

# A Feature Page

"As We See It"

By J. A. Murray

## With the Bomber Press in England

Another in a series of articles written by W. R. Legge and C. V. Charters, who represented the Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association in a recent tour overseas.

### AGRICULTURE IN ENGLAND

By Walter R. Legge

Agriculture plays a leading part in the war programme in every country and especially in Great Britain which must of necessity import much of its food, and the editors were able to make a brief study of what is being done to help raise as much food as possible.

We found it to be a fact that many of the former beautiful flower gardens are now converted into vegetable growing. One notable example that we saw was at Windsor Castle where the flower garden in what was originally a moat is now devoted to vegetables. While at the Rosebank Inn at Wyth Cross we were interested to notice that the lovely terraced gardens at the rear of this Inn were now filled with vegetables.

Nearly all the Canadian camps are also growing all the vegetables they can in any odd corners of the land. At the camp of No. 1 General Canadian Reinforcement Unit they had a prize display of potatoes, tomatoes, carrots, onions, beans, beets and turnips which they had grown there. Last year they said, there were thirty tons of potatoes alone grown on land in the camp.

At the naval base which we visited they had fifty acres in potatoes although it was difficult to see where they could find that much spare space. Everywhere we went we saw vast fields of cabbages, potatoes, and in some sections, sugar beets, and some of these fields looked much larger than fields of similar products which are ordinarily seen in Canada.

We had a splendid opportunity to really study an English farm when we visited one day the Canon Court Farm in Berkshire. This farm, owned by Mr. Henry J. Purser, is probably the best farm in that section of England, as it has won the King George V prize for efficiency and the King Edward VIII cup for the best cultivated farm in Berkshire. This is said to be the only cup of such a nature ever given by King Edward VIII.

This farm is 500 acres in area, and four tractors are used on it. This year it produced among other things 3,200 bushels of oats, and the part planted in wheat produced 64 bushels to the acre. Mr. Purser was milking 41 cows when we were there.

It was interesting to learn that this farm was redeemed from tithes only five years ago. Up until that time tithes had been paid annually to Oxford University.

The farm buildings are extensive, well laid out, and built of brick, and even the partitions of the pens were built of brick. The barns were much more substantial than the usual ones in Canada, and when one of the Canadian editors asked how old these barns were, he was informed that "they are comparatively modern, having been built only one hundred and forty years ago."

Another of the editors remarked that it would be difficult to find a barn in Canada that was over one hundred years old, whereupon he was asked if the people of Canada did not know how to take care of their buildings.

Mr. Purser showed some extra fine cabbages and marrows which he had brought back from Covent Garden market the previous day because he was unable to sell them. Apparently just at that season there was more produce than could be sold.

Although farmers in England are encouraged to raise pigs, they are allowed to retain only a certain proportion for themselves. While the editors were in England there was an item in the newspapers telling of a farmer and butcher, Stanley Platt, of Church Farm, Bransstone (Staffordshire) who was fined one hundred pounds for killing two pigs when he only had a license to slaughter one.

Carrying out government regulations was not the only problem that Mr. Purser and his family had to contend with. They showed a large collection of the bombs which had fallen on their farm, many of them in January, 1941. They had put in several nights of hard work extinguishing incendiaries.

For some reason onions are not a satisfactory crop in England, but there are some grown, although not nearly enough for the demand. Some good specimens were seen at Amersham, and here the owner had carefully tied cotton over the tops to save the seed.

In September, the writer visited the Agricultural Fair at Cheltenham which was being held in the City Hall there. There were very fine displays of vegetables especially potatoes, cabbages, turnips and beans. Scarlet runner beans are a highly regarded food in England, and some of the largest

Pods at this show were fourteen inches long. Carrots and onions were not as good as would be seen at a fair in Canada, but on the whole the exhibits would compare favorably with Canadian produce.

There were several exhibits of eggs, and also dressed rabbits. Gloucester, only a few miles from Cheltenham, is noted for its sheep fair and the same afternoon, I visited that interesting event. This is really a sheep market, and the buyers are mostly farmers or sheep herders seeking to improve their flocks.

There were nearly ten thousand sheep there, all herded into pens about ten feet square. The average price that day for a sheep was said to be between fifty and sixty shillings. A workman told us that the farmers try to replace their herds every two years.

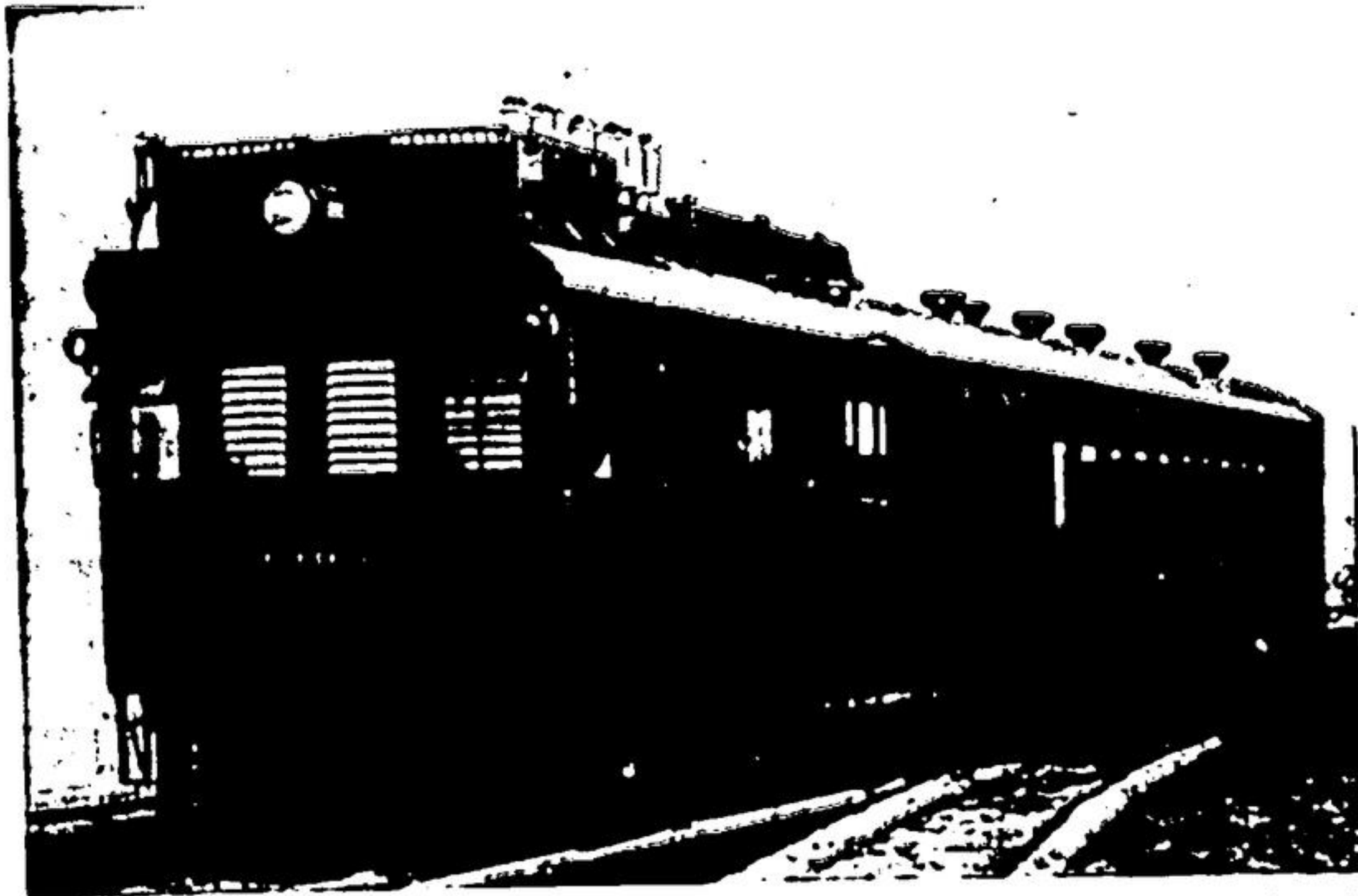
Practically all the people of England are doing all they can to help by growing all the vegetables that they can. In addition to turning private gardens into vegetable patches, there are 1,750,000 allotments of land being tilled in Britain. People spend their leisure hours digging in these plots which are let to them at a nominal fee.

This past year there were good crops of apples, plums and pears grown in Britain, and there is also a small quantity of grapes grown there. One thing that was strange to Canadian eyes was the training of apple trees on stone walls. A good example of this was seen on the walls around the Bishop's Palace at Wells.

A War Agriculture Committee functions in every county to try and increase agricultural production, and these committees strive to get every acre possible ploughed up and planted in vegetables. The reason for this is that ten acres in pasture will not support more than four people, but ten of potatoes will maintain 42 people, or in wheat will maintain 21.

This agricultural work is a big part of the war effort, and Britain was blessed last year with a splendid crop

## Mile-a-Minute Local on C.P.R. Prairie Run



One of the fastest trains of its kind on the continent, the Canadian Pacific Railway's gas-electric No. 340 burns up 41.64 miles of right-of-way between Regina and Moose Jaw daily except Sunday in 55 minutes flat—and it makes four stops en route.

Familiarly known as the "Gallop-ing Goose", No. 340 is a combination of engine, baggage, express, mail and passenger car all rolled into one—a particularly valuable feature these days when conservation of power and equipment is a vital necessity.

The self-contained train, whose performance has been highly lauded by American railroad experts, leaves Moose Jaw at 6:45 a.m. and pulls into Regina depot just 55 minutes later. It is back in Moose Jaw again at 10:30 the same morning. The train does "local" work between stations en route, but because of its light weight and ready acceleration it soon makes up for time thus lost.

No. 340 hits its real stride between Pasqua and Belle Plaine. On this 10.3-mile stretch of way the train hits an average

speed of 61.3 miles per hour to cover the distance in an even 10 minutes. Transcontinental trains actually equal that time on the same stretch but without slowing down for local stops.

Like other gas-electric units operating on short runs, No. 340 was designed to give frequent local service where operation of heavy trains would not pay. Inasmuch as they can maintain as satisfactory schedules with equal speed, safety and comfort, they have proven themselves highly popular with all sections of the travelling public.

## Poetry

A BOY'S CREED

I believe in the fellow that lives on the square,  
That plays the game straight and tries to be fair,  
That keeps himself clean in body and mind,  
That does a good turn and seeks to be kind;  
I strive to be like that as near as I can,  
For Jesus, I think, was that kind of a man.

ALL SET FOR 1943

Now we're all set for '43,  
And what 'twill bring to you and me  
No one can ever guess;  
For no one knows what any day  
May bring to us at work or play,  
Of joys or deep distress.

One thing is sure, no other year  
Was filled with such wide sadness,  
Drear,  
As rests o'er all the world;  
It seems so hard to realize  
That wars of such tremendous size  
Would ere again be hurled.

'Twould be impossible to find  
What evil things have filled the mind  
Of rulers with intents  
To make themselves demagogues,  
When judged by their most fiendish acts,  
On helpless innocents.

Yet '43 has brought to light  
First ray of hope from war's black night,  
At last we plainly see,  
That maybe, ere this year has passed,  
Real "Peace on earth" has come at last  
Through Allied Victory.

—RALPH GORDON,  
628 Crawford St., Toronto.

### SOLDIERS AID COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE AT LEGION

Col. R. Rhodes, D. S. O. of the Soldiers Aid Commission, Toronto, Ont., spent Saturday afternoon at the Legion Hall on his annual visit to Georgetown.

Several cases dealing with the return men were brought to his attention which require the assistance of the Soldiers' Aid Commission.

Col. Rhodes promised to have the matter brought before him thoroughly investigated and the assistance from the Commission will no doubt be dealt with on the recommendation of their representative.

## GLEANED FROM THE PAST

TWENTY YEARS AGO—The High School report was front page news, so we take the standing for Forms III and IV: Form IV, Frank Ferguson, Reginald Bolger, Rhoda Long Mary Cranston, William Hosking, Wallace Cook, Annabel McLaughlin, Yvonne Porm III, Jean MacKenzie, Lloyd Thompson, Cecil Barth, Gladys Hanna, Maude McDonald, Dorothy Frampton, Aileen Hume, Stanley Barth Aileen Moore, Esther Bessy, Robert Leslie, Marion McCullough—Mr. J. B. Mackenzie made a business trip to Buffalo on Monday—At a largely attended meeting, an Indoor Baseball League was organized with the following officers: President, J. M. Moore; vice-president, W. V. Grant; Secretary-Treas., J. L. Thompson—Some 1923 advertisements: Arthur Norrington "Saturday Treats"; C. P. Ridler, butcher; H. J. Fox, boots and shoes; Jackson's of Post 120 Mrs. Grieve enlisted the day after the war was declared.

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO—A deputation, presenting a petition against the proposed gas station at corner of Guelph and Queen Streets, waited on the Council and Roy Edwards, addressed Council giving their reasons against the said gas station.—Georgetown won the championship of the Halton County hockey league by defeating Oakville 5-0 in the final game. The players: Goal, Holloway; Defense, Blackburn and Walters, Centre, Reid, Wings, Test and King, Subs, H. Cole, J. Buck, Gibbons.—Mrs. Tom Grives, who was a member of the Red Cross for 19 years, or from the time of its inception in England, was received as a "returned soldier" at the regular meeting of Oct. 120. Mrs. Grives enlisted the day after the war was declared.

TEN YEARS AGO—Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Minnis and family moved to Toronto last week—At a meeting of the Hydro Commission the resignation of R. J. Forster was accepted. He has been superintendent since its installation in 1912.—Some food prices advertised March 29, 1933: Baked Ham, 25c lb.; Buck Bacon, 17c lb.; Pot Roast, 10c lb.; Oranges, 23c doz.

FIVE YEARS AGO—E. R. Marchant is having a new front put on his barber shop and tobacco store.—Hilton County quail matron received an increase in salary because there had been women in the jail 200 out of 365 days.—Thomas Joyce died suddenly after a heart attack at the home of his daughter, Mrs. D. Livingstone.

JUST LAST YEAR—The Town purchased a new fire truck at \$4408.—Intermediate hockey team eliminated from O. H. A. play-offs by the Paris Hawks.—Funeral services were held last Thursday for the late Margaret Robertson who passed away at Halleybury.—A presentation and shower was held by the office staff of Smith & Sons for Miss Helen Humberstone, a bride of next week.



"Dear me, do I look like that?" A former mascot of the Pacific Coast fighter squadron of the R.C.A.F. examines the bulldog insignia which distinguishes the squadron. The mascot is Queen, a 14-month-old English bulldog who folds the rank of

(RCAF Photo)



### CURTAIN CALL

Last year when the CBC and Albert Whitehead, who conducted the chorus. Here is a rehearsal shot taken at that time. Ettore Mazzoleni conducted the anniversary broadcast of the opera, "Transit Through Fire"

### BRAMPTON

Brampton school teachers will receive an increase in salaries commencing September of this year as a result of the Board of Management report as presented at the regular meet-

ing of the Board of Education held last Wednesday evening.

Brampton has done it again—gone 50 per cent over their objective—contributed over \$18,000 in the Federal Campaign—and the end is not yet. "Charlie" Donaldson (a former real-

### OPPORTUNITY

certainly knocks these days, especially when we compare them with the 1930's, for instance. And the best part of it is that those knocks come for the girls as well as the young men. The young ladies are taking many responsible positions these days and it is interesting to learn that it really doesn't make any difference what town the girls may come from, they seem to be able to do a good job in their particular line no matter whether it is Vancouver, Halifax, Toronto or Tuggerille that they claim as being their home town. It did seem to be rather difficult for the average youth to get anywhere during the 30's but no doubt opportunity was knocking at that time as well. We never know though do we? The youngster that you may like to watch playing marbles today may be quite an important person in a few years time. Back before the first great war, when we were living in Northern Ontario, a youngster, not quite old enough to go to school, was a favorite of ours. He was a son of the Manse and his Mother had passed on. He was no relation of ours but his Step-Mother was and perhaps that accounted partly at least for the interest that we took in him. At that time money was scarce at the average Manse and this particular lad didn't get too much candy money. He visited our store quite often and we saved all the broken candy, that we might have otherwise made into grab bags, for him. Due perhaps to the extreme frost which is common up in that country a shipment of candy arrived with a whole box of those old fashioned Peppermint Sawlogs all broken and we handed this lad the whole box. If you were ever young perhaps you can imagine the feelings of that little chap with the big ears. Those sawlogs looked like the real thing. Later on this same lad attended the O.A.C. and specialized in Foultry and after a number of years experience he was appointed Professor of the Poultry Department at the University of Illinois which, as you may know, is located at Urbana. In that State since the U.S.A. entered the present war this same chap was Chairman of the Food Production Board for Illinois. The other day we received a message to meet him at the train as he would be passing through Georgetown. He had recently received word from Washington, D. C. to report to the American Embassy in Rio De Janeiro in Brazil and on his way going to Washington by train and then on by plane. We mentioned to him that it all seemed a far cry from those days back in Northern Ontario and that he must have something, surely. His reply was that perhaps men were scarce. If we had received an appointment of that kind we would be apt to think that we must really be somebody but this gentleman didn't seem to think that it was anything wonderful and he was still humble enough to remind us of those peppermint sawlogs. Perhaps that fact alone accounts for the way that he has progressed. We have little idea as to where those lads that we may be watching playing marbles these days may land in a very few years time.

### PERHAPS

you were interested enough in the present Stanley Cup Series to sit up to hear the whole of that long game as played in Detroit on Tuesday evening of last week. We remember sitting up for the conclusion of a somewhat similar game in the Spring of 1933 but this year we decided to shut the Radio off. The 1933 game was the final one that gave Toronto the N.H.L. title for that season by beating Boston and it was a small of stature player, by the name of Ken Doraty that got the winning goal. Doraty had been with the Syracuse Stars and moved up to the Leafs in the 32-33 season. He hadn't been used very much on that important long game but seemed to have the knack of slipping through where bigger players might have been unable to do so, thus getting that famous goal. He was sold to Cleveland at the beginning of the 35-36 season. There seems to be a difference of opinion as to who it was that actually scored the winning goal in the long game at Detroit but at the long game in '33 it was Doraty and no question about it.

ident of Georgetown—ed.) who went overseas with the Ordnance Corps on Jan. 7th, 1940, has been promoted to the rank of Major, according to an announcement made by Ottawa, Charles, who was an employee of J. T. Furr and Son, went over as a Sgt.-Major and his ability has been recognized. He received his commission as Lieutenant shortly after arrival overseas and last year was raised to Captain.

A. G. Davis, K. C., was re-elected as president of the Peel Memorial Hospital Association at the annual meeting of the directors held at the hospital on Saturday last.

Peel County Council desire corrective farm legislation from the Federal Government and feel that the government should assume their rightful responsibility. This fact was contained in a motion put to the council at the conclusion of their five day session on Saturday by Reeve Harpe Wall and Seconded by Reeve A. E. Macmanan.

**SWEET CAPORAL**  
Cigarettes  
"THE PUREST FORM IN WHICH TOBACCO CAN BE SMOKED."