

The Evening Times-Star

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SAINT JOHN, N. B., JULY 13, 1925.

THE WHEAT CROP TONIC

The big wheat crop and a profitable price for it will have a strong tonic effect upon all Canada. It should prove to be the greatest factor of business encouragement the country has felt in many years.

The earlier estimate of a 350,000,000 bushels crop made by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics is followed by a second survey, based upon conditions as at June 30, raising the figure to 365,000,000 bushels. This is accompanied by some suggestions as to price prospects, based upon the probable world crop, and indicating that the outlook for a profitable marketing of the Canadian crop is excellent.

The West, which regarded the estimate of 350,000,000 bushels as too conservative, will be disposed to think that 365,000,000 bushels is still too low in view of conditions at this date, although the Prairie people are fully sensible of the fact that much may happen within the next six weeks to change the situation. Crop observers there believe that, barring most unexpected developments, the actual yield will far exceed the Dominion Bureau's figure.

Speaking of the earlier estimate, the Edmonton Journal suggests that what the Bureau intended to convey was that a crop of 350,000,000 bushels is now reasonably assured, that the production cannot very well be lower, and that it may be much higher. Support for the more optimistic view is found by the Journal in the fact that in 1923, although damage from drought was serious in large areas, the yield was well up to 400,000,000 bushels. In 1924, the year of a record crop, Manitoba alone produced as much as 100,000,000 bushels, and Saskatchewan, having regard to the crop conditions as they stand to-day, the Journal regards a yield of 475,000,000 bushels, or even more, as "quite a possibility."

"No one in his senses will speak of it at this stage as a certainty," says the Journal, "but it is quite as foolish to shut one's eyes to the fact that the chances of its realization are the very best."

This strong note of confidence runs through other western comment. The really cheering feature is the satisfactory evidence provided by the official survey that the crop will exceed the ten-year average. Coupled with this is the likelihood that profitable prices will rule. Europe is expected to produce much more wheat this year than last, but in the United States, India and some other wheat-producing countries the outlook is for reduced crops, particularly in the United States, where a shortage of some 200,000,000 bushels as compared with last year is anticipated. The market reviewers are fairly unanimous in predicting that Canada's crop will be marketed at a figure leaving a highly satisfactory margin of profit.

MR. RHODES TAKES OVER

The Armstrong Government in Nova Scotia is to resign this week, and Hon. Mr. Rhodes will then be in the saddle and clothed with full authority to deal with the Cape Breton mining trouble. The impatience of the whole country because of the prolonged idleness and disorder in the Cape Breton area is reflected in some of the advice which Mr. Rhodes is receiving. The Toronto Star says of the matter:

"It should be possible for the nation to protect the interests of the public by ensuring a supply of fuel at a price that will pay adequate wages and ensure investment capital a fair profit for the service it performs. Coal is a raw product taken out of the earth; the work that is done in connection with it, the service that capital performs, are easily measured and ascertained. It should not be difficult for mine owners and mine workers to adjust their disputes, provided there existed a desire to have them adjusted. But perhaps there isn't always this desire. In that case, so real and so imperative is the interest of the country in the affair that control over the whole fuel supply may have to be established, and if control is not enough national ownership and operation may in the end have to be resorted to."

There is no available evidence to support the view that national ownership and operation would permanently cure, or even temporarily improve, the situation in Cape Breton, or in the mining districts of Alberta or British Columbia. Emergency control of the country's fuel supply, as in time of war, is a necessary but costly expedient, unavoidable under such circumstances. Much of the comment offered on the Cape Breton situation serves only to bring out more clearly the difficult nature of the task confronting Mr. Rhodes. Public impatience is quite natural under the circumstances, but it does not change any of the facts. Already the Nova Scotia mines are the property of the province. If they were nationally owned it is highly improbable that labor troubles would be more easily prevented. Yet too much can scarcely be said as to the pressing need for the resumption of mining, and if Mr. Rhodes has extraordinary talent as a mediator, or if he knows any way by which the power of public opinion can be brought to bear effectively, or, indeed, if he should uncover any de-

feasible method whereby mining could be resumed and steadily maintained, he will be the man of the hour.

Any real solution must give both labor and capital an even break. Any variation of that rule, although it might produce a temporary settlement, would only invite even more serious trouble later on.

ELECTION GUESSES

Writing from Ottawa to the Manitoba Free Press its political correspondent discusses some federal election possibilities and probabilities. He is inclined to think the Nova Scotia election increased the uncertainty as to the date of the federal contest, but he says: "On the whole, the judgment of most of the politicians who haunt the capital is that a general election will be held probably in November."

After taking soundings in Ottawa among men of both parties, this correspondent, who assumes an attitude of independence, comes to the conclusion that the fighting ground to which the old parties will devote most attention is to be found in Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia. "Propaganda aside," he says, "the Liberals and the Conservatives alike do not expect to make much headway in the Prairies. The Progressives, it is admitted, cannot be weakened to any extent in the Prairie provinces, although both Grits and Tories expect to win the seventeen or more seats now held by the Progressives in Ontario." He summarizes some of the claims of both sides in this way:

"During the past nine months the federal government has shaped its policy so as to obtain the greatest possible strength in Ontario and Quebec, particularly in Ontario, while the Conservatives have been equally active in endeavoring to overcome the West. Hastings dealt and restore their prestige."

"Members of the government tell you that if the Liberals can gain a few seats in Ontario at the expense of the Progressives and the Conservatives, if they can hold Quebec and split 50-50 in the Maritimes, they will still be the strongest group and will remain in office. As against this the Conservatives point to the Nova Scotia results as an evidence of a wave of Toryism which is just rising and which, if the elections are delayed a little longer, will have a marked effect on Quebec. In Ontario, they say, their strength is greater than it is to-day."

British Columbia he regards as providing good fighting ground for both the old parties.

The glorious Twelfth seems to have passed off quietly nearly everywhere except in Glasgow. Fifty thousand Orangemen paraded there and hostile elements caused several riots, the result being injuries to more than a hundred persons, and fifty arrests.

Parliament's action in providing higher penalties for smuggling is being followed up by the Department of Customs and Excise, which is employing 200 secret service men in work along the border. The problem of smuggled liquor and the greater use of motor cars in evading the customs have greatly increased the work of the department. Stories of the profits of the untried, have multiplied the law-breaking forces. The United States is also increasing the size of its preventive forces along the border, and as a result of increased vigilance by both countries smuggling in the future will be neither so safe nor so profitable as it has been.

Sir George Perley was one of those present in London the other day when a league to promote buying within the Empire was launched under the auspices of Lord Jellicoe. Sir George said that Canada would quickly follow any lead given by Britain in the matter of making the Empire self-sustaining. He went on to say that "all loyal Canadians are ashamed because the Dominion buys only ten shillings' worth of the products of Britain for every pound that country spends in Canada." Sir George will find some work to do among his political friends in Canada, some of whom would like to abolish the British preference.

It is announced to-day that the British mine owners, while they decline to withdraw the notice that they will terminate the existing agreement with the miners three weeks hence, have notified the Government's mediator that they are willing to re-open the discussion at the point where it was suspended some time ago. In view of this, a proposal that negotiations be resumed will be considered to-day by the miners' federation. This is regarded as providing only a ray of hope, as the miners are thought to be opposed to any further discussion unless the mine owners recede from their demands for lower wages and longer hours. The situation threatens the whole industrial fabric of Great Britain and is causing the Government and the general public very grave anxiety.

Odds and Ends

"You never know what you'll find among the odds and ends."—From "Notes by a Wayfarer."

A Canadian History Test

It would not be surprising to find that in a test of knowledge of Canadian history westerners made a poorer showing than those in the older provinces, for the reason that there are more people here who were not educated in Canada. As a diversion for Dominion Day it might be well to submit oneself and friends to an examination recently conducted by an Ontario man among a group of young people of at least average intelligence and scholastic training. He queried them as to their knowledge of Sir John A. Macdonald, that statesman being chosen because he seemed to the examiner to be the most conspicuous figure in Canadian history. The question with the results are as follows:

(1) Where was he born? 11 per cent. answered correctly.
(2) Where was he educated? 20 per cent. answered correctly. Several of those questioned had lived in Kingston.
(3) What was his profession? 47 per cent. answered correctly.

(4) When did he enter public life? 28 per cent. answered correctly.
(5) What great act of Parliament was his name associated with? Only 82 per cent. answered correctly.

(6) What high position did he hold after this act was passed? 77 per cent. answered correctly.
(7) For how long did he hold this position? Any answer within 5 years either way of being correct or any intelligent guess was accepted as right and 17 per cent. answered correctly.

(8) With what great corporation was he associated for most of his life? 11 per cent. correct.
(9) With what rebellion was he connected? In what way? The sort of answer to either question was taken as covering the ground for both. 25 per cent. answered correctly.

(10) With what national enterprise is his name associated? If it was found that any one had failed to understand that the C. P. R. was referred to and failed to answer correctly for that reason he was allowed to revise his answer. 28 per cent. answered correctly.

(11) How long did he live? Any answer indicating that his life was a long one was accepted and 4 per cent. answered correctly.

The showing is a startling commentary on the results of the teaching of Canadian history in the Ontario schools. In calling attention to it the columns of Toronto Saturday Night, Mr. W. A. Deacon tells of approaching a man of about thirty, a product of the best educational institutions in Toronto, who had displayed much general ability, and seeking to find out how much he knew about the country's past. He admitted that he knew absolutely nothing and went on to say that his most vivid recollection of his school instruction in this subject was the advice his teacher had given him to purchase a little "crum book" of a few pages—lists of dates and that sort of thing—by which he and others had been able to pass his examination. A noted Canadian writer on political and historical matters confided to Mr. Deacon an hour later that his child, a brilliant student half way through the arts course, had just come to him with a rudimentary question about a famous Canadian historical figure, whose name, apparently, was quite unknown to the student.

The Up-to-date Dog (Toronto Star).
Reuter's New York correspondent tells of an intelligent Long Island dog

which heard its master say he was going fishing, and was later discovered at the back of the garage scratching for worms in the soft earth. But the Long Island canine does not approach in either intelligence or devotion the Toronto dog which heard a similar remark from its master and was later found turning over with its nose the pages of a book of anecdotes in the hope of finding a fish story which he might tell on his return.

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FOLEY'S PREPARED FIRE CLAY enables you to put the most durable of all linings in your own stove.
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CANADA

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Darken the room. Drop a little Perfume inside them, then switch on the light within these wonders from Paris—and what do you see?
Glowing garlands or sprays of fairy flowers. The fabrics must have been made them, for the petals are sea-shells and they light at night mysteriously. You really sense the breath of fairyland.
Four sorts of the Wild Rose of authentic tinting, larger than exotic lilies. Clustered blooms, thrilling choice. And as good a surprise as any of the price.

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PRETTY LITTLE BABY



Josephine is her name. She's just arrived at the Bronx Zoo, N. Y. She is being carefully groomed for all perfect baby contests to be held in the near future. However, we are very much afraid that her freckles may be a handicap to her.

Letters to The Editor
A GOOD CAUSE—HELP IT.
To the Editor of The Times-Star.
Sir,—In the last twelve years the Animal Rescue League of Saint John has provided a not unimportant factor in solving the problem of sick and injured pet animals and simplifying to a considerable degree the difficulty that used to exist in the matter of homeless cats and dogs.

Between 7,000 and 8,000 animals have passed through the systematic hands of the league and were either impounded as "strays" until claimed by owners, boarded white household folks were caring for their dogs, cats—and sometimes horses—when difficulties arise, particularly of intractable sickness or injury.

Every city of any size has some such rescue organization devoted to the welfare of dumb animals, particularly pet animals so tenderly linked with the household life of the average home, mostly homes wherein there are growing children. This large field of people in itself offers sufficient reason why the Animal Rescue League should appeal next Wednesday for a tag day offering, designed to make improvements in the league's property. The amount required is not a large one and donations except from well-wishers need not be over-generous. It is hoped the response will be generous enough to amount to a sum adequate to the needs.

There's a deal of sentiment in the appeal being made in support of the Animal Rescue League. The Maritime Provinces have furnished some outstanding deeds of almost human

precoity and bravery on the part of dogs saving the lives of children, dogs that have given danger signals in case of fire and attempted robbery, dogs that have won their way to fame as thoroughbreds, not only locally and nationally but on both sides of the boundary line. There is also that pleasant thrill that real people experience in seeing the poorest ragamuffin in the street trailed by a happy adoring dog, even though a mongrel. Cat pets do not hold such a general appeal, perhaps, but the errand of their nine lives in the household is certainly a very definite one when one considers rats and mice.

And so the useful work of the Animal Rescue League is being a Lost and Found department, a hospital and a nudetaker for the dumb pet population of Saint John. Most people think it is entitled to some appreciation at the hands of citizens of both sexes. Doubtless it will receive this appreciation on Wednesday next in sensible proportion to the needs of the case.

EVERYBODY LOVES A DOG
IN LIGHTER VEIN
Pocket Pet.
Write—"Did you ask the doctor after he'd examined you to let you know the worst?"
Clearly effective.
"A raw non is excellent for clearing the head," says an exchange. We tried this and it even cleared the room.

The Favorite Order.
First study—"After all, we go to college to study."
Second—"Yes, after all."

Frequently the Undertaker
English Visitor (hazy as to the working of prohibition)—"Do you have to see a doctor before you get a drink here?"
Native—"No, after."

Counter-Melody in "A" Flat.
He—"The fellow in that flat below mine will play the gramophone continuously."
She—"You'll have to get a mazaphone and play that!"
He—"I did—that's why he got the gramophone!"—The Bystander.

Tava Very Short.
Newlywed—"What's wrong with the pie-crust?" It doesn't half cover the pie."
Mrs. Newlywed—"Why, dearest, I asked your mother how to make pie and she said 'crust' the crust very short."

"Bill has fishing on the brain!"
Fishing-tackle, you mean. I have seen him when his brain reeled."

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