

# A COUNTRY EDITOR SEES

# Ottawa

WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS OF CANADA by JIM GREENBLAT, Editor of the SUN SWIFT CURRENT SASKATCHEWAN



## OILS AND FATS—CONSUMERS BRANCH

It wasn't Mrs. Phyllis Turner's good looks that made me deal with Oils and Fats in the second article, but its tremendous importance emphasized by the fact that despite Goebbels' propaganda of synthetic procurement in Germany, she declares that is mostly bunk. The supply both here and there must depend on agriculture, whaling and fishing. German's economic plan was the original basis for their universal system of a state-controlled agriculture, industry and commerce. Recovery of waste and garbage fats in the households there is mandatory. Think that over housewives of Canada when they "appeal" to you to avoid unnecessary usage and waste of oils and fats.

The picture is so simple, folks. Fats and vegetable oils are our only source of glycerine for explosives, medicines, dyes, etc.—cigarettes when available. The average yield from fats is 10 to 12%. "Do you know," Mrs. Turner flung at me in trip-hammer succession, "that one ounce of dripping per person per week would give us 36 million pounds a year? That 10 lbs. of rendered fats fires 49 anti-aircraft shells? That 10 lbs. of glycerine helps make 100 tank mines, or 780 lbs. of high explosive or enough to mine 780 tons of ore?" I had to admit ignorance. You who have sons depending on this (which depends on you)—are you interested?

**Oils and Troubled Waters**  
Just imagine the ramifications of this administration, especially since Japan plugged holes in the Pacific; conserving, inducing and coordinating our vital vegetable, animal and fish oils for food and industrial purposes, i.e.: vitamin oils, lard, shortening, paints, inks, shellac, waxes, starched glues, soaps, naval stores (resins, turps, pine oils). As for nutrition, how could you all exist without a proper proportion of oils and fats in your diet? Mom, isn't it just plain realism?

Doesn't it make you think—as it did me—to hear that we depend so much on it, in our shaving; butter which is 80% fat, our toast in its shortening, our clothes and shoes which get treatment from oils or derivatives; the chair you sit in, the linoleum you walk on. Excluding butter we normally consume 450 million lbs. of fats yearly in Canada, 200 of which, or 45%, had to be imported, originating largely in the Far East. That source went out with Pearl Harbour; your boy guarding convoys knows that even India and West Africa is getting tougher to reach.

Heavy demands for the stout-hearted but hungry Russians, for Britain, for ourselves must be met on this continent, in only one way; increased hemisphere production, saving in consumption. Mrs. Turner sits on the United Nations, Council of United States, United Kingdom, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa and Australia which meets in Washington and even Canada's production is pooled, out of which we get only edible and inedible requirements on a strictly controlled basis.

I know you're interested in how they intend meeting this situation. We get linseed oil from flax; well, flaxseed production, it is hoped, will be stepped up to at least 20 million bushels this year compared to 6½ in 1941; there will be an expansion of soya bean crops sunflower and rapeseed.

**Why Billions Are Needed**  
"Why control fats when the U.S.A. increased its production two billion pounds last year?" I asked Mrs. Turner to show that I read Time and the Ottawa papers. With that restful and patient smile she asked me, "Did you know that the U.S.A. consumed 11 billion lbs. last year; that a billion was cut off from the Far East, and furthermore what assurance have any of us that this year's crops will give high yields at last?" Could you answer that smartly, even if you are a stove leaguer? Sure, you've got a baby around the house. Prior to the war 75% of cod liver oil was imported, mostly from Britain, Norway and Newfoundland. The fishing companies on our Atlantic coast wasted much of the precious vitamin content for tanning, etc., feeding livestock and poultry. Do you know that since 1941 we now have five plants of our own producing refined medicinal cod liver oil and that we will be in a position to supply our own needs, the U.S.A., South America, Australia and China? That industry is a war baby and, believe me, a pipkin. Vitamin feeding oils for veterinary purposes will now be processed from the lowliest of British Columbia fish; and the despised dogfish from out there now produces Vitamin A oil, rich and fortifying to margarine and for night fliers, and is already being shipped to the British Ministry of Food.

**Agriculture Comes Into Picture**  
Yes, I got enough of the story to know that a combination of science, management and invention has put us on the threshold of a period when Canadian agricultural production will take its rightful place in Canadian industry. That's where you and I are interested. Through efforts of this division, linseed oil is now being processed to replace drying oils hitherto obtained from China—soya beans will probably be

used in "nylon" type artificial silk; wheat will be a source of starch and sodium glutamate, the latter previously exported from Japan and used for the meaty flavor in concentrated soups and beverages.

"Keep the fat out of the fire," was the administrator's appeal to women of Canada. It means oil for marine engines, brake fluid for tanks and trucks; the life of tinsplate and glycerine, to mention a few.

**Consumer Organization Functioning**  
But I must hurry on to Byrne Sanders, head of Consumers Division which is giving Canadian consumer a voice and has 8,000 women across the country doing active voluntary service, co-operating in their own interest, and trying hard to make for a better understanding between the consumer and retailer.

"The women are doing a grand job," she said and flashed a toothsome, sincere smile which said, "I meant it." "Our task is to channel their difficulties and complaints towards a head and then we can go at the problems again." She admitted women are prone to criticize. "Boy, she ought to hear the men in a smoking compartment."

Her division is trying so hard to get closer to women everywhere because their whole job is closely affects the household. B. H. Sanders is practical because she said, "The war hasn't started to hurt us yet. It likely will." Price checking is one of the big jobs of the division, but she feels in this that honest retailers deserve protection from those who might not be. She wants women to co-operate with her. These liaison officers in all towns are the link to do it.

"The Consumers Board is set up to represent all you people," and here we quote her exact expression which reflects the energy and determination of this woman. "So for Pete's sake use it. If anything is wrong send it to your nearest committee."

I went out past a battery of female operated typewriters in high gear. I thought if Mom can run the household on Dad's budget, a woman can run the Consumers Division mightily effectively with the help of other women across Canada.

(This is the Second of a Series of Articles by Mr. Greenblat.)

## Ration Coupon Banking Now in Effect in Canada

**Banks Add Another Line to Their Public Service.**  
Montreal, March 3 — Ration Coupon Banking came into effect March 1st in 3,200 branches of the chartered banks throughout Canada. For the first time Canadian Business houses will now be writing cheques, and the banks holding accounts, expressed in terms of coupons for sugar, tea or coffee, or butter, instead of in terms of dollars and cents. The system will, of course, not interfere with the normal method of settling accounts between merchants which will continue to be paid by cash, bank cheque, etc.

L. B. Unwin, Administrator of Consumer Rationing for the Wartime Prices and Trade Board stated that the arrangement is one whereby considerable additions to the Ration Administration's staff will be averted and the details of handling coupons by certain retailers, wholesale houses and suppliers will be greatly simplified. "Coupon Ration Banking" Mr. Unwin said "will go a long way towards solving the problems of siphoning off, accurately accounting for and preventing dangerous accumulations of coupons." He said the plan had been endorsed by the Minister of Finance and that Donald Gordon, Chairman of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, had written to Charles St. Pierre, President of the Canadian Bankers' Association, expressing appreciation of the banks' co-operation in working out a practicable method and undertaking to put it into operation. "This," Mr. Unwin said, "is a substantial public service. Every one of the 3,200 branch banks across Canada will share in the work. The plan represents a considerable cash saving to the country, as contrasted with the only alternative, namely, for the Board to establish its own separate coupon banking system across Canada."

The system which went into effect on Monday, was the outcome of a series of conferences between Wartime Prices and Trade Board's rationing officers, and a committee of technical officers named by the chartered banks, which had offered to undertake the task involved in ration coupon banking.

Outlining the system, Mr. Unwin remarked: "Soon it will not even be novel for a merchant to write a ration cheque for the coupon equivalent of 1,000 pounds of butter or sugar, tea or coffee, and have it charged against his 'Ration Coupon Account' for that commodity. "Every retailer, wholesaler and producer or distributor of rationed commodities is affected. Here is how it works. The retailer will stick down on gummed sheets provided him, the cou-

pons he receives from his customers. Depending on whether his turnover in foods is large, medium or small he will deposit these coupons in a 'Ration Coupon Bank Account', exchange them for a 'Bank Transfer Voucher' or send them direct to his supplier with his order for a fresh stock of the commodity represented.

"The large retailer, the wholesaler, manufacturer and other supplier dealing in rationed commodities will have a separate 'Ration Coupon Account' on the books of his bank for each commodity, which will be expressed in coupons instead of dollars. To these accounts he will deposit all coupons ration cheques and other ration documents received from consumers or dealers. When it is necessary for him to replenish his stock of a rationed commodity, instead of having to send his supplier an immense number of coupons and other ration documents he will simply issue a cheque on his Ration Coupon Account for the number of coupons his order represents. The simplicity and convenience of this method for both purchaser and supplier will be apparent.

"In due course, after checking and inspection, the coupons deposited at the banks will be destroyed in the presence of official witnesses. "In addition to those who sell rationed goods against surrender of coupons there are the hotels, restaurants, hospitals and the like who serve meals which include rationed goods. These concerns operate on a quota and are known as 'Que a Users' and for them and their suppliers the system evolved by the banks will be particularly helpful. In the past the quota user was given a monthly quota of tea, coffee, butter or sugar and was tied to one specific dealer with whom his name and quota were registered. The dealer had to keep track of the requisitions issued by the quota user. There are thousands of these people scattered all over the country. It was an immense task to see that the quotas and advices to dealers were issued simultaneously. If there was any lag or the advice failed to reach the dealer, confusion and irritation naturally resulted.

"Under Ration Banking all this is eliminated. The quota user gets his quota, it is set up in a ration account in his bank and he draws ration cheques against it. With these, instead of being tied to one registered dealer he can obtain his supplies from any dealer — and he may not over-shoot his quota as it is illegal to overdraw a coupon account at the bank.

"Whenever further commodities require to be rationed, more accounts will require to be opened, but it would certainly seem that the system worked out will operate smoothly. It involves a great deal of added detail work for the banks and their staffs and is a wartime service of considerable importance."

Commenting on Mr. Unwin's statement, Charles St. Pierre, President of the Canadian Bankers' Association, said "The chartered banks are glad to make this wartime service and organization available to the government and to their business customers."

Gasoline rationing is not included in the system of Ration Coupon Banking.

## Schumacher High School Annual Concert Big Event

Featured by Play, "Sis Perkins."

Schumacher, March 3rd. Special to The Advance.  
Schumacher High School Auditorium was filled to its utmost Friday evening when the annual concert was presented. "Sis Perkins", a comedy in three acts by Wilbur Braun, was featured. Cast of characters: — Mrs. Elizabeth Chandler — Patricia Campbell  
Marcia Chandler — Patricia Barker  
Baldwin Chandler — Merrill Clark  
Carter — John Kirkland  
Lydia La Salle — Kathryn La Fontaine  
Count Gas on de Long — Kirby Joyner  
Jay Schuyler — John Tomlinson  
Sue "Sis" Perkins — Ann Marie Miller  
Elvira Sniffkins — Lois Phillips  
Violet Astor — Ruby Nilson  
The entire action of the play takes place in the Chandler residence in New York.

Act I — An afternoon in May. The scene opens in the lovely living room of the Chandler home. The Chandler family are an old and very wealthy family in New York. Mrs. Chandler and her son and daughter are sitting enjoying a quiet afternoon in the living room when Carter the butler enters and hands Mrs. Chandler a telegram which she opens and then nearly collapses. It contained bad news. The Chandlers had invested all their money in the Vipeond. The crash of the stock market had ruined them. Mrs. Chandler thought she would not tell her son and daughter the bad news but finally she decided it was best to tell them. So, after some conversation with her family they agreed that if the son and daughter married before it became known they had lost all their money, Marca would marry Count Gas-ton de Long and Baldwin would marry the wealthy Violet Astor. Their mother would arrange a party and have the Count and Violet as guests. Mrs. Chandler receives a letter from her brother who is a farmer at Paint Point Missouri, telling her that his daughter was coming to New York and she would visit her. Mrs. Chandler had broken relations with her family when she married into society, so she was annoyed at receiving the letter and answered it right away telling him his daughter could not visit at her house as they were leaving for Europe.

Act II — In the Chandler living room. Mrs. Chandler, her daughter Marcia and son Baldwin are waiting for the guests to arrive when who should walk in but the country cousin, Sis Perkins. Mrs. Chandler was shocked and ordered her to leave the house but she refused.

She said she had come to New York, to try and get work at a radio station. Her father had learned her to sing Hill-Billy songs since she was a baby and she was sure to get an appointment. Since she refused to leave the next best thing for Mrs. Chandler to do was to have Sis dress up in one of Marcia's evening dresses and attend the party. The first guest to arrive was Lydia La Salle, society girl, who was very fond of Baldwin. She meets Sis and thinks she is the wealthy Violet Astor so Sis doesn't make her any wiser and lets Lydia introduce her as Violet Astor. The Count arrives and instead of making love to Marcia he falls in love with Sis but Sis gives him the cold shoulder and leaves the reception room when she meets Jay Schuyler who owns a radio station. Sis was having a talk with Jay when Mrs. Chandler comes on the scene and orders Jay from the house. Marcia receives a long distance call from Violet to say it was impossible for her to visit at present. Sis Perkins' country cousin Elvira Sniffkins, arrives much to the disgust of Mrs. Chandler, who orders Elvira and Sis out of the house. Before leaving the room Elvira recognized the Count who was a crook and is wanted by the Police.

Act III — Elvira tells Sis that the Count was a crook and they were busy discussing the financial position of the Chandlers when the Count arrived on the scene. He told Sis he heard what she said and asked her if it was true. She told him it was true so he made his visit short and left by the back door. Marcia wondering what was keeping the Count arrives on the back door. She calls for her mother. Lydia, who loves Baldwin, and was dancing with him, also arrives on the scene. Sis told them the Count was a crook and was wanted by the police. The bell rings and Carter the butler announced Miss Violet Astor. Baldwin and Violet fall in love at first sight Lydia leaves, telling them she has some business to attend to. Jay Schuyler, who owns a radio station, called to tell Sis she had got a contract with the radio company as a very large salary. Mrs. Chandler and Marcia were just discussing their misfortune when Sis told them her good fortune and the large salary she would get would enable Mrs. Chandler to keep on her home and they could all live very happy.

Every one of the characters taking part in the play deserves great credit for the splendid way they carried through the programme.

A Military Tap was given by Shirley Karphan, Mary Lou Landreville, Marion McDonough, Julie Popovich Velma Popovich, Mildred Verbiik, Jean Ladorozny. The girls dressed in red, white and blue military outfit won much applause. The solo tap by Marion McDonough was greatly appreciated by the audience. During the evening the High School Orchestra, under the direction of Mrs.

## Dominion Commissioner Congratulates Fire Chief

Fire Chief Borland this week received the following letter from Mr. W. L. Clairmont, Dominion Fire Commissioner, Ottawa:—  
Ottawa, Feb. 23rd, 1943  
Mr. Alex Borland, Sr.,  
Chief of the Fire Department,  
Timmins Ont.

Dear Chief:—A press clipping received here a few days ago indicates that you recently celebrated your 77th birthday, and belated though it may be, I wish to take this opportunity of extending to you my wishes for many happy returns of the day.

I feel quite sure that you must have been greatly elated at this tribute paid to you and I trust that you will be spared to enjoy many more similar functions.

With best personal regards, I remain,  
Yours very truly,  
W. L. Clairmont,  
Dominion Fire Commissioner.

## Grandmothers Here Hold Their Second Quilting Bee Event

Five Other Grandmothers On This Occasion.  
A grandmothers' quilting bee was held on Friday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Carl Briggs, 19 Commercial avenue. All the ladies present were grandmothers, except the hostess, Mrs. Carl Briggs. This is the second event of its kind held here this year.

The top for the quilt was donated by Mrs. Mabel Veinotte. One quilt was completed during the afternoon, and will be donated to the Salvation Army.

David Brookie, music director, gave several lovely selections, members of the orchestra are Patricia Campbell, Ian Johnstone, Kirby Joyner, John Kirkland, Louis Klisanich, Shirley Kyle, Kay MacMillan, Claude Manette, Edward Morandin, Bill Welt.  
Mr. Douglas Argue, principal of the High School, extended thanks to all who attended. The staff and students had worked hard to make the concert a success and he hoped everyone had enjoyed it and it was very encouraging to all to see such a large audience. The money raised would go to the school's war work. Mr. Argue also extended thanks to the Schumacher Hardware, for stage properties; Miss Ruth Winter, Dome Public School, for assistance with the military tap; Mr. Albert State, S. Porcupine High School, for assistance with stage and make-up. The audience was standing while the orchestra played the National Anthem which brought a very happy evening to a close.

Launch brought the delightful afternoon to a close.  
Those present were Mrs. A. Jack, Mrs. Muir, Mrs. E. Brand, Mrs. J. VanRassel, Mrs. R. MacLaren, and the hostess, Mrs. C. Briggs.  
The next quilting bee will be held on Friday afternoon, at the home of Mrs. R. Drummond, 10 Knox avenue.

North Bay Nugget:—A new product called the "Victory Sausage" will contain various other substances besides meat. This, we believe, is the first appearance of hash in tights!



YOUR BREAD IS A WONDER!  
ROYAL YEAST IS A WONDER!  
Makes baking easy and sure — Loaves light, even-textured, Delicious



ALWAYS DEPENDABLE AIRTIGHT WRAPPER ENSURES STRENGTH

**Only the RED CROSS Can Pass**

*With Food and Comforts for Our Prisoners of War!*

BARBED WIRE and enemy guards "do not a prison make" for Canadian soldiers captured by the enemy. Their thoughts, winging across the sea, meet Red Cross parcels on their way to them. Last year, the enemy said "pass" to 2,000,000 such parcels. They were packed with 22,000,000 pounds of food and comforts welcomed by men to whom the barest necessities have become luxuries. But, most of all, to each prisoner every Red Cross parcel is a message from home—a definite assurance that he is not forgotten, a reminder that no captured Canadian soldier is ever marked "off strength" by the Red Cross. Thirty percent of the money you gave to the Red Cross last year was used to provide parcels for prisoners of war. The money you give now will help to keep up and increase this flow of good cheer and hope to these lonely men.

Consult your heart... Obey its dictates... Give liberally

Local Campaign Headquarters—12A PINE STREET S. TEL 345

**CANADIAN RED CROSS**

*GIVE—human suffering is greater than ever NOW!*

## Women's Institute to Donate One Quilt to S.A.

The Women's Institute held a quilting bee on Thursday afternoon at the home of Mrs. W. Hawse, 120 Preston avenue.

One quilt was completed, and will be donated to the Salvation Army. At the close of the afternoon, Mrs. Hawse served a delicious lunch to her guests. Those present were Mrs. R. Drummond, Mrs. W. P. Wilson, Mrs. Holson, Mrs. Crispin, Mrs. Muir of Hearst, Mrs. A. McCharles, Mrs. A. Jack, Mrs. C. Brigg, and the hostess, Mrs. Hawse.

## Two Boxes Packed at Regular Meet of Red Shield

Mrs. J. Kinsey Guest Speaker at Meeting Monday. Interesting Report on Red Cross.

The Red Shield Women's Auxiliary held their monthly meeting on Monday evening at the Salvation Army hall, with 19 ladies present. Mrs. J. McChesney, the president, was in the chair. The meeting opened with the National Anthem.

After the minutes were read, Mrs. W. B. Paterson gave the treasurer's report. A welcome was extended to Mrs. Dunbar, of the Golden City Red Shield, along with Mrs. Morgan, and Miss Morgan, who were guests at the meeting. They brought with them a great deal of knitted goods for the Red Shield. Mrs. J. Kinsey, was guest speaker at the meeting, and she gave an interesting account of Red Cross work for prisoners-of-war. She reported that there were four boys of Timmins in prison camp in Germany. Mrs. Carl Briggs thanked Mrs. Kinsey for delivering such an informative address, and Mrs. J. McChesney assured her of the complete support of the Red Shield in donating knitted articles to the prisoners-of-war, whose wives cannot afford to buy the wool to knit articles.

The boxes were packed during the meeting, the 1st one containing 6 quilts five from the Timmins Women's Institute, and one from the Shillington Women's Institute; the second box contained 94 skull caps, 10 pairs of gloves, 10 pairs of mitts, 6 tuck-ins, 75 pairs of socks, 8 sleeveless sweaters, 2 turtle-neck sweaters, and 3 scarves.

The meeting was then brought to a close with prayer, led by Mrs. W. B. Paterson. The next meeting is to be held on Monday, April 5th.

Toronto Telegram.—The honeymoon is ever when she suggests that he should go to the barbershop for a hair trim.