

The Week at OTTAWA

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OTTAWA (CP) — Canadian labor problems hold the attention of Parliament as the Commons seeks to wind up its session by mid-December. At the week-end the Ford strike at Windsor still defied the best settlement efforts.

Parliament heard a warning from Labor Minister Mitchell and got a future employment picture from Reconstruction Minister Howe. From the opposition it got some criticism. Social Credit Leader Solon Low told the Commons there was unrest among industrial labor and that there was little doubt Canada was heading for a period of some unemployment.

Labor Minister Mitchell told the House that Canada could not and would not attain her goal of high employment in peacetime unless management and labor "walk up the road together." Bickerings and strikes, he said, would be a millstone on the wheels of reconstruction. At present every effort was being made to place men being discharged and 334,800 such placements had been made between April, 1942 and Sept. 30 of this year. Actual discharges up to that date totalled 383,000.

Wartime labor controls had mostly been removed and the minister said the emphasis now was on freedom of choice of jobs and employees by the workers and employers respectively. He believed the labor regimentation, while necessary in wartime, had no place in the Canadian scene in times of peace.

The minister added the hope the Ford strike would soon be settled. But even as he spoke new negotiation meetings between the union and the company at Windsor broke down.

Post-War Industry
Mr. Howe's reconversion picture was both interesting and encouraging so far as labor was concerned. He said that at least two-thirds of government-owned war plant capacity could be put to good use in peacetime. Plans had been made for continued operation of government plant capacity with a total value of more than \$210,000,000 or about 30 per cent. of the government's wartime plant investment.

The picture so far as private enterprises were concerned was not complete. But indications were for a big expansion involving millions of dollars. In 791 plants some 179,000 had been employed in 1939 and more than 345,000 in 1944. These companies, the minister said, expected to employ 22,000 persons more than they did in 1944 within one year of completing their reconversion.

Canada has indeed grown with the war. Mr. Howe said that at least 100 major products never before manufactured in the Dominion will be made here in the post-war years—everything from buses to prefabricated houses, plastic products and chemicals.

On future employment the minister gave this picture: reconversion would cause temporary pockets of unemployment, but it was hoped that by next spring there would be sufficient jobs to preclude the need for public works. These, he hoped, would not be needed for "another year or two."

Meat Rationing
Prime Minister Mackenzie King returned to Canada and to his Commons seat during the week, fresh from his trip abroad and atomic energy conferences with Prime Minister Atlee and President Truman in Washington. He did not immediately report to Parliament on his trip and his talks but he did get back in time to make a new statement on a familiar subject—the meat ration.

Following announcement in the United States that meats and fats would be ration-free there after Nov. 24, Mr. King said that Canada would not follow suit. Canada's position might be reviewed in the light of the U. S. developments, but it was the government's intention to continue meat rationing "until such time as it may feel justified in adopting other measures."

Thus Mr. King told Canadians they will continue for some time to get along on their 1-3 pounds per person per week meat ration, reintroduction of which last September caused numerous protests and meat strikes across the land.

Highlight of the parliamentary week came Monday when Prime Minister Atlee stopped off for a day in Ottawa to address a joint meeting of the Commons and the Senate. He spoke of the atomic bomb, warned only intense belief in the principles of inter-dependence of nations and the brotherhood of man would provide the power for the United Nations Charter and said the British Commonwealth, bound together by spiritual, but not material ties, offered the world an example to be noted and followed.

But for Canada perhaps his most immediate message was that his Labor government's reorganization of British industry and agriculture would prove no obstacle to steady and increasing trade between Canada and Britain which has been her best customer.

His party, he said, stood for an expansionist economy and he hoped never again to see the starvation-amid-

plenty tragedy of 1931. The Labor government, he said, held it of vital importance that there should "be a steadily increasing standard of life for the masses of the people throughout the world."

HIS GARDENER WAS KILLED

A columnist who for many years has publicly championed the drink habit, wrote a sentimental piece when his gardener was killed while drunk. Candidly he reported that his efficient gardener spent his evenings in neighboring beer rooms. "Naturally in the mornings he would feel pretty tough and once when wrung by a fellow-feeling we offered a 'shot.' Thereafter he regarded us as his friend and protector."

Rather nonchalantly the columnist described the fateful ending: "We think he had his mandolin with him the night he was killed. He had also a roll of bills, but if either the one or the other had any connection with the assault upon him we do not know. The presumption is that somewhere or other he took more beer than he could wisely handle, wandered into a park, sat down to meditate upon his sins, was struck and killed, dying three or four days after the assault."

A few reflections are obvious. Drink unfits the drinker to protect himself. Drink is dangerous and is causing premature deaths. To give a "shot" to a drinker is mistaken kindness and a confession of spiritual inadequacy. Even a supporter of the liquor traffic and the drink habit is shocked when an alcoholic murder comes near home. Cynicism is an unfeeling attitude to adopt towards the alcohol problem.

BLACK DAYS AHEAD

The picture of alcoholism in years to come is foreboding. World conditions are sending people neurotic. There is conflict of race against race and class against class. There is hate, fear, insecurity and hopelessness. Amid these conditions thousands of frustrated people are going to turn to drink, not for fun but as "an emotional painkiller." They will seek release in alcohol.

The head of a sanatorium caring for alcoholics says that the government should even now be making preparation to care for "a deluge of women alcoholics." Eleven years of women's beer rooms in Ontario have begun to yield an increasing number of drinkers among women. Hospitals refuse to take them, and the jails cannot accommodate them, and their own homes can no longer endure them. Yet the government is selling more drink to get more revenue heedless of the destruction of health and happiness among the drinkers, both men and women.

Don't Burn Asparagus "Tops"

Experiments at the Dominion Experimental Station, Harrow, on sandy soil have shown that organic matter is an important factor in growing good, high yielding asparagus. Twenty tons of manure per acre or ten tons of manure and nitrogen at the rate of two-hundred lb. of Ammonium nitrate per acre will ensure a good annual yield and retain the level of fertility in the soil, says T. B. Harrison of the Station. These days, however, barnyard manure is difficult to obtain and may not be a profitable type of fertilizer at current prices. It is more important than ever that every available source of organic matter that can be located should be guarded jealously and saved by incorporating it into the soil.

In the past many asparagus growers, possibly dominated by the fear of asparagus rust, have mown off their "tops" and burned them away from the patch. At the same time they removed weed growth and generally tidied up the plantation. This has resulted in an annual wastage of a large amount of dry matter which could have become valuable organic matter with proper handling.

It is realized that the difficulties involved in cutting and incorporating the asparagus "tops" into the soil are considerable but it can be and should be done. A 16 inch disc had been used with success by a large grower who has heavy land. By the same token a weighted 12 inch disc should do the job on lighter soil. A tobacco stalk cutter would be useful in breaking down a very heavy top growth prior to discing.

A suggested program for an asparagus grower might be along the following lines:

Disc in the "tops" in the fall and add one-hundred lb. ammonium nitrate per acre to assist in breaking down the "tops" next summer. Stop cutting in July or after twelve weeks cutting and apply broadcast 1000 lb. of a 4-8-10 fertilizer and disc immediately. Any barnyard manure that is available can be added during the winter and disced in lightly in the spring or applied after cutting in the summer.

LUMBER CUT UP

HALIFAX (CP) — Nova Scotia lumber production this year is expected to reach 325,000,000 board feet, the provincial department of lands and forests has announced. Production in 1944 was 302,000,000 board feet.

IRISH ELECTIONS OF YESTERDAY

Talking of procedure at Irish elections a generation ago, as told to him by an election agent who was acting at the time, Alec Wilson, in a recent London broadcast, told some amusing stories.

In a town which, he said, he preferred not to name, practically every man was a politician, and could be counted upon to vote—in strict accordance with his party line. He was either a Protestant Unionist or a Catholic Nationalist. So if a constituency was more or less evenly divided between the two sides polls were exhaustive. In this city opinion was near enough fifty-fifty. So, for several weeks the election agents wrestled in a tug of war. At last the Unionist agent was able to report, proudly, to his candidate that there would be a small but large enough Protestant majority. Then the great day came. Alas, it was the Catholic Nationalists who won.

An intensive inquiry, post mortem would perhaps be an apter word, disclosed the reason. Quite a few persons had died in the interval between the completion of the electoral roll and the voting day. But all the Catholics, dead or alive, had voted. In short there had been some pretty large scale impersonations. Several score of names made up what became known as the "graveyard vote."

The Unionist agent determined it shouldn't happen again. As soon as the next voter's list had been completed, a systematic watch was kept of the death notices in local papers and upon all funerals that went to the local Catholic Cemetery. The names were carefully card-indexed.

When the next polling day came round, a few years later, a Unionist party worker attended every polling station and checked off the voters against his list of recently dead Catholics in that particular ward. In a suspicious case, he challenged the man's identity. A substantial haul was made and several dozen would-be voters spent the night in the police station.

But, in spite of the electoral lists having once again shown a slight Unionist majority, and that there was no Catholic graveyard vote, it was the Unionist who lost, though, by very little. This really got the agent beaten. Long after, when political passions had cooled, he asked his friend the election agent on the other side to explain the mystery. "Well," said his opponent, "we knew well enough we couldn't do much this time with our graveyard vote because you were watching us. But we thought maybe you hadn't been taking so much trouble over your own dead men, so we voted all your dead men instead."

To Expand Police for South Africa

Veterans and Recruits to Benefit in Post-War Reorganization Plans

FRETORIA (CP) — Big plans are afoot to modernize South Africa's police force now that the end of the war has released many of the former policemen from the armed forces. With many of its men in the Second South African Division, formed into the Police Brigade, the Force suffered a great personal disaster when Tobruk fell and these men along with thousands of others found themselves in prisoner-of-war camps.

Now that the men are once again available and with the prospect of many more recruits, the Minister of Justice, Dr. Colin Steyn, has announced that the Force will be expanded and a better scale of pay may be introduced.

It is intended to set up a direct contact between the South African Police Force, Scotland Yard and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Ultimately it might be possible to effect some exchanges between the three organizations.

CAPTURED GERMAN ENGINE FOR RAILROAD'S STUDY

Captured by the First Canadian Railway Operating Group, one of the latest German condenser type locomotives has been sent to Canada for experiment by the Canadian National Railways' motive power engineers, E. R. Battley, chief of motive power and car equipment, says. The tests will determine if this novel type of engine would be practical in Canada.

While the design of the locomotive may possibly suggest some ways by which Canadian engines may be improved, the main feature of interest will be the condenser, Mr. Battley points out. It is an invention which carries the steam released in powering the locomotive to the tender end by a turbine engine fan converts it to water for use again. The Germans claimed the engine could be operated one mile on a gallon of water, but during the period of operation by the Canadian Army in Europe the results were not nearly so good.

NOVEL IDENTIFICATION

DUBLIN (CP) — A soldier pulled the tail of his shirt out in a bank and asked the manager to compare the number on it with the number on his identity card. Satisfied, the manager cashed his cheque.

LIVE ADVENTUROUSLY — IN PEACE

Lieut. Commander Peter Scott, D. S.C., M.B.E., son of the famous arctic explorer, Capt. Scott, and of Lady Scott (now Lady Kennet), the sculptor, recently weighed up, at the BBC microphone, the outlets for adventure as between war and peace. Before the war, an artist and writer, his recreations were wild-fowling and yacht racing. During the war he has served with Light Coastal Forces, the motor torpedo boats and gunboats, which nightly patrolled in "the no-man's land between the occupied coasts of the Continent and the shores of England."

"I think," he said "that in all the Services there was a catchphrase to describe the most adventurous. 'Death or glory boys' they were called. And more often than not they found both." But, he affirmed, with many another the glory was not in the war, but in the human spirit, which "so often achieved ascendancy by sheer will-power over the instincts of self-preservation and self interest and fear."

And this he saw as the problem of peace—to bring forth that courage and initiative and comradeship that flourished amid the ugliness of war, in great works of construction instead of destruction. In peace he averred there is adventure and exploration in the realms of art and science and the business of human progress—as well as the more lighthearted kind to be had from sport, from games and mountaineering, gliding and sailing and such.

"If," he concluded "like me, you believe that the pursuit of beauty and of knowledge—of truth—are worthwhile things, well, then, I don't believe you'll lack adventure."

CHAMPAGNE FOR CHRISTMAS

MONTREAL (CP) — For the few who are interested: champagne corks will start popping in Canada again soon. The S. S. Geisha, carrying the first consignment of champagnes to reach Canada since the war started, arrived recently and distribution is expected to be completed for Christmas.

DAMP DELAYS FARMERS

CHARLOTTETOWN (CP) — Operations on farms in the province have been held up by wet, cold weather and farmers are afraid they will be unable to get their crops in early enough to mature before the autumn frost.

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COUNTY OF HALTON 1946 - LOCAL COURTS CALENDAR - 1946

Place of Sitting	Day of Sitting	Jan.	Mar.	May	June	Sept.	Nov.	Jan. 1947
1 Milton	Friday	11	8	10	28	3	8	10
2 Oakville	Tuesday	8	5	7	25	10	5	7
3 Georgetown	Wednesday	9	6	8	26	4	6	8
4 Acton	Thursday	10	7	9	27	5	7	9
6 Burlington	Monday	7	4	6	24	9	4	6

All Division Courts Open at 10 a.m. Standard Time

Names and Addresses of Clerks—1, B. Knight, Milton; 2, John Chambres, Oakville; 3, Elmer Thompson, Georgetown; 4, Wilfred Coles, Acton; 6, C. D. Bull, Burlington.

County Court and General Sessions, Monday, 3rd June, 1 p.m.; Monday 2nd December, 1 p.m.
Sittings of County Court without Jury, Monday, 1st April, at 10 a.m.; Monday, 7th October, at 10 a.m.

Audit of Criminal Justice and County Accounts, Tuesday, 8th January; Tuesday, 9th April; Tuesday, 9th July; Thursday, 3rd October.

By Order **W. I. DICK, Milton**

Clerk of the Peace

Repats' Dream Meals Come True



SEE THEM SMILING: These hardy warriors of Italy and Northwest Europe, accustomed to a mess tin at meal times, have good reason to smile as they sit down to Canada's most popular breakfast—bacon and eggs—and their first since arriving home. The waiter, also a veteran, followed the first tasty dish with the repats' dream meals of steak and roast chicken at the next two sittings. Menus like these from choice beef, (lower photo) make Canadian Pacific dining car crews the men of the year to tens of thousands of repats who have been served more than one million meals on C.P.R. trains between V-E Day and November.

8,000,000 C.P.R. Meals Served Troops During War

MONTREAL: In six years of war, Canadian Pacific dining car crews have served more than 16 million meals, of which well over half were placed in front of Canada's service personnel.

Currently these dining rooms on wheels are feeding repats, both British and Canadian, arriving at Vancouver from the Orient, and Canadians at the East Coast arriving from Europe, and the stewards and staffs have yet to hear a complaint. They anticipate the desires of the returning fighting men and offer menus that cover all the main features of meals dreamed up in the slit trenches overseas.

The cuisine offered the repats includes such meat courses as roast beef, roast ham, veal, steaks and roast chicken and fish also adds variety to the menu.

Just to make the joy of homecoming complete, when the repats check with the stewards they are assured that mutton, "Australian beef" to overseas personnel, will

not mar these "fatted calf" banquets. Milk, butter and eggs are all favorite items with the veterans for all are scarce overseas. One steward ordered 100 gallons of milk to start a trip with repats from the Ile de France. When that same vessel docked within a week of the troop carrier Nieuw Amsterdam in September the special trains provided by the C.P.R. loaded half a ton of butter and more than 26,000 eggs to start their journey.

Canadian Pacific trains from the first docking of the Queen Elizabeth as a troop carrier to Canada served 33,889 meals to hungry repats and on the one train that went through to Vancouver the veterans polished off 7,092 of the total.