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On Active Service



Giving Wings to Words

The Man Behind The Moustache

(By Russell Gore)

Josef Stalin is the shortest in stature, the heaviest in weight and the most normal in habits of Europe's dictators. Although definitely not a Christian, he is the only one of the three who has read the Bible from beginning to end — perhaps because he was educated for the priesthood of the Russian Orthodox Church.

In size, Stalin stands five feet five inches, as against Mussolini's five feet six and Hitler's five feet ten. Stalin is bow-legged and his legs are abnormally short. He rolls rather than walks. Consequently, being humanly vain, he walks seldom; sticks rather close to his Packard.

Stalin is the eldest of the three dictators. He is 63, Mussolini 59, and Hitler 53. But he fusses less than either of the other two — both vegetarians and non-smokers, and one (Hitler) a teetotaler — about his diet. Stalin enjoys food and drink — takes plenty of both, smokes his short, stubby pipe incessantly. He especially likes brandy.

Stalin's left arm, like the late German Kaiser's, is withered. No one speaks of that in Russia. The sailor-like roll in his walk may be due to another malformation described in an early Tsarist police circular issued after he had engineered, on behalf of the Communist party, the bank robbery of Tiflis — the attachment of the second and third toes of his left foot. His flat swarthy face is pockmarked from small-pox. His hair, once a sotty black, is now streaked with grey.

Stalin lives within three rooms within the Kremlin. But week-ends he leaves for his datcha (country house) near Usova-Arkangelskaya, some thirty miles from Moscow. Here he has 10 acres of walled and heavily guarded garden on the Moskva River.

Stalin has been married thrice. The first wife died of pneumonia in 1917. By her he had a son, Jasha, an engineer, more than 30 years old. He doesn't get along with dad very well. The second wife, Nadyezhda Alleeveva, whom he married in 1919, must have been very beautiful — if her statue on Moscow's Park of Culture and Rest can be accepted as a true likeness. She died in 1932 — some say by poison taken in food she was sampling for Stalin — and left two sons: Vasily, 19, and Svetlana, 16. Both attended (and the youngest still attends) Public School No. 25 on Pimpenovskiy Street, Moscow. Vasily, now an army cadet, was the head of his Pioneer Troop (Russian counterpart of our Boy Scouts).

Stalin's next wife was the half Jewish sister of Lazar Kaganovich, long the fair-haired boy of the regime, but now kicked out of his job as Commissar of heavy industry. Whether divorced from her or not, Stalin has lately been paying marked attention to plain, studious, black-haired Marina Raskova, famed Soviet woman aviator. When, in 1938, Miss Raskova cracked up in an Arctic wasteland, Stalin sent a flock of Soviet planes to search for and rescue her; sternly told his aviation department that no long-distance record (the goal of Raskova's adventure) could possibly be worth a life as valuable as her's.

Stalin, like Hitler and Mussolini, is an author. On his 825-page book, Leninism, available in an English translation, he has never taken royalties. Stalin's salary, incidentally, in our money, is about £8 a month. That naturally, does not include the perquisites — the Kremlin apartment, the datcha, the six official cars at his disposal, the absolute dominion over nearly 200,000,000 people.

The name Stalin — the Russian word for steel — was given him by Lenin. His real name is Josef Visarionovitch Dzhugashvili. His mother's pet name for him was "Soso". His revolutionary name was "Kobo". Stalin is the only one of the dictators who has escaped from prison. His getaway record is five.

In no dictator country — and I know all three — is the name of the dictator ever spoken aloud in casual public conversation. But in Russia everyone knows who you mean when you speak of Khuzhen — the Boss. Intimates say that the Boss dislikes "yes men"; tries to put his visitors at their ease instead of trying to overpower them with the very real potency of his personality. The Russian Boss is the only one of the three dictators who really laughs. He enjoys jokes, preferably ribald. Stalin neither speaks nor reads English.

Liberal classified ads give excellent results.

Sixty Per Cent of Ontario Crops Are Down Badly Making Harvest Heavy and Difficult

Report of Crop Conditions Throughout The Province — Fall Wheat Yield High

The weather during July varied greatly in different parts of the province. In Western and Central Ontario there was heavy precipitation and severe storms. It is estimated that practically 60 per cent of the spring grain fields suffered from lodging which was extensive in a great many fields. The abundance of moisture in this area, however, was beneficial for late crops, second growth alfalfa, hay aftermath and pastures. In Eastern Ontario crops are fairly good in Carleton, Lanark, Renfrew, Frontenac, and Lennox and Addington, but the weather has been dry with very little rainfall being received during July in Prescott and Russell and the counties along the St. Lawrence river from Leeds eastward to the Quebec border. All crops are below average in these counties and late crops and pasture are particularly poor. In Northern Ontario the districts of Cochrane, Thunder Bay, Kenora, and Rainy River received sufficient rainfall and crops made satisfactory development but Algoma, Sudbury, Timiskaming, Nipissing, Parry Sound, and Bruce Peninsula experienced extremely dry weather and late seeded grain fields, pastures, and roots suffered considerably. Local hail damage occurred in Norfolk, Peel, Prescott and Russell.

The cutting of fall wheat was practically completed throughout the province at the end of July, and threshing was underway in southwestern Ontario, where much of the acreage was cut by July 20th. There was some lodging in this crop, but owing to early maturity, it was not nearly as extensive as in the case of spring grains. The quality this season is extremely good and the amount of straw is very heavy. The yield per acre is the highest on record, being estimated at 31.7 bushels per acre as against 26.6 bushels last year and a preceding ten-year average of 25.6 bushels per acre. The acreage was also considerably greater this year amounting to 757,000 acres as against 565,500 acres in 1941. The total production this year amounts to 23,997,000 bushels, and is almost 9,000,000 bushels larger than last year when this crop amounted to 15,042,000 bushels. This year's crop is the largest since 1927.

Good progress is being made with the harvesting of spring grains. The cutting of oats, barley, and mixed grains was practically completed in Essex, Kent, and Lambton counties by July 31st, and the cutting of early varieties of spring grain, which now make up the bulk of the acreage, was well advanced throughout the other counties of Old Ontario by August 8th, with the cutting of barley practically completed. In Northern Ontario harvesting of these crops will be general between August 10th and 20th.

In Western and Central Ontario heavy rain storms flattened much of the spring grain acreage and greatly increased the labour required in harvesting. Owing to the fact that most of the acreage in this section was seeded by the first of May this year, the crops were very near maturity when lodging occurred, and as a result the yield was not greatly reduced. Some of the later seeded fields which are down badly may not fill as well however. In the counties at the extreme eastern end of the province the early seeded grain ripened prematurely due to dry weather during July, but later seeded fields have received rains during the past ten days and may fill somewhat better. The yield per acre of spring grains for the province as a whole this season will be slightly below normal, but much better than the light yields obtained in 1941. At August 1st, the condition of oats was 98% of the long-time average in Southern Ontario; 96% in Western Ontario; 96% in Central Ontario; 94% in Eastern Ontario; and 94% in Northern Ontario. The average for the province was 96% of normal for oats; for barley 94%; for spring wheat 95%, and 97% for mixed grains.

Total grain production in counties of Western and Central Ontario will range from 30% to over 100% greater than last year, with the largest increases being obtained in those counties where the crops were exceptionally light in 1941. Notwithstanding this improvement quite a few counties will find it necessary to purchase grain as poultry flocks

have been greatly increased and other live stock numbers are at a high level. In Dundas, Stormont, and Glengarry production will be considerably below last year although in Prescott and Russell where dry weather also prevailed production will be higher. In Timiskaming grain production will be from 5% to 10% less than a year ago.

Late crops are below average in condition. Wet weather during the latter part of May and early June delayed seeding and cool weather during June retarded growth. The weather during July was fairly satisfactory for corn. At the first of August the condition of fodder corn was estimated at 91% of the long-time average for this date, and corn for husking was 93%. Most of the husking corn is grown in Essex and Kent counties. In Kent the outlook for this crop is average with 60% of the crop unusually promising. Considerable replanting and late seeding was necessary due to excessive moisture, with the result that one-third of the crop is not as far advanced as usual. In Essex county some fields of corn for husking are excellent, some are fair, and others poor. The condition of potatoes was maintained or improved during the month except in Eastern Ontario where considerable deterioration occurred in the large dry area in this part of the province. In the entire province the average condition of potatoes was 93 as compared with 94 a month earlier. The harvesting of flax has commenced and the crop is just slightly below average. Root crops and soybeans are below normal and variable due to late planting and in some cases are quite weedy owing to the critical farm labour situation.

The greater part of the dry bean crop in Kent county looks promising, but some fields were planted quite late and are backward. In Middlesex this crop is rather uneven and somewhat light, with improvement having been made during the last several weeks. Recent warm weather has also been beneficial for this crop in Huron county and condition ranges from fair to good.

A very large hay crop has been harvested in Ontario. The quality was rather coarse due to rank growth and there was some spoilage caused by wet weather, but the yield was so great that quite a number of fields were not cut. Second growth of alfalfa and hay aftermath has developed well in Western and Central Ontario and pastures have also been maintained in excellent condition in this section by a plentiful supply of moisture. In Eastern Ontario, alfalfa was largely winter killed and there is little second growth for pasture. In the dry counties of this district other clovers and hay aftermath have suffered from lack of rain, and pastures are poor.

Potatoes — Early crop: Growth was slow early in the season, but favourable growing conditions during June resulted in an excellent early crop. The demand for new Ontario grown potatoes was the greatest in years and carlot shipments were made to all markets in Ontario, to the Maritimes, and the Western Provinces. Very attractive prices were obtained, and the exceptionally heavy demand has practically cleaned up the early crop, much of it netting growers over \$2.00 per 75 pound bag. At present producers are receiving \$1.50 per bag and up at the farm.

Intermediate crop: Unfavourable weather conditions delayed planting and early development. This crop will be later than usual coming to market. Scarcity of farm help for saving grain crops will delay many growers in digging their intermediate potato crop, and supplies during the month of August will be light.

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ROBBDAL CARBERT

The premium Percheron stallion Robbdale Carbert 15692, enrolment No. 4146 sired by Mar Hovah (14335) 209471. This horse is black, weight about 1900 lbs. He will stand at his own stable for service until further notice. Terms \$1.00 at time of service, balance \$10 payable Mar. 1st, 1943. All mares must be returned promptly. All at owner's own risk. Wm. Glass, owner, lot 11, con. 5 Vaughan, 1 1/4 miles north of Edgeley, phone Maple 79r3.

EATON HALL SAUTEUR—(17267) Enrolment No. 4356, a beautiful Percheron Stallion, grey with white mane and tail weighing about 1800 pounds. A grand horse and a good sire. This fine stallion will stand at his own stable for the current season, at lot 24, con. 4 North York Township. Terms to insure foal, \$12, two mares \$20. Robert Sutton, owner, R.R. 2 Weston, Ontario.

Imported Clydesdale Stallion Hawkrigg Select (27348) (22476), enrolment No. 3298; Sire, Nyasa Barrister (27019) (20628); Dam, Shawhill Peggy (59883). This horse is thick set, brown with face and legs white. Will stand at his own stable. The property of D. F. Jarvis, Almira, Lot 31, Con. 5, Markham. Terms to insure foal \$12, payable March 1, 1943. All accidents at owners risk.

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