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At 1 p.m.

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Novelty Dances, Jive Contest

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English Journey

By WALTER K. LEGGE

In this series of articles it is my hope to present an accurate picture of conditions as they are in England today, to contrast present conditions with what I found when there with Canadian editors in 1942, and to make them as interesting as possible.

There are so many conflicting reports of what the English are now enduring that this will be an effort to present factual information as I find it.

To begin with, it is difficult but not impossible to get bookings to Europe today. There still is a serious shortage of ships, but Mrs. Legge and I were fortunate in being able to get accommodation on the Ascania leaving Halifax on April 16, and returned from Liverpool on June 5th.

Mr. Abbott's dollar savings programme has not made travelling any more pleasant. It has stopped the privilege of allowing friends to go on board ship to see you off. Also once on board, passengers are not allowed to come off again before the ship sails.

The boat train arrived at Halifax at about 2 p.m. and those passengers, (nearly all of them) who went on board were forced to stay there, although the ship did not sail until 10:30 p.m. that night.

Although the passenger must declare on a Form H the amount of money he or she is taking with them, the customs officers insist upon seeing and counting it. This is one of the ways in which government regulations undermine morals by considering everyone as a felon. The passenger's signed statement is not accepted at face value and is apparently only used as an added charge against the passenger, as the government seems to hope, he has neither intentionally or not, made a mistake.

If the examining officers are at all suspicious, the passenger's person and baggage are subjected to a thorough search.

We did not go on board at once, but going up to the Nova Scotia Hotel, had a delightful visit with the members of the Nova Scotia Press Association, who were gathered in session there. With them also were R. A. Giles and W. McCartney, president and manager of the C.W.N.A.

The "Ascania" although not a very fast ship, has many advantages, not the least of which is that she is a very steady ship. We were told by passengers who had travelled on many other ships that the Ascania does not roll as much as other larger and faster ships. Certainly we had a very smooth voyage and very few passengers suffered from sea sickness.

The chief officers, Capt. W. M. Stewart, O.B.E., H. E. Wardrop, purser, H. Tweed, chief steward, and others are exceedingly pleasant and all can spin exciting yarns of their war experiences. Capt. Stewart, who was on his first trip in command of the "Ascania", having previously been Staff Captain on both of the Queens, was for the most of the war in command of a ship sailing up and down the east coast of Africa and although he escaped torpedoing, had his share of excitement and difficulties.

Every member of the ship's complement seems anxious to do everything possible for each one of the passengers.

Ships at present are crowded on every trip and there were about 800 passengers on board. There was a very large number of children, but they were all remarkably good, and is a well equipped nursery which is popular with the smaller children.

While the first accommodation was filled the public rooms were not overcrowded, and it was always possible to find a comfortable chair, or a table on which to play cards, if desired. The tourist accommodation, we were told, was much more crowded.

The "Ascania" is listed as still under austerly conditions but it is difficult to say just where there is any austerly. Certainly not in the dining room, where meals are as good as in peacetime.

A typical breakfast menu lists 5 different fruits, 7 breakfast cereals, grilled fresh herrings, calves liver, broiled bacon, eggs in any manner desired, cold meats, 6 kinds of bread, waffles, buckwheat cakes, with maple or golden syrup, preserves, marmalade and six different beverages.

During the morning hot broth is served in all the public rooms. At noon, a luncheon menu is as varied as the breakfast one, and about four p.m. tea is served to everyone in the public rooms.

The dinner menu is the best of all. Here is a sample one taken at random:— Oysters on half shell; Hors d'oeuvres; Consomme or crem soup; Poached filets of Turbot; veal and ham cutlets; Roast sirloin of beef; Haricots vert; carrots vichy; boiled, rissoles or voisen potatoes; roast chicken; strawberry souffle; wine jelly; vanilla or orange ice cream; canape anchols, coffee or tea.

There is nothing about such menus to suggest austerly.

There is plenty of entertainment provided. Horse racing, bingo, and other amusements are organized each evening, while a ship's orchestra of five pieces plays at regular hours. Deck tennis, shuffle-board and other games are popular, and no one need have a dull moment.

All in all, a voyage on the Ascania is just as enjoyable today as it was before the war.

WOULD ABOLISH JUNE 7 HOLIDAY

Isn't it about time the authorities cancelled the June 7 holiday. Recognized only by the banks and financial houses, and the schools, it is really a poorly patronized. Most of the people continue to work, and after all it isn't the king's birthday, and industry does not recognize it at all. In Stouffville the bank and post office were closed, and a certain amount of apathy was most apparent in business, but then it was Monday usually a slow business day for stores in any case, and a very busy time for the farmers.

— Stouffville Tribune

TEMPERANCEVILLE

The heartfelt sympathy of the community is extended to Mrs. J. Lloyd and family in their recent bereavement.

The Women's Institute held their monthly meeting on Wednesday afternoon, June 9, in the Sunday School room. After opening the meeting and conducting a short business period, the president, Mrs. Hare, left the meeting in charge of Mrs. H. Patrick, president of the Snowball W. I., whom we were very pleased to have as guests.

These ladies presented a most interesting and worthwhile program which included an excellent article written by Dr. Margaret Patterson and entitled "A Women's Work", also a reading depicting recent conditions in Holland which was made more vivid by a display of work from that country. The musical renditions were especially appreciated and included piano and vocal solos and a violin and piano duet. A contest on Trees was enjoyed by all and made us realize our lack of knowledge of our own Canadian trees. The lovely prize was graciously conceded in favour of Mrs. Young who had the highest number of points among our own members. On behalf of the Temperanceville branch, Mrs. M. Beynon expressed sincere thanks to our guests for a most enjoyable afternoon. During the social hour, our social conveners served a delicious tea.

New members will be accepted for the Blue Cross until June 25. Anyone interested, please contact Mrs. W. Jennings before that date.

There was a good attendance at the showing of the National Film Board held at the school on Wednesday evening, June 9. Of special interest to the W. I. members was the film entitled Home and Country, which depicted the birth and growth of this now world-wide organization which last year celebrated its 50th anniversary.

Don't forget that Sunday, June 20, is Father's Day.

Temperanceville W. I. was successful in winning the special award given to the branch gaining the highest number of points in the Aurora Horse Show. The many members who participated are to be congratulated for their skill and showmanship.

The Pageant of Fashion presented by Lever Bros. on June 7 proved most interesting and informative. Miss Barber, in her excellent commentary, traced style trends from 1450 to the modern new look, and showed typical examples of the various periods.

Following this presentation, the patches on the shirt were judged and the prizes were won by Mrs. A. Kerr for the ladies and by Miss Phyllis Barker for the children.

REVOLUTIONARY ADVANCES IN CANCER RESEARCH

The British Empire Cancer Campaign has just celebrated its 25th anniversary. It has launched a new appeal for \$4,000,000 to enable it to undertake additional research so as to take advantage of some revolutionary scientific advances made during the war. Although cancer is the second most frequent cause of death in Britain today, such progress has been achieved in recent years that much is now known of contributing factors.

A pioneer in cancer research, Sir Alfred Webb, who is vice-president of the Royal College of Surgeons, spoke at the launching of the appeal at Mansion House. He said that there was no longer any need for the haunting fear of the disease which many people still had. While he would hesitate to use the word "cure", the fact remained that for many regions of the body between 70 and 90 per cent. of sufferers treated early had shown no signs of the disease ten years afterward. Already there had been enormous reductions in cancer of the skin and advances had been made in treatment of surgery, by X-ray and by radium. A great new vista had been opened up by the successes of chemical therapy.

NEW OFFICE BUILDING FOR NEWMARKET

The Aurora Building Company have been awarded the contract for a new 3-storey office building at the corner of Prospect and Water Sts., Newmarket. Plans have been prepared by Messrs. Allward and Goulock, architects, Toronto. The building will be 52' x 100', masonry and stone exterior and steel construction. Work is to commence at once.

EXTENSIVE BUILDING IN NORTH YORK TOWNSHIP

Building continues to boom in North York township, council were informed when a report from J. R. Garlick, building inspector, pointed out that permits valued at \$2,658,085 were issued during May 1948. Permits valued at \$7,204,670 have been issued from January 1st to May 31st, 1948, compared to \$3,740,275 for the corresponding period last year, the report showed.

ARGENTINE SUNFLOWERS

According to the first official estimate the production of sun-flower seed in Argentina in 1947-48 will be 1,074 thousand metric tons (about 2,367 million lb.) which is 56 per cent above the 1946-47 crop, and 73 per cent above the 1938-48 average. The area sown was estimated at 1,584 thousand hectares (about 3,914 acres).

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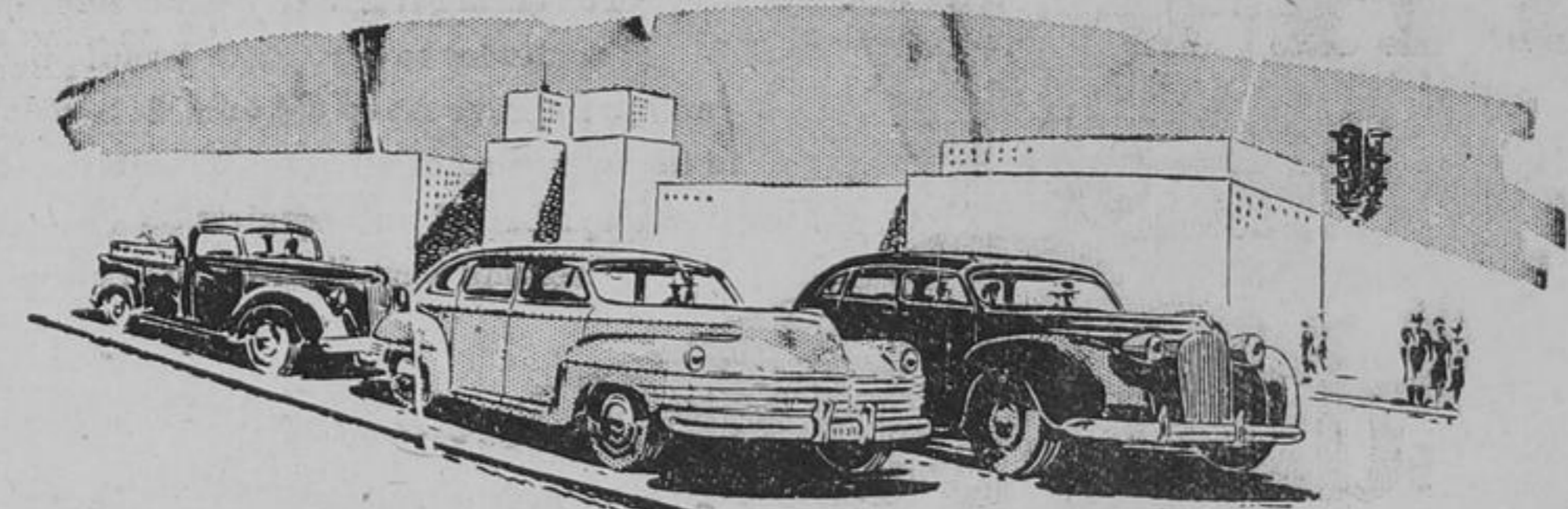
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