

Quit Worrying - Plenty of Scotch

By CHARLES WHITING
EDINBURGH, Scotland — (AP) — The worldwide demand for highballs with a highland flavor has reduced Scotch whiskey supplies to the lowest level since the days of prohibition in the United States.

But industry leaders say there is no need to fear a drought. The big Scotch whiskey combines and private distillers are confident they will be able to roll out the barrels fast enough to keep up with the international thirst from now on.

Wartime curtailment of whiskey production hit the industry hard. Many thousands of gallons of Scotch were lost through enemy action. Reserve supplies were drained.

The picture is improving, however. Last year the industry distilled 25,000,000 gallons. This year it hopes to boost that figure to 30,000,000 with 13,000,000 gallons earmarked for export.

No Shortage
Philip Gee, official spokesman of the Scotch Whiskey Association,

said he sees "no reason to expect any greater shortage of whiskey than at the present time."

"On the contrary," he added, "there will certainly be an improvement from now onwards."

Gee was commenting on a statement made in Montreal recently by Scots distiller Lylester Anderson that a world shortage of Scotch can be expected in another year or two.

Gee admitted that stocks of whiskey have never been lower over here since the days of prohibition. But, he said, "men of grit and enterprise in the whiskey business are inclined to see a more optimistic production sign on the horizon."

The whiskey-makers have been trying since the war to make up for three years of lost time. From 1941 to 1944 the British government ordered the barley normally used in Scotch distilling diverted to the food markets. The industry also was hard hit by the manpower shortage after the barley ban was lifted.

War Years Hurt
Only 10,000,000 gallons were distilled between 1940 and 1944. The 1939 figure was 4,783,000 gallons. Production was 10,000,000 gallons in 1945; 13,000,000 in 1946, and 15,000,000 in 1947.

Scotch whiskey is kept in bonded warehouses an average of seven years before it can be bottled for consumption either in Britain or overseas.

"Therefore," said Gee, "between the lack of production during the vital war years and the time it takes fresh-distilled whiskey to mature, the decline today is explained."

Increased demand is a big problem to be faced by the industry. Gee said the removal of import restrictions by certain Latin American countries means "we will have to wade deeply into our stockpile."

There were 150,000,000 proof gallons in the stockpile in 1939. By 1945 the reserve supply was down to 84,000,000. Last year it had climbed to 104,000,000.

Bee Inspector Named for Lane

M. H. Bainbridge, 1458 "F" Street, Springfield, has been appointed apiaary inspector for Lane County, and is now engaged in inspecting the bee colonies in his territory as fast as time and weather conditions permit. He is an experienced beekeeper.

Bee inspections over the state did not get underway this year as early as usual because funds for this work were not available until after July 1, when monies appropriated by the last legislature could be expended. Because inspections were necessarily held up, bee disease has become serious in some areas.

For this reason, A. Burr Black, state apiaary supervisor for the State Department of Agriculture, urges all Lane County bee owners to cooperate fully with the inspector in locating outbreaks of disease. Diseased colonies, unless the situation is cleared up, are a menace to other bees in the area.

While there is no fee for inspection of bees, all bees should be registered with the State Department of Agriculture at Salem. Owners of bees not registered are subject to penalties set forth in the Oregon apiaary law, under which the bee inspector operates. The Department of Agriculture has deputized Otto Wilde of Junction City to handle emergency inspections in Lane County and the southern parts of Benton and Linn Counties.

Grand Jury Indicts Confessed Slayer

PORTLAND — (AP) — Morris Leland, confessed slayer of a 15-year-old girl, was indicted for first-degree murder by the Multnomah County grand jury.

Leland, an ex-convict, last Thursday told police he beat Thelma Taylor on the head with a steel bar and then stabbed her because she resisted his advances. He hid her body in the woods north of the St. Johns Bridge here.

Again Soviets Do It Best

MOSCOW — (AP) — Russians not only swim farther and faster than anybody else but they started long-distance swimming back in 1773, a Soviet "sports master" claims.

Iksander Faizulili, prominent Soviet swimmer, wrote in the trade union newspaper Trud that a shipwrecked sailor stroked 14.8 miles in 12 hours off the African coast 196 years ago.

Another pre-revolutionary Russian, Leonid Romanchenko, swam 29.7 miles in the Caspian-Baku area in 24 hours and 12 minutes, the "sports master" reported.

That is faster, he said, than anyone has swum the English Channel.

Faizulili urged additional mass long-distance marathons to enable Russian swimmers to set new records.

Confessed Spy To Teach

CHICAGO — (AP) — Elizabeth Bentley, confessed Soviet spy courier, will join the faculty of Mundelein College, a Catholic girls' school, this fall.

Mundelein authorities said Miss Bentley would teach political science.

She was converted to Catholicism and baptized last Nov. 5 in Washington by the Rt. Rev. Fulton J. Sheen, Louis Budenz, former Communist Party chief, who also was converted by Sheen, attended the ceremony.

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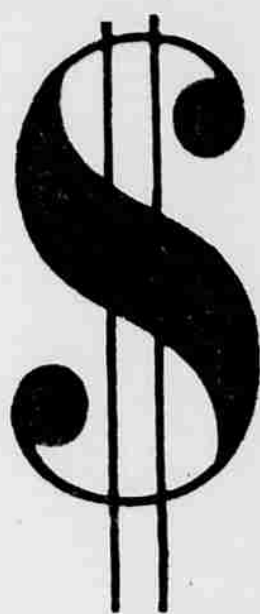
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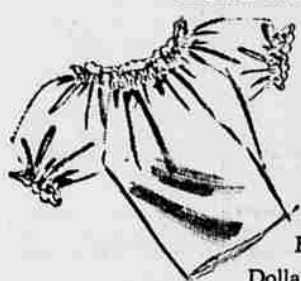
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Yardage, main floor

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Housewares, Upstairs

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