop, for instance, was bought up by the British Government, and wheat was purchased at the lowest price for 300 years.

The whole exportable butter surplus of New Zealand and Australia was bought up, and one full year's crop of West Indian sugar was bought in advance at pre-war prices.

Thanks to the efficiency with which the British Navy protects the world's trade routes, 99 per cent. of all the food supplies shipped to Great Britain from other countries have reached their shores safely.

Prices—wholesale, retail and commodity—in practically every country in the world have risen since the outbreak of war. Since the beginning of 1940, however, there has been a new all-round level of stability in Great Britain. Indeed, in March this year, food prices in Great Britain fell 3.5 per cent., compared with February. This shows how successful the British Government has been in keeping down prices.

According to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Food, the British Government is spending between £2,000 and £4,000 a week to keep the price of flour at its present level, while £200,000 a week is spent on controlling the price of wheat. The control of milk prices costs the Ministry £250,000 a week.

In all, the British Government is spending £1,115,000 a week to keep the price of food within the reach of all sections of the community. The result

is that the 2 lb loaf is sold to the public at 8d., instead of 10d., which would be the market price without control. Milk is sold at 7d. a quart, instead of 8d., and meat at 2d. a lb. below what would otherwise be the prevailing price.

The British Government's aim is to protect the poorer classes. It is not enough that there should be plenty, as there is. What the British Government is ensuring is that food shall be obtainable at a price within the reach of all. There are no food queues in Great Britain.

The contracts made by the Ministry of Food cover, for instance, all West Africa's production of oil for conversion into margarine. This, strengthened with A and D vitamins, provides a complete butter substitute at half the cost of butter. Again, 88 per cent. of New Zealand's meat supplies are reserved for Great Britain, and the whole of Turkey's output of sultanas, raisins and dried fruit have been bought for British consumption.

In Great Britain itself, the Ministry of Food is operating on a scale far vaster than that known in the last war. Under the existing system the small trader can carry on with his job under Government control. Local food committees—2000 of them—have been set up in every small town and borough. They work under the guidance of a wholesale committee which obtains its supplies from the Government.

Only three articles of food—meat, sugar and butter—are rationed in Great Britain. There are now fewer than 70,000 retailers handling consumers' ration coupons, which are passed on to the wholesalers, who, in turn, hand them to the Ministry of Food. In this way the Ministry secures an equitable distribution of rationed foods to all the population of Great Britain, while in the case of both rationed and unrationed foods prices are kept within the reach of all.

In the meantime large surpluses of sugar, butter, oils, tea, meat and tinned foods are accumulating in Great Britain, where they are stored all over the country. Thus, though war conditions may entail some delays, the British public is assured of plentiful supplies of its staple foods at fair prices.

GENEROSITY FOR TROOPS

When the news got out that a certain unit of the C.A.S.F. in the Ottawa area was in need of a piano for recreational purposes, the response was quick. Five citizens immediately offered their pianos to the troops for the duration.

ROOM WANTED

The prodigal wrote a piteous appeal for paternal help, winding up with the confession that he was obliged to sleep in a disused cowshed.

"Back came a post card from the father: 'Dear Oswald, is there room for two?'"

The Sunday School Lesson

FOR SUNDAY, JUNE 2nd

TESTING CONDUCT BY ITS USEFULNESS

(A Principle of Temperate Living) Golden Text—By their fruits ye shall know them.—Matthew 7: 16.

Lesson Text.—Ezekiel 15: 1-6; Matt. 5: 12-16; 7: 16-20; 1 Cor. 10: 6, 7.

Exposition.—I. Necessity of, Christians to Bear Fruit, Ezek. 15: 1-6.

As Jesus used a vine for a parable in John 15 so, the prophet Ezekiel employs it in the same sense. His purpose is to show the futility of Israel apart from service that glorifies God. Vine-wood is useless for anything except for making fires. Of itself it is unattractive, crooked, brittle and soft. The sole excellency of the vine is to bear fruit. So Israel had merit above other people only because he was the planting of the Lord and was ordained to bring forth fruit to the glory of God (Psalm 80: 8, 9; Jer. 2: 21). How miserably Israel failed God is described in Hosea 10: 1; Isaiah 5: 1-7. Our Lord illustrated this failure in the parable of the householder demanding fruit from his vineyard (Matt. 21: 33-43). The Christian is under an equal obligation to bear fruit for it was to this end that the Lord Jesus gave the teaching that He is the vine and we are the branches (John 15: 1-8). A fruitless branch is good for nothing but to be burned by fire. A fruit-bearing branch will be enabled to increase in fruitage (vs. 2, 8).

II. The Disciples of Jesus the Salt of the Earth and the Light of the World, Matt. 5: 13-16.

Believers in Christ are the salt of the earth, it is they who keep human society from spoiling and who give a proper savor to it. Salt loses its savor by becoming mixed with earth, the Christian loses his savor by compromising with the world. They are then good for nothing but to be cast out and trodden under foot of man. Believers are not only salt that preserves, but light that illumines. Jesus is the "light of the world" (John 8: 12) and we, by receiving Him, become lights to the world also. It is our business to let our light shine before men. We do not need to make it shine. God does that, but we should let it shine. We should not parade our virtues but simply manifest them. Our object in so doing should not be our glory but God's.

III. How to Tell a True Prophet from a False Prophet, 16-20.

There should be no false prophets and false teachers in the world should cause us neither surprise nor dismay. Jesus predicted from the beginning that it should be so, and the fact that it is so, is simply a confirmation of the truth of His Word. Jesus commands us to beware of false prophets, men who profess to speak for God, but who in reality are speaking for the devil. There never was a day in which that demand was more needed than to-day. Men and women who falsely claim to be inspired of God, and men and women who claim that their systems are of Divine origin are arising on every hand, but tested by the tests our Lord Jesus gives us here their claims are proven false. In outward guise they may be meek, but there is a ravenous heart within. A wolf is never more dangerous than when he masquerades in sheep's clothing (2 Cor. 11: 13, 14). What are men "inwardly" that is the question. How can we tell? By their fruits. What is the fruit of the prophet's teaching? Is it grapes and figs, or thorns and thistles? Tried by this Christ-given test, much that is lauded in our day as "advanced thought" is found to be error.

But the all-important question for each of us is, what kind of fruit am I myself bearing? The only way to bear good fruit is to have a good tree. The only way to lead a holy life is by having a regenerate heart, a heart thoroughly under the control of the Spirit of God (Gal. 5: 19-23).

One of the greatest errors of our day is trying to make bad trees bring forth good fruit. We attempt to save men by mere ethical culture, instead of going to the root of the matter and insisting on regeneration. If a man is born again, he is bound to bring forth good fruit: "Every good tree bringeth forth good fruit." If a man is not born again he is bound to bring forth evil fruit: a corrupt tree cannot bring forth good fruit. A man must be born again to see or enter the kingdom (John 3: 3-5; 1 John 3: 9, 10). It is not enough not to bear fruit: "Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down and cast into the fire." There are no exceptions—"every tree." Are you bringing forth good fruit? Do not say, "I am doing no harm"; are you doing any

good? There is a fire, an eternal fire, awaiting those that bring not forth good fruit. The supreme test of every person, of every doctrine, of every system, is what fruit does it bear?

IV. A Warning as to Christian Behavior, 1 Cor. 10: 6, 7.

These verses refer to those Israelites who, although delivered from Egypt, still hankered after the intemperate living of that land. God had to discard them and their carcasses fell in the wilderness" (Heb. 3: 16-19). They, therefore, became a permanent warning to those who think they can put on a high pretense of being Christian and still cling to the idolatries of sin. The context of these verses clearly indicates that the convert's life is manifestly real only so far as it is pleasing to God and loyal to Christ.

INDUSTRY RETAINS KEY MEN

The Canadian Government, like the British Government, favors a policy of permitting manufacturers engaged in producing war supplies to retain key men and skilled mechanics, on the assumption that their services are more valuable to the country in their occupational capacity than in the armed forces. Industrial workers have enlisted and will continue to enlist in relatively large numbers, but key men must be retained if the war production of Canadian industry is to be efficient. The principle extends also to the air and rail transportation systems and similar vital public utilities.

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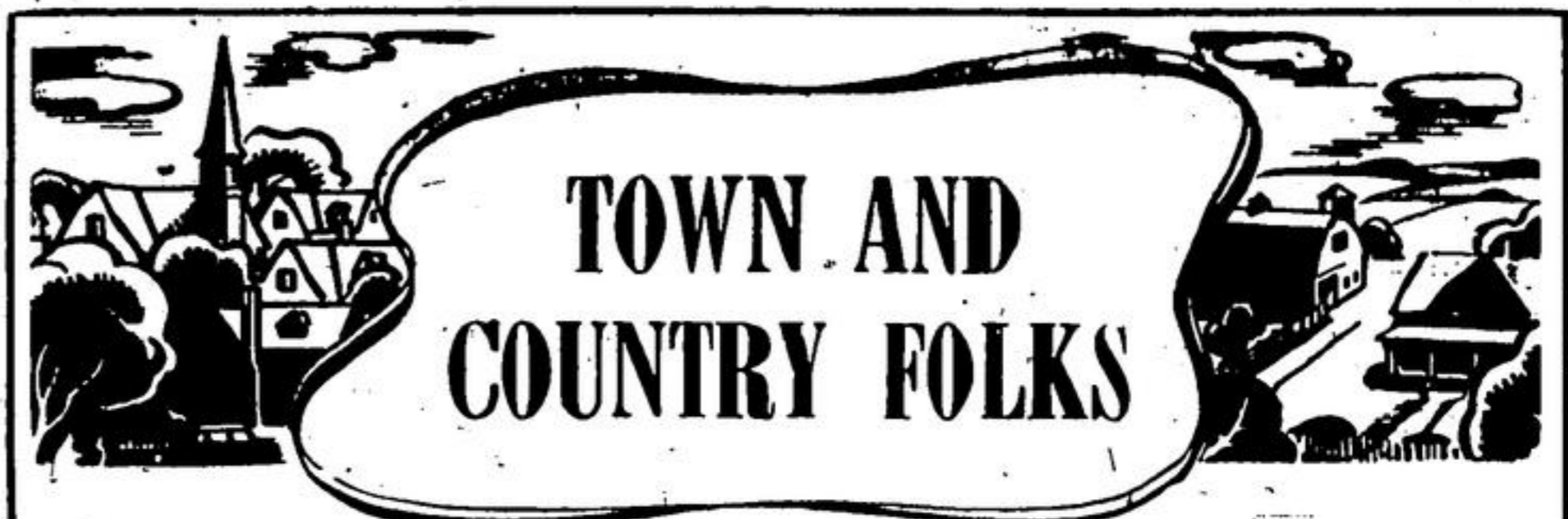
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