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Strange But True

By F. H. MacArthur

One of the amusing and sometimes irritating things about the telephone is the habit of "listening in." This habit greatly impairs the efficiency of the calls, particularly when one wishes to get a doctor or put through important business calls.

Farming more than any other occupation in the world, so far as production is concerned, is a particularly individualist business. Indeed, one might truthfully say that farming is a life as well as a business. Without the family, the interest, the advice and the actual work rendered by all the family members, farming could not succeed. Collective farming may be all right for the Russians but not for our people, for it would reduce to a condition of peasantry the independent, individualist thinking farmer who has contributed so much to the life of our glorious Dominion.

The early pioneer farmer had no marketing problems. Why? Because his farm family and himself were sufficient unto themselves. He went to market only when he wished to purchase a few staples, but for the most part he grew the necessities for his family on his own goodly acres, and the women manufactured them in that good old-fashioned lab, the farm kitchen.

In the state of New York, in one year, there was an increase in mentally ill people of 1,333 patients, largely due to this "fast age."

Some day the little "red schoolhouse" may disappear from our island communities. Whether that will be a good thing or not time will tell. Certainly the local school has been close to the hearts of those who learned their three R's under its roof. It is bred into our very blood and brings back fond

memories of the days when we were a group of happy kids playing our childish games around its hallowed grounds.

Many of us have lived to see the disappearance from rural neighborhoods of the smithy and the old cheese and butter factories. Even the rural church seems to be losing much of its life blood. But rural folk hang on with bulldog tenacity to the one-room school. It is the one institution left whose work can be watched almost from the back yard. If that work were not satisfactory to the farmers they could change the trustee or teacher. Sometimes they, or more especially the pupils gave the teacher the quick march! I have seen such a thing actually happen in the old Cornwall school which I attended as a boy.

Whatever may be said about the need of improving our rural school system we must never lose sight of the excellent service the little red schoolhouse has rendered in past years. It served its time and people well. The teachers of those days were pretty efficient and their trials and tribulations were many.

Going back to pioneer days we get an entirely different picture. Instead of the little old red schoolhouse, children were taught their three R's in a sort of log cabin school. Crude though these buildings were, cold and ugly, it was the teacher who suffered most for it was the old-time custom of "boarding around." Just fancy spending a cold winter in a different bed every night and having to eat the variety of food placed before you by the different housewives of the district! A man's stomach had to be made of pretty good stuff to take it all.

There were some good teachers among the pioneers, but there were many poor ones. Practically none of them had much training and the best of them were only using their jobs as a stepping-stone by which they could earn money and study for their real goal in life.

It was not so much the school that made the country, boys and girls later successful in life, as it was those habits of stern responsibility which were drilled into them early in life on the farm. No training on earth can measure up to that acquired early in life doing the appointed task at the appointed time with no exception whatever.

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Purge Ax Is Being Sharpened

PARIS, Dec. 3 —(AP)— Communists of Western Europe sharpened the purge axe Friday for members who were friends of the 14 Red leaders condemned in Czechoslovakia's show trial. The French Communist boss, Maurice Thorez, may be among those marked.

The anti-zionist attack signalled by the Prague trial, in which 11 were doomed to death and three to life in prison Thursday, is expected now to spread to all Red parties.

The stress of the Prague trial was on anti-zionism, blaming the State of Israel for Czechoslovakia's economic turmoil. But there were indications that Jews behind the Iron Curtain see it as Hitler-like anti-semitism. The 30,000 Jews in Czechoslovakia are reported to be terror-stricken.

Reports from usually reliable sources say that the Prague trial resulted in numerous Jewish suicides; raids by Communist police on Jewish establishments suspected of harboring "Zionist spies"; screening of factory and state employees to sift out the Jews.

Queen Mother And Princess To Move Shortly

By Ken Botwright

LONDON, Dec. 3 —(Reuters)— Queen Mother Elizabeth and Princess Margaret this winter will give up the "coldest house in Europe" to live in Britain's most modern home.

Early in the new year they will leave old-fashioned, grey-stoned Buckingham Palace. Their new home will be nearby Clarence House, a 17-year-old mansion which now is furnished with the last word in domestic luxury.

Cosy Clarence House was the residence of Princess Elizabeth before she came to the throne. This winter the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh and their family will have to endure the discomfort of the palace.

The official royal residence, with its dozens of long, windy hallways and huge, high-ceilinged rooms, is impossible to keep warm—especially since most of the huge building is not centrally heated.

Clarence House, the big, three-storey mansion just off the stately Mall was built in 1825 for the Duke of Clarence, who became King William IV.

It was Elizabeth who transformed it into a modern home with labor-saving, spotless steel kitchen units, an intercommunication system and up-to-date furniture. Off the Duke's wood-paneled study, a cocktail bar was built. A semi-basement playroom was equipped with a movie projector. TV antennae sprouted on the roof.

Many rooms were furnished with

wedding gifts from all over the world.

It is expected that Princess Margaret and her mother should be settled in their new home in time to entertain some of the visiting Kings, Queens and statesmen who will be flocking to London for the coronation June 2.

Speakers Address So-Ed Gathering

Dr. A. A. MacVicar, Assistant Director, Division of Mental Health with the Department of Health and Welfare speaking at the regular Tuesday evening So-ed meeting at the Y. M. C. A., stressed the many problems confronted in "mis-nit" marriages, and the emotional influence on the children of such marriages. Following the theme, "Sex, Society and Marriage" which Mr. E. G. Nichols, M. A. spoke on last week, Dr. MacVicar gave many examples of marriage problems which he has had personal experiences in dealing with, and how they have been cured. Mrs. Leo Frank will conclude the lecture series next week when she presents the theme "Emotional Factors in Adjustment."

The series on Trends in World Affairs was taken this week by Mr. Edwin C. Johnstone with a very interesting talk on Mexico. Mr. Johnstone illustrated his lecture with scenic colored films which were photographed on his visit to that country. The last lecture in this series is entitled "Political Peculiarities of Russia" and will be given next week by Dr. Frank MacKinnon, Principal of Prince of Wales College.

The cooking class under supervision of Miss Alta Prowse has proved most useful to this class of young-adult women. They are specializing in fancy foods such as sandwiches, cakes and cookies for parties.

The other interest groups of Ham Radio, Flying, and Ballroom Dancing were held as usual with everyone becoming more enthusiastic about their particular course.

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ANCIENT PRACTICE

Cremation was the customary form of burial in nearly all countries except Egypt and China in ancient times.

LONDON — (CP) — During the debate on whether next June's coronation ceremony should be televised, the illustrated Magazine Picture Post received a letter from

a reader saying: "It was surely for such a purpose as the coronation that God created television."

DARTFORD, England — (CP) — Twin brothers Raymond and Basil Biggs always had the same interests, went to the same schools and entered the Merchant Navy together. Now both have passed examinations for a master's certificate.

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- LARD, Maple Leaf, 2 lbs. 29c**
- Swansdown
CAKE FLOUR, pkg. 45c
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- Clark's
BEANS, 20 oz. tins, 2 for 35c
- Waystaff
KETCHUP, 11 oz. bottle . 25c
- Seeded — 15 oz. pkg.
RAISINS, special, 4 pkgs. 99c
- Seedless — 15 oz. pkg.
RAISINS, special, 4 pkgs. 85c.

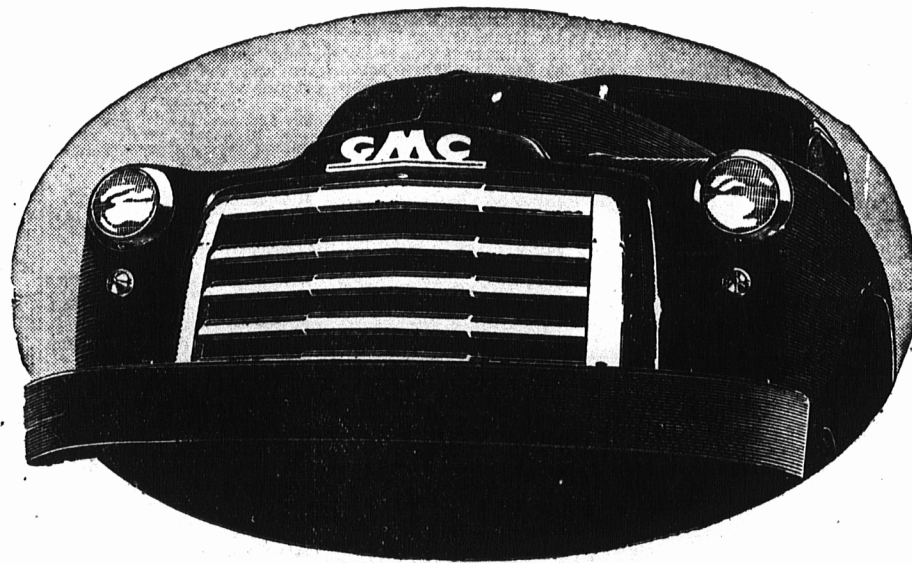
MEATS

- SPARE RIBS, lb. 11c**
- Boneless — Half or Whole
- BUTTS (cottage rolls) lb. 65c**
- D. & F. SAUSAGES, lb. . . 39c**
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