

A WEEKLY EDITOR LOOKS AT Ottawa

Written specially for the weekly newspapers of Canada (By Jim Greenblatt)

Around Ottawa: They call it a poor snow season here, having had only 19 1/2 inches to the end of December; 28 inches behind last year's period... that's no fooling about more washing machines coming on the market for the J. H. Connor & Son Ltd. here started manufacture last week on a schedule allowing 15 per cent of normal peacetime production for January, February and March... Governor's General's levee on New Year's Day brought out about a thousand persons, the uniforms outnumbering civilians nine to one... Oddity—a small Christmas card came for the dog of the Polish minister to Canada from the pet cat of a U.S. official in Washington, doggone...

It's been moving time for the Ottawa headquarters staff of the Consumer Branch, with the entire staff moving into the Freeman building and the director, Byrne Hope Sanders, into an office in the new temporary building erected for the Wartime Prices and Trade Board just across from the Chateau Laurier hotel on Sussex street. It's two yrs. since the branch came into existence. During that time 13,000 Canadian women have enlisted as active officers while other hundreds of thousands have waged war against higher prices. Housing registries operated under this Branch's supervision found homes for over 60,000 Canadians, and close to a thousand women sit on Local Ration Boards.

Some 6,207 members of the armed forces discharged from service were placed in employment by Selective Service in November, the total since April 1942 being 78,936, the Pensions department reports. In the same period 62,960 veterans of the first Great War got the same service. These were not all permanent jobs, of course, but included occasional and seasonal jobs. Another interesting angle about the same subject is that unemployment assistance to pensioned vets. of the First Great War hit an all-time low in November, 119 getting \$2,880, as compared with say, August 1939, when 5,636 received \$122,954.

The 1941 census figures now reveal some significant trends. In that year Canada had 174,767,599 acres of occupied farm lands an increase of over eleven million acres from 1931. Improved farm lands under crop was over 56 million acres, a reduction of two million; pasture increased a little, summer fallow up about a third to 23,649,852. Nearly four million acres was the reduction in woodland from 1931 to 1941 while marsh or waste land was down over a million acres.

The war over in 1944? That would mean feeding Europe and quick. Given adequate ocean tonnage Europe need not go short of bread. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics says we would have 1,000,000,000 bushels half of it in Canada, available for shipment. The agricultural conference in Ottawa in December recommended no wheat acreage increase for Canada in 1944. Regarding coarse grains, oil bearing seeds, peas, beans and corn, is more urgent; also suggested a high proportion of land in Western Canada be summer fallowed which would be an asset if circumstances warranted increase in wheat acreage in 1945. Canada's peak wheat acreage was in 1940 with 28,726,000 acres; but in 1943 it dropped to 17,448,000 acres; the objective set for this year.

Astronomic, we call it, the figures of cost of this war to Canadians. World War 1, including two years of demobilization, cost us \$1,670 million. Compare that with the figures, up to the end of this fiscal year, estimated for the present war at \$10,824 million. Total tax revenue for the 1914-18 tracas, including the demobilization years, was \$1,121 million. For this war \$7,300 million. In 1916, our population was around 8,140,000, today, or rather 1941, it was put at 11,506,000.

Do you know that the new explosive, to you and me only known as RDX, (Research Department Explosive) was developed by five Canadian scientists, and that it may increase greatly the striking power of the United Nations?

This week (from Jan. 17 on) canned salmon is rationed and will be available on grocery shelves, packed in one-quarter, one-half and one pound tins, with valid meat coupons, already issued, to be used on the ratio of one quarter pound salmon per coupon. Only a portion of the 1943 catch is available for civilian use, the WPTB deciding rationing

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

JESUS TEACHES IN PARABLES Golden Text.—If any man have ears to hear, let him hear.—Mark 4:23 THE LESSON AS A WHOLE

Approach to the Lesson

The use of parables by our Lord was for a twofold purpose. He set forth many deep and important truths in this form in order to test the reality of his hearers' interests. If truly concerned, they would seek to get the meaning of the story—and so would become earnest inquirers. If indifferent, they would pay no further attention and so would go on in their careless way, hardening their hearts against the truth (Matt. 13:11-15; Luke 8:10). But when the consciences of His hearers were exercised, they would find that these vivid illustrations fixed in their minds the great truths that Jesus taught, making an indelible impression upon them (Matt. 13:16, 17). Our Lord was the prince of preachers and we are told that "without a parable spake he not unto them" (Matt. 13:34). The human mind is so constructed that it receives instructions far more readily through apt illustrations than just by the setting forth of either arguments or definitions. Spurgeon has well said, "The sermon is the house; the illustrations are the windows that let the light in." Those who depend entirely upon abstract truth to reach the hearts and quicken the consciences of their hearers are far more likely to fail to accomplish their earnest desires than those who brighten up their discourses by apt and enlightening incidents that tend to make clear the doctrines they are endeavoring to set forth. In this, as in all else, Jesus Christ is our great Exemplar—and His early followers, whose utterances and letters are recorded in the New Testament, used the same method.

The parables of the Lord Jesus Christ were remarkable for their fidelity to nature and to human life. He drew His illustrations from those things with which His hearers were thoroughly familiar, so that they could follow Him readily and the incidents related would be fixed in their minds with the lessons they illustrated, so long as there was a real desire to know that truth which makes men free (John 8:32).

Mark 4:1.—"He entered into a ship, and sat in the sea." The land rises gently from the particular part of the Sea of Galilee where; this took place—so, that, as the Lord Jesus sat in the fisherman's boat His audience would be before Him, conveniently seated or standing as in a natural amphitheater, thus enabling all to hear the voice of the Teacher, whose to be the only equitable way of distribution. Other canned fish such as pilchard, tuna, herring and sardines are not rationed.

About two thousand of the 100,000 odd men discharged from our armed forces since the beginning of the war have enrolled for government sponsored university and vocational training courses. Of 350 who completed training, 780 found employment in industries for which they were trained. Men with honorable discharges have a choice of sixty courses.

Estimates of exports of Canadian foodstuffs for 1943 to all countries show this country is doing such a tremendous share in the total war effort of the United Nations. Here are a few of the figures available, with 1938 figures in brackets for comparison: eggs, over 40 million dozen (1,842,538); cheese, about 120,000,000 lbs. (\$1,000,000); bacon, about 600,000,000 pounds (170,837,400); dairy cattle and calves 35,196 head (7,063).

Odds and ends of interest: Good news for ladies, a Price Board ruling allows a little increased supply of hairpins and bobby pins; also for farmers more production of barbed wire. Restrictions have been removed from factories in Quebec and Ontario so that more Canadian Cheddar cheese will be available for the home market... In the six air observer schools operated by the Canadian Pacific on a non-profit basis for

the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan, aircraft has flown more than 41 million miles... From Jan. 1st to Oct. 1st, 1943, 417,865 blood donations were contributed to the Red Cross blood donor clinics across Canada; the record week was in October with 16,297... It is estimated 400,000 men, and at least 100,000 women, have left farms since 1939, but to help overcome the farm labor shortage some thousands of older people who had retired came back to help.

Sounds far fetched, but isn't it. It is estimated that the annual gross value of dairy products in recent years has been placed at over 301 million dollars, almost 100 million dollars higher than the estimated annual value of gold production in Canada. The sale of milk brings cheques to about 420,000 farmers, and to this number might be added around 40,000 employees in distributing and manufacturing plants. Some authorities estimate, at least one-fifth of Canada's population is dependent upon the dairy industry for a living. Old Bossy is quite an important figure in our economy, isn't she?



Sleeping in a trunk is fun, for the time, to 16-months-old Sally Bucknell. Sally would probably prefer a cot, but there's no room for one in the single room she shares with her parents, Flying Officer and Mrs. Lorne E. Bucknell, in overcrowded Montreal.

message and personality had attracted them to Him.

Verse 2.—"He taught them many things by parables." These parables were illustrations drawn from things with which the hearers were perfectly familiar, so that they could follow Him readily, if so disposed.

Verse 3.—"Behold there went out a sower to sow." Possibly even as He spoke, the audience could see such a one not far away. The sower, pictured Christ Himself primarily though the application is true of every preacher of the word.

Verse 4.—"Some fell by the way side and the fowl of the air came and devoured it up." We need not be discouraged if much of the seed seems to be lost, for even when the greatest of all sowers was here, there were many who paid no attention to the words of grace that fell from His holy lips. Their hearts were utterly hard and unfeeling, like the well-trodden wayside paths.

Verse 5.—"Some fell on stony ground, where it had not much earth." The soil in this instance may have looked fair, but it had not much depth of earth. Underneath there was hardpan, speaking of lack of repentance and exercise before God.

Verse 6.—"Because it had no root, it withered away." Where there is no divine conviction there will be no lasting effects following a temporary stirring of the emotions.

Verse 7.—"Some fell among thorns... and it yielded no fruit." The careful farmer is commanded to "break up your fallow ground, and sow not among thorns" (Jer. 4:3; Hosea 10:12). This is best accomplished in dealing with individual souls. When addressing men in the mass there will necessarily be many who are so occupied with worldly affairs the good seed can find little room for lodgment.

Verse 8.—"Other fell on good ground, and did yield fruit that sprang up and increased." The good ground pictures hearts prepared by God to receive the seed of the Gospel, though even then all do not produce alike. Much depends both on the depth of the Spirit's work of conviction before conversion and the time given to soul-cultivation afterwards.

Verse 9.—"He that hath ears to hear, let him hear." Thus in this solemn way, the Lord challenges our attention. It is easy to listen, only with the outward ear and so fail to get the message into the heart.

Verse 26.—"So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground." Preaching the Word is sowing the seed, whereby the Kingdom of God, in its spiritual as-

pect, is spread throughout the world. "It pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe." (1 Cor. 1:21).

Verse 27.—"The seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how." Just as inexplicable as the mystery of life in the seed, leading to development of the plant, so is the wonder of the new birth. (John 3:6-8).

Verse 28.—"First the blade, then the ear, after the full corn in the ear." The law of growth in the natural world illustrates growth in grace and in the apprehension of spiritual realities. Men do not suddenly become mature saints. While we are saved in a moment when we trust the Lord Jesus, our growth is a matter of years. It is as we assimilate the truth by study of the Word, prayer, and devotion to Christ that we bring forth fruit to perfection.

Verse 29.—"When the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come." So the great Husbandman is watching over His tilled field (1 Cor. 3:9, margin) until the yield is at its best—then He takes to Himself the fruit for which He has waited so patiently (Jas. 5:7).

Verse 30.—"Whereunto shall we liken the kingdom of God?" The Lord Jesus was about to use an altogether different illustration, to picture an aspect which the Kingdom was to take after He had gone back to the Father—an aspect very different indeed from the first picture of a field of wheat.

Verse 31.—"Like a grain of mustard seed... less than all the seeds that be in the earth." It is not exactly that there are no seeds anywhere smaller than those of the mustard plant, but in a garden of herbs the mustard seed is the least of all. This pictures the small and seemingly insignificant beginning of the Kingdom of God in the world, following the ascension of the Son of man to the right hand of the Father.

Verse 32.—"It... shooteth out great branches." The mustard tree is the largest of all the herbs and fitly pictures the Kingdom as a power to be reckoned with in the earth. In other words, it sets forth that which the Lord foresaw Christendom was to become—a vast all-inclusive society where "the fowls of the air," which, we are told, are representatives of Satan and his emissaries (Matt. 13:19; Mark 4:15; Luke 8:12), find a hiding place. The fowls of the air, that were so busy devouring the good seed in the first parables, are now seen hiding in the branches of the mustard tree. How well the Lord knew the turn that events would take!

Final Evidence in Slot-Machine Case

Commissioner W. H. Stringer concluded his investigation on Tuesday and five witnesses who had previously given evidence were recalled to the stand. In order to complete the records, Sgt. T. Wilkinson of the Provincial Police was asked to repeat his evidence in respect to the "Irving" slot-machine.

"On Sept. 4th, Provincial Constables Bibby and Riley were at Jackson's Point obtaining evidence at several places," stated Sgt. Wilkinson. "One place in particular was the premises of J. Irving, known as the 'Everglades.' They played the machine on this premises and went to other premises to play other machines. They came back later to the Irving premises to gather the machine and it was gone."

The officer went on to say that the charge of "keeping a common gambling house" against Mr. Irving came up in court the following Tuesday, at which time the magistrate asked for the machine. Told that it had been removed from the premises, his worship adjourned the case and ordered that the machine be produced in court on Sept. 21 when the case would be heard.

"I was not present at the court on Sept. 21st, but I believe a machine was brought into the court which bore the serial no. 114766," stated the officer. This was ordered confiscated and held in the possession of the court for thirty-one days.

"Was the machine produced in court on Sept. 21st the same machine that was played on by your men on Sept. 4th?" asked Commissioner Stringer.

"From the information received since, I would say that it was not," replied the witness.

Asked if the machine received by him from Chief Stuart was the same machine that was turned over to the latter by the court, the witness said that he believed that it was the same machine turned over to Chief Stuart as it bore the same serial number as the one turned into the court on the day the case was heard. It was this machine which was destroyed on Nov. 30, 1943 by him, the witness and his officers and was found to be a skeleton machine containing 45c.

"Did you in your previous evidence testify to the effect that the men obtained their evidence on this machine which bore the serial no. 114766?" asked Mr. McTavish.

"No, I don't recall that I did," replied Mr. Wilkinson.

"We have here evidence from the constable of the Newmarket court that on September 21st you delivered to him at the station a slot-machine, is that correct?" Mr. McTavish questioned John Hamilton, who admitted it was.

"It was a black-colored five-cent

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The Heart of the Lesson
In considering the work of preaching the Gospel, we must take into account God's blessed purpose of grace and the condition of the hearts of men to whom the message comes. To some, it is a matter of no moment. They are indifferent to it from the first, and never become concerned. Some are interested for a time. Their emotions are stirred, but there is no depth of exercise. Others again have a measure of concern, but they are men of double mind. They would like to make the best of both worlds, and so they never give eternal things their proper place. Others, prepared by the Spirit's convicting work, are eager to know the way of life and so receive with "meekness the engrafted word" (Jas. 1:21) and bring forth fruit unto God.

HEADS ARMY



General Nikolai Vatutin, whose 1st Ukrainian army is plunging forward on the Russian front.

slot-machine which we were using for spare parts," the witness stated. "We had it in our room where we repair the machines."

"Where did you get it from?" asked Mr. McTavish.

"We had it for several years." Asked who he meant by "we," the witness stated that he was referring to himself and Mr. Siegal. He also stated that this machine which he brought into the police station on Sept. 21st had not been in circulation for the past two years.

"Why did you turn it into the court office?" asked the crown attorney.

"Mr. Siegal told me to take it over," replied Mr. Hamilton.

"You knew that this machine had not been in the Irving place or anywhere else?" "Yes."

"Do you know where the machine was which was at the Irving place?" "I didn't know where it was at that time."

"Where is it now?" "I think it is out on location just now."

Asked if the machine turned into the court by him was the same make as the Irving machine, the witness replied that it was not the same kind of machine.

Witness admitted that when he took the machine to court he knew that it was not the same machine that was played on at the Irving place.

In his testimony, Mr. Joseph Irving, proprietor of the "Everglades" dance hall at Jackson's Point, testified that he was present when the police officers played the slot-machines at his place, but denied being there when the gambling device was taken away. He said that his son, who is now in the army was taking care of the hall when Mr. Siegal told him to take out the machine.

"When the provincial men came for the machine," said that I did not know where it was," stated Mr. Irving. "One of them didn't have a registration certificate. I didn't let him search the place."

Asked who took the machine away, the witness said that Mr. Siegal took it away the following day. He admitted telling Mr. Siegal that the police had come for the machine.

"Would you consider Mr. Siegal had a right to take it away when the police had been there before?" questioned Mr. McTavish.

"I don't know the law," replied Mr. Irving.

"You've had machines on your place before, you knew enough to hide it," commented the crown.

Recalling Constable Robert Windsor to the stand, Mr. McTavish asked, "You recall the last time you were on the stand that you changed your story from the first time that you were on the stand? You admitted opening the three slot-machines from the Davies place, the first time in the garage when two machines were opened in the presence of Mr. Mintz and of the proceeds of \$48, you gave \$5 to Mr. Mintz and kept the balance yourself? The third machine you said you removed to the dining room where it was pried open and the contents taken out? You said you changed the nickels taken from machines? Constable Windsor said that he recalled giving this evidence."

"What was the total amount taken from the three machines?"

"There was \$58," replied the witness. "I cashed the \$53 and Mr. Mintz had five."

"I take it that the fifty-three dollars was put in your pocket and that you spent it?" asked the crown.

"I held the money for the crown," replied the officer. "It was returned on January fourth." Asked to whom he paid the money, the witness said that he handed it over to Mr. Mills, clerk of the Newmarket court. The amount of the cheque was \$58.

Thus ended the enquiry begun on December 13, 1943. Commissioner Stringer said that he would consider the evidence before him and then make a report to the Attorney-General.

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