News Parade

Commentary on the Highlights of the Week's News . . . by Peter Randal

DOMESTIC TROUBLES: A visitor from Ireland who set foot on our shores last week for the first time received a series of shocks on talking with people here after his arrival. All his life he had heard about the land of peace and plenty which is ours, never had imagined that we have troubles of our own over here. He knew about the "sorrows of Ireland" but not about our railways problem, our wheat problem, our unemployment situation, the isolationist leanings of Quebec, Ontario, Alberta. So it was that his eyes were opened....

But with midsummer here, we have forgotten for the time being the railways problem, the sectionalism of Quebec, etc. (It would be well to watch these.) We are more concerned with fighting the "cussedness" of nature—grasshoppers on the prairie, cutworms in Ontario, black flies in the north, fruit-flies in the orchard, house-flies in the parlor, bats in the belfry.....

Can't a fellow have a little peace and comfort sometime?

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TIGHTENING THE SCREWS: Over in Europe the heat doesn't seem to be stopping Germany and Italy any——The second anniversary of the Spanish war rolls around, Mussolini throws more men and munitions into Spain——Facing a wheat shortage at home Il Duce wishes the Anglo-Italian agreement would come into force so he could borrow a sizeable amount from Great Britain..... Hitler puts the screws on Czechoslovakia, screaming propaganda about Czech "aggression" from every publicity organ at his disposal——at home the German stock market suffers the worst collapse of the Nazi era, securities go into a tailspin.....

The Sino-Jap conflict in the Far East (war is still undeclared) enters its second year.....Japan is drawn further and further into the interior of Asia while Chinese resistance gains strength daily——Japanese unemployment soars and the domestic economy of the nation finds itself in a bad way.....

But in spite of their troubles at home, the Rome, Berlin, Tokio governments work well together towards their common objective—a place for each in the sun. If Hitler is planning a coup on Czechoslovakia, Mussolini stages an extra-big ruckus in Spain, Japan creates a tense situation in the east by accusing Russia of invading Japanese-held Manchukuo..... By setting up counter-attractions they seek to draw public attention away from the main event. The machinery tightens, tightens.

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AID FOR THE DROWNED: Since the method of artificial respiration was first introduced, it has been the custom for those practising it in cases of near-drowning to give up after the first hour or shortly thereafter. The Health League of Canada now issues a bulletin saying that artificial respiration should be continued for as long as four hours. At the end of that time natural breathing may be restored.

Dr. Frederick Banting, eminent scientist who discovered insulin, is adding further to our knowledge of how to treat victims of near-drowning. He says that sometimes when the heart-beat is no longer audible to the human ear and the patient is pronounced dead, an electro-cardiograph can pick up the sounds of the organ, still beating.

It is believed, also, that Sir Frederick has found a serum, which, when injected into a drowned animal, will restore it to life. Whether or not the same serum will work in the case of human beings is a problem for further research.

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WAR ON RELIGION: There are many in this country, not seriously worried by the Nazi menace, who believe that the Hitler regime in Germany will be wrecked on the rock of the Church, that the Reichsfuehrer's war against the Vatican will result in the turning against him of a vast number of the German people. There's something in that. How long are the people of Germany likely to sit down under an autocracy which persecutes priests and nuns, attacks young children coming from mass, consigns a Protestant minister to a concentration camp? A systematic war on all aspects of religious life is being carried on which cannot help but strike at the roots of all that the people hold dear.

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CHANGE OF LOCATION: — Yielding to the pressure of the war barons who are behind the Government's every move, Japan has sadly relinquished her invitation for the 1940 Olympic Games to be held in the Land of the Rising Sun. She needs the cash badly to carry on the war in China and can't afford to use materials, particularly steel and concrete, in Olympic plant construction which are necessary to the war machine.

The Japanese public is bitterly disappointed, observers say, as they feel that Japan has not only lost face abroad, but even very much more within Japan. When the Olympiad was awarded to Tokyo in 1936, there was the greatest rejoicing through the nation, because it was considered a foreign admission of Japan's athletic equality with other nations.

Helsingfors, Finland, will be the scene of the 1940 Olympiad, instead.

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THE WEEK'S QUESTION: — What other leaders of a Canadian political party, besides Dr. R. J. Manion (Conservative), were Roman Catholics? Answer: Sir Wilfred Laurier (Liberal), Sir John Thompson (Conservative).

Albino Colts All Succumb

It's Still a Mystery to Breeders As Sixth Pink-Skinned Animal Dies on Prairie Farm

The death of an albino colt three days after its birth on the ranch of Don Galarneau, near Mortlach, 25 miles west of Moose Jaw, has once more proved how difficult it is to rear these strange little animals.

No fewer than six albino colts, known to the Indians as "snow horses," have been born on the best veterinary care.

Pink-Eyed, Pink-Skinned

Why these pink eyed, pink skinned little horses die is a mystery to breeders and scientists. Indians recall that in the past some were raised to maturity on rare occasions.

The albinos are born of pinto parents. An interesting and successful experiment in breeding of pinto horses has been under way for several years on the ranch. With a nucleus of four mares and a stud Galarneau started a pinto herd that now numbers 25 head.

Bicycles are being sold in Tokyo, Japan, at $3 each.

His Head Was A Radio Set

Every Night He Tried To Go To Sleep He Heard Music—Found Bed-Frame Acted As Aerial.

"Are you crazy or am I?" the chief radio engineer of Station WOR, New York, asked his worried-looking visitor.

"Honest, it's just as I tell you," said the visitor miserably. "I don't have a radio, my neighbors don't have a radio, yet every night when I go to sleep I hear radio music. It's getting me down. I can't sleep."

His Teeth Partly Responsible

The chief engineer was a patient man and curious. And his visitor didn't look crazy. So he started asking questions. He learned that the worried one was employed grinding paper knives, that he lived near WOR's transmitter, that he read in bed, and that he had gold fillings in his teeth. And a great light dawned. The facts, apparently so unrelated, fitted together perfectly.

Carborundum dust from the knife grinding wheels had settled in the man's gold fillings. When he went to bed and switched off his reading-lamp, attached to the top of the bed, the bed-frame became an aerial. As his jaw relaxed when he fell asleep the carborundum in his gold teeth acted as a crystal detector and intercepted programmes from the nearby station. When the music wakened him, he switched on his bed lamp, partially short-circuiting the bed frame aerial and cutting off the programme. He could switch himself on and off!

The chief engineer explained. He did more. He presented the worried one with a toothbrush. Now everything is O.K.

Keeps Tobacco Mixture Moist

Method of Regulating Moisture In Box Is Discovered

Dr. Ralph H. McKee, of the chemical engineering department of Columbia University, made public last week patented formulas of salt compounds to regulate automatically the moisture in a box of tobacco, preventing spoilage and retaining indefinitely the flavor of the leaf.

Dr. McKee said that the formulas made possible the preservation of motion picture films and also of foods.

Compound of Two Salts

He found that two salts, ordinary borax and Glauber salt, would absorb moisture in exactly the correct amounts.

He said that the compound made possible a constant figure of 70 per cent. saturated atmosphere for the tobacco. In the case of foods, Dr. McKee illustrated with a box of crackers which he had kept on the shelf of his office for five months, with the compound at the bottom of the box. The moisture was maintained at the level of 45 per cent. saturated atmosphere and the crackers, when removed, tasted fresh and crisp. He said that the formulas would make possible the preservation of motion picture films without their gelatinous surfaces drying and cracking, by keeping them sufficiently damp in tin boxes.

A Perfect Game For Lazy Sports

Throwing the javelin and the discus are sports of the ancients which still enjoy great popularity with modern athletes. Now Australia has gone one better. Boomerang throwing is becoming one of the leading sports in the Commonwealth as a result of the advice of Dr. Harvey Sutton, director of the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine.

The boomerang has the advantage over the javelin and the discus, as well as other retrieving sports, in that it comes back to the thrower instead of the thrower being oblized to go after it.

Roadside "Courts" Satisfy Tourists

Attorney-General Conant Says System Is Working Out Well

TORONTO. — United States tourists are saving time and trouble these days with Ontario's roadside traffic "courts".

When they do the wrong thing on the highway—and are caught at it—the provincial traffic officer becomes both prosecutor and judge. He determines the fine and collects it on the spot. If the tourist disagrees, he can go into court in the usual way and get a refund if he proves himself right.

Attorney-General G. D. Conant said the scheme was again working out satisfactorily this year. No complaints have been received by the department. On the contrary, any move to abolish the plan would be a direct move against the tourist business, in Mr. Conant's view.

The amounts assessed by traffic officers are usually accepted as reasonable by the offending tourists, for few appear in courts throughout the province to contest the charges read against them—on which the officer is waiting to pay in the fine already collected.

Sawdust Heats Western Homes

New Type of Domestic Fuel Is Used by 20,000 Homes In And Around Vancouver

Nearly 20,000 homes in and around Vancouver are heated by sawdust which a few years ago was sent to refuse burners, says T. A. McElhanney, superintendent of the forest products laboratories, Dominion Forest Service, Ottatwa.

"Research is constantly unfolding new uses for wood and new methods of curtailing waste," Mr. McElhanney said. "Sawdust is now being used for domestic fuel on the Pacific coast. In Europe many automobiles, trucks and buses are operated on producer gas from charcoal. Ethyl alcohol from wood is being mixed with gasoline for motor fuel. Since 35 to 60 per cent. of the forest stand in Canada now is wasted in logging or milling, the possibilities of corresponding developments in Canada offer attractive fields for the research engineer."

The BOOK SHELF

By ELIZABETH EEDY

"MADAME CURIE"
By Eve Curie

Mme. Curie's daughter prefaces to her biography a brief passage on the almost mythical life of her mother. The little Polish girl had to surmount poverty and prejudice. She did so by dint of almost incredible effort and with no rancor. She rearranged her life to admit a great love and a comradeship which would seem almost unique in its breadth and depth of understanding. Then, devastated by the sudden death of her beloved husband, she closed that door to life, and took up alone the work they had started and carried forward together. She was honored by kings and queens, scientists and common people. She rejected wealth and tried in vain to turn aside fame. She outwitted blindness, and more than once she seemed to outwit death itself to carry on her work until, nearing the end of her sixties. The glowing element, radium, the glowing element, radium, which she herself had discovered was a factor in her own end.

Love and Work Blended

In another age the temperament of Marie Curie would have made her a saint.

Eve Curie's biography of her mother is fascinating as a record of scientific research. Though written by one who lived from babyhood in the atmosphere of a laboratory, it makes clear and vivid and concrete to non-technical readers the story of the discovery of radium and the development of that knowledge which Mme. Curie carried on so brilliantly until the end of her life. Its real import, however, is the story of the woman whose life was all but synonymous with that history.

"Madame Curie," by Eve Curie. Translated by Vincent Sheean. 393 pp. Toronto: Doubleday, Doran and Company, 215 Victoria Street.

VOICE of the PRESS

THE WORLD AT LARGE — CANADA THE EMPIRE

CANADA

SLING A MEAN CAN-OPENER

Perhaps modern wives don't make bread like their grandmothers did, but they certainly can make good sandwiches.—Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph.

WHEN YOUR TROUBLES BEGIN

If the Dionnes all live together in one house they'll have to instal a telephone switchboard with day and night operators later on. — Brandon Sun.

INGENUITY TEST

Man's vaunted claim to ingenuity is now undergoing two supreme tests: how to creat a peaceful world society and how to devise an original radio program.—Toronto Saturday Night.

ONE WHO COUNTS

Mrs. Black should not be allowed to resign her seat in the Yukon, not even to make way for the new leader. She utters more good common sense than most of the other members of Parliament. We could name a couple of dozen members who could be dropped out without making any difference to Parliament, but Mrs. Black is not one of them. — St. Thomas Times-Journal.

THE IDEAL PARLIAMENT

Parliament should be an assembly of patriotic representatives whose supreme ideal is the welfare of the country, and not partisan advantage. Useless debate and strife undoubtedly serve to keep many men out of Parliament who would be willing to give their time and ability to the service of the country, but who cannot possibly tolerate months of idle talk and partisan recriminations. The pity of it is that too frequently the outstanding leaders of the party set the example, whereas they should endeavor to raise debate to a higher level.—Brantford Expositor.

GET DOWN TO EARTH

The public is so used by now to the dire warnings about "millions and billions" in Canada, for example, that they lose significance—the national debt is almost an abstraction to the majority Nor have some of the revelations made of outrageous extravagance caused more than a temporary political stir. Governments naturally like to maintain this condition. They like to use the "millions and billions" in loose talk about what they are going to do to balance the budget, and in denunciations of the financial orgies of their opponents. It was a good game at one time—like other effective bromides of the hustings — but what is needed now is more of the searchlight in analysis.—Hamilton Spectator.

WE TRAVEL TOO FAST

It is being said increasingly often of late that we have permitted the wonders of science to outstrip the impulses of our hearts. In other words, we have developed the mechanics of civilization faster than we have acquired real knowledge of how to use them properly.

"The modern tempo is too fast, and we should cultivate the art of being able to relax."

So advises Dr. A. C. Routley, General Secretary of the Canadian Medical Association. And it is a thought worthy of consideration.

It may be true that we need to give our souls a chance to catch up with our bodies. Perhaps we should pause and get a new sense of values.

We have traveled far in a material way in the last half-century. We have gone far mechanically. But what progress have we made spiritually?

The doctor is right—we travel too fast. — St. Catharines Standard.

The EMPIRE

THE IMPORTANCE OF CANADA

Great Britain, as Mr. MacDonald pointed out at the Imperial press conference recently, is the one indisputably first-class power within the British Commonwealth of Nations. Other Dominions, however, are on their way to becoming first-class Powers. Canada, for instance, could support a population larger than the present population of the British Isles, where some of the experts predict a sharp decline in numbers. The emergence of a first-class British Power in the New World is bound to have far-reaching effects upon the destinies of the world. Canada's large frontier marches with the frontier of the United States, whose capital in more prosperous days flows readily into Canada Geographically, Canada looks southwards. Statesmanship for her consists in a wise adjustment between the pull of geography from the United States and the pull of sentiment from the Mother Country. So long as Canada is strong, there can be no fundamental cleavage between Great Britain and the United States.—Yorkshire Post.

John Schafft, of West Saugerties, N.Y., decided that his radio needed a new aerial.

Mrs. Ella Simon said that she would help him.

Eleven year old Jacqueline Krable watched.

Schafft coiled the wire and tossed it over the roof of a summer cottage.

Mrs. Simon caught it—and fell dead.

Schafft rushed to her side, stooped to lift her—jerked convulsively, and died.

NAMES IN THE NEWS

DOUGLAS CORRIGAN

The biggest news story of the month broke in Dublin, Ireland, when down out of the clouds above the Baldonnel Airport came an antiquated plane—a nine-year-old "crate", in fact—flown from no one knew where. Landing, it was immediately surrounded by stunned airport officials and a crowd of astonished Irishmen who wanted to know the whence and the wherefore.

"I'm Douglas Corrigan," declared a smiling pilot as he stepped down from the cockpit. "Just got in from New York. Where am I? I intended to fly to California but I guess my compass went wrong."

No Radio Aboard

It came out in the course of the next few minutes that pilot Corrigan (31, of Santa Monica, Cal) had flown his battered $900 single-engined airplane across the Atlantic in 28 hours, 13 minutes without benefit of radio, maps or fancy instruments. "He flew by the seat of his trousers," a friend back in the States remarked.

When he left the airport in New York Corrigan was carrying 320 gallons of gasoline, half a gallon of water and some chocolate biscuits. Thirty gallons of gasoline remained when he landed.

By his unique flight Corrigan has joined the long list of noted solo transatlantic fliers, which included Col. Charles A. Linbergh, the late Amelia Earhart and the late Wiley Post.

Roll a better Cigarette!

...with this much better cigarette tobacco produced by Canada's oldest tobacco manufacturer. It's good—try it!

TUCKETTS FINE CUT 10¢