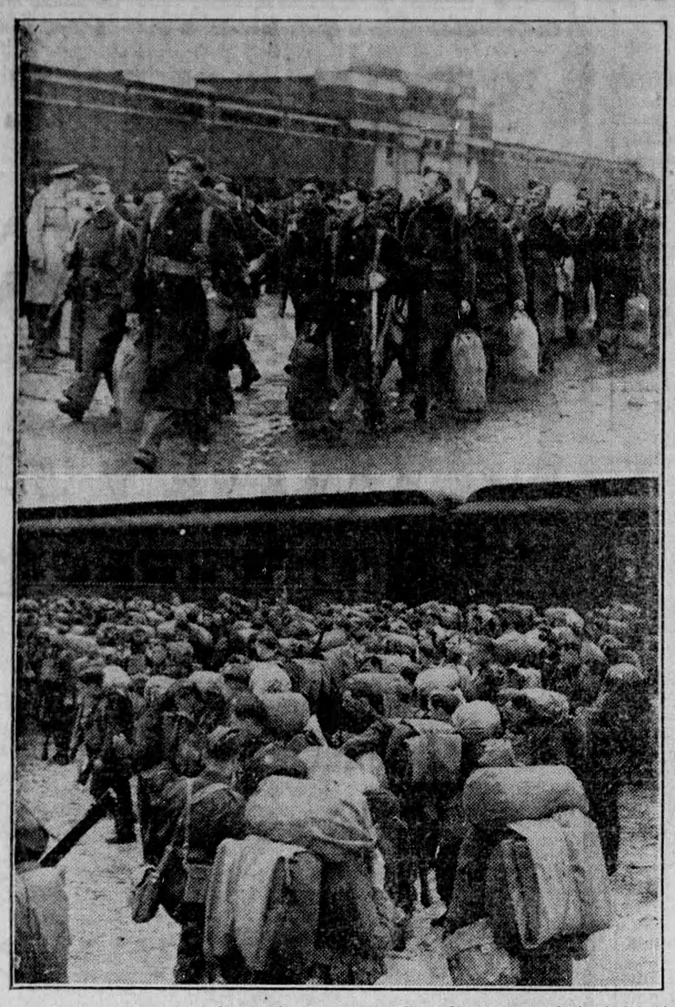
Young Men of C.A.S.F. Off For Intensive Training



Seven thousand determined young Canadians got their initiation into army life at Exhibition Park, Toronto, during the winter months. Comforts not usually associated with active service, even to batteries of hot shower baths, were available in well heated buildings. In the illustrations above they are seen entraining for summer encampments and their smiling faces would seem to indicate that the prospect is a pleasing one. The big camp is now being prepared for this year's Exhibition. The buildings will be occupied by troops again next fall following the "Ex."

VOICE OF THE PRESS

DIALING FOR TROUBLE

You no longer need to borrow trouble. You can get it delivered on the radio daily. — (Brandon Sun)

SHORTER SPEECHES

There is merit in the principle behind the proposal made by Mr. Ralph Maybank, Liberal M.P. for Winnipeg South Centre, that the length of parliamentary speeches on matters affecting Canada's war effort be limited. Discussion, of course, is valuable, but only up to the point that it contributes to a clearer understanding or the improvement of legislation. Beyond that it is a waste of time. — (Windsor Star)

BORN TO MISERY

Of all the livestock that men raise the chicken is by far the most ill-used. In the brooder, artificially heated, the chicks cry, "What is home without a mother?" and afterwards, when they have come to years of discretion and would like to enjoy a run where they can scratch, they find themselves stacked up in hen-batteries, each one in a narrow cell of its own, and are compelled to lay eggs to save their lives. The modern hen is born to misery from the egg onwards. — (Fort William Times-Journal).

The manufacture of chemicals and allied products in Canada during 1938 totalled $146,139,312. About $61 millions were spent on materials and supplies, $29 millions on salaries and wages, and $5 millions for fuel and electricity.

RADIO REPORTER

By DAVE ROBBINS

TRY YOUR HAND

Among radio listeners there are many folks who would like to try their hand at writing a radio program — maybe a mystery tale, a drama or comedy sketch, or possibly they may have an entirely new idea for the air — so why don't you and you put your ideas on paper and send them to a radio station?

Radio stations are always looking for new stories and new ideas — and yours might be the one that clicks!

NOTES AND NEWS

One of the breeziest programs presented over the NBC-red network is Plantation Time — heard on Wednesday nights at 8:30. The Plantation Party includes Louise Massey and the Singing Westerners, Tom, Dick and Harry, a smart vocal trio, and other top-notch entertainers.

For facts with an unusual twist we suggest you tune in Stranger Than Fiction — presented over station CKOC each weeknight at six.

One of the better midweek programs on the CBC comes from the shores of the Atlantic, when Marjorie Payne directs a concert orchestra in music of the lighter vein. This treat is on Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m.

Imagine a theatre seating thirty million people! That, by actual survey, is the estimated audience of the Radio Theatre conducted by Cecil B. Demille, veteran showman each Monday evening at 9. That means only one thing — that the Radio Theatre presents top-notch shows.

When Steve Wilson, of Edward G. Robinson's Big Town program asked for a vote from radio listeners on whether Steve and Lorelei should continue their racket-busting tales of Big Town — or present different types of dramas — the folks on the receiving end voted overwhelmingly to continue the Big Town series. The program comes over the Columbia chain on Tuesday nights at eight.

Jean Goldkette, one of the veteran band leaders in the dance field, will soon return to the band stands with an orchestra of fifty pieces featuring swing symphony. It should be good, for the Detroiter always had ace bands.

AROUND THE DIAL

Dialing little known radio treats — Sunday, Four Star Revue from CKOC at 10:15 a.m. . . . Rendezvous on Mutual at 5:30 with Ramona, Jimmy Shields and the Tune Twisters . . . Monday, L'il Abner from NBC - Red at six . . . Blondie on the Columbia Chain at 10:30 . . Tuesday, Fun with Revuers via the NBC-Blue at 9:30 . . . Composers series on CBC at 10:30 . . . Wednesday, Mr. Keen, Tracer of Missing Persons, on NBC-Blue at 7:15 . . . Sevillana from CBC at 8:30 . . . . Thursday, I Love A Mystery at 8:30 on NBC-Red . . . Nan Wynn on WABC-Columbia at 10:45 . . . Friday, Uncle Don via WOR at six . . . An Editor Looks West on CBC at 7:45 . . . Saturday, Hit Parade on CKOC at 1:00 p.m. . . . Sky Blazers with Col. Roscoe Turner on Columbia at 7:30.

THE WAR-WEEK—Commentary on Current Events

ITALY'S ENTRY CARRIES WAR TO MEDITERRANEAN

One month to the day after Hitler's armies crossed the borders of the Low Countries, Mussolini declared war on Britain and France, ushering in one of the most critical hours in the history of the world.

Never before had the British and French Empires been in a position of such supreme danger. France, beating off encirclement of Paris, fighting for her very life, now found herself attacked on still another front, her supply lines to Africa threatened. Britain, not yet recovered from the disaster of Flanders, hourly expecting a Nazi invasion, was forced to action on far-flung fronts —in Africa, the Near East, the Mediterranean, Gibraltar, Suez.

Objectives

Italy went into the war demanding Tunisia, Djibouti, French and British Somaliland, Corsica, Malta, Gibraltar, Suez, Savoy and two French departments of the Maritime Alps. To those possessions Italy "aspired," as well as to "independence from the defunct democracies." After attacking France's lines to Africa, prime Italian objectives were seen to be Tunisia and Egypt. But one at a time, and perhaps Egypt first, since capture of Alexandria from the rear by mechanized columns (like Hitler's capture of the Channel ports) would achieve more and probably be easier than cutting into Tunisia and French Morocco.

Meanwhile the Germans, driving on Paris, were aiming for the capture of Paris and the Lower Seine River, no matter how terrific their losses, in the hope of forcing French capitulation and cutting France off from her ally, Great Britain. The Allies, on the other hand, were attempting to hold Germany until Empire and industrial resources could be mobilized for a successful counter-offensive. Should Paris fall, the French were expected to make a stand in the valley of the great Loire River which cuts well across France from the west coast. South of this line would be both agricultural and industrial areas to support the effort.

The time factor was in favor of the Allies; against the Germans, who knew they must win before their effort slowed down, before the United States could enter the war with all its vast resources.

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Goodbye To Neutrality

UNITED STATES: One of the most tensely listened-to speeches in the annals of political history was made during the week by President Roosevelt, preparing the American people for the participation in the European war which is so sure to come. "We will pursue two obvious and simultaneous courses," he declared: "We will extend to the opponents of force the material resources of this nation and, at the same time, we will harness and speed up the use of those resources in order that we ourselves in the Americas may have equipment and training equal to the task of any emergency and every defense." The republic-to-the-south-of-us was no longer neutral; it was non-belligerent.

Following his address, President Roosevelt warmly endorsed an organized "Stop-Hitler-Now" movement, working to rush all possible material help to the Allies, while Congress continued its rapid-fire action on the national defense program, grown to $5,021,619,622.

Another colossal problem was thrust before the United States by the possibility that the British Government, if Hitler won the war, might move to Canada and continue the fight against Germany from here. Washington was a bit upset by the idea. For the first time in its life, the supremacy of the United States in the Western hemisphere would be challenged; another great fleet would be stationed on this side of the Atlantic; the war would be brought to America's very doorstep.

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CANADA: That same possibility was reflected in the sixth radio address of Prime Minister Mackenzie King on the war situation. He declared that Canadians are prepared to fight to the finish in this war, "will proudly accept" their new responsibilities, undaunted by the threat of spreading conflict. There was talk of the British Throne being transferred to Ottawa . . . Two days later Canada declared war on Italy, and Princess Juliana of the Netherlands and her two children arrived in Halifax. . . .

The nation was saddened during the week by the tragic death in an air crash of Hon. Norman McLeod Rogers, Canada's Defence Minister, a man of fine character who had worked unceasingly in the public interest . .

Many Canadians woke up one morning to find that war had brought them a new inconvenience, (taxes, etc. aside),—starting July first no one could cross to the United States without a passport.

Other events of the week: Rain unceasing; saturation of land, atmosphere, clothing (some people blamed it on the war clouds) . . Arthur W. Roebuck, Liberal, Toronto-Trinity, charging in the House of Commons that the Ontario Government had treated single unemployed transients with "cold brutality" . . . anti-Italian demonstrations throughout the country . . .

Puzzle: Had the Vimy Memorial really been bombed? Still merely a report, this story had neither been confirmed nor denied by the Canadian Government.

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In The Baltic

RUSSIA: The Soviet Union, suddenly the centre of renewed diplomatic attentions from three European nations, patched up her Far Eastern dispute by an agreement with Japan on the Manchoukuo-Outer Mongolia boundary question, which had produced two battles and several years of intermittent fighting — Russia and Japan agreed on the exact frontiers to be respected in future . . . Two newly named Ambassadors from the Allies — Sir Stafford Cripps of Great Britain and Eric Labonne of France —arrived in Moscow; and it was announced that Italy and Russia would once more keep ambassadors in each other's capitals . . Diplomatic observers in Stockholm advanced the theory that Russia, determined that Germany must not expand further in the Baltic, was seeking a definite political agreement with Finland and Sweden to forestall any German moves in the north.

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BALKANS: It appeared to be the devout wish of all Balkan capitals last week that their countries should not be drawn into the growing vortex of war. And indications were strong that for the time being at least, southeastern Europe would be left alone; that the Italian campaign in the Balkans would be diplomatic rather than military. Greece was already reported to have made a "deal" with Mussolini.

Eastern Mediterranean

Sooner or later, however, it was thought that the conflict would somehow hit the Eastern Mediterranean, and then there would be a rush to Salonika from both the Italian and Near Eastern sides. The stand of Turkey was seen as all-important.

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NORWAY: The war in Norway came to an end last week when King Haakon ordered the capitulation of the entire country to the Germans. It was announced, however, that his government would continue to fight with the Allies on the Western Front.

BEE HIVE GOLDEN CORN SYRUP

PS22 —A Great Energy Food

SOUTH AMERICA: Fascism reared its ugly head again in the Western Hemisphere. President Vargas of Brazil, in the first outspokenly Fascist speech by any South American President, justified the aggressions in Europe of Germany and Italy. Vargas, who has ruled Brazil through ten years of dictatorship, spoke of the beginning of a new era under Fascism. Previously it had been believed in South America that Brazil would follow the United States policy toward the European situation. A nasty shock, that.

SCOUTING . . .

As a weekly good turn, Scouts of the 2nd Moose Jaw, Sask., Troop gather the comic sections of the week-end papers and present them to the Children's Shelter.

The latest addition to Vancouver's Sea Scout fleet is the patrol boat, "Mary Walkem" owned by the 40th Vancouver (St. Augustine) Sea Scout Troop. The boat was duly launched with full ceremony in the presence of some 500 Scouts, Cubs, Girl Guides and Brownies. The 24-foot lifeboat was the gift of Mrs. Walkem, wife of Col. George A. Walkem, and dedication was made by Rev. J. A. Leighton, Chaplain of the Vancouver Mission to Seamen.

White—Yellow —Black Races

White races double their population every 80 years, yellow in 60 years, and the black in 40 years.

Nova Scotia's Blossom Queen And Her Princesses

The Annapolis Valley Apple Blossom Festival, Nova Scotia's most colorful spring party, this year was a gay event centred in the fragrant beauty of the British Empire's largest single apple belt. Queen Annapolisa VIII (Miss Audrey Clarke of Wolfville, N. S.) is seen here with her Princesses. (Canadian Pacific Photo).

LIFE'S LIKE THAT — By Fred Neher

"When I Say Three You Hit Pop an' I'll Yell for Mom!!"

REG'LAR FELLERS—A Big Blow — By GENE BYRNES