

Business Directory

DENTAL

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Graduate of
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
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Honor Graduate of Royal College
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DR. HERBERT B. FREEL
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x-Ray
Hours: Daily, except Sunday
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Uxbridge, Ontario Phone 25

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PLUNDERING THE PLANET

(By Lewis Milligan)

I have just read a new book entitled "Our Plundered Planet," by Fairfield Osborn. It is a very learned and scientific work dealing with the gradual and fateful wastage of the "living natural resources" of the earth. The author begins by reminding us that the Earth is a small planet amid millions of star galaxies, and he discusses the possibilities of human life down to the appearance of civilized man—"The Plunderer." The trouble with man's misuse of land, which resulted in the disappearance of early civilizations whose one-time habitations have been turned into deserts by the stripping of forests and the consequent erosion of fertile topsoil by flood and wind.

This stripping and erosive process, Mr. Osborn warns us, is going on in all civilized countries today with far greater rapidity than in the past. The more civilized the people become, the more rapid the deterioration, and the process is rendered more serious by the enormous growth of the earth's population. Thus the earth, from the point of view of a place to live in, has become smaller and smaller, until now there remain only about 16 billion acres favourable to the habitation of man. "Divided by the number of people alive to-day," says Mr. Osborn, "this would mean a theoretical maximum of less than 8 acres of naturally habitable land for each human being. Many countries have less than an acre of productive land per capita. No wonder there are world shortages, and that people of a number of nations are facing starvation."

Mr. Osborn presents some striking figures of the growth of the world's population. In the earlier part of the seventeenth century a "world census" indicated that the total number exceeded 400,000,000. This was doubled by the year 1830; doubled again by the year 1900, and by 1940 the total population rose to the two billion mark, and is still steadily increasing. "If this rate were to be continued," says Mr. Osborn, "it would mean the doubling of the present world population in about seventy years."

All this presents a very gloomy prospect for the future of mankind on this planet. It also seems to present a strong case against civilization, for the plundering began when man ceased to be a nomad and settled down to agricultural and city life. In other words, civilized man down through the ages has been glutting himself on himself out of house and home. The decline and ultimate extinction of ancient civilizations are said to be due to this "plundering," and Mr. Osborn foresees the probability of the United States and Canada being denuded of their forests and the fertile surface soil washed away into the sea. He cites the "Dust Bowl" of Oklahoma as an example of what may be the fate of the entire continent. He does not attempt to estimate how long it would take to turn the continent into another Sahara, but there is no need for us to worry for it won't be in our lifetime!

The only hope held out by Mr. Osborn is in "co-operation with nature," by means of soil conservation and reforestation on a national and even international scale. He declares that the third of the Four Freedoms, "Freedom from Want," is an illusory hope unless something is done to arrest the destruction of the living resources of the planet.

In his conclusion Mr. Osborn says: "The tide of the earth's population is rising, the reservoir of the earth's resources is falling.... There is only one solution: Man must recognize the necessity of co-operating with nature. He must temper his demands and use and conserve the natural living resources of the earth in a manner



His 12th birthday was a memorable one for William Coleman, of Peterboro, Ont. He fell into the Trent canal and was rescued by D'Arcy Hill. The boy was revived by artificial respiration. His bicycle went to the bottom of the canal.



D'Arcy Hill, 46, father of six children, plunged into the canal after the boy and brought him to the surface after one unsuccessful attempt.

that alone can provide for the continuation of civilization. The time of defiance is at an end." That reminds me of something; but my space is at an end, and I must deal with it in another article.

SHEWOLF TRAILED HIM OVER FIELD, FARMER CLAIMS

Chatham, June 23—Harold Ribbie claimed today that a wolf snarled and snapped at him while he was cultivating a corn patch on his Zone Township farm here. He said he routed the beast with four blasts from a rifle which he had left near a fence line.

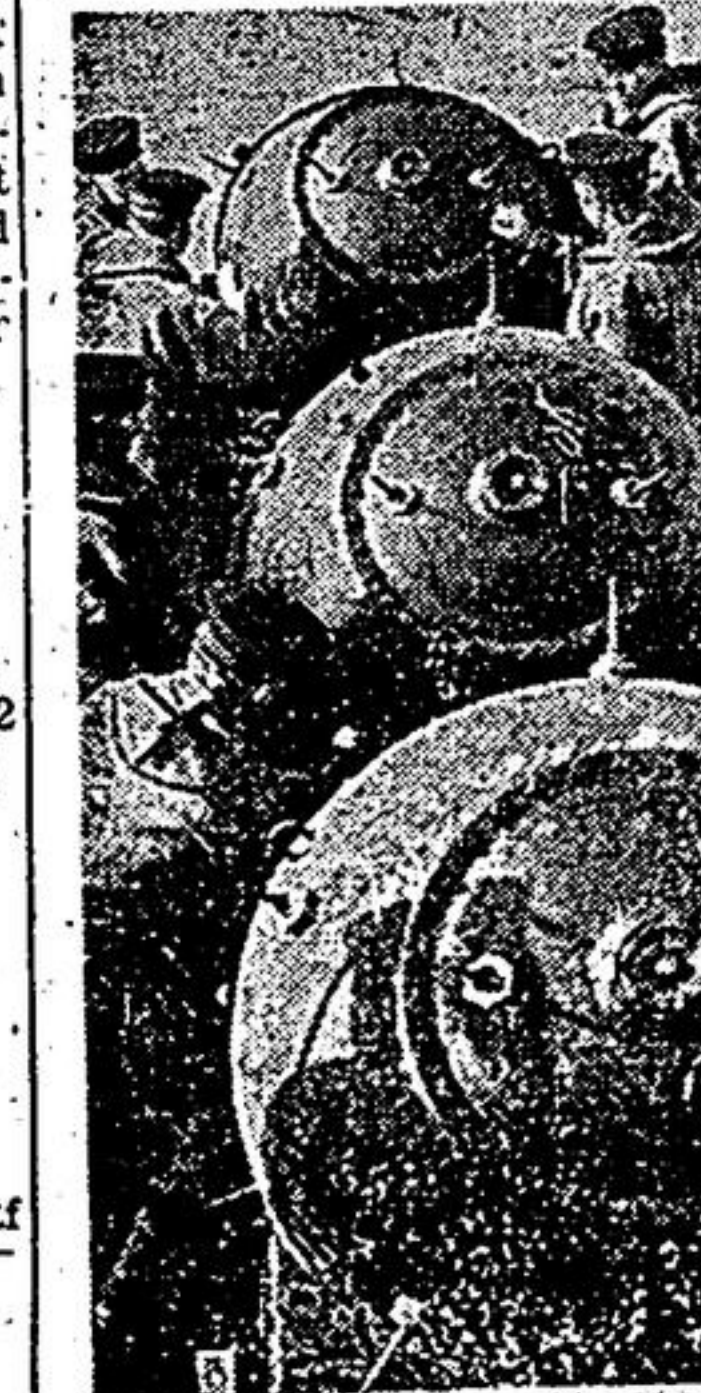
Mr. Ribbie said the wolf followed him back and forth across the field snarling and snapping viciously at him, his horses and dogs.

Mr. Ribbie turned his horses toward the fence line where he had left a rifle. The wolf followed, but turned and ran when the farmer picked up his gun.

"The old she-wolf was bold and came right up to the cultivator baring her fangs. I managed to get four shots at her as she ran away, but do not know whether I hit her," he said.

"I've no idea where the wolf came from," he said, "there are no woods close to the farm. We often hear wolves howling in the early morning out here, but seldom see them. I bring my gun out with me just in case."

Do not wring out a rug after washing. Hang it on the line and play the hose on it to rinse. Then let it drip and dry.



The Danish passenger ship Kjobenhavn struck a drifting magnetic mine off the Jutland coast and sank in 10 minutes. Unofficial reports said 125 to 175 passengers and crew members were missing. The vessel was on a 10-hr. vacation run from Copenhagen to Aalborg, it hit the mine in, clear, sunny weather. The ship went down in shallow water, leaving parts of the superstructure still above the surface. Reports said the ship sank so quickly only two lifeboats could be launched. Above is a photo of mines ready to be sown.

MILK CONSUMPTION IN ONTARIO DROPS

Milk consumption dropped in all sections of Ontario with the exception of Guelph, Peterborough and Welland, during April, according to the monthly dairy report of the Ontario Department of Agriculture. Sales of fluid milk for the province totalled 35,200,100 quarts, a drop of 3.7 per cent from April, 1947. Sales of fluid cream were down 10.8 per cent, but sales of chocolate milk and cultured milk showed an increase.

Butter production was on the upgrade for the first time since last November. Cheddar cheese production was down. Creameries reported their make of butter for May was 8,672,300 pounds, an increase of 4.2 per cent over the same month last year. Production for the first five months of the year lagged by 6.4 per cent.

More people are making fortunes these days. The trouble is, it takes three or four of them for living expenses.

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