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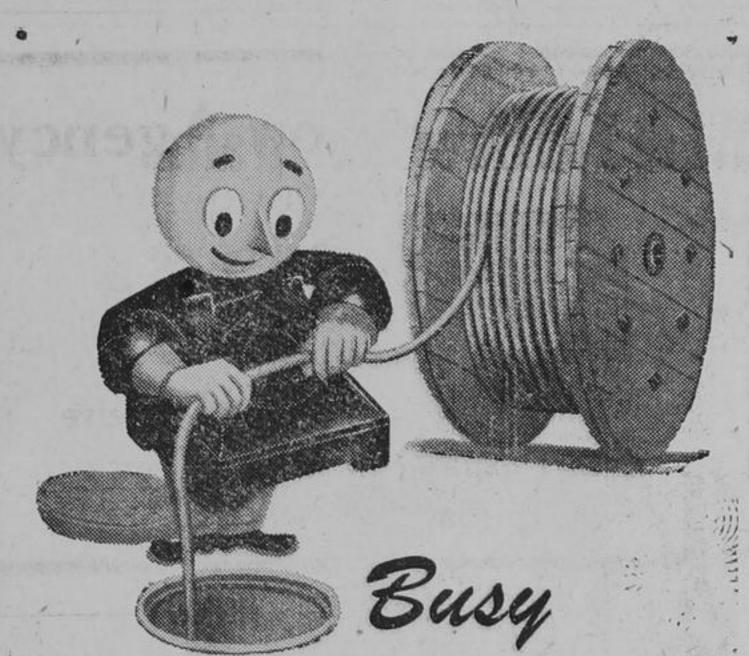
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ENGLISH JOURNEY

ARTICLE 3
Food and Rationing

Everybody in Canada is greatly sonable condition.
interested in the food situation in The meat ration is pitifully small, England and many conflicting stor- Our hosts last week bought their

ges since I was here in 1942 is found small roast of about 2 pounds. We in the shops. Where windows were absolutely bare in 1942, they are filled wih merchandise of all kinds and spread it over several meals. today. Stores with large sections Bacon allowance is two ounces per roped off, are groaning under the person per week which is only about

But here is the rub, these goods | While the above would tend to mass of red tape and restrictions, in England today, the fact is that for rationing in England is a fear- everybody gets plenty to eat. The ful thing to experience. English English still eat at least four times

tions to an unbelievable extent. I confess that I cannot understand | But the real trouble is there is too much of it, but I find that many much monotony about the meals, people who have been here ever since which are too starchy. There is too before the war are just as puzzled much bread, plain cake and veget-

First thing on arrival at Black- I have been staying at the home of pool my wife and I had to go to the relatives all the time I have been in central food control office to get our | England, but have eaten some lunration books, for one cannot get ches, dinners or teas at hotels.

along without them. in line, get national registration cult to make appetising dishes out cards, sign numbers of forms, most of the same ingredients, day after of which we knew nothing about, day. and finally receive books and coupons

and several other things. forms, cutting off experied portions, tatoes, and some kind of vegetable, etc., is tremendous. There must be usually cabbage, cauliflower, or an enormous waste of manpower ov- greens; and a dessert usually made er this rationing for there are of- of some kind of cake or steamed fices with large staffs in all except pudding, with a custard sauce. Tea the smallest places. *

In addition there is fuel control, meal, but may be purchased separgasoline control, building control, ately. rent control, etc.

the newcomer may think he can so it is seldom seen. start out to buy things. What a hope! You can only buy meat, milk, Canadians to include in parcels to butter, eggs, bacon, sugar, jam, friends and relatives in England are cheese, etc., at a store where you canned chicken, pork products, salhave registered, and it is difficult to mon, or other fish, sugar, cheese, change registration from one store raisins or currants (which are ab-

your merchant cares to give you, or cellent condition if packed in airwhat he has on hand, and you can- tight tins. not go to another store without a good reson and going through much dition also are welcomed and very red tape. Therefore if you think few people are too proud or fastidyour butcher is not giving you fair ious not to be happy to wear discardtreatment, about the only way you ed clothes received from friends in can improve matters is by trying to Canada, provided of course that they carry favour with him.

There are some few things that are neither rationed nor sold on allowance is only 3 oz. a week of all points, such as fish, fresh vegetables kinds, and the quality is poor. and a few tinned articles such as fish and meat pastes, soups, etc., but in many cases the store has a sign over them reading "Reserved for our

regular customers." points a tin; sardines 2 pts. a tin; fruit cocktail 20 points a tin; peas 5 points a can; beans 12 pts. a can; by tenants. sda biscuits (or cream crackers as they are called) 4 pts. a lb.; chocolate biscuits 16 pts. a lb.; plain biscuits, 4 pts. a lb.; jelly powder, 4 proportion, so that the purchaser few years there has been a decided seriously studies just how he will use the slim allotment of points that

lowed each person. A loaf of bread provinces. requires 4 "BU's" and the loaves look pretty small to a Canadian.

Where chickens are kept, the egg rations for every member of the family must be surrendered and 2 lbs of chicken meal is allowed for each quaintance of the dentist at the age person's egg rations, so even the of about three years and visit him chickens have to go short.

On sweets, the ration is 12 oz. a to 16 oz. One lady told me that she had saved up her sweets coupons in order to buy a couple of pounds of candies for her daugher who was returning to boarding school, only to the cavities when they are very find that the coupons had expired small. Valuable advice can also be the previous Saturday. She told me obtained to assist in preventing new "I was ready to sit down and cry."

It is with fuel that the people really suffer. The first two weeks after eases. we arrived, it was quite cold, with frost nearly every night. The English houses have a real chill in them, and the people huddle around a tiny grate fire. The fuel allowance in the north is 5,600 pounds a year and in the south 3,808 pounds.

The English homes have a real chill even in late spring and must be pretty grim in midwinter. Electricity and gas are also in

very short supply. Gasoline is supposed to be so severely rationed that only essential driving can be done. The gasoline rationing has been the most difficult to enforce and there is a remarkably large number of cars on the streets and roads which seem to prove that there is considerable dis-

regard of the regulations. Tourists are supposed to receive special consideration, but we found there is a catch to that also. get this tourist allowance, it is necessary to either bring your own car into Britain or else buy one to take home with you. Although my bro-ther-in-law had a car standing idle, and we were bona-fide tourists, we could not get an allowance to drive

in his car. However, gasoline rationing is to

be relaxed in June. It looks to an outsider, as if raioning has been retained over long and when we arrived we noticed, a tremendous agitation to relax restrictions on certain articles, notably shoes, dry goods, and clothes. It was reliably reported that warehouses were bulging with merchandise that people have no coupons to

It has been announced that restrictions on clothing are being reduced on May 11th. There is more fresh fruit available, but bananas are only sold on allotment and are only sold for

children. The days when eggs were obtain-

able at about one egg a month seem

tiful, are obtainable in small quantities. This, we were told, is a sea-

I to be over, and while still not plen-

ies have been told. Here is what I week's allowance of meat, for the whole family and ourselves, and we One of the most remarkable chan- ate it all at one meal. It was a

two small slices. are most difficult to buy due to the show that there is not much to eat people are tied down by restrictions a day, for no one seems to be able and bureaucratic rules and regula- to dispense with afternoon tea at about 4:30 p.m.

ables and not enough variety.

In all the homes, the nousewives It took a whole morning to stand complain that it is extremely diffi-

In the hotels and restaurants the for meat, preserves, sugar, cheese, average meal consists of a thick butter and fats, bacon, eggs, milk, soup, which seems to be made with clothing, bread, tea, soaps, points some starcry powder; a woefully for cereals, canned goods, sweets, small piece of mutton, beef or fish, or a meat pie made of ground-up meat, The clerical work in filling our and an overly large helping of poor coffee is not included with the

Chicken is not rationed but is ex-Once the ration books are received tremely scarce and very expensive,

Therefore the best things for solutely unobtainable) jams and jel-Thus you have to take whatever lies if in tins. Butter arrives in ex-

Second-hand clothes in good conare in fairly good condition.

Soap is also welcomed as the soap

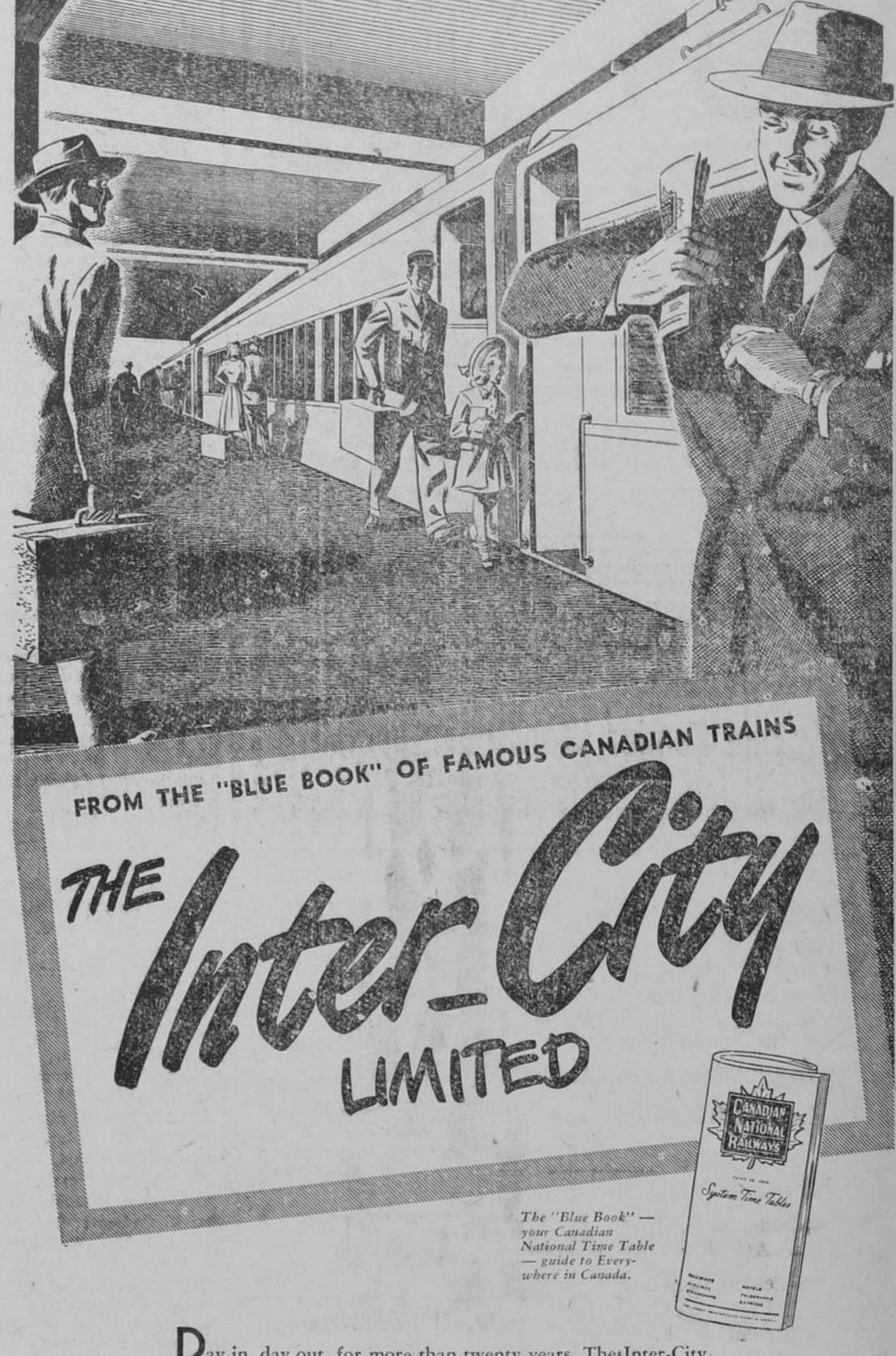
MANY FARM OWNERS

According to the latest decennial Although there is plenty of tin- census taken in 1941, there were ned foods in the stores, no one can 732,715 farms in Canada of which receives 28 points a month and 28 75.1 per cent were owner operated points will only buy a very little. and a further 11.6 per cent were op-Here is what is needed in points on erated by owners who rented additsome common items, salmon 32 ional parcels of land. Only 12.7 per cent of farms in Canada are operated

The land policy, including the granting of free homesteads to settlers in Western Canada has encourpts a package and other things in aged farm ownership. In the past trend towards tenant farming in Western Canada. The proportion of Bread and cake are sold on "bread owner operated farms is lower in the unit" points, and 36 a month is al- Prairie Provinces than in the other

Every child should make the actwice a year from that time, accordmonth with an occasional increase ing to national health experts. In this way dental treatment can be kept to a minimum and each visit made brief and comfortable by filling cavities, crooked teeth and gum dis-

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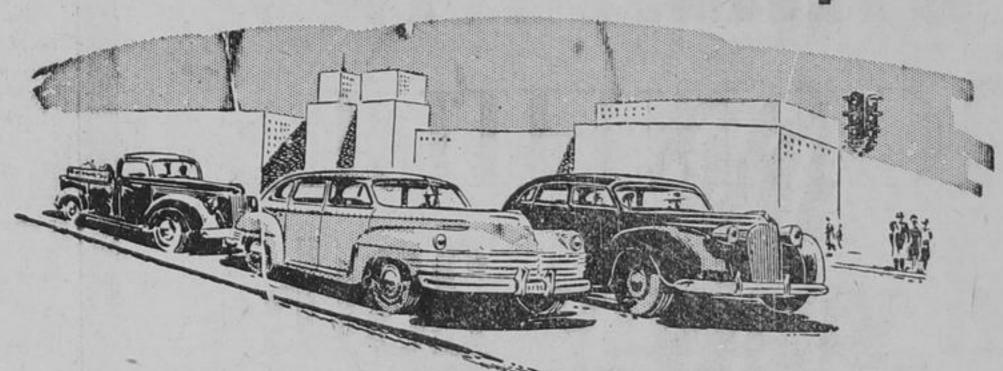


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