NEWS PARADE

The Allies began fighting with their gloves off — on the economic front — as the war with Germany entered its eighth month. The decision taken by the French and British to use their economic and naval superiority over Germany in an attempt to strangle the Reich, end the Western Front stalemate and recover the initiative in the war, carried the conflict into a new phase and opened up possibilities of war in the north, in the Balkans and in the Near East.

NEW STRATEGY

Prime Minister Chamberlain's declaration that henceforth the Allies would wage economic war to the utmost preceded tightening up of the blockade to pinch Germany where it would hurt most — interfering with her supplies of iron ore from Scandinavia and edible fats from the Balkans. In this most important action Britain was seen opposed by the neutral nations, chiefly the Scandinavian countries (Sweden warned that any attempt to seize German iron ore ships in Norwegian waters would find the Reich hitting back with a counter-blockade against the Allies). But the Supreme Allied War Council decided that it preferred to run the risk of losing friends among neutral countries than to sacrifice a million lives trying to blast a path through the German Westwall. The strategy adopted was to use economic strength and seapower in such a way as to squeeze Hitler into a corner, from which he would have no choice but to try to fight his way out.

WAR WITH RUSSIA?

The fear of approaching war with Russia (as well as with Germany) abated somewhat last week when the affair of the seizure of Russian vessels in the Pacific was soft-pedalled; when rumors of a new Russo-British trade rapprochement flew about; and when Soviet Premier Molotoff proclaimed Russia's desire to "maintain our neutrality and to refrain from any participation in the war". At the same time Russia denied intention to wrest her lost province of Bessarabia from Rumania by war.

THE WAR WEEK

Shortly after U. S. Undersecretary of State Sumner Welles arrived back in Washington, President Roosevelt declared he "saw scant hope for peace" in Europe at the present time. Germany officially charged, during the same week, that the United States policy had had a big part in causing the war, citing contents of documents seized in the Polish foreign office archives . . . .

At home in Canada, publication of the soldiers' vote results showed that the election standing in no constituency was affected . . . Premier Hepburn of Ontario declared "the complete solidarity" of his government, ridiculing reports of his early resignation . . . provincial by-elections were postponed for the time being . . . Rumored during the week were appointment to the Senate of Miss Agnes Macphail, defeated U. F. O. - Labor candidate, at some date in the future; signature soon of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence waterway treaty with the U. S.

Says Plowing Best Exercise

Indiana "U" Expert Holds It Finest For Feet and Legs

Plowing, says Dr. Russel Jones of Indiana University School of Medicine, is "perfect exercise" for feet and legs.

He also advanced the theory that public speakers "should sit while they speak; it certainly wouldn't hurt their ideas and would do their feet a lot of good."

DESIGNED FOR WALKING

Dr. Jones said in plowing, uneven furrows tend to spread the foot in all directions.

The Indianian also declared that people "stand up too much. The foot was designed for walking, not standing," he explained.

About the only solution for foot trouble is "shoes that fit," Dr. Jones concluded, adding that persons with aching feet should go to bed and rest their feet, just as they would go to bed with a bad cold.

The Book Shelf..

SIMPLIFIED HOUSEHOLD MECHANICS

By A. Frederick Collins

For the home handyman this volume is indispensable. In easily understandable language, Mr. Collins explains what to do when the refrigerator gets out of order, when the hot-water system fails, when the toaster goes on the blink, when a window sticks, when the radio breaks down . . . when anything goes wrong in your home.

Here, also is valuable information on how to repair and keep in working order all of the most common of household appliances, from sewing machines and food mixtures to burglar alarms. And a complete picture is given of your heating system, water supply, refrigeration and air-conditioning units, and electric power.

An excellent gift for Father, or that mechanically-minded housewife!

"Simplified Household Mechanics" . . . by A. Frederick Collins . . . Toronto: Ryerson Press, 299 Queen St. West . . . $3.00.

Their Majesties After Traditional Maundy Ceremony

King George and Queen Elizabeth are shown bidding good-by to the clergy at Westminster Abbey after taking part in the traditional Maundy ceremony in symbol of the King's humility before God. The royal couple, at high noon, on March 21, stood with 44 aged men and 44 aged women while the King handed them pouches containing 44 pence each, in specially minted silver coins—the 44 matching his age. The ceremony dates back 600 years in which the King was obliged to wash the feet of the most wretched of his subjects. This part of the ceremony, however, was abandoned by King James II.

Men's Fashions Conservative

Comfort and Quality Are Also Essentials in Spring Mode

Comfort, conservatism and quality may be said to be the three essentials most desired by men in their suits and topcoats this spring.

For the first time in some years, American fashion is coming into its own. With Europe at war and with its mills and manufacturing houses operating under wartime conditions, the American fashion originator has a great opportunity of producing and popularizing his own merchandise.

MORE ROUGH MATERIALS

Results of this condition are seen in the decline of the English influence on men's clothes. This spring suits are cut with wide shoulders, lots of arm room and trousers built to wear well and fit easily.

There is an upturn in the use of rough materials. Tweeds and shetlands that were seen in the country and at sports events are now coming into their own for office wear and business use.

Ontario Boy 9, Aspires To Opera

Newtonbrook Lad Startles Music Critics With His Voice and Retentive Musical Memory

Bobby Connor, nine-year-old boy tenor, does not consider himself a child prodigy but has the same ambition as Eddie Johnson of Guelph—to sing in the Metropolitan Opera.

The Newtonbrook (Ont.) boy has startled music critics with his voice and retentive musical memory. He sang over a Toronto radio station when only two years old and readily picks up every musical instrument that comes within his reach. On his mother's piano he plays classical selections by ear and his teachers have not yet attempted to have him read music because his memory is so retentive that he can reproduce any selection he has heard two or three times.

ONTARIO OUTDOORS

BY VIC BAKER

CANADA ATTRACTS ANGLERS

Now that Spring is here, disciples of Issac Walton everywhere are regarding their fishing tackle with contemplative eye and entertaining vague ideas of where to go for their first 1940 fishing expedition. "With this in mind, the Fish and Game Department of the Canadian National Railways have for the past few months been amassing information concerning the better localities in Canada the sportsman can visit and in bringing up-to-date particulars respecting the fishing and hunting regulations as apply in the various provinces of the Dominion" stated Ernie G. Poole, Fish and Game Representative of the company. "This information is contained in the 1940 edition of the booklet 'Hunting, Fishing and Canoe Trips in Canada' which will be found as accurate and complete as any publication of this nature can be" he said.

NEW FISHING LAKES

In addition to the regular waters for game fishing from coast to coast, new fishing lakes have been discovered and opened to sportsmen; new waters have been planted with game fish and in many ways the fisherman's map has been rolled back, providing an empire of fishing grounds for the man or woman who seeks real sport with rod and line.

In these unspoiled waters from the Atlantic to the Pacific the angler will find unexcelled sport for many varieties of game fish, said Mr. Poole, for there is in Canada a species of fish to suit the taste of every class of angler. All these species are not found in the same waters, nor even in the same province, but each has its habitat somewhere in Canada.

Gardening ....

Old Gardeners spread out the garden fresh vegetable season by taking advantage of new, later and earlier varieties.

Corn is a typical example. At one time it was only possible to get one variety of Golden Bantam. Cobs were short and the season also. Now there are offered three or four different Bantam types — some extra early, some regular season, some late. Cobs have been lengthened, kernels made bigger. One can enjoy the finest table corn for over a month instead of but a week or two as in the old days.

Impatient Beginners

The beginner is inclined to rush the season. It will not hurt to plant peas, spinach, lettuce or radish, just as soon as ground is ready, or sweet peas and flowers which naturally seed themselves. For the medium hardy type of plant, however, there is no advantage whatever in sowing too soon. There is little growth in any case until the soil really turns warm.

Gardeners are advised to divide their seed into at least three parts, sowing a third as soon as weather permits, a third a little later, and the balance at the very tail-end of the planting season. In this way if frost does cut down the first batch there will be more plants coming on and the season will be lengthened by the last part of the garden sown.

Rock Gardens

In recent years the rock garden has become so popular that people are going out of their way to make an excuse for one. They will build their lawns up on two different levels with a rock garden in between.

These gardens are made to resemble miniature alpine ranges, and in them alpine flowers are grown. These are usually tiny, short, sprawly things, that require little moisture during most of the year. They are specially listed in the better seed catalogues. To hold the sharply sloping soil, fair size rocks of the roughest possible nature, preferably weather-beaten boulders, are buried to about two-thirds their depth irregularly throughout the slope. Good pockets of sandy soil are arranged between the rocks. The flowers find a foothold here and trail over the boulders.

French Army Recruits Dogs

The French army has opened a recruiting station for army dogs.

Dogs will be accepted either as gifts or on loan for the duration of the war. They will be concentrated at a training camp, where they will receive special instruction, which, in a few weeks, will turn them into specialists for patrol work, Red Cross, dispatch carriers, or for observation duty.

ALSATIANS, SHEEP DOGS

Alsatian police and sheep dogs are preferred because they have a natural camouflage color and because their natural talents approach nearest to those of wolves.

During training each dog is also handled by only one soldier, who later controls him at the front.

THEY CARRY DISPATCHES

Dispatch carriers are trained to run from advance posts to company battalion or regimental headquarters, making use of trenches or covered terrain where they escape being seen or shot.

They carry messages in a pouch worn around the collar. Red Cross dogs are trained to find wounded soldiers and lead stretcher bearers to them.

If there are enough volunteers, France will maintain an army of 1,000 dogs.

VOICE OF THE PRESS

THEY HAVE THE TIME

We expect to hear any day now that the troops on the Western Front are doing a little knitting for the folks at home.

—Woodstock Sentinel-Review.

—o—

LET'S ALL LISTEN IN

American author says there isn't enough color in modern city life. Why not put all the telephones on the old-style rural party line system?

—London Free Press.

—o—

LOW SPEED AFTER DARK

It is a well-established fact that the majority of fatal accidents are due to speeding, particularly at night. In Kansas City, where a vigorous safety campaign was carried on last year, cutting the death toll in half, it was found that positive results were not obtained until an after-dark speed limit of 25 miles an hour was established and enforced.

—Winnipeg Tribune.

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WHY ARE APPLES SCARCE?

Several articles have appeared in this paper about the apple situation and its inconsistencies this year. In spite of a large surplus of apples and the efforts of the Dominion government to help growers market their crops, apples have been scarce and highly priced and the quality has been poor.

There's something wrong somewhere. If there was such a surplus of excellent apples, why were they not made available to Canadians who would gladly have taken more of them if the price had been reasonable and the quality good?

—Fergus News-Record.

No Such Ailment As Spring Fever

Peculiar Feeling We Experience At This Season Is Due To Change From Cold to Warm Weather

Grandmother probably will never believe it but take the word of experts — she was all wrong when she gave generous doses of sulphur and molasses as a cure for the "spring fever". There isn't any such thing.

That listless feeling you get around this time of year, three medical authorities agreed this week, isn't something that you can prescribe medicine for, or put down in a textbook, or analyze under cause and effect.

Chantecler
Slow Burning
CIGARETTE PAPERS
NONE FINER MADE
DOUBLE AUTOMATIC BOOKLET

The feeling you describe as spring fever is probably due to the fact that the body has become accustomed to cold weather all winter and too suddenly is called upon to make adjustments to warm weather. Probably the nerves controlling the blood vessels don't make the adjustment without upsetting you a bit.

Dr. John C. Scott, professor of physiology, at Hahnemann Medical College, thinks the change in blood volume may have something to do with the case.

"You need more blood in warm weather to carry heat from the interior of the body out to the skin," he said. "It takes about five days for the body to manufacture the additional blood. Hence, in the first few warm days — before the extra blood has been produced — you're like an automobile that doesn't have enough water in the radiator.

"That may partly explain what you call spring fever."

Bee Hive Syrup

LIFE'S LIKE THAT — By Fred Neher

"An' When You Get Through There I've Got Some Buttons for You to Sew On."

REG'LAR FELLERS—Utopia — By GENE BYRNES