

WHAT GOES ON IN THE WORLD

Great Britain
Many years ago there was a popular song entitled "I'll Tell You What You Used To Be But What You Are Today"; and that seems just about to express the sentiments of the British Conservative Party, or at least some members thereof, regarding Winston Churchill, their leader.

Mr. Churchill is undoubtedly one of the great men of our time—perhaps of all time; but while admitting all that, the Tories wish he would devote a little less to his literary activities, and a little more to showing his party the way back to power.

Writing of the recent Conservative conference in Wales, a correspondent of the Toronto Financial Post tells of the conqueror's reception accorded to Mr. Churchill, and of cheering so vociferous that the sea-gulls got frightened and fled in all directions. In spite of this, the writer says, Mr. Churchill "remains personal problem Number one to the Tories" pointing out that during the 11-day Parliamentary session in September, Winston remained in France—where he is engaged on the second volume of his war memoirs, which will take many months to complete—and never appeared at all at Westminster.

The Conservatives fear that the Socialist Party will make full capacity of Churchill's busying himself with the recording of history, instead of making history as leader of the Opposition. Winston is immensely popular, but the voters know that the Tories will have to face internal problems as well as international ones.

"They will want to know who is to skipper the ship for the full voyage, not merely the pilot to take it through the narrows," the already-quoted writer goes on to state. "In spite of the enthusiasm and (personal) loyalty at Llandudno, the chances of a Tory victory at the polls are not as bright as they were a year ago."

Scandinavia
In Norway, Sweden and Denmark the people are hoping for the best, but still preparing for worst. The Norwegian capital, Oslo, has been buzzing with economic experts working out a four-year plan in connection with the Aid to Europe business; and hardly had they departed when their rooms were taken over by Danish and Swedish military authorities come to discuss Scandinavian defense plans in case of war.

This current meeting is not expected, however, to result in any formal military pact, which would have to be first discussed by each of the three parliaments and then ratified. But there are many technical details that must be worked out before such a pact could even be formulated and it is these that the military authorities had met to talk over.

In case of conflict, the Norwegians are convinced that Scandinavia cannot defend itself against Russia without outside help. They are determined not to let any defense measures hold back economic reconstruction of their country. Except by splitting the means, however, necessary for industry and agriculture, Norway's 3 million inhabitants cannot maintain many men under arms. That is why the Home Guard was formed almost two years ago. It now numbers 22,000 of whom 7,000 are volunteers between 18 and 65 years of age, with another, 40,000 being recruits completing their compulsory military training.



Grandpa and Grandma are "Raising the Roof"—Although this Georgia couple, "Grandma" and "Grandpa" Branran are 71 and 69 years old respectively, they didn't let considerations of age stop them from building a new house — and doing so doesn't appear to bother them as much as it does some of the neighbors who fear that one of the oldesters may slip from the perch. It's the 16th house the pair have built since 1910 which is probably some sort of a record. Some of their grandchildren are seen looking on.

SPORTS & A SIXBIT CRITIC

Most sports, these days, suffer from over-emphasis. This condition isn't nearly so bad here in Canada as it is south of the border. Still, it's bad enough; and there's something decidedly screwy in a setup where a football or hockey star gets ten times more publicity—and is known to a hundred times more people—than the men who represent our country at the United Nations, and whose decisions may be responsible for involving us in another war.

In the States lately college football has been getting a lot of unusual publicity—all of it bad. There was, for instance, a "Picture of the Week" in Life Magazine showing two Holy Cross linebacks who had allowed the ball to roll a few inches over the enemy goal-line instead of "grounding" it just outside. The expressions on their faces couldn't have registered more despair and tragedy had they been looking at the massacre of Lidice or the Nazi gassing of a few thousand European children.

Frankly, it made us feel just a little sick at the stomach, to think that supposedly grown-up men should act, in public, in such a childish fashion over what, after all, was nothing but a game. If that's where our college football is headed, we suggest that they substitute Jack's marbles instead.

Then there was the article in The Saturday Evening Post by Mrs. Harry Stuldreher, wife of the coach at Wisconsin. It's too long to quote here; but it's decidedly worth reading as an almost unbelievable tale of what happens, not only to a coach who comes up with a losing team, but to his wife and family as well.

Commenting on the story editorially—under the title "Football's Dirty Lanes Sometimes Show"—The Post has some interesting things to say. "For more than ten years every literate American has known that college football stars, despite purity codes and pious protestations, are paid for their services either by the college or by alumni groups." "For more than twenty years at least fifty college football factories have been far more deeply concerned in staging commercial entertainment than most Broadway promoters. Apparently these colleges see nothing paradoxical about asserting their sion-parity, while at the same time they frankly commercialize their 'amateurs' by selling radio and television rights, advertising, maintaining press agents and otherwise stimulating the 'gate'—just like other carnival hustlers."

There's a lot more along the same line, and the whole thing should be "required reading" for all who have the good Canadian habit of sport at heart. Some say, of course, "It couldn't happen here." The answer is that it has been happening—and still is—only on a comparative, minor scale. But just give us time!

CUTS, BURNS AND BRUISES
Dr. Chase's Ointment
ISSUE 45 — 1948

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THE FARM FRONT
by John Russell

Since starting this column I have had a good deal to say about DDT and other chemical insecticides which, in the past three years, have shown promise of finally solving one of the oldest problems of state-making—the problem of insect control. And it is hardly too much to say that DDT and its chemical relatives have had almost as great an effect on our war against insect pests as the atomic bomb has had on our ideas of human warfare.

But now the other side of the story is beginning to be heard. Now we are hearing disturbing reports of what these chemicals do not only to plants but to people. Warnings have been issued about their use from high sources. And in order that readers may get the whole picture, I propose to quote, from articles published in leading agricultural magazines and elsewhere, some of the things everybody should know regarding these insecticides.

As a rule before any new insecticide is offered to the public, before a general use is made available for single use it is carefully tested and its safety to man and animals is first and last well established. Everybody who could secure a supply of gallon jugs and coal-oil went into the fly-spray business. A minute quantity of DDT, a gallon of coal-oil and a jug—and we had another gallon of something labelled "DDT Fly Spray"—100 per cent active ingredients.

From the very beginning an insect-barrier public went for it in a big way, purchasing huge quantities of DDT and its several relatives such as BHC, chlordane, chlorinated camphene, parathion etc. They were used everywhere and everywhere. Homeowners have treated their houses and lawns. Farmers have covered their crops and their livestock. Whole communities—even large cities—have been dosed from the air with clouds of insecticide.

But while this was going on, scientists have been going on with the tests which probably should have been completed before these products were sent on the market. They have tested the effects of the new compounds on human beings, on animals, on plants, and even on the microorganisms in the soil. The reports of these scientists are coming to hand; and they carry the sobering, even frightening message that these bug-killers may be TOO EFFECTIVE.

One of the great advantages of DDT was its straying power. One spraying would have an effect lasting for months. But now they're finding that, under certain conditions, it's not only long-lasting—it is practically permanent. With-out changing form it accumulates in soil, also in the bodies of human beings and animals. "Since 1945, DDT was added in 1945," says the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, "appears to be as potent with the insecticide as ever."

Comforting
Nervous Passenger: "I don't feel at all safe in this leaky old ferry boat."
Boy: "Don't worry, ma'am. If anything happens to you, I'll take the blame."

STARTING SOON
Be Sure and Watch For It—Clip It Out and Save It
A GREAT NEW WEEKLY FEATURE
HOW-TO-FIX-IT by Tom Gregory
By means of pictures and easy-to-follow directions, Tom Gregory goes through every room in your house, from kitchen to parlor, basement to attic—and outside too. HOW-TO-FIX-IT covers kitchen equipment, dishes and bathroom bureau drawers; discusses plants, silverware, cleaning and tools. It's clever, sincere and packed with handy information you will delight in putting to use.

DON'T MISS IT **HOW-TO-FIX-IT**
STARTS IN AN EARLY ISSUE

ARCHIE
"BOB AND TIPPY AND A CONFINED SAILOR..."
"I WONDER HOW FAR WE ARE FROM LAND?"
"JUGHEAD! WILL YOU YOU GO ON OF MY LEGS!"
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THE FARM FRONT

DDT and its cousins are not dissolved by water. When turned under the soil surface, they remain as potential trouble-makers in the upper few inches of the ground. In heavy concentration they can completely stop the action of the nitrogen bacteria, without which we cannot hope to grow good crops. In one test a content of DDT amounting to 100 pounds to the acre cut down a crop by 50 per cent.

Naturally nobody would apply any thing like 100 pounds of insecticide to an acre in any one year. But what was put on this year is still there 10 years from now—and it will be there for 20 years more. And in order that readers may get the whole picture, I propose to quote, from articles published in leading agricultural magazines and elsewhere, some of the things everybody should know regarding these insecticides.

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Great Danger in Woodlot Depletion

In his last public appearance as Minister of Planning and Development, Mr. Dana Porter uttered a warning that ought to be widely heeded. Speaking at the opening of the second annual Exhibition of Industry and Progress at Kitchener and Waterloo, he referred to the fine and long-established industrial development of these two progressive cities. But he also pointed out that the reservoir of skilled and experienced labor in that area tended to attract other industries in increasing numbers. Through this expansion was superficially exciting, and perhaps produced boom conditions and apparent prosperity, Mr. Porter pointed out that over-expansion industrially had dangers for the smaller cities of Western Ontario, says the Toronto Globe and Mail.

Not the least of these is the danger of exceeding the water supply. It might be extraordinary that this warning should be necessary in an area which last spring had an "overabundance" of water swirling across its farms and down its streets. Those floods were the warning signal of the shortage to come, because they indicated that there was nothing to check the headlong runoff of the spring rains.

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Volunteer Fireman Risks Life to Avert Disaster

WINS DOW AWARD
An explosion seemed almost inevitable... and with four oil companies in the area a terrible disaster might have been the result. Citizens were warned by loud-speaker to stay well away from the fire.

Several hours later the tank was still blazing... as a disastrous explosion was possible at any moment. Ste. Agathe citizens were warned by loud-speaker to stay well away from the fire.

THE DOW AWARD is a citation for outstanding letters and includes, as a tangible expression of appreciation, a \$100 Canada Savings Bond. Winners are selected by the Dow Award Committee, a group of leaders of leading Canadian daily newspapers.

By Montana

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