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FEB 4 1935

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**A FACT A DAY ABOUT CANADA**  
**FROM THE**  
**DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS**  
**AS SUPPLIED TO THE**  
**CANADIAN RADIO BROADCASTING COMMISSION**  
**JAN. 1, TO JAN. 31, 1935.**

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Note: A Fact a Day is broadcast over the Commission's network immediately after the Canadian Press News broadcast at 10.45 p.m. E.S.T.

A Fact a Day About Canada

from the

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

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No. 94. Tues. Jan. 1, 1935 - Calendar Reform

The question of calendar reform is an appropriate topic on New Year's Day. It is a very important one to statisticians and business men who have to keep periodical and comparable records of progress.

The present twelve months' division does not lend itself to this. February has 28 days; it is preceded by January with 31 days and followed by March with 31 days also. These three days alone make a difference of ten per cent. The fact that a particular month may have five Sundays throws out the reckoning still further.

The League of Nations has had a committee working on the subject of calendar reform for several years but little practical progress has been made, though a most useful discussion has been promoted. Their proposal is to have a year of 13 months of exactly four weeks each, which makes 364 days. New Year's Day would not be included, and, of course, there would have to be another holiday every four years to take care of Leap Year.

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No. 95. Wed. Jan. 2, 1935 - Boots and Shoes for the Family

One of the serious problems the family man has to face in this new year of 1935, as always, is the number of boots and shoes he has to plan to provide. The Bureau can tell him that the average Canadian wears out two pairs of leather footwear in the year, but the Bureau cannot inform him as to how many pairs his boy destroys compared with himself.

No doubt the average Canadian father can make a soundly built pair of shoes last him more than a year, but his young son, who cannot refrain from kicking a stone when a football isn't handy, and who must have hockey boots and all, is a much better asset of the factory. But, when he reckons with his daughter, he finds that she beats his son hollow in the number of trips she makes to the shoe store.

A far larger proportion of Canada's footwear is made at home than used to be the case. Not so very long ago, the dapper gentleman thought he had to have a shoe made in England or the United States to make him feel just right and his lady would not brook anything less than from the same sources, but to please best her taste she had to be able to say that what she wore came from Paris.

This is now all changed. We have been turning out, the lean years notwithstanding, about 20 million pairs of leather boots and shoes in a year and the imports have declined steadily. They are now comparatively small. Our exports are also very small but are gaining.

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No. 96. Thurs. Jan. 3, 1935 - The Wolverine

The most diabolical in its cunning and by far the most destructive of all Canada's fur-bearing animals is the wolverine. It is the largest and most formidable of all the

weasel clan, with a low squat heavy body, round broad head, heavy limbs, long powerful claws and a short bushy tail. Its color is a deep dark brown.

The wolverine is sometimes called the "skunk-bear" in the Rockies. Like the weasel family generally it has glands which emit a most repulsive smelling secretion but fortunately it cannot project it like the skunk.

There were 600 trapped in Canada last winter, mainly in British Columbia, the North West Territories and the Yukon. The value of the pelt was \$4.60, just about one-third of what it was worth a few years ago. All furs have fallen in value.

The wolverine is the one animal the trapper does not wish to see on his line. When it appears, he must trap it or give up trapping altogether. The wolverine will follow a line of traps, eating the bait, destroying any animals caught, or even pulling up the traps and burying them. It is expert at discovering anything hidden and seems to take great delight in carrying away all sorts of things and hiding or destroying them.

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No. 97. Fri. Jan. 4, 1935 - Eskimos in Canada

There are over 6,000 Eskimos in Canada, most of them living in the North West Territories. There are about 3,200 males and 2,900 females. It is impossible to say definitely whether they have increased or decreased during the past decade, but the impression of the Bureau is that they are increasing.

In 1921 the Eskimo population, rated at over 3,000, was simply an estimate based largely on information supplied by Royal Canadian Mounted Police and Missionaries, and we know that the Eskimos of Baffin Land and the Coppermine River and Coronation Gulf districts were underestimated. In 1931 the census of the North West Territories was complete. Stefansson in 1909-11 discovered blond Eskimos on Coronation Bluff, far in the Arctic Zone.

The Danish spelling E-s-k-i-m-o-s has largely displaced the French E-s-q-u-i-m-a-u-x and the English E-s-q-u-i-m-a-l-t-s for no compelling reason. The Hudson Bay "husky," used of man and dog, is a colloquial variant. The native name is Inuit, meaning "men." The Alenaxi name for the Eskimos means "raw flesh eaters." Their communal life recognizes no national chiefs and tribal warfare is unknown.

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No. 98. Sat. Jan. 5, 1935 - Consumption of Cigarettes

The smoking of cigarettes in Canada continues to grow. In 1934 the consumption of factory made cigarettes was close to five billion, which was twelve per cent more than in 1933.

The increase during the post war period, from 1919 to 1934, has been continuous and has run about 200 million a year. The per capita consumption of factory cigarettes last year is estimated at 440.

Of course, there are far more cigarettes consumed than that, since many smokers "roll their own." There was a gain of nearly four per cent in the consumption of cut tobacco last year, so that the home-made variety is also increasing. The use of cigars showed a slight gain, contrary to the trend of the last fifteen years. It is interesting to note that the amount of foreign leaf tobacco used last year declined nearly 15 per cent, so that there has been an increase in the consumption of the domestic product.

The gain in tobacco consumption during 1934 reflected the expansion in purchasing power characteristic of the year.

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No. 99. Sun. Jan. 6, 1935 - Currants from Australia & Dates from Iraq

One of the most important of the dried fruits which Canada imports is the currant. We purchased over five million pounds in 1934, almost double the amount imported in 1933.

Almost all of last year's supply came from Australia, which is a great change from a number of years ago when we got our main supply of currants from Greece. As late as 1927 when our imports totalled about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  million pounds we received over  $3\frac{1}{2}$  million from Greece and less than one million from Australia, but in 1934 the quantity from Greece was only 40,000 pounds and from Australia over five million.

We get our prunes and dried plums almost entirely from the United States, but a change has come over our imports of dates, of which the consumption has been increasing greatly of late years. Dates from the United States have dropped from six million pounds in 1927 to 600,000 in 1934 but from the new Mesopotamian country of Iraq in the same period they have increased from 70,000 pounds to seven million.

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No. 100. Mon. Jan. 7, 1935 - Lost Bicycles

A few weeks ago the Bureau announced the remarkable fact that in 1933 there were nearly 8,000 automobiles stolen in Canada and all of them except five were recovered for their owners.

It is different with bicycles. If left unguarded, they disappear with remarkable frequency -- and they don't come back so often. There were over 12,000 bicycles stolen in the cities and towns throughout the Dominion in 1933 and fewer than half of them were brought back to their owners -- 6,500 disappeared.

While the percentage of permanent loss in most large cities is fairly uniform, some cities are worse than others and the Bureau suggests that the police departments in these might look up the figures.

Bicycle owners are mostly boys and this fact should be a lesson to them to be careful about where they park their wheels in cities and towns.

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No. 101. Tues. Jan. 8, 1935 - The Negro in Canada

There are nearly 20,000 negroes in Canada, a number that has varied comparatively little since the beginning of the century. About 80 per cent are native-born.

More than one-third of all the negroes live in Nova Scotia. Most of them are descended from the Maroons of Jamaica, that intractable band of escaped slaves who seized the opportunity to make for freedom when their Spanish masters were defeated by the British. For many years they harassed the island. Six hundred were brought to Nova Scotia in 1796 to work on the Citadel at Halifax and the Maroon Bastion stands there today as a memorial to their contribution. They were much liked by the authorities.

Afterwards at their own request a number of them were taken to the Sierra Leone Colony in their old homeland of Africa. Those who remained were given land in Nova Scotia and that is why the majority of the Nova Scotian negroes today are farmers or rural dwellers.

Another third reside in Ontario, chiefly on the Niagara Peninsula. They are mainly city dwellers, descendants of escaped slaves who came in the manner and by the route so well portrayed in "Uncle Tom's Cabin." The negroes of Canada, therefore, have a romantic background.

There are about 12,000,000 negroes in the United States, or considerably more than the total population of Canada.

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No. 102. Wed. Jan. 9, 1935 - Electricity in Canada and South Africa

Some of Canada's leading newspaper men are on the eve of departure for British South Africa where they will attend the Imperial Press Conference. They will find there many contrasts with things in Canada and some things in common.

One of the things in common is that South Africa, like Canada, is a very large user of electricity. The energy, however, is derived from quite different sources. Practically all of Canada's supply is produced from water power while that of South Africa is got from coal.

This is partly a direct result of the climatic and topographic features of the two countries, the very irregular and seasonal rainfall over the greater part of South Africa making the streams most unreliable sources of power, in contrast with Canada's more favorable circumstances.

But it is also partly due to South Africa's abundance of coal which is obtainable at low cost. The coal reserves of the Transvaal and Natal are at present most used and supply 90 per cent of the electricity required.

While Canada leads the Empire in its per capita uses of electricity for all purposes, South Africa leads Canada and the Empire in the provision of electricity for transportation.

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No. 103. Thurs. Jan. 10, 1935 - School Teacher or "Steno"?

A school teacher or a stenographer? Which shall I be? This is the question in the minds of a great many Canadian girls. Next to that of domestic maid these are the two most likely money-making occupations ahead of her, and her chances of being the one or the other are about equal.

She will be interested to know that if she chooses teaching she will be longer in getting married. The average teacher is about three years older than the office worker, but, unless she is a nun, she receives about \$100 a year more in salary. There is less danger of the teacher losing pay through not having a position, or by reason of sickness, but if she does take sick her breakdown will be more serious.

The average sickness of a teacher with loss of pay lasts 20 weeks, the stenographer's or typist's only 12 weeks, in spite of the former's longer midsummer vacation in which to rest. Of the reason we cannot be certain. Is it that the teacher's work in the classroom is more strenuous?

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No. 104. Fri. Jan. 12, 1935 - "Speaking in Tongues"

In a meeting of 100 people who are thoroughly representative of the people of Canada there would be only three unable to speak in either the English or French language. Among the other 97 there would be 13 able to speak both of the official languages. Thus there would be no lack of interpreters for the 17 who could speak only French and the 67 who could speak only English. All but two or three of the interpreters would be French Canadians.

But if all of the people in this representative assembly of 100 would speak the language that come easiest to them, there would be 16 who would choose neither English nor French. Their section of the meeting would rival the confusion of Babel, as recorded in Genesis. Four would speak in German, two in Ukrainian, two in different Scandinavian languages, one in Russian, one in Polish, one in Yiddish, one in Italian, one in Chinese or Japanese, one in Indian, and two in other languages. To represent the remainder of the population these last two would literally need the gift of "speaking in tongues".

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No. 105. Sat. Jan. 12, 1935 - Canadian Skis

When skiing was first introduced into Canada, the only equipment available was imported from Norway. The sport gained in popularity so rapidly that Canadian wood-working factories began to turn out skis according to the Norwegian pattern and under the supervision of Norwegian experts. Last year the Canadian production exceeded 25,000 pairs having a factory value of \$65,000, together with poles, fittings and other accessories, to say nothing of ski clothing.

Now the tide has turned and Canadian-made skis are crossing from Canada to Europe. The British Ski Year Book for 1934 notes that Canadian-made skis are now on sale in London and are being well received.

The sport of skiing, while it originated in Northern Europe, is specially suited to Canadian climatic conditions and has become enormously popular since the Great War. The Canadian Amateur Ski Association, founded only in 1921, has now 38 organized clubs with a total membership of many thousands scattered from Vancouver and Prince George to Riverbend on the Saguenay.

Skis have pretty generally taken the place of the characteristically Canadian snowshoes for sport at least. Even for utility, winter travellers find that skis will carry them over the snow quicker and with less effort than snowshoes, under ordinary conditions.

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No. 106. Sun. Jan. 13, 1935 - Corn from British South Africa

Indian corn, or maize as it is officially known, is again coming in large quantities to Canada from British South Africa. A year ago there was a crop failure in that country and we got little or none.

The production of corn has made rapid strides in South Africa. In 1904 some 14 million bushels were cropped and by 1925, 86 million. The production is from 10 to 15 bushels per acre.

South African maize has two advantages over the Corn Belt of the United States.

The growing season is longer by from four to seven weeks, making the season for planting considerably longer.

The drier atmospheric conditions in the Union produce a grain with lower moisture content. This makes it less liable to injury in transit and, therefore, more suitable for export as well as for manufacturing purposes. The rainfall is generally sufficient to produce good crops and the soil is well cultivated and of good quality.

Like Canada, grain inspection and testing are established at shipping points and every effort is made to maintain regular and cheap export service.

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No. 107. Mon. Jan. 14, 1935 - Sand

There are over five thousand sand and gravel pits in Canada, or rather that is the number reported to the Bureau. Many of these are very small pits, conveniently situated near the scene of construction operations. There are nearly three thousand persons engaged in the business of getting out that sand and gravel for the needs of Canada. The average production during the last few years was about twelve million tons. Besides the pits a great deal of sand is taken from the seashore and from the beds of lakes and rivers.

About 95 per cent of the sand is used for building purposes, the making of concrete and in the building of roads. Railways use a considerable amount for ballast.

But there are other purposes for which sand is used, and they are varied. It is necessary for the making of glass and pottery. It is used in metal foundries for making moulds. It is an ingredient in bricks, and it is used for polishing, cutting, cleaning and etching. Sand is valuable in agriculture, especially for the improvement of clay soils.

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No. 108. Tues. Jan. 15, 1935 - Canada 1935

Radio listeners who are interested in these facts each evening from the Bureau may have their tabloid information supplemented by perusal of the new official handbook of Canada which is issued every year during the opening weeks of January and which is now ready for 1935. "Canada 1935" is an attractive publication which sets forth in brief and readable form the progress which has been recently made and the present condition of the Dominion.

It summarizes in a popular and attractive form the mass of detailed Government reports which it would be impossible for the average citizen to find time to digest in their original form. It brings before him those facts relating to population, production external and internal trade, transportation, prices, finance, education, social institutions and all phases of importance in our national life, that are essential to an informed appraisal of the economic situation as it has unfolded itself to date.

The book is splendidly illustrated with 73 engravings and includes maps. For the special information of radio listeners there is an illustrated description of the Blattnerphone System of recording and transmitting. The nominal price of the book is 25 cents, but as considerable use of it is made for educational purposes, the price is set at 10 cents to teachers, bona fide students and ministers of religion. Application for it should be made to the King's Printer.

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No. 109. Wed. Jan. 16, 1935 - Canadian Rubber

Canada grows no raw rubber of her own. It is a tropical product. Yet Canada ranks very high amongst world countries as a manufacturer and source of supply of rubber goods. The rubber industry of Canada provides an excellent example of the enterprise of the Canadian people in reaching out far beyond our borders for raw material, for their industrial development.

Canada gets her main supply of raw rubber from British Malaya and out of it huge quantities of automobile and bicycle tires are made, as well as rubber clothing, boots and shoes and various other articles of commerce.

Canadian rubber tires go to the four corners of the earth, to almost one hundred countries and the value has reached as high as \$16,000,000. Canada has been in third position amongst world producers of this modern and now highly necessary commodity.

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No. 110. Thurs. Jan. 17, 1935 - Bricks

Brickmaking is one of the oldest arts practised. It is intimately connected with the life of the ancient Egyptians. Readers of Biblical history will recall that the Children of Israel during the Captivity were required to make bricks without straw, an almost impossible job with the material available. Brick has been taken from the ruins of the Dashour Pyramid and was found to be made of Nile mud, chopped straw and sand.

Most countries today make brick, which lends itself to magnificent and ornamental construction as well as lasting. There are brick houses still in use in England which were erected in the reign of Henry VIII.

There was a brickmaker operating on the North Shore of the St. Lawrence as early as 1665, according to the census of that year. Last year there were brick and tile plants active in every Province of Canada except Prince Edward Island. Some of the plants specialize in fancy bricks with which many of the beautiful homes of Canadian cities are built. The production in one year has run as high as about 460,000,000 bricks for building purposes.

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No. 111. Fri. Jan. 18, 1935 - Agriculture the Great Employer

Agriculture in Canada has been declining in importance in the last thirty years as an employer of labor. Yet agriculture still employs more people than any other industry.

At the census of 1901 the number of employees on the Canadian farm was 45 per cent of all gainfully employed in the Dominion but in 1911 it was only 38 per cent. That percentage declined only a little in the next decade, but during the ten years prior to the last census it dropped considerably and in 1931 it was found that agriculture was employing only 28 per cent of the gainfully employed. There are some special reasons for this which the rural dwellers appreciate, one being the increase in the use of farm machinery.

It was also found at the last census that there were 213,000 Canadian children, 17 years of age and under, who were employed in gainful occupations. These children were

chiefly employed as farm laborers, the total being 98,000. There was a big drop from that number to the 24,000 who were employed as domestic servants.

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No. 112. Sat. Jan. 19, 1935 - Canadian Whaling Industry

The Canadian whaling industry, once a very active business in northern waters, is now of comparatively small dimensions and it is for the most part confined to British Columbia. It declined so far that in 1932 there was no export of whale oil from Canada. However, it picked up again in 1933 and half a million gallons were sold abroad, most of it going to the United States. Last year the amount was about 650,000 gallons.

Whale oil is used in the making of soap, for lubrication, leather dressing, tempering steel and for illumination. London streets were lighted with whale oil in the 17th and 18th centuries. In 1933 Canada used about 380,000 pounds in the making of soap.

Whalebone was formerly required in the shaping of ladies' dresses and for corsets. Ambergris was and is a most valuable commodity.

Whale meat does not appear to be of very wide acceptance outside the Polar regions. Canada cans a little of it sometimes and two or three years ago exported 40,000 pounds, all of it going to Japan. During the Great War, experiments were made in the canning of whale meat but the product was not so favorably received as was hoped.

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No. 113. Sun. Jan. 20, 1935 - Artificial Tresses

Not so much attention is paid to the coiffure today as by some generations of our ancestors, if old prints and paintings are to be relied upon. Bald heads were conspicuous by their absence. There are many of them nowadays. The trade records of the Bureau indicate that only 11 dozen wigs and 18 dozen of what are described as "transformations" were made in Canada in 1933. There were, of course, a large quantity of "curls" turned out by the four establishments which make these creations. They weighed in the aggregate over 50,000 pounds. That was human hair.

There is still a market for human hair in Canada, but it is not so very large. Hair nets, which are manufactured from the human crop, come mainly from China. No doubt the glorious locks, which a leading actress sold recently, were for a more decorative purpose, like those sold by one of Victor Hugo's heroines.

Amongst the materials used in the preparation of these adornments for the human superstructure, as reported to the Bureau, is peroxide.

Human hair is also utilized for the making of a press cloth for factories which produce linseed oil.

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No. 114. Mon. Jan. 21, 1935 - Maintaining the Law

Canadians pride themselves on being a law-abiding people, but this does not mean that there is little work for the police forces and judiciary to do. Each year the courts convict persons for more than 300,000 infractions of the law. About one-tenth of these are serious or indictable offenses.

About 70,000 persons each year exchange their freedom for confinement in a penal institution. The average term in a gaol is about one month, in a reformatory about six months, and in a penitentiary about two years, with the result that there are twelve or thirteen thousand people locked up all the time.

The annual cost of maintaining these institutions is about \$8,000,000. The earnings of their inmates might have been a similar sum, so the loss to the country by reason of their misdemeanour and confinement is something like \$16,000,000.

If the cost of the machinery for protection and enforcement of the law is added to the \$16,000,000 it is more than doubled. There are about 11,000 police and detectives in Canada, whose salaries run to more than \$13,000,000. Then there are over 8,000 lawyers and 500 judges or magistrates, besides the army of other officials required to operate the courts.

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No. 115. Tues. Jan. 22, 1935 - The Asiatic Races in Canada

Canada is a land of many peoples. There is scarcely a racial stock in Europe that has not contributed a considerable number to her population. Asia too is represented by some 85,000 souls. About 70,000 of these are of the two great Asiatic races whose homelands look out on the Pacific, the Chinese outnumbering the Japanese two to one.

An overwhelming majority of these people reside in one province, British Columbia - practically all of the Japanese and 60 per cent of the Chinese. Here their numbers are equal to the entire population of the capital city, Victoria, and two smaller cities the size of Prince Rupert and Vernon. Actually, by no means all of them live in the cities. Many of the Japanese, especially, live on farms and in scattered fishing and lumbering settlements. More than half of them are classed in the census as rural.

Only a few more than one-tenth of the Chinese claim Canada as their native land, nearly half of the Japanese. The Chinese are mostly men, there being among them thirty men for every one woman and four children. Among the Japanese there is a more even representation of the sexes, - not quite two men to one woman and three children. Consequently the Chinese are much the older of the two groups. They are in fact old enough to be the fathers of all the Japanese in Canada, being over forty years of age on the average while the Japanese are still in their early twenties.

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No. 116. Wed. Jan. 23, 1935 - Of Marriage and Single Life

"He that hath wife and children hath given hostages to fortune; for they are impediments to great enterprises, either of virtue or mischief."

"Wives are young men's mistresses; companions for middle age; and old men's nurses. So as a man may have a quarrel to marry when he will."

When should a man marry? In answering this question, Francis Bacon (in the essay from which extracts are quoted above) repeats the answer of an earlier sage: "A young man not yet, an elder man not at all". And now in the 20th century it begins to look as if more men were taking this advice.

Back in the "gay nineties" it was only one man in sixteen who reached the age of 65 without taking unto himself a wife; now it is one in every ten. Of course it would not be safe to say that all of the credit or blame for this state of affairs belongs to

the men. One-tenth of the ladies, too, now remain single, and it is just possible that they are doing so by choice, - that in place of cherishing men in wedlock they have chosen to compete with them in some of the occupations that are no longer a masculine prerogative.

However, the rate of marriage in the younger generation of the present day does not promise that the proportion of 10 per cent lifelong bachelors and spinsters will be much increased in the years ahead. Dan Cupid's arm is still too certain, though the current stock of arrows in his quiver is in a measure dependent on economic circumstances. In the main, the arrows that he lacks this year he receives and discharges next year, and though marriages may be delayed, sooner or later they happen, about as certainly for the young people of today as for their parents and grandparents of yesterday.

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No. 117. Thurs. Jan. 24, 1935 - Peanuts from China

The per capita consumption of peanuts by Canadians last year was over  $3\frac{1}{2}$  pounds. It is extraordinary how the humble "monkey nuts", as we used to call them, have been growing in popularity. Some four or five years ago the per capita consumption was only two pounds, so that we have almost doubled the quantity we consume in that short time.

Practically all of the supply comes from China. Last year we imported about 39 million pounds and about 37 million came from that country alone. These were unshelled peanuts. The shelling and salting, when this is done, is carried out in Canada for the most part. But most people purchase them unshelled, as the floors of street cars and grand stands indicate, especially after a hockey game. Of course, a considerable quantity of this product is used in making peanut oil and peanut butter.

The size of a bag of peanuts weighing but a very few ounces shows what a veritable mountain some forty million pounds of peanuts represent.

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No. 118. Fri. Jan. 25, 1935 - Does Mother Value Schooling more than Dad?

There have been few countries in the world where the educational opportunities of women have been as equal to those of men as in Canada. It has even been a characteristic of Canadian education in the 20th century that girls get more schooling than boys. For a still longer time native born Canadian women have been more literate than men, whereas among the people who have come to Canada from foreign countries, almost without exception the opposite is true.

Is it this that makes Canadian mothers take more concern than fathers for their children's schooling? Some fathers would be slow to admit that they do, but the census shows it to be a fact that the children of widows and deserted wives, up to the age of 15 at least, receive more schooling than children who are left with only their father. More wonder still, the school attendance of the widows' children, up to this age, is as good as, or a little better than that of children who have both parents living.

When her children reach the age of 15 or 16 many of the widowed mothers are compelled to yield to circumstances and let their children leave school. But what sacrifice it means for her to keep them in school as long as she does, can be guessed only by those of us who have had such a mother, and can be known only by mother herself.

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No. 119. Sat. Jan. 26, 1935 - "Sartor Resartus"

Thomas Carlyle wrote a book which he claimed was the first one in the English language on "Clothing." In humorously emphasizing the importance of wearing apparel to mankind, he says: "What is a man but an omnivorous biped that wears clothes? Man's earthly interests are all hooked and buttoned together, and held up, by clothes."

In the hundred years since Carlyle's philosophy of clothes was written, anthropologists have become fairly well agreed that clothing was not so all-important to our ancestors -- that they, like primitive tribes today, wore clothes for the decoration, rather than the comfort of their bodies. However much of this there still may be, there can be little doubt that in the recent sixty-below-zero weather of Canada's northern clime, clothes were not used solely for the adornment of the human frame.

The manufacture of clothing is an important industry in Canada, employing 80,000 people, and the value of the factory products each year is well over \$100,000,000. Even this is not enough; a considerable quantity is brought from other countries.

Then there is the vast quantity of home-made garments turned out by thrifty mothers, sisters and wives, of which there is no record. Consider, too, the makedowns, the patching, knitting and mending that is done while listening to the radio.

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No. 120. Sun. Jan. 27, 1935 - Iceland Moss

Canada imports a great deal of Iceland Moss. The largest quantity in recent years was close to three million pounds. None of it came direct to Canada from Iceland where the plant is important commercially.

Iceland Moss is a lichen found in mountainous regions of Northern Europe and elsewhere. It is used as a food. It is ground with flour and added to soups, which it thickens and enlarges with starch. Sometimes it is powdered and made into bread, or is boiled with milk.

Iceland Moss has a bitter taste which may be removed by soaking it in a dilute solution of sodium carbonate. The decoction may be fermented and alcoholic liquor produced. The moss is also used for dressing the warp in weaving and in manufacturing sizing paper.

There are other mosses which have almost the same properties but the one most widely known is the Iceland variety.

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No. 121. Mon. Jan. 28, 1935 - Sending Food to Great Britain

Great Britain is the largest importer of food in the world and Canada is no mean contributor to the supply. In fact Canada stands in first place with quite a large number of important commodities, such as wheat, flour, oats, apples and lobsters.

Last year Canada supplied the United Kingdom with one-third of the wheat required from outside to feed the people, and more than half of the oats. Canadian oats is highly thought of even in Scotland where they know something about porridge. Almost half of the wheatflour was got from Canada. Australia was Canada's nearest competitor with apples but no country came near to Canada in lobsters, for the Canadian lobster is the finest in the world.

Canada was second to Denmark with bacon, second to the United States with hams and second to New Zealand with cheese.

Canada was first in several other things, notably copper, zinc, aluminium, patent leather and rubber manufactures and was second to Australia with lead.

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No. 122. Tues. Jan. 29, 1935 - The Snuffer

The old gentleman who invited his neighbor to take a pinch of snuff and who, after inhaling one himself gave a trumpet-like snort into a magnificent silk handkerchief colored like a Paisley shawl, has almost entirely disappeared. Only very occasionally is he found in a railway train.

Snuff-taking, which was very common in the 17th and 18th centuries, is still practised to some small extent by persons in trades where no smoking is permitted. However, there is a great deal of snuff still manufactured. It is simply powdered tobacco made chiefly from the central stem of the tobacco leaf which is ground very fine. Sometimes scraps and wastes of ordinary tobacco and cigars are used, the material being collected and allowed to ferment.

Very little of this snuff however, comparatively speaking, is used in the old fashioned way. Many men use it in the same manner as others use chewing tobacco. This is more common, probably, amongst construction workers than amongst those of any other occupation. The production of snuff in 1933 was over three-quarters of a million pounds. That was more than in any year from 1920 to 1924 but less than from 1924 to 1932. We import some snuff, mainly from Great Britain.

Many old snuff boxes are wonderful examples of the goldsmith's and silversmith's art and in many homes of Canada these snuff boxes, most of them generations old, are much cherished. In museums and elsewhere, even in the home of the Canadian Parliament at Ottawa, it is common to find collections of ornate snuff boxes.

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No. 123. Wed. Jan. 30, 1935 - Dulse

Occasionally an enterprising merchant in the far inland places of the Dominion displays in his window an unusual vegetable product, deep purple in color, in shape like thin tape. It is "dulse."

The ordinary passer-by, who was born and bred in these inland parts, does not pay much attention to it, but the Bluenose from Nova Scotia and his brother Maritimers from New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, with gleaming eyes, become customers at once. So do immigrants from the sea-swept countries of Europe, especially the Irish and the Scots, and they all invite their friends, with varying success, to regale themselves with this salt water ambrosia.

Dulse is an edible seaweed which is dried for table use. It is usually eaten in the dried state just as it is sold. It is very light in weight, so that a pound of it is bulky.

All of our Canadian dulse has been coming from New Brunswick, and the output is close to 50,000 pounds in a year. The market price of the product is something more than five cents a pound.

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No. 124. Thurs. Jan. 31, 1935 - Gaelic in Canada

There are over 32,000 people in Canada who speak Gaelic as their mother tongue; almost 29,000 were born in the Dominion. There are 31,000 who speak Scottish Gaelic and the other thousand speak Irish and Welsh.

The proportion of the Scots of Canada who have Gaelic as a mother tongue, without counting those who acquired it since childhood, is 2.30 per cent --- in Scotland the Gaelic speaking proportion is only 2.82. Of course there has been a tremendous expatriation of Highlanders from Scotland in the last two hundred or more years and it is still going on. A great many have come to Canada and in Nova Scotia there are still over 24,000 Gaelic speakers. That tongue, which a Scottish poet claims was spoken by Noah at the Flood, is a family language for some people in every portion of British North America, from Newfoundland to the Yukon.

The migration from the Scottish Highlands was often in large companies of settlers after the Jacobite Rising, many of them disbanded soldiers. There were large settlements of them in Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Quebec and Ontario. In Quebec there are many Scots who speak only Gaelic and French.

Most Ontario Gaelic is spoken in Glengarry and Stormont and it is interesting to recall that many of the present day speakers of the language there are descended from United Empire Loyalists who had been Scottish Jacobites but who preferred to remain British.

Note: Gaelic should be pronounced with the broad a, like "Gahlic" instead of the Anglicised "Gailic".

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