

## "I Had So Many Miseries"

BY R. J. DEACMAN

"In France a pound of sugar is worth 175 francs, tea from 1,000 to 2,000 francs, butter 800 francs — the franc is worth slightly less than one cent in Canadian money."

A friend sat beside me at lunch today—I have known him for many years. He pulled a letter from his pocket and handed it to me. "Read it," he said, "but before you start let me give you the background of the story:

"It's from a young woman in France. Ah, no, she is no longer young. It was in 1918 I knew her. It was during the war, the first Great War. I was stationed in the little town of Ares-Gironde in south-western France. They were fine people, the citizens of France in those days and we were very happy. After I came home I exchanged a few postcards with some of them but you know how it is with these things—they do not pass out of mind—they are in the back pigeon-holes of memory. They came to the front again only when something stirs the embers of the past.

"A few days ago I received a letter. It was from Andree, the young woman I knew. She wondered if I were still alive. She told me the gossip. She was not married. She had adopted a little girl of five whom she called "Pepee." I replied and asked, as delicately as I could, for Andree was a sensitive girl, if there was anything I could do for her."

I read the letter. It was in excellent English, with only here and there a word oddly used—for few write in another language as in their own.

"Do you know what you can do for me? Enquire about the means to send you money, through a bank perhaps, and then I'll tell you what we need most. "Pepee," this is my little girl's name, no her real name in Andree, though, if meanwhile you will send a parcel to "Pepee," she will be very pleased.

"Could you easily find: 2 ordinary exercise books; 2 writing pencils, ordinary; 1 yard of elastic, white; 1 reel of white cotton; a few sewing needles; 1 tin of jam or marmalade; a few sweets, a soap. All these things are so very scarce here that when "Pepee" wants to write, or to sew for her doll, I often have to refuse her. You can have no idea what life is here, especially in this part of France."

Then she thought of Pepee's family: "They were so poor, mother, father, four brothers, almost clothesless. My grandparents left many things but during all these years I had so many miseries everything has gone. So if you have clothes that are of no use for you, you could send them. Oh, they won't be difficult to please, anything would do."

Not a word for herself in this, all for others. Despite the fact that in all these years she had "so many miseries"—no one else is blamed.

"So far as our material conditions are concerned, we are worse than ever, but we need not complain, we deserved all that happened. I believe that, in politics, a nation can never avoid the consequences of its faults, and ours were numerous."

Had these things happened in Canada, we would have blamed the government, the business man, the banks. Never would we blame ourselves. So I hold, for France, an aching hope. When people accept responsibility for their mistakes they have a reserve of power, a strength which will bring them triumph in the end.

My friend has sent the exercise books, the pencils, the yard of elastic (white), a soap and much more. How many little "Pepees" there are, in this devastated world, no one knows. They must be numbered in millions, and tens of millions. So when a cry from out the darkness reaches your heart, respond to it as if there had been given to you the power to sense the sorrows of mankind. Then to the helpless of the world may come the first faint flickering ray of light and hope—may it come soon.

## U. K. WANTS LOTS OF CANADIAN EGGS

Poultrymen now have an idea of what the next two years hold in store for them, states the Current Review of Agricultural Conditions in Canada. The United Kingdom wants increased quantities of Canadian shell eggs. The current contract which expires on December 31, 1946, will be extended to cover 1,750,000 cases of shell eggs and 5,000 tons of dried eggs in 1947 (a total of about 86.1 million dozen eggs at current basic prices). The United Kingdom is to furnish to Canada by the autumn of 1946 (preferably by October) an indication of the requirements of eggs in shell and in dried or frozen form during 1948.

Shell eggs are to be shipped during the months of September to May 15, 1947 inclusive, and more especially during the months from October to December, inclusive. Owing to the difficulties in handling supplies in the United Kingdom during the summer months, Canada was requested to cease shipments of shell eggs by May 15, 1947, diverting the summer surplus to the production of sugar-dried eggs.

## The Week at OTTAWA

BY H. DENT HODGSON  
Canadian Press Staff Writer

OTTAWA (CP) — Canadians soon will be — Canadians. While few persons had any real doubt of this before, State Secretary Martin's Citizenship Bill which passed through the Commons last week definitely establishes and recognizes Canadian citizenship for the first time. Formerly the only definition of citizenship was found in the immigration act.

The change will be a welcome one to many Canadians travelling abroad who have been puzzled by the designation "British Subject" on their passports. In future, all Canadian passports will carry the words "Canadian citizen."

Polished in a careful clause-by-clause study in the Commons which brought out many and varied shades of opinion on the principles, ideals and rights of citizenship, the bill now requires only approval of the Senate and proclamation before becoming law. It was generally approved in principle in the Commons and passed third reading without a recorded vote.

The bill, when proclaimed, will establish these principles and conditions of citizenship:

1. Women will be given the right to decide their own nationality where previously they automatically assumed the nationality of their husbands. A Canadian woman who married a man of another nationality will be able to retain Canadian citizenship if she wishes.

2. Women who marry Canadians will qualify for Canadian citizenship one year after establishing residence in Canada.

3. Native-born Canadians, British subjects domiciled in Canada, brides of Canadian servicemen and all those who now possess naturalization certificates will be declared Canadian citizens immediately upon proclamation.

4. Non-Canadians who have served with the Canadian forces outside Canada will qualify for citizenship after one year of such service.

5. The bill will maintain the status of British subjects with the advantage that Canadian citizenship papers will be supplied on request after five years—the legal period of residence. Once in possession of citizenship papers, they will have the right to enter Canada under diplomatic protection.

6. Naturalized Canadians will lose their citizenship if they remain out of the Dominion for six years or more without declaring their intention of remaining Canadians by official endorsement on a passport or citizenship certificate.

Milk is going to cost most Canadians an added two cents a quart after June 1.

Agriculture Minister Gardiner last week announced the government will remove its consumer subsidy on milk at that date and return control of milk prices to the provincial control boards. Canadians, through the government, have been paying an estimated \$24,000,000 yearly for this subsidy for the last three years. Now it will be paid directly by the consumer.

The subsidy was paid to the industry by the government when milk production costs rose, in order to keep down the cost-of-living and maintain the price ceiling. The increase caused by the stoppage of this subsidy will mean no greater returns to producers.

Milk prices may take a further two-cents-a-quart leap next fall, for the government also has decided to discontinue Sept. 30 its subsidy paid to producers of 55 cents a 100 pounds on milk. Formerly producers were paid 55 cents during winter months and 35 cents during summer months. The 55-cent rate will be paid throughout the summer this year, but the subsidy will be dropped entirely in the fall.

While many groups across the country protested the move, the government said it was considering further the question of subsidies on milk entering into cheese and processed milk and it was likely any subsidy adjustments made would be upward. Mr. Gardiner said no further action was considered necessary for the present subsidy on butterfat in view of the recent price increase allowed in the retail price of butter.

Coal-hungry Ontario and Quebec, feeling the pinch of the bituminous coal strike in the United States, are hoping for continued warm weather. Reconstruction Minister Howe last week ordered that no soft coal may be used to heat office buildings, stores, schools, theatres, public buildings or any place of business in the two central provinces. Obeying its own order, the government stopped heating its own buildings in the capital.

The two-week truce in the U. S. strike was expected to bring some supplies into the Dominion, but Mr. Howe said these would be meagre. Meanwhile the government considered further steps to conserve U. S. soft coal in Canada and made efforts to feed eastern heavy industries with Alberta coal.

If we listened to our better selves, we'd be true to our better halves.

## BACON OUTLOOK FOR NEXT FOUR YEARS

The demand for Canadian bacon for the next four years was clarified when Hon. James G. Gardiner, Dominion Minister of Agriculture, recently announced the results of negotiations with the British Ministry of Food. The United Kingdom is prepared to purchase the maximum supplies which Canada can provide in 1946, 1947 and 1948. Further discussions are to be held before January, 1947 to consider requirements for 1949.

The contract price for Grade A Wiltshires per 100 pounds f.o.b. seaboard was raised to \$25 effective April 1, 1946 and will continue to December 31, 1947. The price for the 1948 agreement will be established at a later date but will not be below the \$22.50, same basis, which was effective during the 1944-45 agreement.

Following this announcement the Wartime Prices and Trade Board declared an increase of 2 1/2 cents per pound, carcas basis, in domestic wholesale price ceilings for pork. The relationship between the domestic and export price, which has been in effect during the past two years, will be maintained. These increases in bacon prices represent an increase of approximately \$3 per hog. However, the quality premiums of \$3 per Grade A carcass and \$2 per Grade B carcass have been reduced by \$1 so that the net increase is \$2 per hog. This increased price will, it is hoped, add a stimulus to hog production, says the Review.

## NON-SMOKERS HAVE RIGHTS

The deluxe streamlined cars which many railroads are planning sound very inviting. But a continuing flow of letters from our readers makes it plain that no number of new features designed for their comfort will offset the discomfort of being constantly subjected to tobacco smoke and smell while travelling—Campbellton (N.B.) Tribune.

## CLEARING AUCTION SALE

FARM STOCK, IMPLEMENTS, HAY AND REAL ESTATE

The undersigned have received instructions from

CHARLES W. McDOWELL

To sell by public auction at his farm, Lot 5, Con. 1, Twp. of Esquesing, 3 miles north-west of Milton on

TUESDAY, MAY 28th

Commencing at 2.00 o'clock, D. S. T., the following:

HORSES—1 Brown Mare, 7 yrs., about 1500 lbs.; 1 Grey Percheron Mare, 8 yrs., about 1600; 1 Bay Gelding, aged.

COWS AND HEIFERS—1 Holstein Cow, springing; 1 Red Durham Cow, due in June; 1 Blue and White Cow, grasser; 1 Holstein Heifer, fresh; 1 Holstein Cow, fresh, calf at side; 1 Holstein Cow, milking, not bred; 1 Holstein Heifer, 1 year old; 1 Holstein Bull, ready for service.

HOGS—6 choice York Chunks; 1 York Sow, just bred; 1 young York Sow, bred March 22; 1 young York Sow, bred March 26.

HAY—15 tons good Timothy Hay.

IMPLEMENTS, ETC.—M. H. Grain Binder, 7 ft., cut 2 seasons; M. H. Mower, 6 ft. cut, No. 21; Oliver Tractor Drag Cultivators; Wheel Cultivator; M. H. Hay Loader; 14-plate Out-throw Disc; Dump Rake; M. H. Side Delivery Rake; Jointer Plow; 3-drum Steel Roller; Vessot Grain Grinder; Light Wagon; Oliver Riding Plow; Hay Rack; 21 Fleury Walking Plow; Wagon Box; All-steel frame large Circular Saw; Low Truck Wagon, steel wheels; High Lumber Wagon; Sloop Sleighs; Rubber Tired Buggy; Cutter; Scuffer; Set of Seed Harrows; De Laval Cream Separator, just overhauled; 140 ft. new Hayfork Rope; Extension Ladder; Fanning Mill; 10 Steel Stanchions; Stall Posts, Head Rail and Steel Gates; Set of Backband and Breaching Harness; Set of Single Driving Harness; Saddle; Odd Collars; Oil Barrels; Chicken Crates; Logging Chains; Light Chains; Forks, Hoes, Shovels, Wrenches, etc.

REAL ESTATE—At the same time and place, there will be offered for sale, subject to a reserve bid the farm consisting of 117 acres, more or less, of rich clay loam on which is erected a 10-roomed solid brick house with hydro and phone and surrounded by a beautiful roomy lawn; barn 80 x 50 with stabling and large shed, hen house, 20 x 50; separate garage; also house, 20 x 50; separate 6 acres of bush; spring creek flowing through corner of pasture; never failing well supplies water to buildings. Farm is situated on one of main County Roads, 3 miles from Town of Milton, 1/2 mile from school. This is an exceptionally good farm and an ideal home with wonderful view and situation.

Terms of Real Estate made known day of sale.

Terms of Chattels: Cash settlement with clerk day of sale.

No reserve as proprietor is giving up farming owing to ill health.

ELLIOTT & HINDLEY, Auctioneers

M. J. Carton, Clerk B-45-2

## STUDY OF CHILD HEALTH

A nation wide study of the health of children is being made under the auspices of the American Academy of Pediatrics. The word pediatrics is defined as the science that treats of the hygiene and diseases of children. That study is comprehensive, and it will take two years to complete it.

Any movement that is calculated to improve the health of children will be gladly welcomed. Modern medical and surgical science and many health measures have already accomplished wonderful results in bringing up healthy children, and saving them from the many physical dangers that confront them.

Infant mortality is far less than it used to be. The public is far better informed as to the methods of caring for children and bringing them up strong and healthy.

It takes wisdom and experience to know what to do for children when they are ailing or lack physical vigor. Many families need instruction on this point, particularly in localities where many people have not been able to reach what can be called a Canadian standard of living. Many families suffering are not able to give their children the food and care they should have. They need generous help.

It is of the most vital importance for children to grow up strong and well. If they are poorly developed physically, they are handicapped as they go out into the working world. They are more likely to get sick, and to find difficulty in performing a normal day's work. If children are sluggish and inactive, the reason is often that they are not developed properly on the physical side. Families are deeply concerned for the welfare of their little ones. Whatever can be done to give them more physical vigor will bring happiness to the country.

## SCOUTS AWAY UP NORTH

Probably the most northerly Boy Scout Troop in the British Empire, if not in the world, is that located at Dawson City in the Yukon Territory. The Scoutmaster is Corporal A. K. Bond of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. The Group not only does active Scouting but has generously assisted in the various Boy Scout war charity drives.



## The Farm Calls

Farms offer Canadians a chance... and a challenge!

They offer a chance for IMMEDIATE JOBS—STEADY JOBS too. They also offer jobs for experienced farm workers—for mechanically trained workers—and any others able to help seasonally. Then, there is the challenge to fight off starvation threatening many nations.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR  
HUMPHREY MITCHELL A. MacNAMARA  
Minister of Labour Deputy Minister



## "The next place I live in is going to have..."

Many an over-expanded household has endured the "bathroom problem", but lack of ADEQUATE ELECTRIC WIRING is a more subtle irritation. Having to move the chesterfield to plug in the vacuum cleaner, for instance, just because the only wall outlet is back there... with all the lamps and the radio hooked up to it. And then there is the new range or water heater you would like to have if the main wiring would only stand the strain. That is where the real rub comes... when you can't use some new electrical convenience until new wiring is installed for it.

Many homes are not wired for modern demands. As more appliances become available, the use of electricity keeps right on climbing, and makeshift wiring adjustments lead to trouble.

That is why it is so necessary for you to insist on adequate wiring for your home, be it old or new. Hydro rates have been reduced until they are now among the lowest in the world. Enjoy full benefit of low-cost electrical servants by having your home adequately wired. A good electrical contractor knows how to wire adequately, and your local Hydro will gladly give you information.

If you are improving or building a home, ask your Hydro for the booklet, "Adequate Wiring for the Postwar Electric Homes of Canada."

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