

Of Interest to Women

NEW WORRIES FOR FARMERS

For Canadian farmers, taxpayers and industries there are many important developments on the food front, the Financial Post reports.

What's ahead for bacon and egg producers in 1949. The United Kingdom is planning drastic cuts in purchases from Canada next year. That's bad news. Only hope is that the contracts will be allowed to taper off, not ended sharply.

Here were other developments: Western Grain men are asking an investigation into the losses incurred by western farmers following sales of Canadian wheat at less than world prices.

ECA sales on U.S. flour and wheat sales are hampering Canadian flour exports.



Hello Homemakers! There are more single gloves around our house than pairs of gloves. Of course four women each loading one glove every so often demonstrates extravagance. However, we are making novel Bazaar and Christmas gifts with these, and it's like money in a piggy bank. Here are the ideas: (1) Cut a two inch band from a wide cuff to make one arm band for milady's blouse. Line it with red satin and put elastic through to make it look like the one they sell in the USA for \$5.95.

- (2) Lapel novelties may be fashioned from leather gloves into miniature dolls, animals, and rugby balls or other favourite sporting goods. Stuff with cotton batting or use pinking shears for the double flat ones.
- (3) Pin Cushions.
- (4) Bean bags.
- (5) Christmas tree trimmings.
- (6) Belt buckles.
- (7) Corners for desk pads and calendars.

For those who haven't any odd gloves to make into novel gifts, perhaps there are odd pieces of fabrics that can be made into modern accessories. At a recent fashion show we saw a smart belt pieced together with velveteen and serge in 3-inch rectangles and white sequins sewn on domino patterns.

Using the back of a summer pullover, a dicke can be made for a winter suit. For warmth, use two thicknesses of material and quilt it.

Hoods are still popular and can be made from short wool skirts or from upholstery and material. Stitch an interlining close or use a top stitching after the cap has been sewn and turned right side out since the edge of the hood may curl back.

To make slippers from an old felt hat is not difficult. Cut the hat up the back to the crown, steam, press felt and scrub with a brush dipped in soap suds. Then use a pattern for best results or buy insoles that can be sewn.

From top to toe there are ideas for using out-dated materials in modern yet practical gifts.

COOKING HINTS TO SAVE ELECTRICITY

1. Use canned cream soups for sauces often. Never let them boil... only heat enough to eat.
2. Blend flour into meat juices, then add hot water to make the best brown gravy quickly.
3. A layer cake may be baked in 35 minutes at 375 degrees, while the same batter in a square tin requires 55 minutes at 350 degrees.
4. Bake a meat loaf mixture in muffin tins for even servings and it cooks quickly this way.
5. Scalloped potatoes made with a hot cream sauce require only half the baking time.
- Shred cabbage, turnips and beets on a slicer and using a small amount of water, cook the vegetables in fifteen or twenty minutes depending upon the amount.
7. Pastry turnovers are more quickly baked than heavy fruit pies and baked on a jelly roll pan require 20 minutes at 400 degrees.
8. Use a pint measure to fill your tea kettle and heat only the

required amount of water for tea. (There are commercial powders available at your electrical dealers which should be used to remove lime from your kettle.)

9. To hard cook eggs, wash them and put in the potato kettle for exactly ten minutes. This saves turning on an extra electric element.

10. The pressure cooker may be used to cook a number of different foods in the same pan. Make full use of the quick cooking utensil. Watch the clock to prevent over-cooking.

REQUESTED RECIPES

Welsh Rarebit
2 tbsps. butter, 1 tbsps. cornstarch, 1 cup rich milk or cream, 1/4 tsp. salt, few grains of pepper, dash of paprika, 2 cups mild Cheddar cheese (grated), 1 egg (slightly beaten).

Melt butter in top of double boiler. Add cornstarch and mix until smooth. Add milk gradually. Cook over hot water, stirring constantly until mixture thickens. Add salt, pepper and paprika. Add cheese and stir until melted. Add some of the hot mixture to the beaten egg and return to mixture in the double boiler. Cook for two minutes, serve at once on toast or crackers. Garnish with olives or parsley. Yield: 6 servings.

Hot Slaw
1/4 cabbage (shredded), 2 egg yolks (slightly beaten), 1/2 cup cold water, 1 tbsps. butter, 1/4 cup hot vinegar, 1/4 tsp. salt.

Mix egg yolks, cold water, butter, vinegar and salt. Cook over hot water, stirring constantly until thickened. Add cabbage. Reheat.

Potato Pancakes
3 medium sized raw potatoes, 1 tbsps. flour, 1 tbsps. cream, 1 egg, 1 tsp. salt.

Grate potatoes, add other ingredients. Stir well. Cook by spoonfuls in heavy frying pan in hot fat.

1948 GRAIN CROPS

Production of all grain crops in Canada in 1948 will be greater than in 1947, according to an estimate made by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

At 372 million bushels, the wheat crop is 31 million bushels better than the 1947 total. All but 10 million of this increase was realized in the Prairie Provinces. Since there was a slight reduction in wheat acreage, the increase can be wholly attributed to higher yields per acre.

Out production in 1948 reached 338 million bushels, a gain of 59 million over 1947. Although there was some increase in acreage, the gain was due mainly to excellent crops in Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba.

The gains in barley are not as great as in wheat and oats but the estimated production of 148 million bushels is about 5 million better than in 1947.

Combined spring and fall rye, estimated at 26.3 million bushels, is about double the 1947 output. Yields were good, but a nearly doubled acreage was the most important reason for the increase.

Canada's flax crop was the largest since 1912, 18 million bushels from 1.9 million acres. The 1912 record crop was 26.1 million bushels.

RIPENING OF THE HARVEST

The ripening of the harvest of Canadian crops is a wonderful event in our life. An untold amount of energy and mechanical skill and modern scientific study and inventiveness, and many more factors of enormous importance have gone into the creation of these products. They are a marvellous development of creative skill, to which a great section of the population have contributed. The world looks on with wonder at the results that have been achieved.

The results accomplished will be of great help in meeting the needs of the world, which needs ample food supplies. Hun people in many lands will be cheered by the news of Canadian crops, and the food will be a great contribution to the restoration of normal life. Progress is being made in the battle against hunger.

Canadian farmers have done a grand job in raising these food supplies, and have contributed enormously to the welfare and prosperity of the country and the world. All who have helped in this great job of food production are entitled to high praise.

Chronicles of... Ginger Farm

Written Specially for The Acton Free Press
GWENDOLINE P. CLARKE

A Prince is born; That was the news flashed over the air-waves just as I sat down to write—and I must confess it has put everything else out of my head. What rejoicing there will be throughout the Empire at the news. Princess Elizabeth has such a very warm place in all our hearts. And it brings her closer to us because now in common with all mothers, she has experienced the pain and joy of childbirth. We know very well she would be spared any unnecessary suffering but the very nature of her ordeal precludes the possibility of it being entirely painless. And so we are all glad the little prince is born and hope that the baby and his Royal parents will spend many happy years together.

My first thought this morning was of the Princess, and I wondered as I watched the dawn if it came as a good omen because I can't remember having seen a lovelier sunrise. Not that there was very little, but above the sun's first rays the sky was such a wonderful blue, interspersed with billowy white clouds, faintly tinted at their lower edges with shades of rosy pink. And yet in such a little while the first glory of the dawn had faded. The blue was less vivid, the fleecy clouds quite ordinary, and the sun very much as usual. By the time I fed the chickens there was nothing overhead to attract my attention. But there was underfoot. It was actually slippery. There had been enough frost after the rain to make the ground slightly icy here and there. I could hardly believe it — it seems such a little while since we were complaining about the heat!

But so it is — and last Tuesday saw the end of our season's work. The last of our grain was sheathed, and believe me, we are very thankful. One of our neighbours offered to help me with my threshing meal and while I appreciated the offer I told her I was sure I could manage. And I did—but the credit is due to me; it is entirely due to the conveniences I have around me now as compared with the little I had some years ago. These conveniences take all the worry and a lot of the work away from getting threshing meals. And they are no more than every farmer's wife should have. Not all at once, perhaps, but it should be the aim of every farmer to give his wife the tools to lighten her job. He might in the end, save on doctor and hospital bills. Unfortunately, as we know only too well, this is not always possible during a depression.

Even Hydro cuts did not bother me last week because I baked pies and cooked meat the night before. It meant working until midnight but that was better than worrying about cut-offs the next morning in the middle of threshing.

To tell you the truth I think these power cuts add zest to house-keeping. It is rather fun trying to arrange one's work to suit the hydro hours. And so often we get fooled! Washing with one eye on the clock is quite an adventure. Shall we, or shall we not get through? ... a few more heavy pieces to put through the wringer and then ... S-l-z-z-z ... and the machine stops dead. Just as that happened here last week Partner walked into the kitchen. "Look," I said, "see how dependant we are? Look at that washing machine—it is no more use right now than an ordinary tub. And see that vacuum cleaner — it is less use than a broom!"

In the country we have power cut-offs at a different time from people in town but I suppose even country districts are not all the same. We are shut off between ten and eleven in the morning and again from one-forty-five until two-forty-five in the afternoon so that, on the whole, we suffer very little inconvenience. Tonight, however, was a different matter. We had an unscheduled black-out. The lights kept going on and off at about five-thirty until finally they gave out altogether. It was funny to see Partner going off to the barn with a lantern. And the kitchen—faintly lit by the dim glow of a coal-oil lamp! I wondered how we lived that way for so long. But we did, and I haven't a doubt we could do it again. In fact I think we could put with any inconvenience except being cold. And that would be a hardship rather than an inconvenience. How sad it is, this growing old!

Salary of the Leader of the Opposition in the House of Commons is \$10,000 a year, plus his Member's indemnity. Some foreigners find it hard to understand why the public here supports a leader to oppose the government in power.

Knowing Weeds Helps Eradication

Soon winter will be here and all vegetable growth will be checked. The interesting question arises as to what becomes of the various weeds at that time. What provision is made for their survival and renewal in the following year? If this is known, says G. A. Elliott, Associate Chief, Plant Product Division Dominion Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, a suitable method may be taken to attack and exterminate them.

Weeds are commonly classified as annuals, biennials and perennials, with winter annuals as a convenient, though not very scientific further distinction. An annual weed may be a winter annual when it starts in the fall and is fortunate in its location or in the season; or it may be regularly a winter annual a little further south.

An annual is a weed that germinates in the spring or early summer, grows and reproduces before winter, dying naturally when caught by autumn frosts. Its progeny, the seed, is safely tucked away within seed coats capable of withstanding winter's adversities. The importance of the seed is attested by its abundance, as compared with other weeds. If the seed can be induced to germinate before winter, or if it can be started early enough in the spring, either frost or the preparation for spring sown crops will destroy it while young.

Biennial weeds usually start growth early enough in the summer to provide themselves with a stout tap root, and a strong rosette of leaves lying on the ground to carry them through the winter and furnish reserve food for the flower stem which is quickly pushed up in the second year. A broad sheared cultivator is the best implement for eradicating them.

Perennial weeds, while reproducing by seed, maintain themselves year to year by their strong root systems, which may be creeping like those of Canada and perennial sow thistles, or short and fleshy as with docks and dandelion. No simple operation in fall or spring will suffice to exterminate the average perennial. Summer fallowing and cultivation are usually quite effective. Enough should be known of the special life-history of each weed to guide in the proper methods of eradicating them.

BRITAIN LEADING SHIPBUILDER

The total tonnage of vessels under construction in the world amounts to 4,021,889 tons gross, of which 56 per cent is being built in Britain. The United States is turning out 162,072 tons, while Canadian shipyards have vessels totalling 125,847 tons presently under construction.

BREEDING STOCK FOR U.S.

During the year ended June 30, 1948, about 425 thousand pure-bred domestic animals were imported duty free into the United States for breeding purposes, exceeding the 1947 figures by more than six thousand. Of this number 34.4 thousand were cattle, predominantly Holstein-Friesians, 4.3 thousand were sheep, more than half of them Suffolk; 2.8 thousand were swine, mostly Yorkshire; and 260 were breeding horses.

About five million United States citizens are connected with Canada either by birth or marriage.

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