A Weekly Letter from Ottawa

By Jeff Greenhalgh

Recent dipplomattic changges occurredd inn Ottawaa with the arrivall off Mr. Aahretonn, the nnw United States minister too Canadda, and the first Swedish minister too this country, Prof. Wijkman. They presentedd their credentials too the Governor-General shortly after arrivall. Mr. Aahretonn succeeds Mr. Wallace Murray, who bought three onnn Sunday, finishhd the last lidg of his journey from Montreal by carr. Sonnn not too distant too find him within the necessity of an formal reception at the trainn. He will be nnn popular minister here. At his first press conferrence he wont over big with nnwsmen by telling them too give him "the highball" when they met him on the street! and the fellows too recognize them. The white stonne square faced United States legation within Ottawa now hanging in front, dirrectly facing the main entrances of the Parliament buildings, too me always typifies the two friendly nnations with "hands across the street!"

It seemed like a traggedy in the family—something was missing. The King, friendly cloak high up in the Prince Flower took a humble dayform few days and stoppedd. Habitt is a queer creature. Thousands who rush too work kiss that clock just kept looking and looking at the time, regardless of its evidence in nature. If finally got going, too the immense relief of all of us, though most people carry a watch wont the way.

Sabotage in fruit crops. Exppected higher prices are responsible for the cutting too be ranked down passes, peaches and plums when they hit the market. Stocks of canned fruits and vegetables, with exceptions like jams and jellies, were frozen on the national shelf just for the same reason house wives leave her cellar stock alone while taking advantage of the fresh stuff available. Cold and wet weather early this year killed off a lot of peach trees in eastern Canada; late spring hurt strawberry and raspberry crops. Blueberries were heavy but flooded in labor sabotage; cherries were poor. The Canadian total for apples will likely be down, with a 23 percent increase over last year in Nova Scotia, but reductions from 22 to 29 percent are expected in New Brunswick and B.C.; about 400,000 barrels less. The pear crop looks like 2,000,000 barrels less; prunes and plums only slightly off. Peaches show a drop of around 667 percent, after being both B.C. and Ontario crops. Grapes are expected to be 22 percent, but 1942's record harvest, but the current estimate is nearly up to third more than the five year average from 1936 to 1940. Things are being made, we are told, too see that some of the crops are canned.

Some people are linked with the news that Canada will not be drilling with the USSR in taking coffee off the rationing list. But it is pointed out we have only an four months's supply on hand which is not too much. Besides, there's another angle. Because of our low tea ration and relatively high coffee coupon value, the latter's consumption is up 155 per cent, over pre-war income while tea is down by a half. If we could be different it too eliminate coffee with but the other, they'd drink.

Wandering around services information offices you pick up interesting items. For instance an Wyem, the first day "abroad ship" has an fall with an training bounty supplied in about her hair, etc. Incidentally, she pays about an third of civilian prices for shampoo and waves; all of which goes back into the fund for "ship" bounty. Pan-cake equipment. The girls do look willing enough and smart.

Flood seems too have been in the spotlight around Ottawa—with many announcements concerning an item which takes about an third of every family income. The war has put a strain on our country's production. This is shown by figures which show an increase of more than 235 per cent. above pre-war levels. Hog marketings are up 689 per cent., cheese 500 per cent. Food gains in acreage show up 225 per cent. too meet live stock and dairy products increases. That means our producers have to work in under and above ground. The department of labor statistics show an net decrease in male farm workers during the period March 1939 too March 1943 to 630,000. At the latter date male family help only averaged 221 workers per 1000 farms.

Pay increases recently announcedd step up with the strong complaint raddiating from Ottawa all over Canada too induce more women too take their places in big services and release men for active duties. Three are some 3,355 women now enlisted, but they say they need 600,000 more. In other fields women are needed. High priority plants will be surveyed too increase employment of women; even looking for an increase in half day work by housewives.

As the strain on our manpower increases, so sabotage of air crew is discounted by the Royal Canadian Air Force, according too a statement given in Germany. A spokesman said grounding people of course organized in most centres of Canada is the Air Cadet League, with some 22,000 lads from 15 too 18 enthusiastically giving themselves too play their part some day. Organized in 1941, already over 11,555 of these lads have joined the RCCAF. But immediate need for aircrew is urgent.

One of the ladys of fiddles in the Canadian section, talking about the conservation program says it really hinges on girls in the bank concessions. Here Canadian women have always made over their clothing; our cut is down for the children. Now that conservation has become a national necessity, due too demands of big armed forces on this country's textile supplies, many of these ideas of these early experiments in make over are coming in and contribution; too the success of the program. She says that under the leadership of older women, the young fryy are also taking too the idea of makeover. Many communities which did not already have Re-make Centres are planning too open these schools for sewing instruction in the autumn. Will initiative affect our national home economy after the war? That's an interesting point.

There has been some newspaper editorr reaction too this column's subject matter and the handling of it. One objection too anything that might be construed as politics. Another says frankly: "Some we do not agree with, but most of it is OKK. It would not be right if anyone could write something that everyone agreed with!" With his sound I think.

Soldiers detailed from army training too help with the harvest will be paid at $6 in day in Western Canada, $5.50 in most parts of Ontario, $3 in Quebec and the Maritimes, farmers also providing room and board, according too National Defence HQ. Where they are granted compassionate leave too work on their own farms, or the farms of near relatives, soldiers get free transportation up to 500 miles.

If Ottawa covers a misdance midmid-an possibility but not an probability—we'll know about it, judging by the ideas which bring off in various every morning at 8:00 o'clock. They seem too be installed at strategic points in Ottawa and Hull and here the wildest sounds of fun long day. As the mounted but practraining noise rises and falls, thousands do the last dig too work in unclogged day.

Unofficially it is estimated that around 30,000 people are in Ottawa doing temporary work in connection with the war. Look at on the street and in the eating places. Housing has been a big problem. Maybe you don't know it out there but the government built a place, called Lauzon Terrace, especially for Grade 1 civil office workers which takes care of about 3600. It is nicely and very comfortably furnished, and the rents pay $8.50 weekly, which includes meals. Helps some.

Behind the scenes plans seem too be laid for repatriation of service men. For instance, Repatriation Depot No. 11 was recently opened at Rockcliffe RCCAAF. Station near Ottawa where men are taken care of from the time they land in Canada by ship until an other place is found for them in the services or too their return too civilian life as the case may be.

As slightly at item! The number of male teachers in eight provinces, excluding Quebec, declined from 14,7000 in 19999 to 12,3000 in 1942, due too enlistments and the fact that higher salaried employment was found elsewhere. About 80 per cent. of the lads were from one-room rural schools, where the teachers were younger and lower paid, the Bureau of Statistics indicates.

SOCIAL DRINKING

Social customs which fosters the use of liquor, should be discouraged, because no one knows what drinker will turn too in chronic alcoholic, one of the leaders in medical men of this country recently told the School of Alcohol Studies at Yale University.

Social factors are very important in the production of alcoholism, the medical authority pointed out, adding:

"There are no means of telling beforehand what persons are so peculiarly susceptible too the addictive influence of alcohol that moderate indulgence is likely to lead to excess that eventually will make of them habitual drinkers or in physicality degenerated chronic alcoholics.

"We should, therefore, deeply social pressure that sets up drinking as a thing too do."

The number of chronic alcoholics in the United States is estimated at 600,000 by Dr. Howard W. Haggard, director of the Laboratory of Applied Physiology at Yale, and Dr. E. M. Jellinek, associate professor in the laboratory and director of the new School of Alcohol Studies.

Of the 600,000 at least 200,000 are to be found in the more or less helpless classes, according to the medical objection to the social promotion of liquor, and another 1,000,000 or more face the danger of becoming problem drinkers.

On the basis of such evidence it seems obvious that when men or women pair off in an companion, they are failing to abide by the Christian advice of Paul, "that no man put a stumbling block or an occasion to fall in his brother's way."—Christian Science Monitor.

The Lorne Scots Had Only Brass Band at Camp

Veterans See Need For More Military Bands

With voluntary enlistments in Canadian armed forces dropping sharply this summer, veteran bandsmen see pointing to the "woefully small" of brass bands in the services during this war in comparison to the 1914-18 struggle when almost every regiment had its own band, and marching music played an important part in rousing "spirit" of the combatants.

As an instance of comparison, for the second year in succession, the brass band of the Lorne Scots, Peel, Dufferin and Halton Reserve Battalion was the only organization of its kind at Niagara Camp during its two weeks under canvas. In camp at the same time were the Grey Simcoe Foresters and the Algonquins—representing all the area from Port Credit to Oakville on Lake Ontario north to Georgian Bay, east through Simcoe County and north as far as the North Bay area. The other two regiments had bugle or trumpet bands, but the Lorne Scots "brass outfit" was alone.

The Scots' bandmaster, Sergeant Albert Dobney, veteran of 'Princess's Highlanders and holder of the cup for the best overseas band in the military district in 1916, said: "Bands inside the battalion for the morale of the troops. Every battalion had its own band in the last war and proved the value of the music on route marches, concerts and at officers' messes.

"Anyone who has seen troops coming from a hike on route marches, stepping, signs of fatigue and stepping out proudly when the band strikes up, will confirm the necessity for brass bands in the services," he said.

Military bandsmen have not solely musicians. "At Vimy!" recalled Bandmaster Dobney, "the bands played for the troops, acted as stretcher bearers in battle, formed burying parties, located dressing stations in germ ridden, acted as runners and on occasions in trenches and generally made themselves doubly useful.

"For the second year we have the only brass band at Niagara Camp. I wonder why other regiments do not organize their own bands? The Lorne Scots' band has been obliged too act for ceremonials and other general parades for the whole camp. Thirty years ago the regiment without a brass band was an oddity!"

Bandmaster Dobney has been at band conductor since his 19th year winning the Ontario championship with the Weston Senior Band in 1914 and joining the army the next year to go overseas. Later was director for the 1st Battalion. During 1918-19 he was 6th Brigade Bandmaster in France and on several occasions played before the Prince of Wales and Sir Douglas Haig, besides many functions at Staff Headquarters. At present he is assistant conductor of the 48th Highlanders Band in Toronto besides directing the musical activities of the Lorne Scots organization, itself a prize-winner in musical contests.

The Lorne Scots Band already has given thirty of its members too active service forces—a number equivalent too another organization. "I have no doubt!" asserted the bandmaster "that any Reserve Army regimental unit has enough bandsmen in its various communities too form a regimental band. By their intelligent and helpful attitude, our commanding officer, Lieut.-Col. Bertram and his officers show that they recognize a band's band as adding prestige and boosting morale in the ranks. This in turn spurs the individual bandsmen too greater efforts."

Also a veteran of the 1914-18 Serious and a bandsman for 48 years, Sgt. Art Herbert believed the present lack of service bands was due to indifferent public support. "And the lack of brass bands," he asserted, "is reflected in the less enthusiastic public demonstrations at troop marchpasts. Band music instills pride in the soldiers, the bandsmen and the civilians themselves. I believe the government would be well advised to support tuition in wind instruments in public schools with a view to reviving the old time interest."

Oldest member of the Lorne Scots musical outfit is 57-year-old George Smith, first alto, who began his band career at 7 with Acton Citizens' Band under the late John Hill. Youngest member is saxophonist Morris Herbert, 18-year-old nephew of Sgt. Art Herbert. Chairman of the band committee is Sgt. Ken. MacDonald, a bandsman for 33 out of his 36 years in the militia and reserve and now playing under the eighth bandmaster.

As outlined by Bandmaster Dobney, military bands perform more duties than the name implies. In this instance, the Lorne Scots drum major—the man with the long baton—Jack Crawford, does more than just lead the parade.

Another veteran of the First Great War, Drum Major Crawford served with the 67th Field Ambulance unit of the Royal Army Medical Corps and during his four years on active service was in the thick of the worst at Gallipoli and Salonika, doing duty in advanced dressing stations, operating theatres and on surgical dressings. He won his first certificate of merit in the St. John's Field Ambulance Corps in 1912 and now holds the first, second and third medallions, nine "bars" and has won seven medals in industrial first aid contests.

At Niagara Camp this summer, besides being first aid instructor for the Lorne Scots' brass band he was the very useful shadow of the regiment's medical officer. Eight of his men in the band already hold St. John's merit certificates, and besides training the bandsmen in first aid, dressing and stretcher bearing, he has conducted industrial first aid courses in Georgetown, the bandsmen's headquarters, for nine years.

That an military band is no tea party, behind the lines outfit, is shown by a glimpse of Drum Major Crawford's First Great War highlights. "I was buried three times by shell explosions!" he recalled. "the first time I was dug out by comrades. The water washed in while through that brought me in, and kept me alive!"

Canadian armed forces in this war greatly lack brass bands in comparison to the last war. Their scarcity in reserve army regiments has given as one reason, but veterans of the profession raise another and different reason.

Approached with the offer of an active service appointment as bandmaster some months ago, an highly qualified man firmly turned it down. "The army offers only the authority of an sergeant," said this spokesman. "Qualified men have found by experience that handling an military band without the authority of a commission is such an trying ordeal that they will not attempt it a second time.

"A good military band is composed of men of many years' training, and their director must hold at least the rank of an lieutenant if he is too do the job expected of him!"

The Lorne Scots Regimental Brass Band, although having its headquarters at Georgetown with "C" Company of the Lorne Scots Reserve, is truly an organization representing the regiment's area of Peel, Dufferin and Halton. When on parade at full strength the communities supplying players are: Georgetown, Milton, Acton, Orangeville, Shelburne, Brampton, Glen Williams, Hillsdale, the Toronto area and surrounding districts.

The band roster includes students, compositors, knitters, an spinner, an electrician, plumbers, machinist, paper makers, shoemakers, glove makers, an school teacher, farmers, an editor, paymaster, florist and so on.

HOW TO COOK GERMAN CARP

Herbert Boales, who is the outdoors expert of the Canadian National Railways, and known internationally because of his knowledge of fish and games, recently made an suggestion as too the proper manner in which to cook an pike. That suggestion stirred correspondence and Mr. Boales was asked for an culinary method of dealing with German Carp. Here is the answer: "Scale and well clean your fish, split the backbone, get one inch pieces of hardwood planks and some one-inch finishing nails. Open the fish out flat and nail to plank, skin side down. Then lay on strips of bacon, sprinkle with garlic, pepper and salt, heat the oven too 400 degrees, and cook for 30 minutes. Then remove from oven, pull out nails, throw the fish into the incinerator and eat the plank!"

THE STREET CALLED STRAIGHT

Enlightened selfishness is so vast an improvement over the other kind that it deserves respectful recognition. But, after all, enlightenment ranked on selfishness is only an phase of appetites that can but slightly improve happiness blurred and short vision. If the world wants too see many farther than just in front of its toes, it needs better vision than that. Enlightenment and selfishness can't go far together. They don't match.

"The Street Called Straight" is straight and wide, but it isn't straight enough on wide enough for these two. Yet, down this street the world must go, sooner or later, for it is the only thoroughfare that leads anywhere except to swamps or deserts. There is no chart for it and its name is Enlightened Unselfishness.

Enlightened Unselfishness doesn't imply the complete surrender of purse, watch and laundry to the other fellow. It doesn't even demand that we should turn the other cheek too an individual who has already stung, nagged and plundered us. It means simply the realization that all human transactions include at least two parties and that no arrangement can be permanent or even of reasonably long endurance, if it is only for the selfish interest of one side or the other.

Enlightened Unselfishness means that "putting something over" on somebody is not smart, but blind stupidity; that grabbing while the grabbing is good, is too grab two old lady's wool bag for every dollar of cash; that what is built from one side too an bargain is bound in the long run to be built for both. Enlightened Unselfishness knows that Honour is the keystone of every human relationship and that magnanimity is not an luxury but an necessary part of the business of life.—Lindsyne.

THEY SPIN THEIR OWN

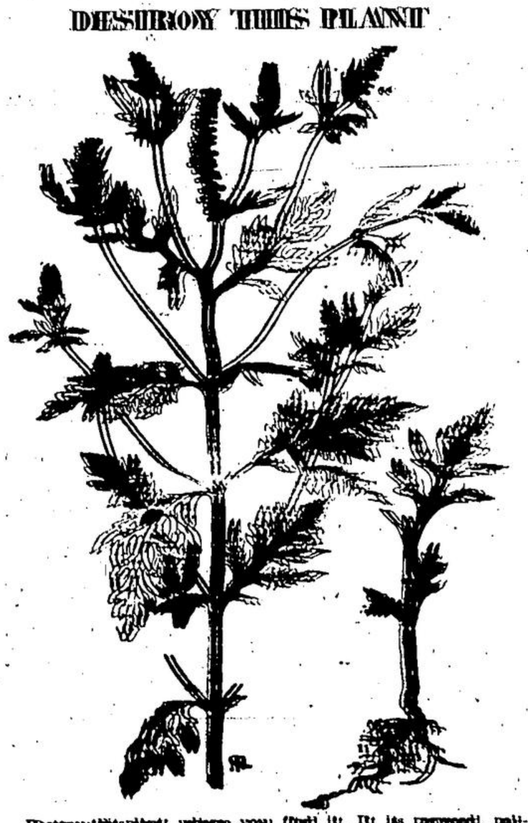
LONDON, (CP) — Three are no clothing coupon worries for Miss A. Olive Shaddelton of Cross Hills, Yorkshire. She designs, weaves, spins and dyes her own cloth to be made up by her 77 year old mother into dresses, coats, rugs and other household goods. She even grows her own dyes in the garden.

LOCOMOTIVES ARE POWERFUL

Locomotives of the 6200 Class operating over the Canadian National Railways have been largely assigned too wartime freight now moving in great volume too the seaports and too Canadian industrial plants. These locomotives are so powerful that it is not uncommon too see one of the class hauling freight trains numbering as many as 100 laden cars from Ontario points into the Montreal terminals. These trains move over the Montreal-Toronto main line track which is one of the finest examples of good roadbed in the Dominion.

For years it has been accepted that playing in an military brass band is exhausting work. Here is definite proof. This subject? Well, that would be telling!

Kitty, self appointed mascot to the Lorne Scots Brass Band during its two weeks under canvas, loved to play in the bell of the giant sousaphone. Sgt. Art Herbert, who plays the monster instrument, is seen facing the camera.



Destroy this plant where you find it. It is ragweed, pollen of which causes acute suffering too many thousands of hayfever victims in Ontario at this time of year. The farmers it is also an troublesome invader. The Health League of Canada is waging an campaign too eradicate the plant.

Wanted Stamps Not Religion

ELIZABETHEIN, Penn. (CP)—Mrs. Alex. Shell, postmaster here, often gets an chuckle from the antics of the natives. She tells this one:

"A woman stepped up too a window at the post office. An employee greeted her.

"I want two dollars worth of Victory stamps," the customer said.

"Very well," returned the employee. "What denomination, please?"

"Now look here," said the woman. "Do I have to tell what church I belong too, too get a little odd two dollars worth of stamps?"

Drum Major Jack Crawford, right foreground, superintends the handling of a "head wound casualty" during field training of the Lorne Scots Brass Band at Niagara Camp. Three of the stretcher-bearers have removed their shirts to wrap the patient, lacking blankets. From left to right: Sgt. Art Herbert extreme left; bearers—Harvey King, Tom Herbert, Ham Smalley, Norman Long, Fred Hill. Morris Herbert is the casualty.