

Wings and Activities

CBC CHILDREN'S SCRAPBOOK JOINS MBS NETWORK

Major Mac, Peggy and Johnny Jolly and all their young friends on CBC's "Children's Scrapbook" are now paying a weekly call on the young listeners of the Mutual Broadcasting System, for the Scrapbook was recently invited to become an international exchange feature, and since Saturday, Feb. 17, Canadian boys and girls have been joined by their American cousins in looking over the pages of the big book.

Each Saturday, 12.30 to 1.00 p.m., the twins, Peggy and Johnny, guardians of the Children's Scrapbook, open the book which has a new chapter added every week by Authoress Mary Grandman. Then begins the half-hour of adventure, music, nature study and on-the-spot broadcasts, with commentator Austin Willis speaking direct from the point at which the actuality is to be presented.

First-hand accounts of activities at an airport, a visit to the Royal Train engine, trips through the zoo, and many other interesting excursions have made up the actuality features, and there are many more exciting trips to be made in the weeks ahead.

The next event of importance to be covered by the CBC Farm Broadcast Department will be the College Royal at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, on Wednesday, March 6th. The College Royal, a miniature of the famous Royal Winter Fair, is an outstanding event in the "Aggies" year. Many of the important personages present at the College Royal will be heard in an interview with Don Fairbairn on the Ontario Farm Broadcast, which will originate at O.A.C. on March 6 at 12.30 p.m. EST.

Woodhouse and Hawkins Stop a Hockey Match

Speaking of performers who "stop the show" Woodhouse and Hawkins, the CBC comedy team, accomplished an even more spectacular feat recently when they stopped a regularly-scheduled league hockey game in Western Canada. It seems that the radio station in Yorkton, Saskatchewan, regrettably informed the local hockey authorities that the game at 8.00 p.m. on Friday (10.00 p.m. EST) between the Yorkton Terriers and the Regina Vics-Aces could not be broadcast. Reason: Woodhouse and Hawkins were on the air at that time. The station manager hastily ducked, expecting a hail of hockey sticks. Instead, the team thanked him for reminding them about the broadcast and postponed the game to 8.30 so they could listen themselves!

CBC Feature Salutes "Canada's Merchants"

One of the most difficult assignments ever undertaken by the CBC Sound Effects Department has just been completed "Somewhere off the East Coast." The job of the Sound Effects experts is to make accurate recordings of the actual sounds that may be needed in connection with a broadcast—the sound of machinery, of a locomotive, of city traffic, of any one of a thousand different kinds of noises. Most of the Sound Effects jobs are for land-lubbers; now, the department has got its sea-legs, making first hand recordings of wind and wave, of whistles and whistles and engines, to be used in the CBC feature broadcast that will salute "Canada's Merchants," the ships and the sailors who carry precious cargoes from Canada's Eastern ports to the British Isles. This unusual feature broadcast will be presented over the National Network on Friday, March 1, 8 to 9.00 p.m. EST. It will be produced by J. Frank Willis, CBC's Features Producer, who braved seasickness on the Atlantic in February to secure the necessary recordings.

CBC Official Judges Drama Festivals
Rupert Lucas, general head of the CBC Drama Department, leaves for a trip through the West in the middle of March. In Winnipeg he will adjudicate the Inter-University radio drama contest. Later, he will do a similar work in Saskatoon, Edmonton and Vancouver. He will also be adjudicator at the Regina Drama Festival of March 28 - 29 and 30.

HEATING HINTS

A NUMBER of my readers have asked me how to avoid dust seeping through the cracks in the ashpit door when they shake the grates. This can be very easily ended by having a small pipe spray installed in the ashpit and connected with the cold water system.



The spray can be easily made by drilling small holes in a short length of pipe and capping the free end. The cost is negligible. Then when you are ready to shake the grates you simply turn on the spray which throws a fine mist over the entire ashpit. Thus the dust is wet down and they fall through the grates and the dust is settled immediately, and kept inside the ashpit. And when the ashes are removed from the ashpit they are wet enough to prevent any more dust from arising and flying through the cellar. (21)



RADIO POLICIES

Since the inauguration of the campaign for the forthcoming general elections on March the twenty-sixth the man in the street in all sections of this country has been perplexed and confused by unusual electioneering, particularly those resulting from the facts that an appeal to the electorate must be made at this time of the year and during a period when this nation is involved in a war. Consequently, the old method of nation-wide personal tours by party leaders must either be curtailed considerably or be abandoned in many instances, with the result that the broadcasting facilities of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation are going to be used in this brief campaign in the most extensive manner ever to be attempted in such a vital public service. Naturally, this novel experimentation has aroused a number of serious questions in the mind of the average Canadian and it is in the public interest and concern that these should be answered fully and clearly according to the informed, impartial, authoritative and competent officials on Parliament Hill.

What are the policies of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation in regard to the general elections? This question can be answered simply and frankly by the statement that this public body does not believe, nor practice, nor authorize anything which attempts to regiment opinion or to throttle freedom of utterance on current affairs and problems, encouraging at all times a fair and adequate presentation of controversial questions, that no laws of decency, morality and statutory provisions are violated, such as slanderous remarks, dramatized political broadcasts, any political broadcasting on the two days preceding the election, etc.

What are the costs of these broadcasts on the nation's network? In this campaign all network party political broadcasting will be on a sustaining basis, that is free, and though this policy means the loss of considerable revenue, yet it is in the best interests of democratic government so that every opinion worthwhile may be heard by the Canadian listener in all parts of this country and the whole may be accomplished without involving a question of expense, which has been termed often an ugly and undesirable feature of the modern political contents.

What are the arrangements for broadcasting speeches in this political campaign in order that fair and adequate presentations of controversial questions may be made? With slight modifications to meet the requirements of the Canadian situation, the arrangements embody the same principles that govern election broadcasting in Great Britain. For the duration of the campaign, there is a sharp reduction or dispensation, of non-party radio programmes of a controversial character, especially those on economic, social and political subjects which may become contentious issues in the elections. Then the various parties are allotted time on the air according to a just and agreed upon schedule or formula which considers amongst other factors the length of the campaign, the total periods purchased in previous campaigns, the effect upon broadcasting revenues, the disruption of programmes, and the ratio which is established among the existing political parties which are recognized in the House of Commons.

This ratio is based on five factors. First, the standing of the political parties in the last general elections as well as in the previous appeal, and their relative strength at dissolution. Second, the popular votes of these parties in previous elections. Third, independent of the actual results in seats or popular votes, the scope as viewed by the number of candidates who were officially nominated according to the Dominion Elections Act in the previous campaign. Fourth, the standing in the House of Commons at a preceding dissolution in order to take into account the continuity and traditions of a party to safeguard against harsh judgments of land-slides in elections. Fifth, the recognition that the listener is entitled to hear all viewpoints equally and proportionally in accordance with a just and fair formula for the distribution of time on the air, with the rules of parliamentary debate being followed to some extent where possible, including British usage, such as permitting the last broadcast of the campaign to be assigned to the Government Party. This means also that new political parties will get their chance on the air provided that they have nation-wide organizations, a recognized national leader, clear policies on national issues, and seek the election of at least 61 officially nominated candidates in at least three of the provinces of the Dominion.

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PAY THE TOURIST HIS PREMIUM

Tourist expenditures in Canada make up the largest single total in this country's long list of exports, providing an immensely valuable contribution to Canada's balance of trade. In wartime the value of this industry, in terms of the foreign exchange it produces, is a factor that may well produce the steadfast anchor position in an economic tug-of-war. It is estimated the dollar value of tourist business in Canada represents about thirty per cent of the total exports.

Tourist trade does constitute exports as it is money spent by visitors from other countries, mainly from the United States, and the goods and services provided by Canadians are utilized by citizens of these other countries. It is an export trade item, from Canada's economic point of view, just as much as though these goods and services were created for shipment, only in this case the tourist takes delivery at a multitude of inland points as he enjoys the natural beauty of the country.

Because of the extreme importance of foreign exchange in any well planned war effort on the economic front, special and particular precautions are being taken this year to see that no domestic impediment retards the full flow of tourist traffic in and out of Canada. Since ocean travel is not now so attractive as it was in the past, it is to North American travel, by automobiles, trains and aeroplanes.

The United States citizen has an advantage in his favour in the value of his currency in terms of Canadian money. Conditions are such that he receives a bonus in coming to Canada. It is an added inducement to vacation in Canada. That advantage has mutual benefits, for the Canadian as well as the visitor. Canada welcomes—with a royal welcome—the visitor from the republic to the South. We are glad to sell him the goods and services required in his Canadian sojourn. His money at present carries a premium, and the visitor is entitled to that premium in terms of Canadian dollars.

The Foreign Exchange Control Board fixes the rates daily for U.S. dollars. These rates are widely quoted and can be had in any of the branches of the chartered banks throughout Canada, who act as agents for the Board. Under the provisions of the Order, United States citizens must be given the benefit of the Board's rate. In fact, it is illegal to do other than give the Board's rate to the tourist.

At the border, United States tourists will be told they are entitled by Canadian law to receive the Foreign Exchange Control Board rate for their U.S. currency. For Canadians, there is no finer contribution to the Home Front than to encourage the tourist trade, since the benefits of that trade play such an important part in the Canadian war effort.

CHEMICAL SCIENCE

"Chemistry was the first of the sciences to be applied to practical agriculture. Liebig, the chemist, founded scientific agriculture, by explaining the food requirements of plants; Laws



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and Gilbert through field experiments explained the action of manures and brought commercial fertilizers into use. Since those days, chemistry has produced many new and valuable commercial fertilizers which are now employed in enormous quantities and which contribute vastly to increased production.

"During the past twenty years, knowledge of soil chemistry has increased until now it is becoming possible to recommend the most suitable crop for a given area and the proper types of fertilizer to use upon it. Researches into the nature and interaction of the mineral constituents of the

soil and on soil structures are going far towards explaining the relations between soils and plant growth. The study of the soil as such has resulted in a new field of research known as 'Pedology,' a Russian development with a new viewpoint on soils research. Studies in plant nutrition have explained the causes and prevention of many obscure diseases."—Dr. J. M. Swaine, Director, Science Service, Dominion Department of Agriculture, in his Presidential address to the Royal Society of Canada on "Scientific Research, the Key to Progress in Agriculture."



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HEALTH

NUTRITION A NATIONAL OBJECTIVE

Recently the Minister of Pensions and National Health addressed a meeting of 1500 people on "National Health Objectives in War-Time" in Toronto. While the speaker covered a broad field, he dealt especially with nutrition, as he was guest speaker for the Health League of Canada, which utilized the occasion for the launching of a nutrition programme.

As mentioned, editorially, by "Health" in its current issue, the effort at the moment in Toronto is to attempt education of the public on a rather large scale, and it is hoped that the success of this effort will result in the plan being copied in other places.

There will be general agreement with the editor of the Health League's publication when he says: "It is quite likely that the serious consideration of nutrition as a definite national objective may have far-reaching results. We have discussed physical status from time to time with a more or less academic detachment. With the recent rapid advance of knowledge in the field of nutrition, however, we begin to realize that a nation's stature and physique may definitely be altered by the attention we pay to the food a nation eats. And since a nation is no stronger than the men and

women who are its citizens, it seems likely that something about its paying little more attention to the means of providing proper food for the civil population."

The results of the Toronto experiment may be far-reaching, it is pointed out, the writer adding: "Perhaps people will learn how widespread is the ignorance of how to choose, buy and cook food to the best advantage—and knowledge of these things will be of value to everyone."

"It may be that we will learn more, than this. Perhaps we will find to our shame that there are large sections of the population who have insufficient income to buy the food for their children which we tell them is essential to their growth. And one wonders what effect revelations such as these may have. For if we really desire to improve the nutrition of the average child we must do more than talk about it. Education has its immediate significance. But it is the action which follows education which counts."

At dinner, Betty Jane had eaten the filling of her pie, but had left the crust.
When asked why she had not eaten all of her pie, she replied: "Because I don't like the running board."

Judge—"Do you wish to marry again if you receive a divorce?"
Lisa—"Ah should say not. Ah wants to be withdrawn from circulation."