TIMELY TOPICS FOR WOMEN

Barbara Baines

"THE BATTLE OF THE FACTORIES"

In a recent broadcast Lord Beaverbrook made an appeal which could not fail to arouse the determination of all of us to make the great-"est contribution within our power to driving back, and ultimetely defeating, the menacing hordes of Hitler.

He said: "Over here we must expect before long to fight for our liberty and our lives. When that day comes there must necessarily be a vast interruption in our capacity to manufacture weapons for our own defense We look to Canada to help fill the breach. We want all that your industry can provide for our battle line. All the strength you can supply us will not be too much for our needs."

We in Canada have, perhaps, been accustomed to think of Canadian industry as being on a small scale when compared with that of Britain or the United States. But in the matter of armaments we need have no inferiority complex. We have the largest plant in the world producing machine guns. We have the largest plant in the English-speaking countries producing field artillery, and also the largest producing small arms ammunition. We have 19 chemical and explosive plants either operating or about to start production, some of which are among the largest found

We are turning out Bren guns, trench mortars, anti-aircraft guns and many highly intricate pieces of equipment. We have produced our first 500 pound aerial bombs, our first 25-pounder artillery guns, our first infantry tanks, our first optical glass and first secret radio devices; and many new plants will come into full production this summer.

We are manufacturing submarine nets and minesweeping gear. We have already delivered 120,000 motor vehicles, many of which have already seen action in the Middle East. We are building about 200 planes a month, and have launched 59 corvettes and 24 minesweepers. A cargo vessel/programme is under way.

In most cases it is a recognized fact that Canadian war industries have attained a high standard of perfection.

The gigantic, new, 3,500,000 fuse-filling plant, now nearing completion in the Toronto district, will soon be a telling factor in the defense of the Empire. It is the first time this complicated and difficult enterprise has ever been attempted in Canada. The plant sprawls over several hundred acres and is considered one of the most modern in existence. It will be completely air-conditioned, and will have a large restaurant for the employees, and a laundry to handle the cleaning of uniforms worn by the operators. In addition it will have its own doctor and nurse, and a post office and bank within the grounds.

I had the pleasure this week of interviewing the Chief of Personnel, the young woman responsible for choosing the 3,500 girls and women who will be employed there when the plant reaches full production. She said the aim of the company (which is owned by the Federal Government and managed by General Engineering Co., Canada, Ltd.) was to provide fair wages, the best working conditions possible, and competent supervision of the health, safety, and general welfare of the girls.

Select workers were sent to Britain some months ago to study the intricate process of fuse-filling, and for some time now have been instructing others for key positions in the industry.

The women operators will work in large rooms that are spotlessly clean. They will wear smart two-piece uniforms of heavy cream cotton wth coloured belts to designate to which part of the plant they belong. Because they will be working with explosives, all matches; pipes, cigarettes; metals, such as zippers or jewellery; silk or rayon clothing; gum; lipticks; etc, must be left outside the "barrier" when they enter the "clean" part of the plant. There are showers and other modern conveniences in

the "change" rooms. Despite the nature of the materials handled fuse-filling is considered a safer industry than many others, because of the special safety devices, and safety measures used.

During the past year there has been greater activity in Canadian factories than ever before in our history. A gigantic armament industry has grown up. Over \$400,000,000 has been spent by the government in building and equipping new plants, and total war orders already exceed \$1,700,000,000. The "Battle of the Factories" is on.

THE 1941 CENSUS

The census man will be ringing your door-bell one of these days, if he has not already done so. It seems rather unfortunate that the census should follow so closely on the heels of the national registration required to round up aliens, and obtain information of value in the prosecution of the war. Yet if the census for 1941 were omitted, no figures would be available for comparative studies over the decades. Some of the questions asked may seem to you to be trivial, foolish or your own private business. But if the census is to fulfil the purpose for which it is intended, the helpful co-operation of all is needed, and

you may rely on the census taker to spill no secrets. Some rather strange facts came to light when the national regis-

There are 7,862,000 Canadians over 16 years of age and about 100,000 more men than women. There are 86,000 people who can't speak either French or English and over 1,000,000 people who can speak both langu-

Some women wouldn't tell their age, in fact 3970 of them-but then 1500 men wouldn't either. The figures showed that 14,600 women are employers, while 53,800 are working for themselves, and about half a million of them have never worked (I guess sweeping, dusting and washing dishes doesn't count as

Some 994,500 women can milk a cow but only 247,000 men, while 16,500 women can drive a tractor. Ten women were listed as aviators. Strange as it may seem 2,275,000 women reported themselves as married, but only 2,247,000 men. No doubt when the census is finished other strange facts will be

LET ME REMIND YOU

Where much is given much shall be required. There are never privileges to enjoy without corresponding duties in return. -Philips Brooks-

BOOK REVIEW

"THEY CAME TO A RIVER"

BY ALLIS MCKAY

(Macmillan, 651 pp., \$3.00) "They Came to a River" is the story of pioneering in the 20th century on the last frontier of America, the Columbia River Valley. We are first introduced to Christine Hallowell when she is a romantic young girl, feeling restless when her best friend, just a few years

older, marries and has a baby. The Columbia River then was real frontier country. Chris's father preached in the mission, ran the ferry across the river and farmed on the side. You get to know all the young people of the valley, their fun and parties and scrapes, in the days when travel was by buggy or horseback. and the first experimental orchards were planted.

The story ends when Chris is just thirty, but things happen quickly during the intervening years. Chris falls in love with Nate Barnes on the neighboring ranch, rries him and has three children. She and her husband watch the and on both sides of the river grabbed up by new-comers, the failures leave, the weaklings weeded out. Then after eight years of great hap-

piness Nate is caught in a rockslide and killed. The future looks hopeless and lonely-years of unrelenting work, an unfair struggle with the elements. But Chris faces up to life with the valour of a true pioneer. She meets disaster and loss and disappointment but she makes a success of her orchards, and she brings up her family. She takes part in the struggle for water, in the fight for the railway. She sees the country town of Wenatchee grow to a city, the first automobile

come, and the World War. And she finds solace in the companionship of Stephen Patch. They are married, and the old Reverend, her father, hears her sing again the first time for years. She had lived a full and complete life, a life shaped by the river, the orchards, the land and now she looks again to the future with happiness.

STEAK AND TOMATO CASSEBOLE

Inexpensive meat dishes are often just as nourishing and testy as the more expensive cuts. This casserole of steak and tomato is very nice with mashed potato or steamed rice. .

2 cups canned tomatoes 1 pound minced steak 2 onions

1 cup bread crumbs tablespoon butter Salt and other seasoning

Out the onions in thin slices in the bottom of a greased casserole. Spread the steak in a layer on top of onions. Season lightly with salt, pepper. chili powder, sage or your favourite seasoning. Pour over the tomatoes. Cover with bread crumbs, and dot with bits of butter. Sprinkle with paprika. Cook in moderate oven (350 degrees P.) one hour. Gerves six.

INTERNATIONAL UNIFORM Sunday School

First Jerusalem Conférence On World Missions

SUNDAY, JUNE 22, 1941

GOLDEN TEXT: "But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they." Acts 15: 11. LESSON PASSAGE: Acts 15: 6 - 21.

"Are ye able, said the Master, "To be crucified with me?"

'Yea,' the sturdy dreamers answered. "To the death we follow Thee." -Earl Marlatt.

Peter Speaking, 6 - 11 How Peter had grown! Henry Drummond said that in studying the Gospels we can see the disciples increasing their spiritual size through the commanionship of Christ. This especially true of Peter. He was blunderer in speech at first. Then we find him preaching his great sermon at Pentecost, interpreting his vision at Joppa and here we see him talking like a statesman at the Jerusalem Conference. Peter told his own experience in preaching to the Gentiles. They too received the Holy Spirit and lived in its power. They had found that Christ gave them new life and it did not come through the Levitical law; it came through the presence of Christ in the heart. There could not be one rule for the Jews and another for the Gentiles. Peter uttered a great truth when he said: "But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they." Just sit down and attempt to answer in honesty the question, "What do I think of Christ?" and you will find yourself in the storm centre of the world. "It is impossible to draw near to that Character and authority without being moved to such emotion that you will either fight him tooth and nail, as the rulers of some countries do today, or else go his way in unconditional surrender for the rest of your life."

Barnabas and Paul Speaking, 12 What a story Barnabas and Paul had to tell! They could begin at Antioch in Syria where the followers of Christ were first called Christians. They could tell of Sergius Paulus, the deputy who believed at Salamis. They could tell of the convert's won in Antioch in Pisidia. Doubtless they would mention people by name "declaring what miracles and wonders God had wrought among the Gentiles by them." Is it exaggeration to speak of a convert and a wonder? Saved sinners are living miracles. A miracle is something at which we wonder and the wonder does not cease when we see vicious people become gentle, debased people become refined, anti-social people become unselfish servants of others. Barnabas and Paul had been farther afield than Peter but they had the same story to tell of redeeming grace through telling of Christ. This miracle working power in personality is central in the Christian message. Christian worship and education are uplifting, but there can be crisis and decision so that character is altered. desires purified and new habits formed. Then religion ceases to be speculation and a Christian can witness: "I am sure that Christ is alive, is avail-

able, is able to redeem.' James Speaking, 13 - 18

James, the Lord's brother, had not been in the company of the disciples during the earthly ministry of Jesus but here we find him the leader of the Christian fellowship in Jerusalem. He did not talk out of experience in the same way as Peter and Paul. James had stayed in Jerusalem and perhaps had "the headquarter's mind." He turned to Old Testament scripture for authority for receiving the Gentiles. He agreed with Peter and Paul but rather hesitatingly as though a concession were being made. Yet James was winning a notable victory over himself and his past. He had been trained in the synagogue and he was living under the shadow of the Temple. All at once to become an evangelical and believe that convictions in the mind and affections of the heart were more important than correct forms of ritual was a great advance for James to make all at once. It meant a break with tradition, giving up national ideas of religion and getting the vision of a universal gospel.

The Final Decision, 19-21 In a few words the Jerusalem Council stated its decree. To us it seems the only reasonable decision but it was epoch making at the time.

meant that Jewish Christians did not require converts to come into the Christian Church through Judaism. It was virtually a renunciation of Jewish exclusiveness and a declaration of racial equality. This was a notable admission on the part of the Jewish Christians and the Gentiles welcomed it as a gracious concession. Paul and all other apostolic missionaries found this decision of great help to them in their work. The principle involved has modern applications. The relations of the people of one race to the religious practices of the church of another race is a vital question.

in recent months. Democratic Discussion

The problem has been acute in Japan

An English religious leader once said: "Whoever is afraid to submit any question, civil or religious, to the test of free discussion is more in love with his own opinion than with the truth." When the Jerusalem Council met there were many shades of opinion but after thorough discussion there was unity of opinion and a practical plan of action. To get the most from discussion we must learn to state our own opinions fairly and be willing to listen to those with whom we disagree. Quite often we learn more from our opponents than from our supporters. Because of war there are sharp cleavages of opinion between races and nations, but the day will come when conferences will have to be held to rebuild the world. "Christendom must keep clear the vision of Christ upon the judgment seat, above all strife; standing for a collective life that we have betrayed?"

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357 Questions for Discussion

What had made Peter broad mind-2. What did Barnabas and Paul have In what sense is the Old Testament a missionary book?

How does the New Testament church differ from the Old Testa-

ment synagogue? What is the war doing to cause race prejudices?

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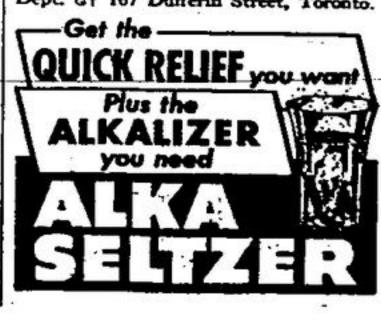
-Many people have viewed with interest the photograph or display in the Herald window for the past week. Loaned to us by Mrs. A. J. Smethurst it shows the old mill at Stewarttown which was wrecked in the spring of 1913 when the boiler blew up. The mill was owned by the late H. P. Lawson, and Mrs. Smethurst's father, Mr. John Appelbe, was working in the mill at the time of the accident.



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