

### The Week at OTTAWA

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OTTAWA, July 17 (CP)—Down-to-earth problems of food and shelter occupied the capital last week for hungry people in Europe and shelter for Canadians.

Prices Board statements indicated the stern application of the new meat rationing system effective in a few weeks, with 1 1/2 pounds of actual meat a week for the individual consumer. But the board said that with fish and poultry unrationed and with the adequate supplies of other foods in Canada there was no danger of the average family falling below desirable nutrition, able standards even when every possible ounce of surplus meat is being sent overseas.

In contrast to the food picture made bright by the efforts of Canadian farmers, the housing situation was less cheerful. Anxious Canadian mayors conferred with Finance Minister Halsey, pointing to their concern over accommodation not only for men and women now in Canada but for the tens of thousands of servicemen returning from overseas.

Mr. Halsey said that the government would give high labor and materials priorities to facilitate the construction of homes. He said too that he had been in consultation with the representatives of insurance companies in respect to the financing of low-cost housing units.

There was the expectation that announcements from these and similar organizations would indicate major sums were available to provide for increased accommodation. Whether a building program, needed across the Dominion, could be carried forward far enough to relieve severe housing shortages in prospect next winter was a question still to be answered.

Winnipeg, by a Prices Board notice, was added to the list of congested areas.

#### FAREWELL TO JULIANA

With a touch of sentimentality, the capital said good-bye to Princess Juliana of the Netherlands, the cheerful democratic daughter of the House of Orange who came to Canada after her native land was occupied by the Germans in 1940.

Her two eldest daughters went to Ottawa schools from their suburban home and spoke English more than Dutch. Her third daughter, now two was born in Ottawa. On the day when she was born the flag of the Netherlands flew on Parliament Hill instead of the Union Jack, a courtesy that Princess Juliana said she would not forget.

The association of summer heat and limited beer supplies caused interest in the report that beer could be used effectively by women in keeping hair curls in place, and Ottawans commented that the "silly season" must have arrived.

The three armed services during the week cooperated in a new task—observation of the eclipse of July 9. Scientists in uniform were associated with the astronomers and students who usually observe such phenomena and the results of their studies may assist radio transmission. The view of the eclipse, especially along the path of totality in Saskatchewan and Manitoba, was termed "magnificent."

The capital heard the demand of a new kind of government. The national Indian government, formed at a recent convention of tribesmen in Ottawa, sent a message to State Secretary Martin asking for \$15,692,986 held in trust by the Indian Affairs branch for all Canadian Indians.

Officials said that most Indians felt their funds were safe with the government and knew that sums for government purposes could be obtained by representation to the Indian Affairs Branch. Some tribes are rich, some relatively poor, but letters to the branch indicated that none was prepared to have its funds turned over to the new "government."

#### SOME FARM MACHINES IN SHORT SUPPLY

Beginning July 1, rationing of new farm machinery and equipment will be limited to 25 items which are still in short supply. These items are: corn pickers, tractor ploughs; tractor mounted ploughs, one-way disc, tiller or harrow ploughs; tandem tractor disc harrows; single side disc harrows; 12' or over; spring and stiff tooth field cultivators; tractor mounted cultivators, tractor or semi-mounted mowers, side delivery rakes; hay loaders, pick-up hay balers; grain binders, horse and tractor driven; corn binders; potato diggers; combine or reaper threshers; wind-rowers or swathers; threshers; ensilage harvesters; standard and row crop tractors; garden tractors; rubber-tired gears or trailers; power potato sprayers or dusters; fruit or orchard power sprayers; pressure water systems and power pumps. All these still require approval by rationing officers before purchase.

#### OFFICER CHARGED

YARMOUTH, N.S. (CP)—A grand jury here returned a "true bill" in the manslaughter charge against Ptl. Lt. J. D. Mill. Death of F.O. Henry K. Billingsley following a quarrel in the officers' mess here last March gave rise to the charge.

### The LETTER BOX DON'T GO NEAR THE WATER

Under existing conditions, it might be an excellent idea if local youngsters indulged in such strenuous sports as cross stitching, samplers, and sewing patches for quilts. At least, busy with these absorbing occupations, they would not have to solve the problem of how to spend leisure time during summer vacation.

Yet, not so long ago in the history of Acton's Small Fry, no such distressing question presented itself. When asked about holiday activities, a boy or girl replied joyously: "What am I going to do this summer? Gee, what a question! Pick berries, catch some fish maybe, and earn a little money for books in the fall. But mostly, I'm just going to swim. That's one thing we have in our town. 'A Swimming Hole'."

If one's parents couldn't afford the time or money to vacation away, there was always the haven of the pond, for consolation. Local Water Babble felt proud and even a little smug in their proximity to a beautiful park and Swimming Hole.

Even then, Fairy Lake received its annual quota of abuse and criticism. Weeds in the pond? Sure. There always have been. (But according to authorities on the subject) a prescribed quantity of gravel dumped into the pond during the late fall or winter months, would prevent the springtime debut of this pesky water plant.

The numerous holes in Fairy Lake? True, there are a few spots quite near shore where the bottom plunges to unexpected depths. Without a doubt these water holes are a menace to inexperienced swimmers and rash youths who venture past their respective safety zones. (But would it be a very expensive and costly project to have gaps filled in with sand or gravel?)

Fairy Lake is filled with dead fish. Blood Suckers, rats and pernicious microbes. In short, Fairy Lake is filthy. Fairy Lake is stagnant, impure and a breeding ground for every disease from hives to hoarseness.

Every year with the advent of summer, these familiar incantations are revived by a few citizens, who were obviously inoculated against that love of water inherent in the average human. Those who hanker to splash and paddle and float about in Fairy Lake's corrupt moisture, admit that like most mournful moans, these criticisms of our favourite bowl of water are in some measure, justified.

But here is the crux of the matter. When the Almighty sees fit to endow a municipality with a natural swimming hole, why not use it for that purpose? If there is any doubt of the water's purity, why neglect to have it analysed by competent and impartial health authorities? In this age of scientific marvels, does the purification of no fa body of water present an insurmountable difficulty?

Even those who love the place best, would hesitate to contend that Fairy Lake is a perfect swimming hole. But it is a swimming pool of sorts. And it has tremendous possibilities. Actonites have a park of which they can boast. And with reason! Surely the pond which partially encompasses it can be made suitable and safe for swimming.

Last summer when Acton was menaced by the spread of polio, prohibitions against bathing were acceptable and wise. No precautions are too stringent, if they serve to protect the public from this malignant disease.

However, may I presume to doubt the report given wide circulation last summer that an examination and analysis revealed unquestionably the presence of polio germs in Fairy Lake? May I venture to suggest that this rumour was the result of conjecture, and not substantiated by facts? Still, further, may I express my conviction that currently, Fairy Lake has been condemned on hearsay, and without official confirmation of its impurity.

The Council and local health authorities are to be commended for safeguarding public health. This, without a doubt, is the prime reason for banning the use of Fairy Lake as a swimming site.

But a germ-ridden lake is potentially a menace whether patronized by bathers or not. The writer is not personally familiar with the locomotive of microbes, but she assumes that like most pests, germs delight to frisk about. If this be true, it's unlikely that the microscopic THINGS allegedly polluting our Swimming Hole, will be content, if Fairy Lake has been—or is proven to be in a putrid condition, a ban on swimming there, is an incomplete guarantee against disease contagion. It would seem urgent that the pond be purged thoroughly. And once cleansed, the water would be fit for swimming.

This summer, those who most strongly condemn Fairy Lake as a bathing site, are supported in their arguments by factual evidence, that in certain cases, it may have served as an outlet for sewage. Even the most enthusiastic mermals have no desire to splash about in a pool so contaminated. According to signs posted near the lake, there will be penalties for infractions of the NO SWIMMING order. Would it not be equally just to arrange punishment for any individuals, who without thought, or

willfully, dispose of their sewage in Acton's only available swimming pool?

Sooner or later, the average human reaches a stage in development, when he is too weary, too scrawny, or too protuberant to don a bathing suit without feeling shy and retiring. Except on rare occasions, he is content to confine his aquatic sports to wallowing placidly in the bath tub. The recent ban on bathing does not affect citizens of this type. But there are dozens of youngsters who feel restless and frustrated because of these restrictions. The girl, too young for a holiday job, what will she find to do for two long, hot months? And that boy, hovering between short pants and trousers, how will he keep out of mischief all summer? Without even a place to swim.

One reads and hears many discussions about the increase of juvenile delinquency. Compared with other communities, Acton has been quite fortunate in this respect. One wonders though how long this peaceful condition will continue in a town where of recent years, there has been no rink for skating in winter. And again this summer, no pool for bathing.

—An Overgrown But Still Enthusiastic Pollywog.

#### TIDEN RETARD DIKES

CANNING, N.S. (CP)—Tides on the Bay of Fundy are providing opposition to dike building along the Canning River. Tons of fill have been washed over the sides of the dike and work on the project—designed to save haylands along the river bank—has been slowed down.

Found Canoe flying boat, complete with 5-man aircrew and supporting ground crew all RCAF personnel are assisting Canadian entomologists in the spraying operations north of Lake Superior, designed to combat the deadly spruce budworm.

## Sony Sueie!

But the reason you can't talk over your toy telephone is because there's lots more to telephoning than the instrument itself. It takes wire and cable and complicated exchange equipment and a mass of other apparatus which one telephone with the million other telephones which make up the full system. Those telephone materials have been going to war. That's why so many people are waiting for telephone service today.

It will take time and money and manpower to carry out the large-scale construction and improvement program we've planned for after the war.

Take our dial conversion program alone: Almost three-quarters of the telephones in service are now of the dial type. But that still leaves thousands of telephones and exchange equipment in scores of communities, to be changed over.

After the war when equipment is again obtainable, the job will take years to complete. And this is just one of several projects which spell jobs not only for all our present employees both at home and overseas but for additional workers, too.

On Active Service Owing Wings To Words

Busy as Bee

## Advertisers Meet the Most People

# Rationing helps the FARMER

## HERE'S HOW!

- Rationing assures everyone a fair share of scarce food. Without rationing farmers might upend the butter they need, they might not get sugar, oil, dwellers might get sugar but not butter.
- Rationing helps to keep prices steady.
- Rationing has assured farmers sufficient animal and vegetable products and livestock.
- Rationing makes it possible for farmers to get coupons to feed harvesters and other transient farm workers.

## The FARMER helps Rationing

### HERE'S HOW!

- By collecting and turning in ration coupons acquired against the use and sale of butter and the sale of eggs and rationed milk products.
- By working to the best of their ability to application form RB 77 as soon as they know definitely that harvest and other work will be needed to feed extra help hired for periods of less than two weeks.

Rationing is not intended to add unnecessarily to the burden of Canadian farmers who, faced with shortages of labour, materials and machinery, have continued to respond to repeated calls for greater production.

It is a protection against waste . . . shortages . . . inflation.

THE WARTIME PRICES AND TRADE BOARD