

Cute Little Mannikins

Already there are many champions of poor, dear Germany, misled by an Austrian corporal into making a bigger ass of herself than usual; but so far nothing has been said in defence of quaint little Japan. Yet there are many more excuses for the goggle-eyed sets of teeth than for the phlegmatic Germans.

In the first place, Japan was our ally in the last war, while Germany decidedly was not. Let us never forget that, and if Mr. King proposes rickel and copper bundles for Japan, let us remember that only by expanding its export trade can Private Enterprise save us from a third and final World War.

But what should endear the Japanese to us most is their naive and childish simplicity. Nothing but pure simple-mindedness could have persuaded a tiny and half-literate people that it would find the great United States asleep at the switch at Pearl Harbour, or that having that initial luck it could become the ruler of the world, either alone or jointly with Hitler, Goebbels and Goering.

And no one should blame the Japanese for becoming intoxicated with their early victories, or for showing off to the bigger and more civilized humans who fell into their hands.

If they sometimes fell into the error of over-emphasizing that showing off — by bayonetting or otherwise murdering their prisoners—please overlook it.

Japan said nothing about her secret weapons, differing from Germany in that respect, but in the hour of her greatest need she suddenly produced one—a elaboration of the old-time paper fire balloon. Instead of a sponge soaked in burning spirit or oil, she attached to her balloons small bombs. Then she set them loose to drift with the winds, regardless of whether or not they might turn back and drop on the Japanese homeland. Just what any child would be likely to do.

And the disgust and indignation with which Japan greeted the abominable atomic bomb! It was ungentlemanly for the Allies to take advantage of her comparative ignorance of modern science. If they were going to carry on like that, Japan refused to play. She gave in.

But not in too much of a hurry. She suggested she was ready to quit, but before quitting stalled around with a view to seeing whether there was any way by which she could double-cross the so-easily-deceived enemy. Apparently she found none and, after shilly-shallying as long as the Allies would stand for her doing so, got down to cases. She surrendered unconditionally on one condition. The United States granted the

condition. The fact seemed a good omen, Japan stalled some more.

Also, she complained in her naive fashion, that Russia was continuing to fight when the Japanese in Manchuria attacked Red troops. Would Mr. McArthur kindly see to it that the Russians ceased firing so that Japan might save a little face in the co-prosperity sphere. Elsewhere—on the Japanese main island for instance Japanese continued to shoot at Allied planes, but that was only because the Emperor had not yet had time to order them to do otherwise.

At last, and with obvious reluctance, the Japanese envoys set out for Manila to hear the peace terms, decorating their planes with black crosses instead of green ones as General McArthur had dictated. Also, the Emperor issued a warning that unless the Japanese allied quit firing at unsuspecting Allied troops, their country would lose the confidence of the world! Just as a guinea-pig might lose its non-existent tail under given circumstances. A very naive little Emperor of an extremely quaint little people.

It would seem that the radio networks realize and sympathize with the essentially harmless infantism of Japan, since they have all described the meetings of Japanese and Allied envoys, designed for the latter to give unquestioned orders to the former, as "conferences."

A simple and lovable people and, as Mr. King said in effect no longer ago than 1941: "Who knows but what in this strange war Japan may be fighting side by side with us some time in the future."

—H. R. F. News, Toronto.

Crop Reports as Gathered From the Various Provinces

GENERAL
Harvesting has begun at some points in the Prairie Provinces. In Manitoba crop prospects generally are promising and they continue to be satisfactory in the West-Central areas of Alberta and the North-Central and Eastern districts of Saskatchewan. Rains have improved conditions in North-Western Saskatchewan. Prospects are now less favourable in South-Western Alberta. In the Peace River district yields will be light. Sugar beets are progressing satisfactorily. In the province of Quebec, continuance of warm, dry weather has been beneficial to all crops and, with the exception of fruits, average yields are in prospect.

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Grains are maturing satisfactorily. Canning crops are promising. Roots are showing good growth. Pasture is in good condition. The yield of apples will be very light and small fruits, give indication of only a fair crop. A good average crop of tobacco is anticipated. Production of honey is expected to be below normal. In Ontario, conditions have been favourable and, on the whole, the outlook continues satisfactory. Threshing of fall wheat is well advanced in most areas and average yields of good quality grain are assured. Harvesting of Spring grains is general, with less-than-normal returns indicated. Tomatoes, sugar beets and other roots continue to make good progress and corn has benefited considerably from recent high temperatures. Yields of most orchard fruits will be very light. Harvesting of tobacco has commenced; the yield per acre is expected to be less than average. In the Maritime Provinces, weather conditions have been favourable but additional moisture would be beneficial in most districts. The harvesting of a heavy hay crop of good quality is almost completed and pastures are in good condition. Grain crops are heading out well. The yield of early potatoes is below average. Other roots are showing good growth. The apple crop will be very light. In British Columbia, conditions generally are satisfactory, but vegetable and field crops in non-irrigated areas are showing the effects of the continued dry weather. Orchards are in good condition and fruit is sizing and colouring satisfactorily.

PRAIRIE PROVINCES
ALBERTA—Rains in districts where moisture was badly needed have benefited late-sown grains and feed crops. Prospects are now less favourable in the Southwest, but continue to be satisfactory in the West-Central areas. In the Peace River district yields will be light. Cutting has commenced at some points and will be general in two weeks. Growth of sugar beets is satisfactory. SASKATCHEWAN—Crop prospects remain satisfactory in the North-Central and Eastern districts and conditions have been improved in the North-West by recent rains. Prospects in the Central South-Central, South-Western and West-Central areas are mostly poor. While recent rainfall at many points checked further deterioration, it was too late to benefit anything but late crops and only small yields can be expected. Cutting has commenced at many points. MANITOBA—Rainfall has been received over most of the province and conditions are now good. Clear, warm weather is needed to hasten ripening of crops. Cutting of some early coarse grains has commenced in some areas. Most grains are filling well and prospects are generally good. Sugar beets are developing satisfactorily.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC
EASTERN TOWNSHIPS AND OTTAWA VALLEY—Grains are maturing rapidly under ideal conditions and the cutting of an average crop has commenced in some districts. Storing of a heavy crop of hay is almost completed and pastures are in good condition. Potatoes and other roots are showing satisfactory growth. Canning crops give promise of an average yield. The apple crop will be very light and the yield of small fruits below normal. Tobacco is progressing satisfactorily. The honey crop is below average. LOWER ST. LAWRENCE AND LAKE ST. JOHN DISTRICT—Grains are ripening rapidly and an average yield is in prospect. The harvesting of a heavy crop of good quality hay is practically completed and pastures are in good condition. Potatoes and other roots are making satisfactory progress and the outlook is promising. Small fruits are below average.

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO
Threshing of Fall wheat is general and good returns are reported from most districts. Cutting of below-normal yields of Spring wheat, oats and barley is under way and threshing has commenced in a few areas. Tomatoes are developing well. Corn has made rapid progress during the past week. Sugar beets and other roots show good promise. Early potatoes are turning out satisfactorily and a good crop of late potatoes is in prospect, although some damage has been caused by blight. The honey crop outlook is very poor. Better-than-average yields of grapes are forecast, but the peach crop will be only 60% of average and yields of apples, pears and plums will be very light. Harvesting of tobacco has commenced, operations being about ten days later than normal; the yield per acre is expected to be less than average. Pastures are in good condition but rain is needed in many sections.

MARITIME PROVINCES
The harvesting of an above-average hay crop is nearing completion under ideal conditions. Pasture is in good condition. Grains are heading out satisfactorily and a fair yield is an-

Storing Vegetables For Winter Use

STORING VEGETABLES
It is a wise plan to store certain vegetables for winter use so that they may be available in the fresh condition over a greater part of the year. Potatoes, root crops, squash, pumpkins, marrows, cabbage and onions store well and are valuable sources of food for winter use. Successful storage of fresh vegetables depends to a considerable extent upon having a sound, well-matured crop and good storage conditions. R. H. Anderson, Dominion Experimental Station, Melfort, Sask. Vegetables that have been properly grown, have had a fair amount of moisture during the season, have not been crowded and have developed uniformly and not too quickly, are free from insect injuries and diseases that are likely to give trouble in storage, should be in satisfactory condition for storage providing harvesting has been properly carried out. The harvesting should be done at the proper season (this will vary with different vegetables) and in a such a way to avoid mechanical injuries. Only sound

vegetables should be stored. The digging of early potatoes has commenced in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, with yields below average; rust is affecting the later varieties in some districts. In Prince Edward Island, a good yield of potatoes is in prospect. Other roots show satisfactory growth. The apple crop will be the lightest in years and the yield of other fruits only fair. Rains would be beneficial in most districts.

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Surface conditions throughout the Province are very dry, but irrigation water is holding out well and orchards generally are in good condition. Apples are showing colour and continue to size well, with good average yields in prospect. Apricots, which were a good average crop, ripened quickly and have now all been picked and shipped. Heavy yields of all varieties of peaches are indicated and early varieties, together with plums and early pears, are commencing to move in volume. On the Lower Mainland, raspberries and loganberries are over and the picking of a good crop of blackberries has commenced. Good quality cantaloupes are moving in volume from the South Okanagan. Green tomatoes are being marketed and it is expected that cannery shipments will commence this week.

well-matured vegetables in a dry condition should be expected to keep a long time in storage.

Good storage conditions are those where the temperature can be kept not more than a few degrees above the freezing point, where good ventilation can be maintained, and where the storage space is sufficient to allow free circulation of air.

Carrots, beets, parsnips, turnips and cabbage keep best at temperatures ranging from 34 degrees to 38 degrees, with a not too dry atmosphere. Marrows, squash, pumpkin and onions

should be stored in a dry place and will withstand temperature up to 45 degrees.

Placing carrots, beets and parsnips in fine sand will aid in the storage of these roots. Turnips can be piled in bulk like potatoes. Cabbage should be wrapped with two or three thicknesses of newspaper and placed on slatted shelves. The wrapped heads may be piled two or three deep and should be examined occasionally and the paper changed when it becomes too moist.



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