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NOTES and COMMENTS

Christmas Cheerio

Austerity-dieting Britons received good news the other day in an announcement from Food Minister Maurice Webb that a special Christmas week allowance of rationed foods will be granted. Six more ounces of candy, four additional ounces of cooking fat and a whole pound and a half of sugar will be added to the lean English larder. The present low reserve supply will not permit the expected addition to the skimpy meat ration, much to the housewives' dismay.

Those Fluorescent Tubes

More and more commercial buildings are adopting fluorescent lighting. Discarded tubes are seen sticking out from garbage cans and lying in yards. It has been stated that these tubes, when broken, are a dangerous source of infection.

It is a matter which the provincial health department might well investigate. If all the things that are said about the tubes are true, they should not, even in an originally unbroken state, be left out in garbage cans, or on the surface of city dumps. They should be buried or disposed of in some other way that will protect the public.

Their use is likely to increase. The problem of their disposal should be faced now, before the menace becomes even more serious.

Tree Slaughter

The annual slaughter of "Christmas trees" is about to start in the forests of Ontario, and we wonder what steps have been taken by the Department of Lands and Forests at Queen's Park to control this butchery.

Every year there are widespread protests over the number of trees that are cut and wasted for the Christmas tree trade. Unfortunately the protests are never made until the trees are already making their appearance on the market, often two and three weeks after they have been cut.—Sudbury Star.

A Helpful Symbol

The Christmas seal has become almost as symbolic of Christmas as the traditional star and the holly wreath. It is a symbol that should be maintained.

The mass X-rays currently being conducted in Stouffville showed impressively how the seals help in winning the battle against the spread of tuberculosis. Great progress has been made and is being made to bring the disease under control. It can be eradicated. It is a battle in which every individual can make a significant contribution.

Buy Christmas seals.

Surplus Mounting

Harassed by the high cost of living on the one hand and threats of substantially increased taxation next year on the other, the taxpayer can extract some comfort from the surprising manner in which the budgetary surplus is piling up.

The surplus for the first seven months of the fiscal year has reached \$363,000,000, almost \$60,000,000 more than the figure for the same period last year. This was accomplished despite the fact that defence expenditures were up by about \$60,000,000. At this rate the surplus may be as much as \$500,000,000, by the time the full fiscal year has run its course.

The other day Graham Towers, governor of the Bank of Canada, said the Canadian public might as well reconcile themselves to the fact that increased taxes, substantially increased taxes, were inevitable. However, the Dominion's financial picture is brightening to the extent that even a \$1,000,000,000 defence budget next year might be met by new tax levels that would not greatly affect the average taxpayer.

Good Story-Teller

Walter Thomson, new leader of the Ontario Liberal Party, is a chip off the Heppburn block, as it were, in that he has a fund of funny stories. It will be recalled that "Mitch" used to punctuate his political speeches with considerable humor. The laughter he evoked also begot votes.

The Port Arthur News-Chronicle has this to say about Thomson, the story-teller:

"The principal criticism heard of the new Ontario Liberal leader after he had been chosen and the convention adjourned was that he was too much a story teller. It was held that he had wasted valuable time when, in the 10 minutes allotted to candidates and in the short period of an acceptance speech afterwards, he told a number of yarns. None of the other candidates had done that in their more limited opportunity of a nomination.

"There is no doubt Mr. Thomson proved himself a good story-teller. His stories were not only new to most listeners but were well told. He has the knack. But, if anyone thinks that is likely to be a handicap to a political campaigner on the ground that time should be devoted more exclusively to affairs of state, he might do well to turn to the record of Mitchell F. Heppburn. Mr. Heppburn was a story-teller de luxe and he lifted the party out of near oblivion to occupancy of the offices at Queen's Park."

Yule Trees Played Role in Greenland

"Canadian Christmas trees sent to Greenland played an important part in Canadian diplomacy," said K. P. Kirkwood, charge d'affaires in Warsaw addressing the University Women's club on the "Role of a Diplomat."

When Mr. Kirkwood arrived in Greenland in 1910 as Canadian consul, there was a feeling of distrust toward outsiders. Germany already occupied Denmark and it was feared might try to occupy Greenland. It was through Mr. Kirkwood's quick observation of the fact that Denmark could no longer send the usual cargo of Christmas trees that 500 Canadian trees were shipped in time for Yuletide celebrations in every home in Greenland.

As a result, good-will and confidence were built up, officials were sent to our country and Canadian goods were bought in large quantities.

Canada tries to make uniform exchange of diplomats, the speaker said. There are now 15 embassies and eight legations which will be raised to embassies on common agreement. Canada is now fully recognized as a great power.

First Civil Marriage Performed by Judge Coleman in Whitby

Believed to be the second such civil ceremony performed in the Province of Ontario, and the first for Ontario County, Judge D. B. Coleman of Whitby on Friday afternoon joined in marriage, Jean Ford of Oshawa and William George Willis, Oshawa. Witnesses to the happy event were friends of the bride and groom.

The ceremony itself is very simple. Under the new Ontario Marriage Act, a judge or a magistrate may solemnize a marriage under authority of a license of special permit. The marriage shall take place in the judge's chambers or magistrate's office between the hours of nine o'clock in the morning and five in the afternoon.

As a memento of the event, which was the first civil marriage in Ontario County, Judge Coleman was presented with a handsome set of gold cuff links engraved "D.B.C."

The first civil marriage in Ontario was before Judge Forsyth in Toronto some four weeks ago.

1951 Auto Parade Under Way

Little Change Foreseen in Prices, Look

The automotive parade of 1951 is beginning to roll.

By this week, seven new models had appeared: Kaiser-Frazer, Packard, Nash, Hudson, Studebaker, Mercury and Monarch; others were being groomed.

The rest of Ford's models are expected before the end of the month. General Motors change-over is due to start any day; Chrysler some time later.

For G.M., this year's annual style face-lifting, almost coincides with a unique milestone in the firm's history: the two millionth vehicle—a Chevrolet—rolled off the Oshawa production line this week. It took G.M. 31 years to reach its first million; 12 to get to the second.

G.M.'s two millionth car helped boost 1950 production along to a new record. Even the tremendous United States boom can't match this percentage-wise.

British manufacturers seemed determined not to be left behind in either style or sale parades.

Ford of England has two brand new models aimed specifically at the North American market. They closely resemble Canadian and U.S. Ford styling but are smaller.

They will not replace the present Anglia and Prefect but will be fitted into the price range between these and the regular Canadian Ford line.

This will give Ford a complete range, price-wise, from the \$1,200 (Toronto) Anglia and up. It could also give Ford a competitive short-cut to put up against new smaller U.S.-made Kaiser and Nash when they appear.

First of the new British Fords are expected early in the new year.

Other U.K. auto developments: Austin is coming out with a redesigned convertible.

Makers of the Jaguar have a new sleek, streamlined job which has already aroused considerable interest in the U.S. It will sell for around \$4,000.

Rootes are featuring more powerful engines and interiors in their line of Hillman, Humber and Sunbeam-Talbot.

This, with lower prices (around \$40 on the more popular models) due to Canada's exchange action, is expected to maintain interest in U.K. cars. In fact, U.K. manufacturers are expecting to double sales here in 1951.

Customs officials always see their duty—and don't hesitate to take it!

When the boss marries his secretary, there's a quick change of authority.

DAYS OF YORE Butter In 2000 B.C. And 1950 A.D.

From the Files of The Stouffville Tribune 61 Years Ago

Uxbridge Council—Appointing a committee to examine Jas. Courtney's snow fence and grant 25c a rod if satisfactory.

See Spofford's \$15.00 overcoats for \$9.50 and his \$10.00 suits for \$6.95. Gents' furnishing a specialty.

A. S. Leaney seconded by R. Sangster moves that the Council of Stouffville give their consent to the registration of part of plan 858, being a sub-division of lots 5 and 6 in the west half of lot 35, con. 9, in the Township of Markham.

Messrs. McKay of Markham, and Hand of our Public School, exchanged places last Friday for Promotion Examination purposes.

Reeveship—As announced last week, Mr. R. J. Daley is in the field for the headship of next year's council. No other name has been mentioned as his opponent, except by the Era (which probably knows nothing about it) and it is probable that his election will be by acclamation. Any comments would be out of place, as Mr. Daley has been well and favorably known in Stouffville for many years.

27 Years Ago

The news of the death of Fred Spofford, for twenty years the leading business man in Stouffville, was received by friends here this week. The late Mr. Spofford passed away at his home in St. Petersburg.

Clayton Baker has purchased the Maple Leaf Skating Rink, Stouffville, from N. Forsyth. Last year Mr. Baker conducted the rink in partnership with Joan Lewis, and his success in conducting a resort of this nature is well known.

We understand the Stouffville Citizens Band will put on a band concert and moving picture combined in the near future.

Lou Morden is again driving one of the Creamery milk trucks, after a month off suffering from rheumatic fever.

Goodwood—Chas. Watson will soon be standing behind the counter where Ed. Davis has stood for the past year. The store has seen many changes. Who can tell how many have kept store there. We wish Charlie success—quite a change from farming.

Reeve Morden of Stouffville and Deputy-Reeve Morgan Baker of Whitchurch left Monday morning to attend County Council at Toronto.

6 Years Ago

Garfield Kellington plowed some head land last week on his farm on the 9th concession just north of town, that is now causing him some worry. In the operation he lost the purse from his hip pocket containing \$36. cash, motor license, and other papers contained in a good leather wallet.

There were one hundred and seventeen donations of blood made at the Red Cross Blood Clinic in Stouffville on Thursday. Sixty-five of these had donated previously, and fifty-two were making their first donation.

Mrs. Dawson Burnett has sold her 50 acre farm at Bloomington to her father-in-law, Mr. Herbert Burnett who is now in possession.

An acclamation in every municipal department was the outcome of the annual nominations held in Stouffville on Friday evening. For council, A. V. Nolan will take over the reeveship from A. E. Weldon by acclamation. Two new faces on the council will be John Smits and E. A. Button. Nine names were proposed for the four council seats, but only two of last year's slate qualified, R. E. Brown and Hugh Boyd.

EDITOR'S MAIL

To the Editor
Dear Sir,

Do you think that any Ontario cabinet minister or hydro official would be willing to rent two rooms in his house at \$5 a month or less to United Kingdom skilled workers that are already in this country? That is what I have to pay. I think it would be a good idea if the Ontario government marked the housing program "very urgent" and diverted skilled labor and materials to residential construction, instead of permitting them to go into expanding brewery and distillery plants, and other non-essential buildings. It is said that "the Englishman's home is his castle." So I think that before bringing more Englishmen out here, the government should see that those who have come to Canada are properly housed at a reasonable cost. Personally I wouldn't mind giving the country a few more hours of extra labor if conditions were improved so that I could have a decent home at a fair rent. I could work the hours I now spend in house-hunting, trying to find a satisfactory place where they will accept a tenant with children. If things don't improve I fear that most children in this part of the country will have to be born at "school age" or older, or else their parents will have great difficulty in renting quarters where they can provide a suitable environment for the youngsters.

Englishman.

HOW SMALL CAN THEY GET?

The Grey County Council, meeting in Owen Sound, has decided to withhold county grants from institutions serving margarine to patients or inmates.

The council also passed a resolution which issues a demand on the Provincial Government to ban the sale of margarine.

SAVED BY A MATCH.

Twenty-year-old Bruce Brew, missing three days and nights in snowy bush country near Flin Flon, Man., says he had only one match to light the signal fire that saved him.

A search plane sighted him Saturday huddled beside the campfire he kept burning after he became separated Thursday from four hunting companions. Two trappers finally led him out.

Brew said he threw all his cigarettes away to keep from wasting matches, but threw away all but three of his matches with them. Two of those failed to light, but he got the fire going with the third.

streamlined sanitary methods. Today, in the making of this premier food, we have the scientific feeding of the cattle, advanced barn and milking equipment to insure sanitary handling, clean modern transportation methods; modern churning and processing equipment to gain the utmost in quality and flavour, refrigeration to preserve these qualities, plus pasteurization for health protection and to assist in holding the flavour and adding to the keeping qualities. Inspection from cow to counter is compulsory.

The ancients did not have these advantages, nor did they have any knowledge of proteins, vitamins and caloric content. They seemed to realize, instinctively that butter was a health giving food. People, today, are protected by law against butter of inferior quality. Butter sold now must contain not less than 80 per cent of butterfat and not more than 16 per cent of moisture. Each pound contains about 3,298 calories or, if a working man consumed no other food than one pound of butter each day, his caloric intake would be sufficient for his needs. Workers engaged in light labour require around 2,800 calories per day. Present day butter has .941 per cent of digestible protein, (Hunziker). Vitamins A, B1, B2, C, D and E are found in butter in rich quantity and well balanced proportion.

When the food value of butter is regarded in the light of its nutritional content, it is small wonder that the ancients placed butter as one of the "firsts" in the foods of their day. With all of the present day advantages, butter is now, more than ever, one of the "firsts" in our foods.

FOR PARENTS ONLY

(By Nancy Cleaver)

FUN WITHOUT TOYS

"What can I do that is fun?" How often busy mothers are asked a question like this! Sometimes a child will say, "I'm tired of my toys! Isn't there something new that I can do?" The interruption to mother's work may be unwelcome, but if she will not take time to give the child who seeks it a little guidance in his leisure time, trouble is ahead for both of them. The child with nothing to do gets into mischief. The so-called "bad" child is often just a bored child bubbling over with physical energy and with no help in channeling it into interesting activity. The child who is convalescing or shut indoors with a cold is also greatly in need of fresh suggestions for ways to fill the long hours.

You Don't Have to Buy

Many parents do not realize that a child does not have to play with toys bought at a toy counter. In every home there is material which a child can use for satisfying, creative activity. Every year all sorts of articles are discarded or thrown into the garbage which might well have been salvaged for fun indoors for little boys and girls. Here are some of the things which are found in the average house and suggestions for ways they can be put to use to keep small minds and fingers busy.

Buttons are great fun for little folk providing they are old enough not to put them in their mouths and risk swallowing them. A small child will enjoy picking out buttons one by one from a shallow dish and dropping them into a jar. If the child knows different colors he can use a muffin tin and sort the various shades, red, yellow, black, blue, etc., into the separate sections. A four year old can thread himself a necklace of buttons and a slightly older child can sew buttons on a square of cardboard. If mother will draw a Button Man or a Button Woman with a big button face and small buttons down the front and button hands and feet, a child who is old enough to sew will have a good time "dressing" the Button People.

Save Empty Spools

Empty spools should always be saved. They can be painted with water colors or ordinary paint. They make an excellent railing

toy and mother can mark with chalk on the kitchen linoleum a circle "home base" for a child to aim his spool at. Buttons can also be threaded and can be made into dolls. A dolly bed made from a box or fruit basket can have spool legs.

Plain clean clothes pegs can provide many absorbing building play periods. Fences, houses and barns can all be constructed with skill. A small child will enjoy fitting clothes pegs all around the edge of a large honey pail.

Tins with food in them come in various sizes. An efficient can opener leaves no rough edges and two children can "Play Store" with these cans. If the labels have been torn off, they can search an old magazine for pictures of fruit and vegetables and paste a new label on each can. A nest of cans of assorted sizes fascinates a little tot who can practice fitting them together or try building a can tower.

Fun With Toothpicks

Did you ever think of toothpicks as play material for a four, five or six year old? They can have all kinds of fun with a pile of toothpicks: drawing a picture using them instead of lines for a house, fence, walk, trees, etc. Interesting designs with tooth picks on a colored surface can be made up by an older child.

Odds and ends of colored wool are attractive to children. They can sort the colors, use them for threading in and out the holes mother has punched on a cardboard to make a wool picture. A school age child can make wool dolls with just a little help from mother.

Clean milk tops can be used for play coins and used for shopping at the "store." If a slit two inches wide is made in the cover of an empty baking powder can, a little child will enjoy dropping the tops through the slit.

Once mother has become aware of how much unused play material is in the house she will make some discoveries of her own—half walnut shells or corks can be turned into a tiny fleet of boats, a dolly tea set can be made out of acorns. Keep this list and add your own original ideas to it. Then you are prepared to give your youngster a choice of a couple of possible activities next time he asks, "What can I do?"

THE OLD HOME TOWN

By STANLEY

