

### The Week at OTTAWA

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OTTAWA (CP) — Canada's main power policy, especially as it affects conscription for service overseas and reinforcements for the overseas army is expected here to be the subject of vigorous debate when parliament considers the bill calling for an interim war appropriation of \$2,000,000,000.

Passage of the bill will provide for continuing war activities until after an election is held, when a new parliament will meet to deal with business of the 1945-46 fiscal year.

Opposition parties contend that the administration's manpower policy has been "piecemeal" and the burden it imposes inequitably distributed, and discussion of the interim war appropriation bill is expected to bring forth further views regarding the topic.

In discussing one aspect of the manpower problem last week—that of providing labor for farms Labor Minister Mitchell said more prisoners of war than heretofore will be used in agriculture. It could not be expected, however, that servicemen would furnish as much help as they had given in other years because of the heavy requirements of the armed forces overseas.

Other steps outlined by Mr. Mitchell included the movement of workers between and within provinces to assist with crops and the possible recruitment of workers in Newfoundland to fill agricultural labor needs in the maritime provinces.

The minister said other special sources of labor which will be utilized to the full will include Indians, conscientious objectors and Canadian Japanese. Provisions have been made to give R.C.A.F. personnel spring farm leaves, but no substantial assistance from the navy could be anticipated.

#### Continue Farm Leaves

Representatives of district officers commanding appearing before mobilization boards will be instructed not to oppose the postponement of men employed in the production of dairy and livestock products.

Farm leaves, including special spring and harvest leaves, will continue to be granted. They will naturally be limited by the fact that many men formerly available have been sent overseas. Men however, who have returned from overseas on rotation leaves will be eligible this year to work on the farm.

An unusually early spring, earliest within the recollection of eastern lumbermen has emphasized the danger of an early fire hazard in Canada's forests if the current mild weather continues at the expense of rainfall.

Forest protection authorities anticipate that they may have to move rangers and fire towers into the timberlands sooner this year than ever before to avert the danger of outbreaks of forest fires.

A break-up in March, coupled with excessive snowfall in some eastern districts and insufficient snow in others created hauling difficulties, but the general production situation is considered fairly good.

At its peak Canada's output of lumber reached 5,000,000 feet and production this year is expected to be 4,700,000 feet. The United States market offers a potential demand which exceeds Canadian output, and with the needs of the United Kingdom and the domestic market to be considered a quota system has been in effect to allocate requirements as fairly as possible.

#### "CHOSEY" BORERS

Boring caterpillars, commonly found in the flower garden, have the unfortunate habit of going from plant to plant in search of food. They may only sample one plant for a minute or they may remain longer in another, in most cases leaving the plants to all appearances fresh and green. This tends to increase the destructiveness of these insects because a higher percentage of the plants and flowers attacked die, although the borers may have fed upon them for only a very short period.

#### ROOSTER'S HABITS BECOME MATERNAL

WASHINGTON, (CP) Science can make barn-yard baby-sitters out of toasters.

Ordinarily a rooster wouldn't be seen in the same coop with a chick, but scientists have found that they can give them the maternal instinct by treating them with a hormone called Prolectin, derived from motherly hens.

Experiments described in the Journal of Heredity showed that roosters not only took over the duties of a mother but did so to the accompaniment of "clucking and occasional hen-like singing."

Doctors A. V. Nabandov and I. P. Carl, of the University of Illinois, who made the report, failed to elucidate on the practical advantage of making a baby-sitter out of a fighting cock. But their report did say that when a mother hen is taking care of chicks, he doesn't do any egg-laying. It might be inferred that if roosters watch the kids the hens would improve their egg production.

### Lady Prospector Takes Northland Life in Stride

Women Find Sourdough's Career of Gold-Digging to their Liking in Spite of Hardships of the Bush

VANCOUVER (CP) A few weeks more and Mrs. Hazel Migdely will be leading back to her home in the northland, back to Yellowknife in the North-West Territories, 450 air miles northeast of Edmonton.

With her mining engineer husband, Mrs. Migdely has spent several years in the area between Goldfields, Sask and Yellowknife. This winter she lived in Vancouver, where along with five other women prospectors, she took a special prospectors' course given by the British Columbia and Yukon Chamber of Mines.

"Until now my prospecting has been chiefly hit and miss," said Mrs. Migdely, a former school teacher, who at one time lived in Imperial, Sask. "I feel that this course has helped me round off my practical knowledge with a few hard scientific facts."

Mrs. Migdely is looking forward to her trip home. "Once people have lived in the northland they never want to return to the smoke and rush of the city," she said.

Came the first signs of spring, the sourdoughs "go out to the left." In the language of any prospector, this means going back to work. Everywhere up north you see bush planes laden with a strange assortment of camping equipment, cans of food, mining tools and perhaps a canoe hitched on to one pontoon. The plane flies the prospectors wherever they want to go in the bushland. And then for the next month or so they are left on their own.

"Our only contact with civilization is a battery radio," Mrs. Migdely said. "And if our battery breaks down, well it's just too bad."

#### No Fear of Wild Life

Mrs. Migdely isn't afraid of bears although she has come across a number of them during her prospecting days out in the bush.

"If they get into your camp they can make an awful mess," she said. "They'll bite the tops off cans just to see what's inside and then not even bother eating the food. They're just naturally destructive."

"I remember the prospector next to us used to be afraid of them. He wouldn't go near any section of the country if he thought there were bears around. Not long ago he made a strike and named his mine 'The Bruin'."

"Women as sourdoughs? I'm sure they can be just as good as men," Mrs. Migdely said.

"It's just as easy for a woman to become a prospector as it is for her to work in a shopyard or take a man's place in the newspaper world," Mrs. Migdely said. "Of course there may be the odd bit of heavy work she isn't able to do, but generally she can hold her own pretty well. She can learn the rock formations and topography of the country just as well as any man and can soon pick out the spot where the real stuff lies. And who says a woman isn't as good a gold digger as any old time sourdough?"

#### BERLIN'S MAID OF ALL WORK

Expelled from Berlin shortly before the war because his reports at the time as a journalist were not in accord with the policy of the Nazis, Carleton Greene, now Editor of the BBC's German Service, has lately given a talk about that city as he knew it.

"In this rather wretched account of Berlin and the Berliners there is one other institution of Berlin life before the war which I really can't leave out and that's the Berlin fire-brigade, known affectionately to all Berliners as 'the-aid-of-all-work.' The Berlin fire-brigade certainly deserved that title. I remember one occasion when it was called upon to remove a swarm of bees from the bushy beard of an old professor who had fallen asleep on a bench in the Tiergarten. But its finest hour came when a parrot escaped and, from the top of a tree on the square before the Brandenburg Gate (the triumphal arch at the west end of the Unter den Linden) proceeded to issue instructions to the traffic in a loud and raucous voice. Berliners, like all Germans, have a natural instinct to obey orders even if they come from a parrot in the top of a tree and the traffic was in a fine tangle by the time the fire brigade arrived and extinguished the protesting parrot. That story may sound tall but it really is true."

### HORATIO ALGER COW BIG MILK PRODUCER

RALEIGH, N.C. (CP) A Jersey cow with the high-sounding name of Drea, Noble Blanche Liza holds state and national records of milk and butterfat production, yet only a little more than three years ago she was an unprepossessing calf that she was all but unwanted.

North Carolina State College's extension service says her owner, young P. E. Miller, Jr., a 4-H club member of Richfield, in Stanley county, deserved full credit for transforming the "ugly duckling" of the cattle world into a record-setting producer. Her official record for a 365-day period was 19,129 pounds of milk, or 19 times her own weight. The milk tested 5.53 per cent. Butterfat produced amounted to 1,050 pounds.

Young Miller got Blanche Liza by swapping \$10 worth of pasture for her. He decided to have her registered, although his friends told him it was not worth the \$3 registration fee.

### Following Duel Charter Hidden

Brighton Fishermen Seek 1580 Grant to Halt Rehabilitation

BRIGHTON, England (CP) Two fishermen fought a duel in Brighton's gut market 210 years ago. One was killed and in revenge his relatives hid a charter of 1580 giving the victor the right to conduct a market there.

Now a frantic search is going on for the charter among the fisher folk. They hope it will prove their right to stay where they are.

The reason Brighton has an ambitious scheme for improving the waterfront by moving the market to the back of the town and replacing it by sunken gardens, lawns and lagoons. The fishermen don't want to move from the market they've had for centuries.

### Blitz Cleans Out Opium Den Mnace

Few Now are Left in London's Limehouse — Switch to Soho Area

LONDON (CP) Opium dens of London, world Oriental background to funny a fiction thriller, have switched from Pennyfields, down Limehouse way, to Soho and by-ways of Oxford street in the West End.

The dens are frequented by Chinese and Lascars and police estimate there are only half a dozen now open. The Limehouse "joints" were knocked off by the blitz or by Scotland Yard and at least three West End dens have been raided and closed during the last few months.

Although "fitting the pipe" has decreased greatly in London, dozens of coolies and Lascars smoke opium each night along Liverpool's Chinatown and Cardiff's Bute Street. There are frequent raids but it's a hard racket to wipe out in the port cities.

The opium den is fairly standard through England and one official who visited a London one after a raid said it was the most depressing sight he ever had seen.

"Behind a bombed house were two large outhouses and it was in these that the opium traffic was conducted by two Chinese," he said. "The rooms were poorly finished, windows were broken and boarded up. There were no carpets, no decorative Chinese screens and the smokers lay on the floor or on filthy pallets. There was one divan for special customers. It was made out of wooden orange boxes."

The prepared drug, about the size of a small bead, is sold to smokers at 10 shillings (\$2.25) a time. It is placed into long-stemmed, solid-bowled pipes with a tiny hole in the bowl top.

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