

tives, Hundreds Of Freight Cars To Speed Transport Program

OR IMPORTANT

J.S. Farm Prices General Average

solidate and preserve the gains already made. The administrative reply is that if prices were allowed to rise to the levels demanded by the farm bloc it would increase the nation's food bill a billion dollars annually, which brings us down to the consumer's side of the story.

WAR SPURS ADVANCE.

In the absence of any comprehensive measure of retail food prices, the best we can rely on is the Dun & Bradstreet index of wholesale prices. This index represents the sum total of the price per pound of 31 foods in general use. On December 2, 1941, this figure stood at \$3.33.

A week later, the Pearl Harbor attack having occurred in the interval, it had jumped 4 cents to \$3.37 and on February 24 last it was up to \$3.56, a gain for the war period of 23 cents.

Incidentally the present scale of food prices at the wholesale is the highest in fifteen years and in twelve weeks there has been no reversal amounting to a single cent.

Retail prices vary widely according to location but it is safe to assume that their advance has paralleled quotations at wholesale.

For the farmer it can be said that his coats have increased also. Worse than that, he is faced with a labor shortage of alarming proportions. Most congressmen, not all, perhaps, but the great majority, will favor the side which bulks largest among their constituents. Only the President represents the nation as a whole. There are more consumers than producers but the latter are always better organized.

S GONE

May Encourage Oil Production

stitutes is also being forwarded in the United States.

Government scientists are studying the possibility of extending the growing of sunflowers throughout the country, with the objective of obtaining oil from their seeds. It is expected provision for growing seed stocks will be made by experimental farms in the present year, with the probability that, if the oil content is found to be sufficient to warrant development, large-scale plantings will be encouraged in 1943.

Some varieties of weeds, such as stinkweed, have been suggested as possible sources of additional oil supplies, but agricultural authorities have been reluctant to turn to this source until other possibilities have been exhausted as such weeds have been fought persistently for many years.

Flax production increased considerably in 1941, with output in the prairie provinces, the main source of supply, placed at 6,240,000 bushels against 2,875,000 in 1940.

Electric Conference Covers Wide Range

Delegates to the annual meeting of the Canadian Electrical Association kept busy Wednesday afternoon, discussing subjects which came under the heading of advertising, rural, residential, commercial and industrial sales, engineering and operating.

Nine papers were read in the residential bureau, and included subjects dealing with home

'SPRUCE VITAL WAR MATERIAL'

In justification of the action of Queen Charlotte Islands logging operators in closing the great spruce camps to all persons except camp employees and government officials, a statement has been issued by the leading concerns operating on the islands including the J. R. Morgan Company, Allison Logging Company, and the Kelley Logging Company.

"Entrance to our camps is restricted, for the duration of the war, to our own employees and officials of the government. We intend to leave nothing undone to prevent sabotage or any interference with the carrying on of our operations.

"The spruce we are producing on Queen Charlotte Islands is a vital war material, and we feel we would be remiss in our duty in these times, when the danger of war on our coast is apparent to everyone, if we permitted indiscriminate entrance to our operations.

DUES COLLECTION.

"Representatives of a certain union have objected to our policy because it apparently interfered with collection of union dues.

"We might point out that many others desire to enter our camps and contact our employees, ostensibly to collect money; but to permit entrance to one organization would necessitate opening to others. This would result not only in interference and slowing up of production, but would leave our plants exposed to sabotage.

"In deciding on a policy of restricted camp entrance, at this time, we are not unmindful of the action of the I.W.A., as reported in Canadian Government Labor Organization in Canada, 1940, when the union refused to remove Communists from its membership, notwithstanding the fact that members of the Communist party adopted, in May, 1940, a platform of barring loans, credits and war supplies to (Allied) belligerents, as cited on page 158, Canadian Government report Labor Organization in Canada, 1940.

NEVER DISCRIMINATED.

"The Queen Charlotte Islands operators have never discriminated or interfered in any way with their employees in union affiliation.

"The companies have always permitted employees to draw wages in advance in addition to the regular pay days. This policy is still in force, and many employees have taken advantage of it to purchase Victory bonds.

"The Queen Charlotte Islands operators have always been willing to discuss matters of mutual interest with their employees and will continue to adhere to this policy. Wage standards and living conditions in the Queen Charlotte Islands spruce camps are equal to the highest prevailing in the British Columbia logging industry."

THE WEATHER

MARCH 5, 1942.

Vancouver and vicinity—Slightly cooler.

Victoria and vicinity—Slightly cooler.

Okanagan and Kootenay—Temperature unchanged.

Temperatures.		
	High	Low
Vancouver	48	40
Victoria	48	39
Nanaimo	45	39
New Westminster	45	39
Kamloops	37	33
Prince George	37	32
Kelowna	46	38
Penticton	46	38
Vernon	46	37
Nelson	41	31
Kaslo	42	32
The Prairies—		
Calgary	47	33

More Oil for Navy

Jap Fishermen Help B.C. Cut Down on Gas

By B. A. McKELVIE, Daily Province Staff Correspondent. VICTORIA, March 5.—Japanese fishermen are contributing to Canada's husbanding of gasoline for war purposes, it was pointed out by Dr. W. A. Carrothers, chairman of the Coal and Petroleum Control Board, in announcing the totals of gasoline consumption for January.

A decline of 56,107 gallons in the consumption of marine gasoline for that month was mainly due to the seizure by the Dominion Government of Japanese fishing boats, he said.

ANOTHER SAVING.

Another saving in gasoline is expected to result from the laying up of some 1400 motor vehicles operated by Japanese, which were ordered off the highways by the Dominion on February 25.

Gasoline sales for January totalled 4,374,968 gallons, a reduction of 550,702 gallons from December's total of 5,125,670 gallons. Sales for January last year were 4,549,723 when there were fewer cars operating and less war industry.

Sales by retailers fell off by 425,306 gallons, and marine by 56,107. Owing to the increased use of gasoline in war industries, however, there was an increase of 163,766 gallons in sales on commercial accounts.

In the Victoria area 651,653 gallons were used, or 14.2 per cent. of the sales, while the balance of the province registered 36 per cent.

Vancouver area consumed 2,276,559 gallons; Victoria area, 651,653 gallons, and the balance of the province, 1,643,756.

Insurance Business Aids War Financing

—KILGOUR. War's effect on the life insurance business is similar to the influence that prevailed in 1914-18 except that higher taxes represent a consideration that did not apply so much during the last conflict, according to D. E. Kilgour, president of North American Life Assurance Company.

Mr. Kilgour is spending a few days on the Coast during an inspection tour that has carried him to most of the larger centres in Western Canada.

"War invariably makes people more realistic, more conscious of the need for protection," said Mr. Kilgour, who referred to the rising volume of insurance business here and throughout Canada.

"The insurance companies have helped stabilize the national economy in wartime," he added. "They have prepared the groundwork for investment in bonds by promoting the practice of thrift even in times of peace, and they have bought Victory Bonds almost to the limit of their available investible funds. In the last loan they invested \$100,000,000 and the total will be greater this time."

Library Presented To Deepsea Vessel

On Wednesday Colonel Rev. C. C. Owen, president of British Sailors' Society branch here, presented another ocean-going library to the master of another deepsea ship.

These libraries are for the use of the entire ship's company. This particular donation was made by E. H. Allen of this city.

James Johnstone, superintendent of the Sallor Home, asks all who love good books to remember the men of the merchant marine, and whenever possible to pass on a book or books in good condition to the Vancouver

MORE SEIZED CRAFT PLACED

With the provision of an hourly ferry service to the basin where the interned Japanese fisheries fleet is kept, there has been a very marked increase in the number of people daily inspecting the boats with a view to purchase, stated A. E. McMaster, chairman of the Japanese Fishing Vessel Disposal committee today.

Where two or three persons were able to get out to examine the boats, there are now 40 to 50 each day. And the result of this increase in activity will soon be marked by more transfers of vessels, Mr. McMaster believes.

To date the number of transfers arranged total nearly 150 vessels. There is no charge for the ferry service, but all who use the ferries must carry the identification permit of the Japanese vessel committee.

Reinke In New Post

OTTAWA, March 5.—(CP)—Carl Reinke, former member of the parliamentary press gallery for the Canadian Press, and former Toronto newspaperman, has been appointed chief of the news and features section of the office of the director of public information.

Seattle to Launch 3 Ships in 30 Hours

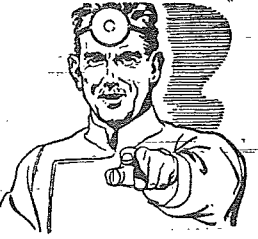
SEATTLE, March 5.—(AP)—A ship-launching schedule under

which three naval vessels will slip down the ways within 30 hours this week-end in the Seattle-Tacoma area, was disclosed today with approval of the 13th Naval District headquarters.

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Our Navy

"CRASH!"

A BLINDING flame... the shell, seconds later, plunged into an inferno

of erupting water far away. Our Merchant Navy's answer to the submarine menace, vividly portrayed by Lloyd Turner.

Nanaimo May Be Herring Capital

POSSIBILITY THAT THE former coal capital of the West will become the herring trade centre of the Pacific Coast is envisioned by Mayor V. B. Harrison of Nanaimo. An interesting study of the fishing industry by B. A. McKelvie.

in the Saturday Magazine

Present War Foretold in 1500's

CURIOUS AND FASCINATING prophecies up to the present World War were foretold by Michel Nostradamus, born in St. Remy, Provence, in the year 1503. An astounding