

CHRISTMAS

There's little for myself I want except the power of giving To those who want for everything that makes life worth the living.

I want a shining fairy plane, all packed with glittering playthings, Bananas too, and oranges, and every kind of gay things To carry just a touch of joy across the broad Atlantic To little tear stained boys and girls—or is that too romantic?

I want a great big Lancaster, or better still some clippers, All loaded down with solid meat or turkey, with things like tippers; With sugar, tea and marmalade, and biscuits, cheese and salmon, With cigarettes and books and games like checkers or backgammon; To bear those "unlucky fellows" whose parcels never reach them.

Some tokens clear they still have friends, fresh faith and hope to teach them.

Yes, that's my want for Christmas; No need to mention others It's just the want that fills the hearts of scores of wives and mothers. —Adelaide Plumtree



A WEEKLY EDITOR LOOKS AT Ottawa

White quality for the weekly consumption of Canada.

The Board of Control has recommended to the city council of Ottawa they "adopt" the city of Kiev, Russia.

It is reported here that Prime Minister Smuts of South Africa cannot visit Canada this year as expected, but may be able to do so next year.

417,865 blood donations have been given at Red Cross clinics across Canada from January 1 to October 31 this year.

The staff of the Department of Pensions and National Health in Ottawa, which before the war numbered about 1,800 has increased to more than 4,000.

The Department of Labor says 14,810 men had been transferred to more essential employment under compulsory transfer orders up to November 16.

If you really want maple syrup in gallon quantity you'll be able to get it next spring. According to information reaching the consumer branch of the W.P.T.B., any persons who save all their "D" coupons from now till March 2nd will have enough to buy a gallon.

This is because the Prices Board are increasing the value of "D" coupons for maple syrup from 12 to 20 ounces next March 2nd, also that coupons becoming valid on March 30 will be good instead on March 2.

Horse racing isn't a picnic business in Canada by any means. These figures may surprise you. During 1943 a total of \$33,145,013 was wagered at 32 horse race meetings in Canada over 283 days of racing. It was nearly eight million dollars more than the previous year at the same number of meetings but a few less days. Prize money paid this year was \$1,178,150.

Answer to query:—This column is fulfilling the function only of being a source of information of national interest, broken down for quick reading and digest.

We're getting caught up in the war in Canada. Recently certain restrictions on steel were lifted. Now scrap aluminum will, subject to certain provisions, become available for civilian manufacture.

The Department of Munitions and Supply is studying post-war possibilities for war plants, many of which can be converted without much trouble. Such new war industries as synthetic rubber production, optical glass, radar equipment (which may revolutionize radio communications and is the basis of television) will continue in peacetime. Expansion will be needed in coal, as Canada imports about 60% of its total needs now; steel will be needed to rebuild Europe; ships taken from our inland waters will have to be replaced. Besides, automobiles, radio sets, washing machines, electric refrigerators and a tremendous number of household luxuries and necessities have not been produced since 1940. The field will be a wide-open one.

On the same question as the paragraph above, a brief presented to the House of Commons Reconstruction Committee by the Canadian Construction Association says we will need 300,000 houses built in the first five years. Cost and construction volume: first post-war year \$450 million; second year \$650 million; third, fourth and fifth years \$800 million each. A gross construction volume of \$200 million a year, it was estimated, would give employment to 287,000 persons in actual operations and contributory industries. At \$800 millions the total would rise to 767,000. They asked for immediate preparation of complete plans for both private and public post-war construction programs to be ready for calling tenders "at an hour's notice."

The Canadian Red Cross Society is really a people's organization because it is now getting the voluntary assistance of 2,096,600 persons across Canada. Imagine, just under seven million prisoners of war parcels had been packed from January, 1941 to October 31, 1943. The estimate for 100,000 parcels a week in 1943 would cost thirteen million dollars but it is surely worth it.

Not generally known but farmers can get the advice of the Architect's Office, Dominion Experimental Farms Service, Ottawa, where all enquiries from farmers and others relating to farm buildings are handled. In 1942,

for instance, over 2,000 off-set sheets of building plans and 2,486 blue prints were sent out to 960 applicants, in addition to many other answers to enquiries by farmers as to their building problems.

This and that: During the first three years of the war more than 5,000 merchant vessels averaging 4,000 gross tons each, were repaired in Canada, put back into war service, and in addition some 4,000 naval vessels were also repaired in our yards, a titanic job well done.

Ceiling prices set on walnuts, almonds, filberts and pecans are higher than in other years; no nuts have been imported from the United States since 1940; nuts coming in for the Christmas trade will come from U.S. and Mexico but limited quantities of almonds from Spain, Portugal and India will catch the Canadian market, and some almonds and filberts may come from Sicily and Southern Italy.

UNRRA says that Canada's gift to Greece of 15,000 tons of wheat a month, is feeding 40 per cent. of the people. Evaporated milk is latest on coupon ration list for restricted areas, including most of Ontario and Quebec, and more thickly populated areas in the West.

British High Commissioner to Canada Mr. M. MacDonald, speaking in Ottawa, put in a plug for Canadian farmers. "Without them we would have lost the war two or more years ago," he said. Evidence: Since war started Canada shipped Britain over two billion pounds of ham, bacon and pork products; more than 460 million pounds of cheese, more than 110 million tons of evaporated milk and about 110,000,000 dozen eggs. We now supply 10 per cent. of Britain's total egg supply, 25 per cent. of her cheese supply, 35 per cent. of her canned fish supply, 52 per cent. of her wheat and 62 per cent. of her bacon.

Successful Experiments Result in Concentrated and Nutritious Product Rich in Protein

BY KATHLEEN REX Canadian Press Staff Writer VANCOUVER (CP)—Small, hard grains of a cereal-like substance filled the glass beaker—dehydrated herring which E. P. Sidaway of the Vancouver Fisheries Experimental Station says may help relieve the tremendous shortage of food in post-war Europe.

"Since June we have been trying to find a satisfactory method of dehydrating fish," he explained. "Now our only problem is what we're going to pack it in. Dehydrated fish must be kept in air-tight containers as it absorbs moisture easily."

He added some water to the beaker. "This will soak in, then your fish is ready for cooking," he said. "What's more you'll find it has lost none of its former good flavor."

"Probably dehydrated fish will never become a peace-time product," Sidaway continued. "When they can get it people prefer their fish, fresh frozen or smoked. But in these times it should prove invaluable. It keeps indefinitely. It's concentrated. Approximately 10 pounds of dehydrated herring—this should solve the problem of shipping space. Rich in protein, this new product will be a nourishing food for the people who need it most."

Tests at Three Stations Three experimental stations at Seattle, Vancouver and Newfoundland have been working on fish dehydration. Every species of fish found near each of the stations is carefully tested. Herring, brill, grey cod, ling cod, red snapper, halibut, salmon and dog fish are among the fish used at the Vancouver station.

"We had to make the most of our equipment," said Sidaway, leading the way back of the station, where there is a small cannery. "The necessary material is hard to get these days."

The fish is cleaned and then steamed in a large oven. Skinned and deboned, it is put under pressure of approximately 100 pounds for each square inch. This is to remove as much of the oil and water as possible.

"We take out all the oil we can," said Sidaway. "It tends to become rancid more quickly when the fish is dry."

The fish is minced in an ordinary meat grinder and ground material spread on wire screen trays, ready to be placed on the rotating belt and so into the dehydrator. It takes approximately four hours (according to the kind of fish) before dehydration is complete.

I sampled one of the grains just after it had come out of the dehydrator. It tasted like very good—and very fresh fish.

DEAF MUTE RECOVERS AFTER CAR ACCIDENT LEEDS, England (CP)—Deaf and dumb since 1917 when a German shell blew him into a tree, Frederick Frith of Leeds was struck by an automobile and flung against a railing. He found himself not only unharmed but hearing himself say quite audibly "who would have thought it."

Now, 26 years after the bomb fell Frith is talking and hearing normally.

Live Poultry Has a Ceiling

Strong protests are being received by the Prices Board from poultry producers that while consumers are paying full ceiling prices for dressed poultry, producers are receiving lower corresponding prices for live poultry.

"It should be emphasized that the Board has also set maximum prices for live poultry," said F. S. Gridale. "The prices of dressed poultry to the public are at the ceiling. It is naturally expected that producers should be receiving the live ceiling for their quality birds at their poultry dressing centre," he explained.

Ceiling prices for the main lines of live poultry in Ontario for November are: Chickens (roasters and fryers) live birds, more than three lbs. 28 cents (old hens) all weights, live birds, 24 1/2 cents.

—Referring to the fact that 25,000,000 pounds (\$111,000,000) had been subscribed to the Red Cross since the war began, the chairman, Lord Illiffe said that factory and house-to-house collections in Great Britain, mostly in pennies—yielded 5,000,000 pounds or \$22,200,000 a year.

HAS POTENT MESSAGE FOR "SON OF HEAVEN" MAIDSTONE, Sask. (CP)—Robert N. Perry of Berkeley, California, 18-year-old member of the U. S. Maritime Service, has a date in Tokyo just 90 years after his great-great-grandfather, Commodore Matthew C. Perry, carried a history-making letter from President Fillmore in Washington to the Japanese Mikado.

Perry's ancestor headed a navy squadron in Japan in 1853 to arrange for a treaty which would stop the Japanese from their barbarous practice of maltreating and even murdering seamen who fell into their hands when their whalers were wrecked in Japanese waters.

Visiting his aunt, Mrs. Florin Rundle of Maidstone, young Perry said he hoped to deliver a more potent message when he keeps his engagement in Tokyo.

"I hope my message is dynamite," he said. If Robert cannot keep that date, there's another Perry in the U. S. Maritime Service to complete the assignment. He's Roger Roy Perry of Maple Plain, Minn., 18, a distant cousin and another descendant of Commodore Perry.

THEIR STRONGEST WEAPONS German prisoners en route to this country for internment are now deprived of their razor blades, tobacco tins and anything else with an edge on it—the reason being that they are "unregenerate," explains Lieut. John Brown, U.S.N.R., in The Saturday Review of Literature. On a previous trip the prisoners were said to have used any sharp object they could get their hands on to slash life belts and thus reduce the chance of their captors surviving if the vessel were sunk by a U-boat. Lieut. Brown suggests that before becoming sentimental about German prisoners of war, we examine the record of the Nazi party to which they subscribed. He points to their "barbarities" how they "murdered and pillaged in the name of a superior race," how they riddled helpless paratroopers floating to the ground and the whole black list of Nazi party sins. "If we are soft," he says, "these prisoners are not. Make no mistake about this. Our decisions are their strongest weapons."—Exchange.

TOPAZ FOR NOVEMBER We usually think of topaz as being yellow in color. According to authorities at the Royal Ontario Museum, it is not necessarily so. It is very often colorless or a light blue. The yellow variety, however, is the one most commonly cut as gems.

Unfortunately the name topaz has become somewhat abused. "Spanish topaz," "Madras topaz," and "false topaz" are all names given to quartz stones made to resemble topaz. Sometimes the adjective gets left off and the stone becomes simply "topaz."

As an ancient gem the topaz was believed to cure dimness of vision. During part of the fifteenth century a certain topaz with a religious background was supposed to be a cure for the plague.

Although at present considered to be a precious stone, it is a satisfactory gem—beautiful and durable. It is somewhat softer than ruby but harder than emerald. It is sometimes used to symbolize friendship.

KILLED BY PLANE BROME, Suffolk, England (CP)—Three roadmen were killed and another injured when an aircraft attempted to make a forced landing in a nearby field. The plane struck a horse and cart and hurled the cart 50 yards into the field.

GOODIES FOR MALTA VALETTA (CP)—Malta's Christmas parcels this year will include double rations of sugar, egg powder, fats, boiled sweets, jam and sweet biscuits. Last year there was nothing in the parcels except beans and candles.

Important Message To All Subscribers

There are many things these days in the way of Wartime Restrictions, which affect all business places. Your newspaper has its share of these problems in common with every other business. You may not like them and we may not get any enjoyment out of them, but we both know they are necessary under present day conditions and an all-out war effort.

What Newspaper Rationing Means

We are permitted sufficient newsprint to provide one copy of each issue of this publication to paid subscribers only. That means subscribers paid in advance. A subscription three months in arrears must be discontinued. Our mailing lists have during the past few weeks greatly increased and we welcome these new subscribers. It means however, that provision will have to be made for these new subscribers to be served.

In the past we have been perhaps a little too lenient with some old subscribers and continued to send the paper past the due date, knowing they would pay the account in due course. We are indeed pleased to say that in most cases our confidence was not misplaced and the account has been met. But now we have strict newspaper rationing and the old order has changed.

Starting January 1st

We will discontinue the paper to every subscriber who is not paid in advance, and place the account for arrears for collection. This policy will be rigidly followed in the future. We do not want to interrupt the regular visits of the home paper and we ask your co-operation in maintaining these regular visits.

Look at Your Label

A shortage of help does not permit us to send out accounts to all subscribers and the procedure seems unnecessary anyway, since the date on your label every week gives you your account regularly. During December many subscriptions expire. If your label reads December 43 or any date prior to that it requires your attention before the end of the month. May we have your co-operation in meeting present conditions and maintaining the service to which you have been accustomed?

\$2.00 Per Year in Advance \$2.50 to the United States

G. A. DILLS, Publisher

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Life "Too Fast" For Indian Pilot

72-Year-Old Riverman Visits Civilization for First Time in 45 Years

EDMONTON (CP)—The tempo of life in the big city is "too fast—too fast" for Johnny Barons, 72-year-old Indian river pilot on his first trip in from the far north in 45 years.

Born at Fort Simpson, Johnny has been out of the north twice in his life—once in '98 and the present trip. The Hudson's Bay Company Transport, Mackenzie river division, with whom Johnny is employed, presented him with the trip at the end of 58 years service. Johnny's father was employed with the company for 50 years before his death and Johnny's son is now engaged as a river pilot following in his parent's footsteps.

After his first flight in to Edmonton, Johnny took his first train ride when he left for Winnipeg to visit relatives in the Lake Winnipeg district where his cousin is tribal chief. Barons' Lake near Lake Winnipeg was named after Johnny's uncle.

Johnny's wife would not come along on the trip because of her fear of boats and planes. Johnny liked the ride, but he still thinks life has moved "too fast" in the last 45 years.

SEAFORTHS SENDS VICTORY CARDS VANCOUVER (CP)—Canadian Seaforths in Italy are sending Victory-made Christmas cards to friends back home.

With its greeting of 14 Italian and Sicilian towns which the Seaforths have taken up to Nov. 7, the first card has arrived in Vancouver for Mr. and Mrs. James Blackwood from their son Cpl. Fergus Blackwood.

It's mimeographed and with the tag's head and Seaforth motto "Culdich's Right" bears tangible evidence of the regiment's success. Then printed in two long lines are the names—Fachino, Modica, Piazza, Armerina, Valguarnera, Leonforte, Nisoria, Agira, Val di Salso, (Hill 333), Reggio di Calabria, Fiocana, San Marco, (Hill 1,007), San Croce, Hill 763 and Beranello.

EXPERTS IN INDIA LONDON (CP)—R. J. M. Inglis, British railway expert, and Col. J. A. Appleton of the American army, formerly general manager of the New York zone of the Pennsylvania Railroad, have been released from their present duties to visit India and advise on Indian railway administration.