

A WEEKLY EDITOR LOOKS AT Ottawa

Writings by the weekly editor of the Ottawa Citizen

By JIM GREENGLAY

Government injunctions to conserve gasoline by curtailing non-essential driving of motor vehicles is an ill-timed move as there exists a critical shortage in the light of war necessities. It is well known that Canada's greatest source of crude oil, the Alberta Turner Valley field, is producing 4000 barrels less daily than a year ago. Sixty per cent of our imported crude oil has to come by ocean tanker. The needs of aviation gas, for example, jumped from 55 million gallons in 1939 to 176 million gallons for the year ending March 1944. Our Royal Canadian Navy uses 2 million gallons of oil a week; it takes 10,000 gallons to move an armored corps five miles, and on top of this, just realize the needs of industry and agriculture; truly a staggering amount when recalled. So plain Jay riding is not justified.

To save time, and increase through various channels an employer, addressing envelopes to the Armed Forces for the services of men and women who are about to be discharged should know that the envelope eventually gets to National Selective Service. So it would be better to send it direct in the first instance. At the present time N. S. S. has special offices at the discharge points to facilitate the rehabilitation of men and women being discharged from the Forces.

Here's a word to prospective parents on obtaining a baby's ration book. Time was when a book could not be obtained without presenting the baby's baptismal or birth certificate to the local ration board. Now, according to the latest word from the Consumer Branch, Wartime Prices and Trade Board, the signature of the attending physician or the superintendent of the hospital or maternity home on a statutory declaration is all that is needed. Local Ration Boards will issue the baby's ration book when the declaration is presented. Incidentally, evaporated milk coupons are not included in the new book but will be supplied on special request in areas where coupons are required for this product.

In the urgent appeal to nurses engaged in other occupations to return to nursing in hospitals, where a serious shortage exists, a certain policy has been outlined by National Selective Service. Nurses willing to return to hospitals will be entitled to reinstatement in their present employment when the emergency passes; supplementary allowances in the way of temporary advances for living expense and uniform will be granted; transportation to and from position without cost to the nurse and payment for the time lost in travelling; extra compensation for suffering any loss in earnings in rejoining the profession. Other information can be obtained from Selective Service offices.

There is no scarcity of binder twine despite manpower problems and increased cost of raw materials, thanks to controls, and farmers are getting it at nine cents a pound, same price since 1940. Contrast that with the fourth year of the last war when the wholesale price of binder twine was 25 cents a pound. In a harvesting season about 65,000,000 pounds of twine are used and an increase of even one cent a pound would run into an increased cost of \$650,000 a year to our farmers. Present quality is the best that can be obtained from wartime materials.

The first intimation relatives get when a Canadian becomes a casualty is the official notification from Ottawa. Communications from the front are necessarily very busy. The Casualty Section of the Directorate of Records at Ottawa now has a new medium to allay anxiety of next-of-kin by the institution of the Canadian Army Casualty Postcard, a personal message from the injured soldier, routed through the Post Office with high priority rating. From wherever Canadians are in action these messages are flown to the Canadian Records Office, London, checked and within a few hours the card is speeding to Canada. Authorities advise that the words "In Hospital" added after the address will speed up a return letter to the soldier, but care should be taken that this coincides with his stay there; otherwise delivery will be delayed.

Britain has to eat, war or no war, and Canada is helping by sending her food. Our beef agreement calls for delivery of a minimum of 100 million pounds of beef, equivalent to 225,000 cattle, in 1944-45. The bulk of this

will be shipped from the public producers, Ontario and Quebec but the Meat Board is also prepared to accept surplus quantities of cow beef from British Columbia at such times in the year as that province has a surplus over domestic needs. Since the Board started export operations in November 1943, purchases for overseas shipments total more than 10,000,000 pounds, equivalent to 10,000 cattle. In the five pre-war years 1935-39, export of live cattle from Canada averaged 10,000 head annually.

Six hundred cartons of supplies have been produced in the factories of a prisoner-of-war internment camp near Montreal in the past 12 months. The articles prepared, including stretcher carriers, hospital chairs, surgical lockers, doctors' gowns and coats, hospital pyjamas, etc., are all products not used directly in the prosecution of the war. In the least repelling shops, shoes are repaired—a quantity of which, incidentally enough, will go overseas to countries occupied by the Axis. The laborers are chiefly German women captured by Canadian naval units.

The need for heavy ammunition is really greater than ever, according to the Department of Munitions and Supply and firms manufacturing shells estimate that before the end of the year 1,000,000 rounds and 3,000,000 will be needed to produce current requirements.

FALL PREPARATION OF BACKYARD GARDEN

In the ordinary backyard garden the work has to be done by hand labor, and, to have a successful garden, the land should be prepared in the fall.

Toward the end of October when the vegetable crops are harvested, the land should be cleared of all refuse and all weeds that have seeded and any diseased material burned.

Divide the garden into two strips. Take out a trench at one end, and place the earth where it will fill in the last trench when completing the other half at the same end. Use a spade, a garden cannot be well dug with a fork, says J. Callahan, Head Gardener, Dominion Experimental Station, Kentville, N. S. Make the trench as deep as your garden soil will allow—12 to 24 inches is a good depth of soil for vegetables. In a few years' time if the following practice is applied any garden soil will attain this depth.

Place a layer of soil from the compost heap or a layer of good barnyard manure in the bottom of the trench, which may be sand, gravel or clay. Then with a fork dig this over, remembering that this will be brought to the top when digging the following October. On this, place the top soil from the next trench, turning it upside down, then place a good layer of barnyard manure 4 to 6 inches deep on top of this. Cover the manure with all loose soil from the bottom of the trench, and instead of levelling it on top, ridge it as if you were making drills to plant potatoes. Fork over the bottom of the trench adding manure or composted soil, as already mentioned. Continue in this way until garden is all turned over. By working say one hour each evening a person would dig over a garden of 1,000 square feet in eight evenings. By ridging the soil instead of making it level, the snow is held better and this means more fertilizer for your garden, for it is said that the snow is the "poor man's fertilizer." It will also dry out earlier in the spring, so that a few days can be gained in early seed sowing.

The winter's wood ashes can be spread over the land, also a limited amount of soot from the chimney or furnace, but not coal ashes unless the land is a very heavy clay soil, when a limited amount may be used each year. The average garden may be given a dressing of lime every five or six years, 30 pounds to each 1,000 square feet.

In the spring when preparing for seeding or planting, fork over the garden from end to end and mixing the manure and soil well together, even, to forking it several times. The manure, when well mixed with the soil, causes the plants to make more roots and to take in more food.

ABOUT SUCCESS

The next time you hear a bitter tirade made against the head of the Army, the Navy, the Airforce, or someone occupying a prominent place in public affairs, you can get quite a bit of comfort by remembering this Israeli anecdote:

"Sir, what is your definition of success?" someone asked Diarell.

The British Prime Minister considered the question, then replied in his usual satirical manner: "Young man, all I can say about success is: It is one unpardonable sin that any man can commit in the eyes of his less fortunate fellows."

STILL TRAVELLING

EDMONTON (CP)—Two railway cars, owned by William Howard Taft, a former President of the United States, are now on the Edmonton-Dawson creek run. They were acquired by the old Edmonton-Dunvegan and British Columbia railway company about 1915.

Colour in Milk, Egg Powder and Fat

The so-called "rich" color of the milk from some breeds of cows is due to the presence of unchanged carotene or Vitamin A, included in the feed. The milk of other breeds may be just as rich in this vitamin but the carotene is converted into colorless Vitamin A, and therefore the color does not show in the milk. This vitamin is also responsible for the color of fat on beef steaks. The fat on the steaks is yellow if they have been fed on grass where they would get plenty carotene, but the fat is white when they have been finished in feedlots on rations containing small amounts of Vitamin A.

With regard to egg powder, observations by Canadian Research scientists indicate that Canadian dried egg powders are lighter in color than those produced in other countries. Such differences are due at least in part to variations in the color of the liquid egg or a result of different feeding practices in different countries. Also, manufacturing conditions, effect of time and temperature exert some influence in the color of the product. Canadian egg powder has won the greatest praise in Britain, United States and other countries.

COWS WORK HARD

The amount of work the cow's body has to perform in manufacturing its daily quota of milk is enormous. While the average cow has only about 30 pounds of blood, something like 200 pounds of blood must pass through a cow's udder in the milk-secretion process. In the process of converting food into butterfat, the blood carries vitamins and hormones to the milk including the carotene and beta-carotene which give milk its color. It is estimated the cow uses approximately four times her body weight of blood every 24 hours in her work of producing milk.

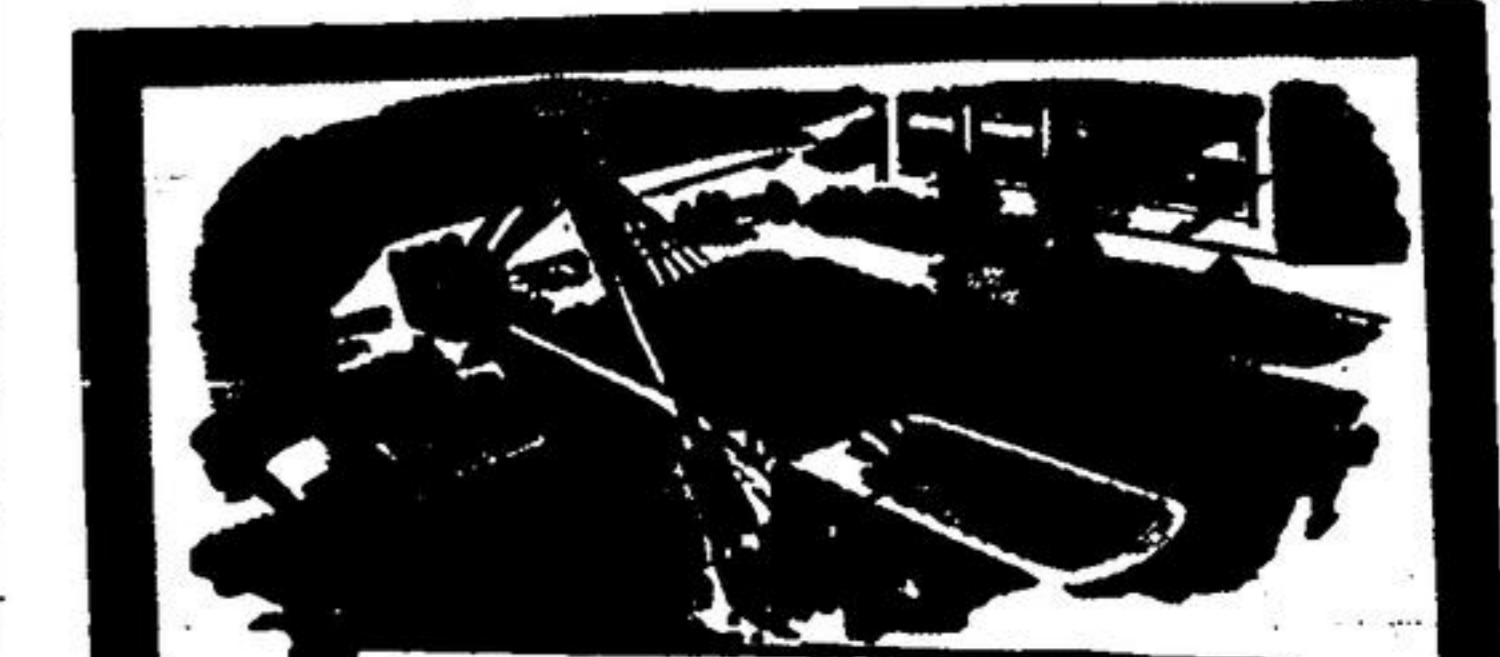
Ample Feed Supply No Room for Waste

The general promise of feed grain crops in Canada assures supplies sufficient to meet all domestic requirements and provide for some export shipments during the crop year 1944-45, states the Canadian Cattle Quarterly Review. A feature of the 1944 outlook is the much more favorable crop prospects in Ontario and parts of Quebec. This will make these two provinces less dependent on feed grain supplies from the Prairie Provinces in the twelve months that lie ahead.

Reserve stocks built up from the big 1942 harvest have largely disappeared as the result of heavy shipping at home during the past two years and liberal exports of oats, barley, and wheat to the United States, but the weather in 1944 has been reasonably good and the very promising start of the 1944 season later gave way to more favorable prospects.

Not only is the indicated supply of grains adequate for the new season now getting under way, but a more favorable situation prevails with respect to supplies of high protein. The Food Administrator has warned that this improvement in supplies of high protein should not be the signal for extravagant or wasteful practices pointing out that under wartime conditions surpluses can be without warning very quickly disappear. He has further indicated that supplies in the coming year may be channelled more to the field of dairy production with less emphasis now being placed on further extension of the poultry industry, which has in the past enjoyed a big share of these high protein supplies.

Policeman: Can you describe your assailant?
Victim: Describe him? Why, that is exactly what I was doing when he landed me one!



Free Enterprise BUILDS CITIES

FROM country cow-paths have grown Canada's paved city centers, in which high buildings thousands of people earn their living. Whence come the changes? The answer is individual enterprise. Some men, with foresight and courage, recognized the possibilities of an underdeveloped region, located savings, built property, men building. Others follow his lead . . . a city is in the making.

For over a hundred years this Bank has been associated with Canadian building and development projects . . . has afforded essential banking services . . . sharing in the growth of a self-reliant people, a progressive Canada.

Keep Canada Strong and Free!

The BANK of NOVA SCOTIA
Branches from Coast to Coast



'GEE! HE'S A G.S. SOLDIER!'

See that G.S. badge on his arm? That means he's volunteered to fight anywhere in the world.

The Army needs more men like him—men who can take it—men with the courage to fight, so that their home, their loved ones—everything they cherish—may be free.

For this War is not over yet—we still have a lot of fighting to do. And our boys who are fighting over there will need the help of every red-blooded Canadian who is fit to fight, and willing to fight.

It will take months of thorough training to make you fighting-fit. That's why Canada's Army needs you NOW—and needs you for overseas service.



VOLUNTEER TO-DAY
JOIN THE CANADIAN ARMY
FOR OVERSEAS SERVICE