11-D-02

JUN - 7 1944

C-2

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

CANADA

A FACT A DAY ABOUT CANADA

FROM THE

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

TENTH SERIES

1943 - 1944

DISCARD
ELIMINER

LIBRARY
NATIONAL MUSEUM
OF CANADA

Published by Authority of the Hon. James A. MacKINNON,
Minister of Trade and Commerce.

25 cents per annum

March

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
OTTAWA, CANADA

CONTENTS

James Muir,

Editor.

No. 153, Wed. March 1, 1944. - St. David's Day

The Saint for whom this day is named was a great scholar and teacher, an organizer and disciplinarian. He held a noted position in, and added considerable prestige to, the British church of his time. He was Archbishop of Carleon, Primate and Patron Saint of Wales.

One of the many legends attributes to him Holy lineage, the belief being that he was a direct descendant of the Virgin Mary in the 18th generation. Thirty years before it actually occurred, tradition says, his birth was foretold by an angel and one was thought to have been his constant companion, guiding and caring for him during his lifetime. At his baptism a spring bubbled up for the occasion; when he preached, a white dove perched on his shoulder and a pulpit is supposed to have risen up out of the earth at his feet.

The Welsh are a distinct nationality with a language and literature of their own. The national bardic festival, the Eisteddfod is anually maintained. David, the last of the sovereigns, was captured and executed by the English in 1283. The earliest inhabitants appear to have been subdued or exterminated by the Goidels, a people of Celtic race in the Bronze age. Christianity was introduced in the fourth century. Welsh missionaries carried it to the Hebrides, the Orkneys and the Shetland Islands. The Welsh or Cymric tongue is a branch of the Celtic family of languages and is related to Cornish, Breton and Erse. The area of the country is about 71,500 square miles or about one-third of that of Nova Scotia.

The custom of wearing a leek dates back to very early times. It is mentioned by Shakespeare in Henry V. Prior to this, it was worn as a distinguishing mark by the Welsh in battle against the Saxons. At this time St. David bade his people wear them in their hats.

There are about 75,000 people of Welsh origin now living in Canada, about one-third of whom are direct from the mother country and there are Welsh societies in leading Canadian cities which seek to preserve the traditions of their race. The National Anthem of the Welsh is The Men of Harlech.

No. 154 - Thurs. March 2, 1944 — Canada's Trade with Eire

Canada's trade with Southern Ireland, or Eire as it is officially described, is very largely an export of Canadian commodities. Imports from Eire dropped from $372,277 in 1940 to $157,044 in 1941, $69,903 in 1943 and to $2,383 in 1943. The exports of Canadian commodities to Eire were valued at $5,775,895 in 1940, $1,932,025 in 1941, $4,816,543 in 1942 and $4,984,644 in 1943. In the two previous years exports totalled $4,439,543 in 1938 and $3,596,563 in 1939.

The principal exports to Eire in 1942 were as follows, with the 1941 figures within brackets: wheat, 5,048,660 bushels at $4,261,163 (1,419,583 at $1,125,230); other grain, nil ($50,240); bread, biscuits, cereals, etc., nil ($11,238); edible vegetable fats, nil ($18,470); rubber and manufactures of $1,130 ($7,454); furs, $9,279 ($16,651); unmanufactured leather, $11,537, ($22,164); manufactures of leather, $17,463, ($183); silk socks and stockings, 3,194 dozen pair at $26,947 (5,075 dozen pair at $32,789); binder twine, nil ($96,400); planks and boards, nil ($52,191); shooks and wood, $13,148 ($21,537); wood pulp, $50,224 ($10,601); newsprint paper, $227,411 ($173,355); farm implements and machinery, $13,506 ($3,393); hardware and cutlery, $56,605 ($38,286); asbestos, $20,313 ($2,494); films, $11,764

($5,288); settlers' effects, $100 ($3,036).

During the first three months of 1944 the export of Canadian merchandise to Eire aggregated in value $2,012,000 as against $414,000 in the corresponding period of 1943.

No. 155 -- Fri. March 3, 1944 -- "Weeds".

Have you ever walked down to the spring or beside the creek and gathered water cress for a salad? Or picked fresh mint for sauce to go with a roast of lamb?

Research is discovering the latent values of many wild plants formerly known as weeds. Take for example, the dandelion. While they are still not recommended as an addition to any stretch of velvety, carpet-like green lawn, they are a valuable source of vitamins A and B which help to prevent infections of the eyes, sinuses and lungs and offer protection against nerve diseases. The slender green leaves provide both greens and salad. They are tasty and medicinal and also contain vitamins C and G in a lesser degree. These guard against teeth defects and malnutrition.

Nor is the dandelion the only weed which has assumed the status of a food and thus taken considerable value unto itself. Most people are quite familiar with Lamb's Quarters, a gray-green watery plant. Actually, it has a more delicate flavour than spinach and is prepared in the same way.

This plant is to be found in great quantities near the sea. It quite often grows on a bed of sea-weed from which it derives the very valuable iodine content, giving it an even greater food value. It should not be confused with the purple flowered Lupine or wild pea which also grows profusely along the seashore. Fiddle tips, the tender young tops of the common brake, are a favorite dish in many parts of Canada, the horn shaped root of which resembles the avocado.

Ever hear of what, for lack of a better term we might call "synthetic" honey? An excellent imitation is produced from a combination of sugar, water and alum, plus the petals of the June rose together with the blooms of white and red clovers. Although this may sound like a delicate potion concocted by Merlin, or Mab, Queen of the Fairies, it isn't! We have it on excellent authority that the intriguing flavour of this syrup makes it well worth trying. Of course, we have all tasted shortbread which has been packed away with just a few sprigs of sweet-cented geranium leaves laid inside the container.

In the same recesses in which we find water cresses, are to be found what is known as Balony or Snake's Head, so called from its yellowish, white-hooded flowers, which when dried and steeped and used as a tea in Springtime, although bitter beyond words, is a remedy for jaded appetites and is quite harmless to take in any quantity.

Our grandmothers knew more about all these things than we, unfortunately, know today. We don't bother to gather, we buy at the store.

No. 156 -- Sat. March 4, 1944 -- Where do We Get Our Bank Notes?

Most Canadians are familiar with the fact that our coinage comes from the Royal Canadian Mint at Ottawa, but not so many know where we get our bank notes, or paper money.

Prior to the establishment of the Bank of Canada, each of the Chartered Banks

issued its own paper money, but since then the amount issued by the Chartered Banks has been less and less as the years roll on and the time is approaching when all the bank notes will come from the Bank of Canada. All bank notes, or "bills" as we usually call them, are printed in Ottawa by independent firms and the entire output is taken and controlled by the Bank of Canada.

The making of a bank note is an intricate process, representing the work of highly skilled artists and craftsmen. The result is regarded as the most beautiful of all currencies and the most difficult to counterfeit. It is almost impossible for counterfeiters to duplicate the superb job of inking and colouring. The whole process of preparing the plates for the printer of one bill requires about four months with approximately twelve craftsmen at work on that one task.

The printing is another slow and delicate process. After being printed on sheets, the sheets are shipped to the Bank of Canada where the dollars become valid by the printing of the signatures of the Governor and the Deputy Governor of that national bank.

The amount of bank notes of different descriptions outstanding, according to the latest information, was about $900,000,000. Fourteen per cent of this amount was held by the Chartered Banks, leaving $780,000,000 in the hands of the public. Needless to say the general circulation of notes has recently been at a new high point in history, a pronounced increase having been shown since the outbreak of war.

No. 157 -- Sun. March 5, 1944 -- Peaches and Persia

Peaches and Persia! Where on earth is the connection?

Well, peaches didn't always grow in Canada, nor yet in the Western Hemisphere. They were first introduced into England in 1562 from Persia, thus giving rise to part of its botanical name Prunes Persica. Some believe they originated there or in Asia Minor, while others believe them to be native to China. Botanical seems to indicate that the wild almond is the source of cultivated almonds, peaches and nectarines. The seeds of the peach will produce the nectarine and vice versa. In fact it is not uncommon to find peaches and nectarines on the same branch, as well as fruits which combine in themselves the characteristics of both nectarines and peaches.

The tree itself is a medium size with lanceolate, stipulate leaves borne on long, slender, relatively unbranched shoots and with flowers arranged singly or in groups of two or more, at intervals along the shoots of the previous year's growth. There is no lovelier sight than the peach orchards of the Niagara Peninsula in May and June.

The first Spanish explorers brought the peach to the New World and as early as 1600, peaches were common in Mexico. During that century it spread to all parts of both North and South America. In England peaches are trained along the walls of gardens and houses and assume all manner of arbitrary shapes; in the Americas they are grown as standards.

The Canadian crop of peaches in 1943 was 631,000 bushels, of which Ontario accounted for 440,000 bushels and British Columbia 191,000. The total value was $2,208,000.

No. 158 -- Mon. March 6, 1944 -- "Refugee" Industries in Canada!

As a means of assisting and encouraging the development and expansion of small and medium sized industries, including what have come to be known as "refugee" industries, the Dominion Parliament has arranged to establish a branch of the Bank of Canada, to be known as the Industrial Development Bank of Canada. Some of the products being new, not only to Canada, but also to North America, it is believed that these "refugee" industries will make notable contributions to Canadian postwar commerce. Many of the commodities have been found suitable for export.

These industries were started by refugees who came to Canada from occupied Europe. In many cases they not only brought skilled labour but they also furnished their own capital. They have almost all been successful and a great many of them have made a considerable contribution to the war effort.

For instance, the Bata people from Czechoslovakia came primarily to make footwear but they have extended their manufactures to include munitions and armaments, fire control instruments, aircraft, hydraulic systems and machine gun mounts, as well as shoes for the armed forces.

Some have established new lines of manufacturing and provided specialized equipment not available in Canada nor can sufficient quantities be imported at present. For instance, a large part of Canadian war requirements in surgical instruments and supplies is now being produced in a plant established by these Central Europeans. This plant has therefore filled a critical gap in war equipment as surgical supplies previously were not made in any quantity in the Dominion and neither Great Britain nor the United States could fill Canadian requirements. It is generally acknowledged that some have given lessons to Canadian industrialists in efficiency of plant operation.

A certain new firm has made Canada almost independent of the United States so far as the need to import optical glass is concerned and a considerable part of Canada's industrial diamond requirements is being filled by a plant in Ontario established during the war, headed and manned by refugees from Holland.

An aircraft company started during the war by Polish refugees is supplying the Canadian aircraft industry with large quantities of finely fabricated wood parts for planes. One of the most important of these enterprises is that which produces molded plywood in British Columbia.

Polish refugees have made a contribution to the Canadian textile industry and developed the conservation of wool grease not hitherto attempted in Canada.

The Czechoslovakians have also established one of the largest flax-growing and processing plants in the world. With its own capital and many trained flax workers from Central Europe it has taken over 2,500 acres of land forming what is considered as the largest flax growing unit in the United States or the British Empire. It is operating processing plants with ultra-modern machinery.

Many refugees who came to Canada just prior to the war and were interned were later released and absorbed in factories where they are making aircraft equipment and other specialized war supplies for which their special skills can be utilized.

No. 159 -- Tues. March 7, 1944 -- Quinine Shortage Remedied

As a result of the war with the Japanese in the Pacific, the source of con-

siderable portion of the world's supply of the four anti-malarial drugs, quinine, quinidine, cinchonine and cinchonidine was cut off. A mixture of these with other extracts from the bark of the cinchona tree constitutes what is known as totaquinine. This is a non-synthetic product available for the treatment of malaria. A synthetic product "atabrine" is also proving of value in controlling the disease.

The requirements of the United Nations are being obtained from Guatemala, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Brazil and Mexico in varying amounts. As yet the bulk of the supply from these countries is obtained from native stands, the trees growing wild in the tropical valleys of the Andes in the northern section of the continent. Transportation is most hazardous due to the precipitous mountain ranges.

Some of the supplies are brought out by mule train, the roads leading through snow and sleet at elevations of as high as 15,000 to 16,000 feet. Some are brought out by water and this entails the shooting of rapids in balsa rafts laden with cinchona bark. Although these are highly colourful and romatic forms of transportation they are costly in time, money and sometimes life. Airports are now under construction so that the bark may be freighted out by air from these remote mountainous regions.

The earliest authoritative instance of the medicinal use of the bark of this tree is recorded in the year 1638 when the Countess of Chinchon, which incidentally is the origin of the name, the wife of the governor of Peru was cured of an attack of fever. The bark was recommended to her by the corregidor of Loxa who himself experienced its benefits some years previously.

The drug was known by various names, for instances, "Jesuit's bark." The Jesuit missionaries brought it back to Europe, hence the name "Peruvian Bark". At first the bark was obtained by simply cutting down the trees. It was soon realized however that this process would lead to rapid depletion and eventual extinction of the tree so the method of removing the bark in strips was adopted, and a covering of moss was applied until the wound was healed.

No. 160 -- Wed. March 8, 1944 -- The Frigate

One of the most important units of our Royal Canadian Navy is a direct descendant of Trafalgar days; first called a super-corvette, it has been rechristened the 'frigate'. The first Canadian-built frigate destroyed a Axis Submarine on her maiden voyage.

The frigate from about 1750 to 1850 had a full battery on the gun deck and often a light battery on the spar deck. It carried as many as 50 guns and was analogous to the modern cruiser. Later, the steam figates were of largely increased size and power and formed the main part of the navies of the world until about 1870 when the introduction of ironclads superseded them.

As we know it today the frigate measures 100 feet longer than the corvette, is faster, stronger-engined and carries heavier armament. A corvette has one propeller, a frigate two. The latter costs one and one-half million dollars to build, a corvette less than one million.

A frigate requires much more craftsmanship than most other ships, for example, cargo ships which are turned out virtually on a mass production basis. It takes eight months to build a frigate, requires hours of planning, engineering skill, tons of blue prints and months of arduous labour by hundred of workers.

Engines and boilers for frigates must provide more than twice the power needed for 10,000 ton merchantmen. The electrical equipment of the frigate is much more complicated than that of a freighter, and most of its components call for far more careful and expert workmanship in both manufacture and installation.

At present there are five companies who manufacture these ships in Canada. One is on the West Coast, the other four in Quebec in the Levis-Lauzon district which has become famous as a shipbuilding centre.

One of these companies builds not only the ships, but also the engines and boilers as well; the furniture and a host of other components.

No. 161 -- Thurs. March 9, 1944 -- Some Notes on Oilseeds

So much has been written about the soybean that it is difficult to find anything that has not already been told, yet here are some notes on this important product of the Far East that at least bring into relief a few points that have not hitherto been much stressed. The present outstanding importance of the soybean to us is that Canada needs more oilseed crops. The most important of these are flaxseed, soybean, sunflower and rape.

In 1943 the soybean acreage was 50,000 acres, of which 47,000 acres were in South-western Ontario. The requirement for 1944 is 90,000 acres.

The soybean was originally introduced from the East. It is an Asiatic herb, having nearly erect hairy stems and trifoliate leaves. Its white seeds were used extensively in China, Japan and India.

Early in the '30's Germany sent her scientists to China on a research project. Their mission was to learn the secret of China's ability to feed her millions of people on so limited a ration. There they discovered the almost unlimited possi-bilities of this grain and today it forms an important ingredient in the diet of the Axis.

Soybeans are fast becoming an important food and commercial grain in Canada. At first we imported our supply then started producing them ourselves. Following con-siderable research, science has discovered that they contain an extremely large amount of proteins which can be extracted, handled and stored in pure form and subsequently can be used in hundreds of industrial products.

The source of nearly a billion pounds of fat annually was cut off when the Japanese overran the Philippines. This loss is being supplemented to an ever in-creasing extent by the substitution of soybeans.

They are used in the manufacture of automobile parts, plastics, paints, enamels and stearic acid, forleathin and in foundry cores. They are a valuable source of glycerine in the manufacture of munitions and since a means of polarizing them has been discovered, they can now be used in the manufacture of rubber and nylon.

No. 162. -- Fri. March 10, 1944 -- The Virtue of Tea

Last month there was published a little story to show where we have been getting our tea during war years and how much. However, an important illustration of the virtue of tea as a stimulant has come to the Bureau. We can lead up to it in this way.

Canada is known as a nation of tea drinkers, and this is particularly true of the out-of-doors men, of whom this country has many. There are the pioneers, the prospectors, the hunters, the husky men of the north, the woodsmen. Tea is of smaller bulk than coffee, for a pound of tea goes a long way further than a pound of coffee. Therefore it is less burdensome on the trail, also less costly. And now for tea as a stimulant.

There is a Chinese legend which tells us that the virtues of tea were discovered by the Emperor Shen-nung in 2737 B.C. to whom all agricultural and medicinal knowledge is traced. A Chinese tradition reveals that in A.D. 543 an ascetic, by the name of Bodhidharma came from India on a missionary expedition. He took a vow to contemplate the virtues of Buddha for nine unsleeping years and to help him accomplish this task he found stimulation in the leaves of the tea shrub.

This is just a legend, but modern research has proved the truth of this ancient legend by carrying out a test recently in Great Britain in the training of commandos. During a period of marching which covered 280 miles, three out of four platoons were allowed all the water they could drink. They drank copiously. Members of the fourth were kept off water entirely and given all they wanted to drink of tea. The tea platoon was the only one to finish the course intact.

No. 163 — Sat. March 11, 1944 — Our National Emblem

A great deal is being said about the Maple Leaf in the United Kingdom these days, there and elsewhere, and a request has come about how the Maple Leaf became the National Emblem.

Undoubtedly there is some connection between the ancient legends and superstitions surrounding trees and the fact that different races have taken leaves or flowers of plants or trees as emblematic symbols of their country. For example, the Irish Shamrock, the English Rose, the Welsh Leek, the Canadian Maple Leaf, the French Lily and the Scottish Thistle, to mention only a few.

These early legends tell us that trees possessed human instincts as well as healing powers. The ancient Greek philosophers, Aristotle and Plutarch credited trees with life, perceptions and reason.

Among the Arabs, sacred trees are believed to be haunted by angels or jinns; sacrifices are made to them and those sick made well who sleep in the shade of their leaves. In fact it is dangerous to pluck even a leaf or bough, since this would draw down the wrath of an angry tree god. Others do not go quite so far, rather favouring the wearing of leaves as a token of good luck as well as distinction. Early Buddhism decided that trees had neither mind nor feeling and might be lawfully cut; but recognized that certain spirits might reside in them.

The first National Emblem of Canada was the beaver and was considered so until 1821. In that year the union of the fur-trading companies, the North West and the Hudson Bay, diverted the fur trade from the St. Lawrence Valley to Hudson Bay. The triumph of the Hudson's Bay over the Nor' Westers meant the virtual loss of the fur trade to Canada and the beaver therefore ceased to be symbolic as a National Emblem.

Before this happened the Maple Leaf was regarded as the Emblem of the French-Canadians as distinct from the thistle which was the Emblem of the Scottish-Canadians. In 1834 the Maple Leaf was formally adopted as the Emblem of St. Jean Baptiste Society of Lower Canada, but during the rebellion in 1837, it was regarded

as almost an Emblem of disloyalty -- to such an extent that there was hostility to its adoption later in the Canadian West. In 1847 a literary annual, called the Maple Leaf, was published in Toronto, the Editor stating expressly that he was entitling it by the name of the chosen Emblem of Canada.

Its first formal recognition occurred when by resolution it was adopted as the badge or emblem worn by native-born Canadians in the procession in Toronto which in 1860 welcomed the Prince of Wales, afterwards Edward VII.

In 1867 the maple leaf was incorporated in the armorial bearings of the provinces of Quebec and Ontario; since then it has appeared on Canadian coins and Canadian postage stamps. It has been the theme of numerous poems and songs, particularly "The Maple Leaf Forever" written by Alexander Muir, a Toronto schoolmaster who came to Canada at the age of three. He died 38 years ago.

No. 164 -- Sun. March 12, 1944 -- What About Onions?

There has been very definitely a shortage of onions in Canada for some time, and we are told that there is a shortage of onion sets, popularly known as Dutch sets. These sets produce an earlier crop of onions than can be grown from seed. However, the scientists of the Department of Agriculture tell us that there is an alternative to the situation. This is to plant onion seed in flats, in greenhouses or in hot-beds during March for setting out in the open in May. For growing late onions the seed may be planted in late April or early May.

When setting out the young onions they should be lifted out of the plots or beds and placed in bunches, the soil shaken off the roots and the long roots cut off evenly to facilitate even planting. The tops should also be cut off leaving only about two-thirds of the leaves. When planted the remaining leaf stubs remain erect and by the reduction of the leaves the loss of plant moisture is greatly reduced, thus giving the seedlings a better chance to become established. Rows one to two inches deep are opened up and the plants dropped four inches apart. As soon as possible the soil should be pressed firmly around them. The space between rows should be the same as for an onion crop grown from seed sown directly in the garden.

Prior to the war Canada imported large quantities of onions from Australia, New Zealand, Bermuda, British West Indies, the United Kingdom, Chile, Egypt, Spain, and United States, with smaller quantities from Argentina, Germany, Greece and Yugoslavia. The quantities imported ran up into over 25 million pounds in a year. However, during the war years the import of onions has been very much restricted. Our total imports were just under 16 million pounds, nearly 15 million of which came from the United States and the rest from Bermuda and Chile.

This restriction of imports has necessitated a greater home production of such vegetables as onions, and consequently the victory gardens all over the Dominion have performed a very valuable service.

No. 165 -- Mon. March 13, 1944 -- The Romance of Tea

That was a charming story, told three days ago, about tea as a stimulant and how tea-drinking commandos came out first in the test of endurance. This should serve to create an interest in what we know of the history of tea.

There is evidence, obtainable from Arab sources, of the use of tea in China during the 9th century. It is about this time that it was introduced and culti-

vated in Japan.

The first time tea is referred to by an Englishman is to be found in a letter written by a factor of the East India Company in 1615, but it was not until about the middle of the century that the English began to use it. They received their first supplies from Java and it was very expensive, being used only on rare occasions to celebrate the visits of notables. Later it was imported from Madras and Surat; it had been introduced to these places by Chinese junks after the expulsion of the British from Java. By the end of the century, England was importing about 20,000 pounds a year. Tea growing has been introduced into Africa, Java and Sumatra, where in 1926 the production exceeded 138 million pounds, and the total world consumption excluding China itself is estimated at approximately 900 million pounds.

In Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions, tea is drunk simply as an infusion usually with milk and sugar, frequently with lemon and sugar. In Russia the samovar is traditional and a pot of strong China tea is brewed. A little of the liquor is put in a glass and filled up with boiling water from the samovar to which a teaspoonful of jam, or a slice of lemon and a lump of sugar is added.

Teas are classified as green or black according to the process of manufacture. Leaves for green tea are heated or roasted slightly in shallow pans over a wood fire, almost as soon as they are gathered. After this they are rolled with the hands upon a table to decrease the moisture and to twist them, again roasted and quickly dried.

Those for black tea are spread out in the open air for some time, then tossed with the hands until flaccid, roasted for a few minutes and rolled; after exposure to the air for a few hours, in a soft and moist state, they are finally dried slowly over a charcoal fire. The operation of roasting and rolling is frequently repeated several times until the leaves have become the proper color.

In making green tea the primary object is to prevent the chemical changes which take place in the withering and fermenting processes of black tea. The total tannin content in green tea is higher than it is in black tea.

No. 166 -- Tues March 14, 1944 -- We Must Grow More Food

The Agricultural Supplies Board has issued an urgent appeal for an even greater effort in wartime gardens than in 1943, for the reason that there is a more urgent need for all the food products that can be grown in Canada. Whatever greater the extent is made this year in wartime gardens on the part of people in cities, towns or in the rural areas, the market for the produce of commercial or market gardens will not be affected, states the Board. The maximum output from such gardens will be required to meet the demand from the armed forces, ships' stores and the civilian population.

The Board points out that production of vegetables in wartime gardens helps to relieve the strain on transportation facilities at a time when such facilities are already heavily overloaded. A survey made by the Wartime Gardens Committee discloses that the seed supply is sufficient to enable all the vegetables that are most in demand to be grown in sufficient quantities to meet normal demands. But the Committee states every effort to avoid waste should be made. There is some shortage of a few varieties of cabbage seed, bush beans and beets.

As for fertilizers the supply is adequate for gardens, but gardeners are recommended to give more consideration to using fertilizers for garden crops rather than on lawns, ornamental trees and shrubs.

All the standard types of garden tools are available in reasonable quantities and there are enough essential insecticides of the arsenical kind to go around, but rotenone and pyrethrum or contact dusts are not plentiful.

The vegetables recommended for wartime gardens are carrots, beets, beans, tomatoes, onions, potatoes, sweet corn, cucumbers, lettuce, spinach, swiss chard, radish, hubbard and marrow squash. While green peas are not very practical for a small garden, they are, however, recommended if the gardener has plenty of land.

The Board recommends the growing of potatoes, preferably from certified seed, which will give a higher yield than ordinary seed due to the fact it is free from disease.

Wartime gardeners either as individuals or as a community group can get helpful advice and co-operation from their local horticultural society, the provincial agricultural representative or the nearest Dominion Experimental Farm. There is also a lot of useful information in a special pamphlet issued by the Agricultural Supplies Board, entitled "The Wartime Garden".

No. 167 — Wed. March 15, 1944 — Spain's Foreign Trade

Spain has been a good deal of an enigma to most people during the war, and there have been charges by the Allies that she has been assisting Germany with supplies to an extent that did not seem in keeping with her position as a neutral country. Therefore a statement upon Spain's foreign trade from such an authority as the London Economist will be of special interest to our readers. The Economist says:

"Since 1941 Germany has taken the leading place in Spain's foreign trade, and during the first six months of 1943 Germany's share of Spanish imports and exports amounted to 24.3 per cent and 39.2 per cent respectively. As regards imports, Argentina, the United States, Brazil, Switzerland, and Great Britain came after Germany; in exports the order was Germany, Switzerland, Great Britain, Italy, the United States.

"During 1941 Germany ran up a large clearing debt, but in 1942 it doubled its exports to Spain and reduced its imports by 15 per cent. During the first half of 1943, German exports and imports continued to increase and were almost twice as large by value as in the first six months of 1942.

"Germany's trade policy towards neutral countries, which consisted of making a great attempt to supply their demands, was particularly marked in its foreign trade with Spain. German machinery and chemicals were exchanged for Spanish foodstuffs and, above all, valuable metals. It can be assumed that mining machinery and railway rolling stock formed an important part of German exports".

No. 168 — Thurs. March 16, 1944 — Venereal Disease Declines

It is heartening to learn from official sources that venereal disease in Canada is being conquered. A joint statement issued by the medical services of the Canadian Navy, Army and Air Force reveals that the battle against this dreadful scourge is being waged successfully.

The statement observes that the impact of venereal disease upon the Armed Forces of Canada has assumed proportions of considerable magnitude. In the period

from Jan. 1, 1940 to June 30, 1943, there have been 35,036 cases of gonorrhoea and syphilis in the three services, the Navy reporting 4,279 cases, the Army 23,054 and the Air Force 7,703. To treat this "enormous load of illness" required 697,259 hospital days. In other words, the statement adds, almost 700,000 days were wasted in a period of three and a half years.

"It is difficult to estimate exactly what this wastage and hospital care cost the country," the statement proceeds, "but based on the Army estimate of $11.41 per day, including hospital and training costs, for a man in the infantry, gonorrhoea and syphilis cost Canada at the very minimum, $7,955,724.

At the same time, the statement has encouraging facts to record. Contrary to popular impression, the incidence of gonorrhoea and syphilis in this war is very much lower than in the last. In the Great War of 1914-18, one man in six was infected with either gonorrhoea or syphilis. In 1940, the pooled figures of all three Canadian Armed Forces show that one man in every 18 was infected. By 1943 (for the first six months) this figure had dropped to one man in every 35.

Incidence of the disease had been halved.

No. 169 -- Fri. March 17, 1944 -- A Potato Record

Potatoes are a standard item in the diet of the average Canadian, and whether or not the war has had anything to do with it consumption has risen steadily in Canada during the war years. The average person consumed about 191 pounds of potatoes each year during the period from 1935 to 1939, the rate increasing to 202 pounds in 1940 and 1941 and to 205 pounds in 1943. The crop in 1943 was the best in some years, amounting to 4,304,100,000 pounds.

Speaking of production, the distinction of having grown what is considered to be the highest yield of potatoes per acre ever obtained in Canada -- 900 bushels per acre, of which 883 bushels were of marketable grade -- goes to Leslie Gilmore, R. R. 1, Steveston, British Columbia, when he took part in the 1943 potatoe competition of the Columbia Potato Growers' Association, Lulu Island, British Columbia. The Association has held these competitions annually for the past 10 years with the object of benefiting the potato industry at large by increasing yield per acre, quality, and demand, and by obtaining more uniformity in type.

These annual competitions are assisted by persons interested in improving the potato crop and by officials of the Dominion Department of Agriculture who also act as judges and verify the yields. In 1943 competion, the members of the Association in general obtained the highest yields per acre they ever had. Also the quality of the crop was much above average.

The variety for the competition was "Netted Gem" which is popular in British Columbia and in several of the Western States. It has been grown commercially in British Columbia and Alberta for the past 40 years. "Netted Gem" is not considered to be one of the highest yielding varieties, hence the 1943 record is all the more outstanding. Incidentally, the fancy wrapped and boxed potatoes imported into Canada and sold as "Idaho Bakers" are the same variety as "Netted Gem".

No. 170 -- Sat. March 18, 1944 -- Toll of Four Years of War

Following is the toll which war has taken of our young manhood of the British

Commonwealth and Empire during the four years which ended on March 31, 1943. These figures come from Defence Headquarters:

	Killed	Missing	Wounded	Prisoners	Total
United Kingdom	120,958	29,469	93,622	143,947	387,996
Canada	9,209	2,745	3,383	4,360	19,697
Australia	12,298	11,887	29,393	20,760	74,338
New Zealand	5,622	884	11,315	7,896	25,717
South Africa	3,107	279	6,473	13,966	23,825
India	5,912	17,810	13,230	72,848	109,800
Colonies	1,635	15,130	1,803	7,218	26,786
Total	158,741	78,204	159,219	270,995	667,159

CANADA

	Killed	Missing	Wounded	Prisoners	Total
Navy	857		83	6	946
Army	2,986	431	2,654	3,476	9,547
Air Force	5,366	2,314	646	878	9,204
Total	9,209		3,383	4,360	19 697

The figures given above are important by way of comparison showing the cost in casualties borne by the various British countries. However, the list of casualties has greatly increased since then and we now have the Canadian total up to February 29, 1944. It is as follows:

	Killed or dead	Missing	Prisoner of war interned	Wounded and injured	Total
Navy	1,120	0	9	184	1,313
Army	5,742	538	3,539	6,949	16,768
Air Force	8,137	2,309	1,255	756	12,457
Total	14,999	2,847	4,803	7,889	30,538

No. 171 -- Sun. March 19, 1944 -- Meat Rationing Suspended

Today's Sunday dinner was replete with the things we like best, or it could have been. Meat rationing was suspended temporarily at the beginning of the month, and it is quite on the cards that tea and coffee quotas are to be raised soon. By and by we shall come back to normal -- just when, no one can say.

Meat rationing was begun on May 27, 1943, as a means of building up a surplus of meat for export to Britain and armed forces overseas supplied through Great Britain.

During the last few weeks, however, unusually large surpluses of meat have developed in Canada. For the time being, the supply of meat coming to market, over and above the amount required to meet domestic requirements at the present rate of consumption, Douglas Abbott, parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Finance, informed the House of Commons last night, is in excess of physical capacity to move it into export channels.

Mr. Abbott illustrated: "During the first eight weeks of 1944 the inspected packing plants in Canada have slaughtered 780,000 more hogs, 50,000 more cattle, 10,000 more calves and 30,000 more sheep and lambs than in the corresponding weeks of

1943. These figures represent an increase over 1943 of 80 per cent in hogs, 50 per cent in cattle, 20 per cent in calves and 35 per cent in sheep and lambs. It has been only with the greatest difficulty that the packing plants have been able physically to handle this great increase in volume.

"As a result of these very heavy runs of livestock the storage and transportation facilities have become acutely congested. The latest available statistics indicate that there are over 102,000,000 pounds of meat in cold storage which is nearly twice as much as at this time a year ago and 65 per cent greater than is normal at this time of year."

No. 172 -- Mon. March 20, 1944 -- Our Air Force Expands

Major Power, Minister for Air, has given the House of Commons details on the growth and activities of the R.C.A.F. and the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan. Salient points of the statement are:

1. Since the start of the British Commonwealth air training plan in early 1940, more than 86,000 aircrew personnel have been trained in Canada, 48,000 of them Canadians. Number trained in ground trades, now over 114,000. Trained in women's division, 15,000.

2. The R.C.A.F.'s manpower requirements for the fiscal year 1944-45 are 26,000 men, down about 10,000 from last year due to a high reserve of aircrew and completion of groundcrew requirements.

3. The strength of the R.C.A.F. at Feb. 18, 1944 was 206,548, up 36,000 from April, 1943.

4. Canadians comprise from 22 to 25 per cent. of all aircrew in the Mediterranean and European war theatres who are under British tactical command and the proportion will increase to about one-third.

5. The R.C.A.F. has made 63 attacks on submarines from the start of the Atlantic anti-submarine patrols, about 30 in 1943.

6. The average flying time per U-boat sighting 1942 and the first half of 1943 was 840 hours but in the latter half of last year it went up to 1,700 hours.

7. A Canadian anti-submarine squadron has been moved from the East Coast to Iceland.

At the start of the year, there were 43 Canadian air squadrons overseas. From the start of 1943, to the middle of February this year, R.C.A.F. overseas squadrons flew 38,544 sorties and 129,461 operational hours; dropped 21,990 tons of bombs, destroyed 208 enemy aircraft; probably destroyed and damaged 162 others; and destroyed 150 locomotives, as well as U-boats, ships, tugs, barges, military installations, motor vehicles and transports of all kinds.

More than 40 important centres in Germany, Italy and occupied France felt the weight of R.C.A.F. bombs during the year. Berlin was visited 18 times.

"We are in Iceland," Major Power said, "We are in the Hebrides. We are in Burma. We are in India. We are in Egypt. We are in Italy. We are nightly over Europe. We are attacking and beating Germany in the very heart of the Nazi might.

"That is what Canada is doing in the air war.

"Canada is doing her share equal to that of any nation of the Commonwealth and in proportion to its population equal to that of any of the Allies. That is what the world should realize. That is what the people of Canada should know.

"Canada has a right to be proud of its air force."

No. 173 -- Tues. March 21, 1943 -- Marrying Canadian Girls

There was some shaking of heads in Canada when the first batch of wives of Canadian armed men arrived in the Dominion. Here and there arose even a small wail. It was inevitable, of course, for there is a good deal of glamour left in the United Kingdom, even after so many thousands upon thousands of captivating girls from England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland have been leaving for North America over the long years.

But there should have been no wail at all. The very same thing has been happening here in Canada. Recruits under the Commonwealth Air Training Plan have shown quite a liking for the Canadian girls and many slow-moving swains have had their girls picked off right from under their noses by those attractive young chaps who have come here from all over the Empire and elsewhere to be trained as airmen.

The fact is that over two thousand British airmen trained in Canada have married Canadian girls. Note that these are British boys only. Many intend to return to Canada when the war ends and make their homes here, but others will take their wives to Britain when arrangements can be made.

This interchange is all to the good and will help to keep the British family of nations in good heart, as Mr. Churchill would say.

No. 174 -- Wed. March 22, 1944 -- Lactose

There was a time, and not very long ago, when milk had what might be called primitive uses only. We had whole milk, skimmed milk and cream, butter and cheese of various kinds and these were about all. Of course we had curds and cream in summer as a special treat; some people called it junket and still do. Always there was butter milk in abundance.

However, the scientists have travelled far in discovering virtues in milk that had been unknown to us. The latest is lactose. This is what the Department of Agriculture says and the statistical records bear out the statements:

What can a farmer do with milk? He can drink it or feed it to his pigs or make it into cheese or churn its cream into butter. But the Dominion Department of Agriculture explains the scientist can get a lot more than butter or cheese from a can of milk. He can get drugs, for example, and even fireworks.

These milk products the scientist obtains from milk, sugar or lactose. There's about a quart of crude lactose in every twenty quarts of milk and this is how it is obtained in the one Canadian factory producing it.

First, the factory removes the casein and albumen from the milk. Most of the albumen goes into mixed feeds while casein may appear in dozens of forms from plastics to textiles. What remains of the milk, the whey, is then worked on for

lactose.

First, the whey is evaporated in a vacuum pan until it becomes syrupy and milk sugar crystals form in it. The combination of crystals and liquid is then put through a centrifuge and whirled around at high speed to extract most of the moisture. The lactose crystals are then mixed with water and are refined by filtering through charcoal. Again the moisture is extracted and the refined lactose crystals are ready for use.

Sometimes the lactose is prescribed for infants with weak digestive systems. It is also used in manufactured food for infants, is mixed with drugs to enable them to be taken in pill form and is employed in the manufacture of Nembutal capsules which are particularly useful in childbirth as they kill pain and blot out memory.

Confectioners have made use of lactose in candies and fondants. Manufacturers of liqueurs have found that lactose crystals decorate the inside of a bottle with an attractive frosty effect.

In the war, lactose is used in the preparation of hypodermic tablets, to relax a patient before he is given an anaesthetic. In Canada, lactose is the culture in which is grown the amazing new germ-killer, penicillin. And, strangest of all, this milk by-product is a constituent of incendiary bombs and of flares used by the armed forces for night signalling.

No. 175 — Thurs. March 23, 1944 — Home Building in Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland has come very close to the people of this continent, particularly because the association has become very close during the war years. Also the problems of the people there are very similar to our own. One of these is housing, and what the Canadian Trade Commissioner in Belfast has reported will be of some significance not only to Canadian supplier's of materials but to our people generally. He says:

"The Prime Minister has stated that it is now incumbent on local authorities to get ahead with their planning schemes, as there is a great deal of work in this respect which can be undertaken at once. The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Home Affairs also spoke on post-war housing recently and advocated that as much as possible of the material required for building should be produced locally, as he feared that when peace came the demand on the British manufacturers supplying the various component parts for houses would be so great that Northern Ireland's quota would be very small and, local demands would not be met from those sources for a long time. Dealing with the type of houses required, he said that there must be concentration of effort upon a well-planned house that could be erected at a price permitting a rental within the resources of the wage-earner. The mistakes made after the last war, when the rent of houses erected for the workers averaged between £1 and 25s. per week, with the result that a different class of people occupied them, must be avoided. Local authorities, instead of becoming landlords, should endeavour to frame a scheme that would encourage their tenants to own their own homes.

"In the study which the Advisory Board has made of Belfast, every vacant lot and residential, commercial, industrial, or public building is indicated on maps by a colour assigned to each category. A green belt, suitable for development, and amounting to several thousand acres, is shown. Photographic prints and models

of urban centres are now being exhibited in several cities. In some cases they illustrate rural areas in which new villages may be established. Local authorities are naturally assisting in the national scheme and are bringing forward their own needs and suggestions for solving them.

"The Town Clerk of Lisburn estimates that his immediate locality will require 1,000 new dwelling-houses at an approximate cost of £800 each. The Belfast Estates Committee, appointed by the city authorities, after a study of the shortage of housing in all its aspects, made an appeal for land, in reply to which many offers of building sites were received. During a meeting held some months ago it was stated that 'if the Corporation could build 10,000 houses now, they would be taken immediately.'

"So great will be the post-war demand for qualified builders that a special school for Northern Ireland, in which skilled craftsmen would be turned out, was advocated at the last annual meeting in Belfast of the Guild of Building Trades and Handicraft Teachers. This association is a subdivision of the Northern Union of Teachers in Technical Institutions. The discussion emphasized the urgency of including in all technical colleges a fully equipped department to cover this expanding field.

"Present accepted specifications for dwellings, it is held in some quarters, will undergo revolutionary changes owing to the recent development in the manufacture and use of plastics. Many kinds of plastics suitable for building are still confined to war uses, and a knowledge of their performance has not yet become general within the building industry."

No. 176 -- Fri. March 24, 1944 -- Exports by Air

It is important for Canadians to keep in mind the development trends in the United States. One of these important developments is the export of merchandise by air, and the Canadian trade commissioner at Chicago provides some illuminating data which may be a portent of what is to come.

While exports by air at present represent only a small percentage of total United States exports, they include a great variety of commodities consigned to many different countries. The Census Bureau's report on air exports, including lend-lease, covers the month of July, 1943. While withholding exact data as to value or volume of trade because of wartime security regulations, the report indicates through the use of percentages the general nature and destinations of these shipments.

During the month of July domestic exports by air from the United States in the textiles, machinery and vehicles, chemicals, and miscellaneous commodity groups made up 88 per cent of the total value and 75 per cent of the total volume of air exports. The largest group, machinery and vehicles, represented 29 per cent of the total value and 36 per cent of the total volume. Next in value were the miscellaneous group, accounting for 24 per cent of the total, and the textiles group, representing 20 per cent of the total. In volume of shipments each of these groups accounted for 12 per cent of the total. However, the non-metallic minerals group exceeded these two in the volume of exports, with 18 per cent of all air shipments.

As to the destination of the air exports, while the largest value, 44 per cent of the total, went to North America, 38 per cent of the value was shipped to the South American continent. Shipments to Africa, comprising 8 per cent of the total,

were the third largest in value.

Among North American countries, Mexico was the first with receipts of 28 per cent by value of continental air exports and 41 per cent by volume. Cuba was next both in value and volume, receiving 23 per cent and 34 per cent respectively of the total North American shipments.

In South America, Colombia received 43 per cent by value of air exports to that continent as against the second largest country, Brazil, which received 19 per cent of the total value. As to volume, the countries are reversed in position. Brazil received 43 per cent of the total South American shipments, while Colombia was second with 35 per cent of the total volume.

In the case of two of the continents of the Eastern hemisphere, shipments by air were almost entirely to single countries. India and its dependencies received 96 per cent of the value and 88 per cent of the volume of total Asiatic shipments; Egypt received 81 per cent by value and 80 per cent by volume of African shipments.

An analysis of the types of air shipments to various selected countries shows that 91 per cent of the value of all air exports to Egypt were made up of the commodity groups machinery and vehicles, and chemicals; to Colombia, 53 per cent of the total value was represented by textiles; to Brazil 46 per cent of the value was represented by machinery and vehicles and 31 per cent by the miscellaneous products group; and to Mexico, 41 per cent of the total value animals and animal products group.

No. 177 -- Sat. March 25, 1944 -- Wartime Gardens

There were 209,200 wartime gardens in 1943 in communities of one thousand population and over. There were a great many more in villages and on farms. This was quite remarkable, for the production of these 209,200 was in the neighbourhood of 57,500 tons of vegetables, or 550 pounds each on the average. It was a most helpful movement. The survey was carried out by the Department of Agriculture in co-operation with the National War Services Department and Women's Voluntary Centres.

The number of gardens in 1943 was 15 per cent greater than in 1942 and 24 per cent greater than in 1940. Of the total quantity of vegetables grown last year approximately 37 per cent were potatoes, 14 per cent tomatoes, 10 per cent carrots, 6 per cent beets, 4 per cent cabbages, 4 per cent beans, 3 per cent each of onions, cucumbers, turnips and rhubarb. Peas and sweet corn each represented 2 per cent of the total and all other crops were 1 per cent or less of the aggregate produced.

The 15 most popular vegetables grown in city wartime gardens last year were carrots, beets, beans, tomatoes, onions, potatoes, peas, lettuce, cucumbers, radishes, rhubarb, cabbage, turnips, sweet corn, and Swiss chard, in the order named.

The substantial amount of vegetables grown in wartime gardens, meant a considerable saving on transportation facilities, in gasoline and wear on rubber tires, in addition to the important contribution to the food supply. The crops grown in wartime gardens also enable larger quantities of vegetables from commercial gardens to be canned and dehydrated. An extension of wartime gardens in 1944 is urged so as to augment the food supply, as there will be a ready demand for all the produce that will be offered by market gardeners.

No. 178 -- Sun. March 26, 1944 -- Maps for the Armed Forces

Maps are almost as important as food and armament to the fighting man, for in pushing through enemy occupied or hostile country, few if any friendly hands are willing to point the way. It is therefore necessary for the armed forces to be totally self-reliant in this respect. Accurate maps give eyes to the soldier in the field.

Long before a battle begins, the area is projected on a sheet of paper in the form of a map and is studied very closely so that an accurate and clear picture of the ground conditions has been formed. The military authorities place so much reliance on maps that all ranks are required to master the art of map reading as well as that of the compass. These two are inseparable running mates in any military operation.

The making of military maps is a highly specialized business and is the result of painstaking research. Every scrap of information concerning the region to be mapped is sought and is checked and rechecked. These bits of information gleaned from many sources are pieced together until a reasonably accurate map has been drawn up.

The completed maps are printed on a special type of paper which will stand up under rough usage. The fluorescent map is used by pilots on night flights. This type of map shows up clearly when the pilot's ultraviolet light is turned and this light, by the way, is not visible to the enemy plane spotter.

Map making is an ancient trade. The earliest map of which there is a record was engraved on copper by Anaximander of Miletus about 580 B.C. Of other cartographers of ancient times special mention should be made of Claudius Ptolemy. During the Middle Ages maps were constructed without parallels and meridians, the outlines were inaccurate and many fanciful details were introduced. Improvement was made with the invention of the compass.

With the dawn of the age of discovery, cartography revived and mathematicians, following the example of Ptolemy, devised new methods of projection. Whereas the maps of the ancients were constructed by distances, points were now fixed as far as possible by astronomical observation.

No. 179 -- Mon. March 27, 1944 -- Canada's Trade with Bermuda

About 15 per cent of Bermuda's imports last year were received from Canada, the value being $1,725,000, whereas in 1942 the total of $1,333,000 was only 8.3 per cent of the whole. The decrease in the value of the merchandise from Canada was accounted for largely by lesser requirements for whiskey, bran, hay, millfeeds, mixed grains, bacon, mutton, cheese, groceries, canned milk, flour and electrical supplies, but there were substantial increases in oats, seed potatoes, malt liquor, lumber, furniture, paper, confectionery, fish, canned fruit, lard substitutes, pork and canned soup.

During the year prior to the war Bermuda's imports from Canada were of the value of $1,418,000 and the principal item was canned vegetables at $933,000. Bermuda's exports to Canada in 1943 at $30,700 were about half the amount in the last pre-war year. The principal commodities in 1943 were lily bulbs, flower bulbs and cut flowers.

The Canadian trade commissioner at New York, in forwarding the information says

that although there has been a reduction in Canada's exports to Bermuda, chiefly due to the short supply suituation in the Dominion of many products required by Bermuda, there are at present more than 150 Canadian agencies in the colony.

A very interesting item in Bermuda's imports in 1942 was $8,885,000 from South Africa which declined to $31 in 1943. The large amount in 1942 represented imports of diamonds. The details of Bermuda's trade may be obtained from the Commercial Intelligence Journal of April 29, 1944.

No. 180 -- Tues. March 28, 1944 -- College and University Enrolment During War Years

The years of war have not prevented young Canadians from proceeding to institutions of higher learning, although there has been a significant change in the field of study chosen. An increase was recorded in the enrolment in science courses, maintenance of the pre-war level in medicine and dentistry, a decrease in arts, agriculture, education and some other faculties. The net result was practically no change in the over-all number of undergraduates enrolled, but a slightly higher proportion of women than in pre-war years.

During 1940, the first full war year, the number of male students enrolled for full-time study was 42,578, practically the same as in 1939, but by 1942 the number had decreased to 40,077. The first year of war saw an increase in the enrolment of women of about 300. In the following two years, due probably to the absorption of women into industry and the services, the increase was somewhat reduced. The number of women enrolled in the colleges and universities on a full-time basis in 1942 was 17,138. Aggregate enrolment in graduate schools of arts and science decreased from 1,440 in 1939 to 1,271 in 1942 -- the lowest point reached since 1931.

War conditions are reflected in the decreased number of non-resident students. Travel restrictions are no doubt responsible for the decreased number of students from outside Canada, notably those from the United States. The number of these students decreased more than 500, while the inter-provincial registration decreased by 1,500. The total non-resident students dropped from 7,000 to 5,000.

No. 181 -- Wed. March 29, 1944 -- Apples for the Troops and Others

There was a cry from the United Kingdom last year for Canadian apples, apples of any and every sort. No fresh apples were sent until after the harvest and our fighting men were hungry for them. Apple pie was just a memory. Shipping space was scarce and the sea route was dangerous. Apple barrels were too bulky to be carried. But now a vast change has taken place. Many more commercial vessels have become available and the dangers of the passage have been reduced to a minimum.

Fresh apples have begun to go abroad in great quantities. About one hundred thousand barrels were transported overseas during the early months of 1944. The United Kingdom, Newfoundland and Iceland were taken care of and no cry has been heard lately.

The necessity for conserving cargo space led to a great expansion in the dried apple export. In 1942 the total export was 5,756,000 pounds, practically all of which went to England, Scotland and Northern Ireland, but in 1943 the increase was so great that that figure was topped long before midsummer. Considerable quantities went to Bermuda, British Guiana and the British West Indies.

Canned apples have climbed into high favor. In the early months of 1943 the

average quantity sent abroad was a little over 20,000 pounds, most of it going to the African theatre of war, but now we are sending nearly eight times that amount on a monthly average. Nearly half of that large quantity has been going to Egypt. Other large quotas have been sent to Ceylon, India, French Africa, Nigeria, Newfoundland, Malta, British South Africa and smaller quantities to the Gold Coast, Sierra Leone, British Guiana, British Soudan, Palestine and Persia, where the canned Canadian apple arrives in as good condition as the day it left our shores. The annual crop for 1943 amounted to 13,000,000 bushels -- a unit value of $1.37 and gross value of over $16,000,000.

No. 182 -- Thurs. March 30, 1944 -- Help for the Starving Greeks.

Greece is the country where European civilization first arose and where democracy, though imperfect, first came into being. The age of Pericles was the period when Greek civilization burst into full flower and when great statesmen, great historians, great poets, great philosophers flourished in Athens under democratic institutions.

The European and American world owes an enormous debt of gratitude to the Greeks and that debt was in part repaid so far as Britain was concerned by the participation of such as Byron and Gladstone in the reestablishment of Greece as an independent nation. The Greeks have not been backward in recognizing their obligations to the British, and two of the main streets of Athens are named after Byron and Gladstone.

At the present time Greece has fallen upon evil days, though her eclipse will not be long. Nevertheless, it behooves us to give her all possible help while she is still under the heel of the invader. Toward the end of 1942 an agreement was reached with the Axis powers making it possible for Canadian wheat to be shipped direct to starving Greece through the Red Cross and distributed by neutral administrators from Sweden and Switzerland.

Canada shipped 5,818,000 bushels of wheat to Greece in 1943. The value of it was $6,149,000. In the first three months of the present year the amount was 1,905,000 bushels at $2,347,000. Other commodities from Canada, such as canned milk, have probably gone to Greece from the Red Cross distributors in Switzerland, but we have no precise knowledge of the class of supplies nor of the amounts.

It should not be forgotten that the wheat sent to Greece is a free gift from the people of Canada.

No. 183 -- Fri. March 31, 1944 -- A First Step Back to Normal

The early months of the year 1944 mark the resumption of Canadian commerce with a European country out of which the Germans have been driven. Southern Italy has been freed of the Nazi yoke and commodities of Canadian production are moving swiftly into the territory now controlled by the Badoglio government.

Canada's exports to Italy in the first three months of this year aggregated in value more than $38,000,000; a year ago the count was nil. While, no doubt, most of the material sent from this country was war equipment for the Allied Forces, a considerable proportion was for the rehabilitation of the civil population as well as for the Italian loyalist fighting men who have had to be armed. The commodities have begun to take on the complexion of pre-war trade.

More than half of the large export consisted of rolling stock and other fighting materials. However, there were other things in which the devastated Italians will share. There were 84,000 barrels of wheat flour, for example, vegetable products with jelly powders, heating and electrical apparatus, soaps, medicines, boats, newsprint and so on.

A huge quantity of envelopes valued at $50,000 was sent to all countries, but more than one-quarter of the supply went to Italy.

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY
BIBLIOTHÈQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA
1010690947