News Parade

Commentary on the Highlights of the Week's News . . . By Elizabeth Eedy

MAN OF THE HOUR—Captain Anthony Eden who resigned February 20 as British Foreign Secretary because he could not tolerate the Government's policy of negotiating at that time with the dictators, is looked upon by many as a knight-in-shining-armor-on-a-white-horse. A deliverer. The ideal Britisher incarnate.

For several months following his resignation Anthony Eden kept strictly in the background, leaving the field clear for his former Chief, Prime Minister Chamberlain, to put his theories into practice. But now, coincidental with a rise of popular feeling against the Government's policies (as they are working out in Spain, for instance), he is emerging from his retirement, may step into the arena again.

As a potential British leader, Eden has tremendous drawing-power. Should he then once more take up the cudgels in defense of the League of Nations and collective security, he would carry a large percentage of the British population with him.

DAY-AND-A-HALF WEEK-END—A progressive businessman in one of our more up-and-coming Western Ontario towns is suggesting to the local branch of the Retail Merchants' Association that shops and places of business close sharp at 12.30 Saturday noon of each week instead of keeping open till all hours Saturday night. He would have a national half-holiday, proclaimed for every Saturday afternoon and a day-and-a-half week-end for the whole population. Farmers in the surrounding area could do their week's shopping and visiting on Friday night instead. Tired clerks and business people would have a chance to rest up before Sunday and be able to come back refreshed to start their next week's work.

We believe that our progressive businessman has something. It is to be hoped that his suggestion will be noticed, taken up and acted upon.

WHAT ITALY WANTS—The authoritative Italian newspaper Giornale d'Italia setting forth Italy's stand in the Spanish embroglio declares: "No conflict of interests divides or can divide Italy and Spain, who by defending freedom in the Mediterranean are defending their independence as nations. Only complete and full mastery of the Mediterranean can permit one and the other to develop its social and economic energies."

Which doesn't exactly fit in with Great Britain's program in the Mediterranean, we would say.

BACK TO THE WILDS—History tells us that this country originally belonged to the Indians. Then the French took it away from them, and the English took it away from the French. The Indians, once a fierce and powerful race, became to a certain extent a subject people, living in "reserve" areas.

The Indian problem today in Canada is becoming increasingly hard to deal with. A kind of pseudo-civilization has been imposed on the Indians by their close contact with white people; tuberculosis is taking a terrible toll of Indian lives; inroads by white trappers and hunters have almost destroyed their livelihood, the hunting and trapping by which Indians used to support themselves.

Constructive suggestions for dealing with the Indian problem were advanced in the House at Ottawa last week by Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs Crerar. Plans, he said, are already under way in the Northwest Territories to set aside large areas where Indians may pursue their ancient vocation of trapping and hunting undisturbed by the white man. He would advocate also that efforts be made to train Indians as guides and forest workers, park attendants and to teach them woodcraft and beadwork.

NEW PACT MOOTED—Under consideration at the present time is a pact of mutual assistance between France and Turkey. On the surface this may not appear to be very important, but should an agreement be reached, it would provide France with a contact with her powerful ally, Russia, through the Dardanelles, should the north route between France and the Soviet Union be blocked by Germany in the event of hostilities.

The treaty would also serve to link France more strongly with the Little Entente (Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Roumania) and the Balkan Entente (Turkey, Greece, Roumania and Yugoslavia), all of which countries Germany and Italy are trying to attach to the Rome-Berlin axis.

Canada's Field Crops Are Close To Normal

Fall Wheat Only Slightly Below Year Ago Dominion Bureau of Statistics Report Indicates. Spring Wheat and Coarse Grains Show Improvement.

Condition figures for all field crops in Canada at the end of May were all close to normal and, with the exception of Fall wheat, were well above the condition figures at the same time last year, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports.

Fall wheat prospects in Ontario are only slightly below those of a year ago, while Fall rye conditions in the Prairie Provinces are notably better than in 1937. Spring wheat and coarse grains are showing a considerable improvement over their condition at this date a year ago, as a result of more normal moisture conditions in the Prairie Provinces, including the grass-plains area which last year was so markedly affected by drought.

Pasturage Better

Pastures and forage crops are greatly improved in the West, and are considerably better in Ontario and Quebec this year in the absence of an open Winter which resulted in Winter-killing a year ago.

In Ontario, the bulk of the Spring grain was planted from 10 days to two weeks earlier than last year, and is now in about average condition. Germination has been good and most fields show an even stand. Fall wheat has made excellent growth except in Western Ontario where quite a few fields are reported a little thin and patchy. Present prospects, however, indicate an almost average yield. Old alfalfa fields were badly Winter-killed. Other hay and clover, and new seedings of alfalfa are generally making satisfactory growth. Pastures are good for this time of year.

High Death Rate From Pneumonia

The slight decline in pneumonia mortality in the last fifteen years is insignificant, compared with the decline in deaths from such communicable diseases as tuberculosis and diphtheria, Dr. A. H. Sellers, Medical Statistician of the Ontario Department of Health, told delegates to the Ontario Health Officers' Association's 24th annual convention in Toronto last week.

"The death records," he pointed out, "make it quite clear that pneumonia is quite prevalent throughout Ontario. As a cause of invalidism and death, it far exceeds all the communicable diseases of childhood, and very few acute conditions have such a high death rate."

Pneumonia, he stated, ranked fourth among the chief causes of death in Ontario, with 60 per cent. of all pneumonia deaths occurring at home.

Volcano Drives Native Insane

Another Dies of Fright When Six-Day Eruption in Philippines Reaches Climax

Smoke and flames shot from Mayon volcano in the Philippines with great violence last week, terrorizing the populace of Albay Province and causing the death of one man through fright.

The sixday eruption of the 7,000-foot peak mounted in intensity, causing fear that the climax of the volcano's activity was yet to come.

Reports from the village of Pawa said one man there died of fright while the sight of the flaming volcano, which had been quiet for 10 years, had driven another man insane.

Earthquakes Accompanied

After a night of close-up observation, Rev. Miguel Selga, director of the Manila Weather Bureau, expressed apprehension that the activity of the crater might be graver than at first was indicated. Light earthquakes accompanied the rumblings from the crater.

More than 16,000 villagers of the area 200 miles southeast of Manila have vacated their homes and have sought safety from the lava flow from the volcano which caused the death of 1,200 people in an eruption in 1814.

Capsules Reduce Accident Hazard

May One Day Be Used By Motorists to Guarantee Safe Driving—Improve Vision

It may not be long before an automobile driver will swallow a capsule to help keep him out of motoring accidents at night.

That procedure was hinted at in experiments reported in an Ohio Medical Journal article.

The capsule is filled with carotenein-oil, a potent source of vitamin A. Vitamin A improves vision in the dark, reducing eye strain and fatigue, two big causes of motor smash-ups.

Use of the capsule as "safe driving medicine" was indicated indirectly by the experimenters: Dr. Ralph C. Wise, eye specialist of Mansfield, O., and Dr. O. H. Shettler of the medical department of the Westinghouse Electric Company.

Relieves Eye Fatigue

The Ohio Journal article on the Wise-Shettler work was devoted entirely to the primary concern of the experiments—relieving eye fatigue among certain types of industrial workers and thus improving the workers' general health and capacity for work.

The article reported that by giving the workers three carotene-in-oil capsules daily, vision was so improved that the efficiency of color-matching inspectors in a merchandising plant was increased more than 75 per cent.

Improves the Health

As a by-product of the tests, the article said, the experimenters discovered an appreciable improvement in the workers' health.

Another by-product, the doctors disclosed in connection with the article, was the capsules' effect on night driving.

A number of employees, he said, reported that whereas they had dreaded night driving prior to taking the capsules, they found motoring no longer a strain after using the medicine.

Germans Suggest Economic Empire

Papers Cite British Treaties As Example for Balkan Areas

Two German newspapers are urging the campaign for Reich economic hegemony in the rich Balkans and Danubian Basin be furthered by according "dominion" status to those areas under a system of accords similar to those evolved for the British Commonwealth of Nations by Imperial Conferences of the past.

The Berliner Boersen Zeitung, criticizing the "incomprehension" of the democracies of "problems" facing Czechoslovakia's Sudeten Germans and other Southeastern European issues, said the Balkans and the Danubian Basin must be tied to the Reich just as the several Dominions are linked with Greta Britain.

With Preferential Tariffs

The newspaper Germania, in suggesting an economic plan in which the equivalent of a colonial empire would be achieved by preferential tariffs modelled after the British Empire's economic agreements, contended that the Reich and Italy should play the central role. Enjoying primary links with them would be Hungary, Yugo-Slavia, Bulgaria, Greece, Albania, Spain and the Spanish colonies. On the border of the economic "commonwealth" would stand Poland, Rumania, Turkey and Japan.

Plan Would Shift Half Population Within 72 Hours

The British Government and the railway companies have worked out a plan under which 3,500,000 people could be moved at least 50 miles from London by rail in 72 hours, Geoffrey Lloyd, Under-Secretary to the Home Office, told the House of Commons last week.

A plan for reception of such refugees, in the event of an emergency, and their disposal in rural areas, also was drawn up, said Mr. Lloyd as he terminated for the Government a debate on air raid precautions.

Bomb-Proof Shelters

Earlier Sir Samuel Hoare, Home Secretary, revealed details of other preparations to protect populations of large cities. He stated trench and dug-out air raid shelters accommodating up to 1,500,000 people could be built in London's open spaces.

His personal opinion, formed after consultation between Home Office experts and observers of severe bombings in Barcelona and other Spanish Government cities, Sir Samuel said, was that it was better to disperse the population of a raided city in numerous small shelters than to try to concentrate them in vast underground constructions.

NEXT WEEK IN THIS PAPER A NEW FEATURE WILL START ——

ARE YOU LISTENING?

Snappy Microphone Gossip About the Week's Radio Programs and Personalities . . . . By Freddie Tee

WATCH FOR IT !

VOICE of the PRESS

CANADA
THE EMPIRE
THE WORLD AT LARGE

CANADA

Five Kinds of Wolves

The Sault Star says there are three kinds of wolves in Algoma—the timber, the brush and the coyote. What about the other two—the human wolf and the wolf at the door? — St. Thomas Times-Journal.

It Goes Often, Anyway

An Ontario dean asserts that coining of the Canadian five-cent pieces "was a curse to the Church." Still, it may be said for the nickel that it goes to church oftener than the bigger coins or dollar bills.—Montreal Gazette.

Not So Far From War

The real point is that Canada is not so far away from war dangers as the more complacent Canadians imagine. Even in the Great War an attempt was made to blow up a factory in Windsor. That was just a taste of what might be expected in the way of incidents in these days of improved ways of killing people—Windsor Daily Star.

Why Not Cut Sales Tax?

It has been pointed out that the Canadian National Railways system pays about $5,000,000 annually in sales tax. In other words, the amount may be reckoned as part of the deficit met through taxation. The sales tax is also a substantial item in the cost of goods purchased by school boards and other municipal bodies. If it cannot be abolished it ought at least to be reduced from the present high level.—Woodstock Sentinel-Review.

Hit-and-Run Cowards

Six hit-and-run accidents, one death and four persons injured during the week-end: That is a pretty Monday morning reflection for any so-called civilized community to get of itself. How long is Ontario going to allow it to go on? How many people have to die unattended in roadside ditches before public opinion moves against this most contemptible of cowards? Where do we draw the line between a man who deliberately murders and one who, knowing he has injured another, sneaks off to let him die, so inhumanly, perhaps needlessly?—Toronto Globe and Mail.

Our Canadian "Cities

Another thing that might well be standardized throughout the Dominion is the population required before a community may be incorporated as a city. For many years an Ontario town could become a city if it possessed a population in excess of 10,000, and it has been repeatedly suggested that Brockville should take advantage of that stipulation and get out of the ranks of the towns in which she has been situated since 1832. Within recent years, however, the provincial lawmakers have raised the standard, and 15,000 is the population now required of a community before it may legally attain cityhood. At that rate, it appears that Brockville will have to wait for some years before it joins the other cities of the Province. But in Manitoba a place may still become a city when it has 10,000 or over. In Alberta, a city means a community of 5,000 or more, and in British Columbia it is actually the law that any place with 100 male inhabitants may become incorporated as a city. — Brockville Recorder and Times.

The EMPIRE

"Sauce for the Goose . . ."

If the Spanish war ends with a victory for the insurgents while the Czechoslovak question is still in the balance, France will find herself faced not only with the German menace to her ally but with an Italy able and willing to raise all sorts of trouble in the Mediterranean, to cut the sea routes to the French colonies, perhaps to help General Franco in some demonstration against the French frontier. This state of things is only to be ended if France admits Italy's right to intervene in Spain while forbidding herself the mildest of countermeasures. The logical and sufficient answer to this is obvious enough. If Signor Mussolini considers that France is "intervening" dangerously in the Spanish war he has the remedy of declaring for genuine intervention on all sides. France, Britain, and all the peaceable States of Europe would be overjoyed to see all "volunteers" withdrawn from Spain, all supplies of war material stopped. There is not much doubt that the civil war would end quickly enough if its conduct were left to the Spaniards themselves. But if Italy will not agree to non-intervention then she should have no right to complain even if the intervention of other Powers were on a scale to match her own.

Famous Skull Is Restored to Body

VIENNA.—The skull of Franz Joseph Haydn, eighteenth century Austrian composer, is to be restored to the rest of the body, from which it was separated 129 years ago. Mayor Hermann Neubacher has ordered the skull, for years the property of the Vienna Men's Singing Society, returned to the resting place of the body in the Burgenland town of Eisenstadt. Haydn died in 1809 at the age of 77. Two days after his funeral the skull was stolen from his coffin.

According to an old Yorkshire superstition, cutting a child's nails during the first year of his life will cause him to grow up a thief.

British Films Try Comeback

$8,750,000 Will Be Spent In Effort to Win Markets—Filming Gilbert & Sullivan in Colors

Pinewood Studios (Iver, Bucks) has announced that £1,750,000 ($8,750,000) will be spent on films there in the next few months. This means work for 2,000 people until the end of October.

Behind the announcement lies a "big push" to establish British films firmly on the world's markets.

Although Pinewood was only completed 18 months ago with cries that it would never be a success the company behind it may prove the real pioneers of a comeback in British films.

The most expensive films will be a colored version of Gilbert and Sullivan's "Mikado" costing £200,000.

Work will start on that within the next two months, and it will be followed by "Yeoman of the Guard," involving another £100,000.

"There is a boom coming, and we are ready for it. Our studios are capable of producing any film, no matter how ambitious it may be.

"It is now the finest studio in the country and in many respects superior to Hollywood."

Chemist Serves As Caterpillar

Now, instead of carefully guarding millions of caterpillars, providing them with bushels of mulberry leaves and waiting patiently for the preverse creatures to spin their silk-covered cocoons, the chemist takes a short-cut and turns plant material into "silk" without an intermediary.

The mulberry leaf consumed by the silkworm contains cellulose, the principal raw material used in the manufacture of rayon. But the fibres of silk and rayon are quite different chemically. The chemist chooses the spruce tree and cotton plant as his source of highly purified cellulose.

The silkworm is also a chemist, but it changes cellulose into a filament that is chemically a protein compound, extruding through two organs called spinnerets. This makes several important differences in the end products. One is that silk demands different dyes than rayon in order to achieve best results. Another important difference is that while nothing can be done to govern the size of fibres spun by the worm, rayon can be spun any desired size from filaments finer than silk to others more coarse than horsehair. Likewise, chemicals can be used to modify or control the degree of lustre or dulness of rayon yarn.

NAMES IN THE NEWS

SIR FREDERICK BANTING K.B.E.

Recognized the world over as the scientist who made one of the most important discoveries of our times, the cure for diabetes, Sir Frederick Grant Banting, K.B.E., has given Canada reason for taking great pride in such a native son, a benefactor to humanity, and a truly remarkable man.

Born 47 years ago in Alliston, Ontario, Frederick Banting attended the local public and high schools and passed on to the study of medicine at the University of Toronto. After graduation, he enlisted with the C. A. M. C. for service overseas, was wounded at Cambrai, decorated with the Military Cross. Following the war he entered the Sick Children's Hospital, Toronto, as resident surgeon, shortly going to London, Ontario, where he joined the staff of the University of Western Ontario, working with the Physiology Department. In 1921 the young scientist came to Toronto. On May 16th of that year he began his epoch-making research into the internal secretion of the pancreas, experimenting with dogs and on himself.

Epoch-Making Discovery

In March of 1922, the discovery was announced to the world of an extract obtained from the "islands" (special little groups of tissue) of the pancreas of animals which when injected into a human being with diabetes would overcome faulty oxidization in the body (inability to utilize starches and sugars) and cure the disease.

Dr. Banting and his co-worker, C. H. Best, received tremendous acclaim throughout the world for their discovery. Dr. Banting was awarded with the Nobel Prize the following year, the youngest man to win it. He has since been honored by many medical and scientific bodies of this and other lands.

During the past few years while he has been Professor of Medical Research at the University of Toronto, Sir Frederick has interested himself in cardiac diseases, cancer research, prevention of silicosis, a specific to cure infantile paralysis; he has investigated the qualities of the royal jelly of the giant bee, believing it might contain properties capable of prolonging life. He has discovered many uses for insulin; in a shock treatment for mental diseases; in cases of malnutrition; in lessening the effects of infectious diseases.

More and More Research

With regard to the search for a cure for cancer, Sir Frederick recently said: "The solution of the cancer problem probably will not come by chance, but by further research. What is needed in the treatment for cancer is a specific." Research and more research is what he calls for.

At present Dr. Banting is Chairman of the Associate Committee on Medical Research of the National Research Council of Canada. This summer he plans to tour the Dominion from coast to coast, visiting each of the principal centres in turn to learn at first hand of the scientific work in progress here.