

# The Stouffville Tribune

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## Notes and Comments

### Big and Small Families

The last 17 families to locate at Ajax, the munitions centre in South Pickering township, brought to that community 33 children. This is given as a record growth. Well, it may be so far as families moving into any one community are concerned, but is it a record number of children for 17 families to possess. After all it's barely two to a family, consequently the number is not impressive.

In the province of Quebec where the normal number of children born to a couple averages eight, it would only take four families to reach almost the number brought in by seventeen reported at Ajax.

In Ontario parents will tell you there is no certainty that children brought into the world can be reared properly but we never hear that from Quebec where conditions are not as good as they are in Ontario. The situation provides food for thought.

### Reforestation Program Lacking

When one surveys the amount of timber lands cut down in the surrounding townships within close proximity of Stouffville this winter, thoughts turn to speculate on the effect this will have on our future water supply if at least an equal amount of land is not planted in trees. Whitchurch, Uxbridge, and Gwillimbury townships have provided great quantities of wood and timber for present cutting, and so far as we can learn there is nothing like an equal amount of reforestation being planned.

After all the lessons we have learned about the value of timber land in relation to our water supply, the public have a right to expect more concern and energy shown by our county councils in their reforestation programs.

Many hundreds of acres of land unfit for profitable farming are available for reforestation if the councils of York and Ontario would stir themselves more than they have.

County programs, to our mind, are too centralized. In York county one huge forest is being set up at Vivian, which, having its advantages, is a splendid thing. However, there are one and two hundred acre areas that should be taken into the program in other localities of the county which would have great advantage in decentralizing and spreading the benefits of the trees to other districts.

### Plenty of Seed Available for Potato Growers

Potato growers who are planning their 1944 production will be pleased to know that a very satisfactory supply of good seed is still available, particularly of the late varieties, says R.E. Goodin, Potato Fieldman of the Ontario Department of Agriculture.

Although buyers have been active, resulting in a heavy movement of seed potatoes in the fall, much good seed was put in winter storage, mostly because labour shortages interfered with grading operations on farms. A recent survey has revealed that approximately 118,000 bushels of Foundation, Foundation A and certified seed potatoes remain in Ontario farms as at January 1st. Up-to-date lists, giving

names of growers, varieties etc., have been prepared and are now available at offices of local agricultural representatives, Dominion Seed Potato Certification Service, O.A.C., Guelph or the Crops, Seeds and Weeds Branch, Ontario Department of Agriculture.

The quality of Ontario seed potatoes from the 1943 crop is exceptionally good in most cases and buyers have been well pleased with purchases. Many growers have already made sure of satisfactory supplies by securing seed early.

Considering that potato growers have been requested to increase production by five per cent in 1944, also the fact that heavy losses were experienced from Bacterial Ring Rot in 1943, growers would be well advised to provide for the first requisite in profitable potato production by using only seed which is known to be satisfactory.

### A Crowded Canada?

There is no more interesting subject for consideration than population, and many experts would have us believe there is none more important to nations and the world. Some, fanatical on the subject, insist that unless something is done to change current downward trends, the future of the human race will be shrouded in sorrow, and the poet's vision of earth's last man not all a figment of the imagination. It can be said, at least, that these prophets of doom are not thinking of themselves, because the most pessimistic estimate of population decadence leaves the earth quite well populated for thousands of years.

Among fears held by other people is that of a crowded world. The present population of the earth is approximately 2,000 millions. Although several authorities agree on the figure, it is no more than a good approximation, because it never happens that there is an up-to-date information for every country in the same year. Qualified persons agree that an estimate of 1,009 millions for 1845 is as well founded as a guess can be made. Upon this estimate can be calculated that between 1845 and 1914 the average annual increase of the world's inhabitants was at a rate that would double the population in less than a century.

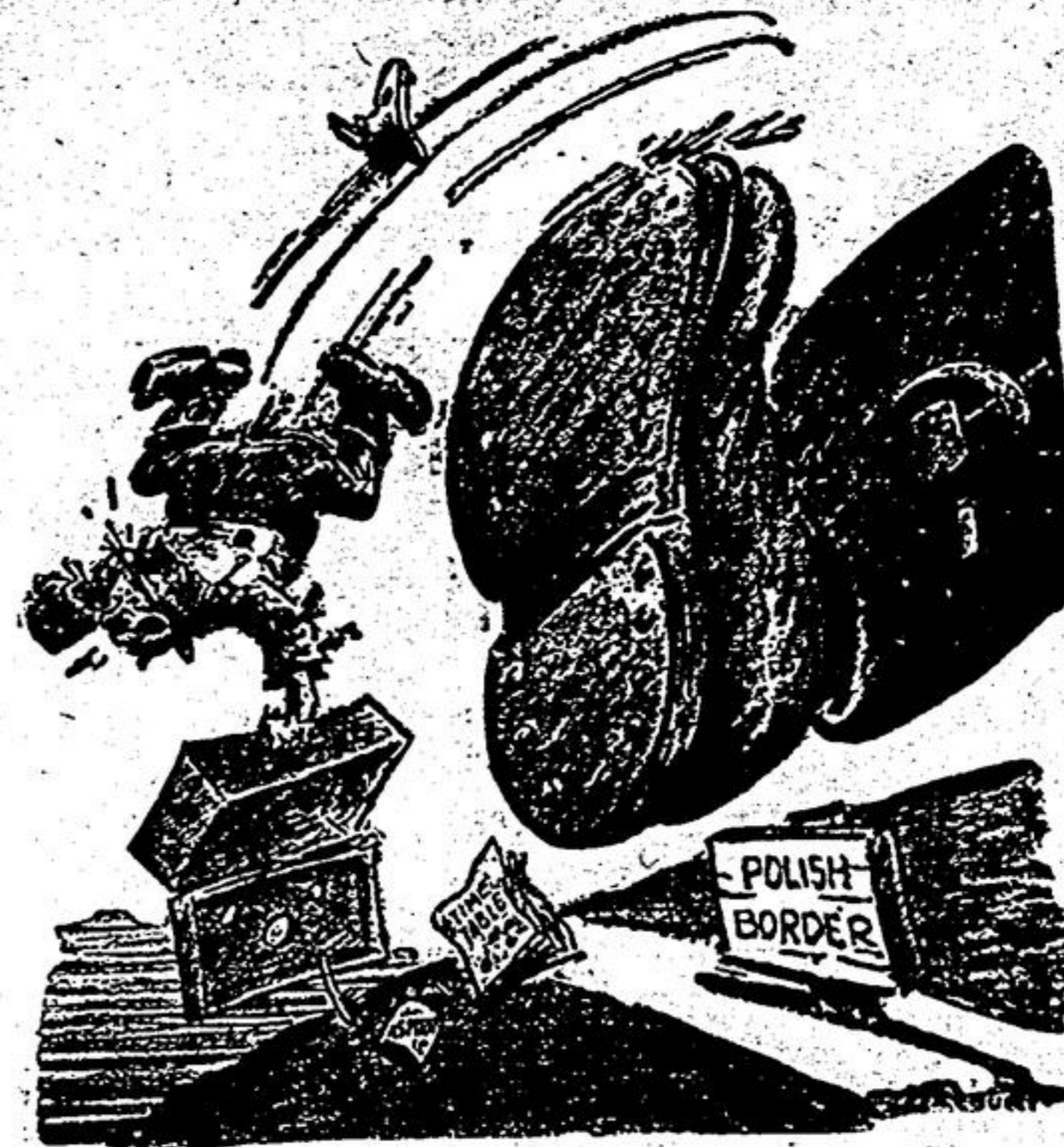
The so-called white race is estimated to have increased from 150 millions in 1770 to 635 millions by 1938. This vast increase parallels the growth in applied science and the industrial revolution. In fact, the population increase is probably a direct effect of science and the machine, aided by improvements in sanitation and advances in medicine which have prolonged the life span.

If humanity were to increase for another 250 years at the same rate as it apparently increased from 1900 to 1920 it would reach 10 billion. There are authorities on the subject who say that it would then have exceeded the best practicable population, and would also have reached about the maximum population that the earth is able to sustain. However, the picture at this time is one of collective plenty, and, gloomy foreboding to the contrary, the human race is still a long way from starvation.

### Air Cadets to Continue

U.S. Navy Secretary, Frank Knox, has stated that the organization of Air Cadets in the United States will not be dropped at the conclusion of the war, but that, in spite of possible pacifistic reaction, it is intended that all boys of seventeen should be given a year's training. The purpose of this is to prevent a relapse into the state of unpreparedness which cost the Allied Nations so much delay and loss at the beginning of the war. But important too is the effect it would have on the young manhood of the nation. The physical development to be acquired by a year's military training, and the comradeship that grows under camp conditions are proving a benefit right now to many young men in the army. While we deplore the war that has made army life necessary we must also see the advantages that many are gaining, and recognize the value that would be gained by such a training in peacetime.

### THE RETURN OF THE PRODIGAL HUN



those who are able to, will deal on the Black Market, paying such fabulous prices as \$6 for a pound of butter; \$65 for a pound of coffee; \$160 for a pound of tea balls, \$1.45 for a loaf of bread; 50 cents for a pound of potatoes; 50 cents for a quart of milk, and so on.

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### RAILWAY GROCERIES MAKE A BIG ORDER

To buy one month's provisions for dining and troop train commissary cars of the Canadian National Railways operating through the Montreal district is a big job in terms of ordinary housekeeping. Here are the quantities required for an average thirty-day period: Bread, 16,120 loaves, one-and-a-half pounds each; 42,472 pounds of meat; 6,522 pounds of fish; 7,500 pounds of poultry; 6,180 dozen eggs; 25,800 pounds of potatoes; 20,325 pounds of fresh vegetables; 15,660 quarts of milk and cream; 3,000 pounds of butter; 1,000 pounds of cheese; 175 boxes of apples; 50 boxes of grapefruit; 18 boxes of lemons; 150 boxes of oranges; 12 doz. cucumbers; 1,200 bunches of celery hearts; 2,900 heads of lettuce; 550 bunches of parsley and 500 green peppers. There is more than that in the grocery order, but the details given indicate that it is sizeable.

### EDITOR'S MAIL

Dear Editor  
I read an editorial last week recalling the fact that we had a by-law requiring motor drivers to shut down the engine, and render assistance to passing drivers with horses. Many of us recall those days only 35 years or less ago.  
Up in Meaford a few days ago the matter came to my mind when I saw a milk sleigh for the local dairy making its usual rounds. The horse and sleigh were on the wrong side of a double track roadway and the driver was at a customer's door some distance off when a car appeared. Realizing that the outfit was in the middle of the road, the driver spoke to the horse and it immediately turned right, climbed a snowbank 18 inches, and pulled the sleigh out of the tracks, so the car could pass; then the animal resumed the beaten path again. A human being could do no more, but what a contrast to the days you refer to when farmers fairly cursed autos and the few who owned them. What a difference a few hours, or days, or years can make.  
George.

Editor Stouffville Tribune,  
Dear Sir:  
An article appearing in the columns of a December issue has come to my attention. Said article was reproduced from the Bowmanville Statesman under the title of "Attack on Crown Attorney."

This article accuses the Oshawa Times-Gazette of being solicitous towards the Socialist party in giving prominence to a labour union letter demanding the dismissal of Crown Attorney Annis, on account of a speech he made in Whitby before the United Church Men's Association.

Right here Mr. Editor I would like to ask two questions:

1. Since when did a newspaper in publishing a letter or a reply to a slanderous attack on good people by public servants have a partial leaning to anyone?

2. Why does the article fail to give a true and correct statement of the statement most strenuously objected to?

The statement objected to was the charge, "That the dregs of humanity not wanted in any civilized community was shipped in to the war plant or plants in train load proportions." Your article has it boiled to juvenile debauchery only involving a few individuals at worst.

Truly a crime demanding the services of our machinery of justice. But I would draw your attention to the fact that people are here recruited from the most respectable homes in the land and it certainly is no credit to any public servant to cast such a stigma upon the heads of these people.

Mostly girls who have answered the call of patriotic duty come from the four corners of Canada to back up our boys in uniform.

I can make the statement here and now without fears of successful contradiction that these girls have no right to come under the stigma of this unwarranted insult. It was no gentleman's trick. These girls are away from their homes, many of them from the far flung border of this Dominion and no person has any right to heap insults, slurs, or slander on their heads as Attorney Annis has done, and any newspaper refusing to give publicity to any one demanding that a public apology be given to those so treated is certainly delinquent in its duty as a public institution.

Laurie Hislop, Ajax, Ont.

### GERMAN-CONTROLLED DUTCH HIND FOOD PROBLEM GREAT

People Forced to Deal on Black Market Paying Fabulous Prices in Order to Live

"Vittles and drink are the chief of my diet," sounds very comfortable when there is enough food to be had. Right now in some countries it would be much easier if people did not need food.

News coming out of Holland tells how hard it is in that German-controlled country, to get enough food for simplest wants. Between the Nazi confiscation of supplies and the Nazi control of what is left the people have a fight to get enough to eat—standing in long queues, using available substitutes and buying in the Black Market.

Eggs and meat are rationed out most sparingly. Between April 12 and May 15, 1943, citizens over 21 were allowed to buy only one egg. Those under 21 could buy two, but each egg was worth 30 cents so it would take more than the \$2.20, which is the wage some workmen earn for a full day's work, to buy only 5 eggs! Everyone is allowed a piece of meat every two weeks—but the piece is so small that the Dutch are making a joke about it. They say the butchers are responsible for the shortage of cigarette papers because they use them for meat wrappings.

This year many Canadians were standing in line to buy Christmas candy. This is far removed from the bitter reality that forces Dutch housewives to queue up in the cold at 4 a.m. on meat and vegetable days, knowing that if they have not the strength to wait patiently their families may have to go without those essential foods.

With food so scarce and Nazi control so harsh it is no wonder that



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