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Reminiscences
By W.J. and Reflections

In the days that saw Lord Roberts' army finish operations around Kimberley and start marching across country to Bloemfontein, rations were plain and none too plentiful. There was a permanent thirst. Bloemfontein (place of the blossoming fountain) basked in warm March sunshine. The empty veldt spread flat and far, with occasional flat-topped kopje or low rolling hills. And somewhere out there, alert commandos who knew their spacious land so well, kept eluding the foot-slogging infantry with provoking ease. Native Africans had their homes handy. They were good natured—found it easy to show gleaming teeth in frequent laughter. Robust women carried laden baskets, often on their heads. Black boys would come racing out to the invaders' camps to sell the now-and-then copies of the "Bloemfontein Friend"—a small, pink paper made up any old way. It printed advertisements, what passed for news, letters, poems—one fresh from the pen of Kipling—and proclamations in two languages, bearing the signature Roberts F. M. Many a man worked as a transport driver. He moved along by the side of the lurching, crammed wagon hauled by a dozen oxen. Gripping the long handled whip, shouting and whistling, he would send the lash curling over the backs of the laboring beasts. In one of these supply trains, there might be as many as a score of wagons. An impatient buddy from Ontario disliked jam because he was given more than he wished and not enough of what he yearned for. Bully beef and uncommonly hard biscuit could become tiresome too. Anyway, he was allergic to jam. Food monotony kept on growing. Sometimes, troops in the field and new to campaigning, will think up favorite dishes thousands of miles distant, and mention them to note the reaction which is always certain. It goes like this: "Say, I could use a T-bone—

tender and thick, with a baked spud. "Shut up." "What's wrong with a deep apple pie, and cheese?" "Cripest! Kick him in the pants." By this time every mouth was plainly watering. "How about a case of ticky beer?" One afternoon, the Ontario liddle, given leave of absence from camp, rambled off by himself, taking with him a beef tin part full of the jam he preferred doing without. When he returned, the jam had vanished but there was a tin full of milk. The boys were staggered. They crowded around looking him up and down, wondering, speculating, questioning. There might have been five stock around Bloemfontein once but not now. And who ever heard of a dairy there, in the middle of a war? It was beautiful milk, tasting as rich and nourishing as it looked and drained to the last sweet drop. "You wanted to know where I got it," said Ontario, walking away. "Well, I called on a lot of natives and we made a deal. There were nursing mothers, and they never saw jam from Canada before. They think it's fine." Advertise in the Daily News.

BIG PRIZES AT NIPAWIN
Canada's Curling Classic At Saskatchewan Town.
NIPAWIN, Sask. (C)—The cream of the Dominion's broom crop is expected to flow into this northern Saskatchewan town January 7 to 17 for the annual Nipawin bonspiel—Canada's richest curling classic. Expected to attract the followers of the sport is \$16,500 in prizes, including four 1948 automobiles to the winners of the grand championship. To date more than 50 entries have been received but officials say this number will be swelled considerably this month. Already entered for a crack at the 'spiel's prize list are such rinks as Howard Wood's Winnipeg Granite four, last year's winners; Dalt Hederson of the Nutana rink, Saskatoon, runner-up to Wood in last year's event; Walter Polski of Virginia, Minn., and L. H. Campbell of Avonlea, Sask., who finished third in the Dominion curling championship at Saint John, N.B. Officials say they have installed additional comforts at the rink for both players and spectators at a cost of more than \$3,500. The improvements in-

include a new gallery capable of holding 600 spectators, a dining room, press room and a number of bleacher seats. The final of the event for the automobiles will be a best-of-three-game affair instead of the sudden death game as last year. The runners-up will receive gold wrist watches. Other prizes include shotguns, outboard motors, tea wagons, cedar chests and washing machines.

Modern Etiquette
By ROBERTA LEE

Q. What should one do when he finds that another person's opinion on some subject is directly opposed to his own?
A. Immediately change the subject of the conversation. Above all, do not argue.

Q. Isn't it far more rude for a young man to break a date, without a plausible reason, than for a girl to do so?
A. Not at all; it is equally rude for a girl to do so.

PLAN CLINIC
WINNIPEG, (C)—J. N. T. man, president of the Manitoba division of the Red Cross, recently announced plans for a depot and clinic for the Manitoba Red Cross Free Blood Transfusion Service. Approximate cost will be \$200,000. Bulman said.

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WHY FRANCE HAS TURNED TO The Secret Ballot ON STRIKE VOTES

The Stranglehold. Communist Benoit Frachon, secretary-general of the C.G.T. (national labor federation), was up every night until 3 a.m., directing his army of 5,000,000 workers. Less than a third of this great mass is actually Communist, but the Cocos hold three-fifths of the top executive jobs in all major unions. At the strike-bound port of Marseille, where Red violence exploded last fortnight, U.S. seamen refused to unload U.S. ships. To them Benoit Frachon, who conceals unlimited brutality beneath a mask of affability, telegraphed instructions their sympathy was to be directed to their own interests.

What this means, most of the French union workers know. Last week, where secret strike votes were held, the rank & file voted against striking. In the northern coal fields, where 200,000 miners were out at the time of France's acutest need for coal, some thousands of men shouldered their way past Communist pickets and resumed their work.

Yet the stranglehold was such that 1,000,000 or more workers in all were idle this week, and the number was not dwindling but increasing. With France's bread ration smaller than it was during the Nazi occupation, a national strike hit the flour mills. Another was scheduled this week in all seaports. The Paris-Lyon-Mediterranean railway, main artery from Paris to the south, ground to a stop, and service on several other systems was crippled.

"Brave Words," said Premier S. "Force is the last weapon in the armory. But, above all, it is a

TIME, DECEMBER 1, 1947

TIME MAGAZINE REPORTS VOTES TAKEN BY SECRET BALLOT DIFFER WIDELY FROM ORDERS OF RED LEADERS

HERE is striking proof that the secret ballot is the only way a worker is free from pressure to vote for or against strike action.

Dominated by a well-drilled Communist minority, French Unions were ordered to go out on strike not in their own interests, but in the interests of that Communist minority. When workers turned to the secret ballot to determine their true wishes, millions went back to work against the orders of the domineering minority.

This same secret ballot, given to British Columbia workers by "Bill 39", (the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1947) is violently opposed by certain labour leaders. They give no plausible reason for their opposition. The only conclusion is that they fear that their grip on the workers of British Columbia will be broken by the secret ballot exactly as the Communist stranglehold was broken in France.

The secret ballot established by "Bill 39" is the worker's "Bill of Rights" because it protects him against the dictatorship of a radical minority.

WHY SHOULD ANYONE OPPOSE THE SECRET BALLOT?
COMMITTEE FOR INDUSTRIAL PROGRESS

(Representing industrial and commercial organizations in B.C. having a stake in industrial peace and progress along with the 215,000 men and women on their payrolls.)