With Our Weekly Newspaper Representatives Overseas

By Sgmn. R. P. Martin and C. J. Allen, Official Delegates of the C.W.N.A., with the Canadian Press Party who toured the United Kingdom

"THE GREEN CLIFFS OF DOVER"

There was the day we were taken into Dover, which is the nearest point on the east coast to France. I had seen Dover back in the days of the First World War, for Dover with its high white cliffs is one of the sights of Britain. In the days before the war travellers visited Dover from all parts of the globe and travelled in the scenic beauty of its cliffs, towering white and high far above the level of the sea. Today, Dover is a fortress. Its guns command the channel and the enemy ships that ventured in running the channel—if they do so—are very fortunate indeed.

The name of Dover will bring back to the minds of our readers the time when the Scharnhorst ran the gauntlet successfully. People wondered that such a thing could happen right under the nose of our guns. In those days Dover did not conceal the weapon power with which it has been reinforced today. Even at that time, however, the Dover guns made things unpleasant for the daring German raider, and out of the shots fired at the battleship at least three were known to have found their mark. The damage done was sufficient to prevent the Scharnhorst from putting to sea at that time. Today, the enemy does not possess any ships that could hope to run the gauntlet of the channel. One freighter Captain who tried it only a few months ago went down with his ship and the mast is still sticking up out of the water to prove the marksmanship of the Dover guns.

As we toured the Dover area, we were particularly impressed with the control room from which point the fire of the guns is directed with the aid of the latest instruments. To novices like ourselves the picture of this control room will forever remain on our minds and here the mysteries of the long range shooting were unravelled before our eyes. This alone made the trip to Dover worth while.

We lunched at noon in a little restaurant next door to a small pub where most of the party enjoyed a glass of ale before they sat down to one of the best meals we had run into up to that time. The food was well favored and well cooked. While most of the boys were enjoying their ale, two of us found ourselves discussing with some of the workmen the gun power that protects the English coast at this point. We found that the barrels of these huge guns were being replaced and workmen from the big factory in London were busy making the change-over which took some two weeks and was then just about completed.

The working quarters of those who defend Dover are built into the cliffs and along tunnels connect the various rooms which are well ventilated. Here and there the tunnels lead out to the face of the cliff from which vantage point an observer on a clear day may see the coast of France. Indeed they can hear the explosion of the big guns which from time to time shell that area. They know just when to duck—and it never pays to be late.

Dover is one of the points from which speed launches patrol the channel under the direction of the R.A.F. when raids are in progress to assist in rescuing those who come down in the channel. Torpedo boats are also stationed here, and it was the privilege of our party to take a run in the channel in both types of boats. The channel is usually choppy but these boats made particularly good time as we dashed headlong for the French coast for a couple of miles — and then turned back to Dover in case the Huns might think we were heading the long looked for attack and start shooting.

The town of Dover has suffered considerably, both from the long range guns on the coast of France and from enemy bombers, but life goes on much as usual. Even the sound of gunfire doesn't seem to disturb the citizens of Dover not as much as it did our members, who, as they crawled the defences, were greeted with an early morning bombardery practice. At that moment we did not know but what the enemy was taking a pot shot at the inquisitive reporters and no doubt deep in their hearts there were some of our party who were quite ready at that moment to leave the story of Dover unwritten.

On our way to Dover we passed through Folkestone, so familiar to thousands of Canadians. It was just outside Folkestone where our regiment was billeted when we landed in England during the last war. Folkestone was a summer resort in those days and thousands of Londoners spent their holidays there. From the station we could not see that the town suffered much damage, but it did look to be considerably danger than when we knew it — but perhaps we were not paying as much attention to the town in those days as to the people we found there.

Harmerette Army Already at Work On Ontario Land

Girls Farm Vanguard of Service Force which Again will Aid in Alleviating Rural Labor Shortage

By BARBARA GILLMORE
(Canadian Press Staff Writer)

TORONTO (CP)—Volunteer help has become a vital factor in Ontario's program for alleviating the farm labor shortage and this year the provincial government is seeking to equal or exceed last year's total farm service force of 100,000 workers.

Girls again are being asked to go on farms and the government plans to place 4,000 on the 11 camps set up in fruit and vegetable growing districts of southern Ontario.

Organization and efficiency of the Ontario Farm Service Force have made big strides since its beginning in 1940 when the department of agriculture asked for 100,000 men and women to give the farmers a hand. 24,000 answered the call. Some went to camps for girls and boys, others became day workers, vacation farmers or "Farm Commandos" who helped with the heavier jobs.

Since then the force has grown steadily. In 1941, 225,000 were asked for—300,000 were enrolled. The next year the goal was 550,000—the force reached the 556,000 mark. Last year the department asked for 100,000 and exceeded the objective.

Already many girls have indicated to begin the 13 weeks of farm work necessary to satisfy department of education requirements. The working period in these Y.W.C.A. supervised camps, however, is not limited to 13 weeks. Girls in the past have stayed as long as six months.

Work best suited to the farmerettes' abilities is in fruit and vegetable picking, hoeing and general light work. This season's trail blazers who started the middle of April have graduated from early greenhouse work and are now employed in vineyards.

Camps Supervised

Larger camps, organized in accordance with Y.W.C.A. requirements, are complete with supervisors to arrange entertainment and labor secretaries who see that government regulations are adhered to. A nurse and assistant go from camp to camp and medical care is available when necessary.

The girls let nothing daunt them—not even tears. Volunteers in Thedford, western Ontario, last year spent 40 days on their knees in onion beds. Instead of the 550 girls who worked there last year, there will be 1,000 this season.

Most critical period is from Aug. 15 to Sept. 23 when the later fruit and vegetable season is in full swing. Although comparatively few applications are turned down, preference is given those who will stay the longest and work during that period.

Business girls are encouraged to spend their two weeks' vacation on farms if they can be fitted in to the busy season. Last year 1,000 were placed for their holidays.

Minimum pay is 22½ cents an hour, although for some types of work girls are paid on a piece work basis. Board is $4.50 per week and the only other expenses are an insurance fund to provide payments for rainy days, and 15 cents a week for health supervision.

NEW WEED SEEDS ARE DISTRIBUTED

New weeds are introduced on farms with imperfectly cleaned cereals, clover or other commercial seeds, and with commercial feeding stuffs which often contain vital weed seeds, states the National Weed Committee. They are spread from district to district through the various transportation facilities, are disseminated within a locality in stable manure from towns and cities, and are distributed from farm to farm through threshing machines, and from field to field by farm implements. The wind carries weed seeds long distances, not only in summer but with the drifting soil and over the surface of the snow in winter. Streams distribute them along their courses. They are spread by herbivorous animals and seed feeding birds, through the stomachs of which pass undigested, or the seeds attach themselves by special contrivances, such as hooked and barbed hairs and spines to passing animals. They are often carried by the boots and clothes of men.

Employees Frozen In Agriculture

Persons employed in agriculture are frozen to the industry, subject to the authority given to such persons to engage in employment outside agriculture while is not in an urban municipality for a period of not more than 60 days in any year when such employment does not interfere with agricultural production, states National Selective Service.

As a general rule the movement of agricultural workers to employment outside of agriculture must be discouraged, except where there are workers in employment ds to be in one of the following primary industries: lumbering and logging, forestry, fishing, trapping and mining.

Selective Service points out that every effort should be made to further the policy of retaining agricultural workers in agricultural employment and seasonal employment in the primary industries named.

In Districts where there is no employment available in certain specified primary industries, a permit of limited duration may be granted to a person employed in agriculture enabling him to take war work during the winter months when his services are not required on the farm, but only rarely should permits be granted unlimited as to time.

When issuing a permit to a farmer for taken temporary employment outside of agriculture, he should clearly understand that the permit is limited in time and that he is expected to return to agricultural employment immediately after the time stated on the permit.

A person employed in agriculture does not require a permit to accept seasonal or temporary employment outside an urban municipality for not more than 60 days in any year when such employment does not interfere with agricultural production.

ENLARGING THE MUNICIPAL FRANCHISE

(Hanover Post Forester)

The proposal made during the present session of the Legislature, that the municipal franchise should be extended to the married man and the electoral franchise, has received little attention. It would appear that in their eagerness to propose something different and more radical, our public representatives—or some of them at least—lose sight of the matter with which they are the best familiar, and make proposals which, if studied seriously for a moment, would be abandoned at hand.

However, as the law governing the extension of the franchise for federal and provincial purposes may be, there are abundant reasons why its application to municipalities should be slow and cautious. After all, we want to avoid in municipal administration beyond the raising of taxes to meet the expenses of town management, and upon what basis can it be argued that those who make no contribution to the revenues through taxation, should have a voice in management policies? Taxes pay the cost. Should property owners, who meet the liability, delegate to non-paying citizens the authority to levy taxes and expend monies which they have no share in contributing?

So long as property owners carry the major load of tax levies, and franchise extension is given to tenants, who are established citizens, maintaining households and families in the community, there is little scope for intelligent extension beyond its present limits.

THE WORLD'S OLDEST

BROUGHL, Shetland Isles (CP)—Believed to be the oldest copy in Britain of Shetland belonging to William Polson, died at the age of 58. The animal worked until five years ago.

This is the sign to look for

The familiar Martin-Senour sign is the one to look for when painting is contemplated. It is the sign that says "Value 100%! Dare! Paint is worth here". Paint of quality—beauty and with staying power that endures longer! When you want these qualities in painting products—make sure and see the dealer who displays the Martin-Senour. His experience and friendly advice backed by the highest quality products will assure you of complete satisfaction in your painting plans!

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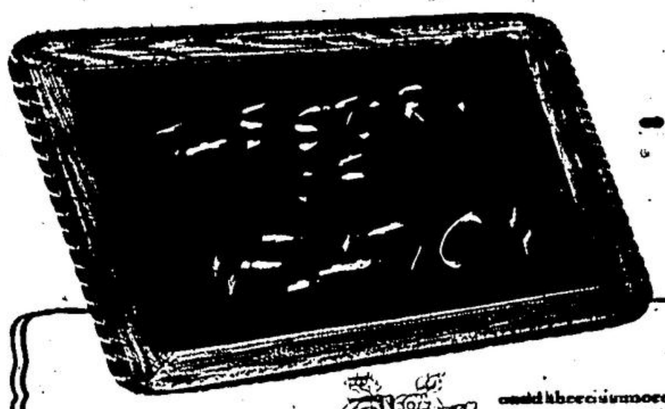
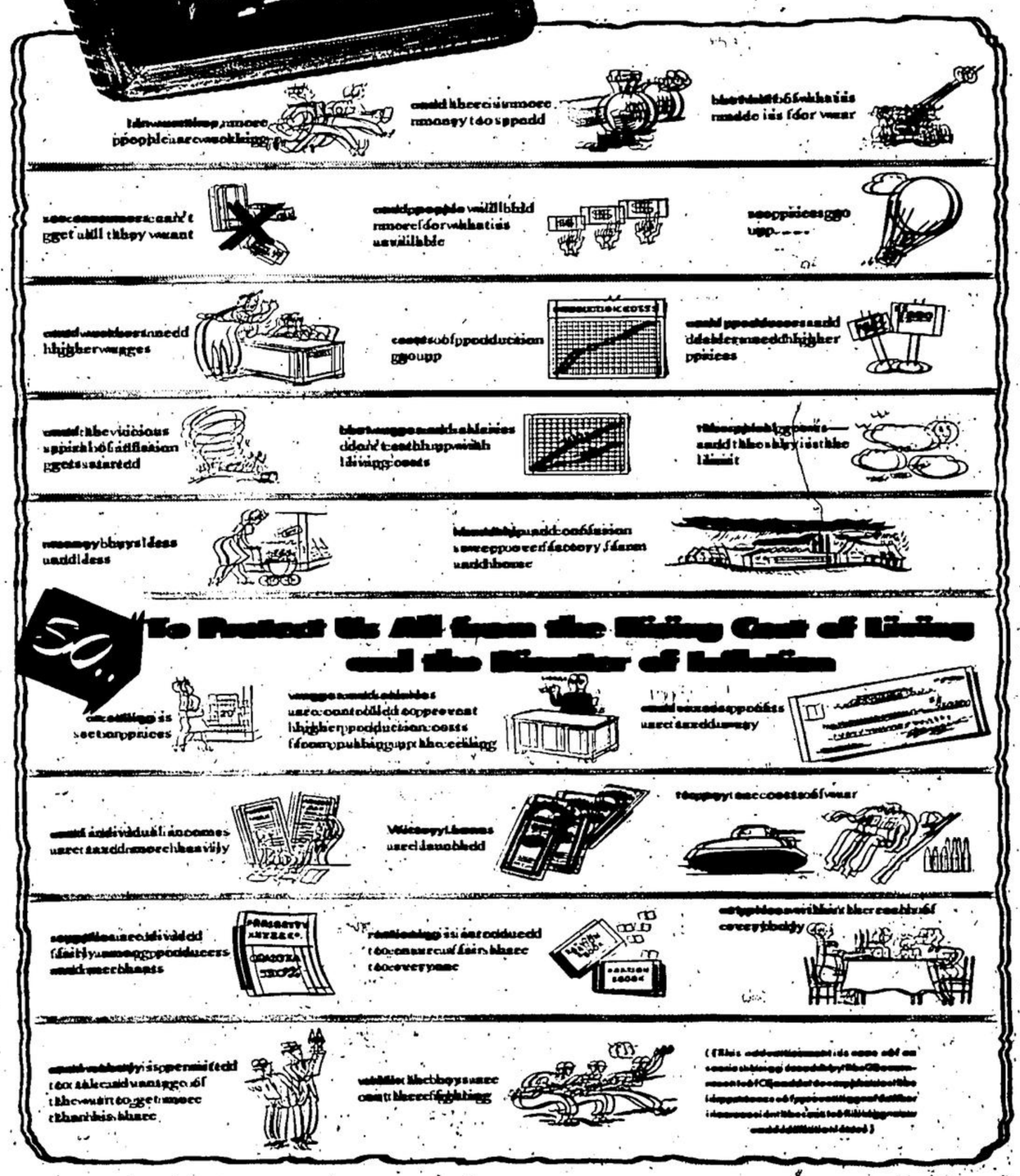
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