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Notes and Comments

Contributory Pensions

When Senator Arthur Roebuck told the Senate last week that a contributory payment over one's working days should be provided for old age pensions, he took a wise stand. It is something this paper, and many others, have advocated for years. A contributory old age pension takes away the provision of poverty as being necessary to gain it. It assures persons that there will be a pension waiting them, and that is what we like about contributory pensions. It is insurance in a wise form. Why are its provisions delayed so long?

Farm Wages Up

Scarcity of labor and the maintenance of a high level of farm income have pushed the wage rates for farm workers to their highest level since comparable statistics became available in 1940. The high point for farm wages is usually in August. This year wages in many provinces were approximately the same as those prevailing at Aug. 15, 1946.

Except in the case of monthly wages with board, British Columbia led the Dominion, rates in Prince Edward Island being the lowest. The average rates for Canada as reported at May 15 were \$3.59 per day and \$77.01 per month where the employer provided board as compared with rates of \$3.25 and \$71.36, respectively, at the same date a year ago. Where the employee provided his own board, the average rates were \$4.55 per day and \$103.96 per month, respectively, as against \$4.15 and \$96.27 at May 15, 1946.

Eggs were 10 cents a Dozen. Boy! Those were the Days

With Canada 30 years ago the trade and commerce department took time out at Ottawa to compare exports and imports of today with the figures for the first year of Confederation.

Canada imported and exported a total of \$120,000,000 worth of goods in the first year of Confederation. During last year there was export and import total of \$4,239,000,000.

One reason for the difference, the department points out rather sadly, was the difference in prices now and then. Beef, bacon and ham cost nine cents a pound. Eggs were 10 cents a dozen. Maple sugar was 10 cents a pound and pork was eight cents.

A Great Work Underway

By going from farm to farm making appointments for free chest x-rays, members of the Women's Institute, Lions Club and other public bodies in the rural districts of York and Ontario counties, are playing a large part in making TB surveys of the National Sanitarium Association in these acres a fine success.

In the rural areas of York, Ontario and Muskoka the National Sanitarium Association hopes to x-ray at least 68,000 during the summer months. The average Women's Institute member makes at least 20 calls in her community arranging appointments for all members of the families she visits.

The surveys are now in progress at Newmarket, July 18; Port McNicoll, July 21; Midland, July 24; Woodbridge, July 28; Penetang and Schomberg, August 1; Nobleton, August 5; King and Stayner, August 7; Creemore and Kettleby, August 11; and Alliston, August 13.

With the last month chest examinations given at the Association's Gage Institute have revealed 42 cases of TB requiring sanitarium treatment. The Institute is at present attempting to purchase additional miniature x-ray equipment to handle more quickly surveys of small industrial plants. Where employees are fewer than 200 the Association finds it impractical to take the equipment to the plant.

New Facilities for Farm Loans

Improved facilities for making farm housing loans are now available following announcement of proclamation of Section 14 of the National Housing Act in the House of Commons on June 30.

The announcement stated that there would be some delay before loans could be made on any type of farm in Saskatchewan or on grain-growing farms in Manitoba and Alberta until a better debt adjustment is arrived at in that province. In fact early in the year discussions had been held with the governments of the Prairie provinces.

"To use this new mortgage form," it was stated, certain adjustments in provincial legislation in all three provinces were considered necessary. While there was a great deal of interest shown in the proposals, the required amending legislation was not passed at the last sessions of the three legislatures. Negotiations are continuing with the governments concerned, however, in an effort to complete arrangements for using flexible payment mortgage."

Under the provisions of Section 14 of the National Housing Act, loans may be made to farm owners to assist in the construction of modern, attractive and comfortable farm houses. Such loans bear interest at 4 1/2% per annum and are payable over a period of up to 20 years after the date of completion of the house.

The maximum loan available to the owner of a farm on which there is no existing mortgage or other encumbrance is limited to the least of \$5,000, the cost of building the house or two-thirds of the appraised value of the farm. However, if there is already a mortgage or the encumbrance on the farm, Section 14 of the Act permits a maximum loan amounting to the least of \$8,000, the aggregate of the cost of building the house and the amount necessary to pay all encumbrances, or two-thirds of the appraised value of the farm.

To assist the farmer in repaying a loan, arrangements have been made for payment in annual, semi-annual or monthly instalments depending on the type of farm he operates and the frequency with which he receives his income during the year.

WESTERN FARM HELP ARRIVING

The Minister of Labour, Hon. Humphrey Mitchell, reported today that over 500 Western harvesters have arrived from the three Prairie Provinces to assist with haying in Ontario. Several hundred more, it

is learned, are on their way. The services of these men will greatly assist Ontario farmers with their summer work. In view of a heavy hay crop which has matured rapidly during the recent hot weather, Mr. Mitchell stated that a large number of additional hands will be

OUR CAPITAL CORRESPONDENT

Written exclusively for The Stouffville Tribune by M.L.Schwartz

Selling on extensive credits to Europe and buying in ever-increasing degrees from the United States for cash, the Canadian government is now facing an exchange crisis which must be solved as quickly as possible, it is hinted in Ottawa, though it is no secret to observers here that the re-imposition of wartime restrictions or controls as a means of solution is known to be quite unpopular even if such rumors have been circulating in this capital as a distinct possibility. In addition, it is held that much depends on the success or failure of the so-called "Marshall Plan" to aid Europe through United States economic assistance because it is believed that Canada, closely tied up with various countries in trade dealings, especially the United States and the United Kingdom, would benefit from the "Marshall Plan" being carried out since this might ease considerably her own exchange crisis. In any case, current rumors about "drastic action", such as the re-imposition of certain wartime controls on exchange, does not seem to be backed by officials in Ottawa as a likely course which will follow shortly, though it is hinted in well-informed quarters that some action is coming but it would be a broad over-all nature tied in with other nation's efforts to solve their shortage of U.S. dollars.

It is noted that the Dominion-Provincial Taxation Agreement Bill has allowed any provinces, including Ontario and Quebec, to sign an agreement granting the Federal Government the use of the income, corporation and succession taxes in return for compensation, with definite clauses in that Bill permitting such future arrangements and no new legislation being required if this should occur. Significantly, for instance both Ontario and Quebec are included in the possible minimum payments under such an agreement which would end in 1951, Ontario being mentioned for \$67,158,027 and Quebec \$56,382,127.

The proposal that labor unions in this country should purge Communists from their ranks through laws forbidding such men to hold office seems to have considerable approval as a principle but there are questions being asked if this can be done in a practical way since labor unions in Canada carry on under Provincial as well as Federal laws, with many difficulties being foreseen for its practical application, though it is pointed out that early in World War II an Order-in-Council did make the Communist Party illegal in this country until Russia entered the war and became an Ally so that this Order-in-Council was withdrawn at the time.

It is possible that several Australian doctors may come to Canada in an exchange plan. Tourists spent \$221,000,000 in Canada last year and they are expected to spend even more this year.

Suggestions are heard here that more money should be used by the National Gallery of Canada to buy paintings and these suggestions have reached Parliament, with the emphasis in the House of Commons being that more paintings by Canadian artists might be included.

A contract has been awarded here for the supply and installation of an automatic and supervisory fire-alarm system in the Parliamentary Library.

Justice Minister Ilsley has stated there was little possibility of the Government paying the legal expenses of persons acquitted on charges arising out of the espionage investigation.

Agriculture Minister Gardiner has made it clear that the British-Russian negotiations for a wheat agreement would have no effect on the four-year Anglo-Canadian wheat pact.

THIS KNOWLEDGE

- Q.—How can I make brass shiny?
 A.—Before cleaning brass with any kind of solution or polish, rub it with a cut lemon.
- Q.—How can I carry down particles of food that have become lodged in the throat?
 A.—By swallowing an unbeaten raw egg.
- Q.—How can I remove fresh paint odour from a room?
 A.—Slice three or four onions and put them into a bucket of cold water. Leave the bucket in the center of the room for several hours.
- Q.—How can I remove rust spots?
 A.—A remedy that seldom fails to

needed to save this valuable crop. Mr. Mitchell joined in an urgent request made by Hon. Thos. L. Kennedy, Minister of Agriculture for Ontario, to all available workers throughout the province, especially those with previous farm experience, to offer their services at once. It is especially important that the hay crop be saved because of the smaller harvest of grain crops expected in Ontario this fall.



Bachelor Lake, about 100 miles north of Rouyn in the Chibougamau area of Quebec where the search is on for gold, may have to change its name. It's not for bachelors only any more. Mildred (Kit) Jourdin, former wartime Wren and strictly feminine at 97 pounds, invaded Bachelor Lake when she flew in with her fiancé, Deke Orr, veteran bush pilot, and caught a 10-pound pike while Orr unloaded prospector's supplies. Believed the first white woman to enter the Bachelor Lake area, Miss Jourdin lives in Rouyn with her father, one of the pioneers of the Rouyn north country.

remove rust spots is lemon juice and salt rubbed on the stains; then place the article in the sun.

- Q.—How can I decipher faded inscriptions and dates on coins?
 A.—Heat them and gradually the inscription will, unless entirely effaced, make their appearance.
- Q.—How can I treat clothing to make it fireproof?
 A.—Pour one ounce of sal ammoniac or alum in the last rinsing water for muslin or cotton goods, and the goods will not burn, or will burn without flame.
- Q.—What kind of potatoes should be served with baked fish?
 A.—With baked fish, serve mashed, or sweet potatoes, cooked in southern style. Plain boiled potatoes should be served only when they are new.
- Q.—How can I mend scratches on kid gloves?
 A.—Apply liquid court plaster to the scratch and it will be hardly visible.
- Q.—How can I take away the flat taste from water that has been boiled for drinking and cooking purposes?
 A.—If the water is poured from one pitcher to another several times before using, it will take away the flat taste.

Now Playing! Friday & Saturday, July 18-19
"MEET THE NAVY"
 "Lawless Breed—Grant & Knight"

Monday and Tuesday, July 21-22
'Easy Come, Easy Go'
 Sonny Tufts—Diana Lynn
 "IDEA GIRL"
 Jess Barker—Julia Bishop

"FOTO-NITE"
"13" Rue Madelaine" Thursday!
 with James Cagney—Annabella
 Wednesday & Thursday July 23-24
\$225.00 OFFER!

Friday & Saturday, July 25-26
"Stallion Road"
 with Zachary Scott, Alexis Smith

STANLEY Theatre of the Stars!
Coming! Monday & Tuesday, July 28-29
"THE BIG SLEEP"
 Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall



WHAT NEXT?

What's scarce now? Lumber, nails, plumbing or wiring equipment... the list is endless. No sooner is one problem solved than another comes along. The scarcity of materials has delayed the completion of many new Hydro projects. This, combined with a greatly increased demand, has limited the power supply.

Never has Ontario used so much electricity as now... not even during the record-breaking war years. Another half million horsepower could be utilized almost immediately, if available. Hydro plants to generate that much and more have been planned and are under construction. Some additional power will be delivered this year... more in 1948. But it will be 1950 before the big new Hydro plant on the Ottawa river can start to pour its 360,000 horsepower into the Hydro system.

Why so long? It's because of the shortage of building supplies... a tremendous quantity of construction materials and electrical equipment must be sought and bought to build such a plant. The Ottawa river development alone requires a concrete dam nearly half a mile long, in addition to the power house and the thousands of items of electrical equipment, small and large. Building a new power plant often creates an entirely new community. It takes a long time... especially when materials are as scarce as they are now.

Few places in the world have as much electricity available per person as Ontario has. However, it must be conserved so that new homes and industries will all receive their share... so that the wheels of our factories will be kept turning and maximum employment and production maintained... use Hydro wisely and there will be enough for all.

