NEWS PARADE...

The tempest in our own Ontario Legislature bade fair last week to rival the European war in significance as far as Canadians were concerned . . . Damned by some, praised by others, the Premier Hepburn-sponsored resolution censuring Prime Minister Mackenzie King's war efforts made the prime topic of conversation here . . . The action threatened on the one hand, to split the Liberal party; on the other, to get Mitchell Hepburn arrested under the War Measures Act, a wag suggested . . . (see section on statements "prejudicing recruiting") . . .

* * *

During the twentieth week of the war between Germany and the Allies, the Italian Government approved the largest military budget, $532,000,000, since Great War days. Italy's armed forces would be made ready, a Cabinet statement said, for any eventuality . . . a tremendous explosion in a London, England, gunpowder factory killed half a dozen, injured fifty . . . the Western Front grew active for a time when the Germans began bombardment of the area west of the Saar . . . . Stockholm, Sweden, readied air-raids precautions . . . the Italian liner Orazio caught fire and sank, two more British destroyers went down, and many neutral merchant ships were mined or torpedoed . . . Great Britain acknowledged the loss of three submarines, the affair of Hore-Belisha's resignation blew over . . . First Lord of the Admiralty Winston Churchill made another of his vivacious, pugnacious radio speeches . . . 21 Germans escaping from the U. S. aboard a Japanese ship were taken off it by the British . . . Swiss living in areas bordering on the Reich were given notice to expect evacuation at any time . . . German troops were reported massed along the frontiers of Hungary . .

Grain of Salt Needed

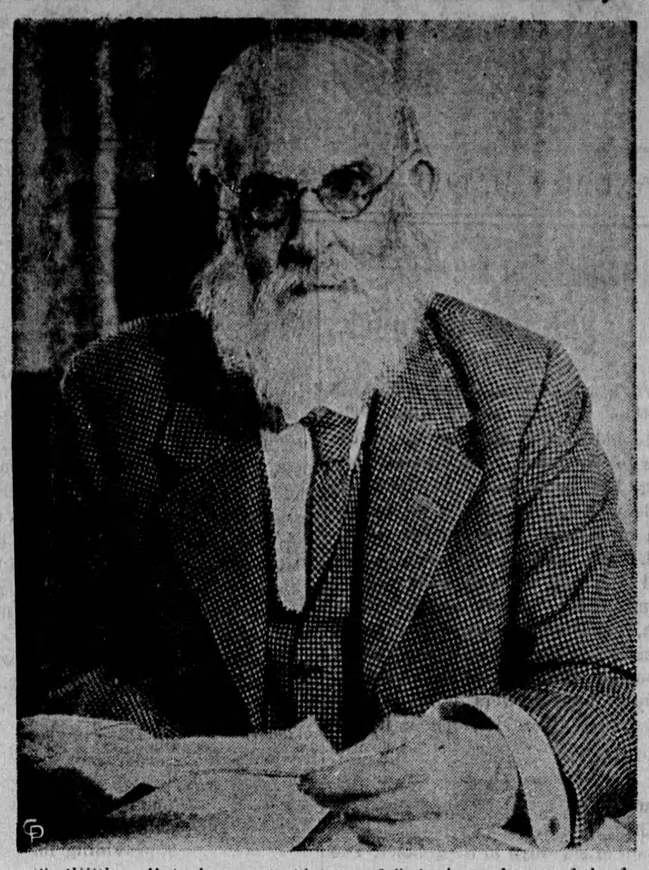
Fifty-below zero temperatures caused frightful suffering to both soldiers and civilians in the Arctic theatre of war . . . the Russians were driven back on the Salia sector, on the Karelian isthmus and north of Lake Ladoga. (If a count were made of all the Russians reported at different times to have been killed in this conflict, the staggering total of two millions would be reached . . . news magazine "Time" warns that figures are grossly exaggerated) . . . British officialdom last week advanced the belief that given 30,000 more men and 200 more airmen, plenty of armed equipment before May, the Finns could hold the Russians indefinitely . . .

Prognostications

Outstanding theories of the week: Hanson W. Baldwin, military and naval correspondent of the New York Times, said Germany probably will adopt a policy of a "war of waiting" during 1940, sitting tight as long as she can be assured of supplies from Russia; a political writer in the Paris "Temps" advised that if the Allies would undertake naval action in the Black Sea (which is Russia's tender spot on account of the oil wells in that region) Soviet reinforcements could be kept from going to the Finnish fronts; Karl von Wiegand, one of the most experienced war correspondents in the world, staked his reputation on the prediction that Italy will get into the war on the side of Germany; a trustworthy Polish observer declared that Russia is likely to cede the Galician oilfields to Germany in return for a large slice of Central Poland, including Warsaw.

MICKIE SAYS—

Ontario's Grand Old Man Celebrates 96th Birthday



Sir William Mulock, grand old man of Ontario, and one of the foremost figures of the Dominion, celebrated his 96th birthday at his home in Toronto by receiving a stream of friends and visitors, who flocked to the Mulock residence to offer their felicitations.

Puck Chasers

TOPICS OF THE CURRENT HOCKEY SEASON

Congratulations are in order to Bob Crosby and his McIntyre Mine team. They are the first Canadian club to go into New York after a week's tour and come out undefeated. They held the Rovers to a 3-all tie. Brothers Lockhart, Thompson and Miss Mulany, Secretary of the Rovers' Booster Club, haven't got over it yet.

LIMIT STICK LENGTH

The C.A.H.A. rule on over-length hockey sticks is now in effect. And that means strict enforcement of the rule limiting the length of hockey sticks and width of the blade. The rule is as follows: Hockey sticks shall not exceed 53 inches from the heel to the end of the shaft and 14¾ inches from the heel to the end of the blade. The blade of the stick shall not exceed three inches in height, except in the case of the goal-keeper's stick, which shall not exceed 3½ inches.

SENIOR "A" NOTES

Hamilton gave Goodyears a real scare in the Mountain City, losing out by a 5-4 score . . . M. J. Rodden, veteran official, made his first Senior appearance of the season in the O.H.A. as referee at St. Catherines . . . Galt signed a new centre player, McCaffrey, from Ottawa . . . Jack Astle returned to Niagara Falls after a four-week absence . . . Goodyears signed Joe Start, one-time professional, as spare goalie.

ONTARIO OUTDOORS

By VIC BAKER

WAR AND WILD LIFE

During a recent discussion on Ontario's annual fall classic, the pheasant shoot at Pelee Island, we learned with great interest that the pheasant is playing a part in England's Air Raid Precaution system by means of which the heart of the Empire is protected during these war times.

A letter appears in a British outdoor publication as follows:

"In these days of substitutes, why not a few pheasants instead of the much-maligned A. R. P. warden? As one of the latter and a keeper of the former, I am relying on my birds, both by day and night, to warn me when it is time to stop patrolling the village and to take to cover. By way of war work the pheasant farms, instead of closing down, could be turned on to producing vast numbers of these natural sirens. A cock, with a hen or two for company, penned at say half-mile intervals in the gardens of our towns, would cost the ratepayer less money than wardens, and possibly have less bricks thrown at them."

HEAR SOUNDS INAUDIBLE TO US

During the World War 1, we are told, parrots kept in French fortresses and on the Eiffel Tower in Paris gave warning of the approach of aeroplanes that they could not possibly have seen, before they were discovered by human beings.

At night, during that period when enemy planes were wont to fly overhead and drop bombs at random, the pheasants in the coverts inland were the first to discern the explosions of the bombs, or defending anti-aircraft guns, and to hasten to issue a warning of approaching evil. In this way, their behaviour has helped to throw light upon the problem of the "zones of silence" around great detonations, which, after skipping these zones, became audible. The "inaudible" soundwaves were evidently "picked up" by the pheasants, for they acted as if greatly agitated. All of which adds to our store of knowledge concerning this interesting game-bird.

"Coal Butter" Is German Idea

Exile Tells of Progress in Making Edible Synthetic Fats

Germany is prepared to make edible fats from coal and shale. Quite literally, in a pinch she can make her butter from coal.

Details of this discovery were given to the American Association for the Advancement of Science by a recently arrived German expatriate, Dr. Willy Lange, who was formerly an assistant professor in the University of Berlin. His figures covered developments up to midsummer, shortly before start of the war.

Synthetic Chemistry

Fats and copper are the two materials which informed scientists here said Germany was most likely to run short of in war. This month there have been news reports that Germany was progressing on the fat problem with new synthetic chemistry.

The coal fats, Dr. Lange said, are made by blowing steam through burning coal to produce carbon monoxide and hydrogen. This poisonous gas is the starting substance which, with subsequent chemical treatments, becomes first industrial fat, and then edible fat.

Shale Also Used

Shale, of which Germany has a larger supply than of coal, is another starting material for butter substitutes. The shale is first converted into oil.

VOICE of the PRESS

SLEIGHING NOT SLAYING

Fortunate Canada! Sleighing parties instead of slaying parties.

—Toronto Star.

—o—

ANY OTHER SUGGESTION?

H. G. Wells says this war is either the end of things as they are now or the beginning of something different. Has anyone else any better suggestion?

—London Free Press.

—o—

EASY NOT TO LISTEN

Getting on the air and taking it for granted that thousands are listening is an error. The thousands may be listening—but to something else. Or they may not be listening at all.

—Peterborough Examiner.

—o—

IRON ORE IN CANADA

The year 1939 was notable for at least one thing—Canada began to mine iron ore. There have been previous activities but the Helen Mine at Michipicoten looks like the first permanent operation. The ore is sintered and a train load of this arrives at the Soo daily.

—Sault Daily Star.

—o—

"PUTTING OVER" A NEW FLAG

The Tribune has no objection to a Canadian flag, as such, provided that the people want it. But such a flag would have to be duly authorized by the people's representatives in Parliament. This paper would object to a "national flag" being "put over" by hole-in-the-corner methods.

—Winnipeg Tribune

Wild Horses Go When War Comes

B.C. Intensifies Round-up in Cariboo Ranchlands—Range Is Needed and Foxes Require Meat

The war means death for thousands of wild horses which roam the Cariboo ranchlands in British Columbia's interior.

Provincial government officials have ordered an intensification of the 1940 roundup of the animals whose forebears escaped from the ranches and became as wild as the moose or deer. Hunters were urged to clear the range of every wild horse, if possible.

The round-up is an annual grazing control measure in the Cariboo but officials said it should be intensified this year to preserve as much grazing land as possible for livestock that will produce foodstuffs.

Hunters taking part in the round-up can receive $2.50 a head from the owners of branded horses, or slaughter the animals for fox meat.

Luxuries Now Coming Higher

Canadians Who Like Their Caviar And Paris Perfumes Will Have To Pay Plenty in Wartime

The luxury-loving Canadian has had to economize on his purchases since was was declared.

Caviar will likely be scratched off swanky menus since the cost of this luxury, imported from Russia and Finland, already has trebled in price. Some imported cheeses are harder to get than before the war and special jam, marmalades and sugared fruits are higher on the luxury list.

CHINA, GLASS, SILVER

Perfumes are hitting the higher brackets and many imported French scents are becoming scarce. Jewellers believe their business will not suffer materially during war time. New sources in neuttral countries have been discovered to replace the novelty and jewel wares usually imported from European countires now at war. But orders of china, glass and silver are filled more slowly because of transportation difficulties.

Produce Better Cream, Butter

Ontario Dairymen Told of Government Plan to Improve Products

J. L. Baker, chief creamery instructor for Ontario, told the recent Western Ontario Dairymen's convention that a provincial government program to improve the quality of cream and butter will be continued with greater effort this year.

"We plan to do more work with the producers in 1940," he said, noting that in 1939 the instruction branch concentrated more on operations in creameries.

PROPER GRADING OF CREAM

Among suggestions he offered dairymen in a co-operative scheme to better quality of cream and butter were proper grading of all cream with payment to be made accordingly and the holding of short courses for cream haulers to educate them as to proper methods of caring for cream on the farm.

In connection with licensing of creameries, Mr. Baker said the dairy branch "did not feel inclined to hurry creameries into making improvements, but necessary changes must be completed before 1940 licenses are granted."

During inspections for 1940 certificates, approximately 57 per cent of creameries were approved without having to make improvements, he said. This compared with a figure of 11 per cent in the previous year.

Liver Performs Sixty Functions

It's An Important Organ In The Body

Every organ of the body has one or two jobs to do. Dr. Robert G. Contrell, Englewood, N.J., in Clinical Medicine and Surgery, says:

"Not so with the liver for there is hardly a part of the body that is not directly or indirectly affected by the functioning or working of this large gland."

"It is conservatively stated that the liver has from sixty to one hundred distinct activities, and that every other important system—circulation, digestive, nervous and others—is definitely influenced by the activities of the liver."

CLEARS OF IMPURITIES

All the blood from the digestive apparatus—stomach and intestine—is carried to the liver to be filtered and cleared of harmful substances before it goes back to the heart to be sent to lungs and thence to the heart to be sent to all parts of the body. The blood must not only get rid of carbon dioxide and be enriched with oxygen by means of the lungs but before it can do all its work of building and maintaining the various tissues, it is made fit by the liver to destroy harmful products in other fluids of the body.

KEEP IT MORE ACTIVE

It has long been said that life depends upon the liver; it might well be said that "your every-day health depends on the liver."

Well Known In Canada

The appointment of Henry S. Gage to the position of General Sales Agent of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Coal Company, has just been announced.

Mr. Gage was formerly Sales Agent for the company in Ontario and Western New York and is a well known figure in the coal business in both countries, having spent much of his time in Canada before being appointed to his present executive position with the organization.

Bee Hive Syrup

LIFE'S LIKE THAT

By Fred Neher

"Wanna Buy A Good Watch Dog, Buddy?"

REG'LAR FELLERS—Bird of a Dog

By GENE BYRNES