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**Headlines Of 1948 Present
Picture Of A Troubled World**

The eyes of the world focussed on
Berlin in 1948 as the bomb-torn
German capital became the nerve
centre of "cold war" between Russia
and the western democracies.

Moscow set up a land blockade
with the obvious intention of forcing
the western powers to abandon the
city. Equally determined to remain,
Britain and the United States organ-
ized an air lift to keep supplies flow-
ing into their sector and that of
France.

There were other manifestations
of the ideological struggle during
the year. Aid began pouring into
western European countries and the
western occupation zones in Germany
under the European Recovery Pro-
gram. The Communists seized power
by a coup in Czechoslovakia. In
China, the Nationalists were driven
out of Manchuria by the Commun-
ists. Nanking, China's capital, was
threatened.

The Jews in Palestine proclaimed
the new state of Israel as Britain's
Holy Land mandate expired. War
flared between Israel and the Arab
State.

One of the year's few news bright-
spots was the birth November 14 of
a son to Princess Elizabeth and
Prince Phillip. Prince Charles is
next to his mother in line of suc-
cession to the throne.

But Commonwealth joy in that event
was tempered by the almost simul-
taneous announcement that King
George is suffering from poor blood
circulation in the legs. The Royal
Tour of Australia and New Zealand,
planned for early 1949, was cancelled.

Transport Restricted
Russian restrictions from the west-
ern zones to Berlin began April 1.
In June the western powers intro-
duced new currency in their zones
and June 24 the Russians retaliated
by halting all land transport to the
city.

Negotiations in Berlin and Moscow
for lifting of the blockade dragged
on fruitlessly through the summer
and autumn. Despite strenuous
Russian objections the problem was
laid before the United Nations; but
it failed to solve the crisis.

Pretext for the Communist coup
in Czechoslovakia in February was
an alleged anti-Communist plot to
overthrow the coalition government.
Edward Benes, who opposed but was
unable to halt the Communist seizure
of power, resigned as president
June 7 and died three months later.

Klement Gottwald, Communist pre-
mier since the coup, succeeded him
The only rift in the solid Soviet
front in eastern Europe was a verbal
conflict between Yugoslavia and Rus-
sia which put the Tito administration
into the doghouse of the Communist
International Information Bureau.

The dispute apparently revolved
around Tito's determination on in-
dependent handling of Yugoslav inter-
national affairs. Yugoslavia, however,
continued to proclaim solidarity with
Communist ideology.

Jews and Arabs fought intermit-
tently through the year for control
of Palestine. The Arab League de-
clared war on the Jewish "rebels"
immediately British yielded her man-
date May 14 and the new state of
Israel was proclaimed.

The United Nations sought un-
successfully to settle the future of
the Holy Land. The best it could do
was to achieve a partially effective
truce. The partition plan of 1947
remained in abeyance. The U.N.
Palestine mediator, Count Folke
Bernadotte, was assassinated in
Jerusalem in September.

Start of E.R.P.
The United States Congress in Ap-
ril started the European Recovery
Program by authorizing \$5,300,000-
000 for Europe for the following 15
month period and additional aid to
China, Greece and Turkey. Supplies
began streaming into western Euro-
pe.

In March the western European
Union of Britain, France, Belgium,
the Netherlands and Luxembourg
was created. The five powers signed
a 50-year defence, economic, social
and cultural treaty. At the year's
end negotiations were under way for

a North Atlantic pact, embracing
the five powers and Canada and the
United States in a mutual defence
scheme.

In August Rt. Hon. Louis Stephen
St. Laurent was chosen Liberal lead-
er for Canada and later became
Prime Minister, succeeding Rt. Hon.
W. L. Mackenzie King.

President Truman and the Demo-
crats scored a stunning upset in the
United States elections, November 2.
Truman was re-elected over Thomas
Dewey of New York State, the Rep-
ublican candidate. Democrats re-
gained control of both Senate and
House of Representatives. In the
presidential polling Governor Strom
Thurmond of South Carolina, States'
Rights candidate, and Henry Wallace,
Progressive party standard bearer,
trailed far behind.

The lengthy Japanese war-crimes
trial ended with conviction Nov. 12
of Hideki Tojo, wartime premier, and
other wartime leaders. Tojo and six
others were sentenced to be hanged.
The international tribunal found that
Tojo planned and waged war and as-
sumed responsibility for wartime at-
rocities.

India was plunged into grief by
the assassination of Mohandas K.
Gandhi by a Hindu nationalist Jan.
30. But the deadly strife among
Hindu, Moslem and Sikh in the newly-
created Dominion died down.

In November Eire cut her last ties
with the Commonwealth when the Dail
approved repeal of the External
Powers Act under which Eire diplo-
mats were accredited by the King.

Burma became an independent re-
public January 4. Exactly one month
later Ceylon attained Dominion
status.

CANADIAN CHEESE PLACES WELL

At the recent British Dairy Farm-
ers' Association Dairy Show in
London, England, the showing of
cheese was closely fought out be-
tween Canada and New Zealand.
There were 35 entries of cheese; 13
from Canada, 17 from New Zealand,
and five from Australia.

First prize was taken by Tom Aic-
ken, Blanchard and Nissouri Cheese
and Butter Co. Ltd., Belton, Ont., and
fourth place went to Leslie Adair,
Elma and Mornington Cheese and
Butter Co. Ltd., Britton, Ont. Second
and third placings went to New Zea-
land.

In addition, three Canadian entries
were "highly commended" and one
"commended". One factory from
New Zealand was "very highly com-
mended", and three "highly com-
mended."

ONTARIO FIELD CROPS

WORTH \$370,511,000 IN 1948
A record total value of \$370,511-
000 is placed on Ontario's field crops
for the year 1948, as compared with
\$282,392,000 last year, the Statistics
Branch of the Ontario Department of
Agriculture disclosed to-day.

This is the highest total for all
time with the exception of 1919 when
an alltime high of \$397,238,400 was
reached.

Total acreage in Ontario for 1948,
the annual report shows, was 9,138-
500 as against 8,113,800 last year.

Yields per acre also reached new
records in the year which ends this
month, the report indicates. Fall
wheat yielded 25 bushels per acre in
1947, but in 1948 the yield was 30.3
bushels. Spring wheat went from
18.1 bushels in 1947 to 22.2 bushels
in 1948.

Oats increased from 32.2 bushels
per acre last year to 41.8 bushels in
1948.

Mixed grains jumped from 33.7
bushels to 43.5 per acre. Corn
for husking was 38.8 bushels per ac-
re in 1947. This year it reached 50
bushels. Fodder corn reached 9.95
tons per acre in 1948 as compared
with 8.54 in 1947.

Potatoes climbed from an average
of 133.4 bushels per acre in 1947 to
177 bushels in 1948 and as a result
of competitions conducted by the
Crops, Seeds and Weeds Branch of
the Ontario Department of Agricul-
ture, a record of more than 700
bushels per acre was established in
one or two instances.

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