News Parade

By Elizabeth Eedy

NEAR EXPLOSION POINT: The internationally famous woman journalist Paula LeCler who has just returned from a two-month tour of England, France, Poland, Lithuania and the Baltic States says that a war crisis more intense than that preceding the Munich "peace" will break over Europe this month or early in April. Only a miracle, she claims, will prevent the outbreak of actual hostilities this time.

An interesting observation: "Poland holds the balance of power in this delicate European situation. Lying as it does between two great dictatorships. Poland has made it clear that while it wishes to be neutral, it will fight any power that touches an inch of its territory."

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THE NEW POPE: A triumph for the democracies it is that Eugenio Cardinal Pacelli has been chosen as the new Pope Pius XII over the protests of Fascist powers in Europe. Official Germany met the announcement of his election in sulky silence. (As Papal Secretary of State Cardinal Pacelli had been solidly behind Pope Pius XI in his denunciation of Nazi activities against the Catholic Church).

Now, under the leadership of the relatively young and virile Pius XII it seems that the Church is about to abandon its policy of more or less passive resistance and launch a major push all along the ecclesiastical front.

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RURAL HYDRO: The statement that Hon. W. L. Houck, vice-chairman of the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario, recently made about the extension of Hydro services in Ontario having reached the saturation point didn't strike us as being quite sound. We thought of all the farm houses and buildings we knew of which are still lighted by kerosene lamps and lanterns.

The Owen Sound Sun-Times, The Stratford Beacon-Herald and the Windsor Daily Star have taken Mr. Houck up on it, we are glad to report. It is pointed out that there are plenty of areas in rural Ontario not yet completely serviced by Hydro; there are many districts untapped, or just touched, by power line developments. The Windsor Star suggests that Mr. Houck go up and take a look around the farms in Dufferin, Wellington, Grey, Simcoe, Bruce and Huron counties. In conclusion: "There are thousands of Ontario farmers who still want Hydro, if it is made available to them and they can pay for it."

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REJECTED DRIVERS: The Department of Highways informs us that 23 per cent. of the people who undergo tests for drivers' licenses in the province are turned down by the examiner, for reasons of inability to operate the vehicle successfully, physical handicaps, criminal offenses involving motor vehicles, mental incompetence.

Now the Ontario Motor League proposes that all motorists pass eyesight tests before being allowed to drive.

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RUMOR DEPARTMENT (not to be depended on, of course): It is whispered that instead of a long parliamentary session lasting well on into the middle of the summer, House of Commons proceedings at Ottawa may be cut short soon after the visit of the King and Queen, and an early election called, probably for September.

Balloon Blockade Protects Germany

The German air force has placed hundreds of balloons on cables around cities and industrial centres of the Reich and established a new "blockade" division to man this new defence system in case of air attacks.

Motorized troops have been in training to inflate and send the balloons thousands of yards into the air in a few minutes when an alarm is given. Two motor units are assigned to each balloon. The troops have been in training for these special duties for months.

Each balloon is a unit in the German system. A plan of suspending nets from cables was discarded as impractical.

In Stagger Formation

The balloons are staggered, so that it would be almost impossible for an aviator to escape all of them over a given point. Some of them are to be sent up as high as 32,000 feet, others to lower altitudes.

Plans have been made in this way for protecting all startegic points. Comparatively few balloons are needed for such points as bridges, power works, dams and similar structures, because they are more difficult to attack from the air.

Snow Blankets Ancient Citadel in Quebec City

Where the man ABOVE is seen walking the King and Queen will walk . . . but in a different atmosphere. It's a picture taken at the entrance to The Citadel, residence of the lieutenant-governor of Quebec, where their majesties wil stay temporarily while visiting Canada this summer. The heaviest snowfall in Quebec city in a quarter century made the walks mere canyons instead of the vantage points to gaze around the historic fort that they usually are.

Blamed For Breath Of Another Man

Sarnia Citizen Asleep In Church Meeting Is Looked At Askance By Congregation Who Smell Liquor.

Rumor has it that one of Sarnia's most respectable citizens is being slandered these days. It all happened because the respectable citizen had been working late at night and was so tired that he fell asleep at a church meeting.

He (the respectable citizen) went to the church meeting one night last week and sat down in one of the rear seats. Another man, a member of the same church, came in and seated himself beside the sleeper. The trouble was that the second man had been drinking — and had sense enough not to show it.

Tongues Set Wagging

But he did smell of alcohol. And the combination of the odor and the sleeping form of the respectable citizen was enough to set tongues wagging.

Women passed by with scornful looks and muttered rebukes. One of them stopped and spoke to the man who had been drinking.

"Isn't it disgusting?" she said indignantly. "In church of all places!"

Knows Nothing About It

The man who had been drinking never so much as smiled. He turned his head when he answered the lady and agreed that the whole thing was shameful.

So tongues are wagging in Sarnia these days, unknown to the man who fell asleep. He, respectable citizen, knows nothing of the incident other than that he dozed off for a moment or two at a church meeting.

Short-tailed field or pine mice are causing severe damage to apple trees in Annapolis Valley district, N.S. Orchardists in some sections estimated from 25 5to 50 per cent. of thier trees damaged.

Lucknow Man Grows Lemons And Oranges

A greenhouse at Lucknow, Ont., has a lemon tree which has one lemon on it measuring about twelve inches in circumference. There are three or four smaller size lemons on this hothouse tree. It is in a pot and is less than three feet high. An orange tree is also producing small oranges this year, one has matured and ripened. Another curio is a fig tree that bore fruit but it dropped off before ripening.

PUCK CHASERS

NEWS OF O.H.A. DOINGS

CANADIAN AMATEUR HOCKEY

Playdowns for this season in Canadian Amateur Hockey (Eastern Section) have been arranged as follows:

Senior Series

A—Ottawa and District A.H.A. (3 out of 5 series) vs. Maritimes A.H.A.—at Maritimes A.H.A. Mar. 16, Mar. 18;
at Ottawa and District A.H.A. Mar. 21, Mar. 23 and Mar. 25 if necessary.

B—Winner of "A" Series vs. O.H.A. (2 out of 3 series)—at Ottawa and District Mar. 25 and Mar. 27;
at O.H.A. Mar. 27 or Mar. 29 or Mar. 31 if necessary.

C—Eastern Final (2 out of 3 series)—at Winner "B" Mar. 29, or Mar. 31 or Apr. 3;
at Quebec A.H.A. Mar. 31, or Apr. 3, or Apr. 5 and Apr. 7 if necessary.

Junior Series

A—Ottawa and District A.H.A. vs. Maritimes A.H.A.—at Maritimes Mar. 21, Mar. 23 and Mar. 25 if necessary.

B—Winner of "A" Series vs. Quebec A.H.A.
"If" Ottawa and District wins "A" Series—at Quebec A.H.A. Mar. 28;
at Ottawa and District Mar. 30 and April 1 if necessary.
"If" M.A.H.A. wins "A" Series—all games at Quebec A.H.A. with same dates.

C—Winner of "B" Series vs. O.H.A.
"If" Ottawa and District or Quebec A.H.A. wins "B" Series—at Ottawa and District o. Quebec A.H.A. April 3, and at O.H.A. Apr. 5 and Apr. 7 if necessary.
"If" Maritimes A.H.A. wins "B" Series—all games at O.H.A. with same dates.

Trucks Market Farm Produce

The Provincial Minister of Agriculture has estimated that 90 per cent. of Ontario-grown farm produce reaches market by motor truck. Highways, he said, had changed shipping and marketing methods to a degree "never dreamed of by the people of two generations ago—indeed never anticipated by our own parents."

Marketing Methods Changed

Referring to such highway shipments, Mr. Dewan mentioned the fruit and vegetable station at Gravenhurst inspected 4,098 trucks loaded with produce north-bound from June 18 to Dec. 24, 1938, an increase of 46 per cent. over the previous year.

"Some 443 loads of apples, 193 loads of other products, 414 tons of produce in all were held for reconditioning," he said.

More than 2,000,000 Italians and 100,000 Germans are now living in Argentina.

U.S. Flier Crashes Into Barn Near Parkhill, Ont.

Lieut. L. A. Cowles, of the U.S. Army Air Corps, was instantly killed when his Seversky pursuit plane crashed into a barn near Parkhill, Ont., killing two horses, a cow and 70 chickens. Lieut. Cowles is thought to have become lost in a dense fog and crashed when his gasoline supply became exhausted.

VOICE OF THE PRESS

WANTED—MORE PEOPLE

Everybody talks about solutions of the railway problem, but everybody avoids the discussion of the most obvious one; more population —Toronto Saturday Night.

BEAVERS, BEWARE!

It is evident that, given a real chance, beaver will soon have so multiplied in the province that a profitable trapping industry will again be possible—Sault Star.

EVER TRY THIS?

We often wonder if those people who talk about our three thousand miles of unprotected frontier have ever tried to argue with a customs officer.—Hamilton Spectator.

EIGHT PER CENT INDIGENT

In December 871,000 persons were receiving relief in Canada. That is about eight per cent. of the population, a large proportion in a country of great resources.—Sault Ste. Marie Star.

GREATER OPPORTUNITY

The old narrow trails where two cars could barely pass without colliding, notes a cynic, are happily being replaced by splendid wide highways on which six or eight cars can collide at the same time. —Kitchener Record.

LOST ITS CHIEF ASSET

About 60 years ago, a 50-acre farm in an Ontario township was sold for $2,200; last week it was sold for $625. The explanation lies partly in the fact that it was once all hardwood, while today it is stripped of bush.—St. Marys Journal Argus.

FARM INSURANCE

Attorney-General Conant has been pointing out that if it were not for the farmers' mutual fire insurance companies, which offer much-reduced rates, it would be almost impossible for many farmers to furnish protection for their properties. When it is known that these companies now carry a total of $52,000,000 business in Ontario, their popularity with people living in rural districts may be appreciated. — Brockville Recorder and Times.

Bathing in a high sea at Great Brak River, South Africa, Rev. D. P. van Huyssteen lost his false teeth. Four days later the set was returned to him by a young man who found them on the beach.

Germany supplied nearly nine-tenths of the tools shipped into Italy last year.

ACHING COLDS

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Don't take chances. Rub on soothing, warming Musterole. Relief quickly follows.

Musterole gets such fine results because it's NOT just a salve. It's a ***"counter-irritant"***—easing, warming, stimulating and penetrating—helpful in quickly relieving local congestion and pain.

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EXTRA MILD
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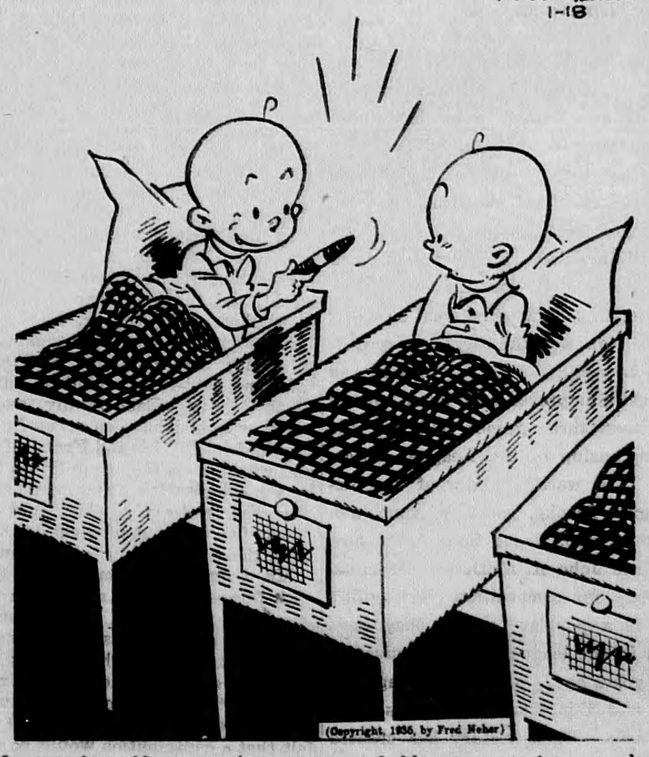
LIFE'S LIKE THAT

By Fred Neher



"Have a cigar, Monty—we've got a new daddy up at our house to-day."

WONDERLAND OF OZ

By L. Frank Baum

"But my hands will get all sun-burned without mittens," said the Kangaroo. "Nonsense," said Dorothy. "I never heard of a Kangaroo that wore mittens, never," repeated the girl. "Where do you live?" "Over there," was the answer, "but I can't go home without my mittens." In the meantime the Wizard and Uncle Henry approached the Kangaroo. "Here," he said, "are some mittens for you. The Wizard found them."

"Oh, thank you very much," said the Kangaroo. "Are you going to Fuddlecumjig?" "Yes," replied Dorothy, "how far is it?" "Just a little ways," said the Kangaroo, "but you'd better go quietly when you get close to it." "Why?" asked the Wizard, curiously. "If I told you, it would spoil the fun," said the Kangaroo. "But go quietly just the same," and with these words the Kangaroo hopped away, while the others proceeded on their journey.

They had been traveling but a short time after leaving the Kangaroo, when they spied a group of very pretty houses, standing in a green field a short distance ahead of them. Beautiful trees surrounded these houses and our friends could see nothing out of the ordinary in the scene. So, following the Kangaroo's advice, they got out of the wagon and entered the field, and very cautiously approached the group of houses. "Be very quiet," whispered the Wizard.

So silently did they move that soon they saw, through the windows of the houses, people moving around, while others were passing to and fro in the yards between the buildings. They seemed much like other people from the distance, and apparently they did not notice the little party of our friends. They had almost reached the nearest house when Toto saw a butterfly flit in front of his nose and he barked loudly at it. Instantly a clatter was heard from the house and yards.