

THE DAILY MAIL

NEW BRUNSWICK'S ONLY HOME COMMUNITY PAPER

THE MAIL PUBLISHING COMPANY — J. L. NEVILLE Managing Editor.

Published every afternoon (except Sunday) at 327-329 Queen Street,

Fredericton, N. B.

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FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, SEPTEMBER 23, 1937

CHINA, IN WORLD'S WHEAT TRADE

IN MATTERS connected with the world's grain trade, China will have to be reckoned with as an important factor more and more as time goes on. In the past, lack of communications made crop matters one of local concern but with the increasing railway development that is going on in China the picture has changed. No one knows exactly just what China's population is but it is estimated at around four hundred and fifty millions of whom directly or indirectly about 80 per cent. represent the farming class. The last six year average of wheat production in China is 320,000,000 bushels, according to the Agricultural Department of the Canadian National Railways. Honan, Shantung and Kiangsu are the three great wheat producing provinces with an average acreage of 10,000,000, 8,752,000 and 5,521,000, respectively. Wheat has been known in China for thousands of years and is a staple article of food north of the Yangtze Valley while, in the south, rice is eaten to a larger extent than wheat. Purchasing power is the answer to a greater domestic consumption of wheat. In the central and northern portions there are millions of people who cannot afford to eat the wheat they grow but sell it to the towns as a cash crop and exist on kaoliang, millet, corn, etc. The average yearly income in China is estimated at from \$9.00 to \$18.00, Canadian currency. Chinese wheat imports have been dropping steadily since 1931 but it is felt that China, notwithstanding any increased production due to more advanced methods of farming, will still continue to have to rely on imports to adequately feed her growing population and the growing purchasing power it is considered will bring about a greater domestic consumption of wheat.

POLITICS, DIPLOMACY AND INCIDENTS

THERE ARE NO LONGER any doubts as to what parties came best out of the Nyon conference. If Russia was satisfied with having tossed a wrench into Anglo-Italian negotiations and Mussolini could be happy about the Fascist boycott having barred the Soviet from "our sea," such achievements have lost much of their lustre as the week progressed. The real gain is seen today as the agreement between Britain and France and the unexpected speed and co-operation that have given it effect.

There would be more satisfaction with this victory had it resulted in at least a moderation of the Mediterranean "incidents." The succession of reported attacks on British naval vessels and continued interference with merchantmen, appear as potential troublemakers that increase rather than lessen pre-conference uncertainties. A quieter view is that such incidents are important only in relation to the rather obscure politics of the situation.

Perhaps the best appraisal of the accord from the view of future diplomatic usage is that supplied from Germany. Quite early officials there saw it, "in appearance," as an Anglo-French coalition against Italy and aiming at control of the Mediterranean. Italy was slow in reaching the same opinion, but when she did, tempers rose accordingly. Betraying the fact that she realized she had been out-smarted in purely diplomatic manoeuvres, she now pretends to see the accord as an attempt to relegate her to the status of a second class Power in that sea.

Consequently today Italy argues that the British and French patrol is not capable of the job it has in hand. She is, no doubt, willing to co-operate, but on terms of equality in the duties assigned, and not the conditions decided on by the Nyon conference. If the incidents were to cease her arguments would be lost and the need for her co-operation on any terms greatly lessened. This suggests that the present friction is largely the result of the business of saving face.

This view gains strength when considered with greater issues, only momentarily overshadowed. The more sanguine observers are confident, that the British Government, aware of the "powerful forces at work to delay rapprochement," does not intend to allow anything to sidetrack or handicap the British-Italian conversations which begin in Rome at the end of the month. If they are right the quieter views of the Mediterranean is the correct one. Antagonistic as the British and French pirate agreement may seem to be, it has its diplomatic uses, and diplomatically it has not shut the doors on Italy.

KEEPING AGGRESSION "DECENT"

It has remained for Japan to declare a state of war in China. Naturally and in keeping with the refinements of modern diplomacy, she has not done so directly or in a manner which, at some future conference table, might be used as an admission of guilt. Simply she warned the Embassies and all foreigners in Nanking to vacate preparatory to a bombing raid. In keeping with Japanese practice, she did not bother to observe the terms of her own ultimatum, but proceeded with the raid twenty-four hours ahead of schedule.

Time was when such an ultimatum constituted a declaration of war if the formal statement had not previously been issued. Today international diplomacy may be just a little slow to recognize the precedents. There are complications in the ritual now which disallow such "superficialities." Consequently nations whose policy is neutrality and whose spokesmen admit the difficulty of "talking of peace when bombs are exploding and desperate armies are marching" go through weird gymnastics to avoid committing themselves on conditions while preserving the policy.

For a somewhat confounded laity the veil is a little thin. Diplomacy may have some worthy objective in seeking to present aggression in more honorable form. But, whatever the synonym it gives to it, nothing will cover up the horrors and brutality of "negotiations" conducted by bombing and machine-gunning helpless civilian populations. Refusal to call these massacres by the proper name may save somebody's face in the records; it may help economic relations to run more smoothly and profitably when they have achieved their purpose. But to the ordinary human being they add up to war, unwarranted, brutal, greedy slaughter. Diplomacy may think such "face-saving" necessary, but it has retained little face for itself by the effort.

Snapshots

Eligible Bachelor No. 1 is again in the market. His girl has gone.

Who was the girl who called up the Minister on the phone and started a flirtation thinking it was the minister's son?

Conversation of two U.N.B. students:

"When you asked her to dance did she accept quickly?"

"Did she? Why, she was on my feet in an instant!"

Another tribute to September is that it is running June closely as the month of weddings.

First snow of the season has fallen in Northern Ontario. It won't be long until people are thinking rather kindly of the summer's excessively hot weather.

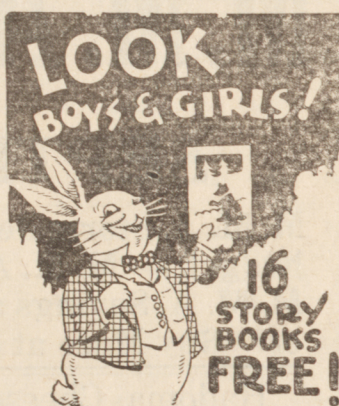
Soviet air show featured tailless planes which, here and there, should be safe from tail spins.

An oldtimer is a man who remembers when women were too bashful even to look into a barber shop as they passed by.

Capetown Castle Launched Today

(Special to The Daily Mail)

BELFAST, Sept. 23—The Union Castle Steamship Line today launched the largest vessel which has put out to sea in British waters since the launching of the Queen Mary. The ship is called the Capetown Castle and was christened by the Mayors of the City.



Here's your chance to get free with every 16, 25 or 32 ounce jar of Barbour's Peanut Butter one of those exciting adventure stories about me and my animal friends. Start today to collect the 16 different stories in this series. Mother will help for she knows you love this toothsome peanut butter that's so good for you. There's a free Burgess Book with every pound of Barbour's Acadia Baking Powder, too!

Your friend,
PETER RABBIT



HUNDREDS

(Continued from Page One)

On each raid the Japanese dropped more than 100 bombs, but a survey after the attacks showed that all important public buildings had come through unharmed. Most of the bombs were dropped from great heights as the Japanese tried to keep above heavy fire from anti-aircraft batteries.

Nearly all the havoc fell on the Hsiakwam slum quarter, near the Yangtze. This correspondent was sickened by the sight of old men, women and children mangled by bombs or burned to death.

U. S. Staff Returns

After the raids United States Ambassador Nelson Johnston and his staff returned to the embassy from the gunboat Luzon, to which he had withdrawn Monday when the Japanese gave warning of their intention to subject Nanking to devastating air bombardment.

Cowering among the dead were hundreds of refugees, apparently too scared to join the great rush from the city, which went on all day and far into the night by any means of travel available.

Tonight thousands encamped in the countryside around this city, believing it inevitable that the Japanese would strike again.

BE DULL

(Continued from Page One)

end of their sophomore year. What the teacher is looking for is character and the capacity for sustained enthusiasm.

Dr. Walker formerly taught at Ohio Wesleyan University.

HARVEY

(Continued from Page One)

intendant on January 1, 1916, he was appointed chief clerk to the general manager and in September of the same year car service agent, which position he retained until March 20, 1917 when he again became chief clerk to the general manager. On April 15, 1924, he was appointed office assistant, which position he retained up to his present appointment.

OBITUARY

GEREAU—Passed away suddenly near her home, Fredericton Junction Tuesday evening, Sept. 21. Mrs. James Gereau. The funeral will take place tomorrow afternoon, Sept. 24, with service at the home. Interment will be made at Fredericton Junction.

STOPFORD—Passed away at the Farallone home yesterday, Sept. 22. Alice M. Stopford. The funeral service will take place tomorrow afternoon, Sept. 24, with service at Elmcroft, at 2 p. m.

Notice of Sale

There will be sold at public auction on Saturday, October 9th, at 10 a. m., at Bertelson's Garage, Grand Falls, N. B., one Ford V8 Coach, 1936 Model, Serial number C18-V-18597, on account of same having been registered under a fictitious name, and under authority given the Minister in Sub-sections (2) (b) and (10) of Section 71 of the Motor Vehicle Act. Terms of Sale—Cash. Auctioneer, H. W. Wilson, of Grand Falls, N. B.

(Sgd.) A. A. DYSART,
Minister of Public Works.
Sept. 23, 30.

Local Commissions

(Continued from Page One)

Speaking generally, the municipalities responded splendidly, and I am pleased to be able to say that the report is now being compiled and should be completed within a few weeks.

The report will disclose in detail (as accurately as possible under existing conditions) a complete financial picture of each municipal unit and the general position of municipalities as a whole.

The information being compiled and investigation otherwise have brought to light certain weaknesses and lapses which no doubt will be corrected.

During the year, we sought and secured the valuable co-operation of the New Brunswick Institute of Chartered Accountants to explore and advise upon Municipal accounting methods and also upon the various phases of municipal administration.

During the year, a careful and extensive study has been made by officials of the department into municipal administration in some other provinces in Canada and in some states of the American Union and they secured some valuable information.

It is our thought and objective to so organize the municipal field of government as to serve the best interests of our people and to approach as closely as possible what is likely to become a universal standard in all the provinces.

It is very fortunate that we started our survey when we did.

The survey that is to be made by the Royal Commission recently appointed by the Federal Government to investigate and report upon the economic and financial relations between the Provincial and Federal administrations is to include municipal administration in its survey.

I am pleased to be in a position to say that we are now prepared, perhaps better than any Province in Canada, to supply the Royal Commission with all the information they will require in this respect.

If we were not so prepared, we would certainly be at a great disadvantage with other Provinces.

While we have legislation in the statutes of this Province which directs the trend of municipal management, due to the lack of such direction for generations, it was inevitable that individual units lacking permanent supervision, advice and direction, would deviate from the statutory requirements.

Consequently, there exists a wide disparity between the practice and methods now employed by the municipalities and it is not a trivial matter, nor can these be changed in a day.

Mr. Paterson stated that it seemed to be generally recognized by the municipalities that a standard method of accounting should be introduced and that there should be a standard audit by men qualified to fill the requirements of the departmental regulations. He suggested that his department should be the connective link between the government and the municipalities so that municipal matters could be worked out in the best interests of both the municipalities and the province.

An important suggestion made by Hon. Mr. Patterson was in regard to different municipal corporations. He pointed out that New Brunswick has a number of local boards and commissions performing in part the functions of municipal corporations such as service for water, sewerage, street light, etc. A sound business plan suggests that these might be reorganized as municipal corporations to conform to the general plan and to make them subject to the same laws and regulations that govern municipal units.

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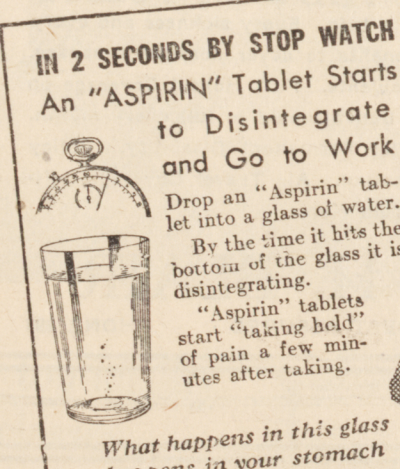
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Return Limit: Leaving New York, Wednesday, October 6, 1937.

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