Reports Presented at Convention of Women's Institutes

LEGISLATION

Mrs. Dolor Richard, Mount ...el, Convener on Legislation, ...esented the following report:— ...adam President, Supervisors and Delegates:

The word "Legislation" seems to ...ng to our minds nothing but ...e war efforts and rightly so, for ...ve we not placed in the hands ...f our legislators our full confid... ...ce in their ability to direct the ...ence of our country and our em... ...re? But, let us not forget that ...ere are other fields of labor no ...ss important to the welfare of ...r people, for the first line of a ...ation's defence is not its battle... ...ips, airplanes or submarines; it ...s the morale of the nation, and ...is depends not only on confid... ...nce in the government but to a ...reat extent on the physical fit... ...ess of the individual citizen.

Our Questionnaire on Legislation ...r this year was made up of one ...ain question only and this con... ...erned the study of State Medicine ...nd what would be the best form ...y which to introduce it to our ...rovince.

I am sorry to report that a great ...any of our Clubs have not con... ...dered it important enough to ...ve even their opinion on the mat... ...r, but as always there are the ...ithful few who never fail to give ...eir very logical views and sug... ...stions.

About one third of the question... ...res were returned and nearly all ...these approved of State Medicine ...t differed in their opinions as ...its organization and administra... ...n. Not many approved of mak... ...it compulsory but rather a co... ...eration between the people, the ...vernment and the medical pro... ...sion.

Many objections were raised such ... People specialize in their ...oice of a family doctor; doctors ...h sure pay would neglect pati... ...s; favorites of governments ...uld get the jobs while others ...uld be thrown out of practice. ...ll that goes to show the anta... ...ism in the mind of the peo... ...towards one another in all ...ngs. We are always suspecting ...t and that is certainly not the ...ndation stone of co-operatives. ...at is the matter with us? Why ...we condemn Hitler for his at... ...de towards the world if we sus... ...t the same in such a problem ...the care of our people's health? ...e know that after countless ...s of research the medical pro... ...ion is now able to cope with ...y of our dreaded diseases but ...as cost a lot of money and even ...most unselfish doctor, in order ...ure people, must at least earn ...gh to feed himself.

...he sinister ally of disease is of... poverty and too often we see ...le condemned to suffer and ...of disease because they can... afford medical care, and, for ...reason, even the wealthy are ...sed to disease because the poor ...ot afford the proper preventa...

...ppose we do have to pay an ...unt every year and sometimes ...get the benefit of it for years? ...t a fortunate being who would ...paying a small yearly fee to ...ctor and never have any need ...ll him! Those fortunates are ...few and more often the year... ...octor's bills in a family leaves ...nancially crippled.

...e of the best ways to show ...love for our neighbor, as God ...commanded us, would be to ...cure him when he is sick, and ...an do that by bringing about ...erative medicine, as it has ...organized in other commun... ...and provinces.

...e people of Prince Edward Is... have been studying co-opera... in different forms, and will ...nue to do so, so that when ...understand the principles of ...ich are honesty, economy and ...gard for other peoples' well... ...success in all things will be ...ved.

...conclude I wish to thank the ...ute members who helped to ...this report possible.

...his time of our country's dire ...let us try to always present ...nbroken front lines and live ...o our creed.

...CE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

...L. B. Mellish, the Convener ...ace and International Rela... ...presented the following re...

...n President, Supervisors, ...elegates:

...ve the honor to present the ...on Peace and International ...ons for the Women's In... ...s of this Province.

...year ago, when appointed to ...onvenership, there was hope ...ry heart in the British Em... ...hat war and its horrors ...be averted. However the Dragon has lifted his head ...e are face to face with the ...f death on land, on sea and ...air. We are reminded of ...rds of Jeremiah: "They cry ..., peace, when there is no ...

...t seventy-five Question... ...have been returned to me ...ar. Nearly all papers show... ...deep interest on the subject ...ce — Provincially, Nationally ...nternationally.

...ncially — Nearly all stress... training of children, at ...and in school, to love peace ...actise the Golden Rule "Do ...hers as you would that they ...do unto you." I was pleas... ...have so many write "Follow... Prince of Peace, in example, ...only way to have peace in ...arts, in our homes and in ...pire."

...nally — Many are convinced ...rayer, peace education, set... ...fferences by arbitration and ...g the Golden Rule are the ...ethods of bringing about ...while some contend that ...tion should be prepared for ...th a well equipped army, ...d air force. One paper sug... ...the above equipment of ...ation be jointly owned by ...ue of Nations, to be used ...ny aggression arose. These ..., of course, to be members ...League.

...ationally — Several ques... ...es had the following to of...

...ace can only come through ...that God made of ...d all nations on earth. ...ly Christianity will bring ...It gave the Empire soul. ...e can hold the world together.

3. The principles of the Sermon on the Mount put into action will help bring peace.

4. Peace Garden Plaque — "To God in His Glory we dedicate this and pledge ourselves, that while the world lasts, we will not lift up arms against each other." This is a good motto.

5. No dictatorships.

6. Only through such channels as the League of Nations will peace come.

7. One paper said "Away with armament makers of every nation. They are responsible for wars. Severe penalties for such money makers should be inflicted."

8. If every nation would adopt the Women's Institute motto "For Home and Country" a better world would dawn.

Finally let us pray that before another Convention rolls around we shall have peace; that a new era will dawn and the Glory of the Lord shall enevelop the earth and men's hearts shall not be afraid for all shall know Him from the least to the greatest; that wars and tumults shall be no more.

Oh, brother man, fold to thy heart
thy brother!
Where pity dwells the peace of
God is there;
To worship rightly is to love each
other,
Each smile a hymn, each kindly
deed a prayer.

For he whom Jesus loved hath
truly spoken:
The holier worship which he de-
signs to bless
Restores the lost, and binds the
spirit broken,
And feeds the widow and the
fatherless.

Follow with reverent steps the
great example
Of Him whose holy work was do-
ing good;
So shall the wide earth seem our
Father's temple,
Each loving life a psalm of grati-
tude.

Then shall all shackless fall; the
stormy clangour
Of wild war-music o'er the earth
shall cease;
Love shall tread out the baleful
fire of anger,
And in its ashes plant the tree of
peace.

EDUCATION

Mrs. Douglas Bell, Cape Traverse, Convener of Education submitted the following report:—

Madam President, Madam Supervisor and Fellow Members:

Your response to the Questionnaire on Education and Better Schools has been splendid. A few more Questionnaires were returned than last year. This has been most encouraging to your Convenor and I thank you for your generous co-operation. Not only were questionnaires returned but several personal letters as well as papers and suggestions for the 1941 questionnaire were included. These have been of real value and have given me new inspiration for the work ahead.

Our topic "Secondary Education in Rural Schools" is, I believe, meeting with a generous response in many communities and by further field-work and arousing further educational interest our efforts will some day reap benefits.

The greater number report the value of such a system but many feel it would not be suitable in their localities and others are so situated that they may avail themselves of the privileges offered by attending Summerside High School, Montague Memorial School and the Prince of Wales College.

The general opinion is that four or five districts could conveniently avail themselves of a centre for rural secondary education while others say as many as ten communities could take advantage of such a central school.

Many suggestions were made for the financing of such central schools as, salary of teacher paid by government; laboratory equipment supplied by department; other equipment supplied by districts, Women's Institutes or other organizations; transportation, where necessary, provided by government; building provided by central district; local entertainments; community enterprises, direct taxation and small tuition fee from pupils attending.

Several Institutes report reading papers on "School and Home"; "The Value of Education"; "The Activities of our School" and having a general discussion of educational problems.

We all agree that in unity there is strength. Let us think of the benefits to be gained by several communities co-operating in an educational enterprise.

The results of such co-operation would far outweigh any material expense and it is the benefits of such an undertaking to which we must ever look forward.

AGRICULTURE

Mrs. J. J. McDonald, the Convener on Agriculture presented the following report:—

Madam President, Supervisors, Ladies and Gentlemen:

This being my first report may I begin by thanking you for the honor you have done me in appointing me your Convenor of Agriculture. In preparing my Questionnaire I wondered just what the rural women would wish to have in it this year for discussion at their meetings. After thinking for some time I finally came to this conclusion: What would interest them more than to have beautiful farm homes, nicely decorated, sanitary, whitewashed outbuildings and fences, vegetable and flower gardens, paths, trees, etc.

Someone may say "You did not mention all those things in the Questionnaire." Not directly. But the Questionnaire does say something about "Homes on Farms". Should not all the above mentioned be included in the farm home? Ladies and Gentlemen, I, myself, believe we are still in the pioneer stage.

My next thought was "What are the essentials whereby success may be attained along these lines?" Money and plenty of it, I think I hear someone say. And how are we farm women going to get money for these things when we have to use every cent the farm produces in order to support our families and educate them in college? Educate! In College! Many go to college for years and then they are not educated. May I thrown in a suggestion right here? First teach the family right at home the art of good living, the elimination of waste and the proper use of money. Although at times it is difficult for a farmer to make ends meet on account of the high cost of farming operations too much money goes to waste on frivolous things.

I believe that boys and girls raised on farms, who work with their hands, and learn by experience how to make and repair, and to do things worthwhile for themselves, are just as truly educated, in their own line, as are those in other professions in the line of work which they take up. They can make for themselves what those in other professions must buy and so get along with less money. We should not forget that we, as individuals, are all part of a beautiful plan.

So the first essential in my mind is Education and Ability, the second is Industry and Economy and the third is Patience and Perseverance, and to these must be added Co-operation, for without it much of the beauty of our home life would be lost. It is not how much work one may do that counts it is how well the work is done.

The Short Courses sponsored by the Government are a great boon to the young farmer. There he can improve himself by learning new ideas along the line of work he is doing from experts trained in that profession. There also the young ladies can improve themselves in Domestic Science and in the art of Home Making.

Lady Tweedsmiur once said "We, in the Women's Institute movement, stand for quality not quantity. If we are going to be writers, words should be our slaves, not our masters if artists, paints should be our slaves not our masters. There is no use doing poor handicrafts or writing badly. I would urge on you, when you are budgeting that you see to it that you get the best teachers and the best lecturers and do not put up with anything else. We are not a welfare or relief bureau. We must remember that although it is good to have our hearts and our hands open, we should regard our own work as serious and big. If we do not our Women's Institute work will not have any permanence."

Now we come to the Questionnaire; it is based on "Education and Economy". It begins by saying: "Boys and girls of Prince Edward Island who intend making homes for themselves on farms MUST know how to take proper care of farm animals and farm machinery. Will the members of the Women's Institutes encourage them along these lines?"

We all know, even in this age of motor cars, tractors, etc., how very important the horse is to the farmer. A good horse is worth giving the best of care. Feed your horse and look after his health and he will work for you. The average farmer cannot afford to lose one.

The old adage "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" has been well maintained judging by the answers I received in the Questionnaires on the Feeding and Car of Horses and on Colics and the Bot Fly menace. We have learned that it is the food given to a horse at certain times under certain conditions that brings on Colics. The best cure is the one that will relieve the pain in the shortest period of time. NOTE: I have a list on hand of Colic and Bot Fly remedies which I received in the Questionnaires.

The question of Ear Protectors is evidently a new idea for Prince Edward Islanders. One woman replied she did not think that horses' ears needed protectors as nature provided them with that protection. Another replied that horses' ears do need protection from flies in summer. Three others replied that several farmers in their districts were using them. Many others expressed themselves as never having heard of them but were interested and asked for information. The following is a copy of the letter which I wrote them in reply and which speaks for itself:—

"The ear protectors for horses spoken of in the Questionnaire on Agriculture are to protect the animal's ears from the little black fly which is so troublesome in the cropping and haying seasons. These flies pester the horses by getting into their noses and ears, and make some horses so nervous that it is almost impossible to work with them. They are also known to cause lumps and scales inside the ear and to cause other serious harm. Did you ever notice a horses' ears so bent over that they have the appearance of being broken in the middl ? Flies are known to do this. Nose protectors for the Bot Fly can be bought in the stores. I do not think that ear protectors can be purchased that way. But they are very simple to make. Light weight material such as thin cotton, rayon, etc., is best. Make ear covers the shape of the ears, loose enough so as not to cause discomfort or prevent the animal from hearting. Join together at the top of the head with a band of the same material and tie under the throat with ties coming from the sides. If you wish to have them ornamental have a cord four inches long with a tassel on the end of it, hanging freely from the tip of each ear. This also helps keep the flies away."

One woman suggested white horses with pink ears. I had not thought of it in that way before. But now, I can imagine I see those white horses, with shining sleighs and jingling sleigh bells gliding over the ice on the bay at a 2.40 clip and as Sonny might say: "Me holding the reins."

The next question "How should farm machinery, farm wagons, etc., be cared for when not in use?" All answers were much the same —Keep under cover, keep well painted and keep metal parts greased. NOTE: Linseed oil and whiting mixed together will keep iron from rusting for years and is easily removed.

The next question "Give a good formula for whitewashing the exterior of buildings (using lime)." Whitewash used to decorate has many advantages, being inexpensive, not difficult to make and easy to apply. It protects the surfaces to which it is applied, brightens up dark interior and is sanitary. I received some good formulas that came well recommended. I shall not repeat them, but from an economic standpoint I shall give you a few general directions which may be helpful: — **Alum** added to whitewash prevents its rubbing off; **Flour paste** will also prevent rubbing off, but when it is used, sulphate of zinc must also be used as a preservative; **A pint of molasses** added to five gallons of whitewash will cause it to penetrate the wood and plaster better; **A solution of Silicate of Soda or Water Glass** makes a fireproof cement of whitewash when used in the proportion of one part of the solution to ten parts of the whitewash; By adding **one pound of cheap bar soap** dissolved in one gallon of boiling water, to every gallon of whitewash, a gloss similar to oil paint may be obtained.

A fact not generally known is that whitewash may be colored, provided that light tints and shades are used, and that the pigments are not affected by the lime. Among such are yellow ochre, raw and burnt umber and raw and burnt sienna, cobalt blue and chrome green and other shades.

I have been very kindly advised by a lady from Sherbrooke Women's Institute that Sulphate of Zinc used in whitewash is a deadly poison and when you are handling it it is safer to use gloves and goggles.

A lady from St. Andrews also informed me that a book entitled "Insects and Allied Parasites Injurious to Livestock and Poultry in Canada" can be obtained from the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

In conclusion I wish to congratulate all who answered the Questionnaires, and returned them to me, for their interest and for the intelligent answers I received. In all 96 Questionnaires were returned.

To the Institutes that did not return their Questionnaires I would say: Perhaps they have been too busy in the routine of their daily duties and in Red Cross work to take time off for what they considered work of lesser importance. Or perhaps some thought that the way they would answer the questions would not be considered good enough. To them I would say: Material to help answer the Questionnaires can be readily obtained by writing to the Women's Institute Branch, Charlottetown.

Thank you.

F.W.I.C. CONVENTION

Mrs. Fred MacLaren gave the following report on the F.W.I.C. Convention:—

The Board of Directors of the Federated Women's Institute of Canada met for their 11th Biennial Convention at Edmonton, Alberta, on October 9th to 13th, 1939.

Representatives from the nine provinces were in attendance and all seemed imbued with a spirit of co-operation and friendliness and a sincere desire to do everything possible to maintain the high position which the organization holds in the service of our country. To this end, at the first session, a resolution, offering the services of 3000 Women's Institutes in every part of Canada, was sent to the Prime Ministers of Great Britain and Canada. Later a Wartime Service Committee was appointed to study ways and means of rendering all possible service to the Dominion Government. After their report was adopted by the Board a letter was sent to the Hon. J. G. Gardiner, Federal Minister of Agriculture.

To save time and prevent duplication your directors have arranged to present the reports of different national conveners. To me has been allotted Education, Public Health, Agriculture, Immigration, Canadianization and National Events.

EDUCATION — No report on Education had been submitted and, as the national Convener of this committee was not present, Mrs. Harley Dunham was appointed chairman to open the round table discussion. Members from each province voiced their opinions on this subject and much valuable information was elicited.

It would appear that the western provinces have gone further in modernizing the curricula and methods of teaching than have those in the east; Alberta being the most advanced. Here they are establishing the Enterprise System of Education and the Larger Unit of Administration. The latter 60 to 112 schools to a unit. It makes for better financing, but there is difficulty in equalizing the salaries.

Uniform text books for all the provinces, teaching of a more patriotic citizenship, support for sewing, calf and poultry clubs and adult study clubs were advocated. One member stated that the National Text Book Committee was not in favor of the uniform text book idea—that it led to regimentation.

PUBLIC HEALTH — Mrs. Allison MacMillan presented the report on this subject and headed the discussion which produced an exchange of ideas on what is being done, and what should be done by the various health services.

Mrs. McLachlan of British Columbir suggested that each provincial convener co-operate with her own Health Department. She told how the study of soil was found necessary in the Fraser Valley as important ingredients are sometimes lacking.

Mrs. Campbell told of the home in Alberta for the training of mental defectives.

Mrs. Ducie and Miss Oxner told of Saskatchewan's success in the treatment of tuberculosis. Mrs. Dunham spoke of the proposed plan of establishing a home for feeble minded children in New Brunswick. This province boasts of having had the first Minister of Public Health in the British Empire. The necessity of having regular examination of school children for Tuberculosis was emphasized. Other matters pertaining to public health and child welfare were 100% immunization against diphtheria, aid for control of cancer research, importance of knowledge of early symptoms of this disease, study of food values and rural home sanitation.

AGRICULTURE — Beautification of farms and neighborhoods seemed to be the theme of the provincial reports on Agriculture. The national convener, Mrs. Ducie, referred to farming as a way of life as well as a means of livelihood. She said that the farmer is an optimist and a gambler, always ready to try his luck again. As she is a resident of Saskatchewan we can realize that she knows whereof she speaks. She mentioned the farmers' most powerful ally, agricultural research, which enables him to co-operate with nature and, by so co-operating, to conquer.

The round table discussion following Mrs. Ducie's report brought forth many ideas on what farm women can do to help win the war. Mrs. Watt, A.C.W.W., President, advocated increased food production, especially dairying, poultry, vegetable gardening and bee keeping.

Increased home consumption of apples, and the use of apple juice as a national drink was advised as was the canning of meats, vegetables and fruits. Travelling community canning outfits have been found successful in different parts of British Columbia.

As our sources of vegetable and flower seeds are the countries of Europe now at war and the United States, the raising of these seeds at home was urged. Study the Dominion Seed Act and obtain all possible information from Experimental Stations and extension workers.

IMMIGRATION, CANADIANIZATION AND NATIONAL EVENTS — In her report Mrs. Ashworth told of the Hornby Plan of supervised immigration and the Fairbridge Farm School System. Mention was also made of the Sudetan German group which settled in the Peace River section of B.C. in April 1939. They have cleared much land and are making a success. The women have been invited to attend Women's Institute meetings and are now desirous of forming an Institute of their own and are anxious to learn English.

Mrs. Ashworth has established a policy of writing letters of welcome and sending Christmas cards to women arriving in Canada to join their husbands and to girls coming here to be married.

Various ways of assisting in Canadianization were followed in different provinces. Support of the Dominion-Provincial Youth Training Plan; collecting historic data on their localities; unveiling of historic cairns; placing wreaths on local cenotaphs; commemorating Armistice Day are a few that were mentioned.

The most noteworthy event of the year was the visit of Their Majesties to Canada. This visit undoubtedly has strengthened the ties which bind us to the Motherland and to the sister members of the British Commonwealth of Nations.

In conclusion, I wish to mention again the deep feeling of loyalty that permeated the whole convention. All seemed to realize that it is Britain and her navy that stand between us and destruction. The lines that Kipling wrote in 1914 express the situation of the Empire today:—

"No easy hope or lies
Shall bring us to our goal,
But iron sacrifice
Of body, will and soul.
There is but one task for all —
One life for each to give.
Who stands if England fall
Who dies if England live?"

CANADIAN INDUSTRIES

Mrs. Herbert Thompson, Dunstaffnage, convener "Canadian Industries" made the following report:—

Madam President, Supervisors, Officers and Delegates:

I hereby submit my report on Canadian Industries. The Questionnaires, of which 100 were returned, were well filled out and indicated interest, study and knowledge of the subjects.

Practically all Institutes are in favor of Co-operation provided the people will work together and patronize only the co-operatives. If everybody put his shoulder to the wheel and did his part then the farmers of Prince Edward Island would greatly benefit from it.

Thinking farmers in general are beginning to realize that, while the family farm may be an efficient producing unit, it is not an efficient marketing unit. Sound efficient co-operatives are to a large extent the solution of many of the farmers' marketing problems. No co-operatives will be successful without good teamwork and their future success depends on every citizen of our country. So it devolves on each individual to assist co-operative effort in every possible manner.

Business men at stock-taking season give thought to profitable possibilities which exist in their business. The Women's Institutes of Canada, in the light of present day conditions, follow this procedure and weigh and look to all their resources, not only to assist in the prosecution of the war but to further their educational program and help maintain normalcy in Canada's home and economic structure. We can serve best through our own organizations and through them do the vital things for our country, but we must put all our energy and feeling into this work.

Hon. C. D. Howe in a radio address "Canada's Second Front Line" said "The second front line is at home in Canada, in factories and mills, in foundaries and forests, in cities and on farms. Men and women must carry on the fight with determination and vigor if these sons of the Dominion are to receive the support necessary to carry them through to victory."

Canada's industries at the outbreak of the war were already geared up to a scale of output that has made the Dominion the fourth exporting nation of the world. Canada is producing copper, zinc, aluminum and nickel in quantities sufficient to supply Britain and her allies with the full requirements of these metals. From "Canada 1940" we learn of expanding facilities and that for the first time a spinning tunnel for testing aircraft will be available in Canada, a testing basin 25 ft. wide and 600 ft. long will permit the testing of large models of hulls of vessels, aircraft, floats and hulls.

We all realize that the conservation of food and the careful use of wool is of vital importance in war time and the demand is greatly in excess of the supply. Here is need for economy. One way the housewife can help is in making over discarded clothing and giving worn clothing for the refugees.

Sometimes economy means giving rather than saving. Thus it is in the interests of national economy that we give freely of our time. The Red Cross needs workers, the Women's Institutes and other organizations need active workers.

How much time can I give for war work? This is something each one must work out for herself. If the will to work is sincere time for doing it will be forthcoming.

Am I doing my part to help win the war? We can help to fill those empty jars with home grown fruit, vegetables and wild fruits, canned meats and fowl. We can use all left over grease to make homemade soap.

The ways of supporting Canadian industries are wide and varied. We can all help by buying first our own Canadian products, then British and including as well those of France.

The great national event of the past year was the visit of the King and Queen to Canada and the United States. This promoted greater love and loyalty to the Mother country and the visit to the United States created still greater friendship between the two nations. It aroused all our traditional love and loyalty. It gave us a greater sense of unity with the Motherland and will bind the peoples of Canada more closely to the British Empire and show them that the King and Queen mean the same to all classes and deserve and command the love and respect of their people. It should help us to realize what a powerful and far-reaching empire we have and link us with the British Empire.

England calls to Canada—
We need your grain,
A bountiful supply your harvest
bear.
The obligation to our realm we all
must share;
Send forest products in abundance.
Then — since unity is strength —
Send your men!

THREE JOBS COME TO DANISH EXILE

NEW YORK, June 19 —(CP) — A 24-year-old Danish girl with wide blue eyes and blond hair is making good at a triple career as a model, show girl and writer here where it's traditionally difficult for a girl to "crash the big time." She it Gudrun Hansen of Copenhagen, stranded here because of the war.

After a series of discouragements that would have buffaloed a less resolute lass, Gudrun finds herself with:—

1. A job as a model. Her pictures comes out soon in one of the slick fashion magazines that are the acme of models' achievement.

2. A job in the line of a forthcoming musical show, from a producer who finally said, "I guess you are not too short." (She is five feet nine, but some of the girls, she said, "are as tall as houses.")

3. An advance from a publisher on her first book, which is a series of fairy stories. She plans to go on writing Danish fairy tales throughout her careers as a model and showgirl.

Gudrun's occupation several months ago was correspondent for a Copenhagen newspaper. She came over on a freighter, not knowing a soul here, on a visit during which she planned to pay her way by free lance writing. With the war, her paper ordered no more stories, and she had to get a job.

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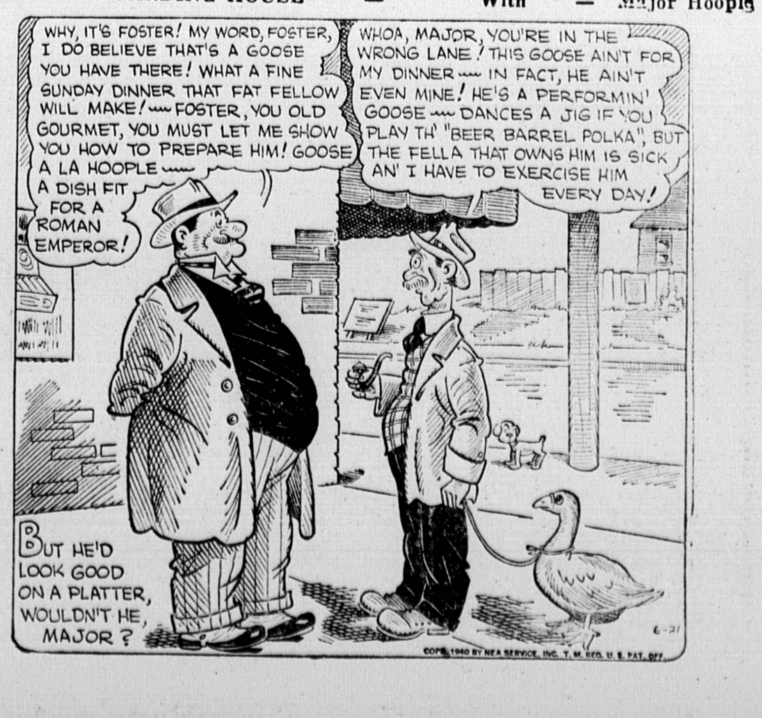
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