Along The Roof Of The Continent

It is a far cry from the days Major Fred Brewster, noted mountaineer, packed freight through the Canadian Rockies by horse as shown in picture (left above) and the ease with which visitors to Jasper National Park now cover the old pack train route over the new Columbia Icefield Highway which will be officially opened July 1. One of the world's most scenic drives, the Columbia Icefield Highway has been open from Jasper Park Lodge (lower right) to the Icefeld, a distance of 75 miles during the past two years and has now been extended south another 75 miles to Banff Park.

From Jasper Park Lodge the highway leads to the foot of Athabaska Glacier (right), where is located the new Columbia Icefield chalet. Near by are Snow Dome, Kitchener and other glaciers, all welded into one inseparable mass, binding these 11,000 feet skywards. On these mountains which tower more than glaciers, unexcelled summer skiing may be enjoyed and it is here that some of the continent's outstanding men and women skiers train for Canadian and international events.

The completion of the Columbia Icefield Highway marks another chapter in the history of Jasper National Park, 4,200 square miles in extent. The Canadian National Railways' Jasper Park Lodge in this, America's largest National Park, now offers visitors every modern luxury where in the early days explorers, traders and trappers, set up their primitive camps.

Say Nighthawks Like Dive-Bombers

Quite a commotion has been caused in Leamington, Ontario, during recent nights by nighthawks that frequent the town's business section. Sound of the birds as they dive after insects has been compared to that of dive-bombers.

For Better Desserts

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THE WAR-WEEK—Commentary on Current Events

France Signs Herself Away; Budget Brings Heavy Taxes

A blitzkrieg of taxes struck hte Dominion last week following the bringing down of the Budget. With drastic increases in income taxation reaching virtually every earner, almost prohibitive taxes on automobiles and several new taxes, Finance Minister Ralston asked tremendous sacrifices of the Canadian people for war purposes. For the first time, the cost of the war was carried direct to the pocket-books of every income group in the country.

Affects Everybody

Highlights of the new taxation: Income rates increased so sharply that a married man with no dependents, paying $36 on a salary of $3,000 under present rates, will now pay $195 . . . A new tax on automobiles starting at 10 per cent on manufacturers' value up to $700 and increasing sharply to 80 per cent on value in excess of $1,200 (used cars are taxed, too) . . . A new national defense tax of two per cent flat rate imposed on all salaries over $600 in the case of single persons and $1,200 in the case of married persons, increasing to three per cent for salaries of single persons above $1,200 . . . a 10 per cent tax imposed on all imports except those commodities entered under British preferential tariff . . . cigaret tax raised from $5 to $6 per 1,000, manufactured tobacco from 25 to 35 cents a pound, cigar taxes doubled, etc. . . . imposition of ten per cent tax on phonographs, radios, cameras and radio tubes . . .

The Ontario Government, facing a possible revenue loss of $3,000,000 arising from the increased Federal income tax levies, was expected to make a readjustment of income brackets some time this year to bring 50,000 more persons, hitherto exempt, within the tax-paying category.

Meantime everywhere in Canada rents were going up (due in great part to an increase in coal prices) . . .Food prices remained at approximately the same level as in the past couple of months but gains were recorded for beef, bread, canned vegetables, potatoes, tea, coffee, onions, pepper and salt . . . Clothing was expected to rise as a result of the new tax on imports and the diversion of textiles for war use . .

Unemployment Insurance

Prorogation of the first session of the 19th Parliament of Canada was looked for around July 20 . . . The main item remaining last week for consideration was unemployment insurance (contributed to by employers and employees); but before such a measure could be brought before the House, the Parliament of Great Britain would have to amend the B. N. A. Act, transferring to the Dominion, from the provinces, authority over unemployment insurance . . .

The people of Canada prepared last week for the reception of vast numbers of evacuee children from Great Britain . . . Thousands of homes were thrown open . . . placement of children to be handled by the Provincial Governments. . .

Battle of France Ends

"On June 5 the Battle of France began, the Germans taking off southward from the Somme-Aisne line. Against all the material and manpower General Weygand could mass, the German army under General von Brauchitsch hurled 40, then 60, then 120, finally 150 divisions. By June 10 they were within 35 miles of Paris, with pincers curving down from east and west. On June 14 the pincers met at Paris and it was surrendered." June 17, Marshal Petain, newly-elected French Premier, indicated that the fight was hopeless, asked for an armistice. June 21 French plenipotentiaries met Adolf Hitler in the Forest of Compiegne (in the same railway car where Marshal Foch in 1918 announced the terms under which Germany laid down her arms). June 24 the "cease fire" order came in the war with Germany. The following day France laid down her arms against Italy, too.

The Armistice

Hitler's object, apparently, in forcing the particular terms that he did upon France was to secure every possible facility for his blitzkrieg on Britain. All the French Channel and Atlantic Coasts were occupied by German forces; French warships and naval equipment were to be turned over to Germany for use against Britain; all military equipment surrendered, all aircraft grounded; all roads, trains, railways given up; all radio stations had to stop operations; all military forces began demobilization with the exception of troops necessary for maintaining order. The armistice was only an expedient, Berlin indicated . . . final peace talk must await the Battle of Britain . . .

Mussolini Waits

With Italy, France signed an armistice granting Mussolini a small portion of territory along the Alpine frontier. The French also agreed to demilitarize: 1, a strip of land thirty-one miles deep on the Italian border; 2, a strip of territory in Tunisia on the African Mediterranean coast; 3, a portion of French Algeria bordering on Italian Libya; 4, the French Somaliland port and railroad terminus of Djibouti, key to Italian Ethiopia. These zones were to be kept demilitarized for the duration of the Armistice—until the end of Germany's and Italy's war against England, and until a formal peace treaty is concluded to satisfy Italy's territorial demands against France.

"No One Can Tell"

All the countries of the Mediterranean basin were seriously affected by the collapse of France and the signing of the two armistices . . . Turkey in particular was agitated by the thought of a powerful drive by the Axis in the eastern Mediterranean (aimed at cutting off Suez and grabbing the harbors and rich oil districts of the Near East), and feared a Fascist attack on French-mandated Syria . . . In Egypt, resignation of Ali Maher Pasha could mean the early entry of his country into the war . . . In a message "to the people of North Africa," the French High Commissioner in French Morocco declared that his crack Moroccan troops would not yield one inch of French North African territory without a fight, the armistice notwithstanding . . .

Vernon Barlett, British member of Parliament and writer in the London News Chronicle commented: "The French surrender involves political changes all over the world and no one can yet tell their magnitude."

Britain For It

But all the world knew that Great Britain was next in line for a totalitarian attack by Germany, that the moment Hitler's preparations were complete, the blitzkrieg on the British Isles would begin, proceeding with bombing, submarine warfare and an armed invasion. The people of Britain braced themselves for the blow.

* * *

The balance of power on the sea depended on who obtained the French navy. It was known that the addition of the French fleet to the navies of Germany and Italy would bring the Axis to tonnage parity with Britain and to numerical superiority, with 90 per cent more fighting vessels . . . Prime Minister Churchill, voicing his anger at the manner in which the Petain regime had violated its "many solemn assurances" in ceding sea power to the Nazis, acknowledged that the ultimate disposition of the French fleet would "powerfully though not decisively affect" Britain's safety . . . In the war with Italy, Britain was aware that loss of the French Navy would seriously endanger her position throughout a vast 40,000 mile theatre stretching from Gibraltar to Aden, because all land forces involved therein must be supplied by sea . . .

Japan In Ascendancy

The effects of the European war, actual and anticipated, were seen last week as exercising a dynamic influence on Japan's international policy. A change in the world balance, Japanese leaders inferred, might mean that Japan would not only be interested in an alliance with the Axis powers, but in making her position in the Pacific and the Far East impregnable.

It was expected that Japan would shortly issue a sweeping pronouncement amounting to an "Oriental Monroe Doctrine" warning all powers against interference of any kind in all territories in East Asia. "The dream of decades — a Far East dominated by Japan—was on the verge of climbing into the realm of action." ("Time," June 24).

"The only force which could turn that dream into a nightmare has always been the U. S. The big question taking shape last week appeared to be: could the U. S. summon enough diplomatic adroitness to make friends with Japan without: 1. selling out both China and the Allies in the Far East; 2. being double-crossed herself if she attempted too much appeasement. Failing either alternative, could the United States risk a war with Japan?"

Many Materials For Housecoats

Pique, Sharkskin, Dotted Swiss Muslin and Printed Voile

Pique, sharkskin, dotted swiss muslin and printed voile are favorite fabrics for morning housecoats. Even the most inexpensive seen in New York are charming in color and very well styled and cut. A white pique with wide, squared-off collar, cuffs and pocket trimmed with bright red rickrack braid will make any one feel cheerful in the morning.

ALL WITH FULL SKIRTS

Swiss muslins, trimmed with delicate lace edging, or more tailored types in sharkskin may be had, not only in white but in luscious pastel colors. Almost all are made to fasten with zippers, which keep one looking neat no matter how quickly one has dressed, and all have skirts with plenty of room, and well-cut sleeves, so if there is a train to be caught after breakfast, you can fly around comfortably while you make toast and coffee.

Bagpipe Music Is Different

A Lot More Spacing and Fewer Notes — People Who Do Not Like It Should Not Be Condemned

There are lots of people who are not Scots who say they enjoy hearing the bagpipes, although some qualify their appreciation by saying the pipes sound best when the operator is a long distance away. Others, real Scots perhaps, says the Stratford Beacon-Herald, think that there is no grander or more inspiring music than a hundred pipers an' a' an' a' at close quarters.

We learn, however, that there is a reason why one likes or dislikes the pipes. A blind Scottish piper told a service club recently that although the note scale is similar to the ordinary scale, the spacing is sometimes different, so that to those who have not been brought up with the sound of the pipes in their ears the music sounds atrocious. Therefore, he generously added, people who don't like it should not be condemned.

SKIRL OF THE PIPES

Undoubtedly there is something "different" about bagpipe music, and this is the first time we learned what it is. We hope some of our friends who are insultingly critical will make allowances and adapt themselves to the skirl of the pipes and we fear it wouldn't do them any good anyway if the notation was standardized. You really have to have Scottish blood in you to enjoy the full flavour of the national instrument of Scotland. If you have not — "that's your misfortune.

At Calgary Convention

H. E. Rice, publisher of the Huntsville Forester, is President of the Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association whose convention is being held this week in the Palliser Hotel, Calgary.

The Book Shelf

"STARS ON THE SEA"

By F. van Wyck Mason

A spunky girl, a fine lad combine to make this historical novel by van Wyck Mason a rousing story. "Stars on the Sea" is the tale of the U. S. Colonists, who, in the face of an all-powerful foe, dared to flaunt their thirteen stripes and thirteen stars on the sea. It is drama, gripping and authentic.

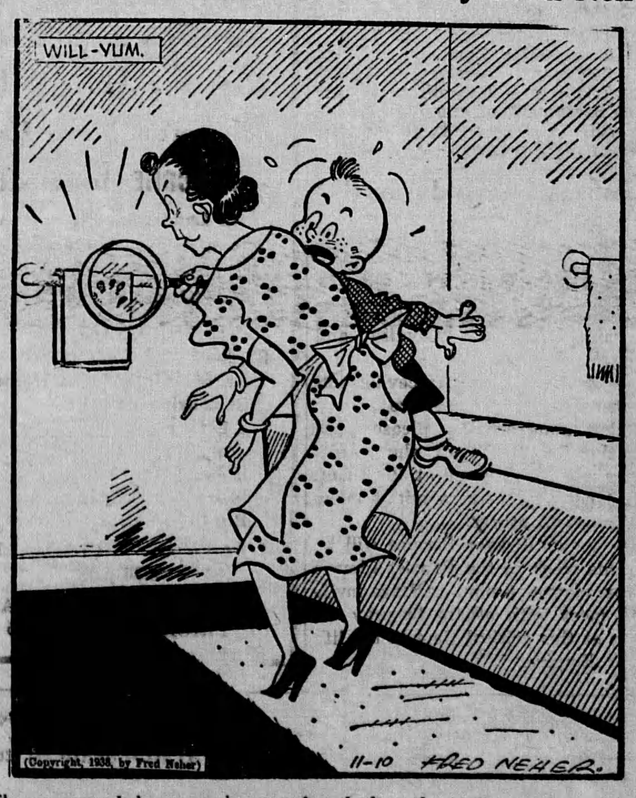
One of the major novels of the year, the book presents a new version of the War of Independence as seen in a northern colony, a southern colony and a tropical island colony—Rhode Island, South Carolina and the Bahamas. Historic characters come alive with all their anguish, hope and suffering. No reader will ever forget Desire Harmony Bennett of Newport, Sam Higsby, the Pennsylvania rifleman, or scholarly Nat Coffin of Nantucket.

"Stars on the Sea" . . . by F. van Wyck Mason . . . Toronto: Longmans, Green & Co. . . . $3.00.

8-Egg-Per-Day Hen Wins Note

Mrs. Chris Olsen of Bellevue, Wash., reported her Rhode Island Red hen laid eight eggs Thursday, rested Friday, then rallied with two Saturday and five Sunday.

LIFE'S LIKE THAT — By Fred Neher



"There now I hope you're convinced that those fingerprints on the guest towel are not mine!!"

REG'LAR FELLERS—Very Considerate — By GENE BYRNES