

Johnny Longden Calm Amid Pre-Derby Excitement

(By Alan Harvey)
LONDON, (CP)—Amid the fluttering excitement and tensions of Derby week, the calmest guy in town today is little Johnny Longden. He rides Blue Sail in Wednesday's big race and he's not worried about a thing.

Strange But True

By F. H. MacArthur

The banana is one of the curiosities of the vegetable world. It is not a tree, a palm, a bush, a vegetable nor a herb; it is simply an herbaceous plant with the structure of a tree, and is perennial. The fruit contains no seed and the plant or whatever you may choose to call it, propagates itself from shoots or roots. That curious and amusing creature known as the "spiny ant-eater" is a native of Drink Island. It has a mouth which it cannot open, but it has a sort of tube through which its tongue is thrust. It lays eggs yet suckles its young, more amazing still it closely resembles several animals and has some characteristics of a reptile.

The spiny ant-eater or echinda is a marvel of nature and an interesting object to naturalists and everyone else who sees or reads about it.

When taken by surprise this strange creature resolves itself into a ball, tucking its lengthy mouth between its forepaws, and packing its midge-sized tail close between the hind legs, presenting a curious object of menacing prickles when attacked by an enemy.

The hermit crab fits itself into an empty shell, discarding as it gets growing pains its present home for a larger-sized shell. As it grows to be quite large (as crabs do) it has to move several months into more commodious lodgings.

Believe it or not, but living quarters are so congested on a coral reef that constant warfare goes on among the different species and blood curdling cannibalism is rife. Possibly you may doubt my statement when I tell you that some denizens take in lodgers. But the fact remains. Having roomy quarters they offer hospitality to homeless and unprotected strangers to play any role in the fierce struggle for existence outside. Surely these humble creatures can teach mankind a lesson in humanitarianism.

Properties varied and approaching the magical have been ascribed to one of the commonest plants in this island, the dandelion. Our pioneer parents made from the blossoms a potent wine which was supposed to renew their strength. Before being fermented, it was used by the fair sex as a beautifier, while the leaves were and still are eaten in the form of greens par excellence.

They also claimed for the apple and onion superlative qualities. The first was supposed to keep the doctor away, and the onion was eaten to induce slumber.

And while we are on the subject of humans and fruits and vegetables, it might be interesting to note that early writers cited cases in which mentally unbalanced persons have been restored to reason by the exclusive use of cherries. Be that as it may, we do know that the papaw and the banana, in conjunction form an absolutely perfect diet. What the one lacks in nutritive value or assimilative qualities the other supplies. No other food, it is claimed, is essential to maintain a person in perfect health and vigor.

In the case of the papaw, it supplies milk, juices that have a high medicinal value. The active principle of the juice, named "papain" is capable of digesting 200 times its weight in fibrine, is used for numerous disorders and ailments.

And in countries where this amazing tree grows the natives render tough meat tender, merely by hanging an old hen or what have you, among the leaves. Wouldn't it be great if we could come by some papaw juice to change our frequently purchased leathery steaks into juicy ones?

The native women rub slices of papaw fruit over their bodies which is said to give the skin a remarkably youthful appearance.

Swine in pioneer days in this island had to be almost as hardy as their masters in order to survive the long cold winters. A herd would choose its headquarters in

OUR BOARDING HOUSE
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HEY, HOOPLE! ANYBODY WHO CAN BOUNCE A BALL OFF A TREE AND GET A HOLE—IN-ONE NEEDN'T WORRY ABOUT THE HYDROGEN BOMB. YOU'D FALL INTO A MAN-HOLE JUST BEFORE IT EXPLODED—HAR-HAR!

EGAD, BAXTER! WHAT YOUR IGNORANCE DOESN'T GRASP IS THAT I SHOT A BILLIARD PURPOSELY, AIMING AT THE TREE BECAUSE A LARGE DOG WAS CROSSING THE COURSE! HO-HUM! DON'T WAKE ME AGAIN UNLESS SOMETHING BIG OCCURS, SUCH AS YOU DIGGING UP THAT DIME YOU'VE BEEN HUNTING FEVERISHLY SINCE YOU LOST IT IN THE GARDEN LAST SUMMER.

WHY BAXTER FELL OFF THE FENCE—6-2

Pensions Chief Issue As Five Million Australians Vote In General Election

MELBOURNE, (Reuters)—Five million Australian voters today choose between Prime Minister Robert Menzies' coalition government and the Labor party led by Herbert Evatt.

Both sides ended their election campaigns with prediction of victory.

Dr. Evatt, speaking in Sydney, said his reports indicated there will be a "sweep—a landslide—to Labor."

Menzies, speaking in his own constituency of Kooyong, said public opinion poll predictions of a swing to Labor did not take into account the fact that six of seven uncontested seats in the election will go to his coalition.

Labor will need to gain nine seats clear in the 121-member lower House to obtain a working majority. It now has 53 against 68 for the coalition—51 Liberals and 17 Country party members.

Chief issue for the voting has been Evatt's offer to ease the lot of the aged by increasing their pensions. Menzies earlier tried to fight the election on the Petrov spy case and his administration's clean-up of communism.

Since Evatt's challenge he has concentrated on his administration's record and has chided Labor for making promises without saying where the money to fulfill them will come from.

The opinion poll has shown that in the 114 contested constituencies, 48 per cent of the voters intended to vote Labor and 46 per cent for the coalition.

The Labor party is so confident that Deputy Leader Arthur Calwell already has threatened a double dissolution if the Senate—for which there is no election today, and where Menzies has a majority—blocks the social service proposals which Labor says they will present to the Lower house within one month. Senate elections are not due until 1956.

The most important of Labor's promises is to give every man at 65 and every woman at 60 an old age pension of £4 a week.

a sheltered spot in the forest. Then at the approach of dusk would march the members of the swine, in a slow well measured walk each carrying a mouthful of dead leaves which was deposited on the outside of the bed until it reached a comfortable depth of 24 inches and 12 to 20 feet wide. In the center of this leaf bed mamma pig lay down to snooze with the rest of the family taking their place around her. The smaller piglets, however, would often be allowed to form a second, or top layer over their mothers. In the early morning after a cold windy night, additional leaves would have drifted over the hog home so that not a single porker could be seen.

From this brief account of the pioneer pigs' winter home the reader will begin to realize that Mr. and Mrs. Porker and their numerous offspring, did not have too rosy a life in those days.

President Andrew Johnson's last request was, "Pillow my head on the Constitution of my country and let the flag of the nation be my winding sheet."

In accordance with this strange request the president's remains were wrapped in a silk flag with 37 stars, and under his head was placed the much used copy of the Constitution he had owned for half a century.

To arrive at the beginning of recorded history we would check off approximately 250 generations. And before that there were some 22,500 generations of men who apparently left no written records about themselves.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Is hereby given that after the expiry of four weeks hereafter, the Farmers Abattoir Company Limited will apply to the Charlottetown City Council for a whole or partial exemption from taxation of the premises in Charlottetown of the applicant to be for new industry which industry is a public abattoir. The said new industry is not in existence at the time of this application.

Dated at Charlottetown this 11th day of May, 1954.
THE FARMERS ABATTOIR COMPANY LIMITED

Uranium City Poor Place For Land Speculator

WINNIPEG, (CP)—The land speculator finds pickings poor in Uranium City, Sask., where even the street signs point to the atomic age.

Except in "very exceptional circumstances," no person can acquire more than two lots in the boom town, 150 miles from the Saskatchewan - Northwest Territories boundary.

The Canadian Association of Geographers was told Friday that the regulation is designed to prevent land speculation within the townsite.

Further, all persons acquiring a lot must within 18 months put up a building worth at least \$3,000.

Bus Strike In Oshawa, Ont.

OSHAWA, Ont., (CP)—Oshawa's 45,000 citizens laid long-range plans for volunteer transportation Friday as both sides sat tight in a company-union dispute that has brought the city bus system to a standstill.

Spokesmen for the Amalgamated Association of Street Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employees union (AFL-TRC), whose 100 members walked off the job early Friday, said no progress has been made at settling their dispute with the Oshawa street railway over the inclusion of 18 union members in arbitration proceedings. They said they are awaiting a reply from Federal Labor Minister Gregg to a telegram they sent asking him to intervene.

Arbitration is being sought over union demand for fringe benefits.

Sask. Boy Hanged While At Play

MAIDSTONE, Sask., (CP)—Eleven-year-old Bruce Bamford was accidentally hanged Saturday while playing in a pasture near here.

Police said Bamford jokingly told his six-year-old friend, Murray Flaman, that he was going to hang himself. It was believed that the boy accidentally jumped or fell from a tree, knocking himself out against the tree trunk.

Police said Murray ran for help but became panicky and got lost.

VETERANS CHOOSE OTTAWA

LONDON (CP)—The World Veterans Federation announced Saturday that its five-nation executive board will meet in Ottawa June 3-5. The federation, dubbed "the world parliament of veterans," has branches in 23 countries, including Canada, and claims almost 18,000,000 members.

Flock of Brant At North Bay Provide Puzzle

NORTH BAY, Ont., (CP)—A mysterious invasion by a flock of sea geese has wild-life experts here puzzled.

A flock of American brant, estimated at about 400 birds, landed on a farm near here recently. True sea geese, the American or white-headed brant are seldom seen anywhere away from salt water.

Wintering in the bays and sounds of Virginia and North Carolina, they migrate north to breeding grounds in the eastern arctic islands in March or April. Thus these birds are a month late.

Britain Sending Top Soldier For Asian Problem Talks At Washington Shortly

By Arthur Gavahan
LONDON, (AP)—Britain is sending her top soldier to Washington early next month to discuss possible united action against communism in Southeast Asia, official sources reported Thursday.

Field Marshal Sir John Harding, chief of the Imperial General Staff, will join the chiefs of staff of the United States, France, Australia and New Zealand in a planning parley being called to assess the immediate and future military situation in the region.

British informants said the talks will not involve any immediate military commitments.

The date of the conference is still to be set. The United States wants it as early as possible. Britain is anxious to ensure the talks will not upset the delicate negotiations for an Indo-China cease-fire now going on in Geneva.

Urges Effort To Tell Role Of Life Insurance

MONTEBELLO, Que., (CP)—People should be told about the social and economic life of the country, Prof. E. D. McPhee, director of the school of commerce, University of British Columbia, said Thursday.

Addressing the annual meeting of the Canadian Life Insurance Officers Association, he said policy holders want to know how their small savings are channeled into funds for major industrial development, and urged a long-term adult education program for this purpose.

Canadians should know, he continued, that it costs about \$10,000 to give a man a job, that such funds come largely from Canadian sources and that one-third of the \$5,000,000,000 of the life insurance business are in corporation bonds and stocks, and one-sixth in mortgages.

POWERFUL INSTITUTION
The life insurance industry, the second largest financial institution in Canada had become a social institution of great power, potentials and responsibilities.

Edmund Fitzgerald, president of Northwest Mutual Life Insurance Company, Milwaukee, said Canadian insurance companies are more venturesome than their American counterparts in seeking business beyond their territorial boundaries.

Intrigue, revolutions, coup d'etats and expropriations combined to make overseas business in many cases a burden, and Canadian initiative overseas was the main difference in the American and Canadian life insurance business.

K. R. MacGregor, federal superintendent of insurance, said life insurance in Canada had built up a tradition of good management of which it could be proud. If this was continued "the institution should continue to prosper, increase in wisdom, stature and favor."

The welfare of the business rested primarily and properly with the companies. "I do not think it lies, or should lie, in more detailed government regulation."

Honor 100 Dead In Carrier Explosion

QUONSET POINT, R. I., (AP)—Some 2,500 navy personnel, relatives and friends Monday honored the 100 crew members of the carrier Bennington who perished in an explosion and fire at sea last Wednesday. Captain William F. Raborn, commander of the ill-fated carrier, told the huge throng on the carriers flight deck that "the loss will be felt by each one of us."

The world's first mountain-side cog railway opened at Mount Washington in New Hampshire in 1869.

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WANTED SINGAPORE

Britain proposed originally that the discussions be held in Singapore where the five countries have a semi-permanent military planning agency. The United States preferred Washington as a meeting place and wanted to bring in such Asian countries as Thailand and the Philippines which have shown an interest in the project for a Southeast Asian treaty organization.

The chief of the Imperial General Staff has personally handled the major aspects of Britain's strategic policy in Southeast Asia and the west Pacific since he took office about a year ago.

The informants did not precisely define the scope of the coming Washington talks. They made it clear, however, the chiefs of staff will assess the military situation in Southeast Asia in the event of two main contingencies:

TWO CONSIDERATIONS
1. An Indo-China settlement. This will bring with it a need to secure any cease-fire arrangements. Already each of the five countries, plus several other members of the United Nations, have agreed to join in an international guarantee of an Indo-China peace.

2. Breakdown of the Indo-China peace talks. This will pose the question of the five countries and their friends taking united action

Two Young Girls Die Following Explosion

REXTON, N. B., (CP)—Two young girls died in hospital early Tuesday a few hours after a can of boiling wax exploded and set fire to their clothing.

Rosella Comeau, 6, and Doreen Johnson, 3, were rushed to hospital here Monday night after the accident in the kitchen of the Johnson home at St. Ignace, 12 miles from here.

A 10-year-old sister of the Johnsons, tried to beat out the flames with their hands and are in hospital with superficial burns.

The wax was heating on the kitchen stove in the frame dwelling when it exploded and sent licks of flame over the two children. The house was not damaged.

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The job of "keeping the peace", of deterring aggression, is a huge one. Geared for this operation, the Canadian Army has already made major contributions in Korea and in Europe.

But, we must not relax our defences! There is still a vital need to keep our Army strong and able to act. This means that there is a continuing need for good men. In the Army, intelligent and ambitious young men will find every opportunity to build careers for themselves through excellent schooling and training; almost unlimited opportunities for advancement; the challenges of travel and adventure; the financial stability of good pay and pensions.

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