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Notes and Comments

Our Silly Attitude

An executive of the Motion Picture Industry comes forward with the suggestion that showing of Russian films should be discontinued for a time at least, an idea that only shows the smallness of some Canadians who are likely interested in selling American films.

The Movie Official told British United Press that the industry would probably be well advised to withdraw the Russian films now showing, because of the atomic disclosures, which causes us to wonder if their films could be any worse than some of the silly stuff produced on this continent.

There are a lot of people who stand ready to condemn Russia over the atomic bomb disclosures, who never stop to consider that there is no law to stop the Russians or any other foreign country learning all they could about the matter. There was a law and a sworn obligation as well administered to Canadians and all "in the know" not to disclose the secrets. These are the people open to criticism, and if they are Canadians, it is silly for other Canadians to adopt the attitude of condemning foreigners and overlooking the fact that our own people were the great offenders in this matter.

Not a Difficult Problem

Butter output is not enough to meet demands, with the return of thousands of service men and their wives from Overseas, and with the normal smaller output during winter months. In face of this situation there is a suggestion that oleomargarine be admitted to Canada, a product now not imported. During the war, they argue, when imports of oleo raw materials from the Pacific were cut off there would have been little gain in resuming manufacture, but the situation has changed in the last six months. Ample raw materials should soon be available again. There seems no reason at all why Canadian consumers should be further deprived of a healthful food product that is available in almost every other country, including the United States and Great Britain.

The ban, which was applied against the manufacture and sale of oleomargarine shortly after the end of the First Great War, is much more than an ordinary protective measure. It gives the butter producers of this country an absolute monopoly, and monopolies are hard to justify under any circumstances says those demanding a change in the present regulations.

The Milk Board on the other hand opposes the move, and we are inclined to agree with them. They have a fear that once admitted oleo would be a competitor and ultimately injure dairy prices. That could be quite possible.

Our suggestion would be to ship the oleo to those countries that are getting our butter, and the matter would be solved for all of us.

Now Applying the Strap

It will be noticed with satisfaction on the part of the public, (not those who commit crime,) that the strap is being applied to almost all sentences handed out for armed robbery or attempted robbery. This kind of sentence has been long demanded by the public, and it is bound to have a salutary effect on would-be robbers. Most of these law-breakers are cowards at heart. They do not fear jail terms, but they fear a strapping.

Raising a Pig

And people in this rural area will feel some sympathy for the farmer up Windsor way who told a neighbor that he sold a pig for eight dollars. "What did it cost to raise him?" asked the neighbor. "Paid three for him and five more for feed," was the reply. "Didn't make much, did you?" "Nope, but I had his company all fall."—Brantford Expositor

IT IS SAID

(By R. J. Deachman)

Ottawa has been playing with a tempest. One, Major General G. Brock Chisholm, Deputy Minister of Health, has made the suggestion that parents should abandon the myth of Santa Claus and tell their children the truth. Children should be taught to think rather than to believe. That's a bright suggestion. We need to do a lot of thinking. The human race is in a tight spot—who knows what may happen? Suggestions were made that the gentleman ought to be fired. That is the answer of a startled Ottawa. Now all is quiet on the home front. The Major General may keep his job, if he wants to do so.

I was looking through the dictionary in search of a word which would more clearly express what I wanted to say and, by accident, I ran across this word "Pelagius." I hadn't the foggiest idea what it meant. It was the name of a man. He lived in the 4th or 5th Century. Like Brock Chisholm he didn't believe in original sin. He had no idea that the human race had to pay for Adam's or was it, Eva's momentary lapse or natural thoughtlessness. Like General Chisholm he wanted to think rather than to believe. What do you suppose they did to him? He got off not too badly. The Emperor exiled him from Rome. He went to Great Britain. This was better than firing him from his job, if he had one. So we see that the 20th century is pretty much the same as the 5th, a man who starts something is in for it—he may lose his head, his job or his country. Which? It depends on where he lives.

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It may be that in the not far distant future dentists will be doctors. There is no reason why they shouldn't. We have all kinds of specialists in medicine, a different brand for every part of our anatomy. When teeth decay there must be a cause. The modern dentist must now turn his mind to prevention. Providing us with something, not so good, for the teeth which nature gave us is not the ultimate goal of good dental practice.

We shall not now buy autos in New Zealand. A recent dispatch from that country has this to say: "The landed cost, will be almost double the 1938 cost. One of the biggest factors affecting the purchase price in New Zealand is the increased tax on the increased price. Sales tax has quadrupled since 1938, and with the increase in landed cost as shown above, the amount of sales tax paid by the purchaser will be about seven times more than that paid on a similar car in 1938."

An American report entitled, "Investigation of Corporation of Economic Power," was published in the United States in 1941. It was a hefty book of 480 pages, I am not going to read it. The essence of it was that "the largest companies, made on the whole, a poor showing in the tests of group efficiency." This is interesting but not surprising. There are limits to the idea that increased efficiency goes with size. There is, however, a tendency for the large corporations to come through a depression with less trouble than private business. The corporation, even if small, provides reserves—the individual in times of prosperity increases his standard of living. It makes a difference when hard times come. It is cheering nevertheless to feel that in a country like the U.S.A. the smaller business, if it behaves still has a chance.

Henry Ford Jr. more talkative than his father has been telling some things about the price of cars. "The Super de Lux Tudor is" he says "the favorite car." Factory

cost in 1941 was \$512. This doesn't include sales tax, freight, selling costs. It is the factory price.

By 1942 this had risen to \$681, now it costs \$962. How long will it take us to make everybody rich by making him pay more for the things he buys.

I had breakfast in an Ontario city not long ago at the unusual hour of 9.20. When I finished the girl who waited on me was sitting at a nearby table. I asked for my check. In front of her was a sheet of paper and on it she had written in blue pencil \$5,000. "Hello," said I, "fixing up your income tax?" "No," she said "just wondering when we can buy our home." "You are buying a home?" I said, "I wish you luck." She was married, two months later her husband went overseas. He had been away four years. She worked all the time he was away. His allowances and assigned pay were used to purchase bonds—she never spent a cent of it. They are both working now. "One year more" she said "and we will have enough to purchase a home." "What then?" I asked. "Just that," she said, "a home and a family."

People like that build a nation, while others are making trouble.

RINGWOOD

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Abell and family of Detroit, were weekend visitors with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Abell.

Mrs. Myrtle Davis spent last week visiting relatives in Toronto. We are glad to see Mrs. Gordon Fockler out again following her recent operation in Toronto General Hospital.

It is reported that E. R. Sinclair has sold his grocery and gas business, the new owner from Niagara Falls, to take over about the first of May.

Miss Evelyn Filyer has secured a position with the 5 to \$1.00 Store in Stouffville. The Excelsior Class held their monthly meeting and quilting at the home of Mrs. Gibson Brown, Stouffville on Tuesday.

The Danger Period
 The gripe, or whatever one might call the illness that has been prevalent this winter, certainly has a lasting grip. It is not easily shaken off. A person may consider himself recovered only to suffer a relapse. And one who had it earlier in the season is not immune from a second attack. The period from now until the advent of spring is one in which nearly everyone will be susceptible to this somewhat puzzling malady. Bodily resistance is none too high after so many weeks of severe winter weather. This is the time to be on guard.

Burning Christmas Trees

The production and merchandising of Christmas trees is a legitimate business which deserves recognition, just as does trade in any line of consumer goods. Fundamentally it is sound, but Christmas trees once cut are a perishable commodity. After December 25th they have no value whatever. Merchants and distributors have failed to recognize this truth. They become so reckless in their dealings that immense numbers of unsold Christmas trees are burned in and around large cities. This waste is really criminal. It is unregulated, irrational competition that dealers themselves must correct or the Government will be obliged to take action.

Christmas trees should be made available to all who want them, at a reasonable price, but we must not go on burning up in huge bonfires the trees that Canada needs so much, is the timely warning given by the Farmers Advocate.

Longs for Ontario Apples

There is at least one very unusual thing about this winter of 1946. Yes, there may be several unusual features about this season. For instance the weather recently was more like April or even May than January. It was a welcome and splendid respite from the cold of January, but the unusual feature of January, 1946, that interests us at the moment is the absence of apples in the cellar of Ontario and York County farm homes.

Now, apples have been taken very much for granted. Apple picking has always been one of those "jobs" that had to be done in the busiest time of the fall, and the apples had to be picked at just the right time. A wind storm could make such a terrific mess of the finest apple crop.

Apples have so many uses in the farm home, and their usefulness extends over most of the months of the year. Along about August the early varieties ripen—and almost immediately apple sauce and apple pie make their appearance on the farm-home and, considering the quantity of apples that move to market, urban, tables, too, must sometimes see these grand dishes.

Then, later on in the fall there is the apple-butter making. There was a time when this delicacy was of vastly greater importance than in recent years. The pioneers really appreciated the old-fashioned apple butter.

Again, round the farm kitchen stove on a winter's evening—yes along about this time of year—the good old Northern Spy proved to be a real treat. We would call it a treat this winter anyway, though in other years we took the "apple a day" theory for granted. An orange—now that was a real treat! It took a crop failure and a spell without apples to make us really appreciate the Talman Sweet, the McIntosh and the Northern Spy.

Do we ever stop to consider the foresight of the early pioneer, who planted the first orchards? We wonder what problems they faced in those days. Were rabbits and mice hungry for apple-tree bark then as they now are? We wonder, too, when the first "worm" made its appearance.

Uncle Hy Says

The Little People be it known, are never found where plans are made, to start a war of any kind, to subjugate, to corner trade, you'll never find them holding stock, in factories by our foes controlled, where things to kill are paramount, and soulless men pile up their gold.

The Little People be it said, will never stoop to things so base, as absolute control of things, the small man's business to efface, you'll never find them where big men, whose hearts lust for great power and wealth, will plan their quests and their schemes, attain their ends by even stealth.

The Little People only ask, that pawns of war no more they be, that they may live in their own way, assured of full security, to have their home and garden plot, a wife and children, high estate, maybe a car, a horse, a cow, and flowers blooming by the gate.

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"PAN AMERICANA"

NEW WEED KILLER GENUINE KNOCK OUT

What George Knowles, Weed Control Expert, Field Husbandry Division, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, believes is the most helpful ally yet discovered in the battle against weeds, is a new chemical against weeds, is dichlorophenoxyacetic acid. His belief follows the encouraging results of a series of elaborate experiments carried on in Ottawa and at several other Dominion Experimental Farms in co-operation with 13 north central states of the United States.

In Ottawa the experiments disclosed that one application of the powerful new chemical, which the manufacturers say will be on sale in quantities in Canada early in the spring, will kill many weeds, more effectively than any other chemical. It will also kill dandelions and most other weeds found in lawns, without injury to the grass. It does, however, temporarily eliminate clover, but the clover gradually grows again without re-seeding.

While 2-4-D, when used on Canada Thistle in grain crops did not completely kill the vigorous weed, it was so badly set back that it did not reappear until nearly harvest time and then only in the form of young shoot. Practically the same results were obtained on field bindweed growing in a field of oats. Just how many applications of 2-4-D will be required to spell sure and certain death to Canada Thistle and field bindweed in grain crops is yet to be determined.

When annual weeds, such as mustard, lamb's quarters, and red root pigweed are sprayed with the new weed killer, they are blotted out as completely as Hiroshima was by the Atomic bomb. As an example of this, Mr. Knowles says a dense growth of mustard growing in an acre of grain was eliminated

by one spraying of 120 gallons of liquid that contained less than three-quarters of a pound of one of the preparations containing 2-4-D. Amazingly the new devastating weed killer does no perceptible injury to plants of the grass family, which includes wheat, oats, barley, and rye. But if 2-4-D is used on a lawn around a flower garden, Mr. Knowles advises the exercise of considerable care or some cherished plants may be damaged, for there is still much to learn about the new wonder weed killer.

Discovery of 2-4-D was made by a group of scientists in the United States in 1933 while experimenting with hormones or growth stimulants. Over-stimulation it was found, killed some plants, one of which was field bindweed. The news of what 2-4-D did to bindweed caused great interest among agricultural scientists everywhere and plans to carry on experiments on other weeds have since been carried out at several points in Canada and the U.S.

If additional experiments with 2-4-D give as encouraging results as those which have already been disclosed farmers may be able to wage more successful war against weeds, which cost then many millions of dollars annually.

Output of Milk Low in Holland
 Holland has about 75 per cent as many milk cows and 90 per cent as many young cattle as she had before the war, but the milk output per cow is very low due to lack of feed. It will not improve until imports improve.

THURSDAY NIGHT IS FOTO NITE OFFERS \$200 and \$85

THE OLD HOME TOWN By STANLEY

