



NEW EXECUTIVE of the Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association, elected at the recent annual meeting in the Royal Alexandra Hotel at Winnipeg is pictured above. Front row: (left to right) Past President Lang Sands, Mission, B.C.; Cecil Day, Liverpool, N.S.; 2nd vice-president W. K. Walls, Barrie, Ont.; president, A. W. Hanks, St. James, Man.; 1st vice-president Robert Moore, Swift Current, Sask.; W. E. McCartney, Brampton, Ont.; (second row) F.-J. Burns, Kentville, N.S.; John Pinckney, Rosetown, Sask.; N. S. McLean, Elmwood, Man.; Werden Leavens, Bolton, Ont.; (third row) K. G. Partridge, Camrose, Alta.; J. R. McLachlan, Virden, Man.; F. P. Galbraith, Red Deer, Alta.; W. W. Draayer, Wetaskiwin, Sask.; S. R. Charlton, Brampton, Ont.; G. Lancaster, Melfort, Sask.; R. M. Bean, Waterloo, Ont.; (fourth row) G. A. Dills, Acton, Ont.; L. E. Barber, Chilliwack, B.C.; W. H. Cranston, Midland, Ont.; J. A. Vopni, Davidson, Sask.; A. S. King, Estevan, Sask.; R. S. Evans, Morden, Man.

Ex. Midway Freak Studies, Breadwins

The world is full of strange and wonderful things and as far as J. W. "Fatty" Conklin is concerned he would have all of them on display at the Canadian National Exhibition. As a showman, he searches the world for the bizarre, the strange, the exciting, and, in some cases the highly scientific or educational show for his "EX" Midway. This year he came up with one of the strangest of all sideshow wonders or freaks.

A 19-year-old Georgia girl, Betty Lou Williams, heads the list of freaks at this year's Midway. Of her 19 years, Betty Lou has spent 18 in the show business. Betty, who broke attendance records all summer at Chicago's Riverview Park, is a true freak, having a body that has four legs and three arms. During the past summer well over a thousand doctors left their offices and hospitals to examine her. That she is a highly intelligent young lady, refined and with a strong desire to become a stenographer are facts. Possessing a high school degree, she now has two years of college back of her and returns to college every fall, following a summer of shows and fairs. With 14 brothers and sisters, Betty Lou has provided money to educate five of them, buy a 260 acre farm and generally has proven to be the bread winner of the family.

Poet's Corner

It's Exhibition time again. With all its pomp and glow; On the trains and buses ride, To see the glorious show, The midway with its music gay, To ride the ferris wheel, While on the roller coaster, A kiss the boys will steal. Then thro' the buildings we will go, To see the grand array Of cars, baking, sewing too, So much for just one day! But when the evening comes And homeward we must go, The very tired, we're really glad We didn't miss the show.

By Miriam Herman

Discover How Good Iced Tea Can Be!

Make tea double strength and while still hot pour into glasses filled with cracked ice... Add sugar and lemon to taste.

"SALADA" ICED TEA



VISITS "OLD COUNTRY", WRITER LAUDS ENGLISH HEALTH SCHEME

Editor's Note—Mr. Kelly Gardner, recently returned from England, has contributed this article expressing his opinions and impressions of life in that country.

It has been suggested that I write a brief description of my visit to England to record the impressions I formed of the life of the average Englishman under present conditions of post-war shortages and strict rationing. I am sure that most people will agree with me when I say that such a task is not an easy one owing to the long distances covered and the vast variety of interests which occupied me during my short stay there.

But in the following, I will do my best to give as detailed and accurate a picture of life in England today as possible, but lack of space must, of a necessity, reduce it to a few paragraphs.

Living Conditions?
Since my return, I have been constantly asked about living conditions in England today—well, the answer to this is that it is very much better than it was a few years ago, but owing to the shortages of skilled labour, materials and building funds, many people (especially young married couples) have no homes of their own and have to live with others—some, indeed, under very uncomfortable conditions of overcrowding.

A Sorry Plight
For single people, if they are working, and consequently, living away from home, their plight is usually a sorry one which entails much expense. Hotels, boarding houses, and furnished rooms are at a premium and many times the real value is charged for even the poorest of accommodation.

Result of War
At this stage, I must emphasize that the conditions referred to above came about, primarily, as a result of the war and even so, mostly exist in very large towns and cities, as the smaller villages not only escaped the worst ravages of the blitz but have not had the vast influx of people to have, for instance, London and Manchester.

Now, it must be admitted by even the most prejudiced observer that these conditions have only resulted from the all-destroying blitz and the remarkable increase in the population of England. In the pre-war years, everybody had some sort of home, but owing to the incredible amount of demolition carried out by the Germans, people are forced to seek any shelter they

Food Situation Poor

The food situation, so far as I saw, was decidedly poor. To me, a Canadian coming from a land of plenty, it was something of a shock to be confronted with one person's rations for a week—4 oz. butter, 2 oz. bacon, 2 oz. cheese, 1 egg (if there are any eggs at all—it is quite customary to go two or three months during the winter without eggs), 8 oz. sugar, 2 oz. lard or cooking fat, 4 oz. margarine, 2 oz. tea and 6 oz. candy.

Many people try to get over the food difficulty by "eating out" but this presents fresh problems, for not only is the food of poor quality but very little variety. Owing to the shortage of staff, one has to wait very long for even the simplest meals.

Cafeterias In Order
In London and the larger towns, cafeterias are the order of the day, but even in these "help-yourself" places there are queues, queues, queues, and it takes quite a while to reach the end of the queue. The prices of meals even in the small "joints" are often shockingly dear and the average Englishman is only able to "eat-out" occasionally.

Tube Travel
Travel, owing to the curtailed services now in operation as a result of the partial requisition by munitions factories of coal supplies, is by no means comfortable but could be worse. I found the London Tube services nothing short of miraculous and the speed with which the Tubes convey passengers to all parts of London has to be experienced to be believed.

The Tubes also are kept in spotless condition and as they are situated in almost all parts of London, they are one of the most convenient means of travelling about the metropolis. The Railway Executive Board of British Railways have introduced "cheap day trips" to all parts of England at prices which seem remarkably low; thus it is possible for even the lower-income groups to spend a cheap day at the seaside or amidst the lovely countryside of England.

Clothing Cost High
Clothing is plentiful and of quite a high standard, both in style and quality. But as in all other things, purchase by the ordinary man-in-the-street is restricted owing to the somewhat high cost. I found most things cheaper than in Canada, but that is only to be expected as wages in England are much smaller than the wages in Canada.

The English do not go in for very ultra-smart clothes, preferring to buy hard-wearing sturdy garments of subdued shades and most women wear flat-heeled shoes. These last are most necessary, as it is astonishing how much walking people do, especially in London.

English Reserved
In any case, the English are not a flamboyant race, being rather reserved and dignified. I noticed that very few English women wear much make-up—most were content with a little powder and lipstick. Maybe their good complexions have something to do with it. Everybody looked remarkably healthy and I understand that the standard of health in England is high. This may be due to the wonderful National Health System

they have there. Doctors, specialists, hospital treatment, nursing homes, home-nurses, dentists, wig, optical requirements, dentures—all are provided free or on payment of a very small sum, by the Health Ministry. Thus it is possible for the poorest of the poor to have all the treatment necessary to make them well.

Everything They Require
Many people, who, previously, had no spectacles or dentures or treatments because they could not afford to pay for them, now have everything they require. These services are financed by the levy of the National Health and Unemployment Insurance fees which every citizen pays.

Children up to five years of age are provided with free milk, cod-liver oil, orange juice and vitamins weekly, and expectant mothers are given everything necessary absolutely free of charge.

If the patient is very poor, clothes, for the baby, blankets, sheets, feeding-bottles, etc. are also supplied by the Child Welfare Clinics whose job it is to see that every child has everything necessary for its proper growth and nourishment regardless of cost and whether the parents are poor or rich.

Untreated Sickness Obsolete
Visiting Sick nurses, home-helps, nannies, day-nurseries, special open-air schools are all provided under this wonderful scheme.

Every effort is made to find work suitable to the ability of the employee (this is the function of the National Labour Exchanges) and nobody is considered too old or too useless. Also, under Government supervision, every worker must receive a living wage and as a result "cheap labour" and "sweated labour" is non-existent nowadays.

Lots of Trade Unions
Maximum hours are fully laid down and Trade Unions exist in plenty with whom employees deal in all matters involving disputes among personnel. Regular holidays with pay are compulsory, also in the event of anyone becoming sick or unfit for work, full benefits are payable to him through the National Sickness Benefit Scheme.

At the age of 60 a woman receives the old-age pension, a man becoming eligible at 65. In cases of hardship, a good substantial pension is allowed.

Best Social System
Taking all into consideration, therefore, I came to the conclusion that even though beset on all sides with shortages and similar problems of an industrial nature, England has, in spite of it all, the best social system and security-for-all system in the world; and if the citizens can "stick it out" to the bitter end, they will be rewarded with the fruits of their self-sacrifice—peace, plenty and security for all "from the cradle to the grave."

METEOROLOGICAL TRAINING

People from all parts of the world are learning the intricacies of weather forecasting at the London Meteorological Office training school. The 3-month course includes work at the Central Forecasting Office and at British airports; also practical instruction for working radar equipment for wind-testing.

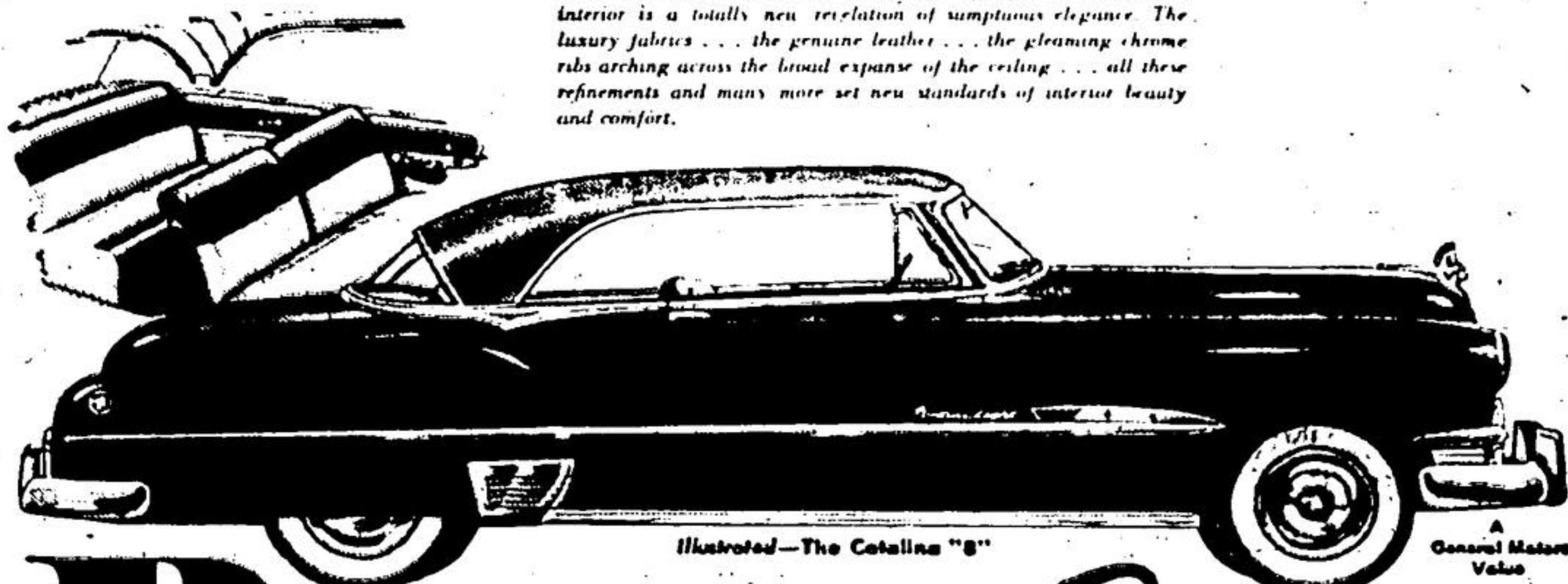


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